

# Kane County 2014-15 Influenza Surveillance Summary

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# Kane County, Illinois Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance 2014-2015

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Each year between October and April, the Kane County Health Department collects and tracks data regarding influenza activity in the county by monitoring:

- Visits to emergency departments for influenza-like illness (ILI)<sup>1</sup>
- Hospital laboratory testing for influenza
- ILI-associated absenteeism in public school (grades K-12)
- Influenza-associated pediatric deaths
- Influenza-related ICU admissions and ICU deaths
- Reports of influenza outbreaks in long-term care facilities

The Kane County Health Department would like to thank the hospitals, labs and school districts that participated in the ILI surveillance for 2014-2015 and made this monitoring possible. Below are the summaries for October 2014-April 2015 regarding the percentage of ER patients seen with ILI, the average ILI absenteeism in Kane County public schools, influenza outbreaks in long-term care facilities, influenza laboratory testing activity, ICU admissions and pediatric deaths related to influenza.

## Summary

Kane County Health Department conducted surveillance for influenza-like illness for the 2014-15 season beginning in October 2014 through the end of April 2015. Influenza activity in Kane County during the 2014-15 season peaked in week 51 (December 14-20, 2014), one week earlier than the national peak. The predominant strain during the peak at the end of December was Influenza A.

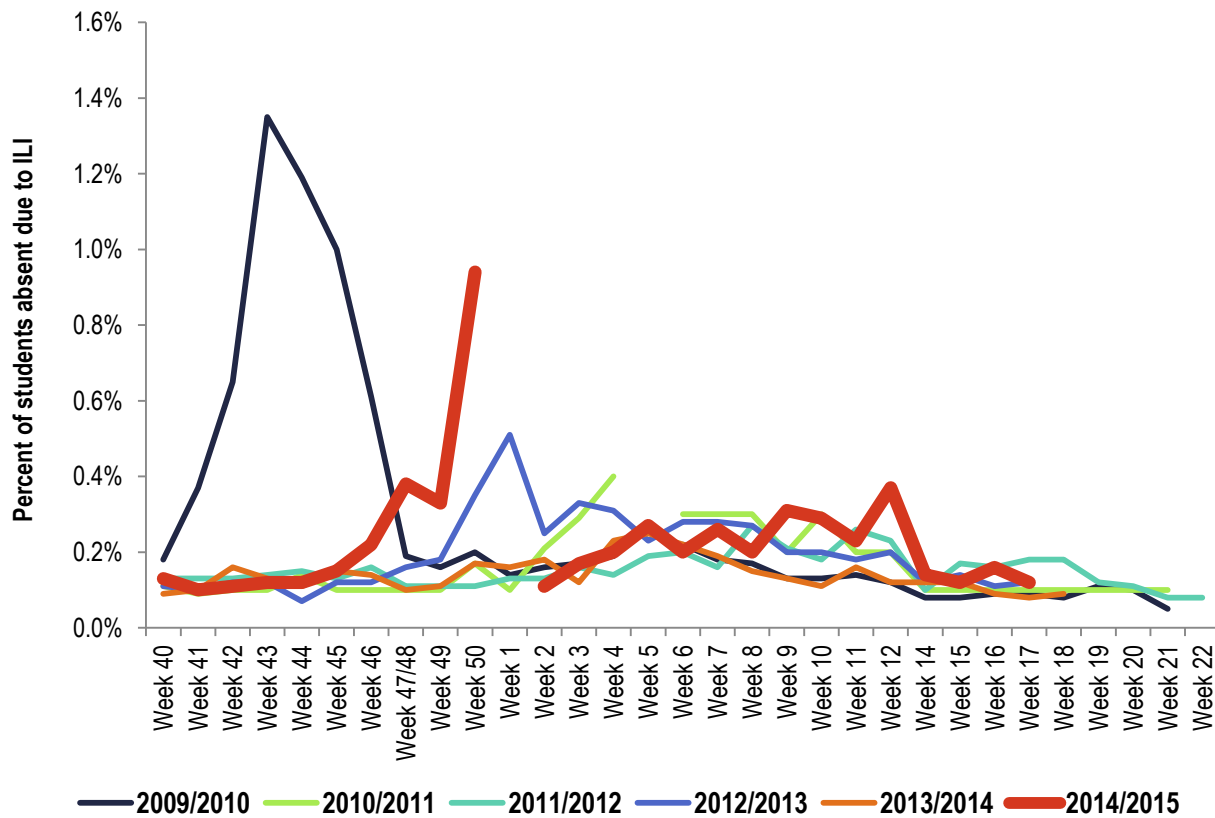
There were a total of seven influenza outbreaks in long-term care facilities and forty-eight ICU admissions for ILI during the 2014-15 influenza season.

