Influenza Surveillance Report

www.infectiousdisease.dhh.louisiana.gov **Week 39 From 09/26/2010 - 10/02/2010**

The Influenza Surveillance Summary Report describes the results of the tracking done by the Louisiana Office of Public Health Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section (IDEpi). This report relies on data supplied by sentinel surveillance sites, including hospital emergency department (ED), laboratories and physicians' offices. Sentinel sites provide weekly data on Influenza Like Illness (ILI) and/or laboratory confirmed cases.

Taken together, ILI surveillance and laboratory surveillance provide a clear picture of the influenza activity occurring in Louisiana each week. If you have any questions about our surveillance system or would like more information, please contact Julie Hand at 504-219-4563 or julie.hand@la.gov.

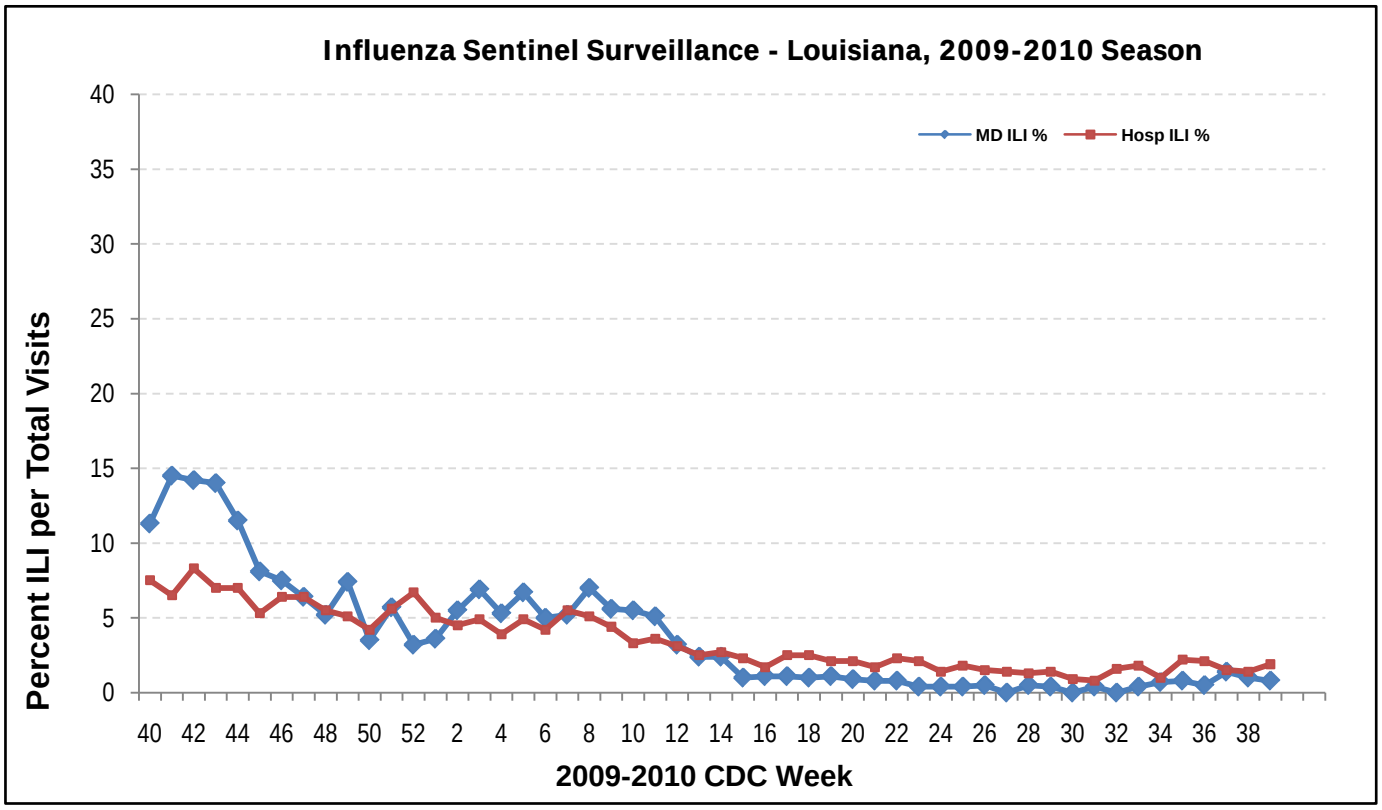
ILI is defined as an illness characterized by cough and/or cold symptoms and a fever of 100˚ F or greater in the absence of a known cause. While not every case of ILI is a case of influenza, the CDC has found that trends in ILI from sentinel sites are a good proxy measure of the amount of influenza activity in an area. For this reason, all states and territories participating in the national surveillance program monitor weekly ILI ratios from their sentinel surveillance sites.

