Georgia Weekly Influenza Report

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Updated 1/3/2020

Week 52 (December 22 — December 28, 2019)

Snapshot of Influenza Activity During Week 52:

- **Outpatient Illness Surveillance (ILINet):** The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI was **12.2%,** which is **ABOVE** the regional baseline of 2.4%
- **Activity Indicator Map:** HIGH
- **Geographic Spread of Influenza:** WIDESPREAD
- **Influenza-associated Deaths:** 6 deaths were confirmed
- **Metro Area Hospitalizations:** 39 hospitalizations were reported
- **Influenza Outbreaks:** 2 outbreaks were reported
- **Viral Surveillance:** The percent of specimens testing positive for influenza by clinical laboratories was 35.9%

Summary of Select Influenza Surveillance Measures

	Week 52	Cumulative Data since September 29, 2019 (Week 40)
No. of Influenza-associated Deaths	6	15
No. of Metro Area Influenza Hospitalizations	39	505
No. of Influenza Outbreaks	2	37

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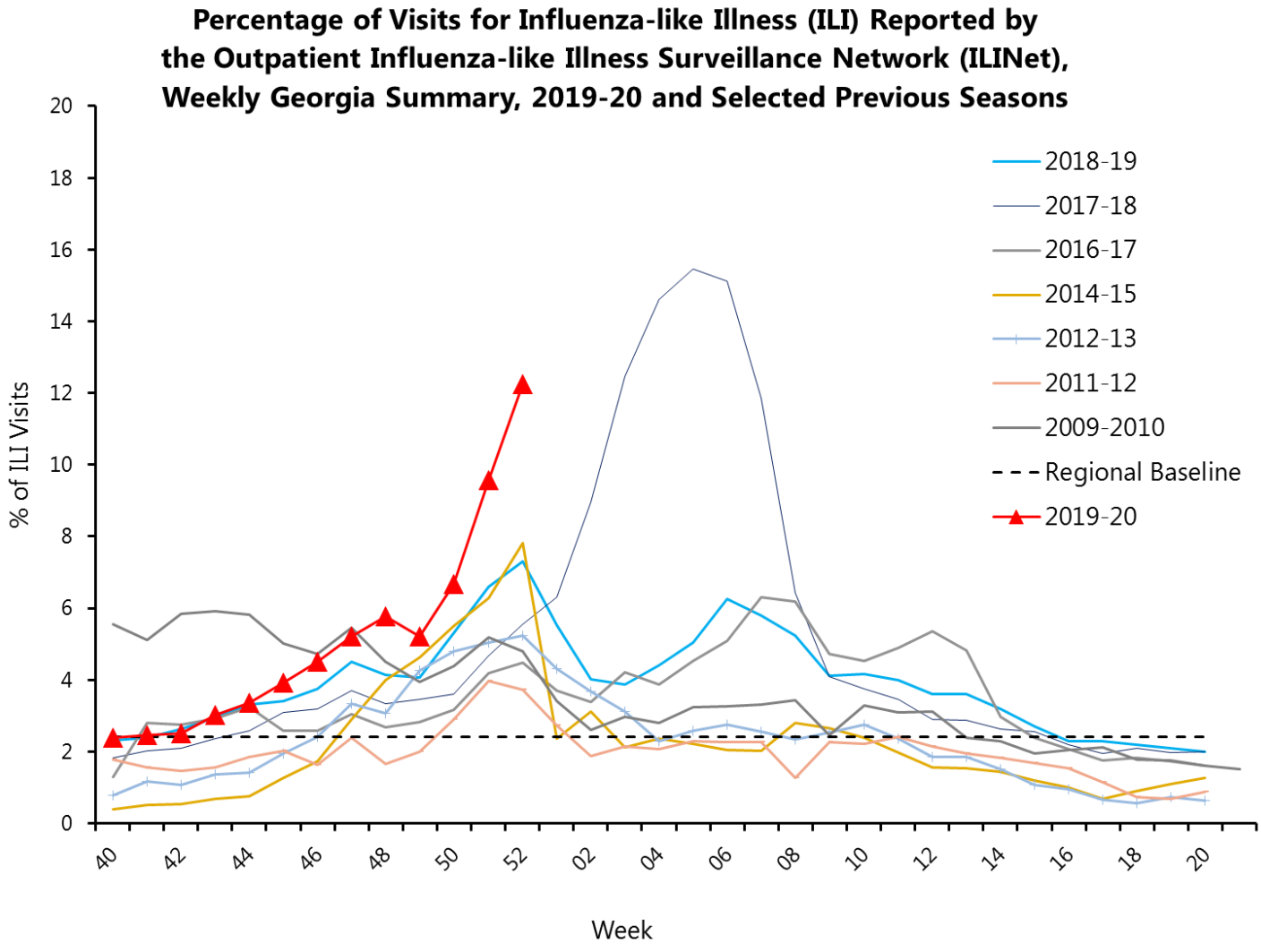
Outpatient Illness Surveillance

