

# Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

February 27, 2008

## Synopsis

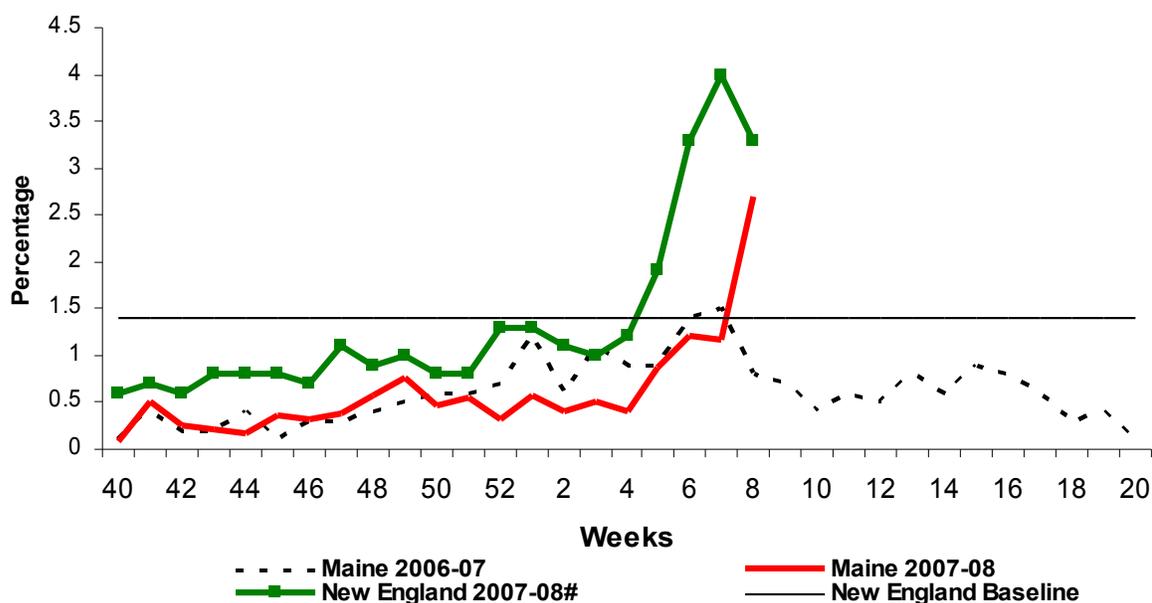
During the week ending February 23, 2008 (MMWR week 8)\*, Maine reported widespread influenza activity. Increases were reported for outpatient visits for influenza-like illness, hospital admissions for pneumonia and influenza, positive laboratory results, and institutional outbreaks.

## Moderate Disease Surveillance

### Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)

During the week ending February 23, 2008 (week 8), 2.7% 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, 3.3% of outpatient visits were attributed to influenza-like illness during week 8.

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



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

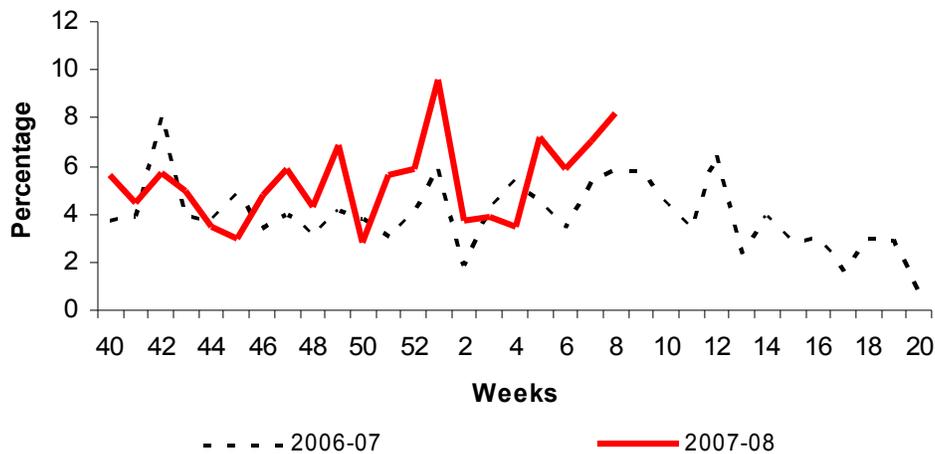
## Severe Disease Surveillance

### Hospital inpatients

During the week ending February 23, 2008 (week 8), 8.2% of hospital admissions reported by three hospitals were attributable to pneumonia or influenza. This is a slight increase from week 6 when 7.0% of hospital admissions were attributable to pneumonia and 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