Laboratory testing: Not all sentinel sites have access to laboratory testing. However, many hospitals and physicians' offices do perform some influenza testing. Sites that test for influenza report the number of positive tests each week and the total number of tests performed each week. This information is included on page 4 of this report.

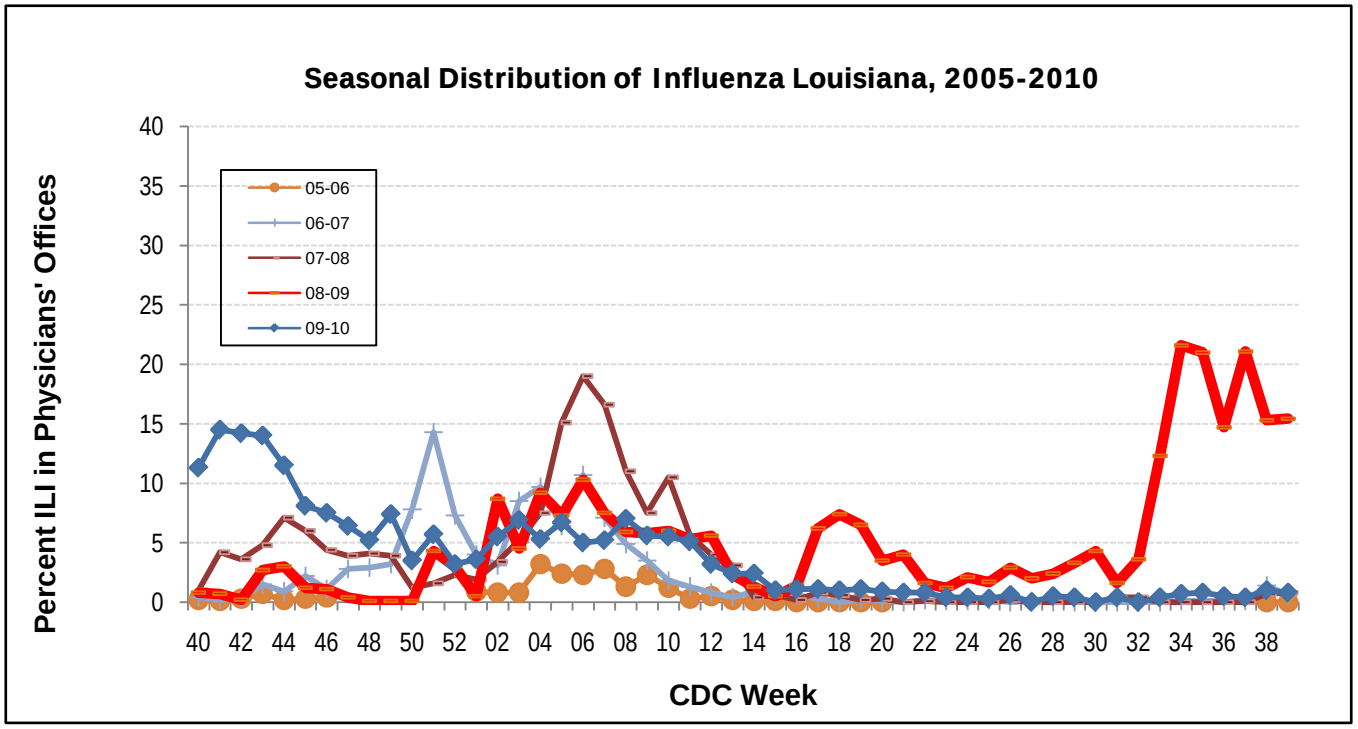
Influenza Activity remains extremely low which is typical for this time of the year.

