

Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

January 9, 2008

Synopsis

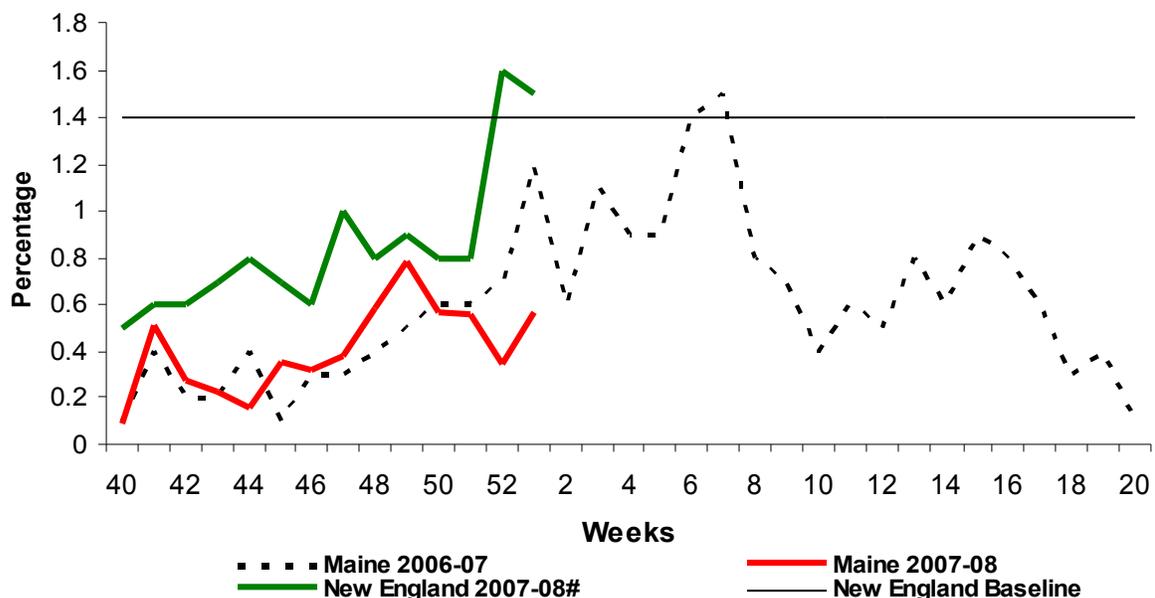
During the week ending January 5, 2008 (MMWR week 1)*, Maine reported sporadic influenza activity.

Moderate Disease Surveillance

Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)

During the week ending January 5, 2008 (week 1), 0.6% 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, 1.5% of outpatient visits were attributed to influenza-like illness during week 1.

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



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

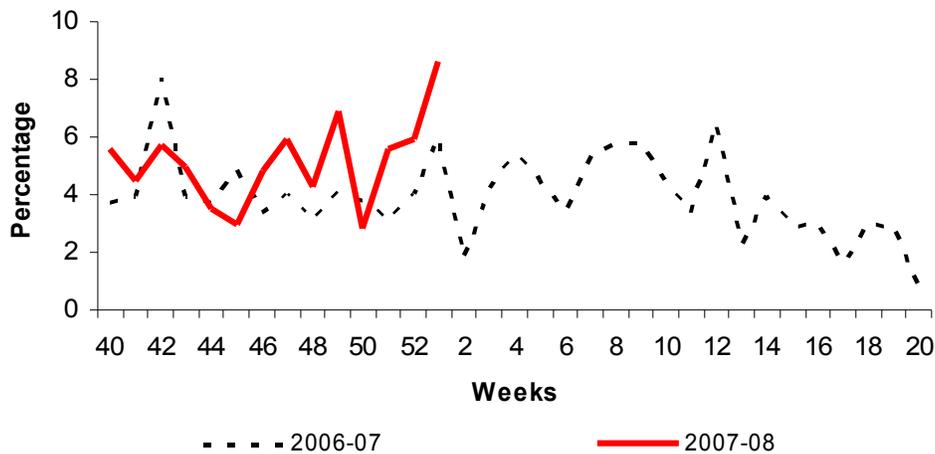
Severe Disease Surveillance

Hospital inpatients

During the week ending January 5, 2008 (week 1), 8.6% of hospital admissions reported by two hospitals were attributable to pneumonia or influenza. This is an increase from week 52 when 5.9% of hospital admissions were attributable to pneumonia or influenza.

