



MI FluFocus

Influenza Surveillance and Avian Influenza Update

Bureau of Epidemiology
Bureau of Laboratories

Michigan Department
of Community Health



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New updates in this issue:

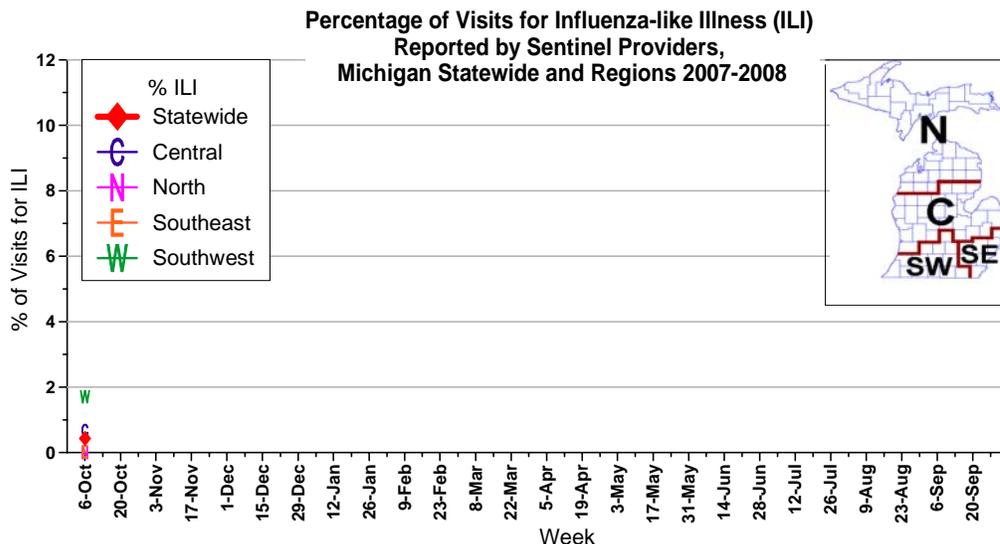
- **Michigan Surveillance:** ILI reports and other influenza indicators remain at low levels.
- **Avian Influenza:** Indonesia reports its 87th fatality due to avian influenza H5N1.

The Michigan Department of Community Health would like to congratulate the following local health departments for reporting aggregate influenza-like illness for 95% or more of the weeks during the previous influenza season (October 2006-May 2007): Berrien, Grand Traverse, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lenawee, Macomb, Montcalm (Mid-Michigan District), Muskegon, Newaygo (District #10), and Saginaw counties. In addition, MDCH recognizes the continuing efforts of all local health departments in collecting and reporting weekly aggregate influenza counts. Without your dedication, a valuable surveillance indicator would be lost. Thank you for your hard work!

Michigan Disease Surveillance System: In the week ending October 6, both aggregate flu-like illness reports and individual influenza reports held steady near the previous week's levels. Both aggregate and individual reports are slightly lower than the previous year's, but should be considered consistent with levels seen at this time last year.

Emergency Department Surveillance: Emergency department visits due to respiratory complaints remained steady this past week, while constitutional complaints rose slightly again this week. Constitutional complaints are consistent with numbers seen this time last year, while respiratory complaints are slightly lower. Eight constitutional alerts in the C(3), N(2), SE(1), and SW(1) Influenza Surveillance Regions along with one Statewide alert and six respiratory alerts in the C(2), N(3) and SW(1) Influenza Surveillance Regions were generated last week.

Sentinel Surveillance (as of October 11): During the week ending October 6, 2007, the proportion of visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) in Michigan remained relatively unchanged from last week at 0.4% of all visits. This represents 30 cases of ILI out of 6926 total patient visits; twenty-six sentinels provided data for this report. The proportion of visits due to ILI decreased to 1.7% in the southwest surveillance region. The remaining regions continued to report low levels of ILI: 0.7%, Central; 0.0%, North; and 0.0%, Southeast. Note that these rates may change as additional reports are received.



As part of pandemic influenza preparedness, CDC and MDCH highly encourage and recommend year-round participation from all sentinel providers. New practices are encouraged to join the sentinel surveillance program today! Contact Rachel Potter at 517-335-9710 or potterr1@michigan.gov for more information.

Laboratory Surveillance (as of October 11): The MDCH Lab has not confirmed any cases of influenza for the 2007-2008 influenza season, which started on October 1.