<sup>1</sup>Influenza-like illness (ILI) is defined as fever >100°F with cough and/or sore throat without other known cause

## School Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance

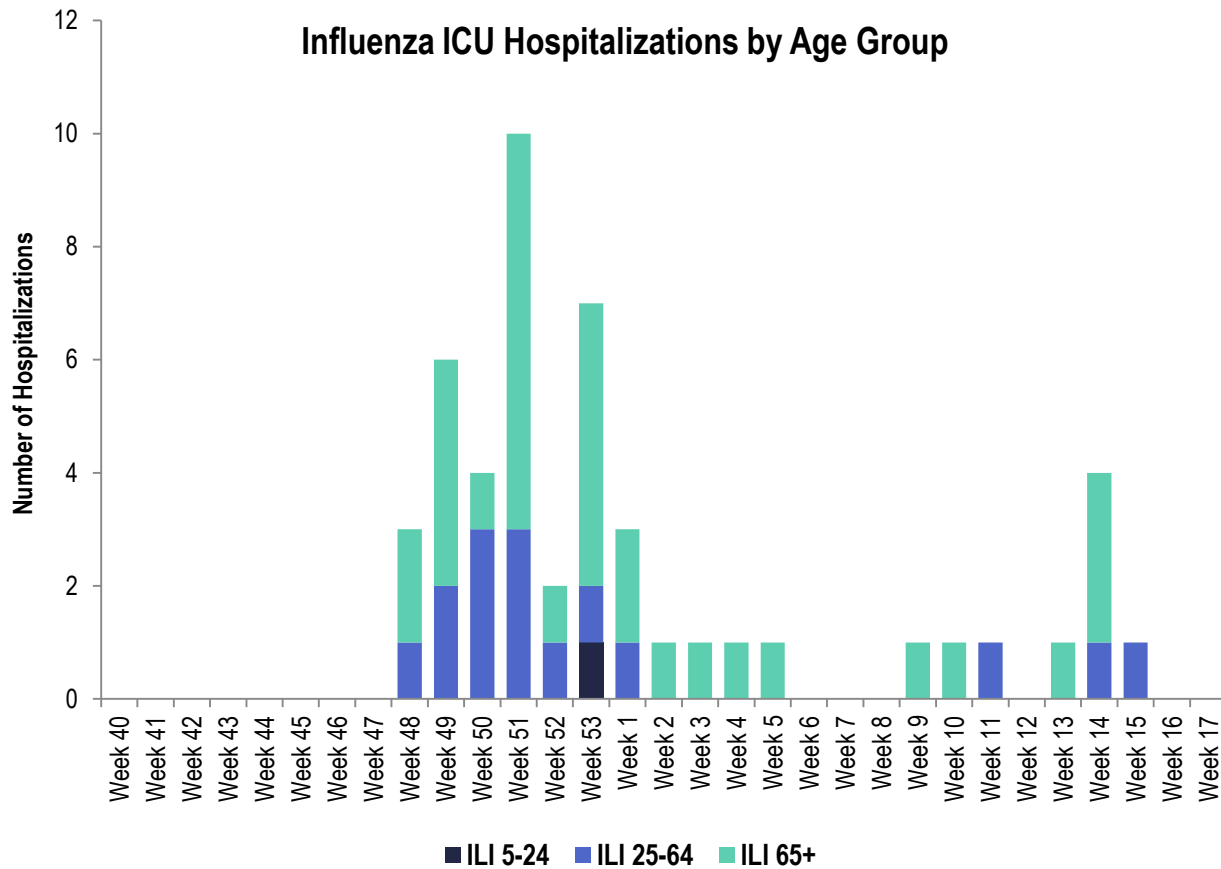
The data represent public schools that reported ILI-related absenteeism during the 2014-15 school year. The county average absenteeism for ILI among school-aged children was 0.23%, with a peak of 0.94% in week 50.

