

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
Communicable Disease Service
Influenza Activity Summary
Week Ending March 7, 2009 (MMWR Week 9)

Influenza Activity Level: **WIDESPREAD**

Three of three reporting parameters were above state baseline. Eight counties have 2 of 3 parameters above state baseline and fifteen counties have had culture positive samples in the last 3 weeks. Seven counties had both positive cultures and 2 of 3 parameters above baseline.

No Activity- At least 2 of 3 parameters at or below state baseline **AND** no lab confirmed cases

Sporadic – At least 2 of 3 parameters above state baseline **AND** confirmed laboratory cases anywhere in the state within previous 3 weeks **OR** at least one laboratory confirmed outbreak in an institution anywhere in the state

Local – At least 2 of 3 parameters above state baseline in a single county **AND** confirmed laboratory cases from that same county within the previous 3 weeks (other counties may be above baseline without lab confirmed cases) **OR** confirmed outbreaks in 2 or more institutions in a single county

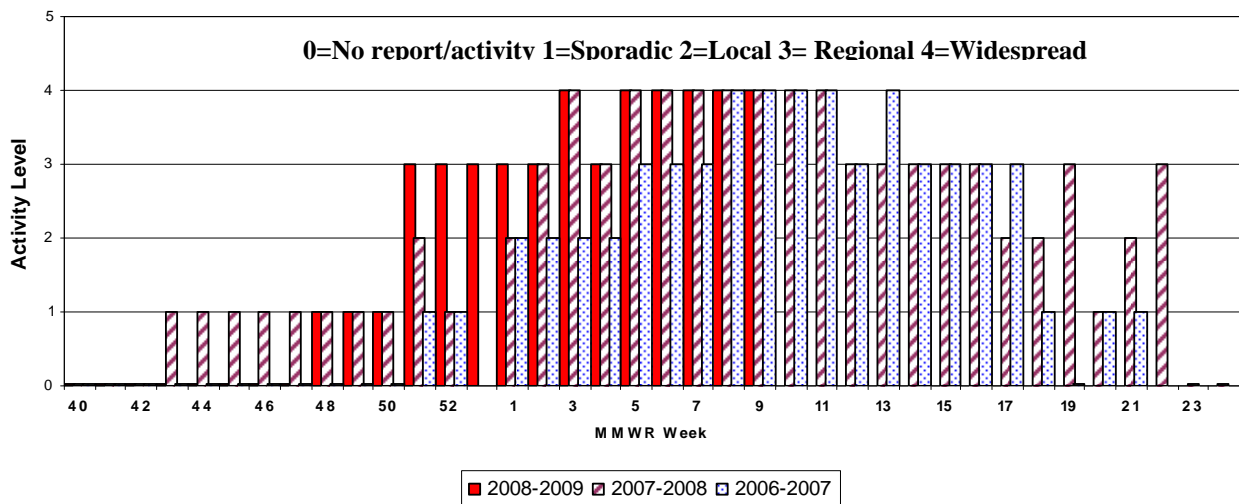
Regional – At least 2 of 3 parameters above state baseline in ≥ 2 but ≤ 10 counties **AND** laboratory confirmed cases from these same counties in the past 3 weeks **OR** confirmed outbreaks institutions in ≥ 2 but ≤ 10 counties

Widespread – At least 2 of 3 parameters above state baseline in > 10 counties **OR** institutional outbreaks in > 10 counties **AND** lab confirmed influenza cases in previous 3 weeks.

Parameter = School, emergency department, or long term care weekly surveillance data

Off season baseline is calculated by taking the average of statewide percentages of ILI for a 3 year (2006, 2007, 2008) period during months when influenza is less likely to be circulating (May-August).

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
Statewide Influenza Activity Levels



Regional Data

Region	Counties in Region	Activity Level
NW Region	Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Warren	REGIONAL
NE Region	Bergen, Essex, Hudson	REGIONAL
CW Region	Hunterdon, Mercer, Somerset	REGIONAL
CE Region	Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Union	REGIONAL
South Region	Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Salem, Cumberland, Gloucester	REGIONAL

