

# Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

February 6, 2008

## Synopsis

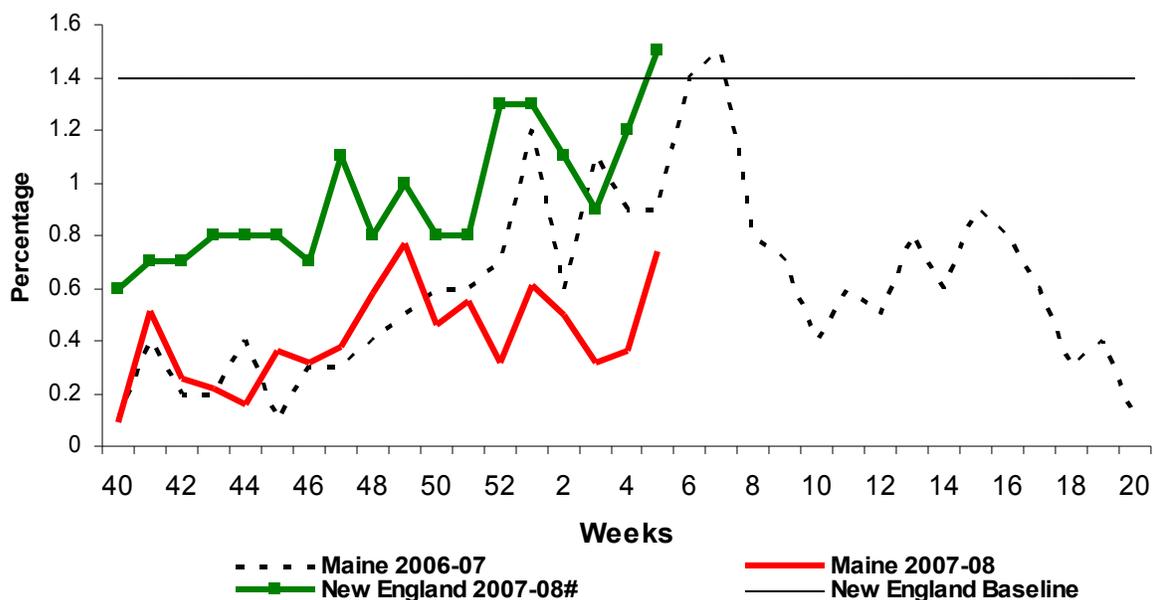
During the week ending February 2, 2008 (MMWR week 5)\*, Maine reported local influenza activity. Increases were seen in outpatient influenza-like illness, deaths and hospital admissions for pneumonia and influenza, and the number of positive laboratory isolates.

## Moderate Disease Surveillance

### Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)

During the week ending February 2, 2008 (week 5), 0.7% of outpatient visits reported by nine 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 5.

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



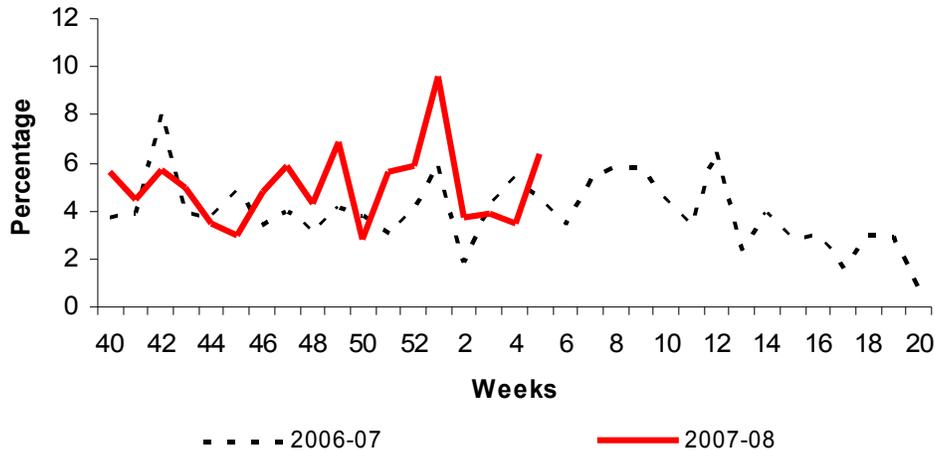
# New England is defined as Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Severe Disease Surveillance

### Hospital inpatients

During the week ending February 2, 2008 (week 5), 6.4% of hospital admissions reported by three hospitals were attributable to pneumonia or influenza. This is an increase from week 4 when 3.5% of hospital admissions were attributable to pneumonia or influenza.

