

EPI INVESTIGATOR

Florida Department of Health - Alachua

Winter 2018



“Improving Public Health in Our Community Through Cooperation”

Alachua County Health Department
(352) 334-7900

To report a disease, phone or fax the appropriate office below:

Administrator
Paul Myers, MS
(352) 334-8892

Environmental Health
Director Anthony Dennis
(352) 334-7931

HIV/AIDS
Richard Willis, Surveillance
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Fax (352) 334-8867

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Epidemiology/Hepatitis
Nadia Kovacevich, MPH
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Fax (352) 955-6464
If you would like to receive the Epi InvestiGator by email or fax, please contact us at the following email address:
DOHAlachuaUpdates@flhealth.gov, or phone: (352) 225-4181

Immunizations
Michael Smith, RN
(352) 334-8827
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Sexually Transmitted Disease
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Tuberculosis
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After Hours:
(352) 334-7900

Editor
Sheila Griffis

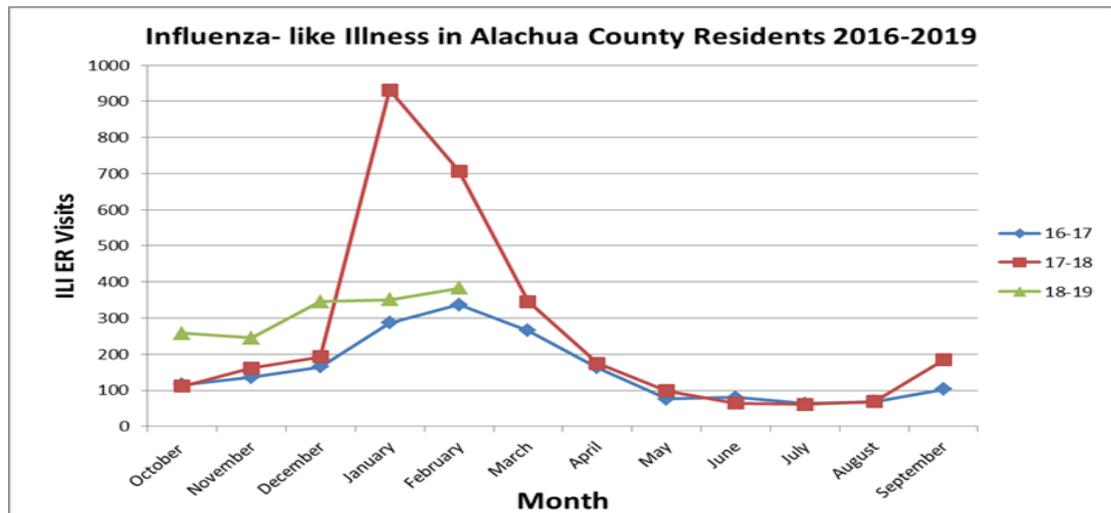


Influenza-like Illness in Alachua County

Submitted by: Nadia Kovacevich, MPH and Devin Myers, MPH
DOH-Alachua Epidemiologists

The goal of influenza surveillance is to detect changes in the influenza virus, detect outbreaks, and identify severe presentations of influenza infection. DOH-Alachua relies on a variety of surveillance systems that include syndromic data from hospital emergency department visits, positive influenza laboratory results from hospitals, private physicians, school health reports, and other reports from multiple care facilities. As expected for this time of the year, influenza activity has steadily increased over the last few weeks statewide. Nationally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) noted that influenza activity continues to increase in the United States. Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, influenza A(H3N2), and influenza B viruses continue to co-circulate. The Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Public Health Laboratories continues to identify Influenza A 2009 (H1N1) as the predominately circulating strain. Three influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported so far this season in Florida, all in unvaccinated children.

Please visit: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/index.html> for the most-up-to-date information.



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have published interim influenza vaccine-effectiveness for the 2018-19 influenza season. Vaccine effectiveness for all ages was 46% for all influenza virus types. For children aged 6 months–17 years, overall vaccine effectiveness was 61% against all influenza virus types. For those 50 years or older, vaccine effectiveness against all influenza types was 24% (CDC, 2019).

Flu vaccines can vary in effectiveness from season to season, but they continue to be the best way to prevent complications from influenza infection. Vaccination has been found to reduce the risk for influenza-associated deaths in children (CDC, 2019).

Reference:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2019). Interim Estimates of 2018–19 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness — United States, February 2019. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6806a2.htm>

World TB Day 2019—It’s TIME!

Submitted by: Geneva Saulsberry BSN,RN
Senior CHN Supervisor, ACHD

Each year, we recognize World TB Day on March 24. This annual event commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacillus that causes tuberculosis (TB).

World TB Day is a day to educate the public about the impact of TB around the world. CDC, along with our partners and colleagues around the world share successes in TB prevention and control, and raise awareness of the challenges that hinder our progress toward the elimination of this devastating disease.

The theme of World TB Day 2019 is “It’s TIME” CDC and its domestic and international partners, including the National TB Controllers Association, Stop TB USA, and the global Stop TB Partnership are working together to eliminate this deadly disease. But we need your help.



