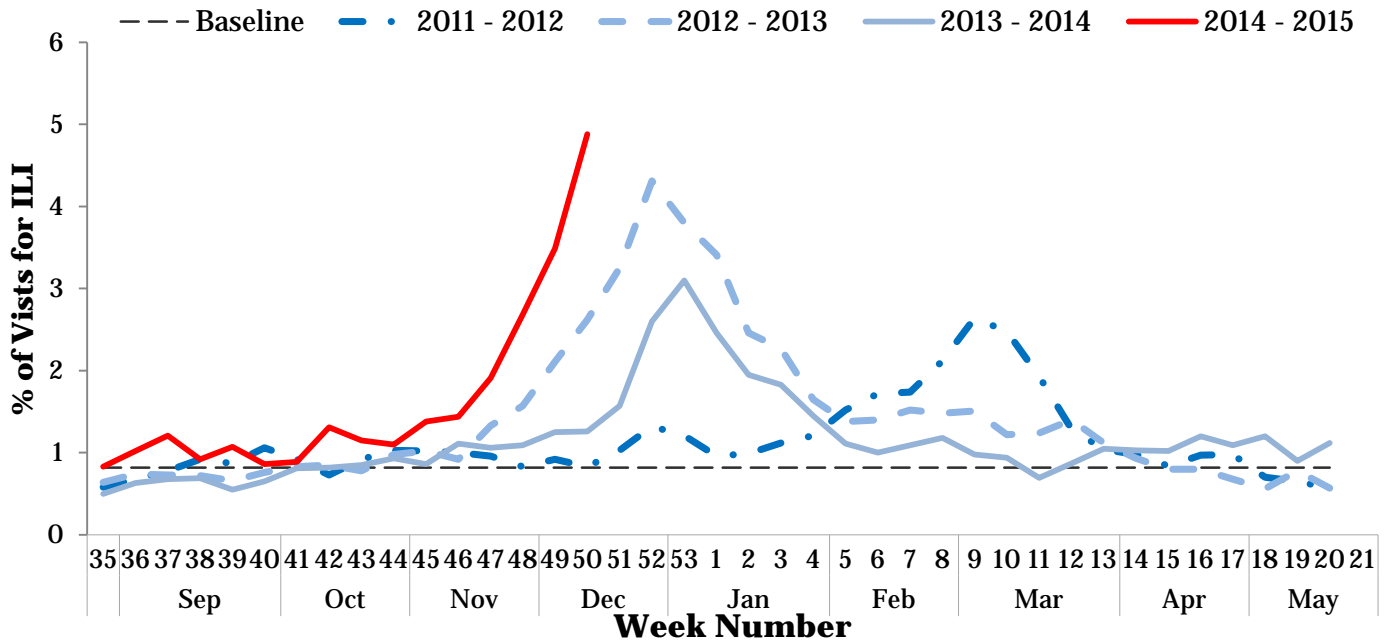




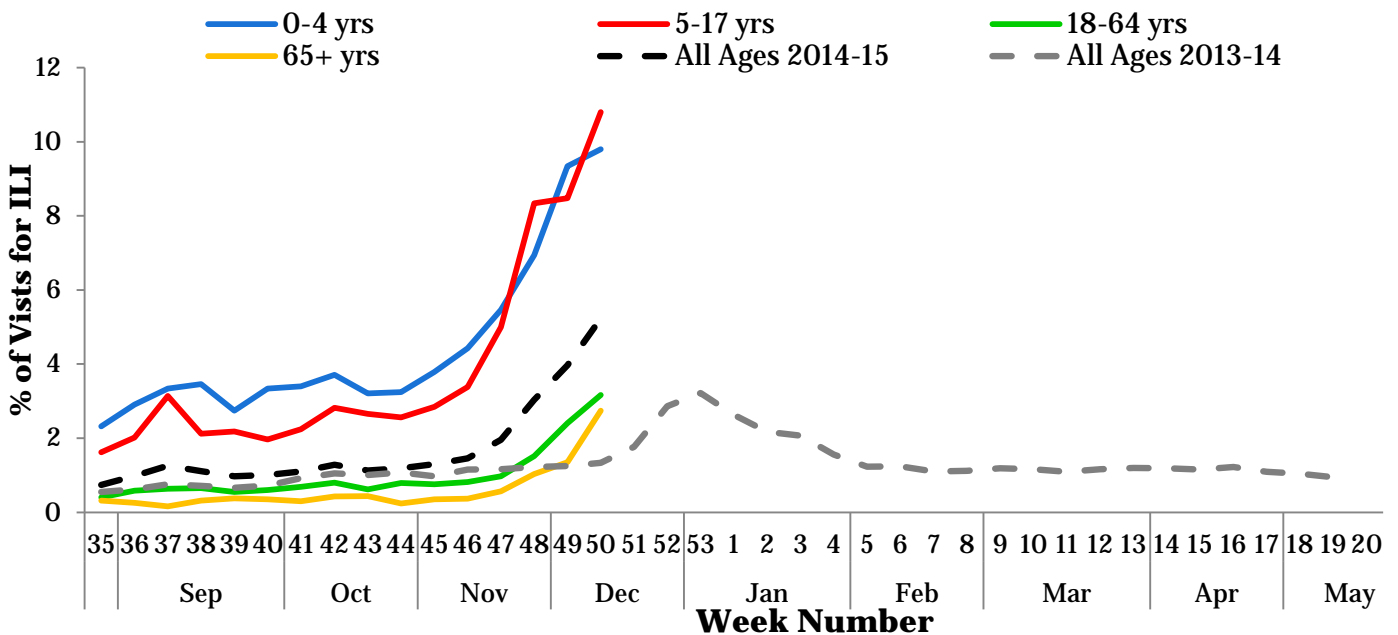
**I. Influenza Summary to Date**

Influenza surveillance for suburban Cook County\*\* involves the weekly collection of data from a sample of hospitals, private physician's offices, and laboratory data. The risk for influenza infection continues to increase. Our sentinel participants reported the following aggregate measures: Syndromic Surveillance: 4.88% ILI<sup>1</sup>, Sentinel Surveillance: 6.35% ILI<sup>2</sup>. Eight hundred seventy-seven (43.6%) specimens tested positive for influenza (284 influenza A H3N2, 584 influenza A unknown subtype [subtyping not performed], 1 influenza A H1N1, and 8 influenza B). Since Week 35 (8/24/2014), suburban Cook County has had 125 cases of influenza-associated intensive care unit (ICU) hospitalizations, 28 clusters of ILI in schools, and 19 outbreaks of influenza in long term care (LTC) facilities. During week 50, 41 ICU hospitalizations due to influenza infection were reported, 18 clusters of ILI in schools were reported, and 11 outbreaks of influenza in LTC facilities were reported to CCDPH. The percentage of deaths due to pneumonia and influenza was 4.36% for the previous week which was below the threshold of 6.71%. Thank you to all of our surveillance partners for their help in collecting this information.

