

# Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

March 19, 2008

## Synopsis

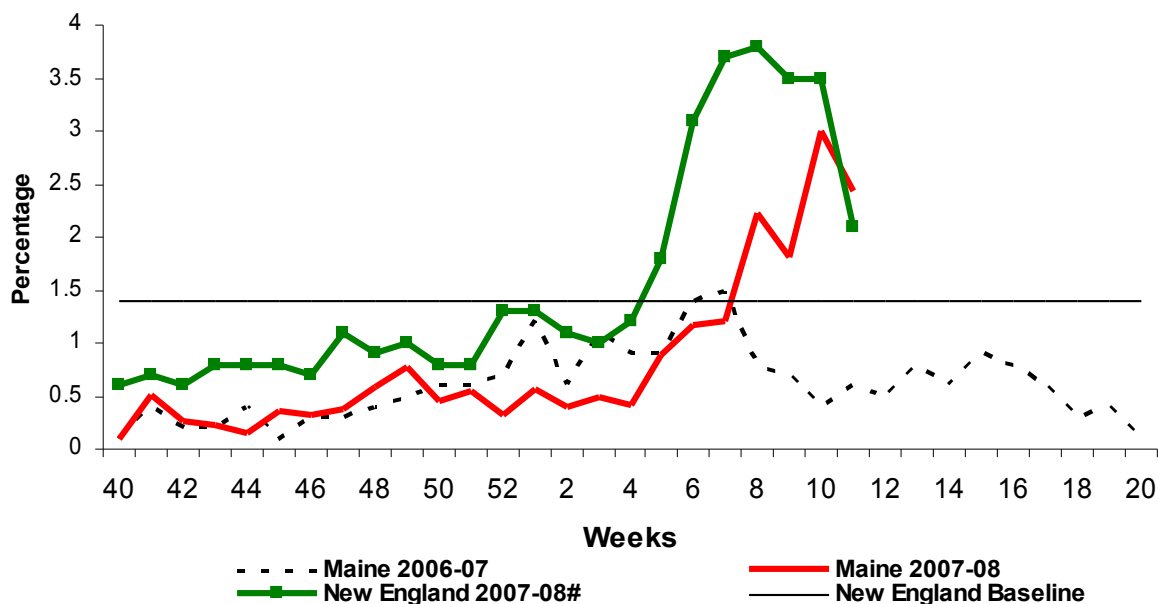
During the week ending March 15, 2008 (MMWR week 11)\*, Maine reported widespread influenza activity. Four outbreaks in long term care facilities were reported during week 11 along with an increase in deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza.

## Moderate Disease Surveillance

### Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)

During the week ending March 15, 2008 (week 11), 2.4% of outpatient visits reported by eight Maine Sentinel Providers were for influenza-like illness (ILI), defined as fever ( $\geq 100^{\circ}$  F /  $\geq 37.8^{\circ}$  C) and cough or sore throat in the absence of a known cause. In the New England States, 2.1% of outpatient visits were attributed to influenza-like illness during week 11.

Outpatient Visits for Influenza-like Illness -- Maine, 2006-08



# New England is defined as Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

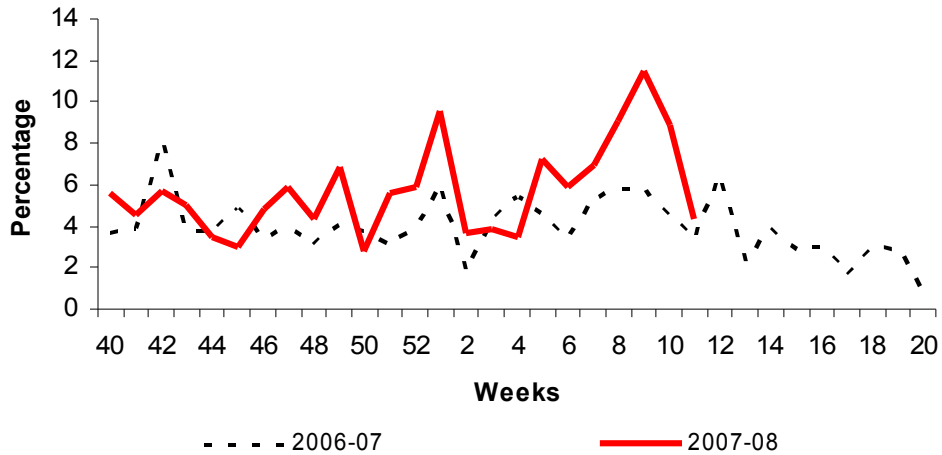
## Severe Disease Surveillance

### Hospital inpatients

During the week ending March 15, 2008 (week 11), 4.3% of hospital admissions reported by three hospitals were attributable to pneumonia or influenza. This is a decrease from week 10 when 8.9% of hospital admissions were attributable to pneumonia and influenza.