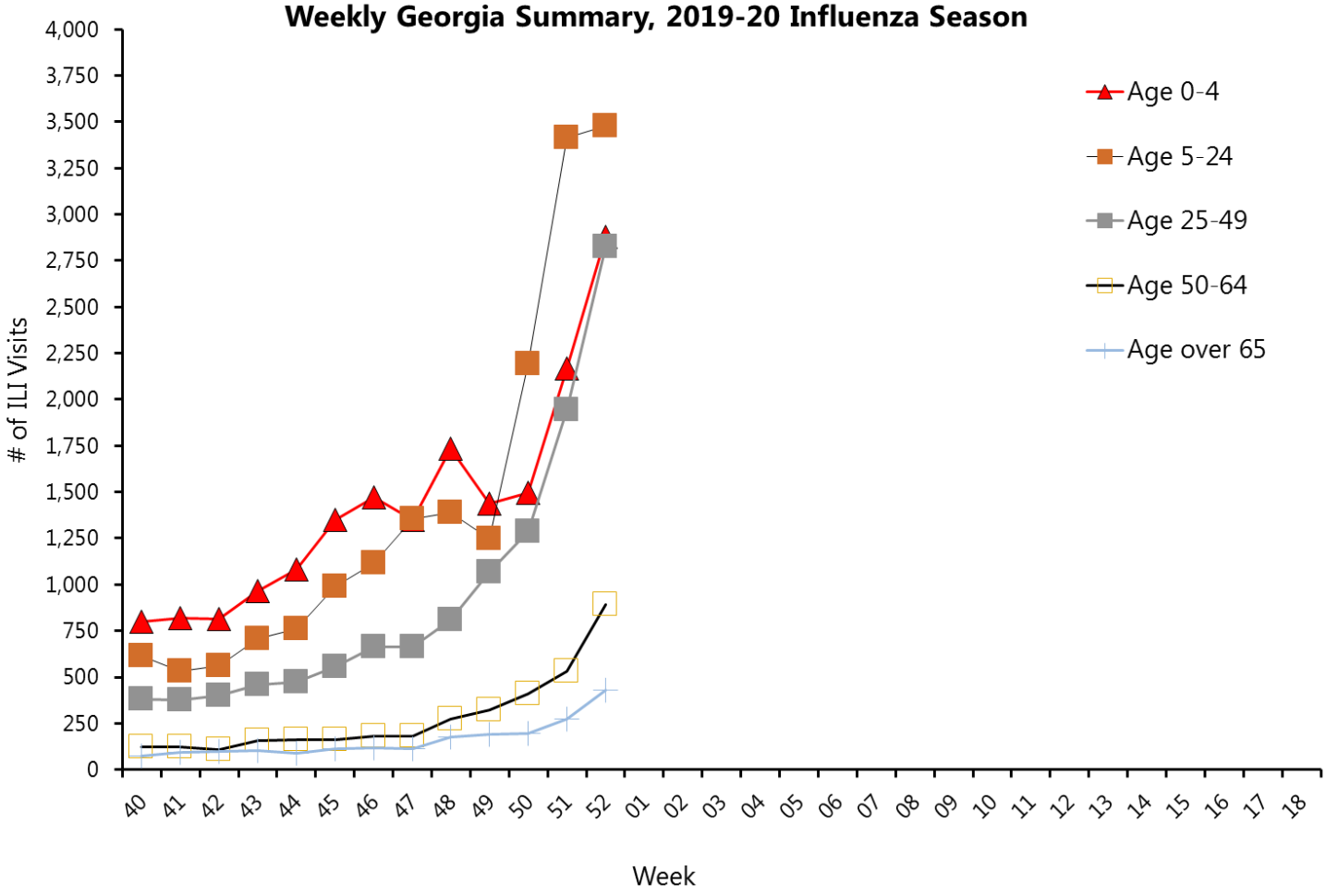
In Georgia during week 52, 12.2% of patient visits reported through the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is above the regional baseline of 2.4%. (ILI is defined as fever (temperature of 100°F [37.8°C] or greater) and cough and/or sore throat.)

A total of 93 sentinel providers reported data for week 52.

Note: The regional baseline is formulated by averaging ILI percentage during weeks of endemic activity determined by laboratory results for influenza. HHS Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, and TN) (Baseline: 2.4%).



