

Flu 1

MEH

1/23 (Wed PM & Thurs AM)

Another flu-related death has been reported in Arkansas, bringing the total to 15 so far this season. Dr. Jennifer Dillaha (dill-uh-hay) is Medical Director for Immunizations at the state Department of Health:

News19 0:18 “...we have peaked.”

One difference this season, she says, is that middle-aged people are being most impacted. The H-1-N-1 strain disproportionately affects people between the ages of 45 and 64. Arkansas has had eight deaths among that demographic. Last year the flu was most impacting people over the age of 65.

Flu 2

MEH

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While this has been a relatively mild flu season in Arkansas, health officials say the state is experiencing an upswing in cases. The latest report from the Department of Health says there has been another death bringing the total to 15. Arkansas's Medical Director for Immunizations, Dr. Jennifer Dillaha (dill-uh-hay) says the dominant strain has been the H-1-N-1 virus, which is most impacting people between the ages of 45 and 64...

News20 0:23 “...been hit harder.”

Given recent activity, Dr. Dillaha says the department is NOT ready to say that the season has peaked. She also suspects there have been more deaths than are in the department's total because it's not always apparent that a death is flu-related.