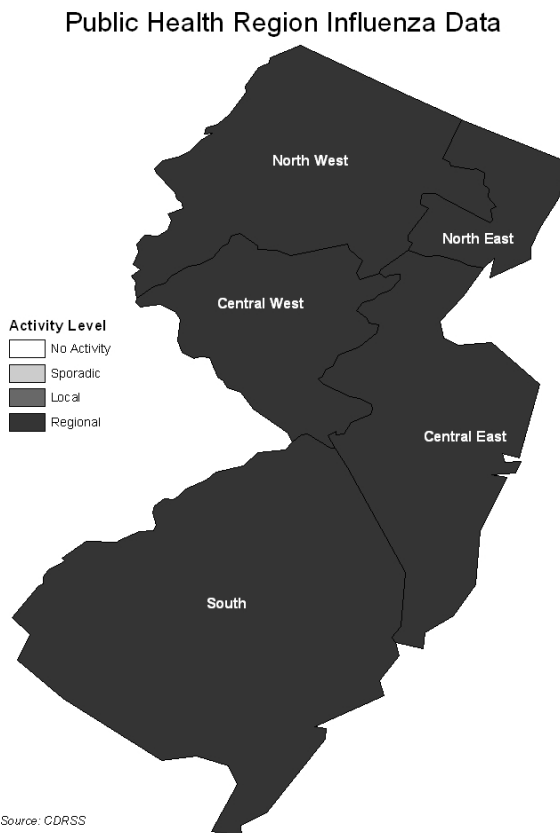
No Activity- At least 2 of 3 parameters at or below state baseline **AND** no lab confirmed cases in the public health region

Sporadic – At least 2 of 3 parameters above state baseline **AND** confirmed laboratory cases anywhere in the public health region **OR** at least one laboratory confirmed outbreak in an institution anywhere in the public health region

Local – At least 2 of 3 parameters above state baseline in a single county of a public health region **AND** confirmed laboratory cases from that same county within the previous 3 weeks (other counties may be above baseline without lab confirmed cases) **OR** confirmed outbreaks in 2 or more institutions in a single county of a public health region

Regional – At least 2 of 3 parameters above state baseline in at least half of the counties of public health region **AND** laboratory confirmed cases from these same counties in the past 3 weeks **OR** confirmed outbreaks institutions in at least half of counties of public health region counties

Widespread – Not used for public health region data



Laboratory Surveillance

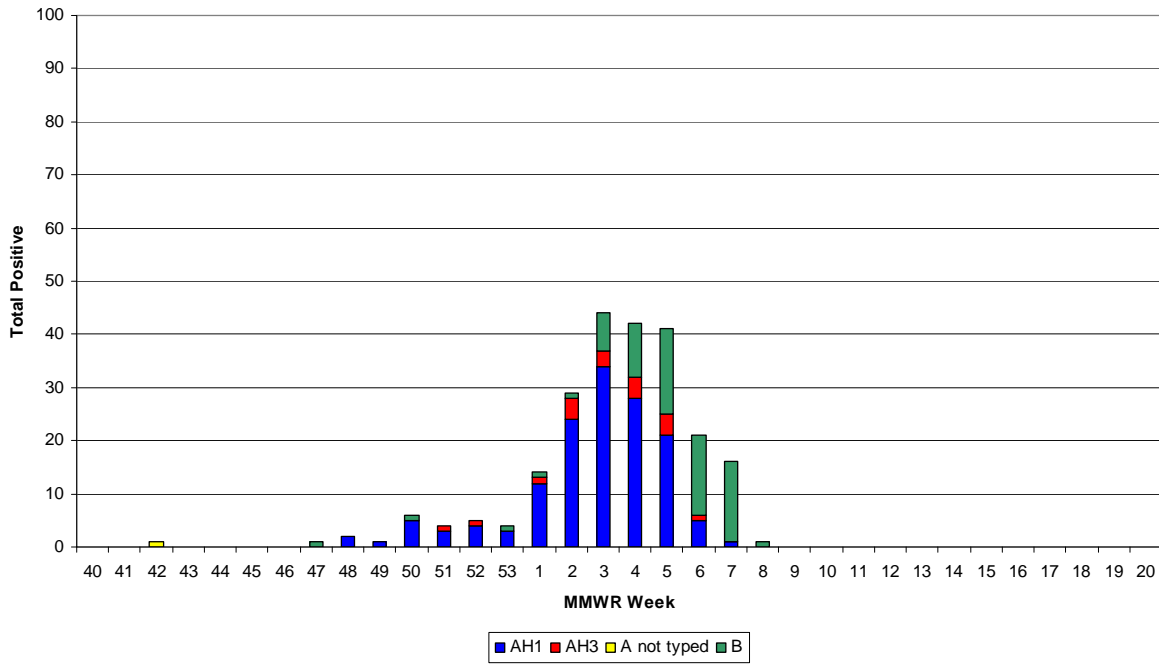
As of week 8, 243 samples were found to be positive by viral culture for influenza AH1, AH3 and influenza B. Rapid and culture results by county are displayed below.