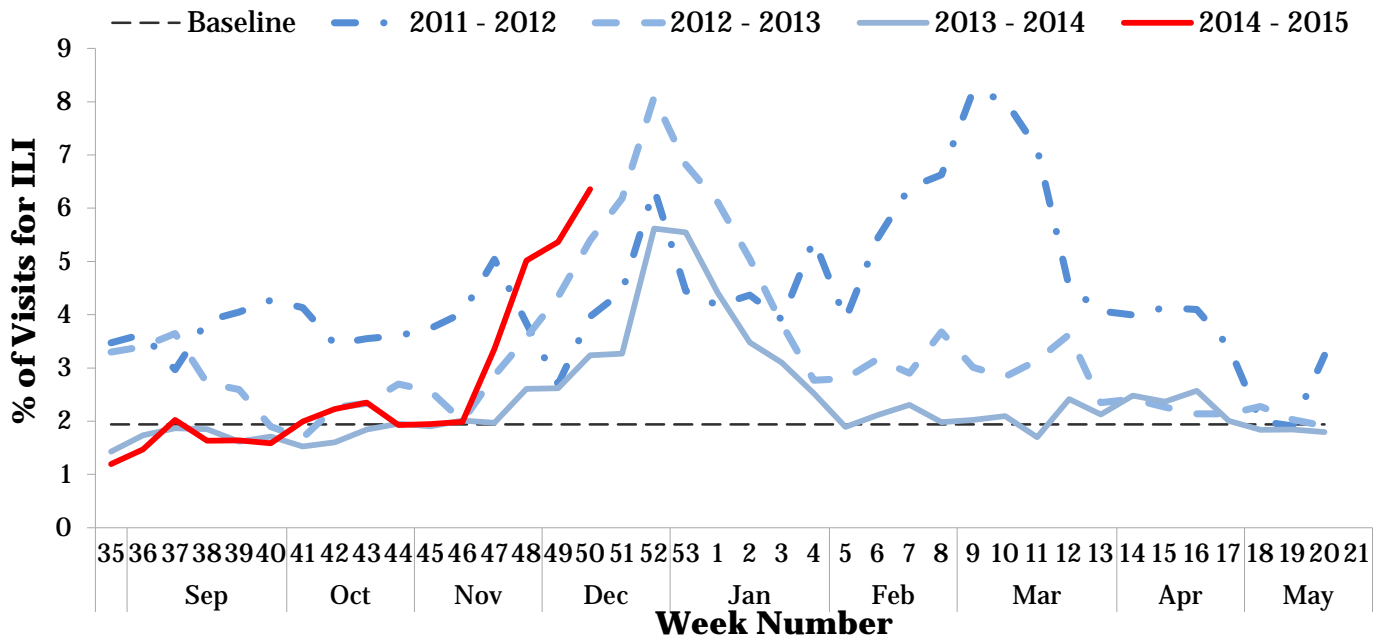
**II. Syndromic Surveillance Data<sup>1</sup>**



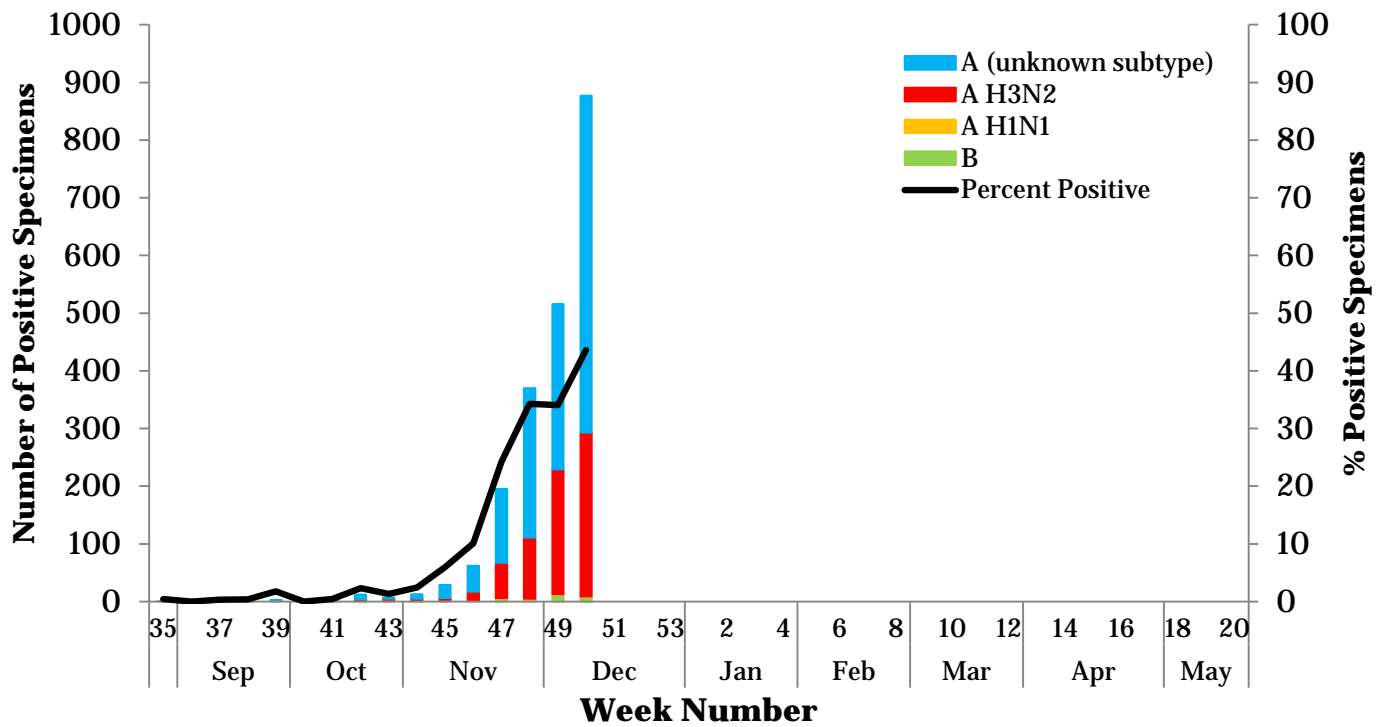
**III. Syndromic Surveillance by Age Group Data<sup>1</sup>**