**Influenza-like Illness Absenteeism Surveillance -  
All Kane County School Districts**



## Influenza-related ICU Admissions and Deaths

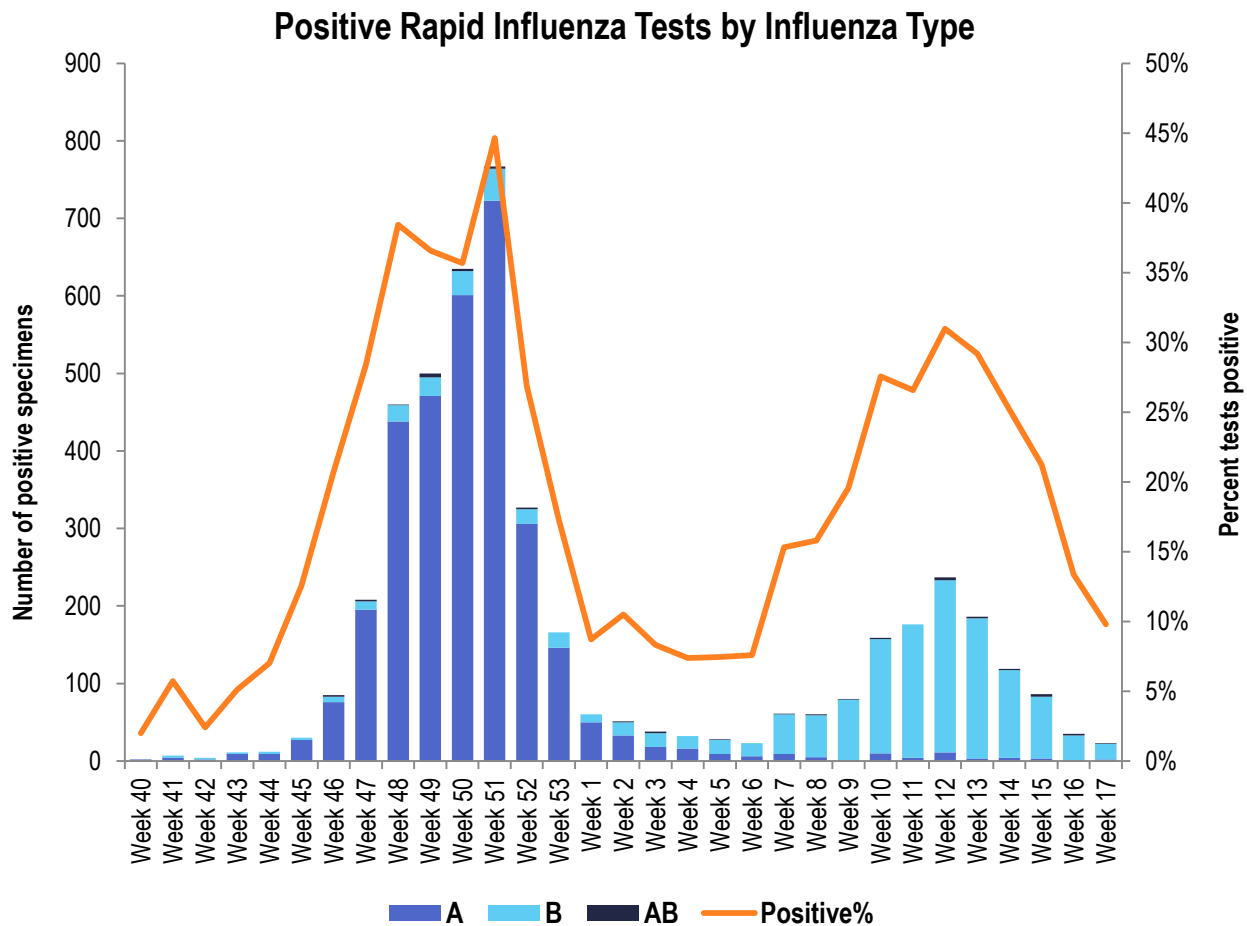
There were a total of 48 ILI-related ICU admissions reported to the Health Department during the 2014-15 influenza season. The number of admissions peaked in week 51 (December 14-20). The average age at admission was 69.27 years, with a range of 21-95 years. There were no pediatric (under age 5) ICU admissions nor pediatric deaths related to ILI.



