Influenza Activity levels are assigned by local public health units and reported to Public Health Ontario every week. Activity levels are assigned based on laboratory confirmation of influenza in the community and institutional influenza outbreaks.
ACTIVITY LEVEL DEFINITIONS FOR THE 2012-13 INFLUENZA SEASON ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- **No Data:** No activity report corresponding to the surveillance week was received at Public Health Ontario by the Tuesday (at 4 p.m.) following the end of the surveillance period.

- **No Activity:** No laboratory-confirmed* influenza and NO outbreaks detected within the health unit/ influenza surveillance area, within the prior week, although sporadically occurring ILI may or may not be present.†

- **Sporadic:** Sporadically (infrequently) occurring ILI and at least one lab-confirmed influenza* case with NO outbreaks detected within the health unit area.†

- **Localized:** Sporadically occurring ILI and lab-confirmed influenza* together with outbreaks of ILI in schools and work sites, or laboratory-confirmed influenza in residential institutions occurring in < 50% of the health unit. Outbreaks affect a single and/or adjacent geographic area within the health unit jurisdiction, e.g. outbreaks in a nursing home and a school in close proximity to each other.†

- **Widespread:** Sporadically occurring ILI and lab-confirmed influenza* together with outbreaks of ILI in schools and work sites, or laboratory-confirmed influenza in residential institutions occurring in > 50% of the health unit. Outbreaks affect multiple and non-adjacent geographic areas within the health unit jurisdiction, such as two or more regions of the health unit, two or more municipalities, two or more electoral wards, etc.†

* Confirmation of influenza within the surveillance region at any time within the prior week

† Sub-regions within the province or territory as defined by the provincial/territorial epidemiologist

**Note:**
The Weekly Ontario Influenza Activity Map will be posted online bi-weekly, alternating with the abbreviated Ontario Influenza Bulletin (which contains the Influenza Activity Map), until the end of October, 2012. As of November 2012, the full Ontario Influenza Bulletin will be published weekly.

**For further information:**
Ontario Influenza Bulletins and Influenza Activity Maps published since September 1, 2011 are posted at [http://www.oahpp.ca/resources/flubulletin.html](http://www.oahpp.ca/resources/flubulletin.html).