

INDIANA LABORATORY SYSTEM MONTHLY PARTNER WEBCAST

Thank you for joining us.
The webcast will begin shortly.

2/12/2026





Indiana
Department
of
Health

INDIANA LABORATORY SYSTEM MONTHLY PARTNER WEBCAST

MARK GLAZIER
DEPUTY LABORATORY DIRECTOR

2/12/2026

Agenda

1. **Welcome and laboratory updates** – Mark Glazier, deputy laboratory director
2. **Courier updates** – Brian Pope, Virology & Biological Preparedness division director
3. **IDOH Influenza surveillance update** – Amy Voris, respiratory epidemiologist
4. **Q & A** – IDOHL webcast team



Updates and Reminders



Indiana
Department
of
Health

IDOH Laboratory

Three ways to stay in the know:

1. Email us at IDOH-Lab-Info@health.in.gov
2. Sign up for IHAN – Indiana Health Alert Network
<https://www.in.gov/health/emergency-preparedness/indiana-health-alert-network-ihan/>
3. Update your laboratory's contact information [here](#)



APHL Infectious Diseases Webinars

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) is excited to announce its spring infectious diseases webinar lineup. P.A.C.E.® credits will be offered for the webinars (most are eligible for one contact hour).

From Detection to Decision: Carbapenemase Testing and Its Impacts on Patient Care, Infection Prevention and Antimicrobial Stewardship

Feb. 19 | 2 p.m. ET [Enroll](#) | [Course Flyer](#)

Advancing *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Drug Susceptibility Testing with Targeted Next Generation Sequencing

March 24 | 2 p.m. ET [Enroll](#) | [Course Flyer](#)

Beyond the Big Three – Case Studies of Respiratory Viruses

May 14 | 2 p.m. ET

For more information about these webinars, email infectious.diseases@aphl.org.

New World Screwworm: Outbreak Moves into Northern Mexico

Summary

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued this Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory to share information and notify clinicians, public health authorities, and the public about recent New World screwworm (NWS) animal cases in the Mexican state of Tamaulipas, which shares a border with the U.S. state of Texas.
- No NWS infestations related to this outbreak have been identified in people or animals in the United States as of January 20, 2026. However, given the potential for geographic spread, CDC is issuing this Health Advisory to increase awareness of the outbreak and to summarize CDC recommendations for clinicians and health departments in the United States on case identification and reporting, specimen collection, diagnosis, and treatment of NWS, as well as guidance for the public.
- As of Jan. 20, Mexico and Central American countries have reported more than 148,000 NWS cases in animals and more than 1,190 cases in people.
- Please review the [HAN](#) for more information including recommendations for healthcare professionals, state and local health departments, and international and domestic travelers to outbreak areas.

APHL free SAF-T-PAK training

APHL is offering free SAF-T-PAK Packaging and Shipping Trainings

Online self-paced modules, register by 6/30/2026

- 1) **Category A** – Division 6.2 Infectious Substances – live classes (webinar) and online self-paced modules
 - Several modules estimated to take approximately eight hours to complete
- 2) **Category B** – online self-paced modules
 - Several modules estimated to take approximately five hours to complete

For more information, please email ido-h-lab-pack-ship@health.in.gov.

2026 ILS webcast updates

- ILS webcasts will be held from 10:30-11 a.m. ET on the second **Thursday** each month
- Webcasts will require registration via the links provided:
 - March 12 – [Register Here](#)
 - April 9 – [Register Here](#)
- Recordings will be sent to the email provided during registration following the conclusion of the webcast



Indiana
Department
of
Health

COURIER UPDATE

BRIAN POPE

VIROLOGY & BIOLOGICAL
PREPAREDNESS DIVISION DIRECTOR

Courier Background

The courier service is meant to bring packages from submitters to the IDOH Laboratory in Indianapolis. This service currently visits a number of sites, with each site receiving service 2x/week.

If you would like more detail, you can visit the IDOH Courier Service web page: <https://www.in.gov/health/laboratories/new!-indiana-courier-system/>

The above link features a map, showing regional sites which will accept packages for delivery to the lab. If using, please review the details under “Regional Courier Sites” prior to package drop-off.

Courier Expansion

We have secured **some** additional funding for the courier service. While our funding will still fall short of what we had upon initial rollout, we are excited to see the courier service expand from its currently limited operation.

