



Epidemiology and Response Division

NEW MEXICO INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE UPDATE 2007-2008 Influenza Season

Epidemiology and Response Division, New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH)

Week Ending	Activity Level
10/6/07	No Activity

This is the first edition of the weekly influenza report for the 2007-2008 Influenza season. NMDOH reported the state influenza activity as “**No Activity**” to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (see table below for definitions).

Summary of Influenza Activity in New Mexico for Week Ending 10/6/07¹:

- Eighteen of the 24 sentinel provider sites reported a total of 4,795 patient visits, of which 29 (0.60%) were positive for an influenza-like illness (ILI)².

Summary of Sentinel Laboratory Activity in New Mexico:

Period of 2007-2008 Influenza Season	Number of Tests Performed**	Positive Type A (n,%)	Positive Type B (n,%)	Positive Type Unknown ³ (n,%)	Total Positive All Types (n,%)
Week ending 10/6/07 (24 of 31 labs reporting)	57	0(0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0%)
Cumulative as of 10/1/07	57	0(0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)

**Includes rapid antigen and immunofluorescence testing (i.e., direct fluorescent antibody staining)

Note: The sensitivity and specificity of point of care rapid diagnostic tests vary during times when influenza is not circulating widely. The NM Influenza Surveillance Program expects some false positive rapid diagnostic results outside the time of peak influenza activity (i.e., beginning and end of season). The first NM laboratory confirmed case of the influenza season is based on a positive viral culture result.

Influenza-Related Pediatric Mortality:

There were sixty cases of influenza-related pediatric deaths reported to CDC in the past 2006-07 influenza season. NM reported two confirmed influenza-related pediatric deaths in the 2006-07 influenza season to CDC.

Reported Flu Activity in the Mountain Region and Texas, Week Ending 10/6/07:

Regional activity will be available from CDC beginning with the first national weekly report to be posted 10/12/07 by CDC. Information from this report will be included starting in next week’s NMDOH Weekly Influenza Report.

National Flu Surveillance and Laboratory Activity, Week Ending 10/6/07:

National reporting will be available as above.

¹ Weekly ILI and lab data may change as additional reports are compiled.

² Influenza-like Activity (ILI) is defined as Fever (≥ 100°F [37.8° C], oral or equivalent) AND cough and/or sore throat in absence of a KNOWN cause other than influenza.

³ Some rapid influenza tests cannot differentiate between types A and B.

Recommended vaccine composition of influenza virus vaccines for use in the 2007-2008 influenza season:

- an A/Solomon Islands/3/2006 (H1N1)-like virus (a recent antigenic variant of A/New Caledonia/20/1999-like)
- an A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2)-like virus^a
- a B/Malaysia/2506/2004-like virus

^a Vaccine viruses include:

A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2) and A/Hiroshima/52/2005

More information on national surveillance can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>.

This information is collected by the Infectious Disease Epidemiology Bureau, Epidemiology Response Division, NMDOH.

In future issues of this weekly report, NMDOH will be reporting on added influenza surveillance program components (e.g. school surveillance, hospitalization surveillance, border and tribal surveillance) as data become available.

For questions, please call 505-827-0006. For more information on influenza go to the NMDOH web page: <http://www.health.state.nm.us/flu/> or the CDC web page:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/fluvirus.htm>

Activity Level	ILI activity*/Outbreaks		Laboratory data
No activity	Low	And	No lab confirmed cases [†]
Sporadic	Not increased	And	Isolated lab-confirmed cases
	OR		
Local	Not increased	And	Lab confirmed outbreak in one institution [‡]
	OR		
Regional (doesn't apply to states with ≤4 regions)	Increased ILI in 1 region**; ILI activity in other regions is not increased	And	Recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab evidence of influenza in region with increased ILI
	OR		
Regional (doesn't apply to states with ≤4 regions)	2 or more institutional outbreaks (ILI or lab confirmed) in 1 region; ILI activity in other regions is not increased	And	Recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab evidence of influenza in region with the outbreaks; virus activity is no greater than sporadic in other regions
	OR		
Regional (doesn't apply to states with ≤4 regions)	Increased ILI in ≥2 but less than half of the regions	And	Recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in the affected regions
	OR		
Regional (doesn't apply to states with ≤4 regions)	Institutional outbreaks (ILI or lab confirmed) in ≥2 and less than half of the regions	And	Recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in the affected regions
	OR		
Widespread	Increased ILI and/or institutional outbreaks (ILI or lab confirmed) in at least half of the regions	And	Recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in the state.

*Influenza-like illness: Fever ($\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ [37.8°C], oral or equivalent) and cough and/or sore throat (in the absence of a known cause other than influenza)

[†] Lab confirmed case = case confirmed by rapid diagnostic test, antigen detection, culture, or PCR. Care should be given when relying on results of point of care rapid diagnostic test kits during times when influenza is not circulating widely. The sensitivity and specificity of these tests vary and the predicative value positive may be low outside the time of peak influenza activity. Therefore, a state may wish to obtain laboratory confirmation of influenza by testing methods other than point of care rapid tests for reporting the first laboratory confirmed case of influenza of the season.

[‡] Institution includes nursing home, hospital, prison, school, etc.

**Region: population under surveillance in a defined geographical subdivision of a state. A region could be comprised of 1 or more counties and would be based on each state's specific circumstances. Depending on the size of the state, the number of regions could range from 2 to approximately 12. The definition of regions would be left to the state but existing state health districts could be used in many states. Allowing states to define regions would avoid somewhat arbitrary county lines and allow states to make divisions that make sense based on geographic population clusters. Focusing on regions larger than counties would also improve the likelihood that data needed for estimating activity would be available.

Influenza Surveillance Graphs—Summary 2006-2007 Season:

