1918 Great Influenza
State and National Data

Teaching American History Grant Freedom Project
Presentation
Red Clay & Christina School Districts
October 28, 2013
Great Influenza in Delaware


- First reported case: September 27, 1918 (reporting not required before then. Disease was probably present earlier).

- 389 deaths between October 4-14.

- Delaware State Board of Health (10/3/18) : “Whereas: A very serious epidemic of influenza is now raging in the state of Delaware…to protect the health of the entire citizenship of Delaware…all schools, theatres, all churches, all motion picture houses, all dance halls, all carnivals, fairs and bazaars, all billiard rooms and pool rooms, all bowling alleys in the entire State of Delaware shall be closed and kept closed until further notice.”

- Quarantine lasted from October 4-October 27, 1918.
Three Pandemic Waves (U.S.)

**Figure 1.** Three pandemic waves: weekly combined influenza and pneumonia mortality, United Kingdom, 1918–1919 (21).

http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/12/1/05-0979-f1.htm
Diffusion of Virus in 1918

Chronological map of the influenza epidemic of 1918. Based on preliminary reports from 376 localities. Indicating the approximate dates on which the disease reached an epidemic stage.
Figure 2. "U-" and "W-" shaped combined influenza and pneumonia mortality, by age at death, per 100,000 persons in each age group, United States, 1911–1918. Influenza- and pneumonia-specific death rates are plotted for the interpandemic years 1911–1917 (dashed line) and for the pandemic year 1918 (solid line) (33,34).
CDC Recreation of 1918 Virus
18 hours after infection

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americangreatexperience/features/photo-gallery/influenza/