County	Week 40 to Week 8							Week 6, 7, 8						
	Rapid*			Culture*				Rapid*			Culture*			
	A	B	A/B	A H1	A H3	A UNK	B	A	B	A/B	A H1	A H3	A UNK	B
Atlantic County	24	2	0	9	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
Bergen County	16	5	0	6	1	0	5	1	4	0	1	0	0	5
Burlington County	34	6	0	1	0	0	0	11	6	0	0	0	0	0
Camden County	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cape May County	16	2	0	8	0	0	2	6	1	0	0	0	0	2
Cumberland County	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Essex County	143	41	13	13	2	0	8	42	15	2	1	0	0	6
Gloucester County	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Hudson County	28	4	0	11	2	0	5	9	1	0	0	0	0	2
Hunterdon County	4	0	42	13	4	0	7	0	0	21	0	0	0	3
Mercer County	2	0	0	5	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Middlesex County	20	2	0	11	1	0	3	5	2	0	2	0	0	1
Monmouth County	21	0	51	8	1	0	3	0	0	16	0	0	0	0
Morris County	0	0	0	12	1	0	10	0	0	0	2	0	0	4
Ocean County	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passaic County	35	4	0	2	0	0	0	13	2	0	0	0	0	0
Salem County	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Somerset County	0	0	12	10	3	0	8	0	0	3	0	1	0	5
Sussex County	28	15	0	1	0	0	1	9	8	0	0	0	0	0
Union County	4	1	0	17	3	0	14	3	0	0	0	0	0	6
Warren County	16	7	0	3	0	0	1	10	5	0	0	0	0	1
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State Total	391	89	118	134	19	0	87	115	46	42	7	1	0	49

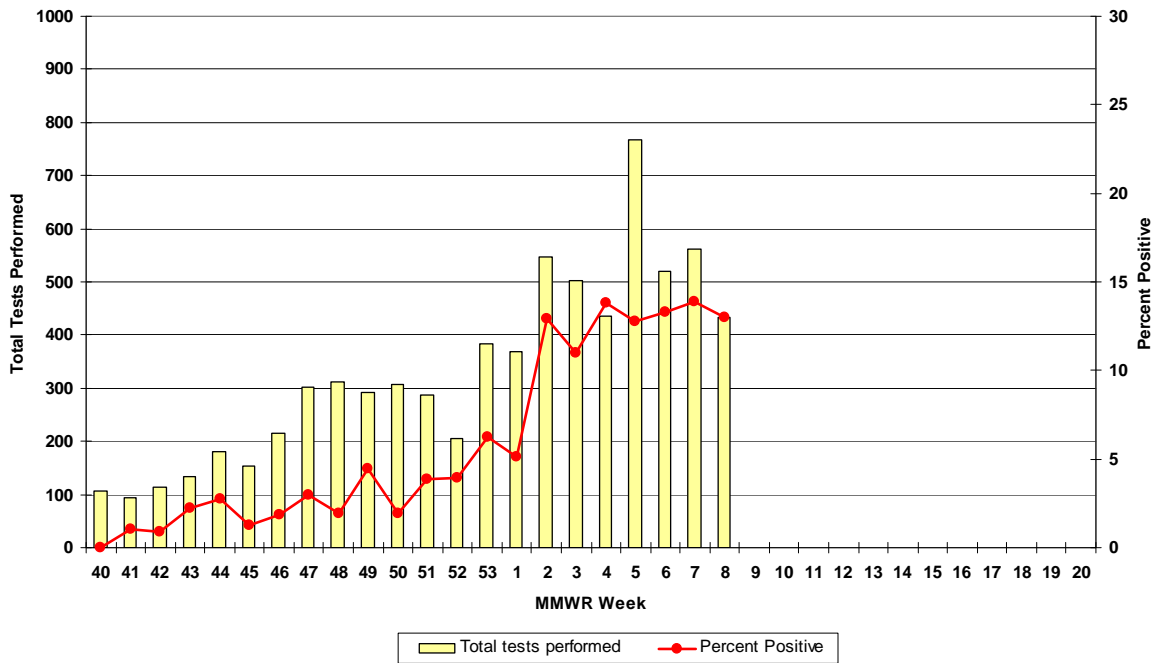
*Rapid data is acquired from facilities reporting rapid influenza tests via NREVSS or CDRSS ILI module. Culture results are obtained from the LIMS system at PHEL, hospital viral culture laboratories via NREVSS or commercial laboratories reporting in CDRSS. County of residence as provided by the laboratory is used to assign culture results to a county. If county of residence is not available, the county of the facility reporting is utilized.