ICU Admissions Case Count		#
Total Cases		48
Total Deaths		7
Cases by Age Group		#
0-4		0
5-24		1
25-64		9
65+		25

## Laboratory Surveillance

Each week, six laboratories in Kane County reported data on rapid influenza testing done in their facilities during the influenza season. Overall, 25.45% of tested respiratory specimens were positive for influenza (4,668 out of 18,344). The number of positive tests peaked in week 51, when 767 specimens tested positive for influenza, producing a peak positivity rate of 44.64%. Prior to week 4 (ending January 31), most positive tests were Influenza A, the later weeks of the influenza surveillance season were dominated by Influenza B. Throughout surveillance, 68.4% of all positive tests were Influenza A, 18.2% were Influenza B, and 0.4% were Influenza AB.

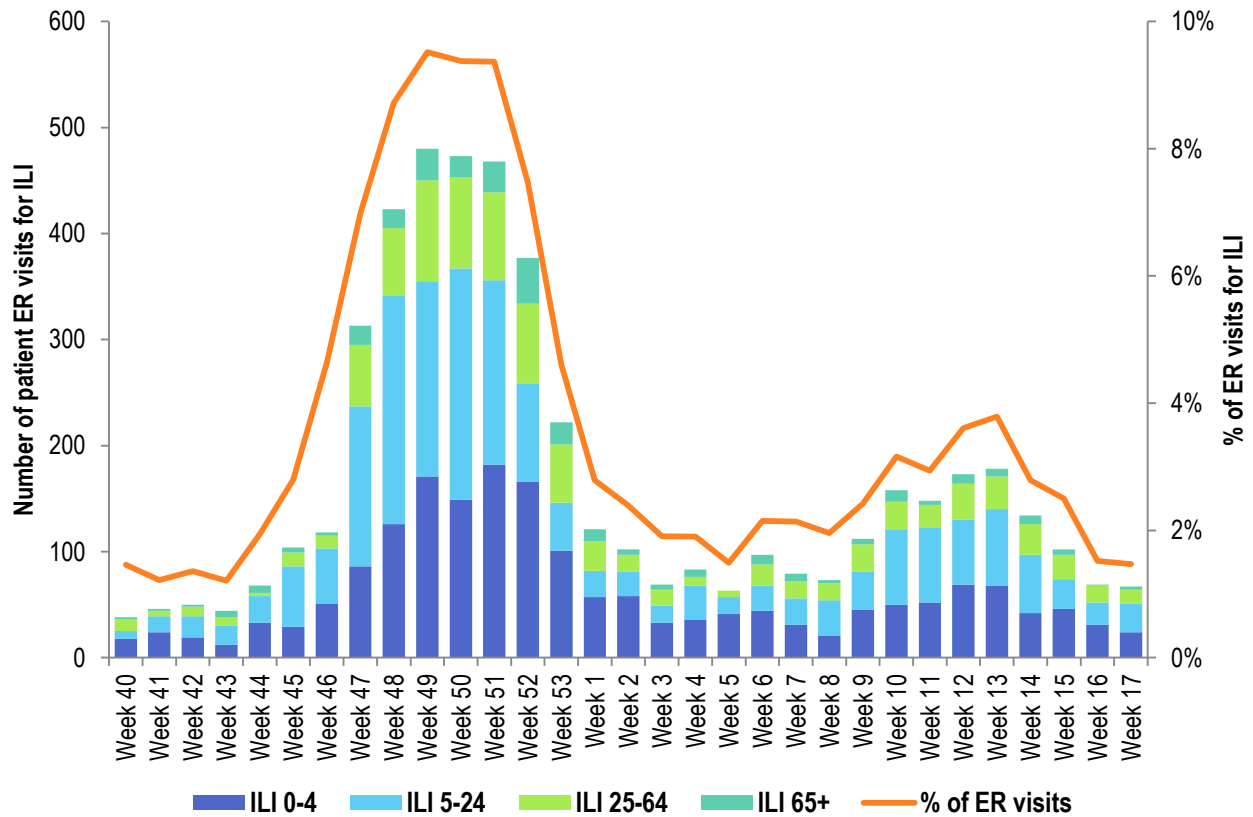


Laboratory Influenza Type Results	Number	Percent
Specimens tested	18,344	-
Specimens positive	4,668	25.45%
<b>Positive specimens by type</b>		
Influenza A	3,194	68.40%
Influenza B	1,433	18.20%
Influenza AB	41	0.40%