#### IV. Sentinel Provider Data<sup>2</sup>

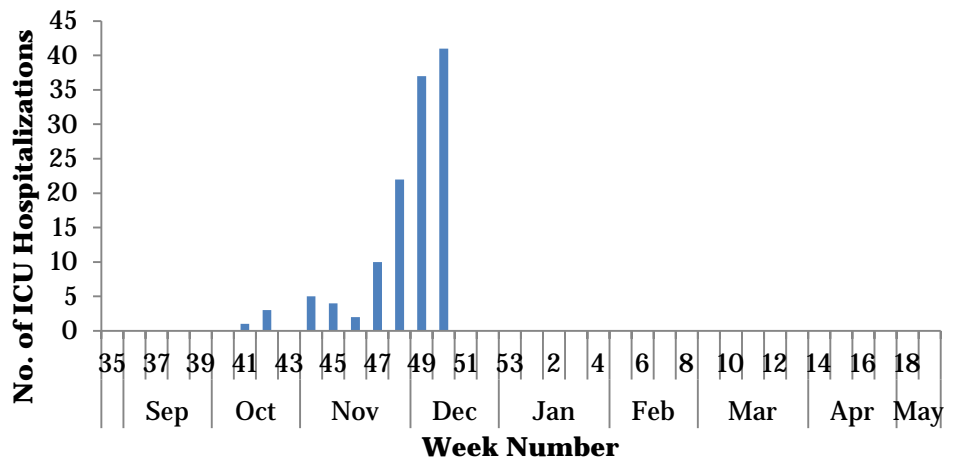


#### V. Laboratory Surveillance Data<sup>3</sup>

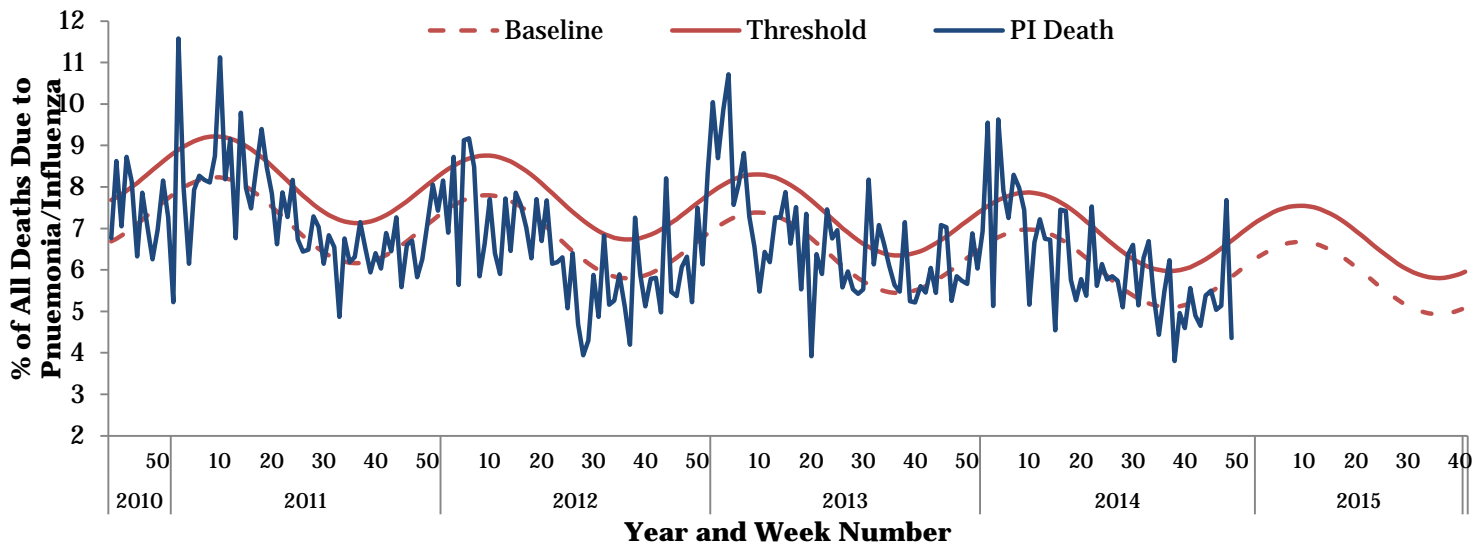


#### VI. ICU Hospitalization