



# EPI gazette

Epidemiology Program • [www.seminolecohealth.com](http://www.seminolecohealth.com)

## National Public Health Week in Seminole County



Race with community partners to celebrate healthy living during National Public Health Week and encourage Seminole County residents and visitors to become more physically active while promoting personal wellness.

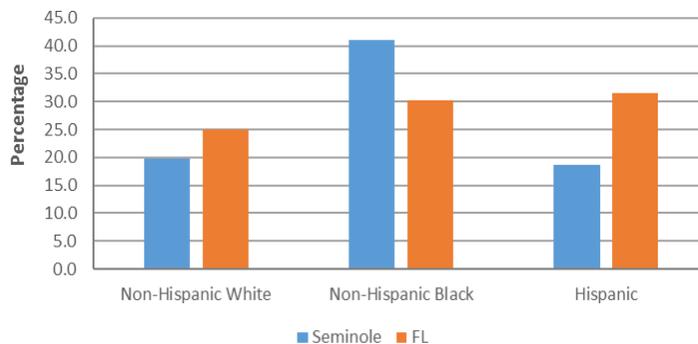
An objective for Healthy People 2020 is to reduce the proportion of adults who engage in no leisure time physical activity from 36.2 percent to 32.6 percent. According to data provided by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) in Seminole County in 2013, non-Hispanic Blacks had the highest rate for adults who are sedentary (tending to spend much time seated).

The first week of April is *National Public Health Week* and the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County (DOH-Seminole) celebrated this year by offering activities to promote the health and wellness of the communities it serves. These activities included yoga classes, chair massages, free confidential STD testing, a stress reduction seminar and career paths showcase in Public Health that helps the department carry out its mission to promote, protect and improve the health of Florida residents and visitors. For the third consecutive year, DOH-Seminole hosted the annual *Live, Work, Move Seminole 5K*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- National Public Health Week  
PAGE 1
- Hepatitis  
PAGE 2
- Men's Health  
PAGE 3
- Influenza/Arbovirus Surveillance  
PAGE 4
- Disease Reporting/Department Highlights  
PAGE 5

Percentage of Adults who are Sedentary by Race/Ethnicity, 2013



\*Data Source: Florida CHARTS

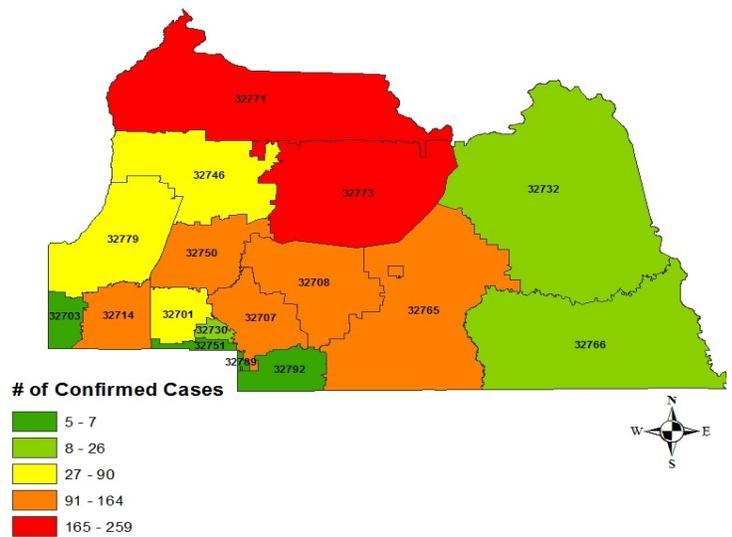
# Hepatitis in Seminole County

There are certain populations that are most vulnerable to chronic hepatitis C. These populations include those born between 1945 -1965, also known as “baby boomers” who most likely became infected many years or even decades ago, and young adults who most likely have been infected in recent years. It has been recommended that all baby boomers be screened for the hepatitis C virus regardless of expressed risk or behavior. Young adults, however, who are known to participate more in risky behaviors can be targeted with prevention education.