Number of Visits for Influenza-like Illness (ILI), by Age, Reported by the Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), Weekly Georgia Summary, 2019-20 Influenza Season



Summary of ILI, by Age, Reported to ILINet, Weekly Georgia, 2019-20 Influenza Season

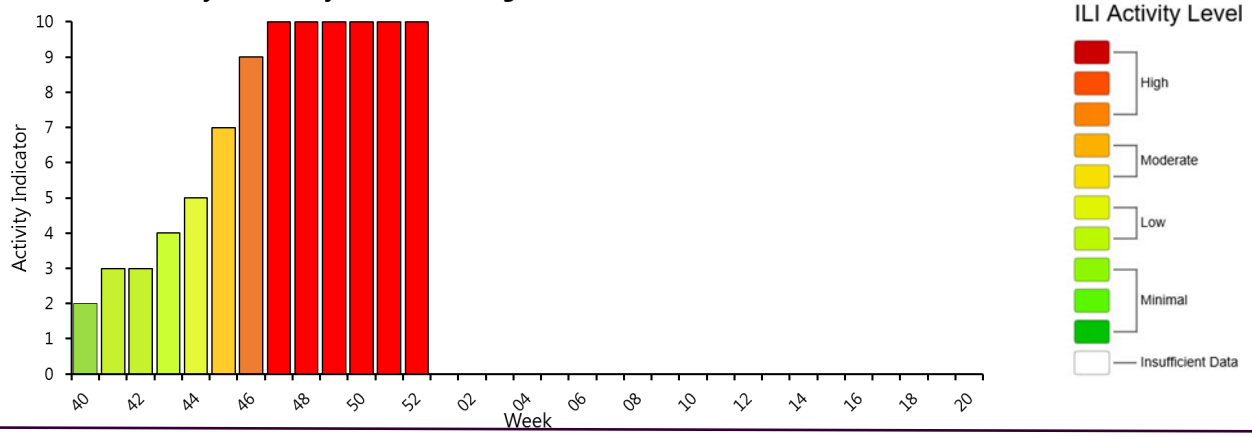
Age Group in Years	No. of ILI Visits (Week 52)	Cumulative Data since September 29, 2019 (Week 40)
0-4	2,880	18,360
5-24	3,479	18,364
25-49	2,826	11,903
50-64	892	3,628
65+	432	2,071
Total	10,509	54,326

ILI Activity Indicator

ILI Activity Levels measure ILI activity each week. Activity levels are based on the percent of outpatient visits in Georgia due to ILI compared to the 3 year average of ILI visits during weeks with little or no influenza virus circulation.

During week 52, the activity level in Georgia was **HIGH = 10**

Weekly ILI Activity Indicator, Georgia, 2019-20 Influenza Season

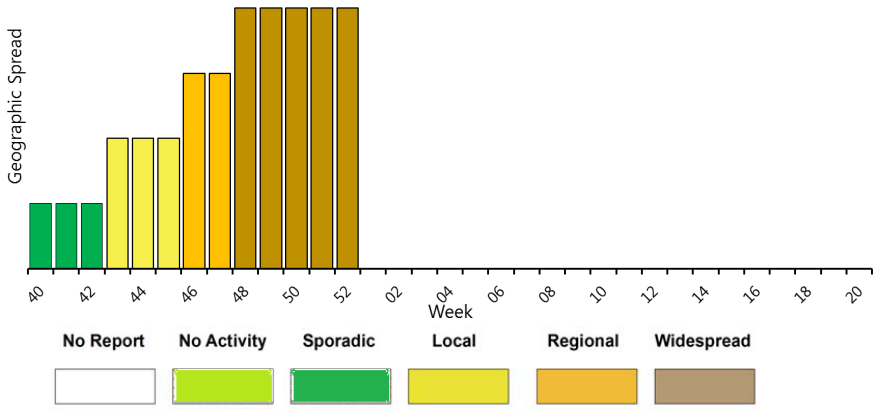


Geographic Spread of Influenza

Geographic spread is measured weekly and reflects geographic dispersion of influenza and is not an indicator of influenza severity.

During week 52, the geographic spread of influenza in Georgia was **WIDESPREAD.**

Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates of Geographic Spread, Georgia, 2019-20 Influenza Season



No Activity: No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in the number of cases of ILI.
Sporadic: Small numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases or a single laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI.
Local: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.
Regional: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI and recent laboratory confirmed influenza in at least two but less than half the regions of the state with recent laboratory evidence of influenza in those regions.
Widespread: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least half the regions of the state with recent laboratory evidence of influenza in the state.

