

Weekly Report

January 25, 2011

The purpose of this report is to inform Public Health staff, primary care providers, acute care staff and other community practitioners about recent respiratory virus activity in the province of Alberta. Unless otherwise noted, all data presented are current as of the Saturday prior to the day the report is released.

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What's New?

- Most European countries are now reporting regional or widespread influenza activity, more prominently in Western Europe. Influenza A H1N1 (2009), and to a lesser extent, influenza B still remain the predominant strains; a small proportion of influenza continues to result in severe disease, particularly in people under the age of 65 years old. Across the UK, influenza activity is now declining. Two percent of H1N1 (2009) viruses tested in the U.K. have been found to carry the H275Y mutation which confers resistance to the antiviral drug oseltamivir.
- Several countries of North Africa and the Middle East are experiencing increases in influenza activity. Influenza B has been the predominant virus reported in these areas along with lesser amounts of influenza A H1N1 (2009).
- The temperate areas of Asia have all reported slight increases in respiratory virus activity in recent weeks. In Mongolia and northern China, the increase in activity was associated with influenza A (H3N2), which appears to have peaked around the third week of December. Conversely, the dominant strain in Japan and the Republic of Korea is influenza A H1N1 (2009).
- While influenza activity in the United States recently decreased in several indicators, the number of states reporting widespread influenza activity increased. Influenza A is still the predominant strain, with influenza B circulating to a lesser extent.
- In Canada, several indicators of influenza activity have recently decreased across the country: the number of regions reporting widespread and localized influenza activity, the number of outbreaks, the percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza, the ILI consultation rate and the number of paediatric and adult hospitalizations. Since the beginning of the season, 91.1% of the subtyped positive influenza A specimens were H3N2. In week 02, detections of influenza A (H1N1) 2009 increased to 15.5% of all subtyped influenza A specimens, compared to 8.5% in week 01.
- In Alberta, the number of laboratory confirmed cases of several types of respiratory viruses increased in week 3 (Jan 16-22,2011) from the number seen the previous week, particularly for influenza (both A & B), RSV and parainfluenza. RSV continues to be the predominant virus in the province. As of the end of week 3 (Jan 22, 2011), the total number of confirmed cases of influenza in the province this season is 278 (73.7% influenza A (H3), 16.5% influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 7.6% influenza type B, and 2.2% influenza A with unresolved sub-typing). Since last week's update, six respiratory outbreaks have been reported in Alberta (five in Edmonton Zone and one in Calgary Zone). Three of the Edmonton Zone outbreaks were attributed to influenza A (H3), one was attributed to influenza type B and the other is currently pending laboratory confirmation. The Calgary Zone outbreak is also currently pending laboratory confirmation. Of note, the influenza B outbreak in Edmonton Zone, which occurred in a school, is the province's first confirmed influenza B outbreak of the season.

Alberta Snapshot

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Indicators			Cumulative Counts					Alberta
			Week 35 (starting Aug 29/10) to week 3 (starting Jan 16/11)					
			South	Calgary	Central	Edmonton	North	
Laboratory Confirmed Cases	Number of cases with a positive respiratory specimen ¹	Adenovirus	3	27	8	41	12	91
		Coronavirus	5	31	17	70	25	148
		Human metapneumovirus (hMPV)	7	2	0	3	4	16
		Influenza A	18	84	32	97	26	257*
		Influenza B	0	12	2	6	1	21
		Parainfluenza	22	52	30	114	67	285
		Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	35	213	50	309	93	700
		Rhino enterovirus	75	354	136	482	223	1270
		Mixed	14	77	22	81	50	244
		Total	179	852	297	1203	501	3032
Outbreaks	# laboratory confirmed respiratory outbreaks ²	0	9	3	18	1	31	
Influenza Immunizations	Total number of clients who have received 1 dose administered by AHS Public Health ³ (cumulative since Oct 3, 2010)	42,566	185,314	60,477	158,644	61,141	508,142	

-- Information not available

*Note: Six specimens were positive for both influenza A and RSV. These cases have been included in the influenza A and RSV counts. They have not been included in the 'Mixed' category.

