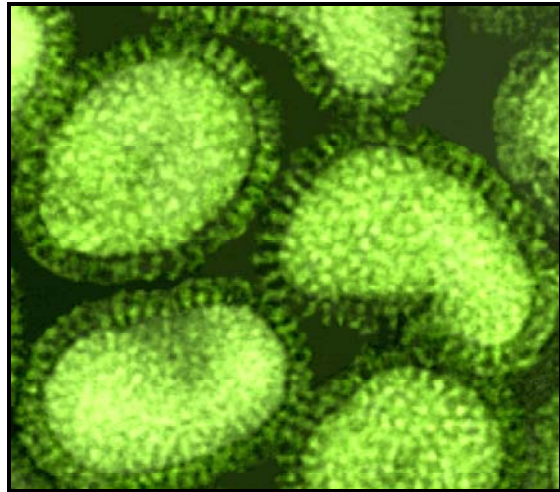


Florida Influenza Surveillance

*Week Ending April 23, 2005
(Week 16)*

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Epidemiologist*

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Coordinator*



Summary

Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity increased in four of the seven regions across the State for the week ending April 23, 2005 (Week 16). Five County Health Departments (Duval, Escambia, Pinellas, Polk, and Volusia) reported sporadic ILI activity during Week 16. Seventeen counties reported no ILI activity and forty-five counties did not report an activity code.

Florida Influenza and Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Surveillance

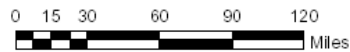
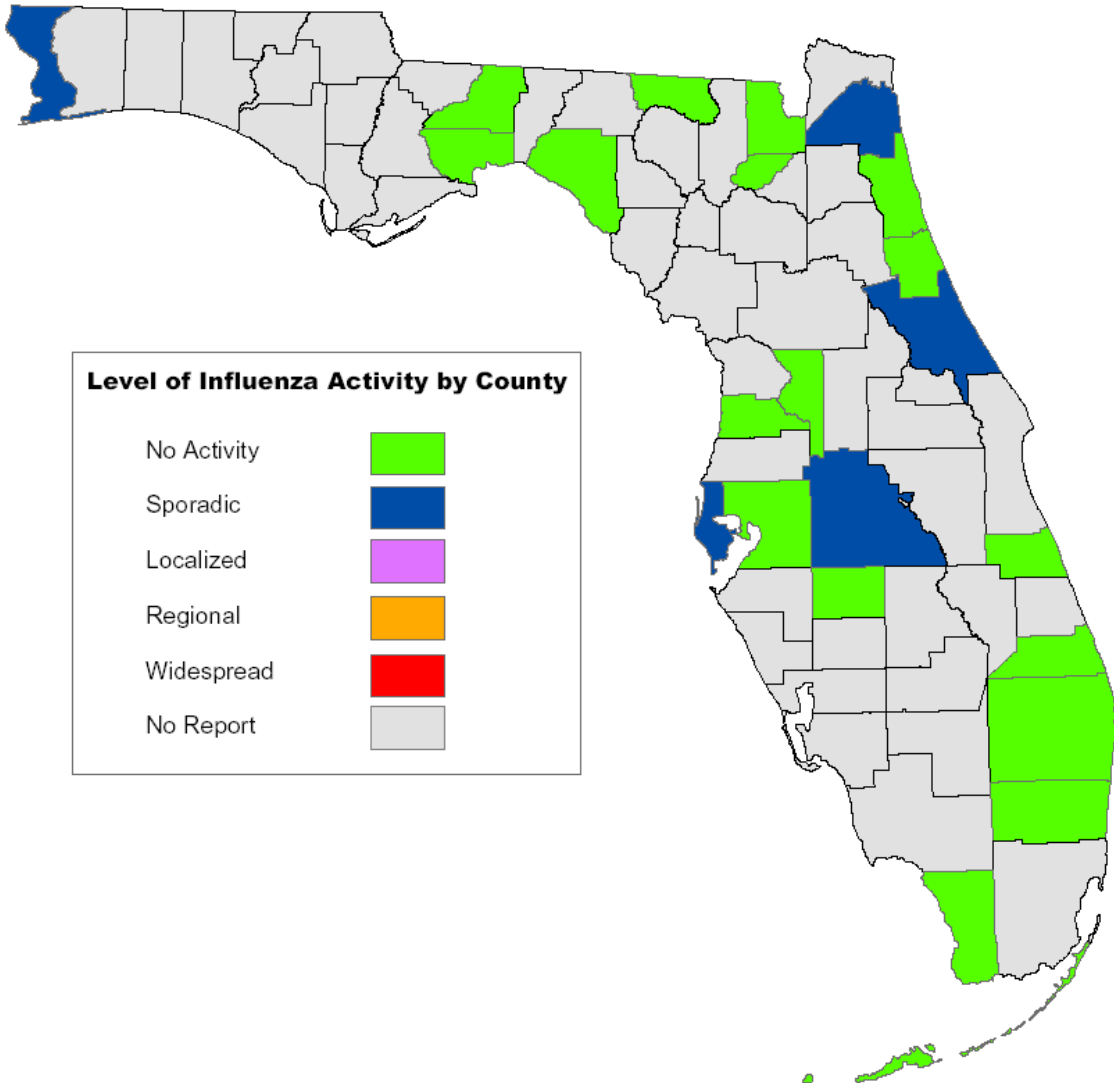
The table below outlines the weighted ILI activity by region. The overall weighted percent ILI activity for the State for the week ending April 23, 2005 was 1.56%, this is a statistically significant change ($p = 0.0359$) compared to the previous week's ILI activity of 1.32%. The Centraleast region reported the highest influenza activity (3.25%). The Northcentral region reported the lowest influenza activity (0.13%). Only 56% of the sentinel physicians across the State had reported at the time this report was written.

Weighted ILI Activity, by Region, Week ending April 23, 2005	
REGION	REPORTED ILI%
Centraleast	3.25%
Centralwest	0.89%
Northcentral	0.13%
Northeast	2.62%
Northwest	0.84%
Southeast	1.08%
Southwest	0.26%

The ILI activity levels are based on information reported by the Florida Sentinel Physician Influenza Surveillance Network and weighted by the 2004-2005 population estimates.

Weekly Influenza Activity

Week ending April 23, 2005 - Week 16



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Florida Department of Health
Bureau of Epidemiology

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Influenza Surveillance – Definitions and Reminders

Influenza Surveillance Regions

Centraleast: Brevard, Indian River, Lake, Martin, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, St. Lucie and Volusia.

Centralwest: Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Sumter.

Northcentral: Columbia, Dixie, Franklin, Gadsden, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, and Wakulla.

Northeast: Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns and Union.

Northwest: Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton and Washington.

Southeast: Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach.

Southwest: Charlotte, Collier, Desoto, Glade, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Okeechobee and Sarasota.

Definitions of the influenza activity codes

No Activity: No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in the number of cases of ILI.

Sporadic: Small numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases or a single influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI.

Local: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in a single region of the State.

Regional: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least two but less than half the regions of the State.

Widespread: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least half the regions of the State.

Important Reminders

- * Influenza activity reporting by sentinel providers is voluntary.
- * The influenza surveillance data is used to answer the question of where, when, and what viruses are circulating. It can be used to determine if influenza activity is increasing or decreasing, but it cannot be used to ascertain how many people have become ill with influenza so far this season.
- * Reporting is incomplete for this week. Numbers may change dramatically as more reports are received.