

FLORIDA INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

Week 40: October 1st—October 7th 2006



Aimee Pragle, MS, Respiratory Disease Epidemiologist
Lakisha Thomas, Influenza Surveillance Coordinator
D'Juan Harris, MSP, GIS Specialist
Aaron Kite-Powell, MS, Florida EIS Officer



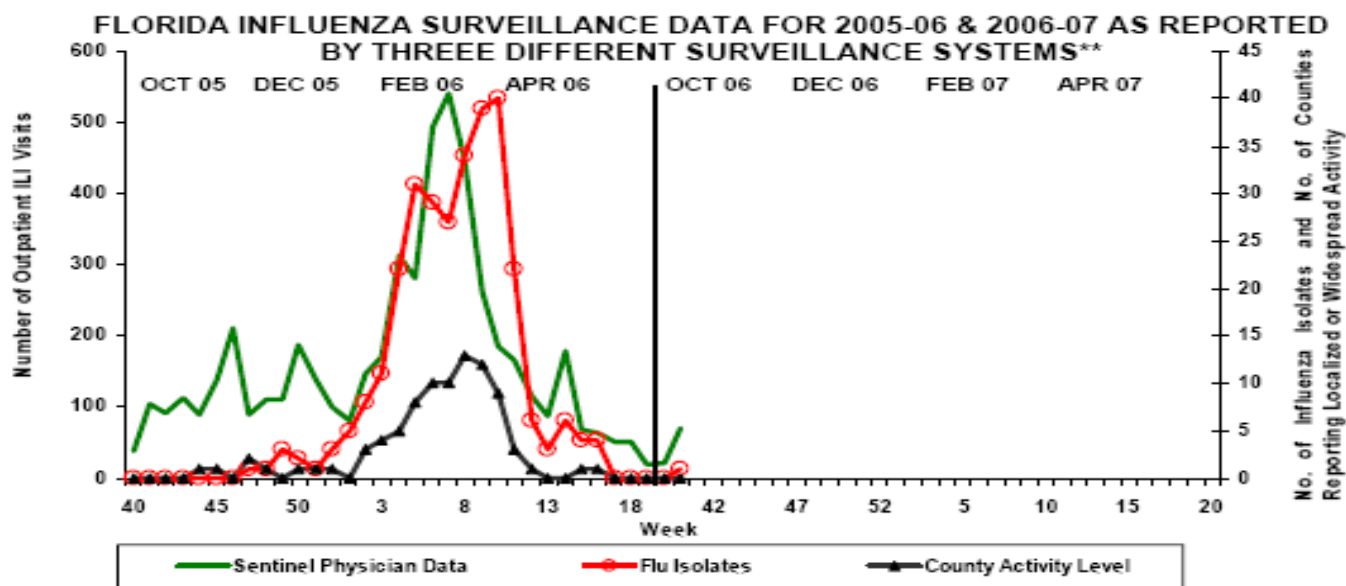
IN THIS ISSUE:

- I. Summary
- II. FSPISN Influenza-like Illness Statewide Graph
- III. FDOH Laboratory Surveillance
- IV. Laboratory and Influenza-like Illness Surveillance by Region
- V. County Influenza Activity Map
- VI. Reports of Influenza or Influenza-like illness Outbreaks
- VII. Notifiable Disease Reports: Influenza-associated deaths in children & post-influenza infection encephalitis
- VIII. Summary of Worldwide A/H5N1 Influenza Activity

I. SUMMARY

This is the first weekly Florida influenza surveillance report for the 2006-07 season. Influenza surveillance* in Florida consists of five surveillance components: 1) Florida Sentinel Physician Influenza Surveillance Network (FSPISN); 2) State laboratory viral surveillance; 3) County influenza activity levels; 4) Notifiable Disease Reports: Influenza-associated deaths in children & post-influenza infection encephalitis; 5) Influenza or ILI outbreaks.

