Summary: The week ending 1/4/14 showed an increase in the number of reported influenza cases in Boston residents. 52 cases were reported between 12/29/13 and 1/4/14, with a total of 158 cases reported since October 1st. 47 cases (30%) have been hospitalized. There has been one death in a person over 65 years of age. Emergency department (ED) visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) comprised 1.72% of all ED visits this week.

Cases of influenza diagnosed in Boston and confirmed by any laboratory test must be reported to BPHC.
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.