Dr. Robert Koch

It’s time to test and treat latent TB infection.

Up to 13 million people in the United States have latent TB infection, and without treatment, they are at risk for developing TB disease in the future. We must continue to find and treat cases of active TB disease and also test and treat latent TB infection to prevent progression to disease.

It’s time we strengthen TB education and awareness among health care providers.

Treatment of latent TB infection is essential to controlling and eliminating TB in the United States. Our public health system and private providers play a crucial role in this effort.

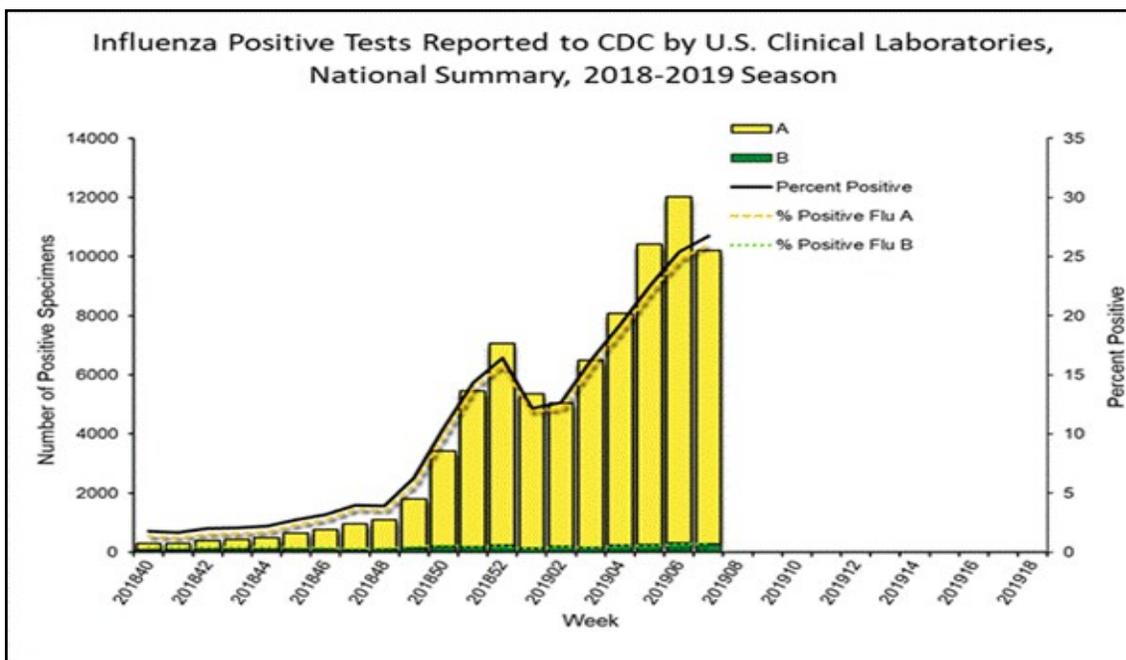
It’s time to speak up.

On September 26, 2018, the United Nations General Assembly held the first-ever High Level Meeting (UN HLM) on ending TB globally. CDC is committed to increasing efforts to test and treat persons with latent TB infection to prevent TB disease.

It’s time to end stigma.

Stigma associated with TB disease may also place certain populations at higher risk. Stigma may keep people from seeking medical care or follow-up care for TB.

Information obtained directly from: <https://www.cdc.gov/tb/worldtbdays/default.htm>



The most up to date graphic can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly>

Congenital Syphilis Update

Submitted By: Gay Kohler-Sides

Between 2013 and 2017, congenital syphilis (CS) has more than doubled in the U.S. Florida reported 93 cases of CS in 2017—that’s an increase of about 145% during a five-year period (from 38 to 93 cases). If the mothers had been tested and treated for syphilis during their first and third trimesters, their babies may have been born CS-free.