**Thirty (20 AH1, 10 AH3) additional samples were found to positive by PCR but tested negative via culture. These results are not incorporated in the table above.

**Influenza Laboratory Report
Viral Culture Positive Specimens by Week
2008-2009 Influenza Season**



**Influenza Rapid Antigen Tests
Total and Percent Positive
2008-2009 Influenza Season**

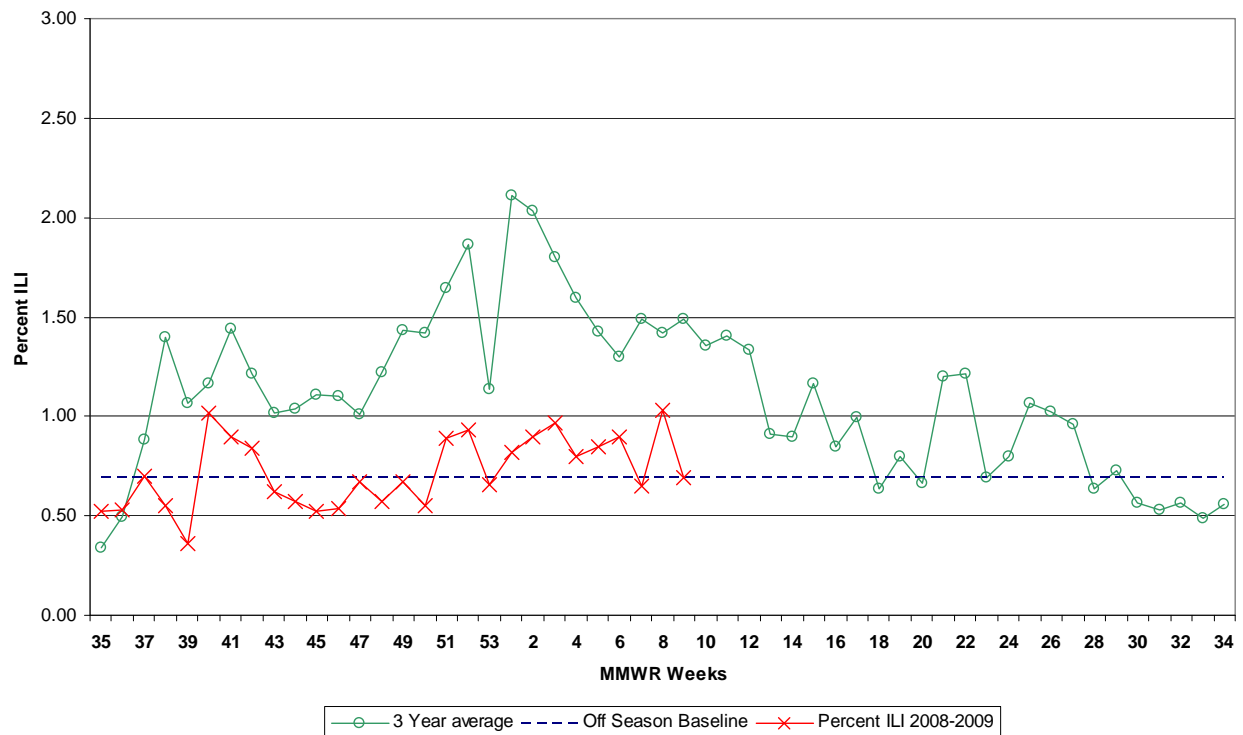


Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Surveillance*

Long-term Care Facilities

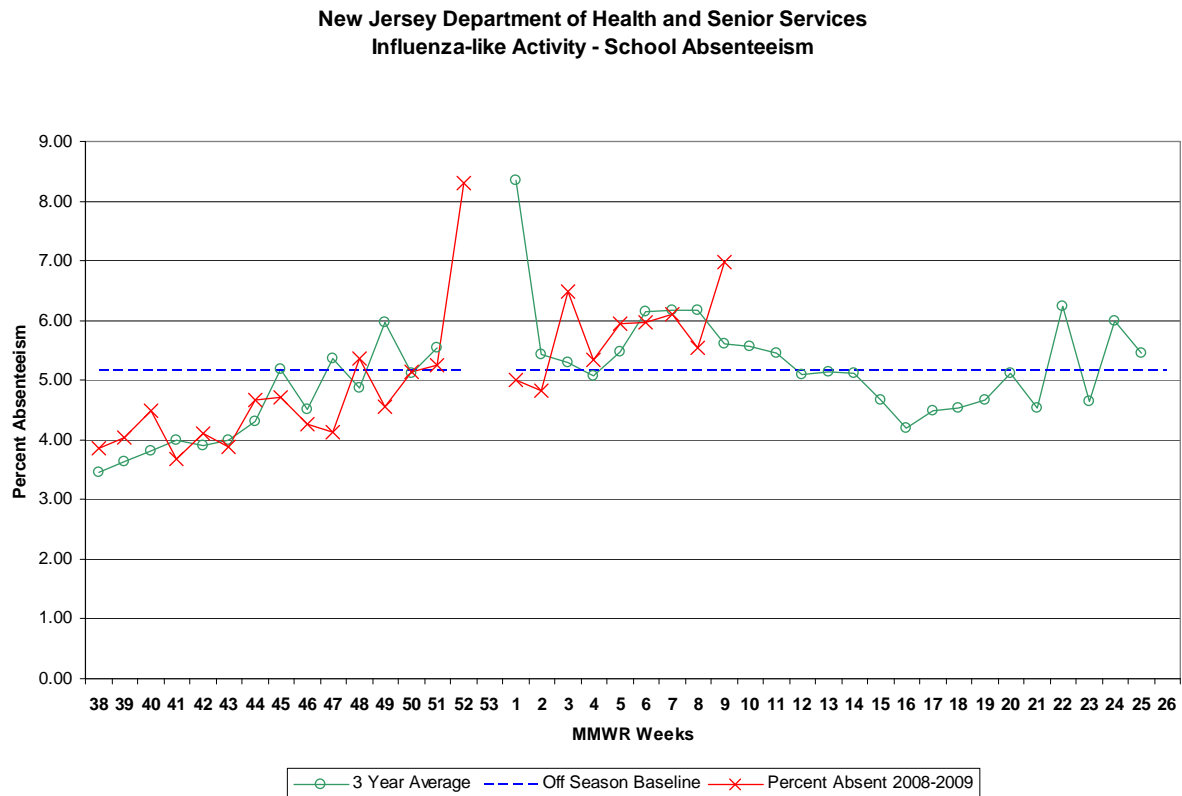
During week 9, 0.69% ILI was reported statewide from long term care facilities. This is a decrease over the previous week (1.03%). The percent ILI for each county ranged from 0.00% to 1.81%. The percent ILI for this same week last year was 1.38% in long-term care facilities. The percent ILI for the northeast (1.25%) public health region was above the state baseline (0.69%). One new respiratory outbreak in a long term care facility was received in week 9.

