Department of Public Health Cook County Health & Hospitals System

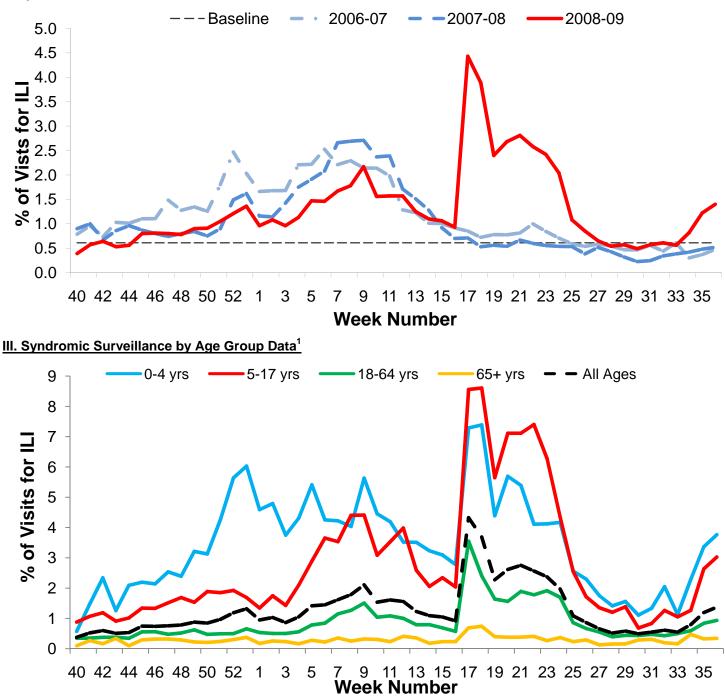
Influenza Surveillance Report Week 36: September 6th – 12th, 2009

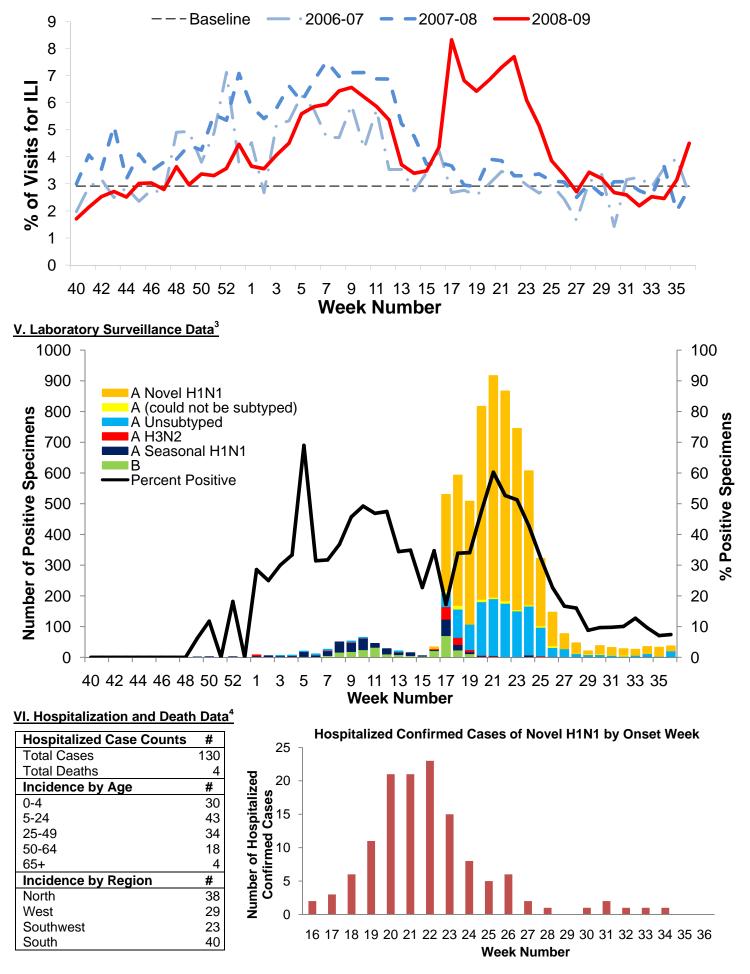
I. Influenza Summary to Date

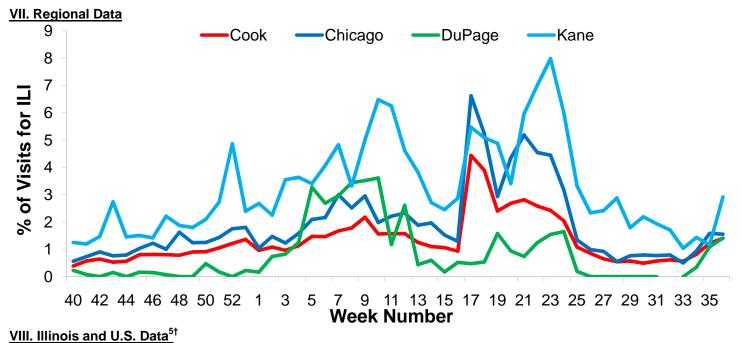
Cook County

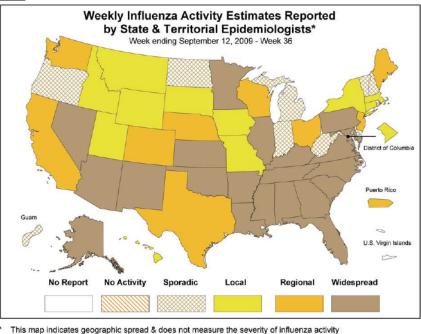
Influenza surveillance for suburban Cook County** involves the weekly collection of data from a sample of hospitals, private physician's offices, and laboratory data. Our sentinel participants reported the following aggregate measures: Syndromic Surveillance: 1.40% ILI¹, Sentinel Sites: 4.50% ILI². Thirty-seven (7.41%) specimens tested by participating laboratories³ were positive for influenza, of which 94.12% of sub-typed influenza A viruses were novel H1N1. The activity of influenza is higher than the influenza-like illness rates reported this week in each of the past two years. To date, suburban Cook County has had 130 hospitalized cases of confirmed novel H1N1 and 4 deaths. Thank you to all of our surveillance partners for their help in collecting this information.

II. Syndromic Surveillance Data¹









(All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.)

- Syndromic surveillance influenza-like-illness (ILI) syndrome is defined as a symptom complex fever and cough or sore throat from ESSENCE. 25 hospital EDs participate in ESSENCE. ILI = # of ED visits for ILI / total # of ED visits.
- ILI is defined as fever ≥ 100°F, cough and/or sore throat in the absence of a known cause other than influenza. 5 hospital EDs and 8 physician offices are participating CDC sentinel sites.
- 3. Laboratory surveillance includes viral culture, RT-PCR, and the rapid antigen test. Not all cases are suburban Cook County Residents. Participating laboratories: IDPH, NSUHS, and ACL.
- 4. Hospitalization and death data are only for suburban Cook County residents (excludes Evanston, Skokie, Oak Park, and Stickney).
- 5. http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm
- † No activity: no laboratory confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in cases of ILI.
 Sporadic: small number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases or a single laboratory confirmed influenza.
 - **Sporadic**: small number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases or a single laboratory confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.

Local: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI and recent laboratory confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.

Regional: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI and recent laboratory confirmed influenza in at least two but less than half the region of the state.

Widespread: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory confirmed influenza in at least half the region in the state.