

The ISDH sent out the following release to the media this afternoon. Although the ISDH will no longer be providing county level data, we will identify the county of residence of any deaths in Indiana related to the H1N1 flu. We cannot discuss individual cases, nor can we confirm for the media if someone has H1N1. The only info we are releasing on cases is the county of residence.

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Indiana: New Pandemic H1N1 Flu Cases Confirmed

The Indiana State Department of Health reports a total of 283 confirmed cases of the pandemic H1N1 flu in the following counties:

- Allen (7)
- Boone (1)
- Clark (1)
- Daviess (1)
- Dearborn (4)
- Elkhart (4)
- Hamilton (8)
- Hendricks (3)
- Johnson (2)
- Lake (111)
- Madison (1)
- Marion (107)
- Monroe (3)
- Parke (1)
- Porter (11)
- Putnam (3)
- St. Joseph (5)
- Tippecanoe (8)
- White (2)

There has been a total of 40 hospitalizations associated with the pandemic H1N1 influenza in Indiana since April 20, 2009. There has been one death associated with the pandemic H1N1 influenza in Indiana since April 20, 2009.

"Whether or not there is a confirmed case of pandemic H1N1 flu in your county, it is important for every Hoosier to take seriously the possibility H1N1 or another flu virus may cause severe illness in the next flu season," said State Health Commissioner Judy Monroe, M.D.

"Each of us can make a difference," said Dr. Monroe. "I urge every resident to be aware, plan ahead, and share with others what you have learned about preventing the flu, including the three 'C's: **C**lean your hands frequently, **C**over your cough and sneeze, and **C**ontain your germs by staying home if you are sick. I also strongly recommend talking to your health care provider about getting a flu shot this Fall and pay close attention to public health messages about vaccine availability for the pandemic H1N1 influenza."

NOTE: Beginning the week of July 20, 2009, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) will only report the total number of laboratory-confirmed cases of the pandemic H1N1 influenza (flu) in the state and will not be providing county case counts.

The ISDH will provide an update to the media on the total number of cases in the state after noon each Thursday.

Following the lead of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which has changed its H1N1 flu reporting requirements for the states, the ISDH will no longer be compiling county-level data. State health officials say that although the Department will continue to closely monitor the pandemic in the state, tracking county level data is not beneficial to the ongoing disease surveillance, as it is certain there is H1N1 flu activity in all counties, even those without confirmed cases.

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