



Epi Update

A newsletter for healthcare professionals in Platte County, MO

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DECEMBER 8, 2015

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Know where to find resources to keep track of the flu and other viral illnesses
- Pets have health benefits but can also carry disease—find out where you can learn more about how to protect yourself
- It's not too late to get a flu shot! Flu rates were low in Platte County in November

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For more information or questions about Epi Update, contact Erin Sanders, PCHD Epidemiology Specialist at: (816) 858-2412

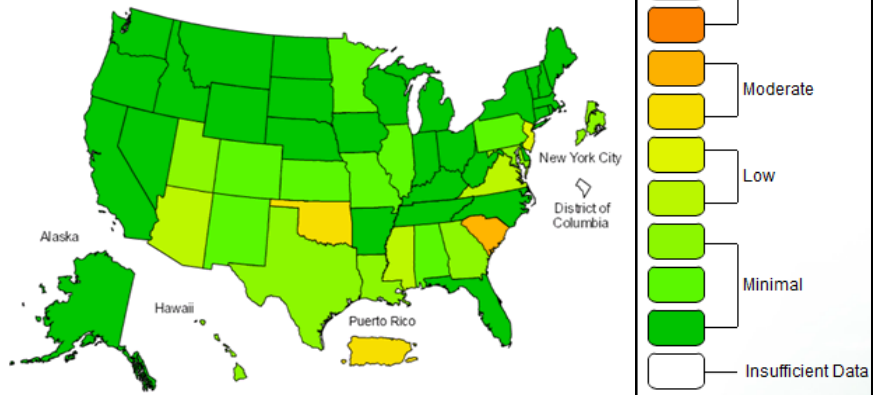
Virus Surveillance: What's Trending?

During flu season, things can change very quickly. If you are trying to keep up-to-date on current trends, a variety of resources are available to you in addition to Platte County Health Department's monthly reports in Epi Update.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services publishes weekly flu reports that contain statewide and county-level data.¹ These reports can be found at <http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/influenza/reports.php>.

You can also view national trends of flu activity and influenza-like illness with CDC's FluView report at www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm. Find out which type of flu is predominating nationwide, view maps and interactive data, and read weekly reports.²

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet 2015-16 Influenza Season Week 47 ending Nov 28, 2015 Source: CDC FluView⁴

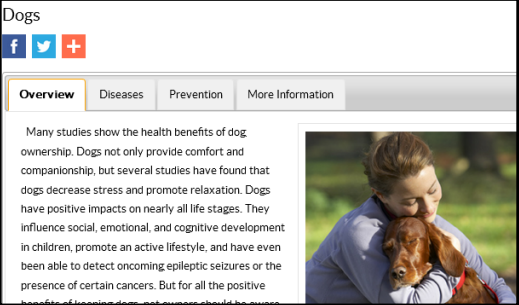


Flu is not the only virus that could be spreading this winter. The CDC also tracks viral activity through their National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS).³ This system has been in place since 2007 and collects data from voluntary participating laboratories across the country that report virus antigen detections, isolations by culture, and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) results on a weekly basis. By visiting <http://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/nrevss/index.html> you can view reports on:

- **Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)** (national, regional, and statewide trends)—In Missouri in 2015, RSV activity peaked in late February and early March.
- **Rotavirus** (national and regional trends)—So far this year, the Midwest saw the highest percentage of positive antigen detection tests in March 2015.
- **Human Metapneumovirus** (national and regional trends)—Rates of positive Metapneumovirus tests in the Midwest were highest from March until May in 2015.
- **Respiratory Adenovirus** (national trends)—The percentage of positive respiratory adenovirus tests has been variable week to week in the U.S. in 2015.
- **Human Parainfluenza Virus** (national trends)—National surveillance data shows that rates of positive test results for Parainfluenza Type 1 were trending upward in Fall 2015.

Healthy Pets Healthy People

Visit CDC's <http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/> to get information about dogs and other pets



Did you know that approximately **75 percent** of recently emerging infectious diseases affecting people began as diseases in animals?⁵ Or that there are at least **20 different diseases** associated with dogs that can also cause human illness?⁶ Many animals, including pets, can carry infectious organisms such as *Sal-*

monella and *Campylobacter* without showing any signs of illness.⁶ As a result, it is important for pet-owners to be knowledgeable about the diseases their pets may carry and how to practice good hygiene around them.

At CDC's [Healthy Pets Healthy People website](#)⁶, people can learn more about how to protect themselves and their pets. Users can look up specific animal species (including pets, farm animals, and wildlife) to learn **what diseases are associated with each**

animal, healthy habits to prevent illness, and other tips for pet owners or people planning to get a pet. An **alphabetized list of diseases** that can be spread from pets to people is also available. Additionally, animal safety tips can be found for specific groups of people such as **immunocompromised persons, infants, young children, and pregnant women.**

Pets don't just carry disease – by visiting the Healthy Pets Healthy People website, you can [learn how pets provide health benefits too!](#)⁶

Platte County Influenza Report

Reminder:
Fax your flu reports **weekly** to PCHD at 816-858-2087. Click [HERE](#) for a copy of the reporting form.

HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOUR FLU VACCINE?
GET VACCINATED NOW! IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

National Influenza Vaccination Week
December 6 - 12, 2015
www.cdc.gov/flu

Platte County Reported Influenza Cases [†]							
11/01/15-11/28/15		Epi Week				Total	STD* (40-47)
Age Group	Type	44	45	46	47		
0 - 1	Type A					0	0
	Type B					0	0
	Type A or B					0	0
2 - 4	Type A					0	0
	Type B					0	1
	Type A or B					0	0
5 - 14	Type A		1			1	1
	Type B			2		2	2
	Type A or B			1	1	2	2
15 - 24	Type A					0	0
	Type B					0	0
	Type A or B				1	1	1
25 - 49	Type A					0	1
	Type B					0	5
	Type A or B			1		1	1
50 - 64	Type A	1		1		2	2
	Type B					0	0
	Type A or B					0	0
65 +	Type A					0	0
	Type B					0	1
	Type A or B					0	0

Flu totals[†]
Weeks 44—47:

A	3
B	2
A or B	4

*Season to date:

A	4
B	9
A or B	4

[†] Reflect total reports received as of 12/7/15

Notable this Month:
The number of cases of reported flu remained low in Platte County during the month of November, with slightly lower numbers compared to the same weeks (44-47) in 2014. Season to date, there have been a total of 17 cases of flu in Platte County. The age groups experiencing the highest incidence of flu so far this season are 5-14 and 25-49 year olds.

Communicable Disease Report

Notable this month:

GI: Reporting of gastrointestinal diseases remained above average in November and YTD*. GI illnesses reported in Platte County this month included 1 case of giardiasis, 3 cases of salmonellosis, and 1 case of shigellosis.

STD: Though reported cases were average for the month of November, Platte County Health Department saw an uptick in STD cases from PCHD's walk-in clinic and other reporters towards the end of November continuing into the month of December.

Reportable Diseases November 2015	YTD*							5 YR AVG†
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010		
Animal Bites	3	56	27	31	32	33	12	27
Gastrointestinal Diseases	5	57	20	40	27	39	28	31
Hepatitis	5	89	57	76	79	69	30	62
STD	5	46	60	25	96	32	84	59
Tuberculosis	2	27	37	60	50	41	29	43
Other	6	70	106	76	119	52	28	76
TOTAL	26	345	307	308	403	266	211	299

*Year-to-date (counts reflect total cases January through November of the given year)

† Five year average is of YTD counts for years 2010-2014.

Please note that categories are grouped communicable diseases or conditions, most of which are mandatory by law to report (see links below). Totals reported for each category represent total number of reports and inquiries to the health department, not total number of cases.

Categories: Animal bites category includes any type of bite. Gastrointestinal Disease category includes all reportable GI diseases. Hepatitis category could include chronic or acute infections of Hepatitis A, B or C. Sexually Transmitted Disease category includes all reportable STDs other than Hepatitis. Tuberculosis category includes all reports, calls/inquiries, requests for previous records, etc., regarding active or latent cases of TB. Other category includes reports or inquiries regarding individual diseases that do not fit previous categories.

List of Reportable Diseases & Conditions: <http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/communicabledisease/pdf/reportablediseaselist2.pdf>

Rules of Department of Health and Senior Services - Division 20—Division of Community and Public Health Chapter 20—Communicable Diseases: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/19csr/19c20-20.pdf>

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5. CDC. CDC Unveils Redesigned Healthy Pets Healthy People Website. Oct 2, 2015. Retrieved 2015, Dec 4 from <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2015/p1002-healthy-pets.html>
6. CDC. Healthy Pets Healthy People. Retrieved 2015, Dec 4 from <http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/index.html>

Platte County Health Department

North

212 Marshall Road
Platte City, MO 64079
(816)858-2412
Fax (816)858-2087

South

1201 East Street
Parkville, MO 64152
(816)587-5998
Fax (816)587-6028

Services Provided

- Disease Surveillance
- Emergency Preparedness
- Environmental Health
 - *Restaurant & Septic Inspections*
- Health Education
- Special Deliveries Program
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- Vital Records
 - *Birth & Death Certificates*
- Family Healthcare Clinic
 - *Physician*
 - *Nurse Practitioner*
- Walk-In Clinic
 - *Adult/Child /Travel Vaccinations*
 - *HIV/STD Testing*
 - *Pregnancy Testing*

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