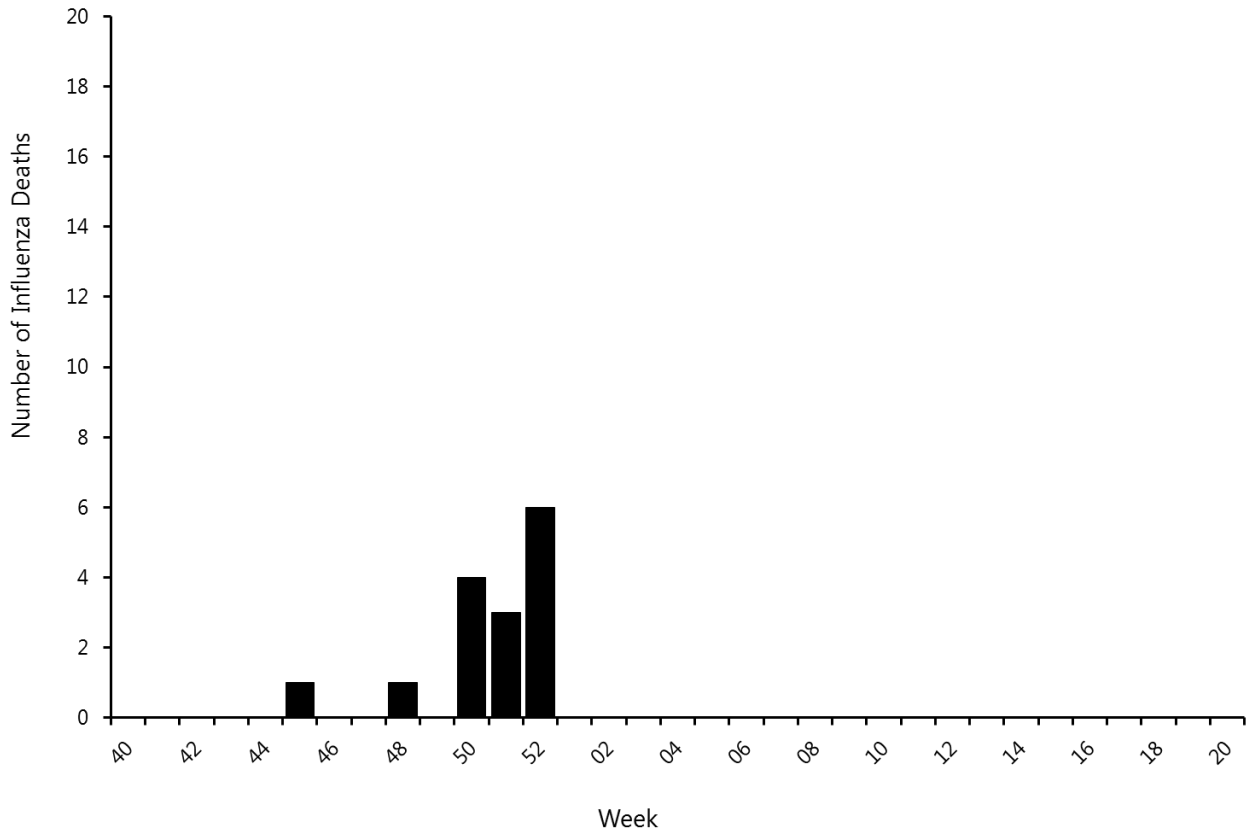
Influenza-Associated Mortality

Influenza-associated deaths (in all ages) are reportable by law in the state of Georgia. To be confirmed as a as influenza-associated death, the person must have a clinically compatible illness, a positive influenza test, no documented recovery between the illness and death.

There were 6 influenza-associated deaths reported in Georgia during week 52.

A total of 15 influenza-associated deaths have been confirmed for the 2019-20 season.

Number of Laboratory Confirmed Influenza Deaths by Week of Death: Georgia Summary, 2019-20 Influenza Season



Summary of Influenza-associated Deaths, by Age, Georgia, 2019-20 Influenza Season

