Walgreens
2013 Flu Impact Report
**Walgreens 2013 Flu Impact Report** is a biennial study that explores the broad implications of the flu season on U.S. adults and the ramifications on the workplace, schools, family and other segments of people’s everyday lives. The survey examines a wide variety of issues from education and perception of flu vaccinations to consumer impact and behaviors during the flu season. The report is an extension of an ongoing commitment from Walgreens to improve the overall health of the thousands of communities it serves nationwide.

This report examines last year’s flu season (2012-13), which was one of the most severe in the U.S. in more than a decade. To better understand the impact of last year’s flu season, the Flu Impact Report offers comparisons of data from 2012-13 to Walgreens most recently commissioned 2010-11 survey\(^1\) that examined a more typical flu season in the U.S.

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\(^1\) The Walgreens survey was fielded September 1-8, 2011, to a nationally representative sample of 1,200 Americans ages 18 and older
The 2013 Walgreens Flu Impact Report suggests that the severity of last year’s flu season resulted in three times the impact to employers when compared to a more typical flu season: $10.5 billion in 2010-11 versus $30.4 billion in 2012-13. Employers aren’t the only ones who reported a significant financial burden, however; nationally the survey found that the flu cost employees $8.5 billion in lost wages, a 25 percent increase compared to the 2010-11 season.
The severity and timing of last year’s flu season – peaking in December – had a significant impact on holiday and travel plans. The survey found that the number of people who missed vacation time nearly tripled, from 3.6 million individuals in 2010-11 to 11 million in 2012-13.

### STUCK IN BED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holiday function</td>
<td>17 million</td>
<td>4.7 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>11 million</td>
<td>3.6 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Romantic dates</td>
<td>13.8 million</td>
<td>5.1 million</td>
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</tbody>
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### SCHOOL’S OUT FOR FLU

- The number of days of school missed nearly tripled, from 32 million missed days in 2010-11 to 91 million in 2012-13.
- Nearly half (49%) of parents had at least one child (18 or under) miss school last year due to the flu.
- The average household had nearly three missed days of school due to the flu.
- Nearly half (45%) of parents would need to take time off from work if their child got the flu.

### GERM-O-PHOBIA

- Last year’s flu season has also created a greater sense of “germophobia,” with three out of every five surveyed (60%) reporting that they will take extra precautions to avoid the flu this year, with 51 percent planning to get a flu shot earlier.
- Of those that had the flu last year...
  - 87% will wash their hands more frequently
  - 49% will get flu shots for other family members
  - 43% will limit time in public places
  - 11% will work from home
Walgreens 2013 Flu Impact Report suggests that last year’s (2012-13) severe flu season resulted in more than twice the number of individuals suffering from the flu. In 2010-11, a more typical flu season, 20 percent of respondents suffered from the flu; while in 2012-13, 46 percent reported to have had the flu.

The flu season is always unpredictable and health officials continue to stress prevention encouraging consumers to get their flu vaccine earlier this season as they believe the early onset of the 2012-13 flu season contributed to its severity. The 2012-13 season peaked earlier than normal, in December, coinciding with the winter holidays.
Walgreens offers immunizations during all pharmacy hours at all Walgreens and Duane Reade pharmacies in New York, and also at nearly 400 Healthcare Clinics at select Walgreens drugstores, representing more than 8,000 points of care.

Other ways in which Walgreens is working to help keep the communities it serves and others healthy and happy during flu season:

Methodology
The 2013 Flu Impact Survey was conducted online within the United States by USamp on behalf of Walgreens from August 27 to September 4, 2013, among 1,200 nationally representative adults ages 18 and older. Flu Impact Report results were balanced on key demographics to allow projection of results to the entire U.S. adult population. Results are based on self-reported instances of the flu and flu-like symptoms. Projections incorporate the latest data available for average compensation and hours worked from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, population data and projections from the United States Census and compared against beta Flu Work Loss models developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The margin of error for the national sample is +/-2.9%.