### Hospital Admissions Due to Pneumonia or Influenza -- Maine, 2006-08

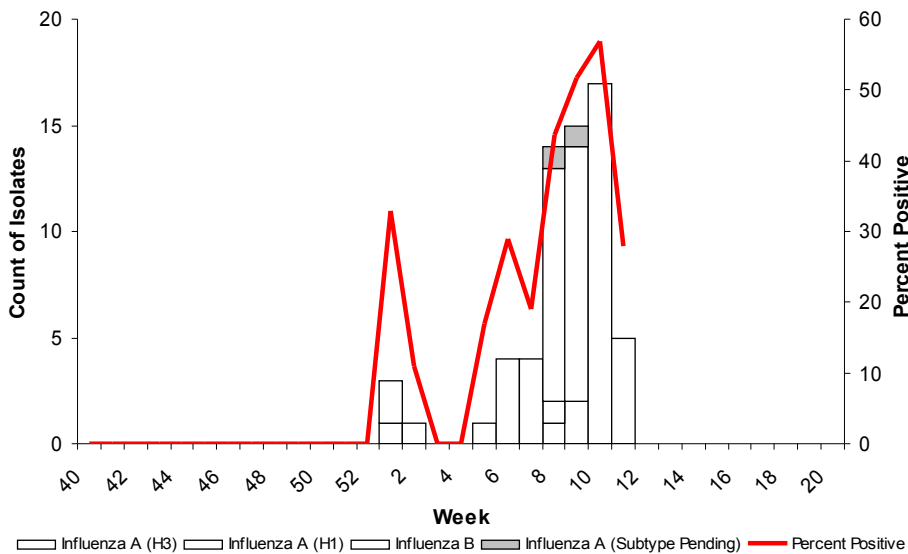
\* At time of publication, reporting may be incomplete. Numbers presented here may change as more reports are received.



**Laboratory Reporting**

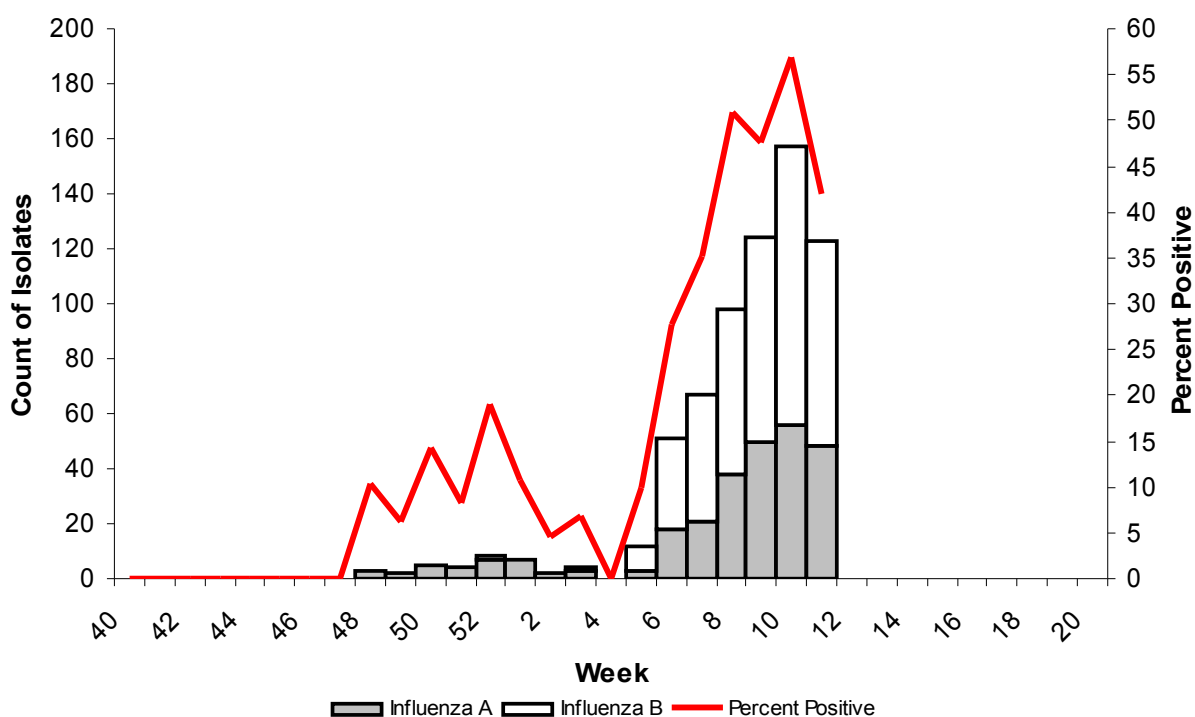
The Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) tested 18 specimens during week 11. Five specimens were positive for influenza B; the results for the remaining specimens are pending. As of March 15, 2008 (week 11), a cumulative total of 254 respiratory specimens had been submitted to HETL for testing. To date, a total of 64 (25.2%) specimens were positive for influenza; five were influenza A (H3), three were influenza A (H1), two were influenza A (subtype pending), and 54 specimens were influenza B. In addition, three specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2, one specimen was positive for parainfluenza-1, and one specimen was positive for mumps. Results on 21 specimens are pending; all other specimens were negative.