ILI Surveillance

This graph shows the percentage of visits for ILI over the total number of visits for sentinel physicians' offices and emergency departments. This is the best approach to estimate the magnitude of influenza transmission. ILI counts do include some viral infections other than influenza, but experience over the last 50 years has shown that this approach is a reliable method to estimate influenza transmission. It does not show which strain of influenza virus is responsible. The page on lab surveillance does show the proportion of specimens attributable to each virus strain.



This graph shows the data on ILI surveillance among sentinel physicians' over the past 5 seasons to enable comparisons with previous years and better estimate the amplitude of this season's influenza transmission.



Geographical Distribution of Influenza

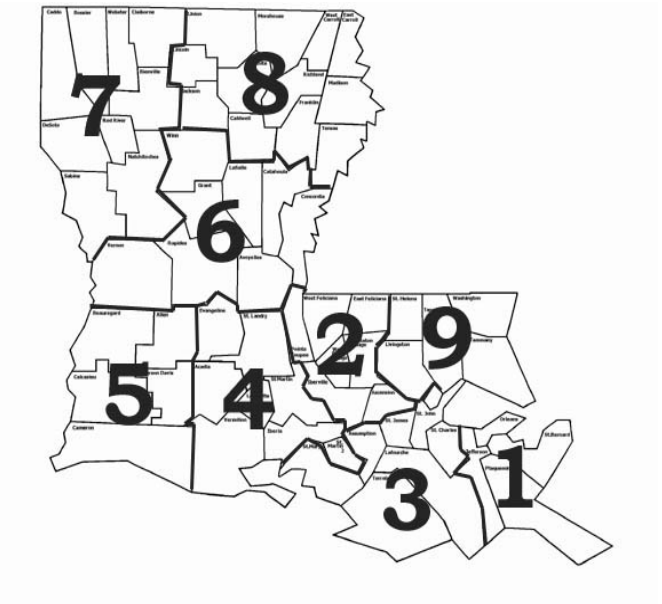
Region	Parish	H1N1*	% ILI**
Region 1	Jefferson	256	0.1
	Orleans	176	1.8
	Plaquemines	31	
	St Bernard	42	
	All Region 1	**505**	**1.1**
Region 2	Ascension	15	
	East Baton Rouge	212	3.0
	East Feliciana	3	0.1
	Iberville	10	
	Pointe Coupee	6	
	West Baton Rouge	7	
	West Feliciana	4	
	All Region 2	**257**	**2.4**
Region 3	Assumption	1	
	Lafourche	97	6.5
	St Charles	35	
	St James	6	
	St. John	15	
	St. Mary	37	0.3
	Terrebonne	32	3.1
	All Region 3	**223**	**3.1**
Region 4	Acadia	24	
	Evangeline	14	
	Iberia	45	
	Lafayette	192	0.0
	St Landry	41	
	St Martin	19	
	Vermilion	20	
	All Region 4	**355**	**0.0**
Region 5	Allen	5	
	Beauregard	8	
	Calcasieu	94	0.6
	Cameron	2	
	Jefferson Davis	5	
	All Region 5	**114**	**0.6**
Region 6	Avoyelles	4	
	Catahoula	7	
	Concordia	4	
	Grant	6	
	LaSalle	21	3.9
	Rapides	130	
	Vernon	61	
	Winn	0	
	All Region 6	**233**	**3.9**
Region 7	Bienville	7	
	Bossier	99	
	Caddo	204	1.1
	Claiborne	2	
	DeSoto	22	
	Natchitoches	10	
	Red River	2	
	Sabine	55	
	Webster	17	
	All Region 7	**418**	**1.1**

Region	Parish	H1N1*	% ILI**
Region 8	Caldwell	9	
	East Carroll	1	
	Franklin	0	
	Jackson	2	
	Lincoln	8	
	Madison	1	
	Morehouse	10	0.0
	Ouachita	71	0.5
	Richland	12	
	Tensas	0	
	Union	10	0.0
	West Carroll	5	
	All Region 8	**129**	**0.3**
Region 9	Livingston	27	2.7
	St. Helena	0	
	St Tammany	74	1.2
	Tangipahoa	32	1.4
	Washington	42	0.2
	All Region 9	**175**	**1.4**
Grand Total		**2409**	

