

2016-2017 Influenza Season (10/02/2016 – 9/30/2017)

Synopsis:

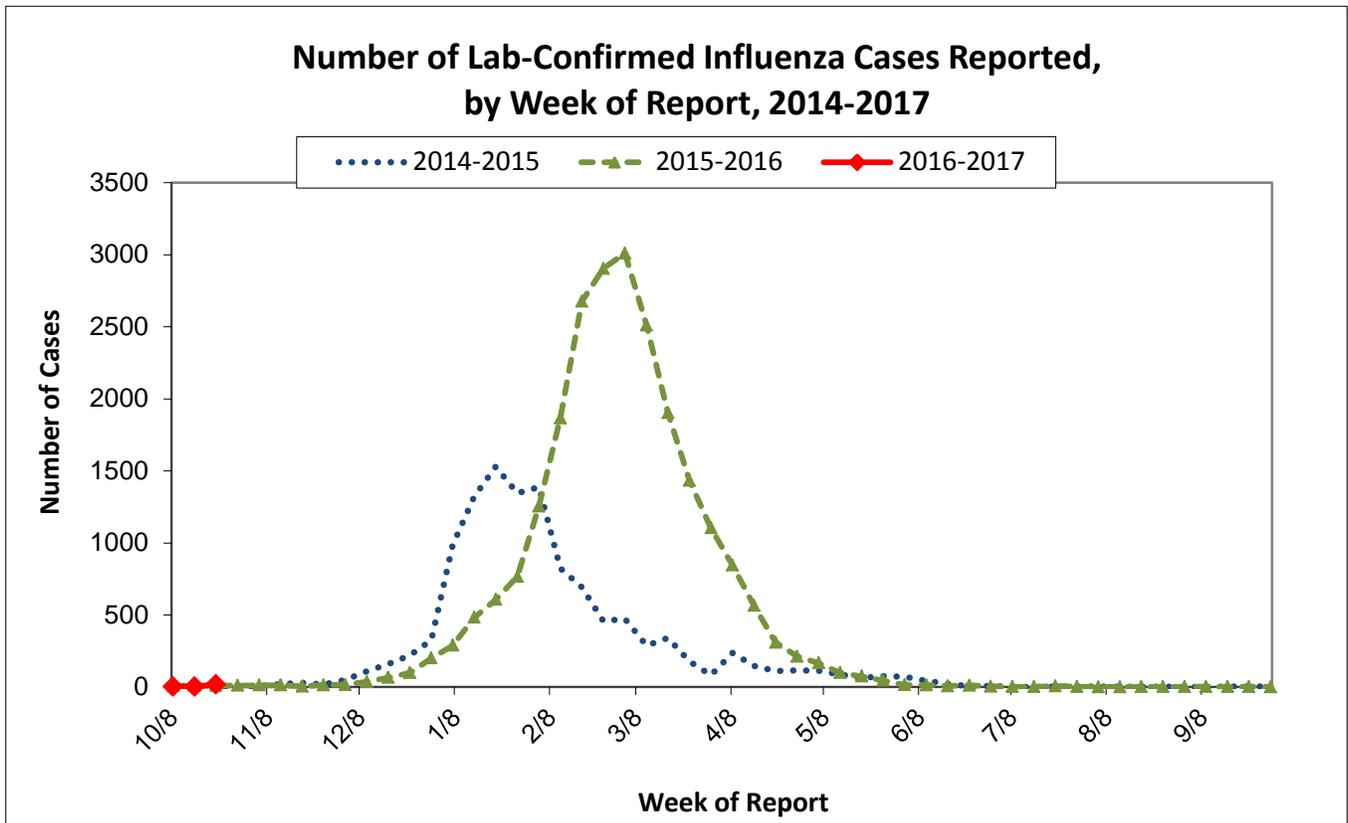
During the past week, influenza activity continued to be low. Arizona reported Sporadic Activity for week 42.

Influenza activity highlights:

- 17 laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza were reported in the past week, from four counties.
- In the past week, 3 specimens have tested positive for influenza at ASPHL: 1 influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 virus, 1 influenza B/Yamagata virus and 1 influenza B/Victoria virus.
- Influenza-like illness activity at sentinel providers was below Arizona’s threshold in week 41.
- The cases included in this report represent a small proportion of the true number of cases of influenza. Many people do not visit the doctor when ill and doctors should not be expected to run tests on all patients exhibiting influenza-like symptoms.

Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza Activity by Season [2014-2017]

Positive influenza tests are reported to ADHS. Many types of tests are included in the numbers below: rapid antigen tests, direct fluorescent antigen tests, viral culture, and molecular testing.



