

# Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

February 22, 2008

## Synopsis

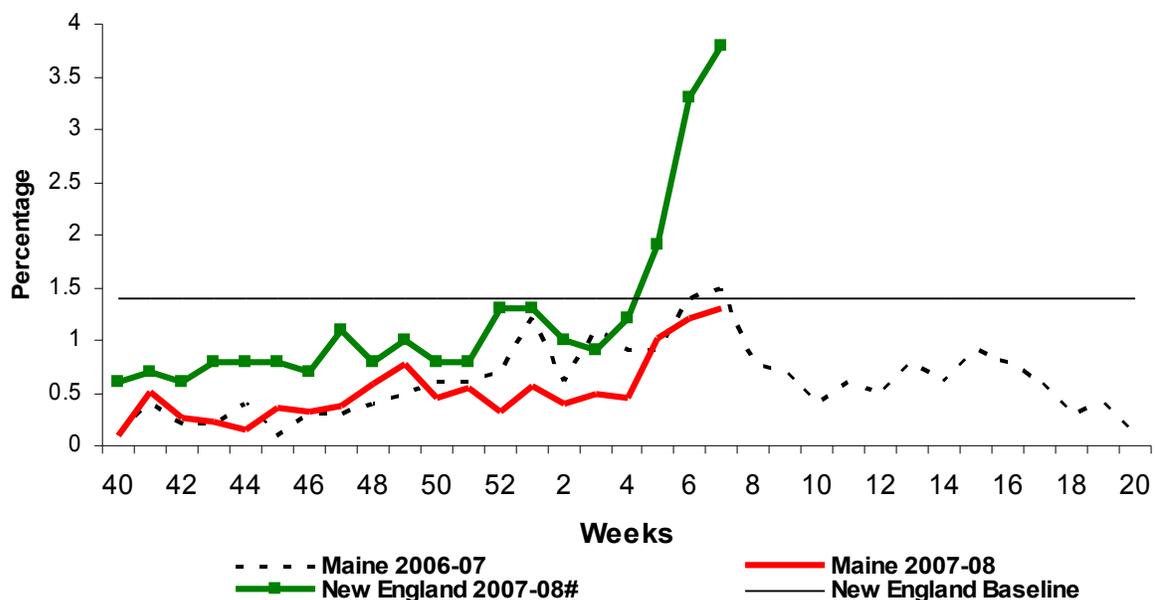
During the week ending February 16, 2008 (MMWR week 7)\*, Maine reported widespread influenza activity.

## Moderate Disease Surveillance

### Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)

During the week ending February 16, 2008 (week 7), 1.2% 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, 3.9% of outpatient visits were attributed to influenza-like illness during week 7.

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



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

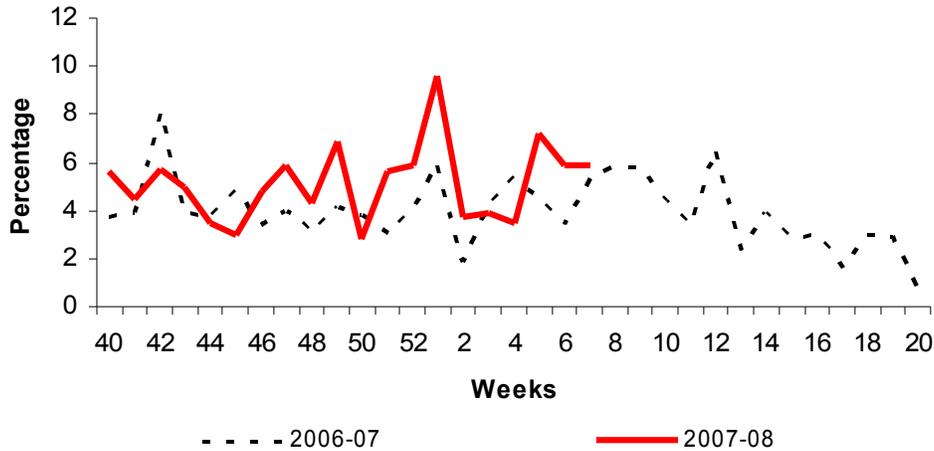
## Severe Disease Surveillance

### Hospital inpatients

During the week ending February 16, 2008 (week 7), 5.9% of hospital admissions reported by four hospitals were attributable to pneumonia or influenza. This is the same percentage as reported for week 6.