¹ Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

² Source: Alberta Health and Wellness Outbreak Reporting Form (Fillable PDF) from All Zones

³Source: AHS Zones (number does not include doses provided by external providers); includes first doses only for those that require two doses

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: January 25, 2011

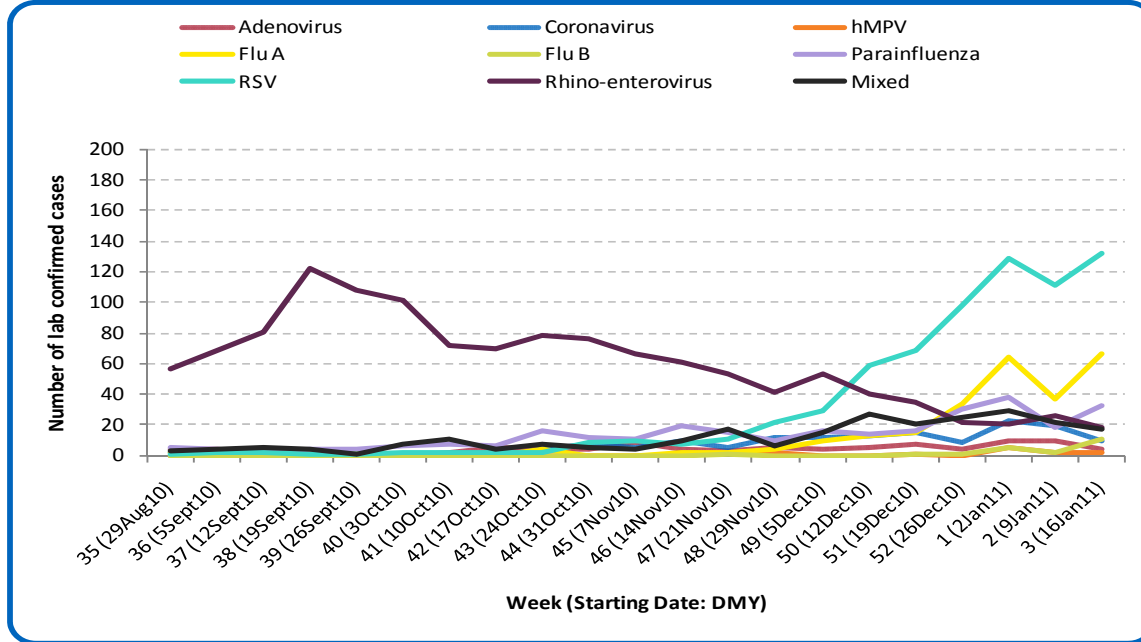
An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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The number of new of laboratory confirmed cases of several types of respiratory viruses increased in week 3 (Jan 16-22, 2011) from the number seen the previous week, particularly for influenza (both A & B), RSV and parainfluenza. RSV continues to be the predominant virus in the province. As of the end of last week (Jan 22, 2011), the total number of confirmed cases of influenza in the province this season is 278 (73.7% influenza A (H3), 16.5% influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 7.6% influenza type B, and 2.2% influenza A with unresolved sub-typing). At this point in the season, the age specific rate for confirmed influenza cases (all types) in infants 0 to <2 years of age is higher than the rate in other age groups, at 3.9 per 10,000.

Figure 1A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, Alberta (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

