Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

January 3, 2007

Synopsis
During the week ending December 30, 2006 (MMWR week 52)*, sporadic influenza activity was reported in Maine. Five cases of influenza from Penobscot and Franklin counties have been laboratory confirmed in Maine to date.

Moderate Disease Surveillance

Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)
During the week ending December 30, 2006, 0.7% of sentinel provider outpatient visits were due to ILI (range 0% - 5.1%).

Severe Disease Surveillance

Hospital inpatients
During the week ending December 23, 2006 (week 51), 3.1% of admissions reported by three hospitals were due to respiratory illness (range 1.4% - 5.1%). During the week ending December 30, 2006 (week 52), 5.9% of admissions reported by two hospitals were due to respiratory illness (range 5.0% - 6.8%).
During the week ending December 30, 2006, six respiratory specimens were submitted to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL). Of these, two specimen (33.3%) was positive for influenza A; results are pending on the remaining four specimens. As of December 30, 2006, a total of 50 respiratory specimens have been submitted for viral testing to HETL since October when influenza surveillance season began. Of these, three specimen (6.0%) was positive for influenza (2 for influenza A and 1 for influenza B), three specimens were presumptive positive for enterovirus, results are pending for 11 specimens, and the remaining specimens were negative.
During the week ending December 30, 2006, a total of 51 respiratory specimens were submitted to two private reference laboratories in Maine. Of these, two specimens (3.9%) were positive for influenza B, one specimen was positive for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), one specimen was positive for para-influenza 3, one specimen was positive for enterovirus, and the remaining specimens were negative. As of December 30, 2006, a total of 223 respiratory specimens have been submitted for viral testing to two reference laboratories in Maine since October when influenza surveillance season began. Two specimens (0.9%) were positive for influenza, 8 specimens were positive for RSV, 1 specimen was positive for parainfluenza-3, 8 specimens were positive for adenovirus, 9 specimens were positive for enterovirus, and the remaining specimens were negative.

![Graph showing respiratory specimens positive for influenza by week](image)

**Fatalities Surveillance**

**Death Certificates**

During the week ending December 30, 2006, 7.0% of deaths reported by three city vital records office were attributable to pneumonia and influenza (range 0% - 11.5%).
Percentage of Deaths Attributable to Pneumonia and Influenza
– Maine, New England and the United States, 2005-07

^ 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**
As of December 30, 2006, no influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported in Maine 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: [http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm)). Maine reported sporadic influenza activity for the week ending December 30, 2006.
* At time of publication, reporting may be incomplete. Numbers presented here may change as more reports are received.