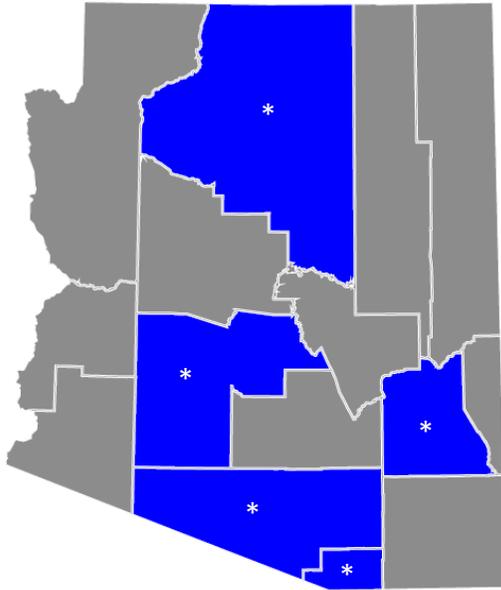
Reported Laboratory-Confirmed Cases Compared to Last Week and Last Season

	Cumulative Season Total	Current Week Total
2016-2017	24	17
2015-2016	30	11
5 year average	12	5
% increase, compared to 2015-2016 season	-20%	55%
% increase, compared to a typical flu season	97%	215%
% increase, compared to last week	700%	89%

Laboratory-Confirmed Cases Reported, by County, 2016-2017 Influenza Season

(Includes ALL reported lab-confirmed flu reports, regardless of subtype)

County	2016-2017 Season	Past Three Weeks	Last Week
Apache	0	0	0
Cochise	0	0	0
Coconino	1	1	0
Gila	0	0	0
Graham	1	1	1
Greenlee	0	0	0
La Paz	0	0	0
Maricopa	17	17	11
Mohave	0	0	0
Navajo	0	0	0
Pima	4	4	4
Pinal	0	0	0
Santa Cruz	1	1	1
Yavapai	0	0	0
Yuma	0	0	0
Total	24	24	17



Key:

- * = Any activity reported this season
- = Activity reported in the previous three weeks
- = No activity reported in the previous three weeks

Age of Reported Influenza Cases

The age groups most affected by influenza vary somewhat season-to-season, depending in part on the circulating influenza types and subtypes and any existing immunity in the community. Variations in age groups of reported influenza cases can also be caused by differences in laboratory testing and reporting practices year-to-year.

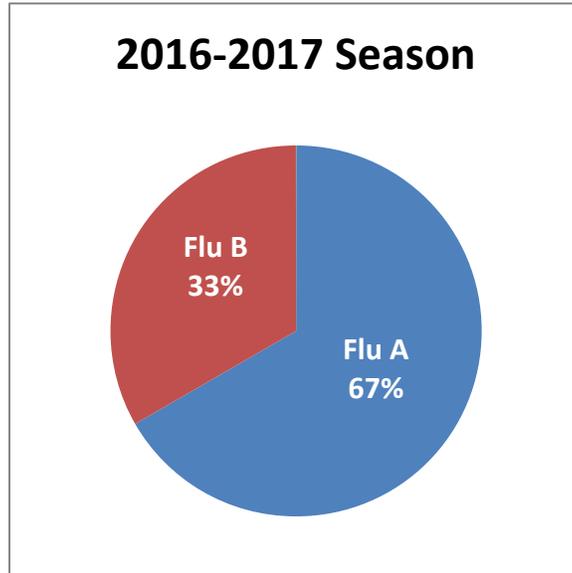
Age Group of Reported Influenza Cases, 2013-2014 through 2016-2017 Seasons

Age Group	2016-2017 Season (N=24)	2015-2016 Season (N=23,689)	2014-2015 Season (N=12,580)	2013-2014 Season (N=12,484)
0 to 4 years	2 (8%)	4,104 (17%)	2,153 (17%)	2,329 (19%)
5 to 18 years	3 (13%)	5,099 (22%)	3,365 (27%)	2,802 (22%)
19 to 49 years	11 (46%)	7,357 (31%)	3,039 (24%)	4,487 (36%)
50 to 64 years	1 (4%)	3,159 (13%)	1,223 (10%)	1,566 (13%)
65 years or older	7 (29%)	3,879 (16%)	2,659 (21%)	1,205 (10%)
Unknown age	0 (0%)	91 (1%)	141 (1%)	95 (1%)

Influenza Types and Subtypes

There are two main types of influenza – Type A and Type B – that cause illness in people. Influenza A viruses can be further divided into subtypes such as A (H1), or A (H3). While most tests can distinguish between influenza A and B, only specialized testing such as that done at the State Public Health Laboratory and a few other labs around the state can differentiate subtypes. Viral culture or molecular testing (reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction or RT-PCR) are the methods used to identify subtypes; knowing the type and subtype of the influenza viruses circulating can help health professionals make the best treatment and vaccination decisions.

