



BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION (BPHC)

Communicable Disease Control Division

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Boston Influenza Report - For the Week Ending 12/28/2019 (MMWR Week 52)

9/29/2019-12/28/2019 (MMWR Week 52)

Reported Cases (Boston Residents)	# (% of total)
Influenza A	168 (47%)
Influenza B	184 (52%)
Influenza A and B	4 (1%)
Influenza (type unspecified)	0
TOTAL (season-to-date)	356

Boston ED ILI Surveillance*

Last Week ILI% (Week 51) 1.60%

State/National ILI Surveillance**, +

Summary: As of 12/28/2019, a total of 356 cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza in Boston residents have been reported to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) since 9/29/2019. Thirty-eight cases (11%) have been hospitalized. No influenza-associated deaths have been reported to date. Emergency department visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) comprised 2.14% of all Emergency Department (ED) visits this week. Geographic distribution of influenza activity in Massachusetts is *widespread*. Intensity of ILI in the State is *high*.

Providers should continue to offer vaccine to all persons ≥6 months of age until May.

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. [For case report forms Click Here.](#)

Season-To-Date Hospitalization (through MMWR WK 52)

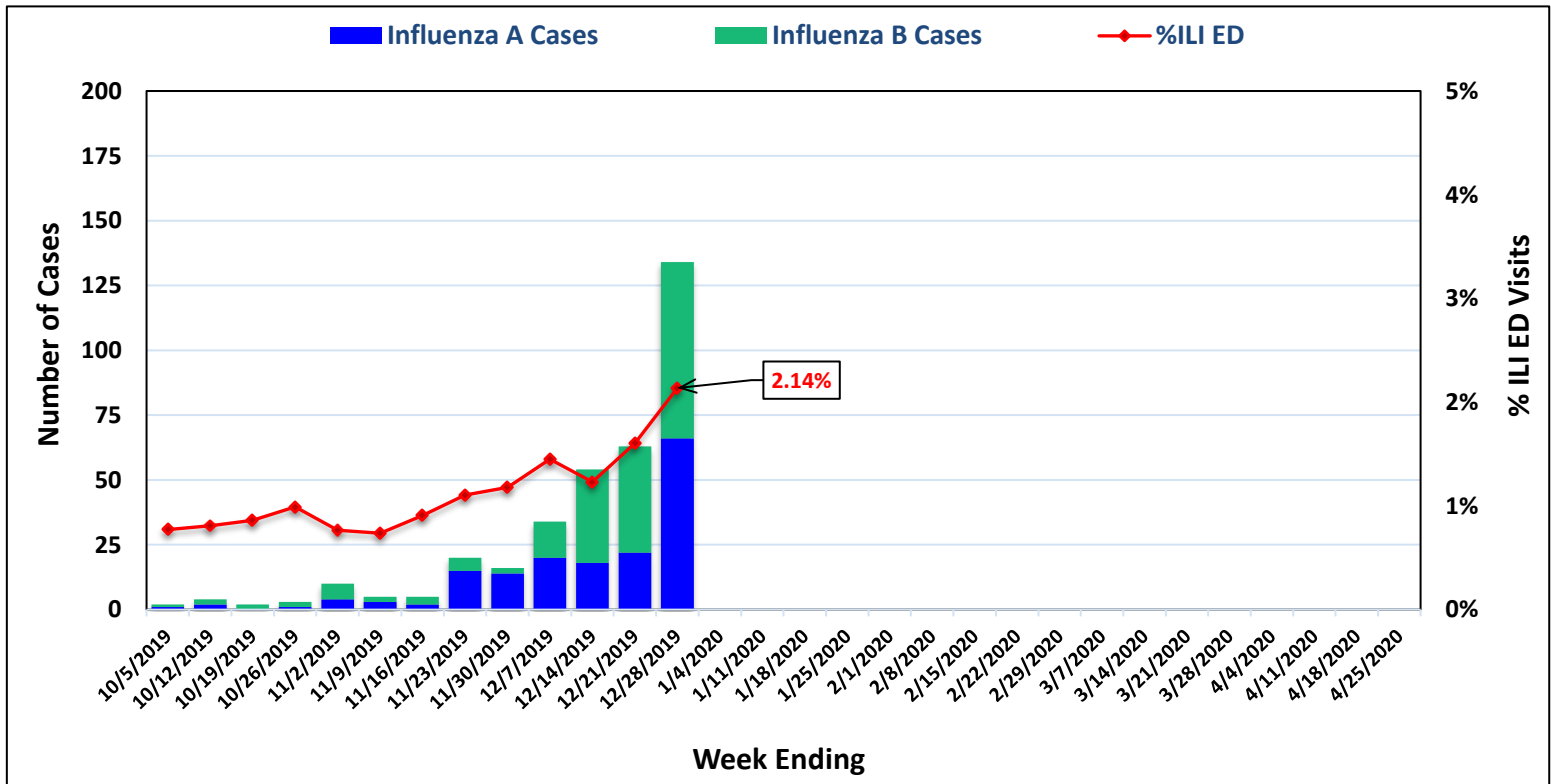
SEASON	# HOSPITALIZED	% HOSPITALIZED
2019-2020	38	11
2018-2019	62	16

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

**Massachusetts and CDC employ a different methodology than the City of Boston to calculate %ILI. Both Massachusetts and National ILI data are calculated using ILinet outpatient surveillance data from sentinel sites. [For more information Click Here.](#)

+All state & national ILI data obtained through CDC's FluView Report. [Click Here to view FluView.](#)

Figure 1. Weekly Reported Influenza Cases (in Boston Residents) and % ILI ED Visits, 2019-2020 Season



For the week ending 12/28/2019, ILI accounted for 2.14% of ED visits, an increase of 0.54% from the prior week.