If you are interested in becoming a site, please fill out and submit the following questionnaire: <https://forms.office.com/g/m3hrtQLkuv>

This form will take about 15 – 20 minutes to complete and **does not guarantee a spot on the courier service.**

Courier Expansion

The first expansion will serve to provide depth for our current routes. We will look at adding additional sites which are close to our current route. We don't have a finalized date on this yet, but hope for implementation this quarter.

The second expansion will look at widening our routes served and potentially involve new routes.

- This still needs to go through our contract amendment process and will take some time



Indiana
Department
of
Health

IDOH INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

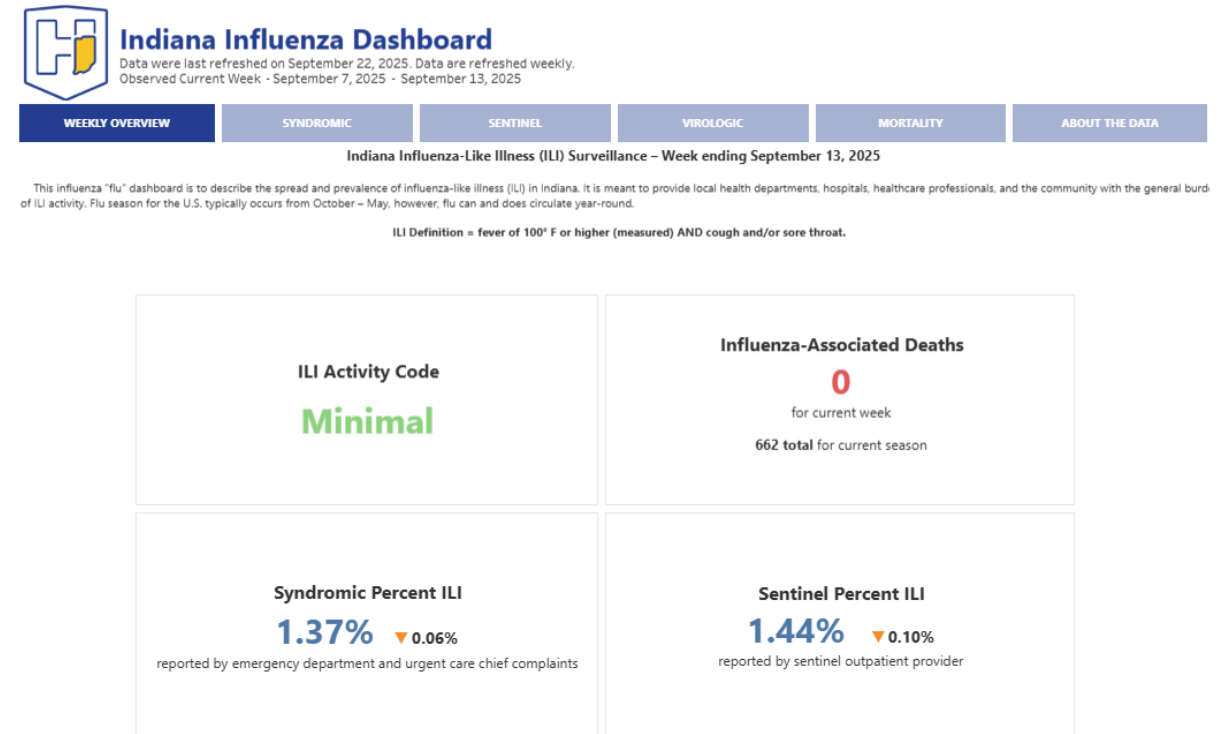
AMY VORIS, BSN, RN

RESPIRATORY EPIDEMIOLOGIST & INFLUENZA
SURVEILLANCE COORDINATOR

February 2026

IDOH Influenza Surveillance

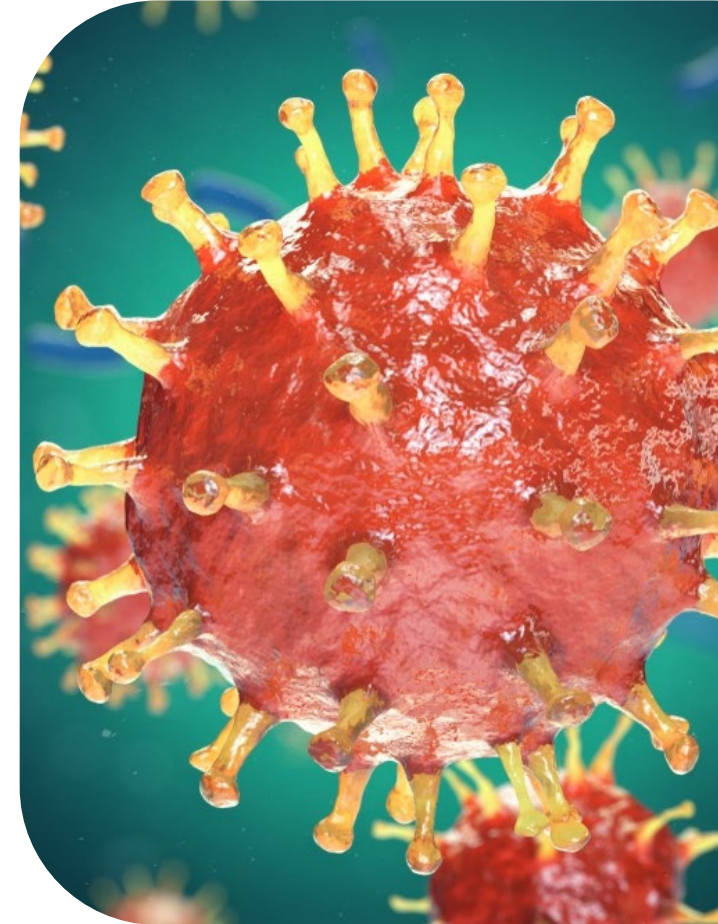
- The 2025-2026 influenza surveillance season started on Sunday, 9/28/25 (MMWR week 40)
- Currently at MMWR week 6 so ~14 more weeks of surveillance season
- Influenza surveillance data is accessible on IDOH's Influenza Dashboard:
<https://www.in.gov/health/idepd/respiratory-disease/influenza/influenza-dashboard/>



*Data is from several surveillance programs (such as Syndromic Surveillance, Sentinel Surveillance, Virology Surveillance, and Mortality records) are analyzed to produce this dashboard.

Influenza

- Contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses
 - Seasonal
 - Influenza A H1N1 & H3N2
 - Influenza B
 - Novel
 - H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) (aka “bird flu”)
 - No evidence of person-to-person transmission in the United States
- Transmission
 - Droplets spread when people talk, sneeze, or cough



Objectives of Influenza and ILI Surveillance

Monitor	Monitor influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) activity in the state • ILI = fever (measured >100F) plus a cough / sore throat