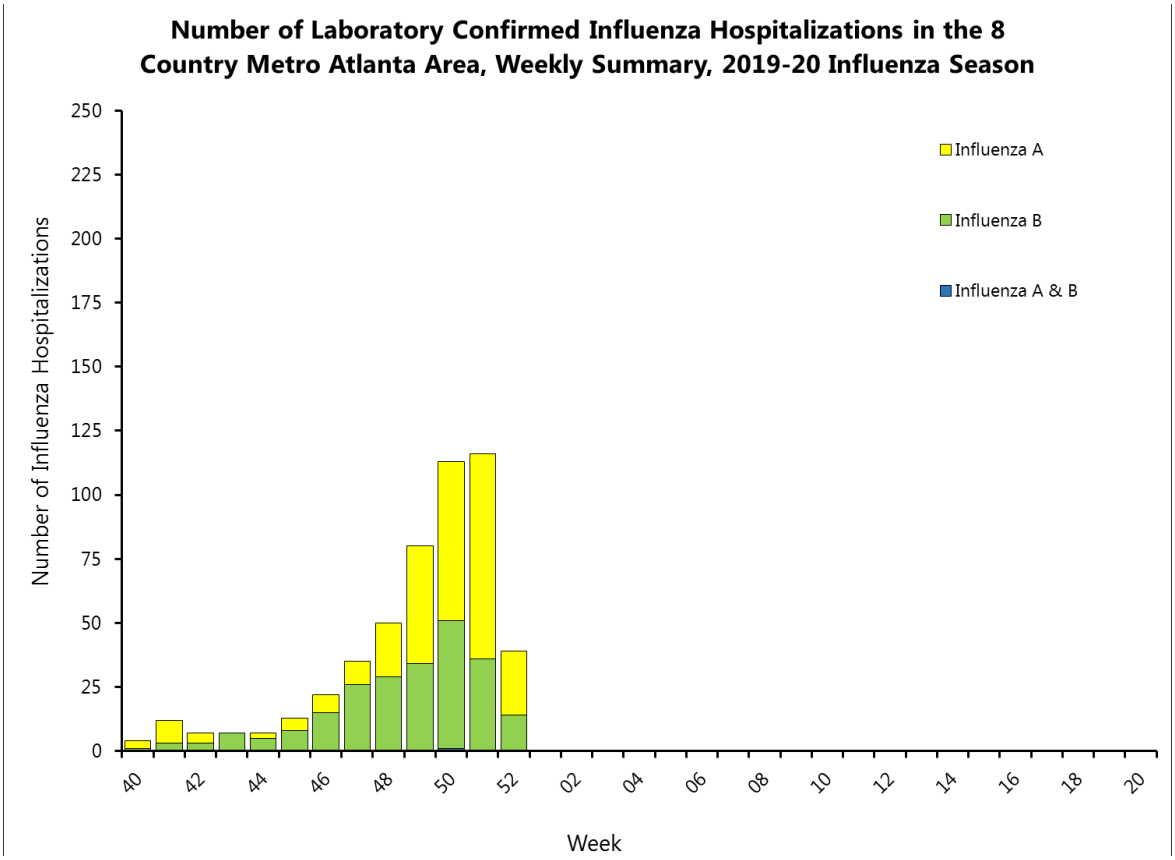
Age Group in Years	No. of Flu Deaths (Data Cumulative since Week 40)
0-4	2
5-17	1
18-49	4
50-64	0
65+	8
Total	15

Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations

The Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Network (FluSurv-Net) reports laboratory confirmed influenza hospitalizations in the eight county metro Atlanta area (Fulton, DeKalb, Clayton, Cobb, Douglas, Gwinnett, Rockdale, and Newton) for the 2019-20 influenza season.

There were 39 laboratory confirmed influenza hospitalizations confirmed for week 52.

A total of 505 laboratory confirmed influenza hospitalizations have been reported for the 2019-20 season.



Summary of Influenza Hospitalizations, by Age, Georgia, 2019-20 Influenza Season

Age Group in Years	No. of Flu Hospitalization (Cumulative Data since Week 40)	Hospitalization Rate (per 100,000 population)
0-4	89	33.5
5-17	75	10.2
18-49	153	8.1
50-64	81	10.7
65+	107	22.6
Total	505	12.2

