Influenza Report - For the week ending 4/2/2016

**Summary:** As of 4/2/2016, 1416 cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza were reported to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) since 10/1/2015, with two hundred and fifty (25%) cases requiring hospitalization. Three influenza-associated deaths have been reported. Emergency department visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) comprised 1.39% of all ED visits this week.

BPHC reminds everyone that the influenza vaccine remains the best available tool for preventing illness.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reported Cases (Boston Res.)</th>
<th>#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A</td>
<td>1219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A and B</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1416</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ED Surveillance**

- **This Week % ILI**: 1.39%
- **Average % ILI (since 10/1/2015)**: 1.00%

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**Weekly Reported Influenza Cases and % ILI ED Visits, 2015-16 Season**

- **Influenza A Cases**
- **Influenza B Cases**
- **%ILI ED**

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**Percent Hospitalized by Age Group, 10/1/2015 - 4/2/2015, Boston Residents**

- **<5 yrs**: 13.6%
- **5-17 yrs**: 6.0%
- **18-44 yrs**: 7.4%
- **45-64 yrs**: 25.5%
- **65+ yrs**: 47.5%
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.
**Geographic Distribution**

**Rate of Confirmed Influenza Cases by Neighborhood per 100,000 Population**
October 1, 2015 - April 2, 2016

**Rate of ILI Syndrome ED Visits by Neighborhood per 100,000 Population**
October 1, 2015 - April 2, 2016

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**Comparison of ILI Using Flu Near You (FNY)* ILI Data and ED Visits for ILI, 2013-2016**

*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/](https://flunearyou.org/)

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**Neighborhood Legend**

A/B = Allston/Brighton  
BB = Back Bay  
CH = Charlestown  
EB = East Boston  
FW = Fenway  
HP = Hyde Park  
JP = Jamaica Plain  
MT = Mattapan  
ND = North Dorchester  
RS = Roslindale  
RX = Roxbury  
SB = South Boston  
SD = South Dorchester  
SE = South End  
WR = West Roxbury