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

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



Laboratory Reporting

During the week ending January 5, 2008 (week 1), two respiratory specimens were submitted to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for influenza testing; results are pending on these specimens. As of January 5, 2008 (week 1), a cumulative total of 77 respiratory specimens had been submitted to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for influenza testing. To date, 69 specimens were negative for influenza by culture, including 17 that were also negative by PCR. Two specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2 by culture and one was positive for parainfluenza-1. Culture results are pending on the remaining specimens.

One private reference laboratory in Maine reported for the week ending January 5, 2008 (week 1). Seven (12.5%) of 56 specimens were positive for influenza A. In addition 11 specimens were positive for RSV and 1 specimen was positive for parainfluenza-2. As of January 5, 2008 2007, a cumulative total of 374 respiratory specimens had been submitted to two private reference laboratories in Maine. Of these, 28 (7.5%) specimens were positive for influenza A and one (0.3%) was positive for influenza B. Thirty-six specimens (9.6%) were positive for RSV, nine specimens (2.4%) were positive for parainfluenza-1, nine (2.4%) specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2, three (0.8%) specimens were positive for parainfluenza-3, four (1.1%) specimens was positive for adenovirus, three (0.8%) specimens were positive for enterovirus, and the remaining specimens were negative.

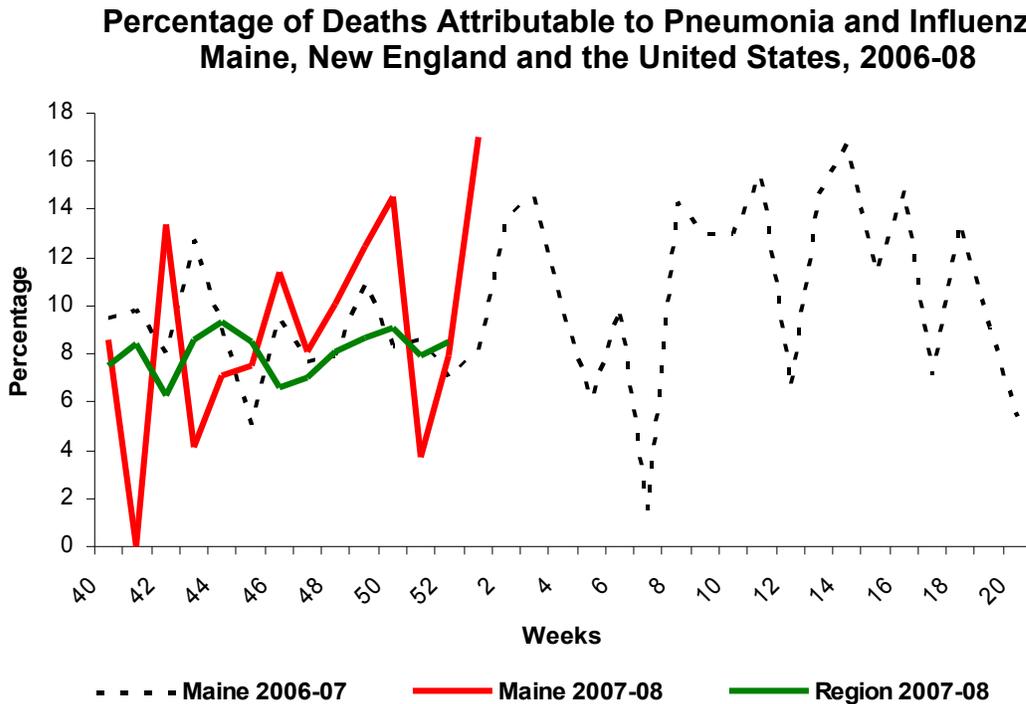
Outbreaks

The first outbreak of the season was reported on December 27 in a long-term care facility in the Midcoast region. Approximately 9% of residents were ill. None were hospitalized. No staff were reported to be ill. Influenza immunization for residents was 100%; approximately 55% of staff were immunized. Influenza type A was identified by a rapid antigen test.

Fatalities Surveillance

Death Certificates

During the week ending January 5, 2008 (week 1), 17.0% of deaths reported by one city vital records office 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

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: www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm). Maine reported sporadic influenza activity for the week ending December 29, 2007 (week 52). For the week ending January 5, 2008 (week 1), Maine reported sporadic activity.

FLUVIEW



A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division
Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists*

Week Ending December 29, 2007- Week 52



* This map indicates geographic spread and does not measure the severity of influenza activity.