

## Southern Nevada Weekly Influenza Surveillance Snapshot CDC Week 45, November 1, 2020 to November 7, 2020

**Summary:** The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) Office of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance (OEDS) began surveillance for the 2020–2021 influenza season on September 27, 2020 and will continue through May 22, 2021. Influenza surveillance for Clark County, Nevada includes data collected from local acute care hospitals and other healthcare providers. As of November 7, 2020, no hospitalized cases or death cases due to influenza have been reported to SNHD for Clark County. Nationwide, seasonal influenza activity in the United States remains low. During week 45, 1.5% of patient visits reported through the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) were due to influenza-like illness (ILI), which was a slight increase from the previous week (1.3%). ILI activity remains below the national baseline of 2.6%. Among 54 states/jurisdictions, the ILI activity level of 49 states/jurisdictions, including the state of Nevada, is minimal.

<u>About Flu:</u> Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness. Serious outcomes of flu infection can result in hospitalization or death.

## People at High Risk For Flu Complications:

- Adults 65 years and older
- Young children
- Pregnant women
- People with chronic health conditions including asthma, heart disease and stroke, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, cancer, and chronic kidney disease
- People from certain racial and ethnic minority groups including non-Hispanic Black, non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native, and Hispanic or Latino.

## Flu Prevention:

- CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses. Getting a flu vaccine during 2020-2021 will be more important than ever because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Wash hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with viruses that cause flu.

## Key Points:

- 1. An annual flu vaccine is the best way to protect against flu and its potentially serious complications.
- 2. If you haven't gotten your flu vaccine yet, get vaccinated now.

If you have any questions on influenza or influenza surveillance, please contact OEDS at (702) 759-1300.