Describe	Describe the seasonal occurrence of influenza and respiratory illness
Inform	Inform healthcare professionals and public health partners with weekly influenza surveillance data and reports
Respond	Respond to community and institutional influenza and ILI outbreaks
Investigate	Investigate influenza-associated deaths
Detect	Rapidly detect novel influenza events

Influenza Surveillance in the United States

There are 5 major components to the U.S. influenza surveillance system

Component	Surveillance Mechanism
Virologic Surveillance*	Laboratory reporting to the National Respiratory & Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS)
Outpatient Illness Surveillance (ILINet)*	Sentinel Sites • Weekly reporting by enrolled outpatient clinics and university student health centers • Patients who meet ILI criteria (Fever measured > 100F plus a cough and/or sore throat) Syndromic Surveillance • Data submission from ED and Urgent Care providers via ESSENCE • ED Chief complaints – Dyspnea, pneumonia, cough, sore throat
Long-term Care Facilities	National Healthcare Surveillance Network (NHSN)
Hospital Surveillance	Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Network (FluSurv-Net & NHSN)
Mortality Surveillance*	National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) • Influenza-associated death investigations – provider reported (pediatric & adult) • IDOH review of vital statistics records that include influenza as a primary or contributing factor of death

ILINet Sentinel Site Program

Looking for outpatient providers who are interested in partnering with IDOH for influenza surveillance

Participation Includes:

- Tracking patients who present to your clinic and meet ILI criteria each week
 - Fever (measured) >100F
 - Cough and/or sore throat
- Reporting ILI activity into the CDC ILINet platform by COB each Tuesday
- Submitting specimens to IDOH lab weekly
 - IDOH has limited number of test kits available to supplement collection of additional swab
 - IDOH lab provides transport media and shipping containers



SEND US YOUR SPECIMENS!

