



BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION (BPHC)

Communicable Disease Control Division

1010 Massachusetts Ave - Boston, MA 02118

Phone: (617) 534-5611 - Fax: (617) 534-5905

Boston Influenza Report - For the Week Ending 11/30/2019 (MMWR Week 48)

9/29/2019-11/30/2019 (MMWR Week 48)

Reported Cases (Boston Residents)	# (% of total)
Influenza A	42 (62%)
Influenza B	25 (37%)
Influenza A and B	1 (1%)
Influenza (type unspecified)	0
TOTAL (season-to-date)	68

Boston ED ILI Surveillance*	
This Week ILI% (Week 48)	1.18%
Last Week ILI% (Week 47)	1.11%
State/National ILI Surveillance**	
This Week Massachusetts ILI% (Week 48)	2.01%
This Week National ILI% (Week 48)	3.50%

Season-To-Date Hospitalization (through MMWR WK 48)		
SEASON	# HOSPITALIZED	% HOSPITALIZED
2019-2020	12	18
2018-2019	10	11

Summary: As of 11/30/2019, a total of 68 cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza in Boston residents have been reported to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) since 9/29/2019. Twelve cases (18%) have been hospitalized. No influenza-associated deaths have been reported to date. Emergency department visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) comprised 1.18% of all Emergency Department (ED) visits this week. Geographic distribution of influenza activity in Massachusetts is *widespread*. Intensity of ILI in the State is *low*.

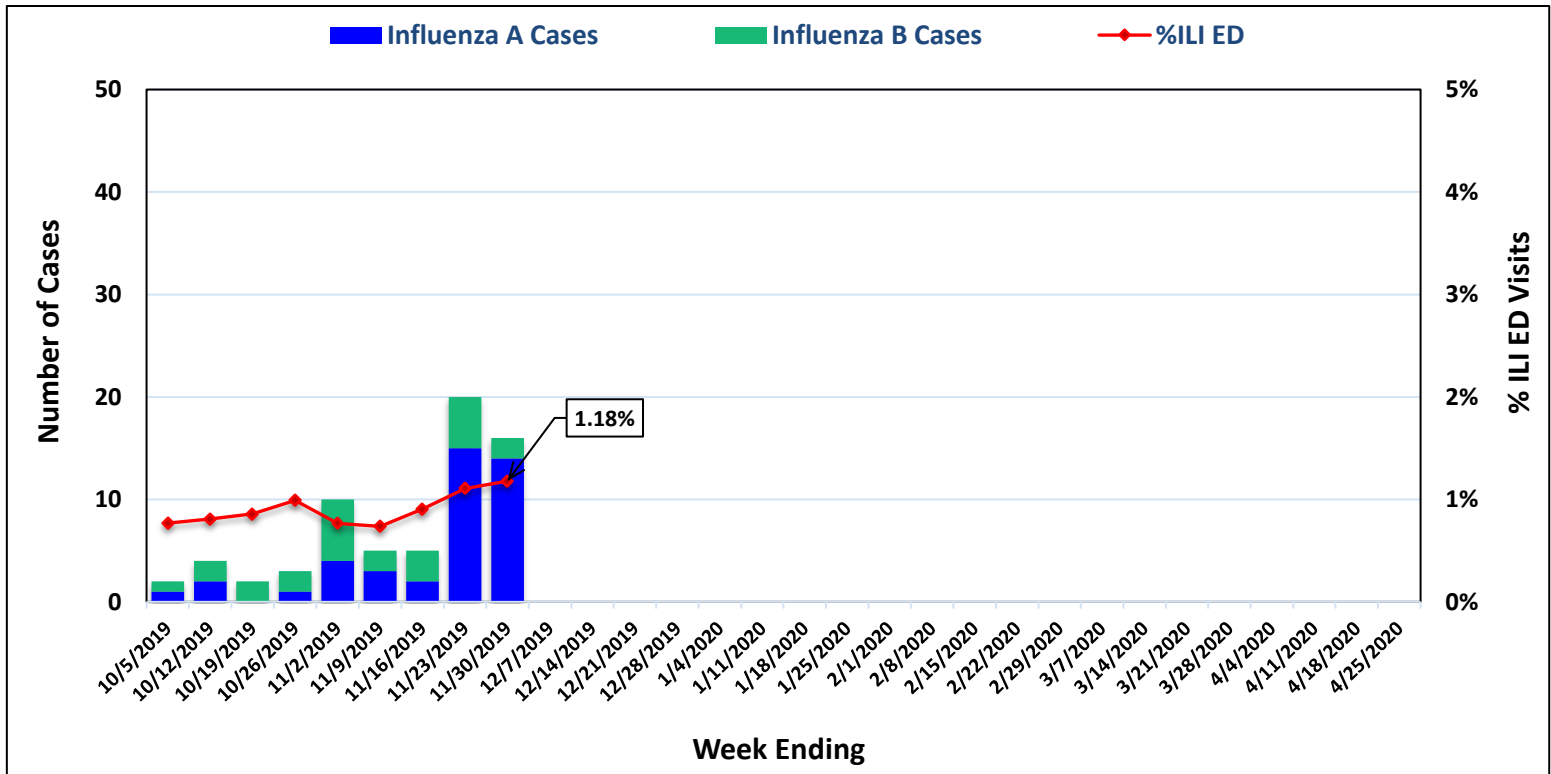
Providers should continue to offer vaccine to all persons ≥6 months of age until May.

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.

*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.](#)

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



For the week ending 11/30/2019, ILI accounted for 1.18% of ED visits, an increase of 0.07% from the prior week.