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

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

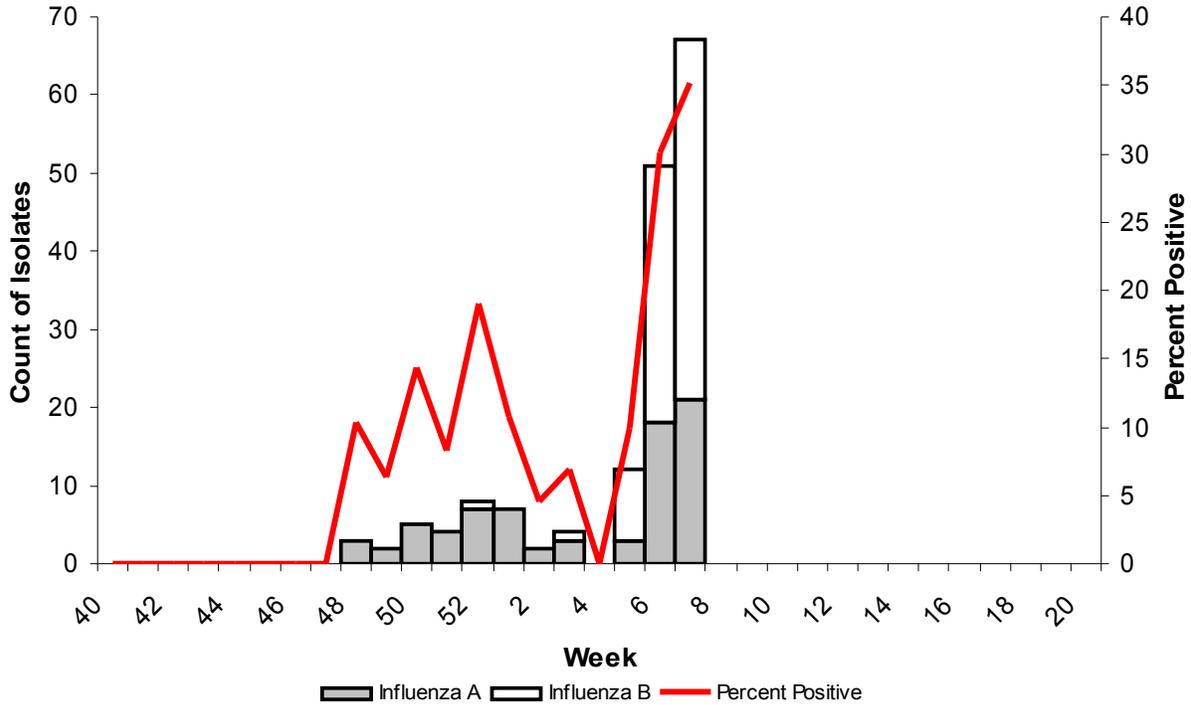


**Laboratory Reporting**

Results from the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) are not available for the week ending February 16, 2008 (week 7). As of February 9, 2008 (week 6), a cumulative total of 126 respiratory specimens had been submitted to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for testing. To date, four (3.2%) specimens were positive for influenza A (two specimens were A (H1) and two were A (H3)) and three (2.4%) specimens were positive for influenza B. 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 14 specimens; the remaining specimens tested negative.

Two private reference laboratories in Maine reported for the week ending February 16, 2008 (week 7). Twenty-one of 190 specimens were positive for influenza A and 46 were positive for influenza B. In addition, 67 specimens were positive for RSV, 1 was positive for adenovirus and 1 was positive for parainfluenza-2. As of February 16, 2008, a cumulative total of 992 respiratory specimens had been submitted to two private reference laboratories in Maine. Of these, 75 (7.6%) specimens were positive for influenza A and 90 (9.1%) were positive for influenza B. Two hundred eighty-five specimens were positive for RSV, ten specimens were positive for parainfluenza-1, ten specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2, three specimens were positive for parainfluenza-3, six 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**

During the week ending February 16, 2008, four outbreak of influenza-like illness were reported in Maine; three were laboratory confirmed. A total of 10 outbreaks of influenza-like illness have been reported in Maine this season.