**New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
Influenza-like Activity - Long Term Care Facilities**



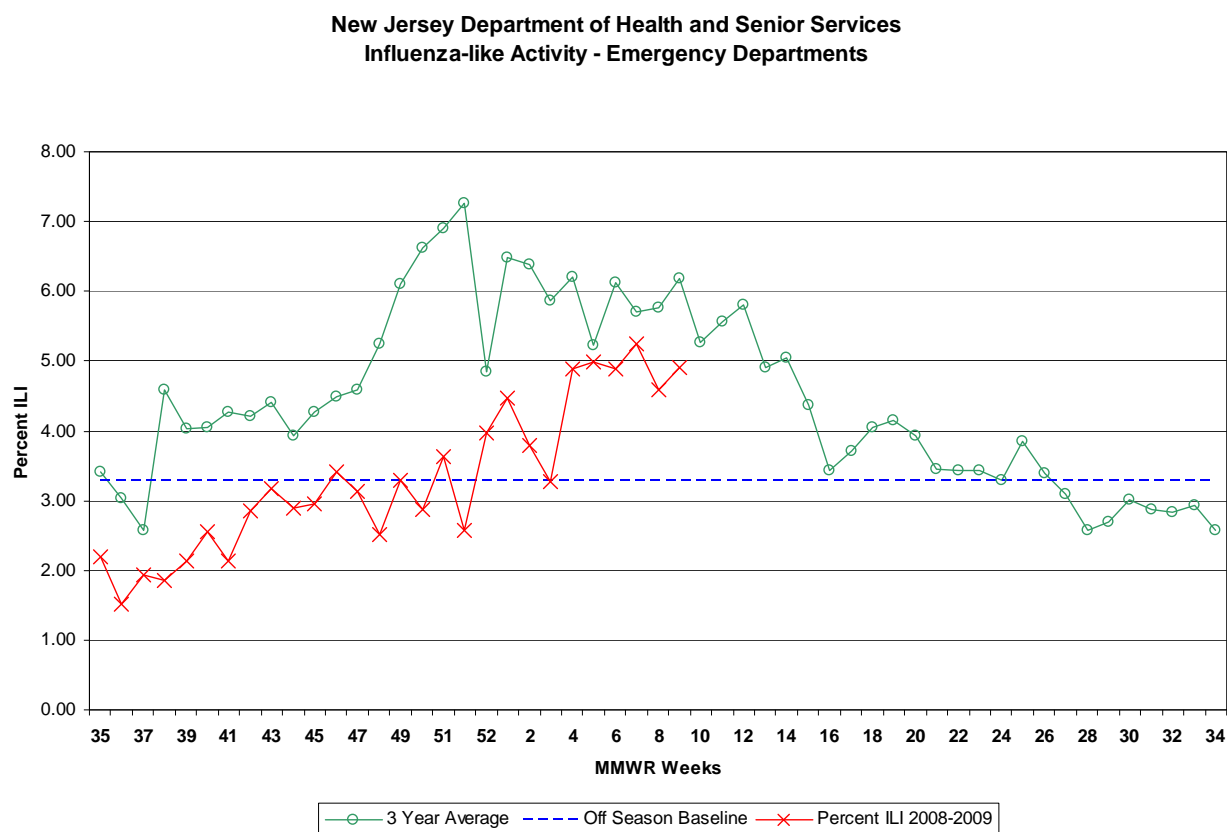
School Absenteeism

During week 9, schools reported 6.97% absenteeism. This is an increase over the previous week (5.54%). The percent ILI for each county ranged from 2.88 to 12.75%. The percent absent for this same week last year was 5.33%. The percent ILI for the northeast (8.09%), central east (7.24%) and the south (8.14%) public health regions were above the state baseline (5.17%).