Source: Florida Department of Health, <http://www.flhealthcharts.com>

FLORIDA REPORTABLE DISEASES *Alachua County 2 year activity*

Disease Activity	2018		2017		Disease Activity	2018		2017	
	Jan-Dec	Jan-Sept	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec		Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec		
AIDS	**		28		Meningitis, bacterial or mycotic	2		1	
Anaplasmosis, HGA(<i>Anaplasma Phag</i>)	0		1		Meningococcal disease	0		1	
Anthrax	0		0		Mercury poisoning	0		0	
Botulism	0		0		Mumps	2		0	
Brucellosis	0		0		Neurotoxic shellfish poisoning	0		0	
Campylobacteriosis	46		54		Pertussis	4		0	
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	0		6		Pesticide-related Illness and injury, acute	0		0	
Chikungunya fever	0		0		Plague	0		0	
Chlamydia	2473		2192		Psittacosis (ornithosis)	0		0	
Ciguatera	0		0		Q Fever	0		0	
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0		2		Rabies, animal or human	7		4	
Cryptosporidiosis	2		7		Rabies, possible exposure	85		73	
Cyclosporiasis	4		0		Rocky Mountain spotted fever				
Dengue	0		0		and other spotted fever rickettsioses	1		0	
Diphtheria	0		0		Rubella	0		0	
Ehrlichiosis, HME (<i>Ehrlichia chafeensis</i>)	6		2		Salmonellosis Typhi Infection	0		0	
Ehrlichiosis/anaplasmosis	0		1		Salmonellosis	59		55	
<i>Escherichia coli</i> infection, Shiga toxin-producing	9		9		Saxitoxin poisoning (paralytic shellfish poisoning)	0		0	
Giardiasis (acute)	10		12		Severe acute respiratory disease syndrome associated with coronavirus infection	0		0	
Gonorrhea	813		618		Shigellosis	10		8	
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> , invasive disease in children <=5 years old	2*		1*		Smallpox	0		0	
Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)	0		0		Staphylococcal enterotoxin B poisoning	0		0	
Hantavirus infection	0		0		<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> infection (VISA, VRSA)	0		0	
Hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS)	0		0		<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> invasive disease in children (drug resistant) <6 years old	0*		0*	
Hepatitis A	2		2		<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> invasive disease In children (susceptible) <= 6 years old	0		1*	
Hepatitis B Acute	1		1		Syphilis	52		44	
Hepatitis B Chronic	34		58		Syphilis in pregnant women & neonates	0		0	
Hepatitis B surface antigen in pregnant women or children <2 years old	1		8		Tetanus	0		0	
Hepatitis C Acute	4		2		Trichinellosis (trichinosis)	0		0	
Hepatitis C Chronic	253		180		Tuberculosis (TB)	2		6	
Herpes B Virus, Possible Exposure	0		0		Typhoid fever (<i>Salmonella</i> serotype Typhi)	0		0	
Herpes simplex virus (HSV) in infants	0		0		Typhus fever, epidemic	0		0	
HIV	**		56		Varicella (chickenpox)	5		11	
Influenza A, novel or pandemic strains	0		0		<i>Vibrio (other Vibrio Species)</i>	1		0	
Lead Poisoning	15		8		<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> type Non-01	0		1	
Legionellosis	3		3		<i>Vibrio (Parahaemolyticus, other)</i>	0		1	
Listeriosis	0		0		<i>Vibrio fluvialis</i>	1		0	
Lyme Disease	0		1		<i>Vibrio vulnificus</i>	1		0	
Lymphogranuloma Venereum (LGV)	0		0		Zika Virus Disease and Infection, Non Congenital	0		2	
Malaria	0		3						
Measles	0		0						

The counts include suspect, probable, and confirmed cases reported in Alachua county residents (regardless of where infection was acquired) by date reported to the Department of Health. Counts are provisional and subject to change until their respective database closes.

* Changes to case definitions can affect the number of cases reported.

**Data from the most recent calendar year are considered provisional and therefore should not be used to confirm or rule out an increase in newly reported cases in Florida. The final year-end numbers are generated in July of the following year, after duplicate cases are removed from the dataset, as is customary of HIV surveillance in the US. Statistics can be found at <http://www.flhealthcharts.com/charts/communicablediseases/default.aspx>

◆ REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS (8AM-5PM, M-F): **352-225-4181**

◆ After-hours and Holidays (24/7): **352-334-7900** (please listen to prompts to receive a callback).

The Epidemiology Program conducts disease surveillance and investigates suspected occurrences of infectious diseases and conditions that are reported from physician's offices, hospitals, and laboratories. Surveillance is primarily conducted through passive reporting from the medical community as required by Chapter 381, Florida Statutes. Data is collected and examined to determine the existence of trends. Our staff ensures that action is taken to prevent infectious disease outbreaks from occurring in Alachua County.

2018 Summary of Bite Reports/Tested in Alachua County

Submitted By: Andee Bowman
Environmental Health
Alachua Co. Health Dept.



201 bite reports on CATS
Tested 43 with **NO** positive results



499 bite reports on DOGS
Tested 13 with **NO** positive results

A total of 170 animals were tested

7 came back positive (2 bats, 5 raccoons-1 from Dixie and 1 from Columbia Counties)

EEE positive= 8 horses (Alachua County 2, Columbia County 2, Levy County 1, Nassau County 1, out of state 2)

WNV - 1 Crow (Alachua County)

Bat - 31 (tested 29-2 **positive**)



Bob Cats - 2 (tested)

Calf -(tested)



Crow -(**positive WNV**)



Deer -9(tested)

Fox -5 (1 tested)

Gecko -1



Goat -2 (tested)

Horse -13 (10 tested) -all negative
for rabies -see above for EEE results



Mini horse -1 (tested)

Panther -18 (tested)



Pig -1



Rabbit - 1

Raccoon - 45 (tested 37 -5 **positive**)



Sheep -1 (tested)

Skunk -2 (tested)

Snake- 1



Squirrel- 2

Squirrel Monkey - 1



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