

# Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

January 30, 2008

## Synopsis

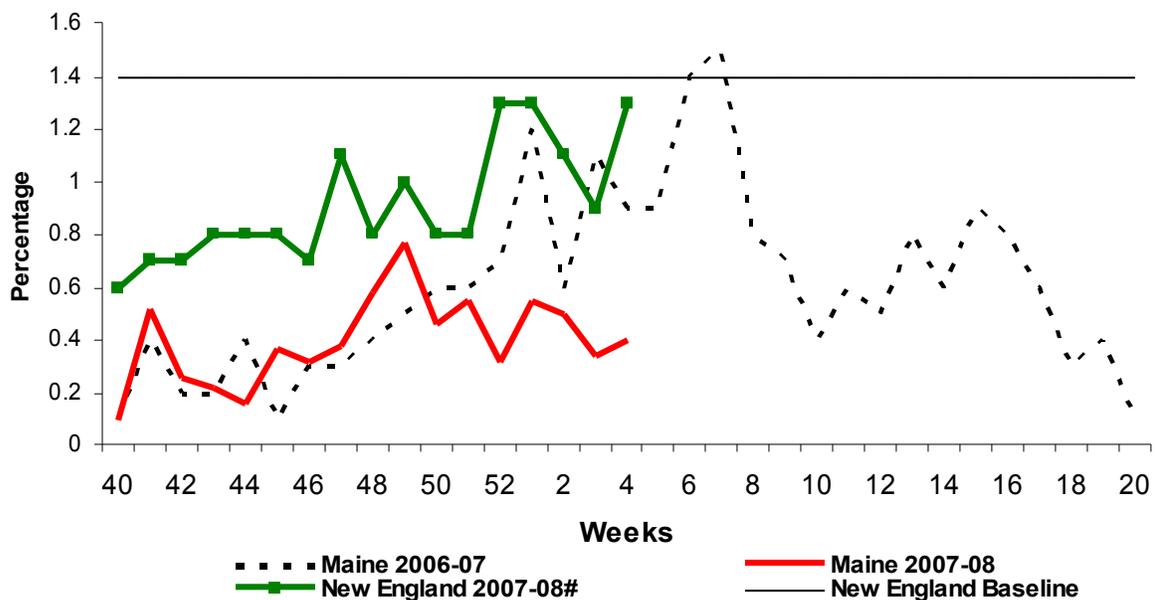
During the week ending January 26, 2008 (MMWR week 4)\*, Maine reported sporadic influenza activity.

## Moderate Disease Surveillance

### Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)

During the week ending January 26, 2008 (week 4), 0.4% 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, 1.3% of outpatient visits were attributed to influenza-like illness during week 4.

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



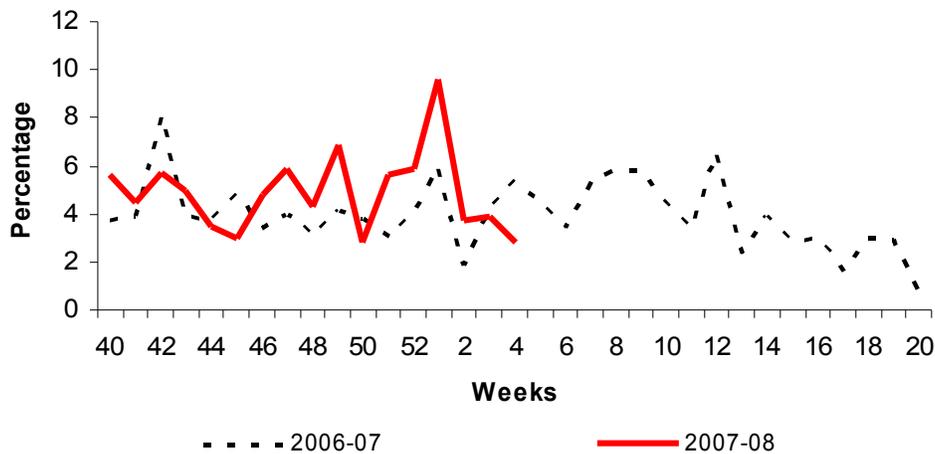
# New England is defined as Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Severe Disease Surveillance

### Hospital inpatients

During the week ending January 26, 2008 (week 4), 2.8% of hospital admissions reported by three hospitals were attributable to pneumonia or influenza. This is slight decrease from week 3 when 3.9% of hospital admissions were attributable to pneumonia or influenza.