NOTE: Many schools were closed or had delayed openings on report date.



Emergency Departments

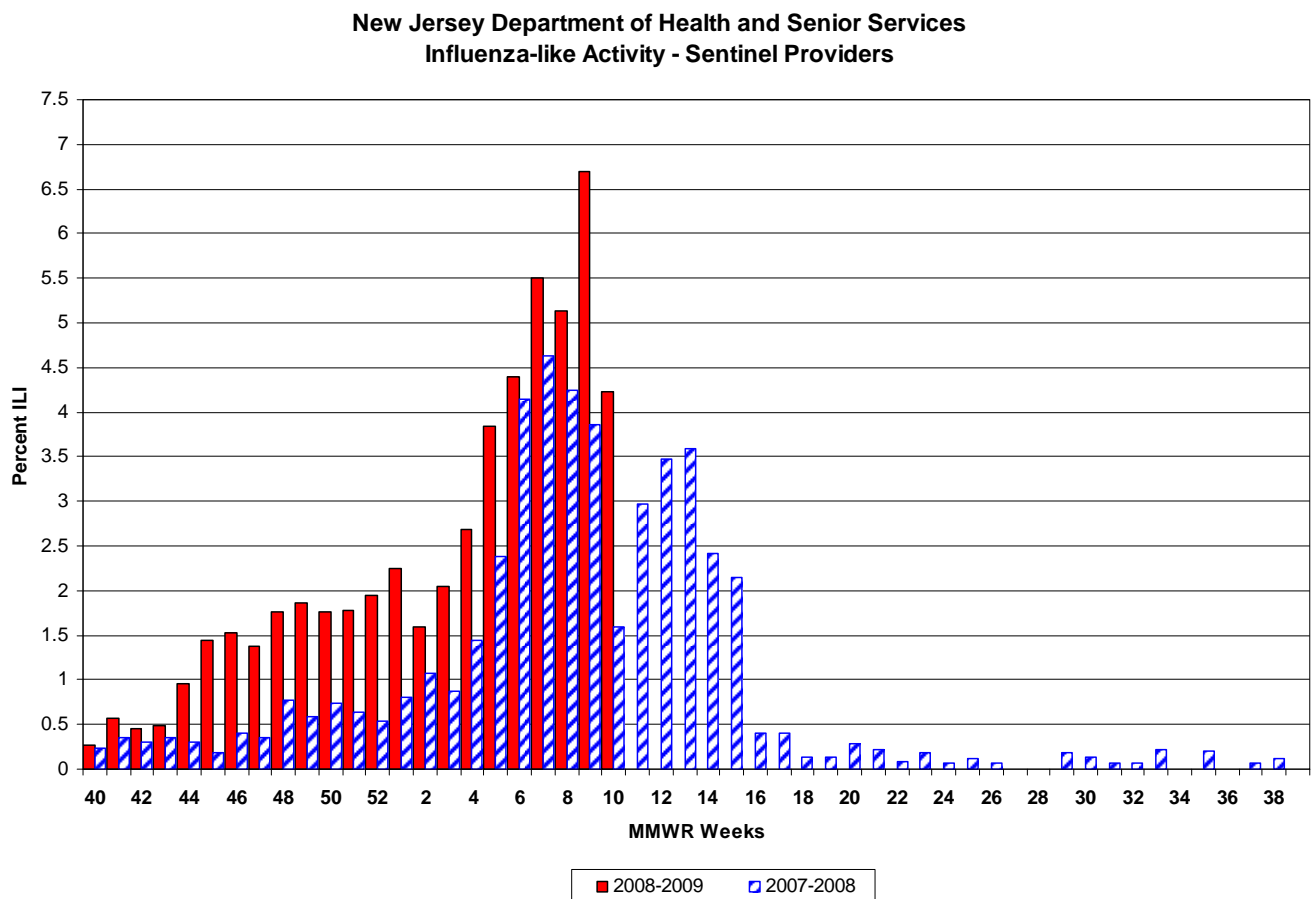
During week 9, 4.91% of ILI was reported statewide from emergency departments. This is an increase over the previous week (4.59%). The percent ILI for each county ranged from 1.49 to 10.96%. The percent ILI for this same week last year was 6.24% in emergency departments. The percent ILI for the northwest (5.27%), northeast (5.88%), central west (2.99%), central east (4.71%), and south (4.00%) public health regions were above the state baseline (2.60%).



