

HHS: Robeson and New Hanover Counties Hard-Hit By Flu Deaths

By Administrator

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RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - Twenty-three of the 38 samples that tested positive for the flu virus last week came from just two counties. Health and Human Services (HHS) officials report that 16 came from Robeson County and 7 from New Hanover.

The findings were released by HHS along with data showing that 54 North Carolinians have died from flu since October in what has shaped up to be an especially difficult season for the virus.

This year's vaccine covers three of the four strains that are circulating, but the strain that's causing the most illness -- H3N2 -- isn't covered.

Health officials expect flu deaths to continue to spike because of the lag time between onset of symptoms, diagnosis, and death. They continue to recommend that people get vaccinated.