



WEEKLY INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITY
DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA
INFLUENZA SEASON 2014-2015
May 15, 2015

Thank you: The Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) would like to take this opportunity and thank all of our partners who provide us influenza surveillance information throughout the entire influenza season. Local laboratories, hospitals, schools, and health care providers have reported influenza activity weekly to DCHD. Our surveillance goals include: identifying when and where influenza activity is occurring; detecting and responding to influenza outbreaks; tracking influenza related illness throughout the season; determining what influenza viruses are circulating; detecting changes in influenza viruses; and measuring the impact of influenza on hospitalizations and deaths.

Douglas County, 2014-15 Influenza Season Summary: Influenza A (H3) viruses dominated this season, with an activity peak in mid-January. A second wave of influenza B activity peaked in mid-March. Most characterized influenza A isolates from Douglas County were drifted from this year's vaccine strain, which contributed to the lower vaccine effectiveness estimated by the CDC. This reduced the level of protection compared to influenza vaccines for previous seasons.

A total of 3,551 cases of influenza were reported September 28, 2014 through May 15, 2015. Of the 3,551 reports, 2,189 were influenza A, 1,335 were influenza B, and 27 were not typed. Of the 2,189 influenza A reports that have been sub-typed, 148 were H3, 6 were H1N1, and 2,035 were not typed.

This season, 14 confirmed influenza outbreaks were reported in Douglas County long term care facilities. These outbreaks resulted in more than 100 cases and 8 confirmed deaths. It is very important to protect vulnerable populations such as these by ensuring all caregivers and close contacts are vaccinated every year.

No pediatric deaths due to influenza were reported in Douglas County this season. Nineteen influenza-associated adult deaths have been reported to DCHD. Influenza-associated adult deaths are not reportable by law and may be underreported.

Figure 1: Number of Positive Influenza Laboratory Reports in Douglas County Residents by Flu Type, 2014-15 Season

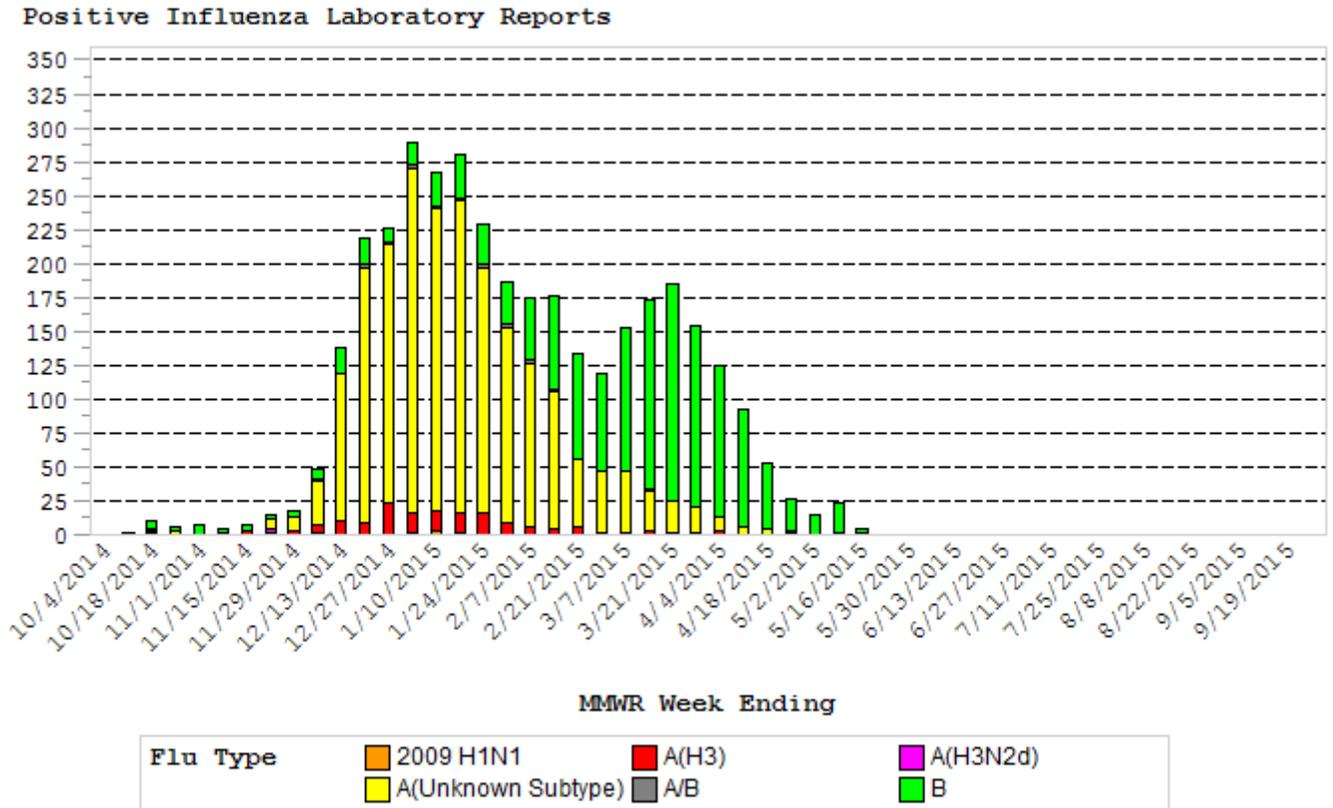


TABLE 1. REPORTED INFLUENZA CASES BY FLU SEASON AND MONTH
Douglas County, Nebraska

MONTH	FLU SEASON											Total (ALL) N
	2014-2015 N	2013-2014 N	2012-2013 N	2011-2012 N	2010-2011 N	2009-2010 N	2008-2009 N	2007-2008 N	2006-2007 N	2005-2006 N	2004-2005 N	
October	23	3	9	0	1	570	1	2	2	0	0	611
November	44	44	19	2	5	171	3	0	1	2	4	295
December	847	291	385	32	7	19	4	2	3	20	17	1627
January	1035	423	1167	64	111	2	15	104	33	51	125	3128
February	603	238	449	99	269	5	59	945	359	158	370	3554
March	742	152	74	117	185	6	261	288	117	139	126	1579
April	228	147	12	19	20	4	100	45	12	19	14	392
May	29	35	1	2	1	1	73	1	6	4	0	124
June	0	4	0	1	0	1	56	8	2	1	1	74
July	0	1	0	0	0	0	87	0	1	0	0	89
August	0	1	0	1	0	1	125	0	1	0	0	129
September	0	1	0	0	0	0	312	0	0	0	0	313
Total	3551	1340	2116	337	599	780	1096	1395	537	394	657	11895