**Respiratory Specimens Positive for Influenza  
From the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory – Maine, 2007-08**



Two private reference laboratories in Maine reported for the week ending March 15, 2008 (week 11). Forty-eight of 292 specimens were positive for influenza A and 75 were positive for influenza B. In addition, 27 specimens were positive for RSV. As of March 15, 2008, a cumulative total of 2,003 respiratory specimens had been submitted to two private reference laboratories in Maine. Of these, 267 (13.3%) specimens were positive for influenza A and 400 (20.0%) were positive for influenza B. Four hundred sixty-seven specimens were positive for RSV, ten specimens were positive for parainfluenza-1, ten specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2, three specimens were positive for parainfluenza-3, six specimens was positive for adenovirus, three specimens were positive for enterovirus, and the remaining specimens were negative.

**Respiratory Specimens Positive for Influenza  
From Two Reference Laboratories – Maine, 2007-08**



**Outbreaks**

During the week ending March 15, 2008, four outbreaks of influenza-like illness were reported in Maine; all were in long term care facilities. A total of 43 outbreaks of influenza-like illness have been reported in Maine this season.

## Influenza-like illness outbreaks by selected characteristics – Maine, 2007-08

|    | Facility Type* | Region    | Date Reported | Attack Rate (%) |       | Hospitalizations # | Deaths # | Vaccination rate (%) |       | Lab-confirmed |
|----|----------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|----------|----------------------|-------|---------------|
|    |                |           |               | Resident        | Staff |                    |          | Resident             | Staff |               |
| 1  | LTC            | Midcoast  | 12/27/2007    | 9               | 0     | 0                  | 0        | 100                  | 55    | Influenza A   |
| 2  | LTC            | Eastern   | 1/14/2008     | 31              | 6     | 1                  | 0        | 100                  | 94    | ^             |
| 3  | School         | Midcoast  | 1/28/2008     | 7               | 0     | 0                  | 0        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza A   |
| 4  | School         | Aroostook | 1/29/2008     | 15              | ^     | ^                  | ^        | ^                    | ^     | ^             |
| 5  | School         | Aroostook | 1/29/2008     | 27              | 0     | 0                  | 0        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza     |
| 6  | School         | Midcoast  | 1/31/2008     | 3               | 0     | 0                  | 0        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza     |
| 7  | School         | Aroostook | 2/4/2008      | 20              | 11    | 0                  | 0        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza A   |
| 8  | School         | Northern  | 2/4/2008      | 17              | 25    | ^                  | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza     |
| 9  | LTC            | Midcoast  | 2/12/2008     | 24              | 5     | 0                  | 0        | 98                   | 5     | Influenza B   |
| 10 | LTC            | Midcoast  | 2/13/2008     | 40              | 17    | 0                  | 0        | 80                   | 83    | Influenza A   |
| 11 | LTC            | Western   | 2/15/2008     | 9               | 0     | 2                  | 0        | 83                   | 0     | Influenza B   |
| 12 | LTC            | Eastern   | 2/15/2008     | 11              | 16    | 1                  | 0        | 89                   | 50    | Influenza A   |
| 13 | School         | Midcoast  | 2/15/2008     | 20              | 0     | 0                  | 0        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza B   |
| 14 | LTC            | Western   | 2/20/2008     | 34              | ^     | 0                  | 0        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza A   |
| 15 | ACF Unit       | Western   | 2/20/2008     | 36              | ^     | NA                 | 0        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza     |
