

# Health officials: Worst of flu season may be over

8 February 2013, by Mike Stobbe

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Health officials say the worst of the flu season appears to be over.

The number of states reporting intense or widespread flu dropped again last week. By some measures, flu activity has been ebbing for at least four weeks. Deaths from the flu or pneumonia have been dropping for two weeks.

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) released the latest flu numbers on Friday.

This [flu season](#) started about a month earlier than normal. Outbreaks began in the late fall, and the dominant [flu strain](#) is one that tends to make people sicker.

It's been nine years since a flu season started like this one, and that proved to be one of the deadliest. So far, this season has been labeled moderately severe.

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