Data<sup>4</sup>

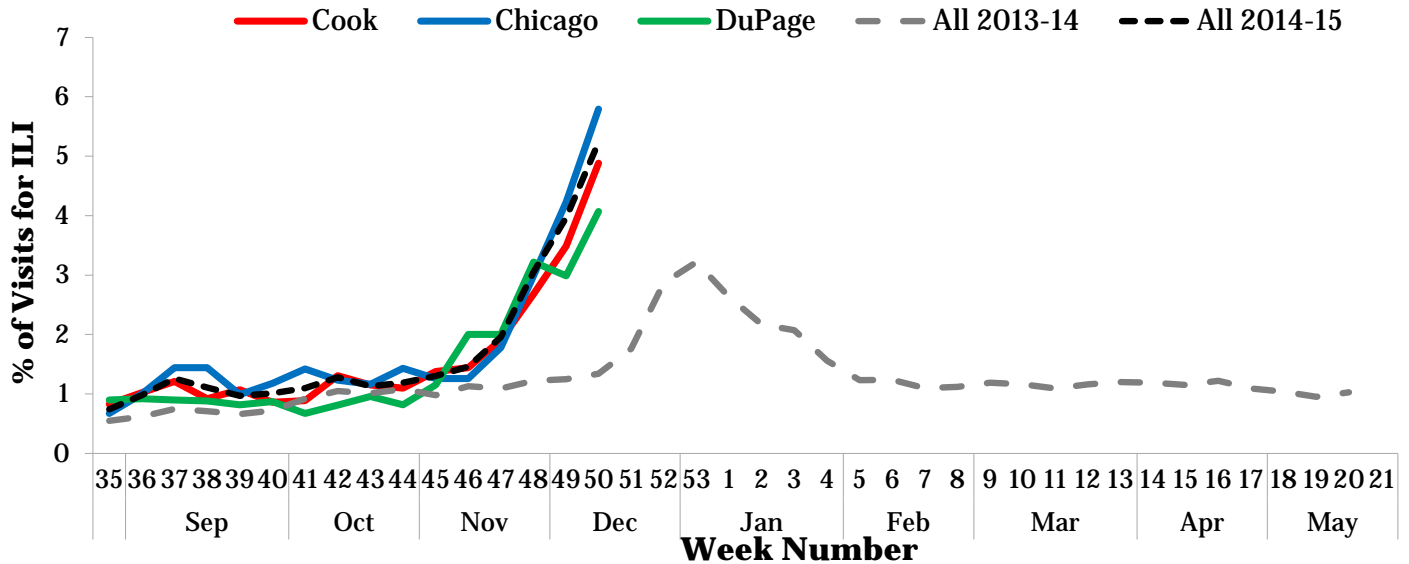
Hospitalized Case Counts	
Total Cases	125
Incidence by Age	
0-4	5
5-24	13
25-49	8
50-64	25
65+	74
Incidence by Region	
North	64
West	20
Southwest	15
South	26