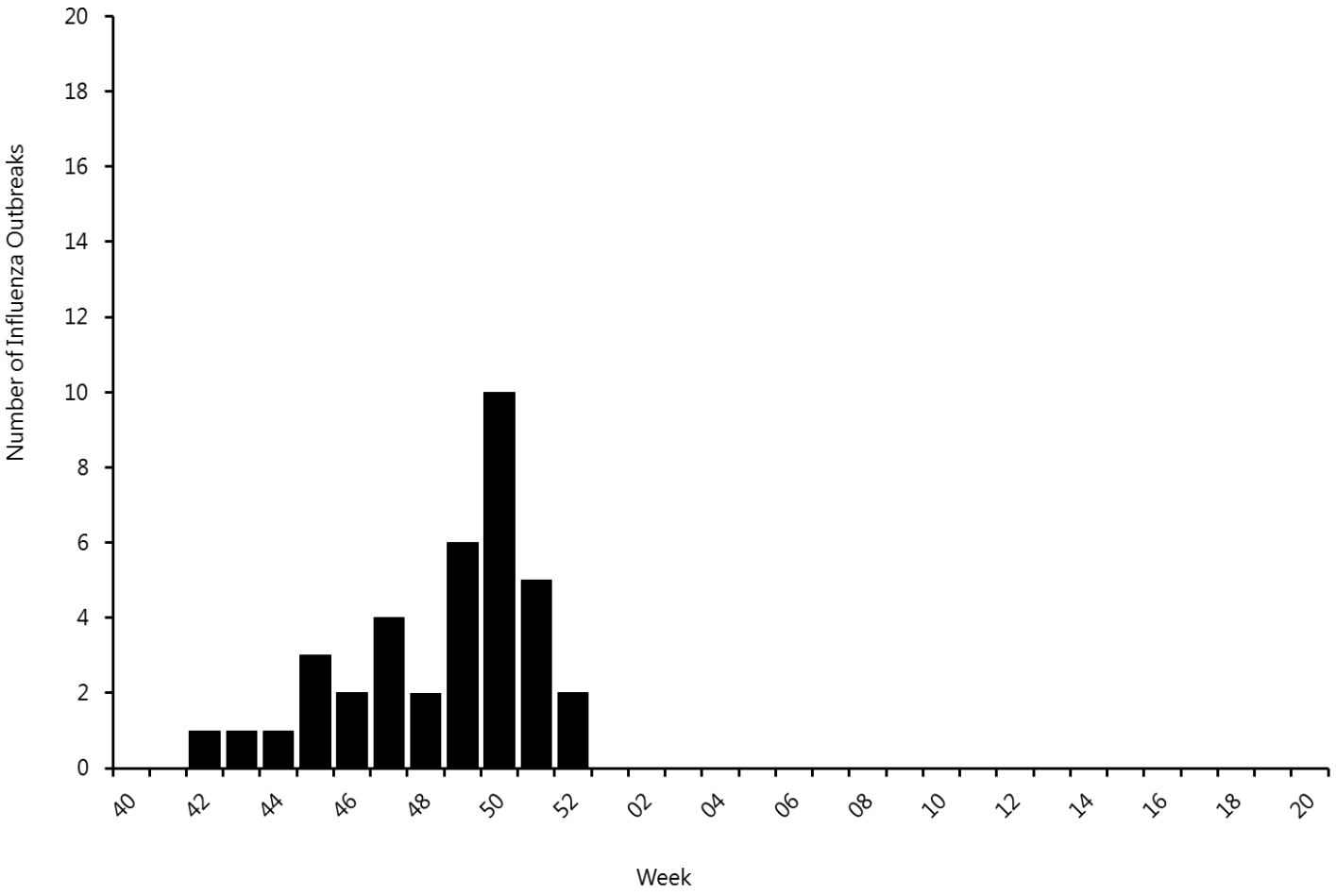
Influenza Outbreaks

Influenza outbreaks are reportable by law in the state of Georgia.

2 influenza outbreaks were reported for week 52.

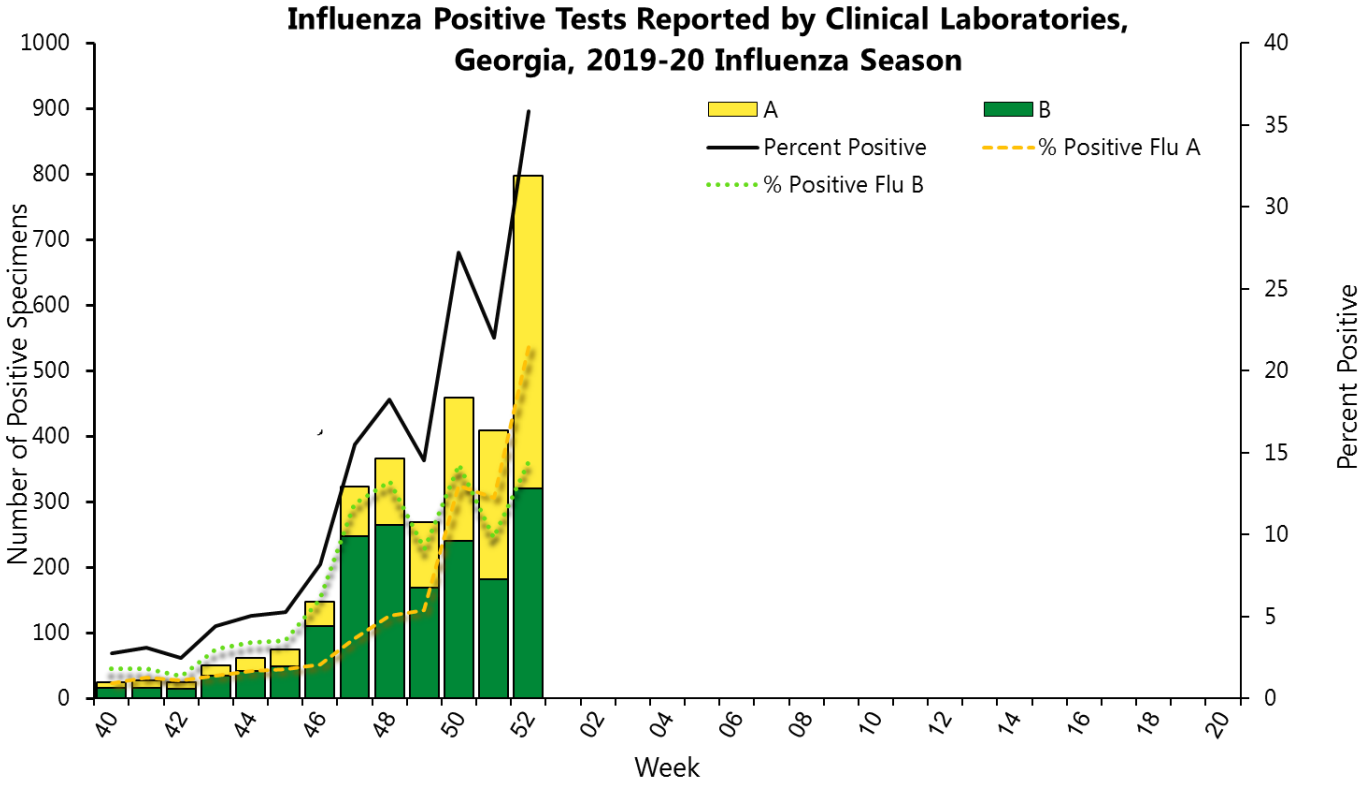
A total of 37 laboratory confirmed influenza outbreaks have been reported in Georgia for the 2019-20 season.