***As a reminder, the positive predictive value of influenza rapid tests decreases during times of low influenza prevalence. MDCH suggests that during periods of low influenza activity in your community, all positive rapid tests results be confirmed by sending in a specimen for viral culture; this can be arranged through your local health department.

Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality (as of October 11): For the 2007-2008 season, there are no confirmed reports of influenza-related pediatric mortality in Michigan. One possible case from the 2006-2007 season is still under investigation by MDCH and the CDC.

***Reminder: The CDC has asked all states to continue to collect information on any pediatric death associated with influenza infection. This includes not only any death in a child less than 18 years of age resulting from a clinically compatible illness confirmed to be influenza by an appropriate laboratory or rapid diagnostic test, but also unexplained death with evidence of an infectious process in a child. Refer to http://www.michigan.gov/documents/fluletter_107562_7.pdf for the complete protocol. It is important to immediately call or fax information to MDCH to ensure that appropriate clinical specimens can be obtained.

Congregate Settings Outbreaks (as of October 11): There have been no reports for the 2007-2008 influenza season.

International, CDC (excerpt from MMWR Weekly, September 28, 56(38);1001-1004): During May 20--September 15, influenza A (H1), influenza A (H3), and influenza B viruses cocirculated worldwide. Influenza A (H3) viruses predominated in Asia; however, influenza A (H1) and B viruses also were reported. In Africa, influenza A viruses predominated, with approximately equal numbers of influenza A (H1) and A (H3) viruses reported and a smaller number of influenza B viruses identified. In Europe and North America, small numbers of influenza A and influenza B viruses were reported. In Oceania, influenza A viruses predominated. Influenza A (H3) viruses were reported more frequently than influenza A (H1) viruses in Australia and New Caledonia; however, in New Zealand, influenza A (H1) viruses predominated. In South America, influenza A (H3) viruses were most commonly reported, although influenza B viruses also were identified.

This article can be found in its entirety online at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5638a4.htm?s_cid=mm5638a4_e

Weekly reporting to the CDC resumes on October 12 for the 2007-2008 influenza season.

End of Seasonal Report

Avian Influenza Activity

WHO Pandemic Phase: Phase 3 - Human infection(s) with a new subtype, but no human-to-human spread or rare instances of spread to a close contact.

International, Human (WHO, October 8): The Ministry of Health of Indonesia has announced a new case of human infection of H5N1 avian influenza. A 44-year-old female from Pekanbaru City in Riau Province developed symptoms on October 1 and died on October 6. A team is currently investigating the case to determine the source of her exposure. All of the contacts are being monitored but all remain healthy.

Of the 108 cases confirmed to date in Indonesia, 87 have been fatal.

Michigan Wild Bird Surveillance (USDA, as of October 11): For the 2007 testing season, 410 Michigan samples have been taken so far, comprised of 100 live bird samples, 99 hunter-killed birds, 61 morbidity/mortality samples, and 150 environmental samples.

H5N1 subtype H5N1 has not been recovered from any Michigan samples tested to date, or from the 26,678 birds or environmental samples tested nationwide. The 2007 testing season will run from April 1, 2007-March 31, 2008. For more information, visit the National HPAI Early Detection Data System website at <http://wildlifedisease.nh.gov/ai/>.

To learn about avian influenza surveillance in Michigan wild birds or to report dead waterfowl, go to Michigan's Emerging Disease website at <http://www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases>.

Please contact Susan Vagasky at VagaskyS@Michigan.gov with any questions regarding this newsletter or to be added to the weekly electronic mailing list.

