



BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION (BPHC)

Communicable Disease Control Division
 1010 Massachusetts Ave - Boston, MA 02118
 Phone: (617) 534-5611 - Fax: (617) 534-5905

Influenza Report - For the week ending 12/16/2017

10/1/2017 -12/16/2017

Reported Cases (Boston Res.)	#
Influenza A	82
Influenza B	19
Influenza A and B	0
Influenza (<i>type unspecified</i>)	0
Total	101

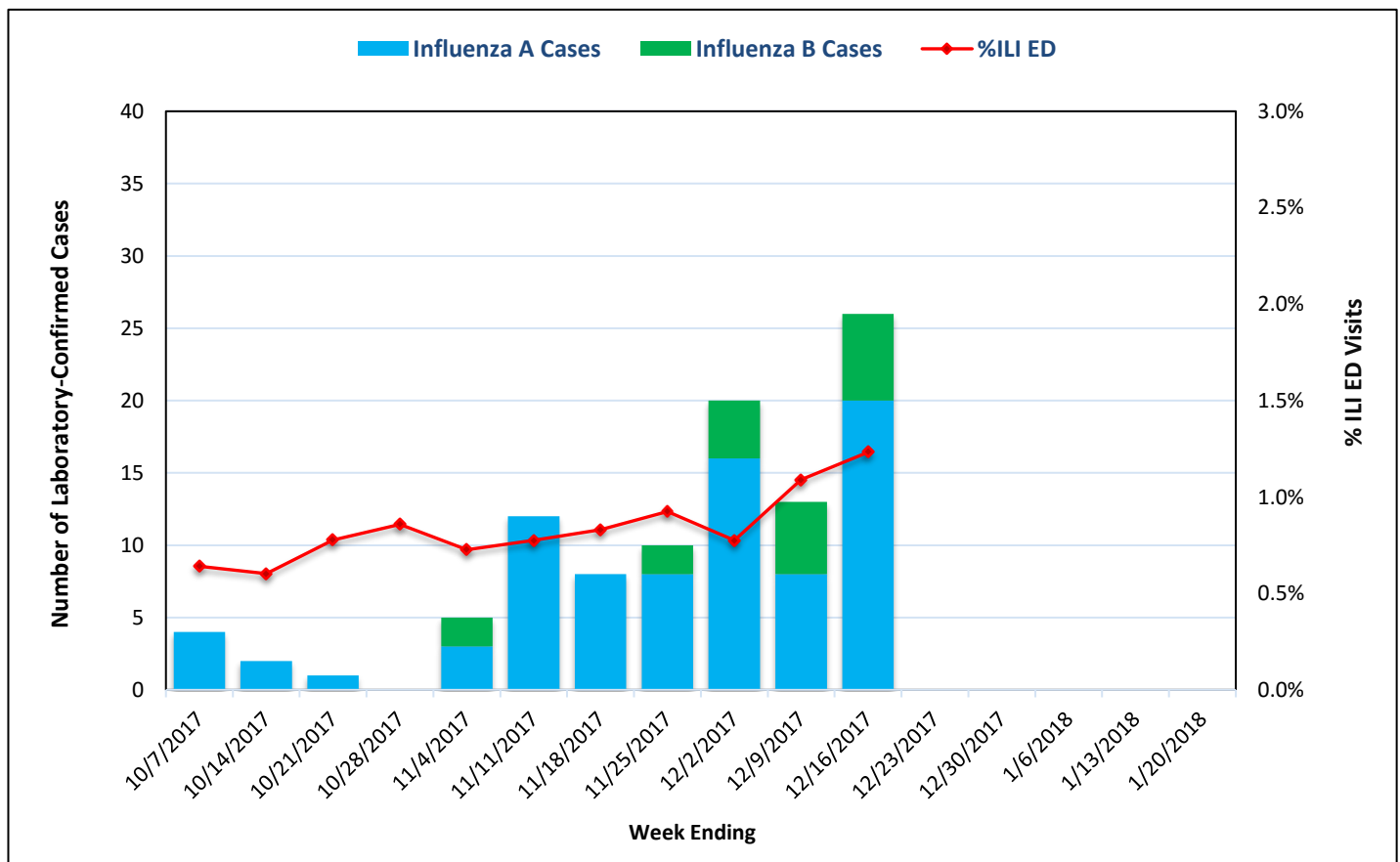
Summary: As of 12/16/2017, 101 cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza in Boston residents have been reported to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), with 26 (26%) requiring hospitalization. No influenza-associated deaths have been reported to date. Emergency department visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) comprised 1.23% of all ED visits this week.

Providers should continue offering vaccine to all persons ≥6 months of age through the remainder of the season. Vaccination is the best way to prevent influenza.

Cases of influenza diagnosed in Boston and confirmed by any laboratory test must be reported to BPHC by calling (617) 534-5611 or faxing reports to (617) 534-5905.