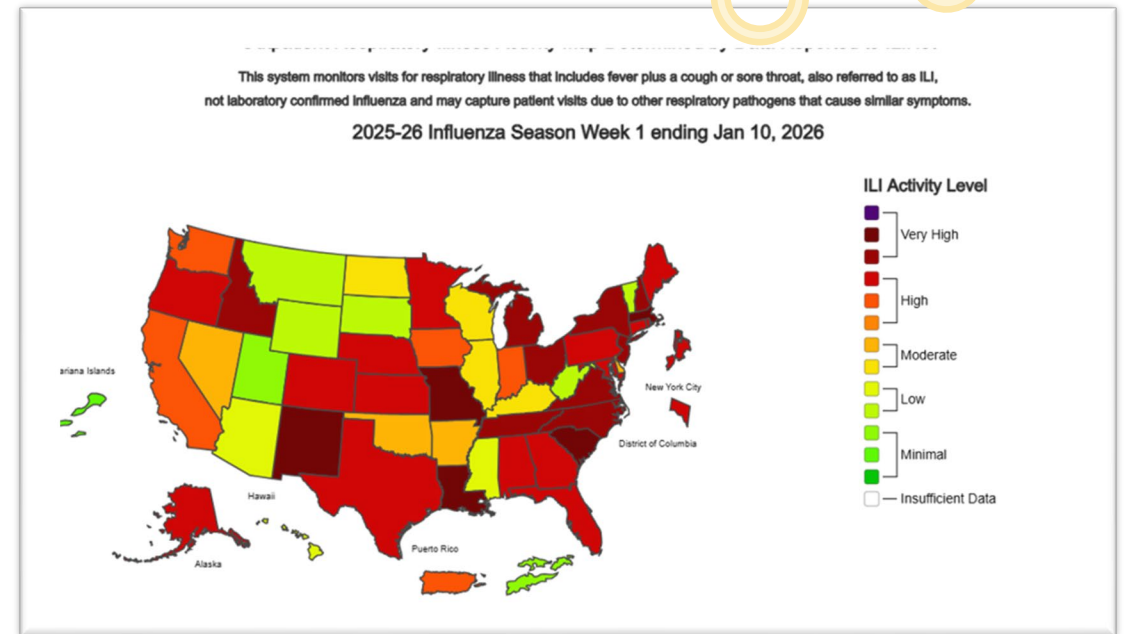
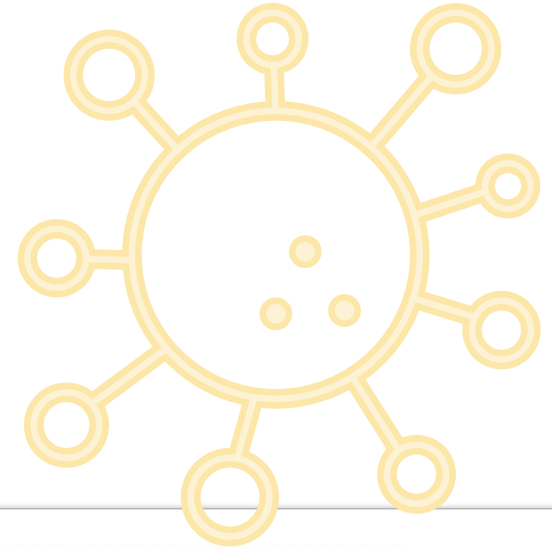
Influenza: 2025-2026 Outlook

United States (as of Week 4)