Sentinel Provider Surveillance

During week 9, 4.23% of sentinel provider patient visits were due to ILI. These data reflect reports from eleven (16%) of the enrolled sentinel providers.

During week 8, 6.70% of sentinel provider patient visits were due to ILI. These data reflect reports from seventeen (38%) of the enrolled sentinel providers.



Pediatric Influenza Surveillance

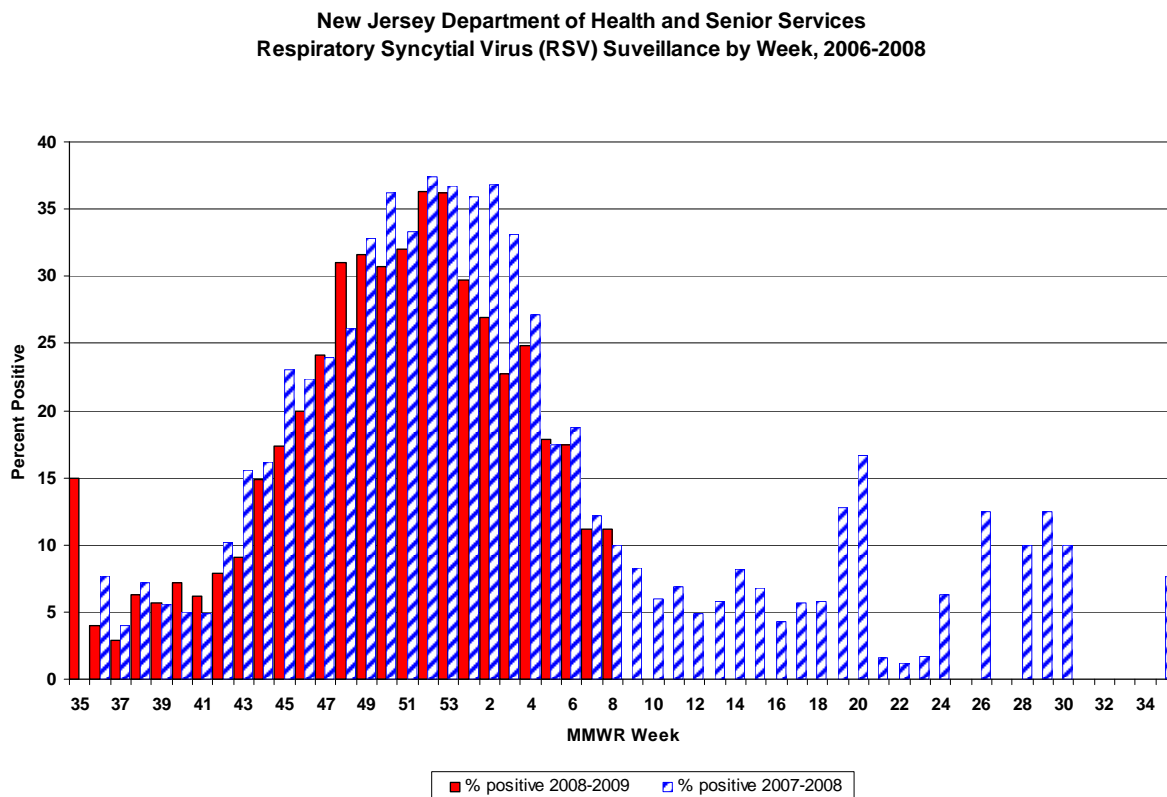
To date, NJDHSS has received seventeen reports of pediatric illness meeting the case definition. No deaths have been reported as of week 8.

122 City Mortality Report

During week 8, 5.94% of all deaths reported by the vital statistics offices in 6 New Jersey cities (i.e., Camden, Elizabeth, Newark, Paterson, Trenton) were due to pneumonia or influenza. This is an increase over the previous week (4.55%). The percentage of death due to pneumonia or influenza for this same week last year was 3.31%.

RSV Reports

During week 8, 11.18% of all RSV samples tested were positive. This is an increase over the previous week 11.16%. The percent of samples positive for RSV for this same week last year was 9.96%.



Additional Information

For additional information regarding influenza surveillance please visit the following websites.

<http://nj.gov/health/flu/surveillance.shtml>

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>

* Off Season baseline is calculated by taking the average of statewide percentages of ILI for a 3 year (2006, 2007, 2008) period during months when influenza is less likely to be circulating (May-August).

**Three year average is an average of the 2005-2006, 2006-2007, 2007-2008 influenza seasons.

NOTE: CDC classifies the beginning of the MMWR year using the day of the week January 1 falls. Since January 1, 2009 fell on Thursday, the week ending January 3, 2009 is classified as Week 53. Since Week 53 has not been used for the past 3 influenza seasons, an average of weeks 51, 52, 1 and 2 was used to estimate data reported for week 53 in the past 3 influenza seasons.

	Long Term Care			Schools			Hospital Emergency Department			RSV Tests	
County	# Enrolled	# Reports Rec'd	% ILI	# Enrolled	# Reports Rec'd	% Absent	# Enrolled	# Reports Rec'd	% ILI	# Positive	Total Tests Performed
ATLANTIC	4	1	0.00	19	16	12.28	4	4	3.69	8	38
BERGEN	3	0	0.00	25	10	2.88	6	0	0.00	2	11
BURLINGTON	6	3	0.00	115	63	6.93	3	3	1.49	5	18
CAMDEN	7	0	0.00	17	0	0.00	7	0	0.00	3	54
CAPE MAY	6	4	0.20	11	8	7.67	1	1	9.15	2	9
CUMBERLAND	6	3	1.32	18	2	7.47	3	3	8.00	1	9
ESSEX	18	4	0.77	34	2	3.97	11	10	6.07	12	124
GLOUCESTER	5	3	0.00	4	4	6.14	2	2	2.33	2	7
HUDSON	10	3	1.81	92	53	8.55	6	1	4.76	0	18
HUNTERDON	4	3	0.36	8	8	4.32	1	1	2.99	2	10
MERCER	11	0	0.00	26	0	0.00	5	0	0.00	0	0
MIDDLESEX	2	1	0.00	89	22	5.00	5	0	0.00	8	89
MONMOUTH	14	3	0.71	24	14	11.36	5	3	1.68	5	30
MORRIS	2	0	0.00	13	13	3.03	4	1	2.26	2	20
OCEAN	6	0	0.00	20	3	12.75	4	0	0.00	2	10
PASSAIC	9	5	0.80	23	11	6.87	6	2	4.39	1	16
SALEM	4	1	1.20	5	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	0	3
SOMERSET	5	3	0.93	63	15	3.45	2	0	0.00	0	2
SUSSEX	5	5	0.36	22	22	4.91	2	2	5.88	0	5
UNION	4	0	0.00	130	9	5.95	5	5	7.27	0	14
UNKNOWN	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
WARREN	7	2	0.00	21	11	4.15	2	2	10.96	0	5
NW Region	23	12	0.54	79	57	4.96	14	7	5.27	3	46
NE Region	31	7	1.25	151	65	8.09	23	11	5.88	14	153
CW Region	20	6	0.67	97	23	3.71	8	1	2.99	2	12
CE Region	26	4	0.63	263	48	7.24	19	8	4.71	15	143
South Region	38	15	0.49	189	93	8.14	21	13	4.00	21	138
State Total	138	44	0.69	779	286	6.97	85	40	4.91	55	492