Influenza Type, from all tests reported



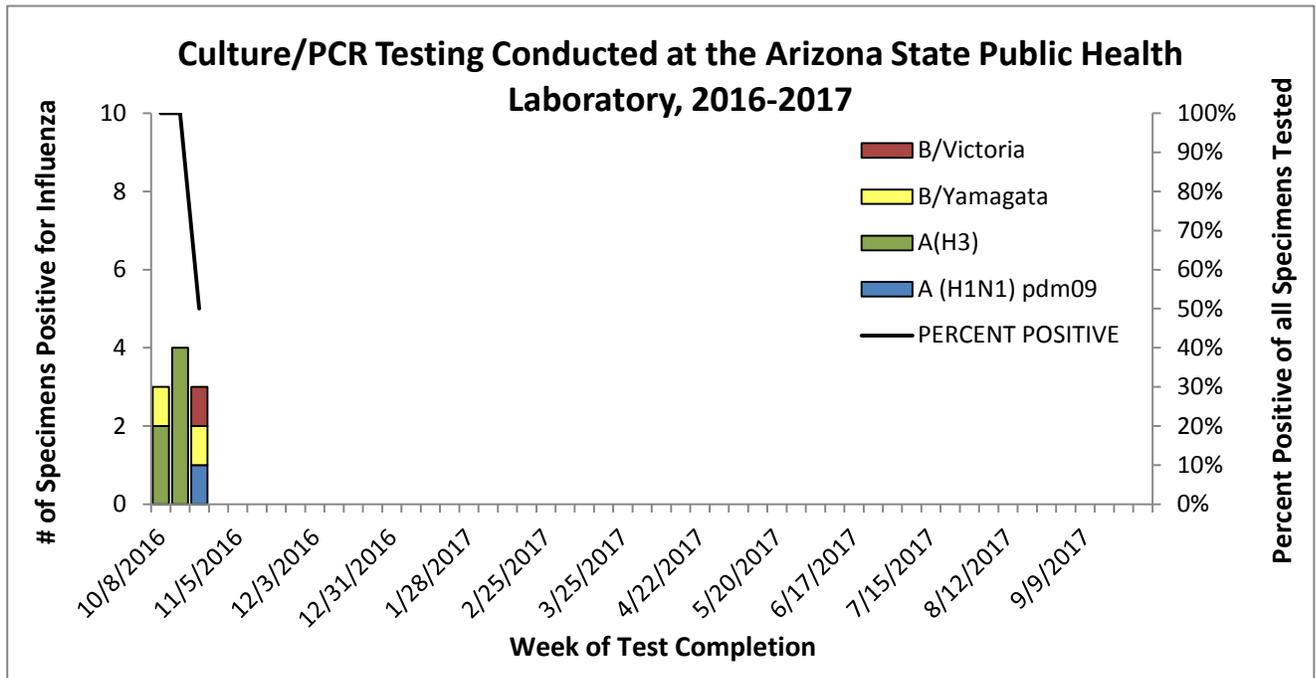
Influenza Type, by Season

	2016-2017 Season Number	2016-2017 Season Percent	2015-2016 Number (Percent)	2014-2015 Number (Percent)	2013-2014 Number (Percent)
Total	24	100%	23,689 (100%)	12,592 (100%)	11,780 (100%)
Influenza A	16	67%	17,199 (73%)	11,015 (87%)	9,355 (79%)
Influenza B	8	33%	6,220 (26%)	1,424 (11%)	2,229 (19%)
Unknown	0	0%	270 (1%)	153 (1%)	196 (2%)

Influenza Subtype

Data from the Arizona State Public Health Laboratory (ASPHL)

- 3 specimens tested positive at the State Laboratory in the past week: 1 influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 virus, 1 influenza B/Victoria virus, and 1 influenza B/Yamagata virus.



