

Vermont Department of Health

Sentinel Provider

Influenza Surveillance Program

The Vermont Department of Health needs your help tracking influenza in Vermont!

What is the Influenza Surveillance Program?

Outpatient providers send an electronic or faxed report to the CDC on the total number of patients seen in a week and the number of those patients with ILI by age group.

Important Virologic and Epidemiologic information is collected and contributes to the state and national influenza activity.

Why is flu surveillance important?

Influenza viruses are constantly changing which requires ongoing characterization of the strains

Influenza strains can change, leading to pandemics

Treatment for influenza is guided by laboratory surveillance for antiviral resistance

National responses to pandemics are triggered by surveillance data

How do your efforts help?

Each week we analyze your data and communicate what we find to clinicians, Vermonters and our public health partners

Your data helps VDH and CDC make informed public health decisions throughout the influenza season

The specimens you submit to our lab help the CDC and WHO determine what strains of influenza will make up next year's vaccine

What are the benefits of participating?

Free PCR influenza testing at the Vermont Department of Health Laboratory. This allows us to identify what type of flu is circulating in Vermont: H1N1, H3N2, or B. This type of testing is only available to our public health partners (like you). Take advantage!

Regular reports with updates on state and national flu activity

Vermont clinicians play an important role in flu surveillance for the state and the country