ED Surveillance	
This Week % ILI	1.23%
Average % ILI (since 10/1/2017)	0.84%

Weekly Reported Influenza Cases (in Boston residents) and % ILI ED Visits, 2017-18 Season

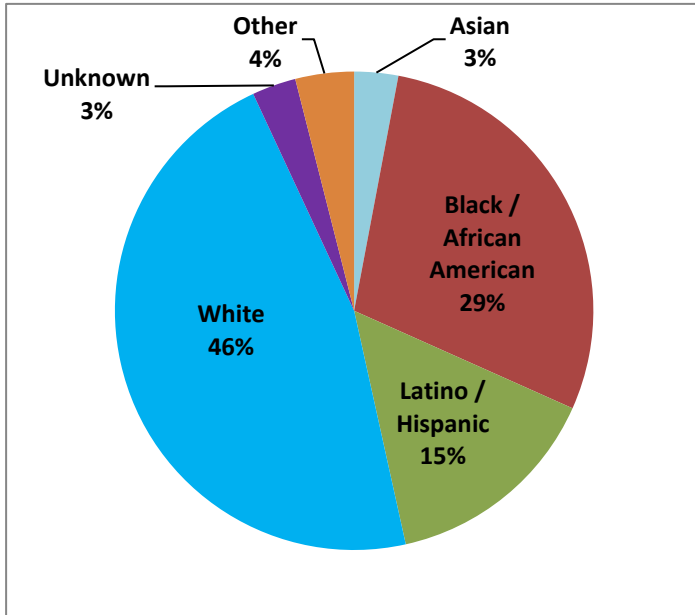




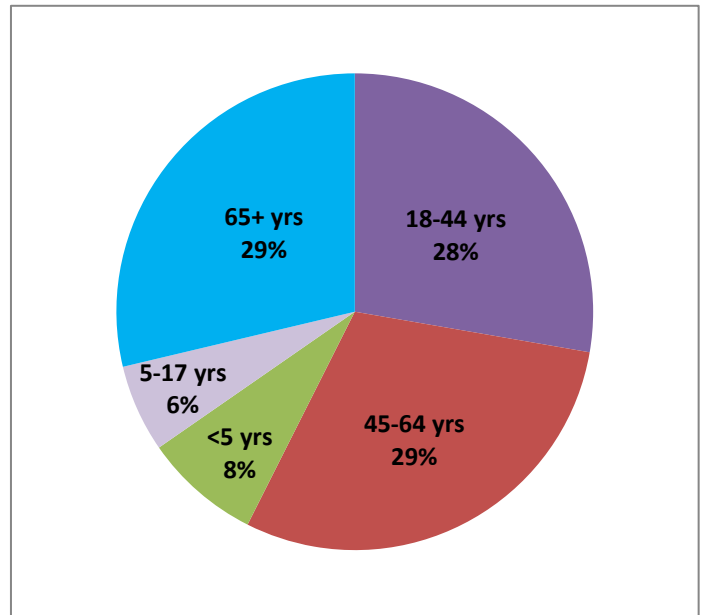
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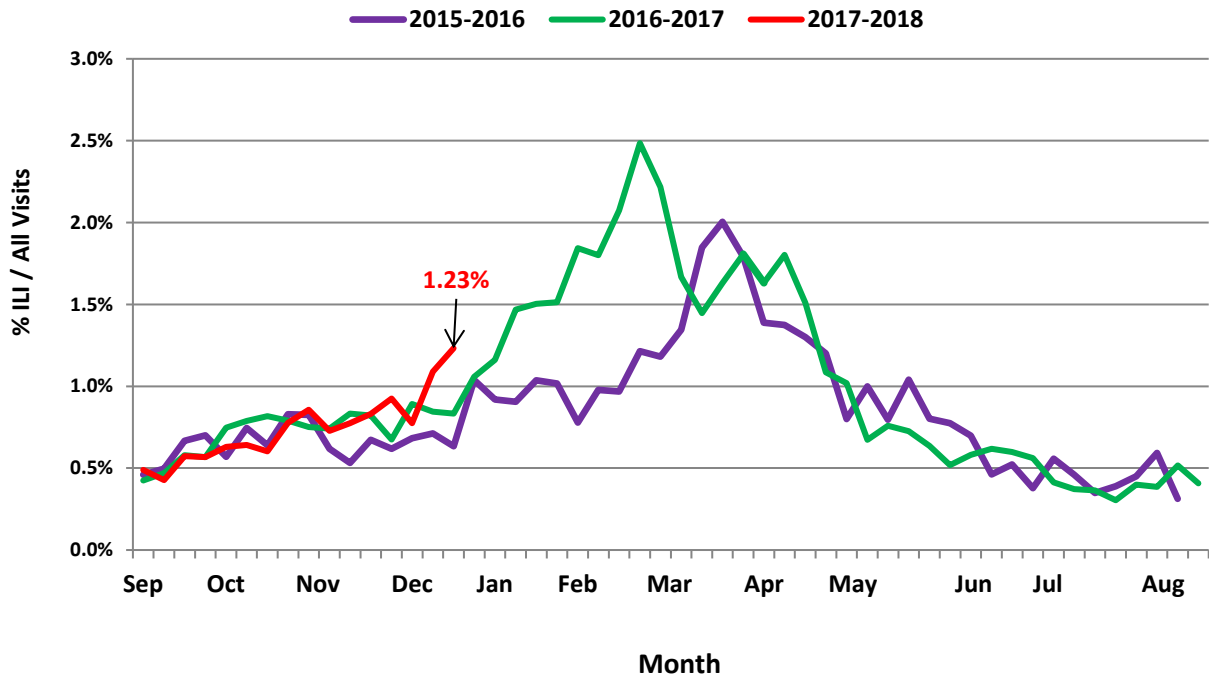
Race/Ethnicity of Confirmed Influenza Cases, 10/1/2017 - 12/16/2017, Boston Residents



