Florida Influenza Surveillance

Week Ending November 27, 2004 (Week 47)

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Summary

Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity increased across the state for the week ending November 27, 2004 (Week 47). However, the reported ILI activities in all regions are at or below the baseline levels. Four County Health Departments (Brevard, Collier, St. Lucie and Volusia) reported sporadic ILI activity during Week 47 and one CHD, Palm Beach County, reported Localized ILI activity. Thirty-two counties reported no ILI activity and thirty counties did not report an activity code.

Florida Influenza and Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Surveillance

Table 1 outlines the breakdown of specimen testing and weighted ILI activity by region. The overall weighted percent ILI activity for the state for the week ending November 27, 2004 was 2.07%. This is a statistically significant (p < 0.0003) increase from the previous week’s activity of 0.88%. The Centraleast region reported the highest activity (3.70%). The Northwest region reported the lowest influenza activity (0.00/%) in the state, however, not all sentinels in this region reported at the time of analysis.

<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* for Week 47: Week ending Nov. 27, 2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centraleast</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>3.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centralwest</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>1.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northcentral</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25.00%</td>
<td>2.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>2.61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the previous three weeks, the Jacksonville Central and Tampa Branch laboratories received twenty-three specimens for influenza isolate testing. Of these specimens, one isolate was found positive for Adenovirus, one isolate was found positive for Enterovirus, one isolate was
found positive for influenza A (H3N2) and one isolate was positive for influenza B (Hong Kong-like).

Since October 3, 2004, the Jacksonville Central and Tampa Branch laboratories have tested 63 isolates for influenza. Seven of the 63 (11%) specimens were positive for respiratory viruses: three isolates were influenza B (43%), two were Adenovirus (29%), one was Enterovirus (14%) and one was influenza A H3N2 (14%).

**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

**Centraleast**: 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.