

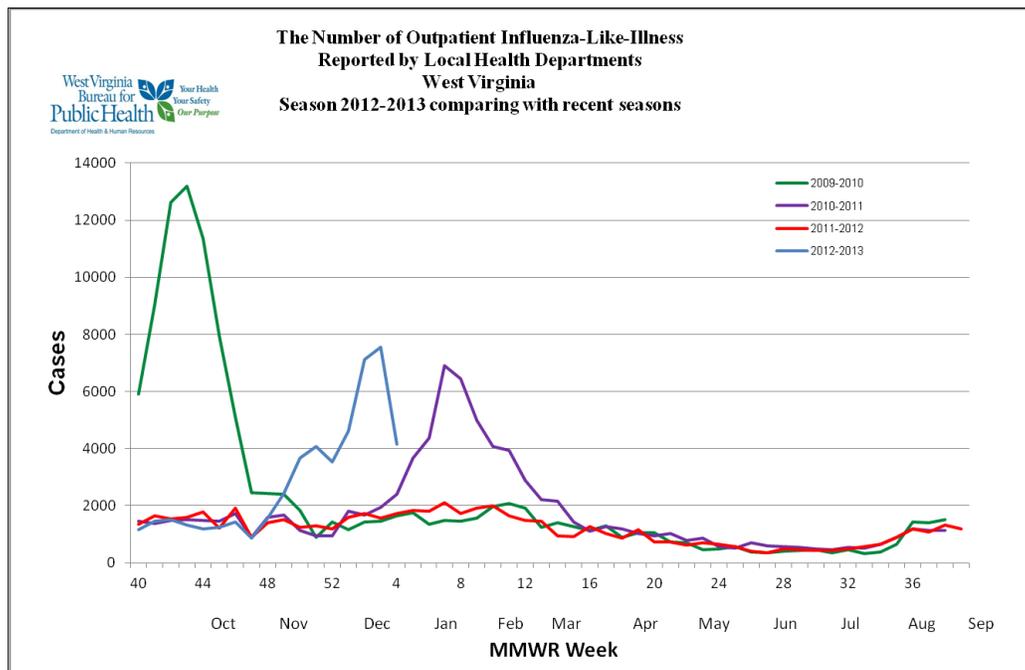
West Virginia Influenza Summary, Week Ending January 26, 2013 (MMWR Week 4)

Dear Influenza Partners,

West Virginia has reported influenza activity as **“Widespread”** for MMWR week 4 (week ending Saturday January 26, 2013).

Influenza activity across West Virginia appears to have peaked. Statewide data shows a decrease in influenza activity. The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) decreased this week from 5.9% previously to 3.9%. In addition the number of outbreaks reported to the state health department and the number respiratory specimens testing positive for influenza also significantly decreased. West Virginia’s influenza activity remains above baseline; however current data indicates that the flu season is on the descent. There have been no pediatric deaths reported in West Virginia and this season appears to have the greatest impact among people 64 years of age and older.

Influenza activity remains elevated in the United States, but decreased in some areas. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI was 4.2%; this is above that national baseline of 2.2%. There have been a total of 45 pediatric deaths reported for this season.



Weekly influenza surveillance graphs for West Virginia can be found at the website: <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/flu/Pages/fluSurveillance.aspx>. Because of late reporting, we must sometimes update information in retrospect. The website will always have the most up-to-date numbers. Please feel free to contact us at (304)-558-5358, extension 1, with any questions regarding this report.