| 16 | LTC            | Eastern   | 2/21/2008     | 20              | 8     | ^                  | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza B   |
| 17 | LTC            | Western   | 2/21/2008     | 0               | 3     | ^                  | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza     |
| 18 | LTC            | Western   | 2/21/2008     | 1               | 3     | ^                  | ^        | 96                   | 50    | Influenza     |
| 19 | LTC            | Southern  | 2/22/2008     | 1               | 0     | ^                  | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza     |
| 20 | LTC            | Eastern   | 2/22/2008     | 1               | 0     | 1                  | 1        | 60                   | 50    | Influenza B   |
| 21 | ACF            | Eastern   | 2/25/2008     | 12              | ^     | ^                  | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza     |
| 22 | ACF Unit       | Western   | 2/25/2008     | 1               | ^     | NA                 | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza B   |
| 23 | LTC            | Southern  | 2/26/2008     | 9               | 0     | 0                  | 0        | 99                   | 54    | Influenza A   |
| 24 | LTC            | Western   | 2/26/2008     | 5               | 1     | 0                  | 1        | 94                   | 50    | Influenza     |
| 25 | LTC            | Central   | 2/26/2008     | 3               | 2     | 0                  | 0        | 96                   | 75    | Influenza A   |
| 26 | LTC            | Southern  | 2/26/2008     | 0               | 4     | 1                  | 0        | 96                   | 42    | Influenza A   |
| 27 | LTC            | Eastern   | 2/26/2008     | 21              | 1     | 0                  | 0        | 100                  | 40    | Influenza B   |
| 28 | LTC            | Western   | 2/27/2008     | 1               | 0     | 0                  | 0        | 94                   | 50    | Influenza     |
| 29 | LTC            | Western   | 2/28/2008     | 5               | 3     | 1                  | 0        | 80                   | ^     | Influenza A   |
| 30 | LTC            | Northern  | 2/29/2008     | 18              | 6     | 0                  | 0        | 100                  | 6     | Influenza     |
| 31 | LTC            | Eastern   | 2/29/2008     | 7               | 2     | 0                  | 0        | 100                  | 50    | Influenza B   |
| 32 | LTC            | Western   | 3/3/2008      | 1               | 1     | 1                  | 0        | 98                   | 60    | Influenza A   |
| 33 | ACF Unit       | Eastern   | 3/3/2008      | 8               | 2     | NA                 | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza     |
| 34 | LTC            | Western   | 3/4/2008      | 4               | 0     | 0                  | 0        | 90                   | 72    | Influenza B   |
| 35 | LTC            | Southern  | 3/4/2008      | 18              | 2     | 2                  | 0        | 89                   | 49    | Influenza     |
| 36 | LTC            | Eastern   | 3/5/2008      | 33              | 5     | ^                  | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza B   |
| 37 | LTC            | Eastern   | 3/7/2008      | 27              | 6     | 3                  | 0        | 100                  | ^     | Influenza A   |
| 38 | LTC            | Central   | 3/7/2008      | 3               | 31    | 3                  | 0        | 99                   | 43    | Influenza B   |
| 39 | LTC            | Western   | 3/7/2008      | 5               | ^     | ^                  | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza B   |
| 40 | LTC            | Western   | 3/10/2008     | 5               | ^     | ^                  | ^        | ^                    | ^     | Influenza B   |
| 41 | LTC            | Western   | 3/10/2008     | 1               | 0     | 0                  | 0        | 100                  | 50    | Influenza     |
| 42 | LTC            | Southern  | 3/11/2008     | 2               | 0     | 0                  | 0        | 100                  | 90    | Influenza     |
| 43 | LTC            | Central   | 3/12/2008     | 6               | 2     | 1                  | 0        | 90                   | 70    | Influenza B   |

