Florida Influenza Surveillance

Week Ending October 30, 2004 (Week 43)

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Summary

Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity increased in the Southwest region for the week ending October 30, 2004 (Week 43); however, the reported ILI activity level in that region, as well as all other regions remained below the baseline. Brevard County and Hillsborough County Health Departments reported sporadic ILI activity during week 43, while 32 counties reported no activity. Thirty-three counties did not report their ILI activity.

Florida Influenza and Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Surveillance

Table 1 shows the breakdown of specimen testing and weighted ILI activity by region. The overall weighted percent ILI activity for the state for the week ending October 30, 2004 was 1.07%. This is a statistically significant (p = 0.0017) decrease from the previous week’s activity of 1.49%. The Centraleast region reported the highest activity (3.57%) and the Northcentral region reported the lowest activity (0.14%).

No specimen results were reported by the electronic laboratory reporting system from the Jacksonville Central and Tampa Branch laboratories for influenza isolate testing during the week ending October 30, 2004.

TABLE 1. INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS REPORTING AND SPECIMEN TESTING SUMMARY BY REGION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total Specimens Tested</th>
<th>A H1N1</th>
<th>A H3N2</th>
<th>A-Unk</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Percent Positive</th>
<th>Reported ILI (Weighted %)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centraleast</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centralwest</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northcentral</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Influenza-like Illness Graphs By Region

- Baseline: A bar line that exceeds the baseline indicates moderate ILI activity
- Threshold: A bar line that exceeds the threshold indicates high ILI activity
Influenza Surveillance — Definitions and Reminders

Influenza Surveillance Regions

Centralearnest: Brevard, Indian River, Lake, Martin, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, St. Lucie and Volusia.

Centralwest: Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Sumter.


Northwest: Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton and Washington.

Southeast: Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach.

Southwest: Charlotte, Collier, Desoto, Glade, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Okeechobee and Sarasota.

Definitions of the influenza activity codes

No Activity: No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in the number of cases of ILI.

Sporadic: Small numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases or a single influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI.

Local: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.

Regional: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least two but less than half the regions of the state.

Widespread: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least half the regions of the state.

Important Reminders

* Influenza activity reporting by sentinel providers is voluntary.

* The influenza surveillance data is used to answer the question of where, when, and what viruses are circulating. It can be used to determine if influenza activity is increasing or decreasing, but it cannot be used to ascertain how many people have become ill with influenza so far this season.

* Reporting is incomplete for this week. Numbers may change as more reports are received.