

Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

December 26, 2007

Synopsis

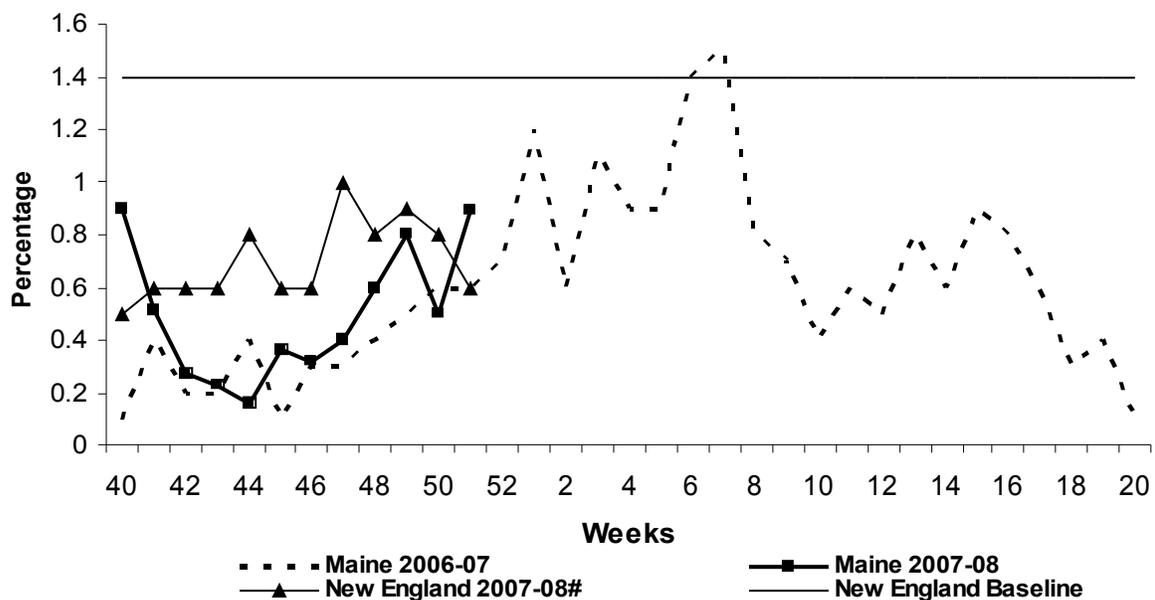
During the week ending December 22, 2007 (MMWR week 51)*, an increase in outpatient visits for influenza-like illness and pneumonia and influenza hospital admissions was observed.

Moderate Disease Surveillance

Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)

During the week ending December 22, 2007 (week 51), 0.9% of outpatient visits reported by five 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, 0.6% of outpatient visits were attributed to influenza-like illness during week 51.