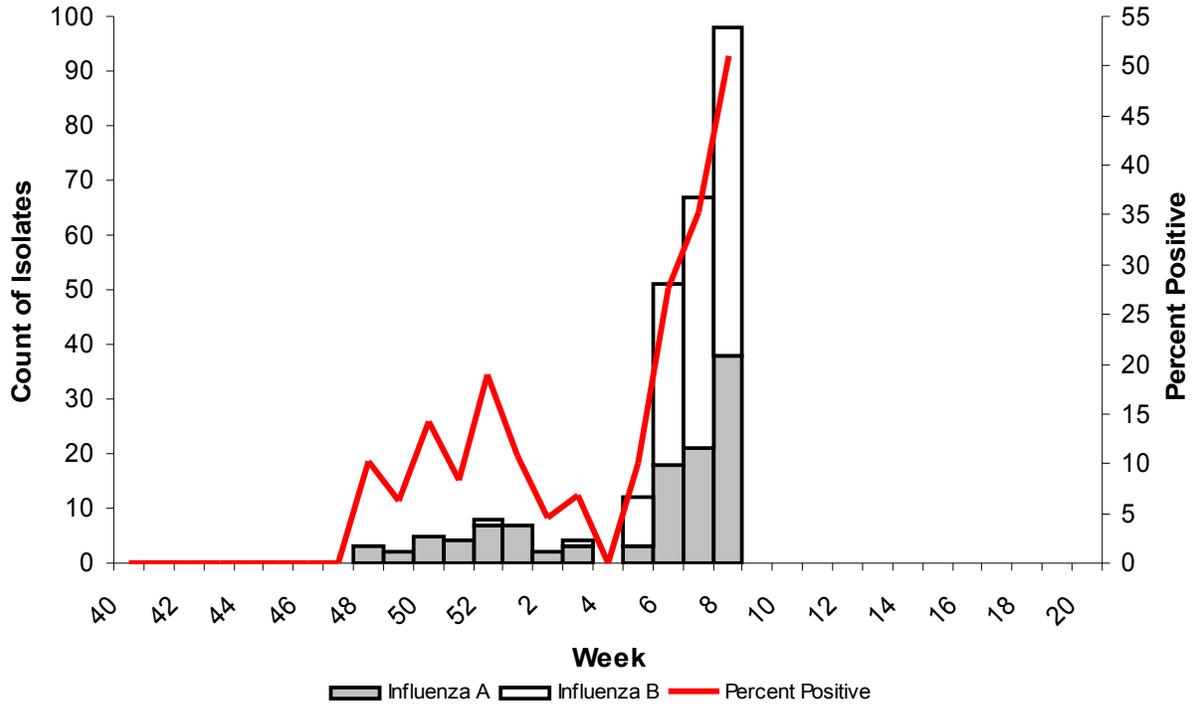
### Laboratory Reporting

The Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) received 32 respiratory specimens collected during the week ending February 23, 2008 (week 8). Three specimens were positive for influenza A and three specimens were positive for influenza B. Two of the influenza A results were subtyped; one was H1 and the other was H3. Results for 26 specimens are pending. As of February 23, 2008 (week 8), a cumulative total of 179 respiratory specimens had been submitted to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for testing. To date, seven specimens were positive for influenza A (three specimens were A (H1) and three were A (H3)) and eight specimens were positive for influenza B. In addition, three specimens were positive for parainfluenza-2, one specimen was positive for parainfluenza-1, and one specimen was positive for mumps. Results are pending on 33 specimens; the remaining specimens tested negative.