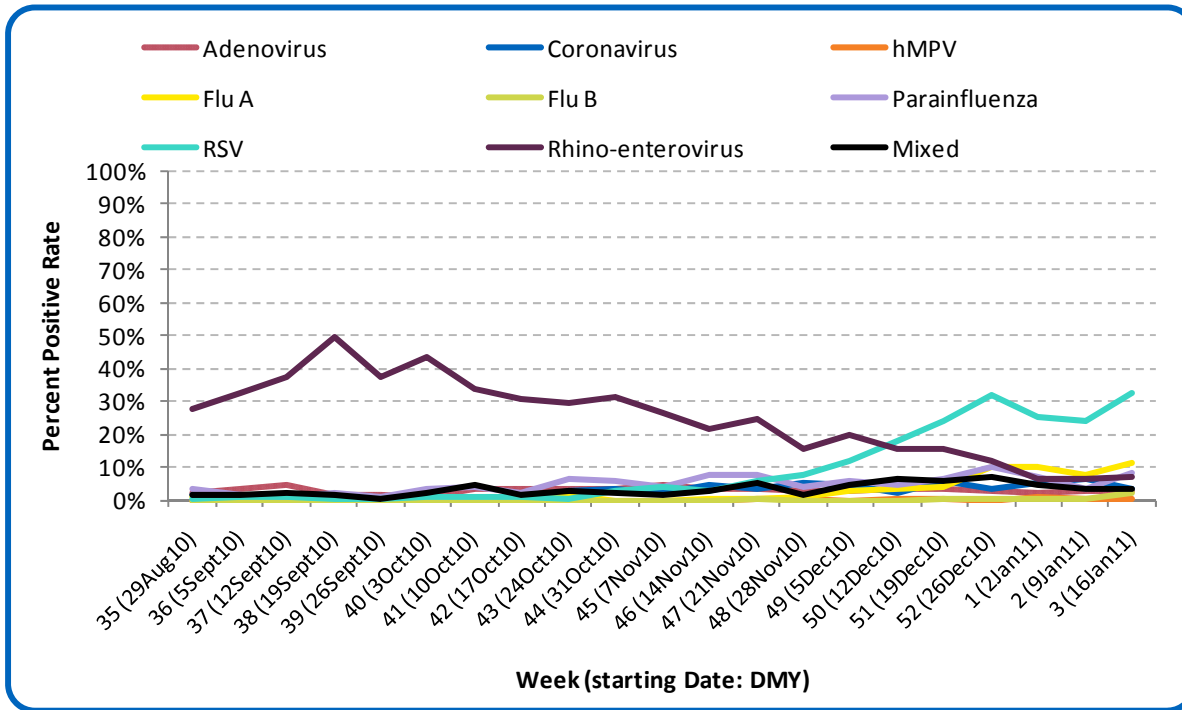
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Figure 1B: Respiratory Specimen Percent Positive Rates, by virus type, by week, Alberta (2010-2011)