During week 40, the first week of the 2006-07 influenza season, statewide influenza activity was sporadic. The proportion of patient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) as reported by the Florida Sentinel Physician Influenza Surveillance Network was 1.60 percent and this is below the state baseline of 2.08 percent. One specimen of two tested by Bureau of Laboratories was positive for influenza. Eleven counties reported sporadic activity; and 37 counties reported no activity. Nineteen counties did not report. The graph below shows the progression of the 2005-06 & 2006-07 Florida influenza seasons as monitored by three** of five surveillance systems.



*The purposes of these surveillance systems are to determine when and where influenza activity is occurring, to identify circulating viruses, to detect changes in the circulating influenza viruses, to track patterns of influenza-associated morbidity and mortality and estimate the overall impact of influenza in the state of Florida.

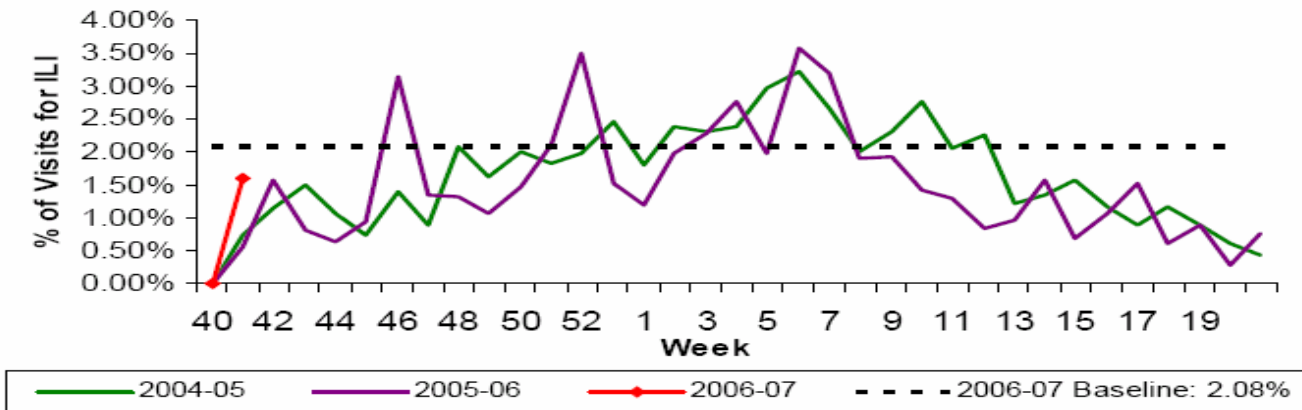
**1) FSPISN, 2) State Laboratory Viral Surveillance, and 3) County Activity Levels.

Find more information at: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/htopics/flu/index.htm

II. FSPISN INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS STATEWIDE GRAPH

During week 40, 1.60%* of patient visits to Florida sentinel providers were due to ILI. This percentage is below the statewide baseline of 2.08%** . The percentage of visits ranged from 0.00% in the Northeast region to 2.62% in the Southeast region. For the 2005-06 influenza season the statewide ILI activity percent was 0.56 percent for week 40.

Percentage of Visits for Influenza-like Illness Reported by Sentinel Providers Statewide Summary 2006-07, 2005-06, and 2004-05



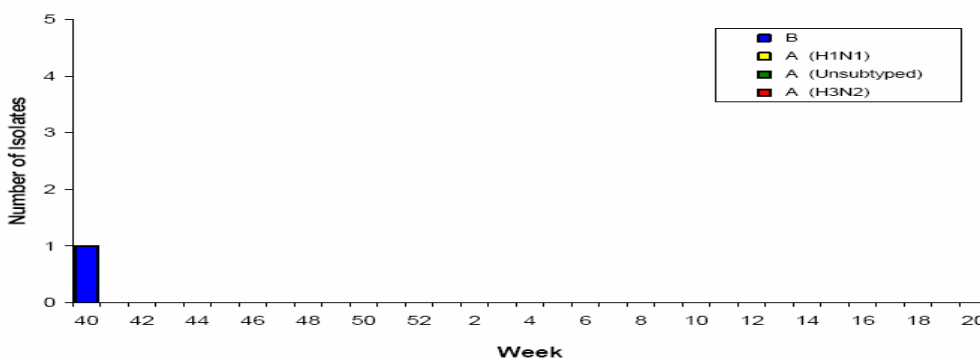
*FSPISN reporting is incomplete for this week (50%). Numbers may change as more reports are received.