**Influenza-like illness outbreaks by selected characteristics – Maine, 2007-08**

Facility Type*	Region	Date Reported	Attack Rate %		Hospitalizations #	Deaths #	Vaccination rate %		Lab-confirmed
			Resident	Staff			Resident	Staff	
LTC	Midcoast	12/27/07	9	0	0	0	100	55	Influenza A
LTC	Eastern	1/14/08	31	6	1	0	100	94	^
School	Midcoast	1/28/08	7	0	^	0	^	^	Influenza A
School	Aroostook	1/29/08	27	^	^	^	^	^	Influenza
School	Aroostook	1/29/08	15	^	^	^	^	^	^
School	Aroostook	2/4/08	28	11	^	^	^	^	Influenza A
LTC	Midcoast	2/12/08	1	^	^	^	^	^	Influenza
LTC	Midcoast	2/14/08	20	^	^	^	^	^	Influenza A
LTC	Western	2/15/08	^	^	^	^	^	^	Influenza B
LTC	Eastern	2/15/08	^	^	^	^	^	^	Influenza A

\* Outbreak definition is specific to facility type. An outbreak in long-term care facilities (LTC) is defined as  $\geq 3$  patients with ILI identified on same floor or ward during a short (e.g., 48-72 hour) period OR  $\geq 1$  patients with lab-confirmed influenza; an outbreak in an acute care facility is defined as  $\geq 1$  patients with ILI or lab-confirmed influenza with symptom onset  $\geq 48$

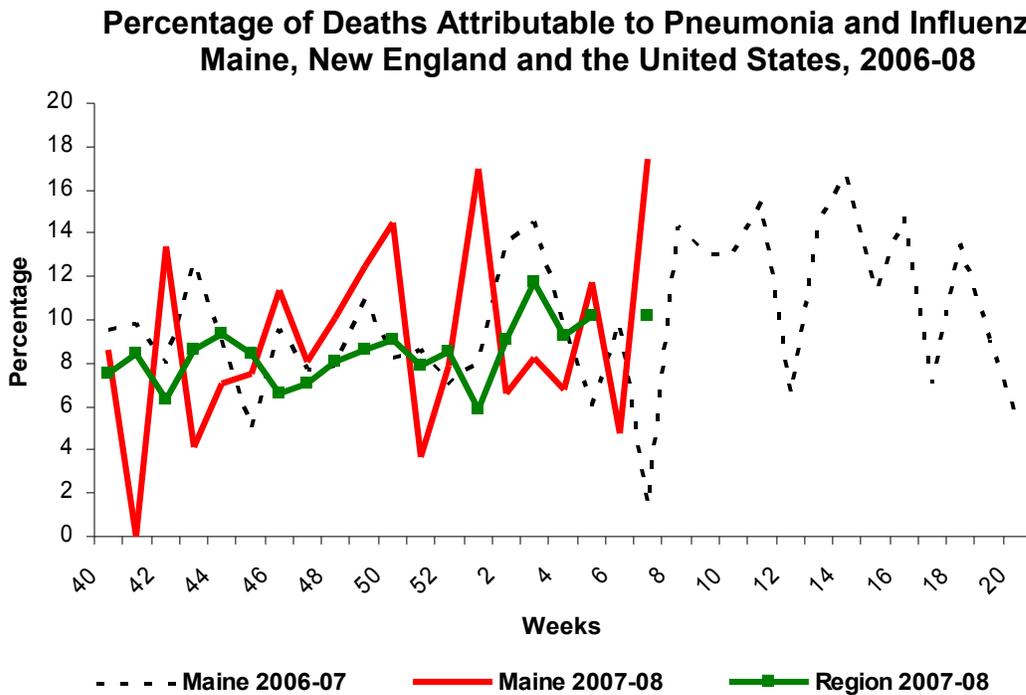
hours post-admission (i.e., nosocomial); and an outbreak in a school is defined as  $\geq 15\%$  absentee rate among student population due to ILI or lab-confirmed influenza.

^ Data unavailable

## Fatalities Surveillance

### Death Certificates

During the week ending February 16, 2008 (week 7), 17.4% of deaths reported by three city vital records offices 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](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm)). Maine reported regional influenza activity for the week ending February 6, 2008 (week 6). For the week ending February 16, 2008 (week 7), Maine reported widespread activity.

**Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists\*  
Week Ending February 09, 2008- Week 6**



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