## ILI Emergency Room Surveillance

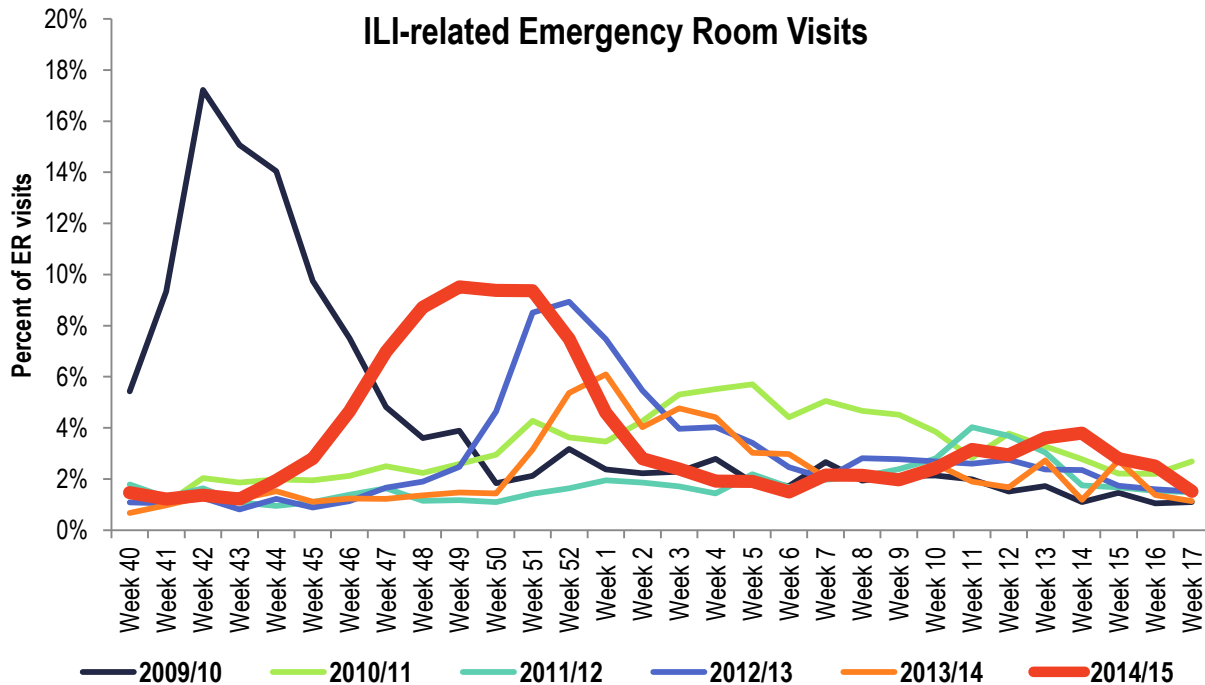
Influenza activity in emergency rooms began to increase in week 47 (November 16-22). The percent of ER visits that were ILI-related peaked in week 49 (Nov. 30 – Dec. 6) at 9.52%. During this peak in week 49, 35.6% of ILI-related ER visits were among people aged 0-4 and 38.33% were among people aged 5-24. The percent of ER visits that were ILI-related remained above 9.0% until week 52, when it decreased to 7.8%. A second peak occurred in week 13, when 3.8% of ER visits were ILI-related. Of the ILI-related ER visits during this week, 38.2% were among people aged 0-4 and 40.5% were among people aged 5-24. Overall, from week 40 to week 17, ILI-related visits accounted for an average 3.8% of all ER visits. During the 2013-14 influenza surveillance season ILI-related visits peaked, at 6.1%, nearly a month later, from December 29 – January 4, 2014.

**Number of ER visits for ILI by Age and % of All ER Visits for ILI**



## ILI Data for the past six influenza season

The below chart shows that the 2014-15 influenza season had the highest peak in ILI-related ER visits since the 2009-10 influenza season. The peak also occurred earlier than all other influenza seasons since 2009-10.



## Long-term Care Facilities (LTCF) Influenza Outbreaks

During the 2014-15 influenza surveillance season, seven influenza outbreaks were reported in long-term care facilities in Kane County. Most (5) of these outbreaks were reported to the Kane County Health Department during the last two weeks of December 2014.

*Special thanks to the Kane County Health Department Communicable Disease and Community Health Resources programs for compiling the information and data in this report. Thanks to our reporters at the school, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and laboratories who contributed data each week.*