\* Outbreak definition is specific to facility type. An outbreak in long-term care facilities (LTC) is defined as  $\geq 3$  patients with ILI identified on same floor or ward during a short (e.g., 48-72 hour) period OR  $\geq 1$  patients with lab-confirmed influenza; an outbreak in an acute care facility (ACF) is defined as  $\geq 1$  patients with ILI or lab-confirmed influenza with symptom onset  $\geq 48$  hours post-admission (i.e., nosocomial); and an outbreak in a school is defined as  $\geq 15\%$  absentee rate among student population due to ILI or lab-confirmed influenza.

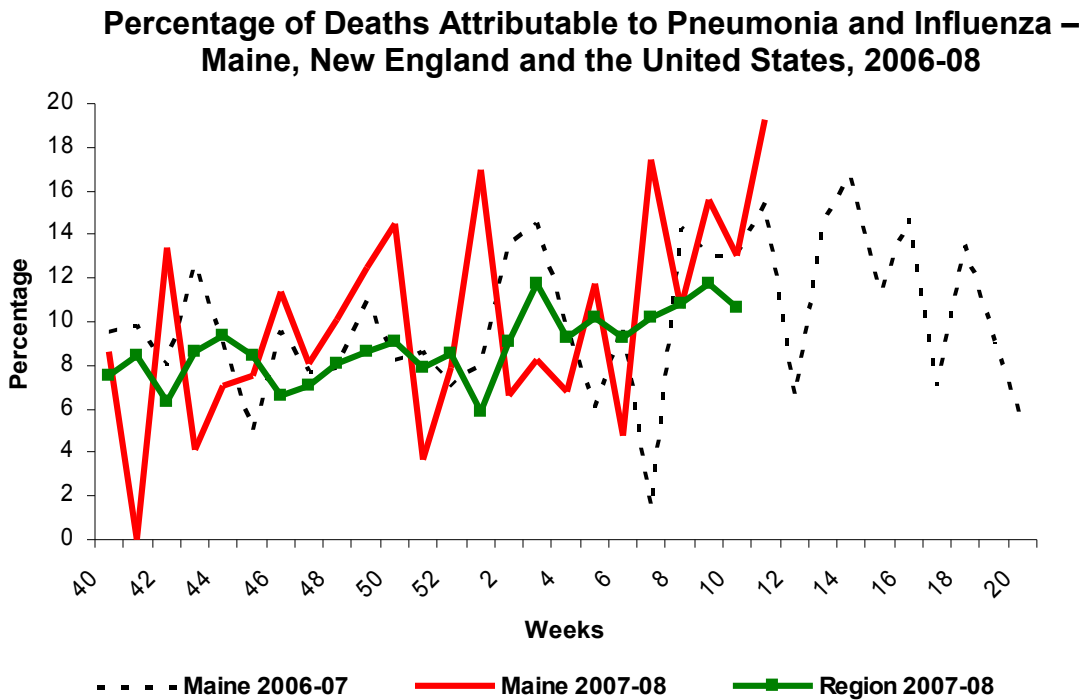
^ Data unavailable

NA indicates not applicable

## Fatalities Surveillance

### Death Certificates

During the week ending March 15, 2008 (week 11), 19.3% of deaths reported by three city vital records offices were attributable to pneumonia and influenza.



^ New England includes the following reporting areas: Boston, MA; Bridgeport, CT; Cambridge, MA; Fall River, MA; Hartford, CT; Lowell, MA; Lynn, MA; New Bedford, MA; New Haven, CT; Providence, RI; Somerville, MA; Springfield, MA; Waterbury, CT; Worcester, MA.

### Pediatric Fatalities

One influenza-associated pediatric death in Maine has been reported this season.

### National Influenza Activity

State health departments report the estimated level of influenza activity in their states each week. States report influenza activity as: 1) no activity, 2) sporadic, 3) local, 4) regional, or 5) widespread (definitions of these levels can be found at: [www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm)).

Maine reported widespread influenza activity for the weeks ending March 8, 2008 (week 10) and March 15, 2008 (week 11).