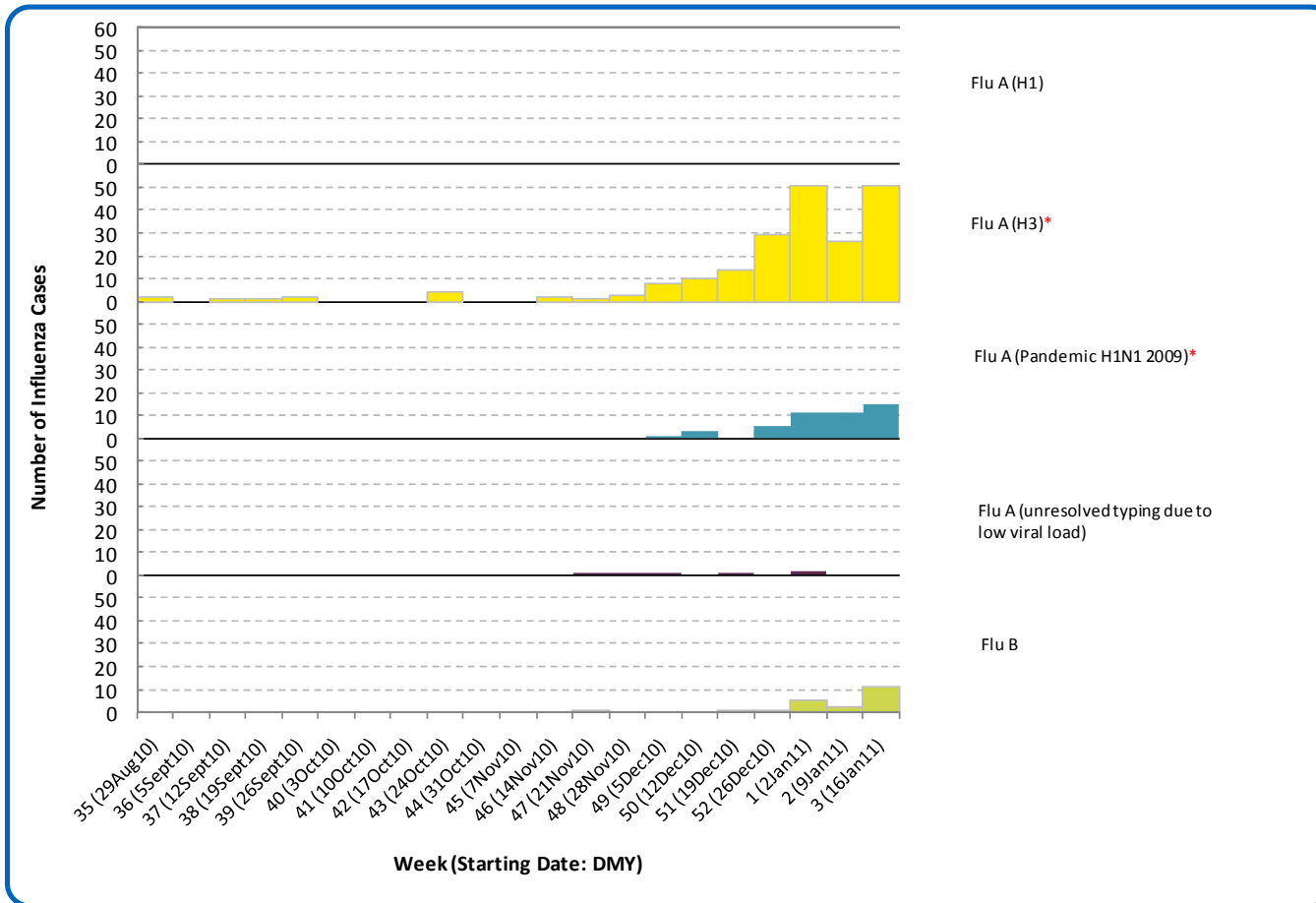
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Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011)
 For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

Figure 1C: Laboratory confirmed Influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, Alberta (2010-2011)

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*Note: Two specimens were positive for both RSV and influenza A (H1N1) 2009 and four specimens were positive for both RSV and influenza A (H3).

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

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Table 1A: New Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Alberta (Week 3: Jan 16-22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	5	0.5	1	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.2	8	0.8
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	3	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.2
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	1	0.1	3	0.2	0	0.0	3	0.2	7	0.4
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	4	0.1	1	<0.1	0	0.0	4	0.1	9	0.2
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	18	0.1	10	<0.1	0	0.0	2	<0.1	30	0.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	20	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	20	1.1
Total	0	0.0	51	0.1	15	<0.1	0	0.0	11	<0.1	77	0.2

Table 1B: Cumulative Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Alberta (Aug 29, 2010 – Jan 22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	26	2.6	9	0.9	1	0.1	4	0.4	40	3.9
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	14	1.0	1	0.1	1	0.1	2	0.1	18	1.3
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	5	0.3	3	0.2	0	0.0	3	0.2	11	0.6
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	10	0.2	2	<0.1	1	<0.1	5	0.1	18	0.4
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	85	0.4	31	0.1	2	<0.1	7	<0.1	125	0.5
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	10	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	0.5
75+ years	0	0.0	55	3.1	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	56	3.1
Total	0	0.0	205	0.6	46	0.1	6	<0.1	21	0.1	278	0.8

Source for Table 1A & 1B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

Population data values used to calculate rates are for June 30, 2009 and are estimated using actual population values from the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) Registration File as of March 31, 2009.