**VII. Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality Data<sup>5</sup>**

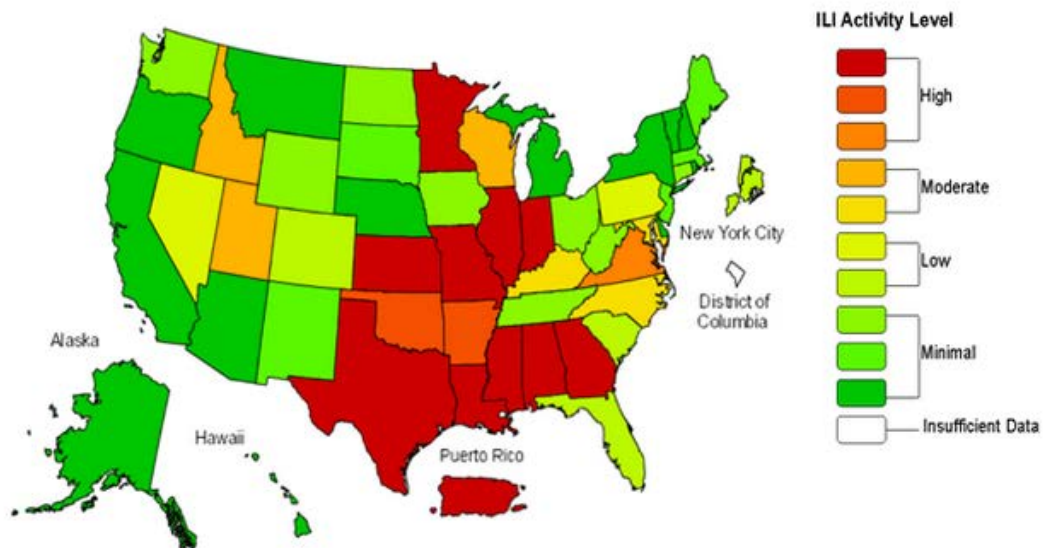


**VIII. Regional Data**



**IX. United States Data<sup>6†</sup>**

**Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet  
2014-15 Influenza Season Week 50 ending Dec 13, 2014**



(All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.)

For further information about influenza activity see: [City of Chicago Surveillance Report](#), [DuPage County Surveillance Report](#), [Illinois Department of Public Health Surveillance Report](#), [CDC Surveillance Report](#).

1. Syndromic surveillance influenza-like-illness (ILI) syndrome is defined as a symptom complex fever and cough or sore throat from ESSENCE. 45 hospital EDs participate in ESSENCE.  $ILI = \# \text{ of ED visits for ILI} / \text{total } \# \text{ of ED visits}$ .
  2. ILI is defined as fever  $\geq 100^{\circ}F$ , cough and/or sore throat in the absence of a known cause other than influenza. 8 hospital EDs and 3 physician offices are participating CDC sentinel sites.
  3. Laboratory surveillance includes viral culture, RT-PCR, and the rapid antigen test. Not all cases are suburban Cook County Residents. Participating laboratories: IDPH, NSUHS, and ACL.
  4. Hospitalization data are only for suburban Cook County residents (excludes Evanston, Skokie, Oak Park, and Stickney). Data includes reported cases for the presented week.
  5. Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) deaths include all deaths where the immediate cause of death or a contributing factor was pneumonia and/or influenza (aspiration pneumonia is excluded.) Data includes all of Cook County. The percentage of deaths due to P&I are compared with a seasonal baseline and epidemic threshold value calculated for each week. The seasonal baseline of P&I deaths is calculated using a periodic regression model that incorporates a CDC based robust regression procedure applied to data from the previous four years. An increase of 1.645 standard deviations above the seasonal baseline of P&I deaths is considered the "epidemic threshold," i.e., the point at which the observed proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia or influenza was significantly higher than would be expected at that time of the year in the absence of substantial influenza-related mortality. <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm#Mortality>
  6. <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm>
- † This map uses the proportion of outpatient visits to health care providers for influenza-like illness to measure the ILI activity level within a state.