Florida Influenza Surveillance

Week Ending December 4, 2004 (Week 48)

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Summary

Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity increased in the Northeast region for the week ending December 4, 2004 (Week 48). However, the reported ILI activities in all regions were below the baseline levels. Five County Health Departments (Alachua, Brevard, Collier, Sarasota and Volusia) reported sporadic ILI activity during Week 48. Thirty-six counties reported no ILI activity and twenty-six 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 December 4, 2004 was 1.63%. This is a statistically significant (p < 0.005) decrease from the previous week's activity of 2.07%. The Centraleast region reported the highest activity (3.07%). The Northwest region reported the lowest influenza activity (0.28%) in the state, however, not all sentinels in this region reported at the time of analysis.

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* for Week 48: Week ending Dec. 4, 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>3.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centralwest</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
<td>0.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northcentral</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>2.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50.00%</td>
<td>1.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>1.07%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the previous three weeks, the Jacksonville Central and Tampa Branch laboratories received twenty-two specimens for influenza isolate testing. Of these specimens, one isolate was found positive for Adenovirus, one isolate was found positive for influenza A (H3N2) and three isolates were positive for influenza B.
Since October 3, 2004, the Jacksonville Central and Tampa Branch laboratories have tested 83 isolates, of which, nine (10.84%) tested positive for respiratory viruses. Of the isolates positive for respiratory viruses: six were influenza B (66.67%), two were Adenovirus (22.22%) and one was influenza A H3N2 (11.11%).

**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.

**Northcentral:** Columbia, Dixie, Franklin, Gadsden, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, and Wakulla.

**Northeast:** Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns.

**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.