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

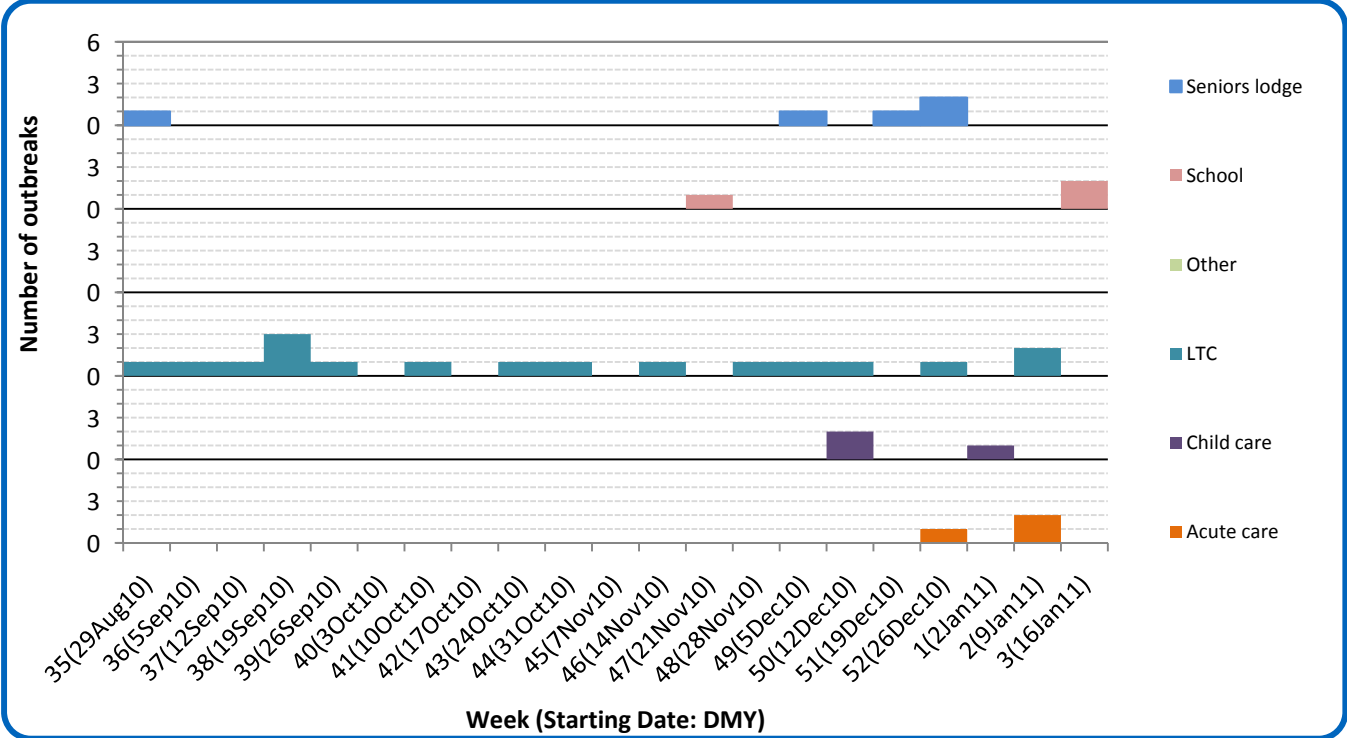
Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Six respiratory outbreaks have been reported in Alberta since the last report; five in Edmonton Zone and one in Calgary Zone. Of the outbreaks in Edmonton Zone, three were attributed to seasonal Influenza A (H3), including two in acute care facilities and one in a long term care facility. Another was attributed to Influenza B in a school. The other outbreak pending laboratory confirmation is also in a school. The outbreak in Calgary Zone is in a long term care facility and is also pending laboratory confirmation.

Figure 1D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, Alberta (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



Source: Alberta Outbreak Reporting Form as of 23:59 on Jan 22, 2011. LTC stands for long term care facility. For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Attack rates in respiratory outbreaks

Of the five new Edmonton Zone outbreaks, the influenza A (H3) outbreaks in the two acute care facilities had preliminary attack rates of 7% and 29%; the influenza B outbreak in the school had a preliminary attack rate of 13%, while the outbreak of undetermined cause in the other school had an attack rate of 35%. Lastly, the influenza A (H3) outbreak in the Edmonton Zone long term care facility had a preliminary attack rate of 5%. The outbreak in Calgary Zone currently pending laboratory confirmation had a preliminary attack rate of 8%.