- Activity is **High** or **Very High** for the majority of states

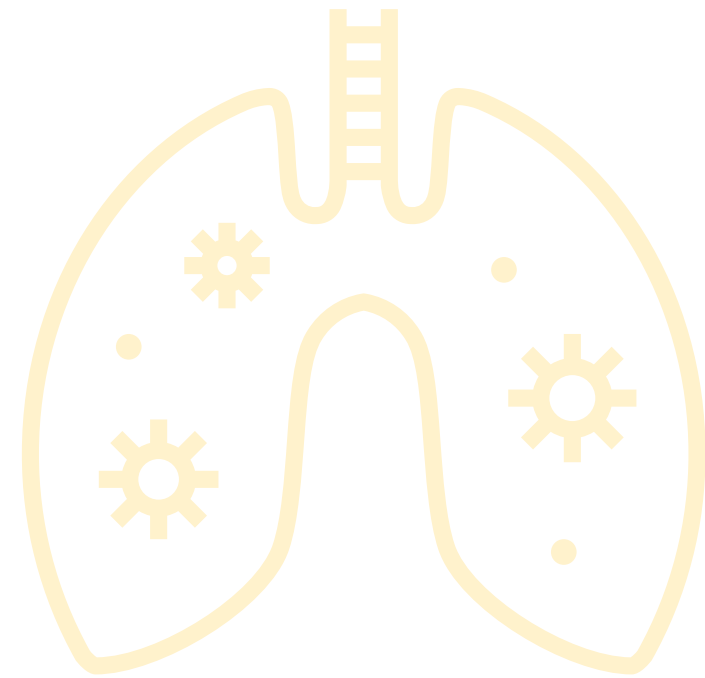
Indiana (as of Week 5)

- Activity = MODERATE
- Deaths = 113 (2 confirmed pediatric mortality)

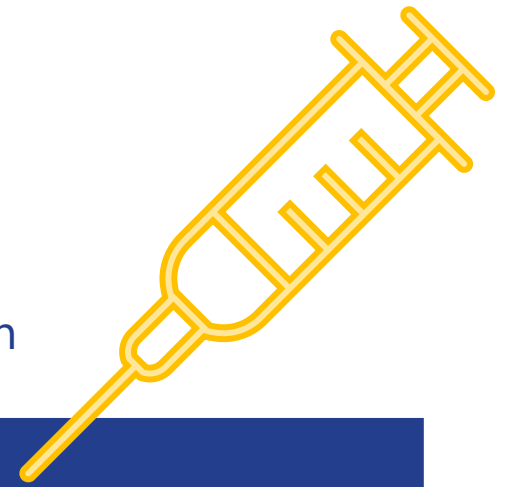


Subclade K

- Initially identified by CDC in August 2025
- H3N2 subclade K is dominant strain
 - As of MMWR Week 1, 90% of Influenza A H3N2 specimens analyzed and characterized by CDC belonged to subclade K
- Mutations on the hemagglutinin gene (the “H” in H3N2)
 - Not a novel strain – antigenic drift of seasonal influenza virus subtype
- Questions about vaccine efficacy
 - May be reduced but not totally ineffective
- Mutations not anticipated to interfere with antiviral effectiveness



Vaccine Efficacy



Early analyses suggest that seasonal influenza vaccination provided **moderate** protection

	Vaccine Efficacy
UK	• VE against ED visits and hospital admissions • <18 years = 72-75% • Adults = 32-39%
France	• VE against confirmed influenza 36% • Effectiveness varied by age • VE highest among children ages 0-17 years (52.7%)
China	• VE against confirmed influenza 41.3% • VE against H3N2 39.9% • VE highest among children <5 years (70.9%) • VE lowest among adults (25.3%)

Questions? Contact Us!



Amy Voris, Influenza Surveillance
Coordinator & Respiratory Epidemiologist

amvoris@health.in.gov
317-233-4038



Tamar Gershman, Influenza Surveillance
Coordinator & Respiratory Epidemiologist

tgershman@health.in.gov
463-221-7727



Tiffany Robitaille, Respiratory Epidemiologist
& COVID-19 Coordinator

trobitaille@health.in.gov
317-409-5098



DeJuan Pendergrass, Infectious Disease
Epidemiologist

dpendergrass@health.in.gov
317-691-3958



Nicole Stone, Epidemiology Director

nstone2@health.in.gov
317-234-2898

Questions?

Amy Voris

Respiratory Epidemiologist

avoris@health.in.gov





Question & Answer Session



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Questions?

IDOH Laboratory

317-921-5500

IDOH-lab-info@health.in.gov



Next webcast

The next Indiana Laboratory System webcast is scheduled for:

Date: Thursday, March 12

Time: 10:30 – 11 a.m. EST





Indiana
Department
of
Health



**THANK YOU FOR JOINING
THE WEBCAST!**

- IDOH Laboratory Team