Annually, the flu infects up to

20%

of the **American** population.

Up to 200,000 are hospitalized,

and about 36,000 people die.

Scientists believe that pandemics

each century.

The last global pandemic was the Hong Kong

which killed approximately million people.

viruses can live up to

hours on hard, nonporous surfaces such as stainless steel and up to

hours on clothes and tissues.

They can remain infectious for about one week at human body temperature.

over

days at freezing temperatures and indefinitely at temperatures below freezing.

If you have the common

you are most contagious at

of your cold.

The duration of the common COIC ranges

from

with the average being

If a peck on the lips improves your mood, it will probably help more than hurt.

Wash your hands — a lot — and use soap, which is more effective than alcohol-based hand sanitizers. seconds. The key is to scrub well, for about

Cold

and

viruses

noses

but rarely

leap from

MOUTH

to

MOUTH.