**The baseline is calculated from the previous 3 years of FSPISN data. Only weeks with 10% or greater of laboratory specimens testing positive are included in calculating the baseline. A line exceeding the baseline indicates moderate activity.

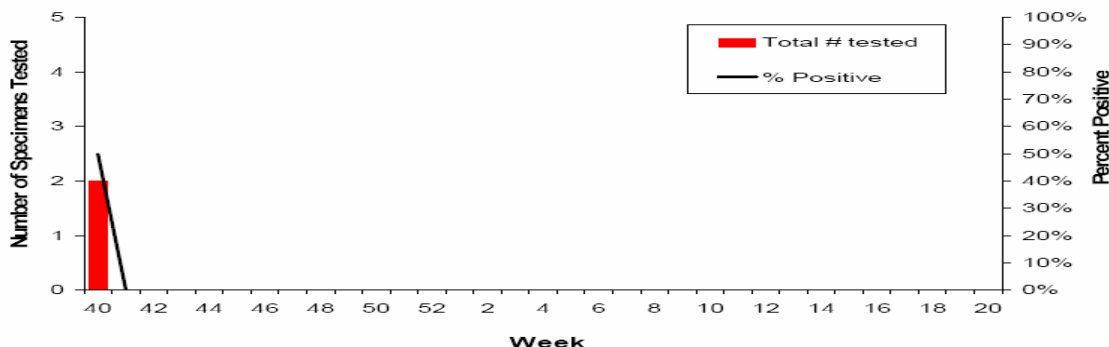
III. FDOH LABORATORY SURVEILLANCE

Since October 1, 2006, Florida Department of Health Laboratories tested a total of two specimens for influenza viruses and one (50%) was positive. The specimen was an influenza B virus. The influenza B virus has been subtyped as Influenza B Malaysia.