Low <2%	
MedLow 2-5%	
MedHigh 5-10%	
Very High >10%	

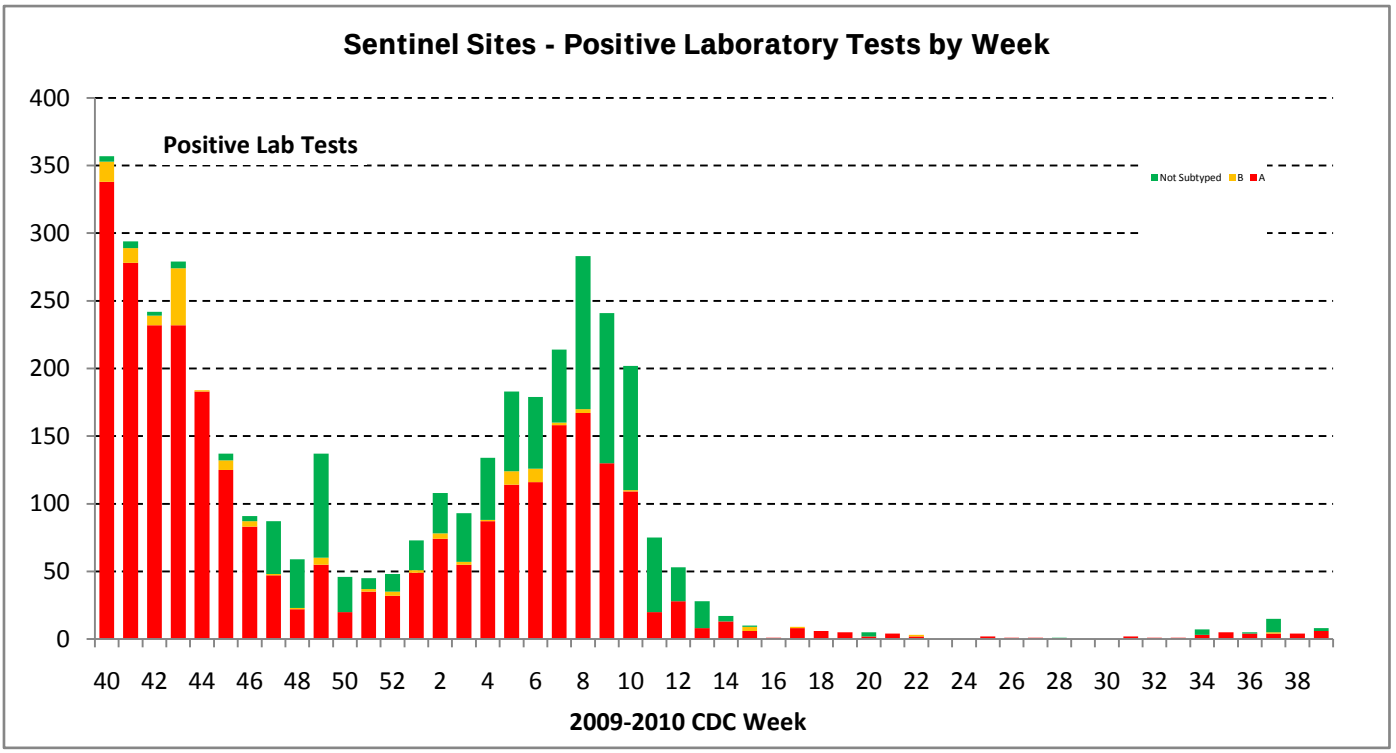
* Cumulative number from week 16 to present

** 4 week average % ILI based on sentinel surveillance data



This chart displays the intensity of influenza activity throughout the state. There are differences between regions. Although not representative of the exact occurrence of H1N1 throughout the state, it appears that H1N1 is spread in all areas of the state and both in urban and rural areas.

Laboratory Surveillance



These graphs show the distribution by virus type. Sentinel site testing is based on rapid test results The State Public Health Laboratory performs PCR testing on all samples. **Influenza A and 2009 Influenza A (H1N1) may overlap.**