Number of Laboratory Confirmed Influenza Outbreaks by Week Reported to Public Health, Weekly Georgia, Summary, 2019-20 Influenza Season



Virologic Surveillance

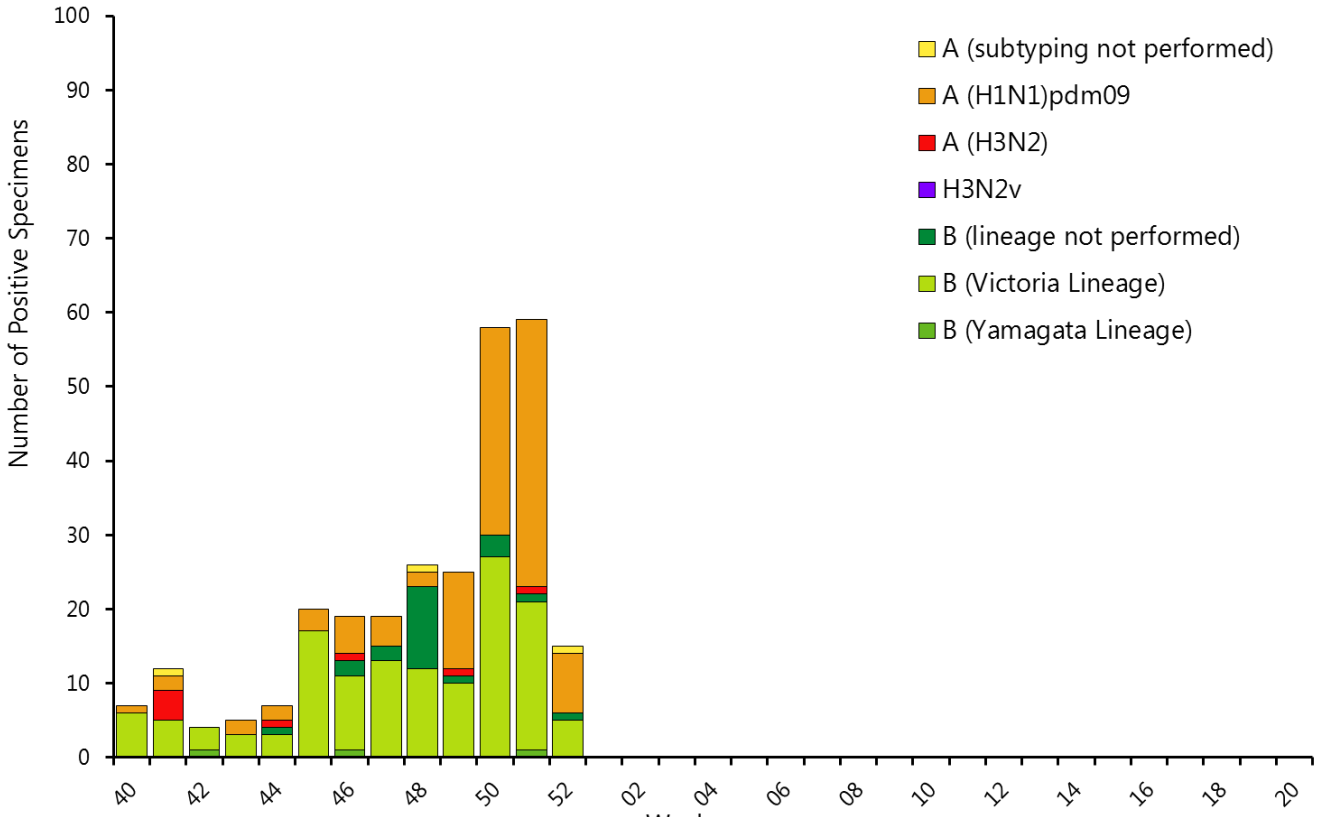
The National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) and World Health Organization (WHO) collaborating laboratories (a combination of clinical and public health laboratories) report the total number of respiratory specimens tested for influenza and the number of positive for influenza, by virus type. Public Health Laboratories provide data about influenza virus subtypes and lineages (next page).



