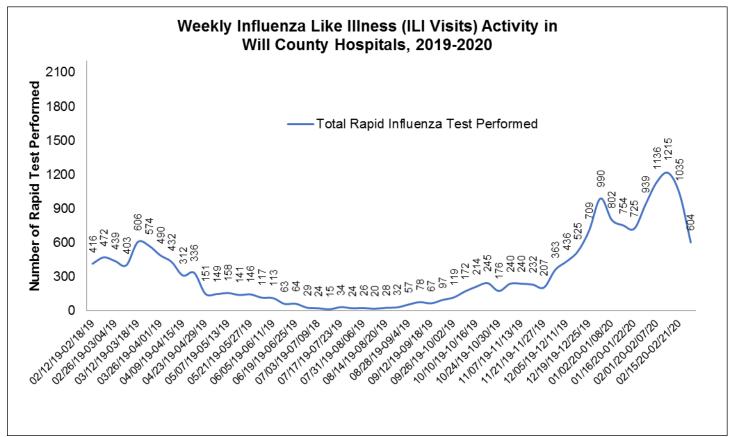
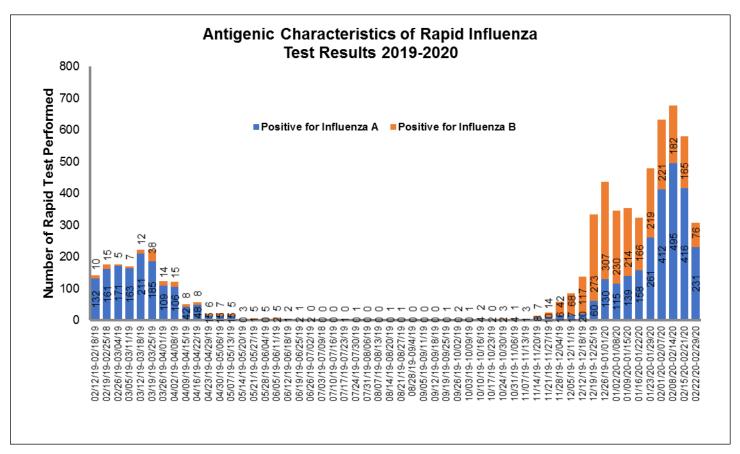
2019-2020 Will County Influenza Like Illness (ILI) Activity Report (Hospitals & Urgent Care Center Visits Surveillance), For Week Ending 2/29/2020





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Outpatient ILI and clinical laboratory data remain elevated but decreased for the second week in a row. The percentage of specimens testing positive for both influenza A and influenza B viruses decreased.

Overall, hospitalization rates remain similar to this time during recent seasons, but rates among school aged children and young adults are higher at this time than in recent seasons and rates among children 0-4 years old are now the highest CDC has on record at this point in the season, surpassing rates reported during the second wave of the 2009 H1N1 pandemic.

Pneumonia and influenza mortality has been low, but 125 influenza-associated deaths in children have been reported so far this season. This number is higher for the same time period than in every season since reporting began in 2004-05, except for the 2009 pandemic.

CDC estimates that so far this season there have been at least 32 million flu illnesses, 310,000 hospitalizations and 18,000 deaths from flu.

<u>Interim estimates of 2019-2020 flu vaccine effectiveness</u> were released last week. So far this season, flu vaccines are reducing doctor's visits for flu illness by 45% overall and 55% in children.

Antiviral medications are an important adjunct to flu vaccine in the control of influenza. Almost all (>99%) of the influenza viruses tested this season are susceptible to the four FDA-approved influenza antiviral medications recommended for use in the U.S. this season.