FDOH State Laboratory Influenza Virus Isolates 2006-07

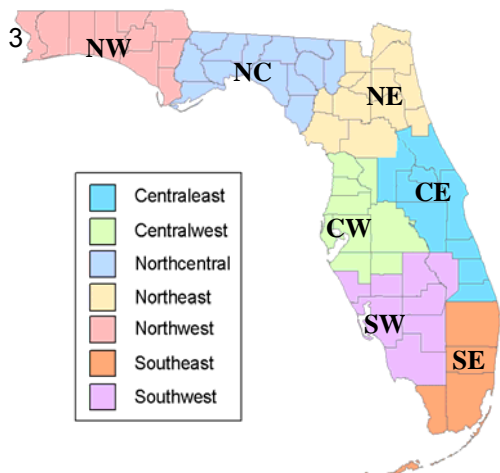


Number of Influenza Specimens Tested by FDOH State Laboratories, 2006-07



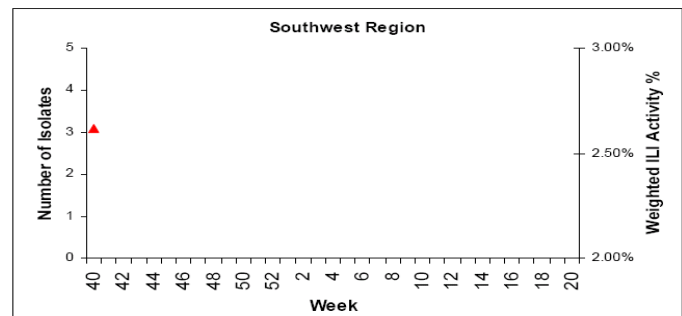
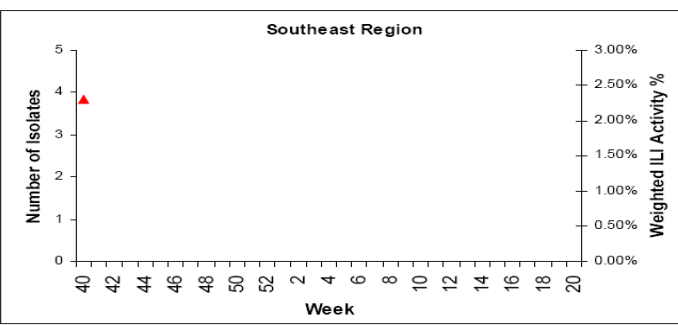
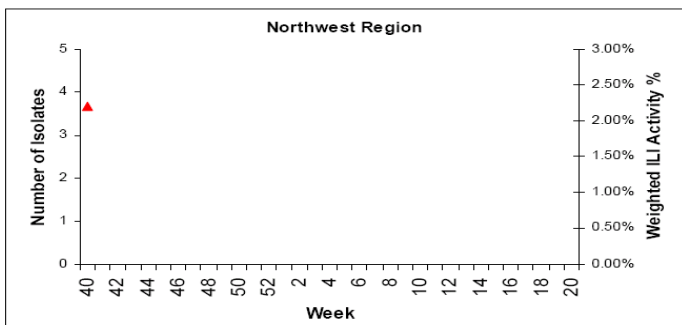
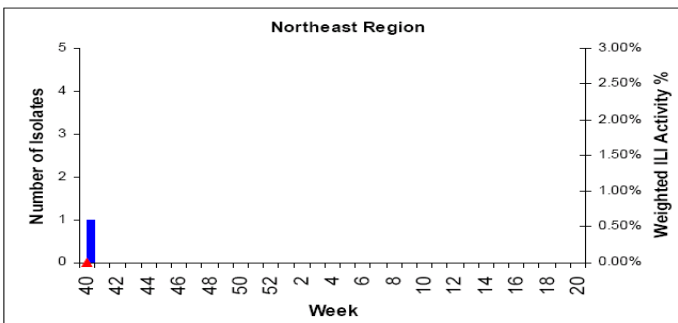
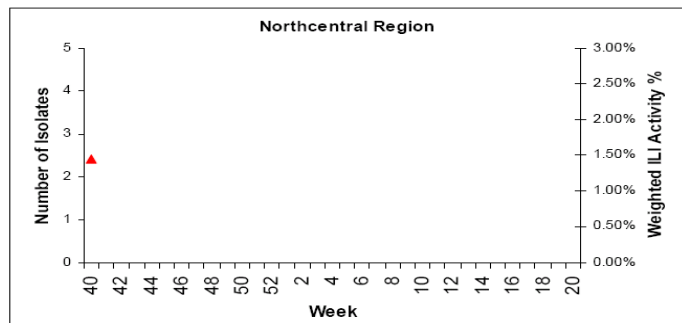
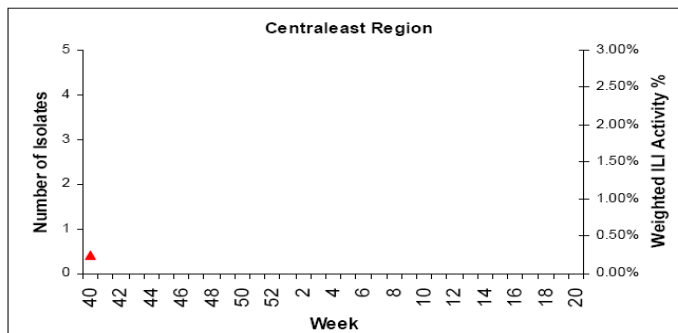
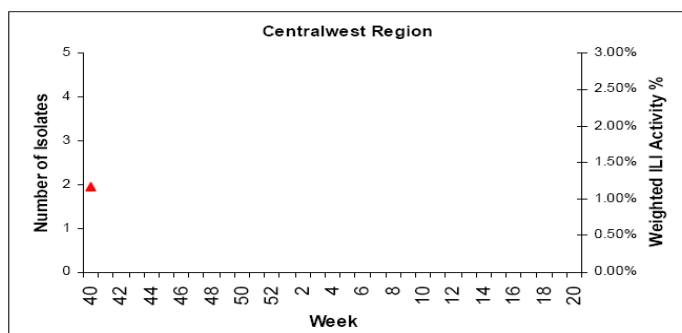
IV. LABORATORY AND INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE BY REGION