Summary of Influenza Tests from Clinical Laboratories, Georgia,

	Week 52	Cumulative Data Since Week 40
No. of specimens tested	2,223	20,038
No. of positive specimens	797	3,031
Influenza A	477	1,328
Influenza B	320	1,703

During week 52, public health laboratories in Georgia reported testing 24 specimens for influenza, 15 were positive (8 influenza A(H1N1), 1 influenza A(subtyping not performed), 1 influenza B (lineage not performed), and 5 influenza B(Victoria Lineage)).



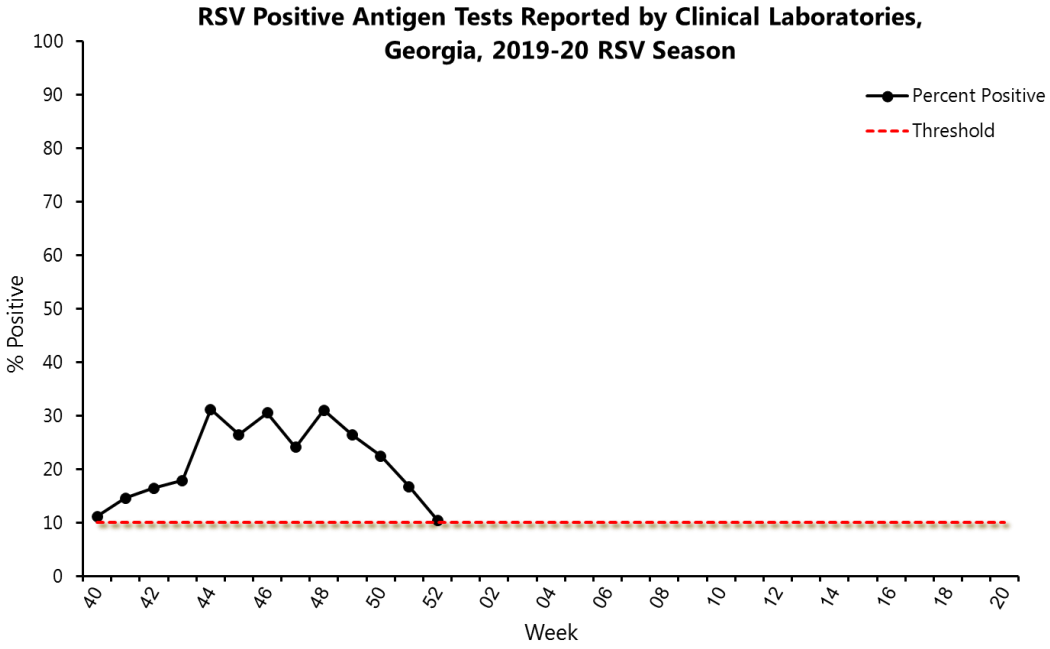
Summary of Influenza Tests from Public Health Laboratories, Georgia,

	Cumulative Data Since Week 40
No. of specimens tested	692
No. of Positive Specimens	276
Influenza A (subtype not performed)	3
A(H1N1)pmd09	106
H3	8
Influenza B (lineage not performed)	22
Yamagata lineage	3
Victoria lineage	134

Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection (RSV) Surveillance

Data from NREVSS are also analyzed to measure the RSV seasonality. Antigen and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests are analyzed separately to determine the start and end of RSV season. Season onset is defined as the first week of two consecutive weeks when the percent positive of ALL laboratory confirmed tests are greater than or equal a certain threshold. The end is defined as the first week of two consecutive weeks when the percent positive of ALL laboratory confirmed tests are less than a certain threshold. For antigen-based testing, the threshold is 10% and for PCR the threshold is 3%.

During week 52, clinical laboratories in Georgia reported testing 432 specimens with antigen testing methods, 10.4% were positive for RSV.



During week 52, clinical laboratories in Georgia reported testing 383 specimens with **PCR** testing methods, 15.9% were positive for RSV.