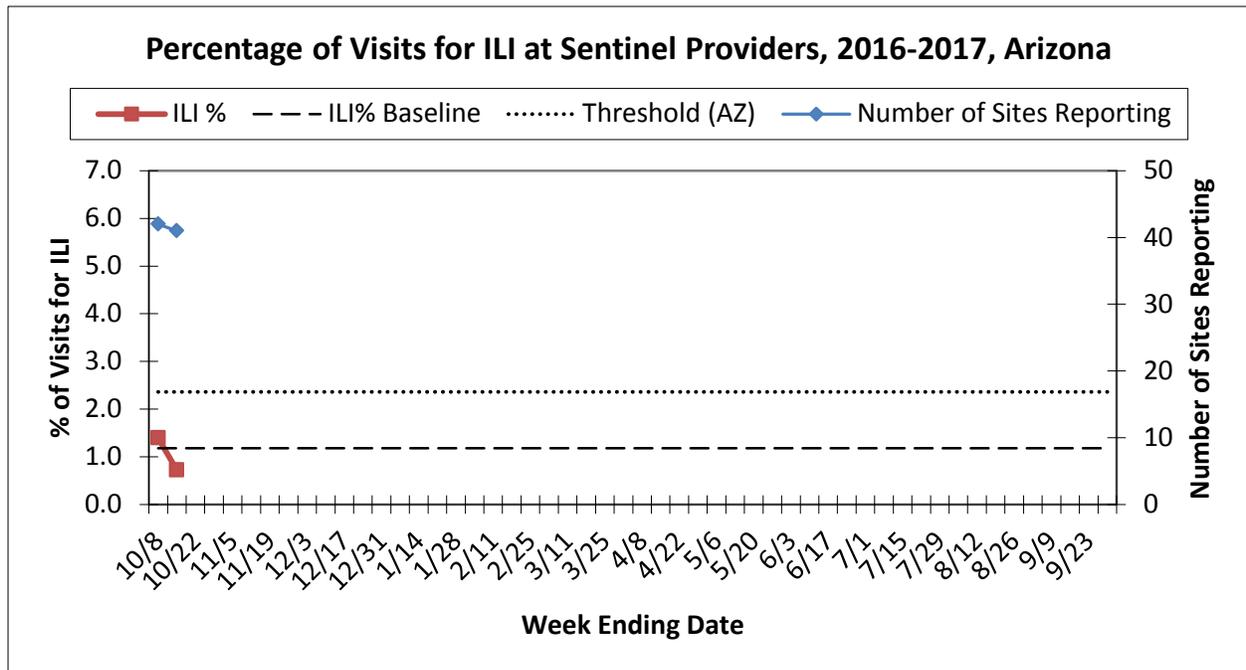
Influenza subtype, by season, from any laboratories performing culture or RT-PCR

	2016-2017 Season Number	2016-2017 Season Percent	2015-2016 Number (Percent)	2014-2015 Number (Percent)	2013-2014 Number (Percent)
Influenza Subtypes	9	100%	4,871 (100%)	2,202 (100%)	1,795 (100%)
Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09	2	22%	1,298 (27%)	5 (0.1%)	1,480 (82%)
Influenza A (H3)	5	56%	1,344 (28%)	2,127 (97%)	151 (8%)
Influenza B/Yamagata	1	11%	981 (20%)	50 (2%)	36 (2%)
Influenza B/Victoria	1	11%	1,248 (26%)	20 (1%)	128 (7%)

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance from Sentinel Outpatient Providers

ILI is defined as a fever of at least 100°F plus either a cough or a sore throat. In weeks when a relatively low number of enrolled facilities report data, the ILI proportion may not be as representative of Arizona activity as for other weeks. The state ILI baseline is 1.2% and the epidemic threshold is 2.4%*.

	Week 41	Week 40
Proportion of patient visits to sentinel providers for ILI	0.7%	1.4%
Comparison to epidemic threshold*	Below threshold	Below threshold
Intensity level (<i>see definitions at the end of report</i>)	Minimal	Minimal



*Note: The baseline is defined as the mean of the state ILI% in weeks in the 2013-2016 flu seasons in which two or more consecutive weeks each accounted for less than 2% of the season's total number of specimens testing positive for influenza at the Arizona State Public Health Laboratory. The epidemic threshold is defined as the mean plus two standard deviations.

Glossary of Key Terms:

2016-2017 Influenza Season – The season is defined by surveillance weeks. The first day of the 2016-2017 influenza season was October 2nd, 2016, or week 40 and the 2016-2017 surveillance season will continue through September 30th, 2017, or week 39.

Regions – Regions in Arizona are defined by county: Central (Gila, Maricopa, Pinal); Northern (Apache, Coconino, Navajo, Yavapai); Southern (Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, Pima, Santa Cruz); Western (La Paz, Mohave, Yuma)

Activity Levels: Indicator of the geographic spread of influenza activity, reported to CDC by all states each week.

Widespread: Increased influenza-like illness from sentinel providers (ILI) in three or more regions and large numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases in those regions.

Regional: Increased ILI in two regions and elevated numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases in those regions.

Local: Increased ILI in one region and elevated numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases in that region.

Sporadic: No increase in ILI activity and only isolated laboratory-confirmed influenza cases.

No Activity: No increase in ILI activity and no laboratory-confirmed influenza cases.

Intensity Levels: Intensity levels are based on the percent of outpatient visits in a state due to ILI and are compared to the average percent of ILI visits that occur during spring and fall weeks with little or no influenza virus circulation. Intensity levels range from minimal, corresponding to ILI activity from outpatient clinics being below the average, to intense, which would correspond to ILI activity from outpatient clinics being much higher than average.