During the 2017-2018 Flu Season (10/1/2017-5/15/2018):
- 4,138 Boston residents with laboratory-confirmed flu were reported.
- 772 of these cases were hospitalized.
- 19 of these cases died.
- At the peak, 5.23% of all emergency room visits were due to influenza-like illness (fever and a cough or sore throat).

Reported Influenza Cases by Influenza Type, Boston Residents, 2017-2018

Percent of Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-like Illness (ILI): Boston, 2014-2018

Preventing Flu
- Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every year.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue every time you cough or sneeze. If you don’t have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve.
- Clean your hands often with soap and water OR an alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- Clean surfaces in your home regularly with a household cleaner.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick when possible.
- Stay home when you are sick.

Reported Influenza Cases by Race/Ethnicity in Boston Residents, Compared to the Overall Boston Population, 2017-2018