Oregon ESSENCE Syndromic Surveillance: Oregon Public Health tracks hospital emergency department (ED) visits throughout the state using the Oregon ESSENCE syndromic surveillance system. ESSENCE categorizes chief complaints into syndrome categories, which includes influenza-like illness (ILI). Figure 1, above, displays percentages for all of Oregon during this flu season compared with the previous three flu seasons. The percent of ED visits for ILI in all of Oregon was 0.9% during week 40, 2017.
**Laboratory Surveillance:**
The National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) is a laboratory-based system that monitors influenza and other respiratory viruses circulating the United States. More information is at CDC’s [website](#).

Table 1 shows the current week and cumulative totals (since October 1, 2017) for influenza in specimens tested at 25 Oregon laboratories contributing data to NREVSS. Figure 2 shows that 1.8% of specimens tested at these Oregon labs were positive for influenza during week 40, and the chart displays the number of influenza-positive tests by flu type and percent positivity.

### Table 1. Influenza Test Results in Oregon, NREVSS, 2017–2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Current Week</th>
<th>Cumulative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of specimens tested</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of positive specimens (%)</td>
<td>14 (1.8%)</td>
<td>14 (1.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive specimens by type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A</td>
<td>12 (86%)</td>
<td>12 (86%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B</td>
<td>2 (14%)</td>
<td>2 (14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type Unavailable</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Influenza-like Illness Outbreaks:**
There have been no ILI outbreaks reported to the Oregon Health Authority for the 2017-2018 flu season.
**ILINet: Oregon’s Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network:** Oregon’s outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI) network comprises 84 reporting facilities across Oregon. Facilities include 20 outpatient providers, and 54 emergency departments and 10 urgent care clinics reporting to ESSENCE. Data are reported to CDC weekly. The percent of outpatients seen with ILI for week 40 of 2017 was highest in the Portland metro area (1.2%) and lowest in Southern Oregon (0.5%).

**Hospitalizations:**
In Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties only 1 influenza-associated hospitalization was reported during the first week of flu season.
**Flu Immunization Update:**
The Oregon Immunization Program (OIP) is once again reporting weekly influenza immunization totals in Oregon. Influenza immunization estimates across the state are made from the ALERT Immunization Information System (ALERT IIS). ALERT IIS receives both child and adult immunization reports from Oregon healthcare providers and payors. The ALERT IIS captures the majority of influenza immunizations given to Oregon residents, with over 1.3 million influenza immunizations reported in the 2016-2017 season.

This week’s reporting is based on ALERT IIS data through Epiweek 39 (September 30th). Through Sept 30th ALERT IIS has received approximately 320,000 reports of seasonal influenza immunizations for Oregon residents. In a typical season, influenza immunizations peak in mid-October. The current season to date is following similar patterns as last season, and is likely to peak a week earlier than last season.
US Data (from CDC FluView): During week 40 (October 1-7, 2017), influenza activity was low in the United States.

- **Viral Surveillance:** The most frequently identified influenza virus type reported by public health laboratories during week 40 was influenza A. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for influenza in clinical laboratories is low.

- **Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality:** The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the system-specific epidemic threshold in the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) Mortality Surveillance System.

- **Influenza-associated Pediatric Deaths:** No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.

- **Outpatient Illness Surveillance:** The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 1.4%, which is below the national baseline of 2.2%. All 10 regions reported ILI below region-specific baseline levels. New York City, the District of Columbia, and 50 states experienced minimal ILI activity and Puerto Rico had insufficient data.

- **Geographic Spread of Influenza:** The geographic spread of influenza in Guam was reported as widespread; two states reported local activity; the District of Columbia and 38 states reported sporadic activity; 10 states reported no activity; and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands did not report.

All Flu Bites data provided are preliminary and may change as additional reports are received. Find the most recent report online at: http://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/DiseasesConditions/CommunicableDisease/DiseaseSurveillanceData/Influenza/Pages/surveil.aspx