Influenza Surveillance Regions



The table below shows the weighted ILI activity by region as reported by Florida sentinel physicians for the 2005-06 & 2006-07 seasons. The graphs below include ILI activity as reported by sentinel physicians and FDOH laboratory data.

Week 40: FSPISN Weighted ILI Activity, by Region 2005-06 & 2006-07 Seasons		
REGION	2006-07 ILI %	2005-06 ILI %
Centraleast	0.25%	0.34%
Centralwest	1.17%	1.95%
Northcentral	1.45%	0.14%
Northeast	0.00%	0.12%
Northwest	2.21%	0.00%
Southeast	2.30%	0.35%
Southwest	2.62%	0.00%



- Influenza A specimens FDOH Laboratories
- Influenza B specimens FDOH Laboratories
- ▲ % of visits for ILI, reported by sentinel providers

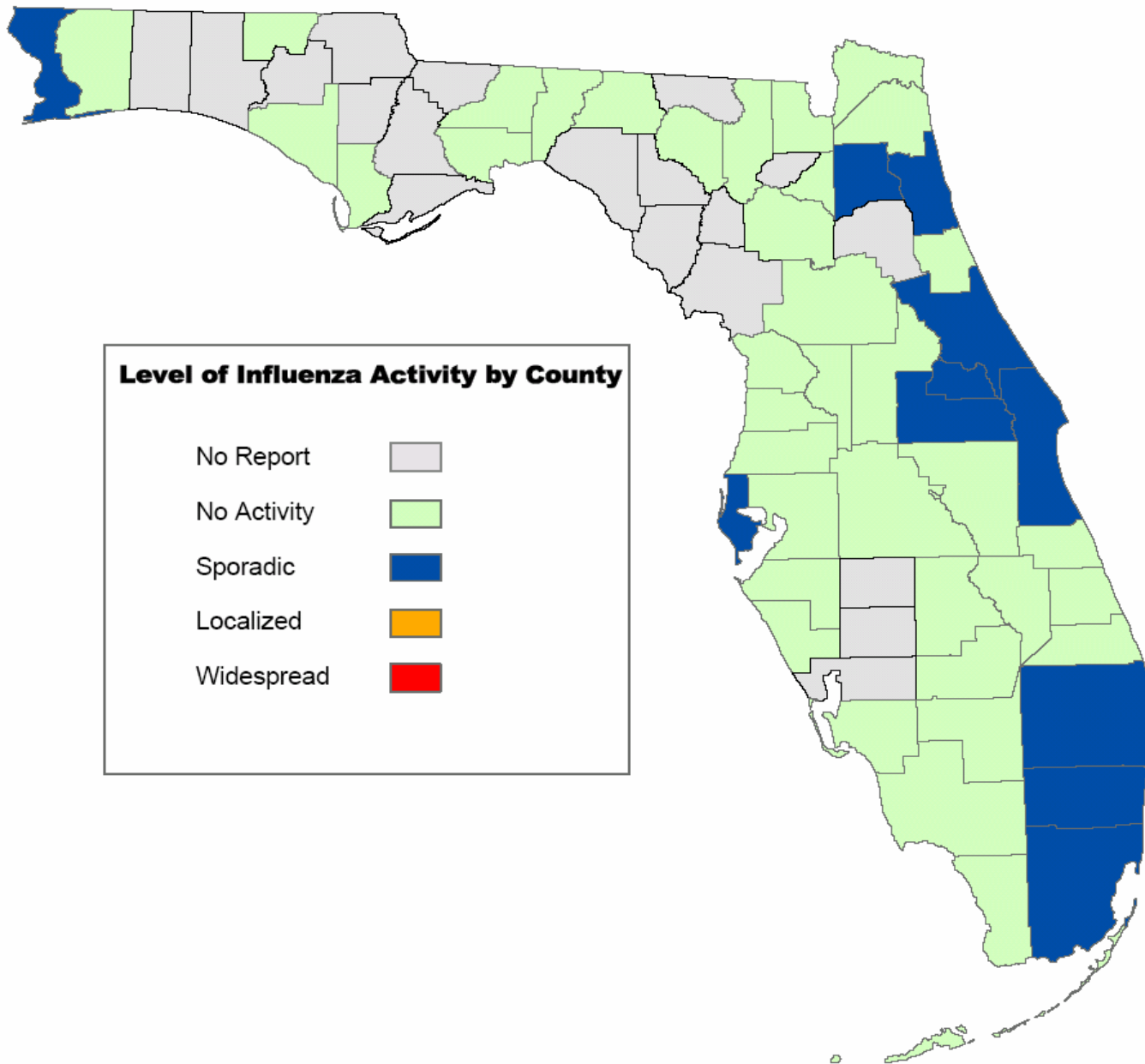
V. COUNTY INFLUENZA ACTIVITY MAP

During week 40, 11 counties (Brevard, Broward, Clay, Miami-Dade, Escambia, Orange, Palm Beach, Pinellas, St. Johns, Seminole, and Volusia) reported sporadic activity. Thirty-seven counties reported no activity. Nineteen counties did not report.






Weekly County Influenza Activity

(Week ending October 7, 2006 - Week 40)

County influenza activity levels are reported by county health department epidemiologists



Level of Influenza Activity by County

No Report	
No Activity	
Sporadic	
Localized	
Widespread	



1:3724185



Florida Department of Health
Bureau of Epidemiology

Disclaimer:
This product is for reference purposes only and is not to be construed as a legal document. Any reliance on the information contained herein is at the user's own risk. The Florida Department of Health and its agents assume no responsibility for any use of the information contained herein or any loss resulting therefrom. Map printed October 11, 2006

