

Influenza and Influenza-like Illness Surveillance

MMWR Week 8
February 22-28, 2009

Media Talking Points

Activity Level: **Widespread Activity**

- Definition: Increased ILI in at least half of the regions AND recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in the state.

Surveillance Data:

- Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Sentinel Providers reported 1.74% of patients had ILI signs and symptoms. Influenza-like Illness is defined as a fever ($\geq 100^{\circ}$ F), **and** cough and/or sore throat. Temperature can be measured in the physician's office or at home.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) sales experienced a statistically significant deviation from the expected in seven regions.
- Emergency department visits experienced a statistically significant deviation from the expected in seven regions.
- ODH lab reported 89 positive confirmed isolates (total through 3/3/09). Circulating Strains: (62) Influenza A/ (H1N1), (27) Influenza B/Malaysia-like.
- Influenza B viruses currently circulating in the U.S. can be divided into two lineages represented by the B/Yamagata/16/88 and B/Victoria/02/87 viruses. The influenza B viruses identified by the ODH lab belong to the B/Victoria lineage and are not related to the current vaccine strain.
- Influenza-associated hospitalizations reported indicate 35 positive results by culture confirmation (total through 3/3/09): (26) Influenza A, (9) Influenza B.
- Incidence of 2009 confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations = 235 (total through 3/3/09).
- No confirmed pediatric influenza-associated mortality reports have been made (through 3/3/09).

2008-09 Season Cumulative Influenza Results reported by ODH Lab by County*

County	# A/(H1N1)	# A/(H3N2)	# B/Florida-like	# B/Malaysia-like	Total
Athens	1			1	2
Cuyahoga	3			1	4
Franklin	33			8	41
Hamilton	2			2	4
Holmes				2	2
Knox	3				3
Lorain	1				1
Montgomery	3			4	7
Stark	13			6	19
Summit	3			3	6
Season Totals	62	0	0	27	89

*Lab data based on county of provider that submitted specimen.

Analysis Considerations:

- No significant or confirmed geographic clustering of any data was detected.
- Influenza-associated hospitalization became a reportable condition on 1/1/09. Therefore, only cases that were entered after 1/1/09 will be considered for analysis purposes.
- The Ohio Department of Health Laboratory (ODHL) conducts culture confirmation for influenza testing, and these results are used in conjunction with other data sources to determine Ohio's influenza activity level each week. Viral culture tests that are reported for cases of influenza-associated hospitalizations will also be taken into consideration when determining influenza activity levels.

National activity levels and more information can be found at the following CDC pages:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>

If you have any further questions or comments about surveillance for seasonal influenza for the State of Ohio, please contact Shannon Page at Shannon.Page@odh.ohio.gov or by telephone at (614) 466-0456.