In late 2011, the Florida Department of Health received funds from the CDC to conduct enhanced surveillance of chronic hepatitis C and identify risk behaviors in young adults (age 18-30 years old). This enhanced surveillance had two main goals: to collect information on common risk factors for hepatitis C in young adults aged 18-30 years old, and to identify cases of acute hepatitis C that may have been misclassified as chronic cases. Seminole County was one of 14 counties that volunteered to participate in the enhanced surveillance project. From this study it was found that exceptionally

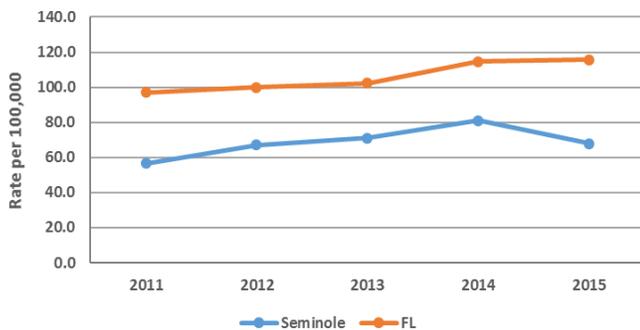
In 2011, the rate of chronic hepatitis C in Seminole County was 56.5 which was significantly different from the statewide rate (97.0) in that year. In the next three years, 2012, 2013, and 2014 there was a dramatic increase in the county rate for chronic hepatitis C (67.2, 71.0, and 81.0, respectively). These rates still remained statistically different from the statewide rates in those years as well. There have been prevention measures,

**Chronic Hepatitis C in Seminole County by ZIP Code, 2012-2016**



\*Data Source: Merlin Database

**Chronic Hepatitis C, 2011-2015**



\*Data Source: Florida CHARTS

high proportions of persons reported illicit and injection drug use. The most common drugs mentioned were prescription opioids. Based on the findings it is possible that between 6% and 28% of reported chronic hepatitis C cases in young adults represent acute infections, which translates to 96-366 unrecognized acute cases each year.

new policies (screening all baby boomers), and efforts put forth by the CDC, physicians, and the health department. The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County, offers services, free testing and free vaccinations to the high risk populations.

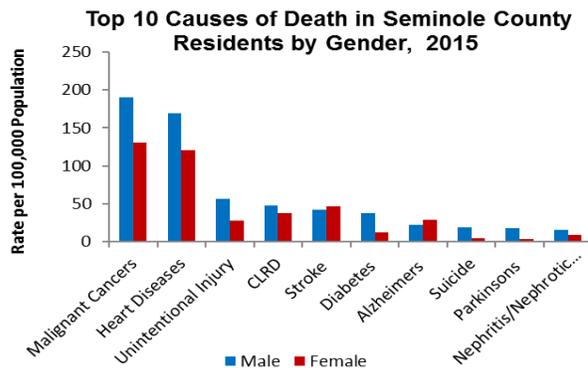
In the month of May, National Hepatitis Awareness Month, DOH-Seminole Hepatitis Program held a “Hepatitis Awareness Health Fair.” The overall goal was to educate and raise awareness in the community about the disease and the effects that it can have on an individual. For more information on the Hepatitis Program and services, contact Enid Santiago.

**Contact Information:**

Enid Santiago-Cruz  
 Hepatitis Coordinator  
 (407) 665-3019

# Men's Health in Seminole County

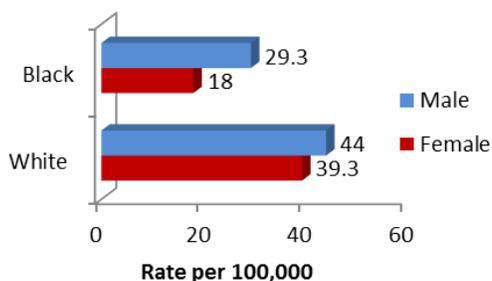
Men's Health Week is observed each year in June leading up to Father's Day. It is a good time to remind men to take appropriate action to keep them healthy. As data indicates, men die at higher rates than women from the top 10 causes of death. Life expectancy for men is shorter than women across all races and ethnicity. Therefore, recognition of disparity in health outcomes between genders and a focus on men's health is an important role that health departments can play. For the last three years, the Florida Department of Health in Semi-



\*Data Source: Florida CHARTS

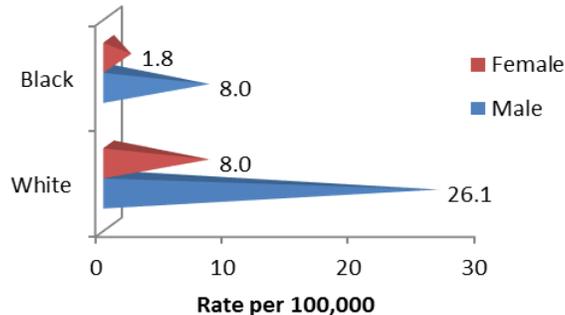
nole County has organized events focusing on the promotion of a healthy life style and wellbeing of men during Men's Health Week. Consistent with the national trends, men exhibited a higher death rate compared to women for the top 10 causes of death in Seminole County in 2015, regardless of race. The death rate for Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease (CLRD) is higher in White men than in Blacks. The Suicide death rate for White males is highest in the county, more than three times higher than White females and Black males, while the death rate due to Diabetes for Black males is approximately twice the rate for White males.