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

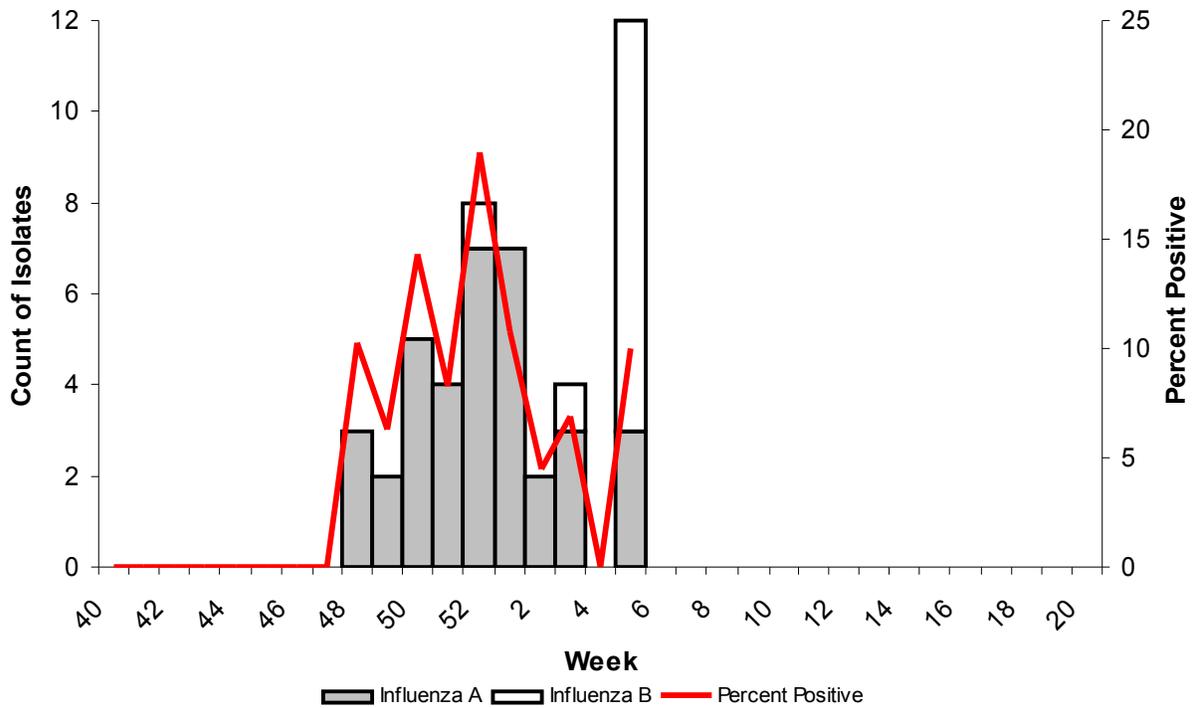


### Laboratory Reporting

The Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) received four specimens for influenza testing the week ending February 2 (week 5). Results are pending on these specimens. As of February 2, 2008 (week 5), a cumulative total of 105 respiratory specimens had been submitted to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for testing. To date, four (3.9%) specimens were positive for influenza A; two specimens were A (H1) and two were A (H3). In addition, two specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2, one specimen was positive for parainfluenza-1, and one specimen was positive for mumps. Results are pending on 4 specimens; the remaining specimens tested negative.

Two private reference laboratories in Maine reported for the week ending February 2, 2008 (week 5). Three of 120 specimens were positive for influenza A and 9 were positive for influenza B. In addition 62 specimens were positive for RSV. As of February 2, 2008, a cumulative total of 618 respiratory specimens had been submitted to two private reference laboratories in Maine. Of these, 36 (5.8%) specimens were positive for influenza A and 11 (1.8%) were positive for influenza B. One hundred thirty five 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*

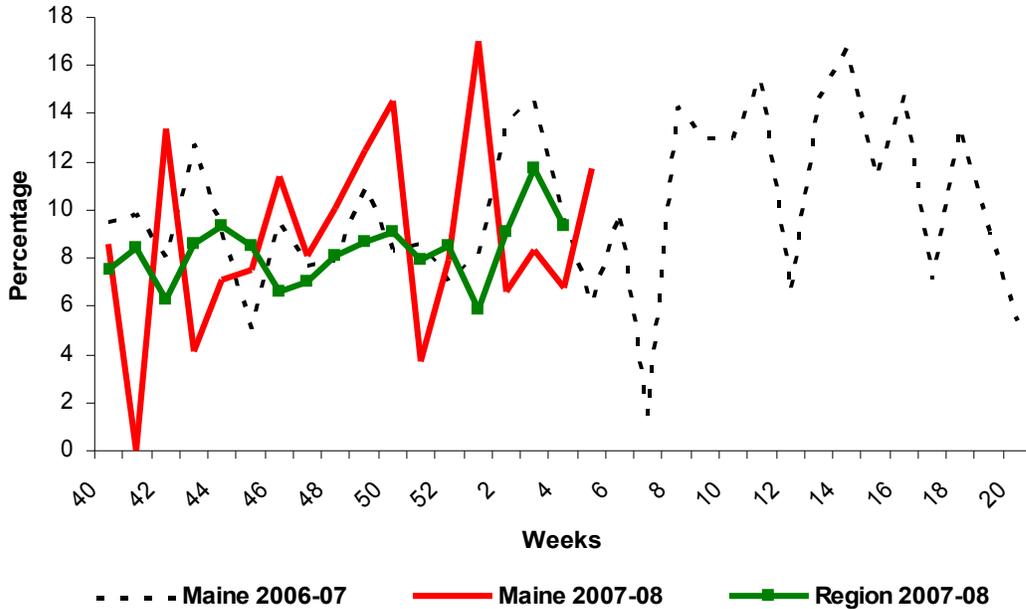
The only outbreak of the season was reported on December 27 in a long-term care facility in the Midcoast region. Approximately 9% of residents were ill. None were hospitalized. No staff were reported to be ill. Influenza immunization for residents was 100%; approximately 55% of staff were immunized.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

### **Fatalities Surveillance**

#### *Death Certificates*

During the week ending February 2, 2008 (week 5), 11.1% 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 26, 2008 (week 4). For the week ending February 2, 2008 (week 5), Maine reported local activity.

# FLUVIEW



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

Week Ending January 26, 2008- Week 4



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