Influenza-like illness visits to emergency departments/urgent care centers

The combined number of visits to the emergency departments/urgent care centers (ED's) for influenza-like illness (ILI) in the City of Calgary and the Edmonton Zone increased by 13% in Week 3 (Jan 16 – 22, 2011) from the previous week. The number of admissions to hospitals stayed relatively stable from Week 2 to Week 3.

Respiratory related calls to Health Link Alberta

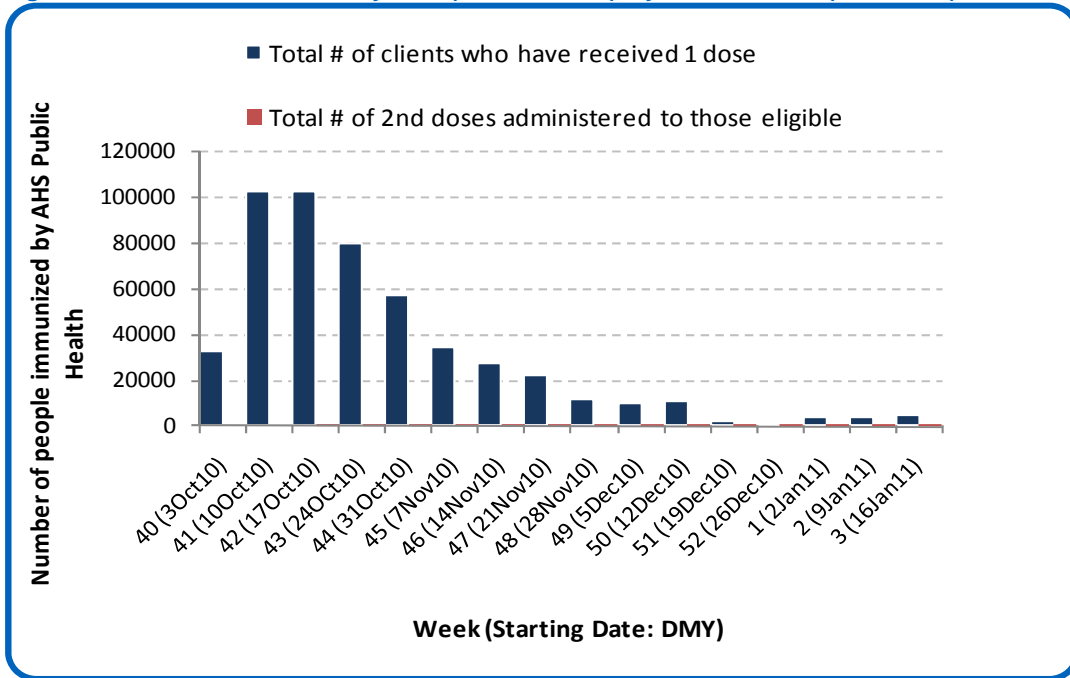
The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties by Albertans was 4% less in Week 3 (Jan 16-22, 2011) than in Week 2, maintaining a decreasing trend from the peak in Week 52 of 2010. This contrasts with the pattern seen for ED visits for cough symptoms, which started to increase after two weeks of decline from the peak in Week 52 of 2010.

Percentage of visits to sentinel offices for influenza-like illness (ILI) or lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI)

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits was unchanged in Week 2 (Jan 9 – 15, 2011) from the Week 1 level, still at the highest level it has been this season due to increased ILI-related visits that offset the decline in LRTI-related visits.