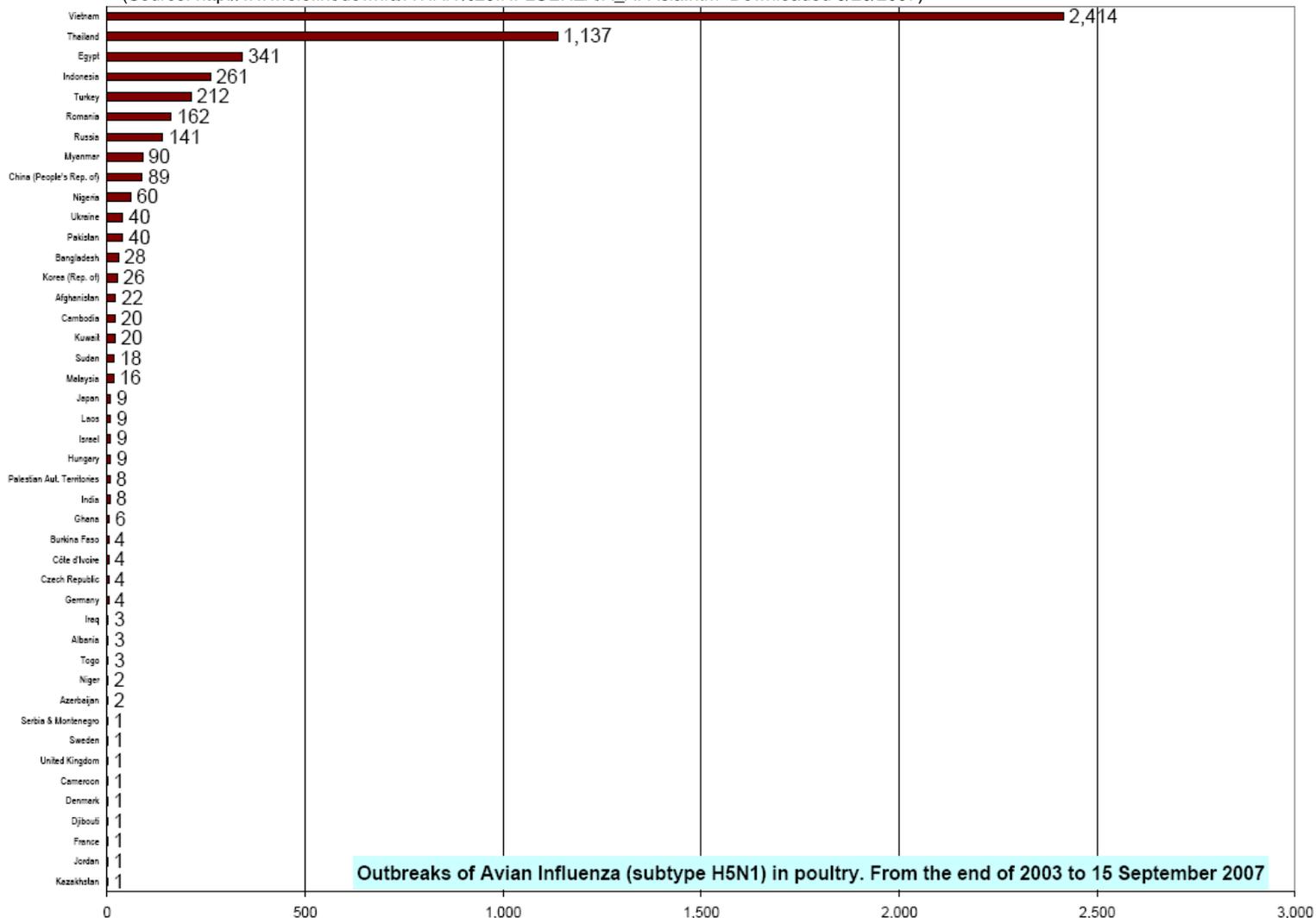
Contributors

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Table 1. H5N1 Influenza in Poultry (Outbreaks up to September 15, 2007)

(Source: http://www.oie.int/downld/AVIAN%20INFLUENZA/A_AI-Asia.htm Downloaded 9/20/2007)



Outbreaks of Avian Influenza (subtype H5N1) in poultry. From the end of 2003 to 15 September 2007

Table 2. H5N1 Influenza in Humans (Cases up to October 8, 2007)

(http://www.who.int/entity/csr/disease/avian_influenza/country/cases_table_2007_10_08/en/index.html Downloaded 10/8/2007)

Cumulative number of lab-confirmed human cases reported to WHO. Total number of cases includes deaths.

Country	2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		Total	
	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths
Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	5	0	0	8	5
Cambodia	0	0	0	0	4	4	2	2	1	1	7	7
China	1	1	0	0	8	5	13	8	3	2	25	16
Djibouti	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	10	20	5	38	15
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	20	13	55	45	33	29	108	87
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	3	2
Lao PDR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Thailand	0	0	17	12	5	2	3	3	0	0	25	17
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	4	0	0	12	4
Viet Nam	3	3	29	20	61	19	0	0	7	4	100	46
Total	4	4	46	32	98	43	115	79	67	44	330	202