**Death Rate: Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease**



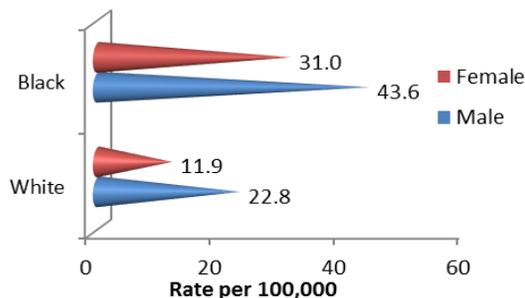
\*Data Source: Florida CHARTS

**Death Rate: Suicide**



\*Data Source: Florida CHARTS

**Death Rate: Diabetes**



\*Data Source: Florida CHARTS

**Contact Information:**

Venise White  
 Grants Writer & Community  
 Programs Manager  
 (407) 665-3008

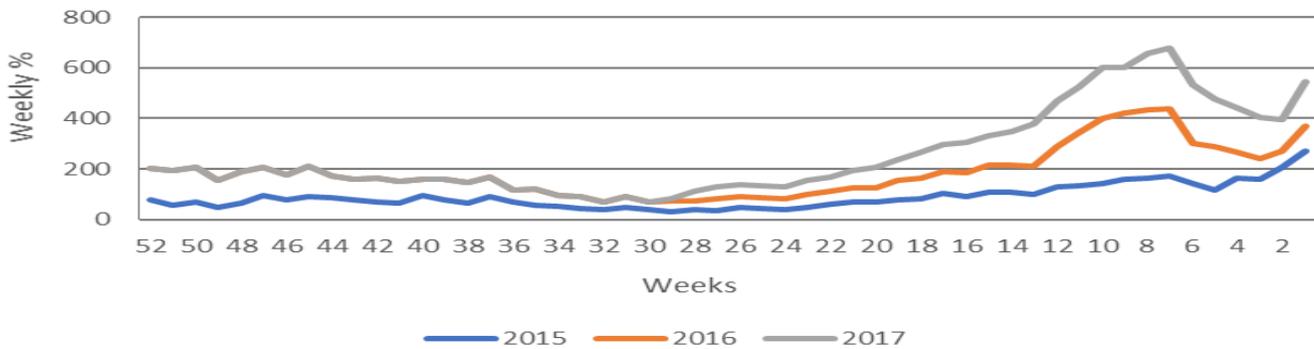
# Influenza Surveillance

**Local:** Seminole County is reporting **MILD** flu activity. Three **influenza outbreaks** have been reported in Seminole for the 2016-2017. The ESSENCE Syndromic Surveillance system is showing decreasing influenza-like illness (ILI) chief complaints.

**State:** Influenza activity in Florida remains low, which is typical for this time of year. Between June 18th and July 1st there was report of two influenza B outbreaks and two influenza like illness (ILI) outbreaks. To date there have been 159 outbreaks reported since the start of the 2016-2017 influenza season. In recent weeks, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in coordination with the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine announced that the University of Florida has confirmed seven cases of canine influenza A (H3N2) in dogs in Florida. These strains of influenza A (H3N2) are not the same as the strains circulating in humans. While highly contagious in dogs, there is no evidence that suggest that canine influenza A (H3N2) infects humans. Since the start of the 2016-2017 influenza season there has been report of eleven influenza-associated pediatric deaths.

**National:** Influenza viruses continue to circulate at low levels nationally. No avian influenza has been identified in Florida birds or humans so far in 2017. Additional information can be found at the following link: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00374.asp>

**ESSENCE Influenza-Like Illness Chief Complaints in Seminole County from 2015-2017**



# Arbovirus Surveillance

## Seminole County Mosquito-borne Illness Statistics 2017 Year to Date (June):

West Nile Virus: 0

Eastern Equine Encephalitis: 0

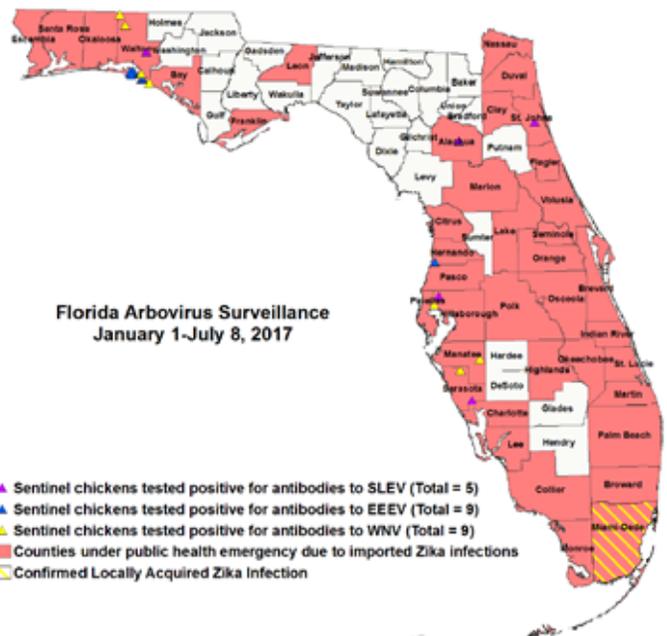
St. Louis Encephalitis: 0

Dengue: 1

Chikungunya: 0

Malaria: 1

Zika Virus: 3



# Disease Incidence Table-Seminole County

Selected Diseases/Conditions Reported to DOH-Seminole	2017 through Week 28	2016 through Week 28	2015 through Week 28	2015–2017 Average through Week 28
AIDS*	***	***	***	***
<b>Animal Bite to Humans**</b>	33	30	9	24.0
Animal Rabies	1	***	4	2.5
Campylobacteriosis	48	28	32	36.0
Chlamydia	1163	1708	1642	1504.3
Cyclosporiasis	0	3	1	1.3
Dengue	1	4	1	2.0
E. coli Shiga toxin-producing	2	3	2	2.3
Giardiasis	7	7	9	7.6
Gonorrhea	339	438	***	388.5
Haemophilus influenzae (invasive)	3	1	***	1.3
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	0.0
Hepatitis B (acute and chronic)	38	50	36	41.3
Hepatitis C (acute and chronic)	205	206 (chronic only)	154 (chronic only)	188.3
Hepatitis B in Pregnant Women	1	***	3	2.0
<b>HIV</b>	29	61	62	7.6
Lead poisoning	14	7	2	7.6
Legionellosis	7	6	7	6.6
Meningococcal Disease	1	4	1	2.0
Pertussis	4	4	4	4.0
Salmonellosis	33	27	39	33.0
Shigellosis	14	1	12	9.0
S. pneumoniae – drug resistant	4	4	3	3.6
Syphilis	59	98	116	91.0
Tuberculosis	2	1	4	2.3
Varicella	20	6	6	10.6
Zika Virus Disease and Infection, Non-Congenital	3	9	***	6.0

\*AIDS data was unavailable at the time of publication.

\*\*Animal bite to humans by a potentially rabid animal resulting in a county health department or state health office recommendation for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), or a bite by a non-human primate.

\*\*\*The disease was not reported in the year

Reported cases of diseases/conditions in **Bold** are >10% higher than the previous three year average for the same time period.

**\*\*\*All Data is Provisional \*\*\***



# Disease Reporting

The Epidemiology Program conducts disease surveillance and investigates suspected occurrences of infectious diseases and conditions reported from physician’s offices, hospitals and laboratories. Surveillance is primarily conducted through passive reporting from the medical community as required by Chapter 381, Florida Statutes.

**To report a reportable disease or outbreak during business hours please use the [Report of Communicable Disease Form](#) or Contact the Division of Epidemiology at 407-665-3266.**

**To report an urgent reportable disease or outbreak after hours, call 407-665-3266 and follow the instructions to reach the on-call Epidemiologist.**

[Reportable Diseases/Conditions in Florida - Practitioner List](#)

[Reportable Diseases/Conditions in Florida - Laboratory List](#)

[Disease Reporting Information for Health Care Providers and Laboratories](#)

**Foodborne Illnesses Reporting Links:**

[Report illnesses due to food online 24/7](#)

[Report unsafe or unsanitary conditions](#)

**Disaster Preparedness Link:**

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/index.asp>

## MISSION

To protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts

## VISION

To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

## VALUES

- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Accountability
- Responsiveness
- Excellence

## ADDRESS

400 West Airport Boulevard  
Sanford, FL 32773



## Contact Information

**Donna J. Walsh, MPA, BSN, RN, Health Officer**

**Ana C. Scuteri, MPH, Community and Population Health Division Director 407-665-3215**

**Tania Slade, MPH, Epidemiology and Tuberculosis Program Manager 407-665-3266**

**Livia Gifford, RN, BSN, Tuberculosis 407-665-3242**

**Vicky Lozada, RMA, ADAP 407-665-3289**

### Authors

**Dr. Kelsi Williams, MSPH, Epidemiology 407-665-3294**

**Zeenat Rahman, MBBS, MPH, CIC, Epidemiology 407-665-3284**