COUNTY INFLUENZA ACTIVITY LEVEL DEFINITIONS

0 = No Activity:

Overall clinical activity remains low with no laboratory confirmed cases[†] in the county.

1 = Sporadic:

- And/or {
- a. Isolated cases of laboratory confirmed influenza[†] in the county.
 - b. An ILI[§] outbreak in a single setting[‡] in the county. (No detection of decreased ILI[§] activity by surveillance systems*)

2=Localized:

- And/or {
- a. An increase of ILI[§] activity detected by a *single* surveillance system* within the county. (An increase in ILI[§] activity has not been detected by *multiple* ILI surveillance systems.)
 - b. Two or more outbreaks (ILI[§] or lab confirmed[†]) detected in a *single* setting[‡] in the county.

AND

Recent (within past three weeks) laboratory evidence[†] of influenza activity in the county.

3=Widespread:

- And/or {
- a. An increase in ILI[§] activity detected in ≥ 2 surveillance systems in the county.
 - b. Two or more outbreaks ((ILI[§] or laboratory confirmed[†]) detected in *multiple* settings[‡] in the county.

No Report: (No report was received from the county at the time of publication)

[†] Laboratory confirmed case = case confirmed by rapid diagnostic test, antigen detection, culture, or PCR.

[§] ILI = Influenza-like illness, fever $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ AND sore throat and/or cough *in the absence* of another known cause.

*ILI surveillance system activity can be assessed using a variety of surveillance systems including sentinel providers, school/workplace absenteeism, long-term care facility (LTCF) surveillance, correctional institution surveillance, hospital emergency department surveillance and laboratory surveillance.