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

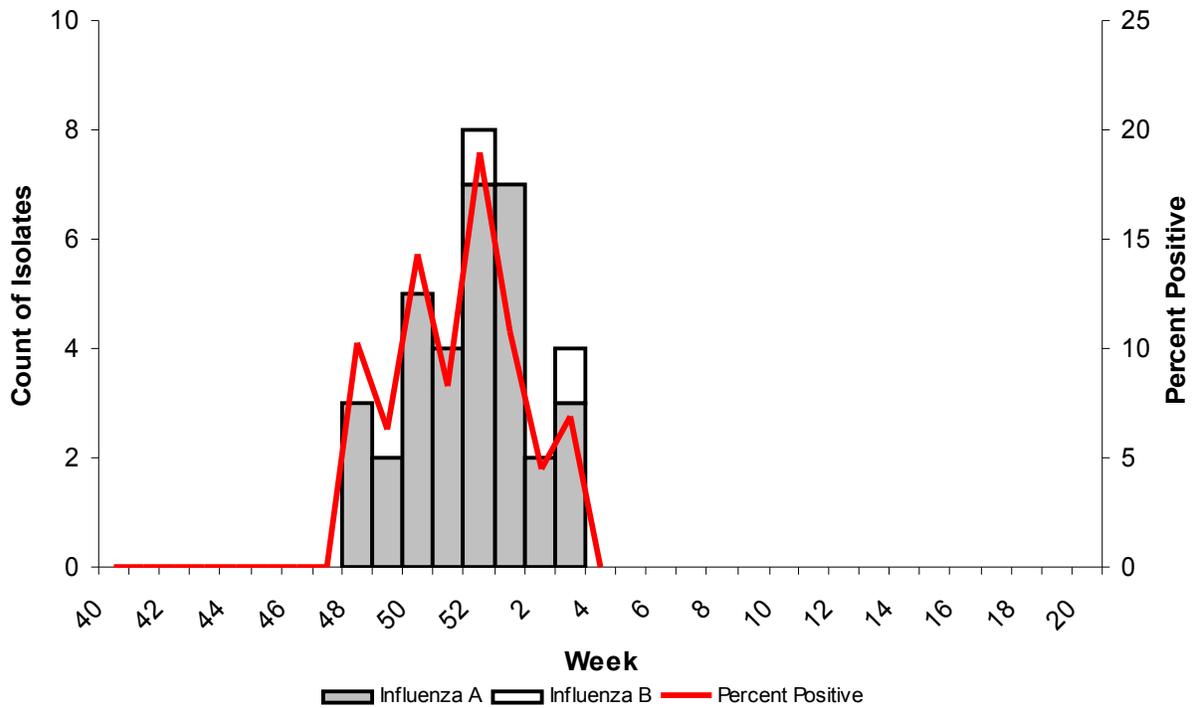


### Laboratory Reporting

The Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) received six specimens for influenza testing the week ending January 26 (week 4). Results are pending on these specimens. As of January 26, 2008 (week 4), a cumulative total of 101 respiratory specimens had been submitted to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for testing. To date, four (4.0%) specimens were positive for influenza A; two specimens were A (H1) and two were A (H3). In addition, two (2.0%) specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2, and one (1.0%) specimen was positive for parainfluenza-1. Results are pending on 6 specimens; the remaining specimens tested negative.

One private reference laboratory in Maine reported for the week ending January 26, 2008 (week 4). None of 4 specimens were positive for influenza. In addition 3 specimens were positive for RSV. As of January 26, 2008, a cumulative total of 498 respiratory specimens had been submitted to two private reference laboratories in Maine. Of these, 33 (6.6%) specimens were positive for influenza A and two (0.4%) was positive for influenza B. Seventy three specimens were positive for RSV, nine specimens were positive for parainfluenza-1, nine specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2, three specimens were positive for parainfluenza-3, five 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*

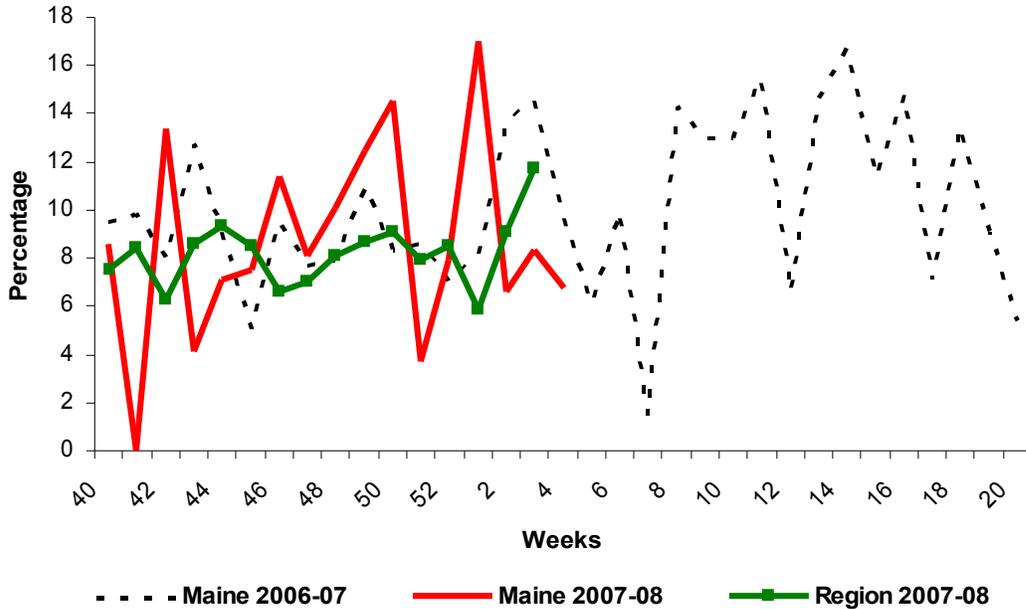
The only outbreak of the season was reported on December 27 in a long-term care facility in the Midcoast region. Approximately 9% of residents were ill. None were hospitalized. No staff were reported to be ill. Influenza immunization for residents was 100%; approximately 55% of staff were immunized.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

### **Fatalities Surveillance**

#### *Death Certificates*

During the week ending January 26, 2008 (week 4), 6.8% of deaths reported by three city vital records offices were attributable to pneumonia and influenza.

**Percentage of Deaths Attributable to Pneumonia and Influenza –  
Maine, New England and the United States, 2006-08**



^ 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](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm)). Maine reported sporadic influenza activity for the week ending January 19, 2008 (week 3). For the week ending January 26, 2008 (week 4), Maine reported sporadic activity.