Two private reference laboratories in Maine reported for the week ending February 23, 2008 (week 8). Thirty-eight of 192 specimens were positive for influenza A and 60 were positive for influenza B. In addition, 62 specimens were positive for RSV. As of February 23, 2008, a cumulative total of 1184 respiratory specimens had been submitted to two private reference laboratories in Maine. Of these, 113 (9.5%) specimens were positive for influenza A and 150 (12.7%) were positive for influenza B. Three hundred sixty-three 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 were 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 23, 2008, seven outbreaks of influenza-like illness were reported in Maine; all were laboratory confirmed. A total of 17 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
LTC	Western	2/20/08	34	^	^	^	^	^	Influenza A
ACF Unit	Western	2/20/08	36	^	^	^	^	^	Influenza
LTC	Eastern	2/21/08	20	8	^	^	^	^	Influenza B
LTC	Western	2/21/08	0	3	^	^	^	^	Influenza A
LTC	Western	2/21/08	1	3	^	^	^	^	Influenza
LTC	Southern	2/22/08	1	0	^	^	^	^	Influenza

LTC Eastern 2/22/08 1 0 ^ ^ ^ ^ Influenza B

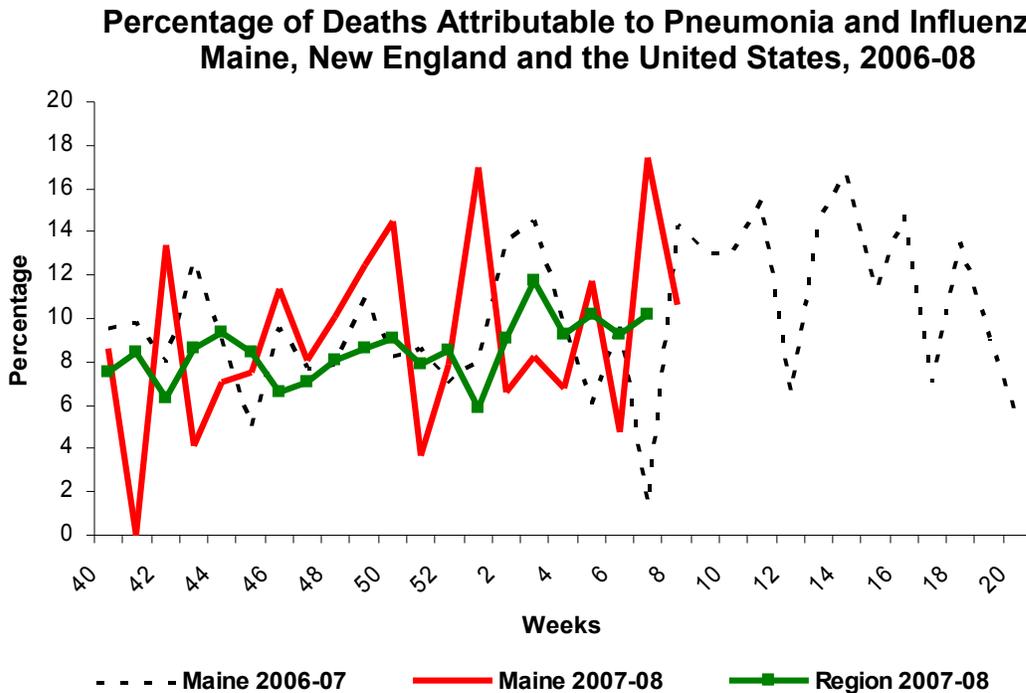
\* Outbreak definition is specific to facility type. An outbreak in long-term care facilities (LTC) is defined as  $\geq 3$  patients with ILI identified on same floor or ward during a short (e.g., 48-72 hour) period OR  $\geq 1$  patients with lab-confirmed influenza; an outbreak in an acute care facility (ACF) 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 23, 2008 (week 8), 10.6% 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 widespread influenza activity for the weeks ending February 16, 2008 (week 7) and February 23, 2008 (week 8).