Age Distribution of Confirmed Influenza Cases, 10/1/2017 - 12/16/2017, Boston Residents



Weekly % ILI ED Visits, 2015-2017



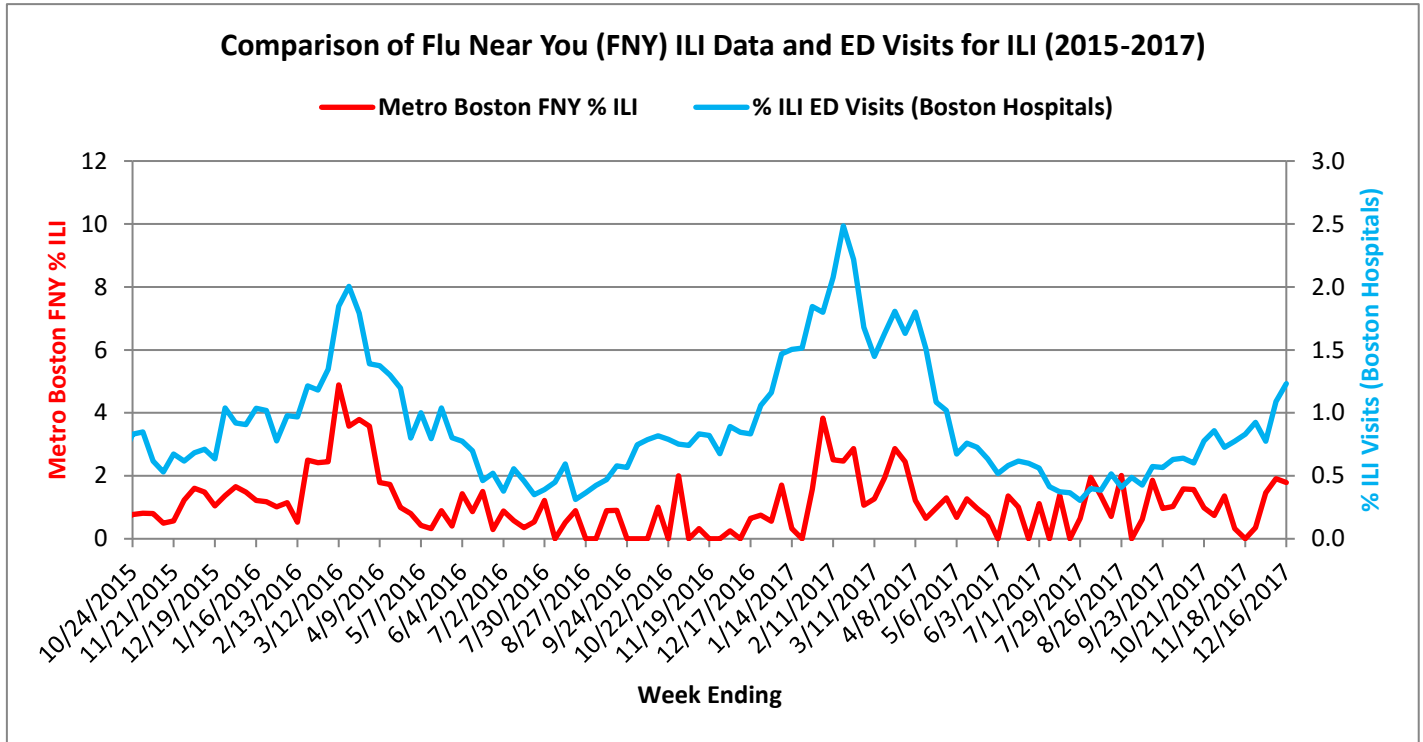
Influenza-like illness (ILI) is defined as "flu" OR "fever and a cough or sore throat" in the ED chief complaint as captured by the BPHC Syndromic Surveillance System.



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Comparison of ILI *Using Flu Near You (FNY)* ILI Data* and ED Visits for ILI, 2015-2017



**Flu Near You (FNY)* compiles weekly data of ILI activity in the United States. The data come from short, weekly internet-based surveys completed by voluntary participants who indicate whether they are healthy or have experienced any of a short list of symptoms. The public may participate by enrolling in FNY at: <https://flunearyou.org/>