As of March 13, 2021, the CDC reports that seasonal influenza activity remains lower than usual for this time of year. In clinical laboratories, 27 (0.1%) of 23,618 specimens tested positive for influenza in Week 10, with similar low reports of influenza positives reported in public health laboratories. All jurisdictions reported minimal level of flu activity. The current cumulative hospitalization rate is 0.7 per 100,000, which is about 1/4 the rate at this time during the low severity 2011-2012 year. For more information, please visit: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm

Febrile/flu-like illnesses continued to remain lower than normal for week 10 among all age groups. No specimen was reported as positive for influenza A or B from our 6 sentinel hospital laboratories for week 10. Since Sept. 27, 2020, there have been 11 reports of severe influenza (Philadelphia resident, positive by rapid test, PCR or culture, and hospitalized for ≥ 24 hrs). Zero influenza outbreaks were reported (≥ 1 case of laboratory confirmed flu reported in a long term care facility). Zero influenza-associated deaths confirmed by PCR have been reported.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) continues to report low activity levels across the state. Since Sept 27, 2020 there have been 2,991 laboratory confirmed cases of influenza (positive by rapid test, PCR, or culture). 38 influenza-associated hospitalizations have been reported across PA, with an increase of 1 hospitalization in the past week. 15 deaths have been reported this flu season. For more information, please visit: https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Flu/Pages/2020-21-Flu.aspx

All institutional outbreaks and hospitalized and fatal cases of influenza are to be reported to PDPH. Phone: (215) 685-6742 Fax: (215) 238-6947 Email: ACD@phila.gov Reporting requirements and forms are posted online at hip.phila.gov