[‡]Settings include institutional settings (LTCFs, hospitals, prisons, schools, companies) & the community.

VI. REPORTS OF INFLUENZA OR INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) OUTBREAKS

As of the week ending October 7, 2006, no outbreaks influenza or influenza-like illness in the community or institutional setting were reported to the Bureau of Epidemiology.

Influenza and ILI outbreaks should be reported via EpiCom at: <https://www.epicom.fl.net> on the Influenza Forum.

VII. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE REPORTS: INFLUENZA-ASSOCIATED DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN (<18 YEARS) & POST-INFLUENZA INFECTION ENCEPHALITIS

As of the week ending October 7, 2006, no influenza-associated deaths among those <18 years of age and/ or post influenza infection encephalitis were reported in the state of Florida.

Reportable Disease	# of Cases 06-07 Influenza Season
Influenza-associated deaths among those <18 years of age	0
Post-influenza infection encephalitis	0

Influenza-associated deaths among those < 18 years of age and/or post-influenza infection encephalitis are reportable; case report forms can be accessed at: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/topicscrforms.htm.

VIII. SUMMARY OF WORLDWIDE A/H5N1 INFLUENZA ACTIVITY

Update 31

10/12/2006

Since the recent outbreak activity began at the end of December 2003, there have been a total of 253 confirmed human cases and 148 deaths. Cases and deaths occurred in the following nations: Azerbaijan 8 cases and 5 deaths; Cambodia 6 cases and 6 deaths; China 21 cases and 14 deaths; Djibouti 1 case 0 deaths; Egypt 15 cases and 6 deaths; Indonesia 69 cases and 52 deaths; Iraq 3 cases and 2 deaths; Thailand 25 cases and 17 deaths; Turkey 12 cases and 4 deaths; and, Vietnam 93 cases and 42 deaths. Since the last update on 9/13/06 there have been nine new cases and five new deaths, six cases and four deaths having occurred in Indonesia, one case in Egypt, one case in Iraq (a retrospectively confirmed case from 3/2006), and one case and death in Thailand. All cases had known close contact with various types of poultry, with the exception of 2 cases where it was undetermined. Changes in the WHO case definition for human infection with avian influenza H5N1 can be found here:

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/guidelines/case_definition2006_08_29/en/index.html

For a complete analysis and summary of WHO confirmed human cases of H5N1 from 12/1/2003 to 4/30/2006, please visit:

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/guidelines/wer8126/en/index.html

There have not been reports of avian influenza spreading to new countries in the last few months. The complete list of countries reporting confirmed outbreaks of H5N1 in bird species since late December 2003, with the most recent outbreaks listed first, include Sudan, Spain, Djibouti, Ivory Coast, Czech Republic, Palestinian Autonomous Territories, United Kingdom (Scotland), Burkina Faso, Jordan, Sweden, Israel, Afghanistan, Cameroon, Myanmar, Albania, Serbia and Montenegro, Hungary, Poland, Switzerland, Niger, Slovakia, France, Austria, Malaysia, Azerbaijan, India, Slovenia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Germany, Nigeria, Egypt, Bulgaria, Italy, Greece, Iran, Croatia, Cyprus, Ukraine, Turkey, Romania, Indonesia, China, Russia, Thailand, Vietnam, Kuwait (only one flamingo), Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Cambodia, Korea (Rep. of), and Japan. Countries with confirmed H5 (neuraminidase not determined yet) infection in birds include the Philippines, Iraq, and Laos.

The current phase of alert as defined by the WHO global influenza preparedness plan is phase 3, which states that human infections with a new subtype are occurring, but no human-to-human spread, or at most rare instances of spread to a close contact. At the present time the WHO is not recommending restrictions on travel to areas affected by H5N1 avian influenza, but is suggesting that travelers to these areas avoid contact with live animal markets and poultry farms, and any free-ranging or caged poultry. Evidence suggests that the primary route of infection at this time is associated with direct contact with infected poultry, or surfaces and objects contaminated by their droppings.