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



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

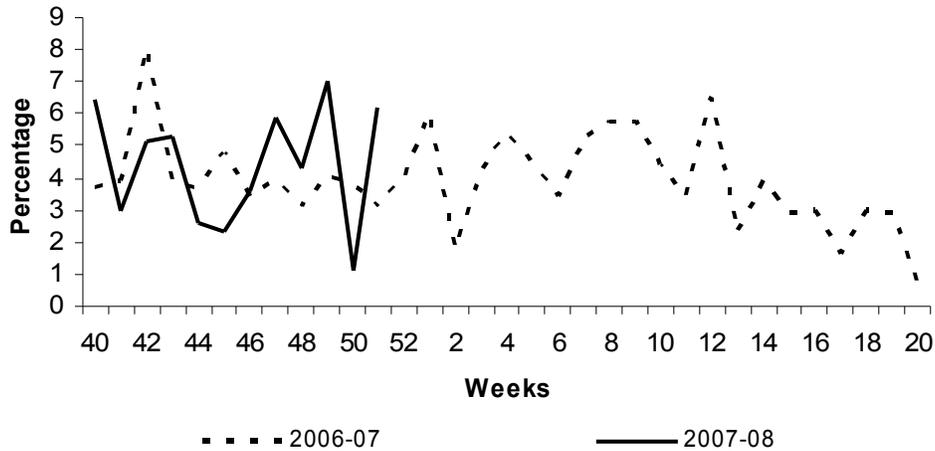
Severe Disease Surveillance

Hospital inpatients

During the week ending December 22, 2007 (week 51), 6.2% of hospital admissions reported by three hospitals was attributable to pneumonia or influenza. This is an increase from week 50 when 1.1% 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 December 22, 2007 (week 51), six respiratory specimens were submitted to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for influenza testing; results are pending on these specimens. As of December 22, 2007 (week 51), a cumulative total of 84 respiratory specimens had been submitted to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for influenza testing. To date, 52 specimens were negative for influenza by culture, including 13 that were negative by PCR, and 1 specimen was positive for parainfluenza-1 by culture. Culture results are pending on the remaining specimens.

No laboratory reports were received from two private reference laboratories in Maine for the week ending December 22, 2007 (week 51). As of December 15, 2007, a cumulative total of 201 respiratory specimens had been submitted to two private reference laboratories in Maine. Of these, ten (5%) specimens were positive for influenza A. Five specimens (2.5%) were positive for RSV, eight specimens (4.0%) were positive for parainfluenza-1, seven (3.5%) specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2, three (1.5%) specimens were positive for parainfluenza-3, three (1.5%) specimens was positive for adenovirus, three (1.5%) specimens were positive for enterovirus, and the remaining specimens were negative.

Outbreaks

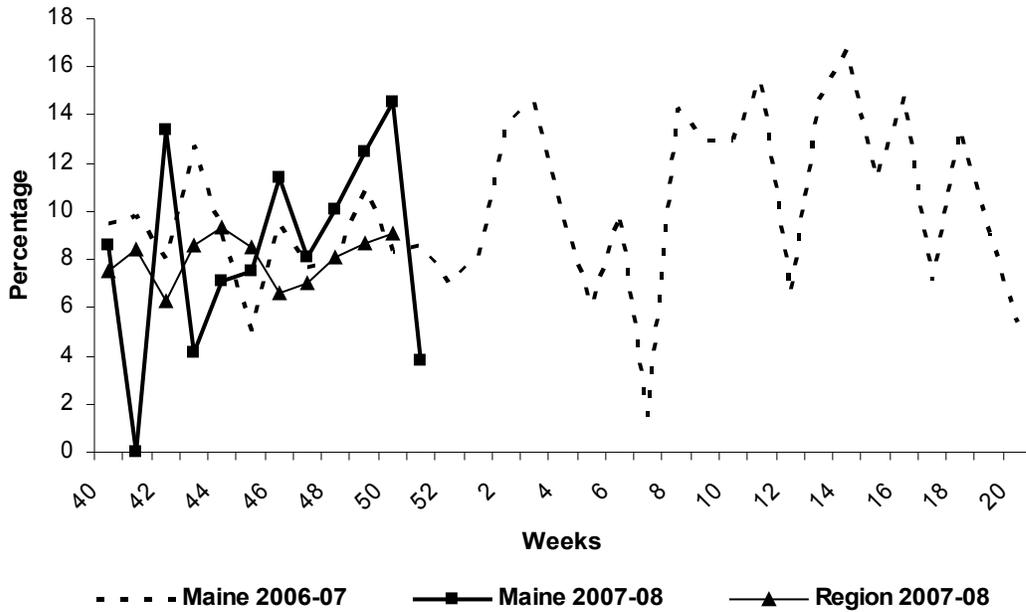
No outbreaks have been reported to date this season.

Fatalities Surveillance

Death Certificates

During the week ending December 22, 2007 (week 51), 3.8% of deaths reported by one city vital records office was 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). Maine reported sporadic influenza activity for the week ending December 22, 2007 (week 50). For week 51, 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 15, 2007 - Week 50



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