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Figure 1E: Number Immunized by AHS (Public Health), by week, Alberta (2010-2011)



Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers);
 Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season
 For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Table 1C: AHS (Public Health) Delivered Influenza Immunizations (with Cumulative totals), by priority group, Alberta (2010-2011)

Priority Group		Number Immunized (Week 3 – Jan 16-22, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff		7	2,585
Health care workers		102	18,742
Pregnant women		76	4,506
Residents of long term care		11	4,824
65 years of age and over		469	146,186
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	859	22,409
	Dose #2	571	5,989
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	423	24,127
	Dose #2	108	1,164
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	70	5,592
	Dose #2	7	118
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years		343	55,191
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	265	18,078
	Dose #2	28	518
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years		2,224	205,902
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose		4,849	508,142
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*		714	7,789

Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)

*Children under 9 years of age who have not received at least one dose of seasonal influenza vaccine in past years require two doses, given at least four weeks apart.

Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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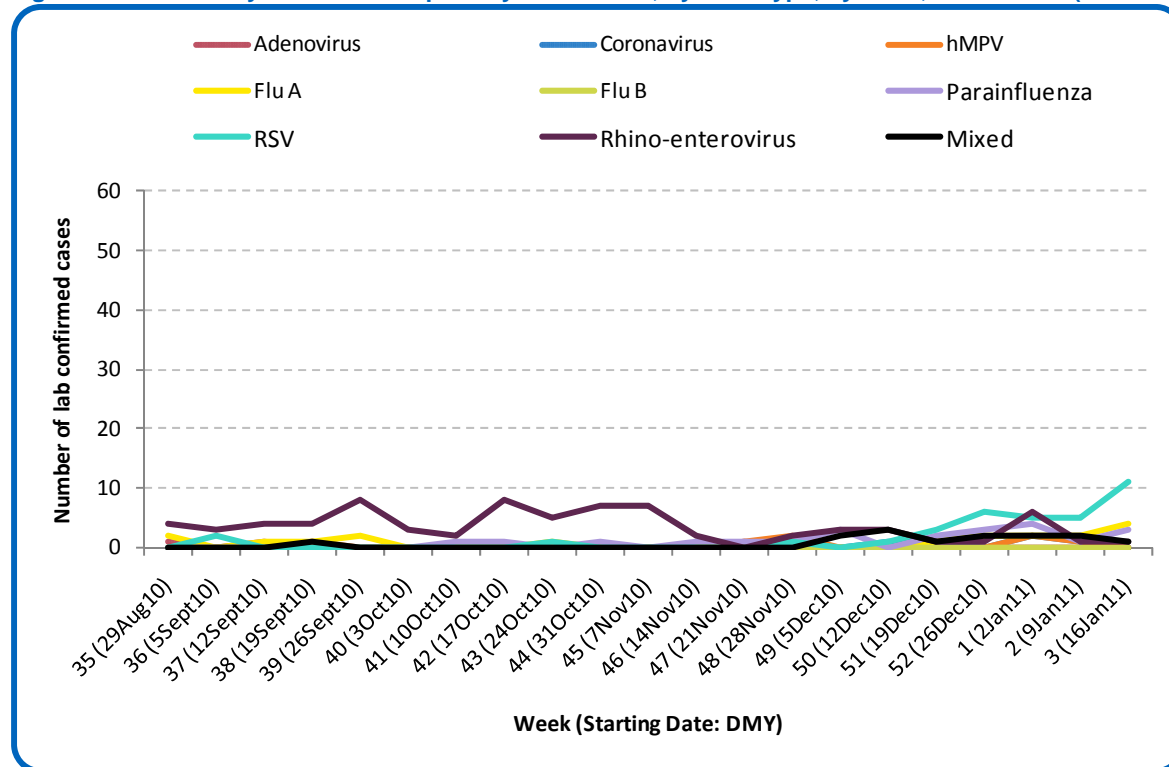
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RSV is currently the predominant virus in South Zone. So far this season, there have been a total of 18 confirmed cases of influenza in this part of the province. Five cases have been in children under the age of 5 years (including one infant), twelve cases have been in adults aged 18 to less than 65 years, and one case has been in an adult aged 75 years and over. All but one of the confirmed cases have been sub-typed as influenza A (H3).

Figure 2A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, South Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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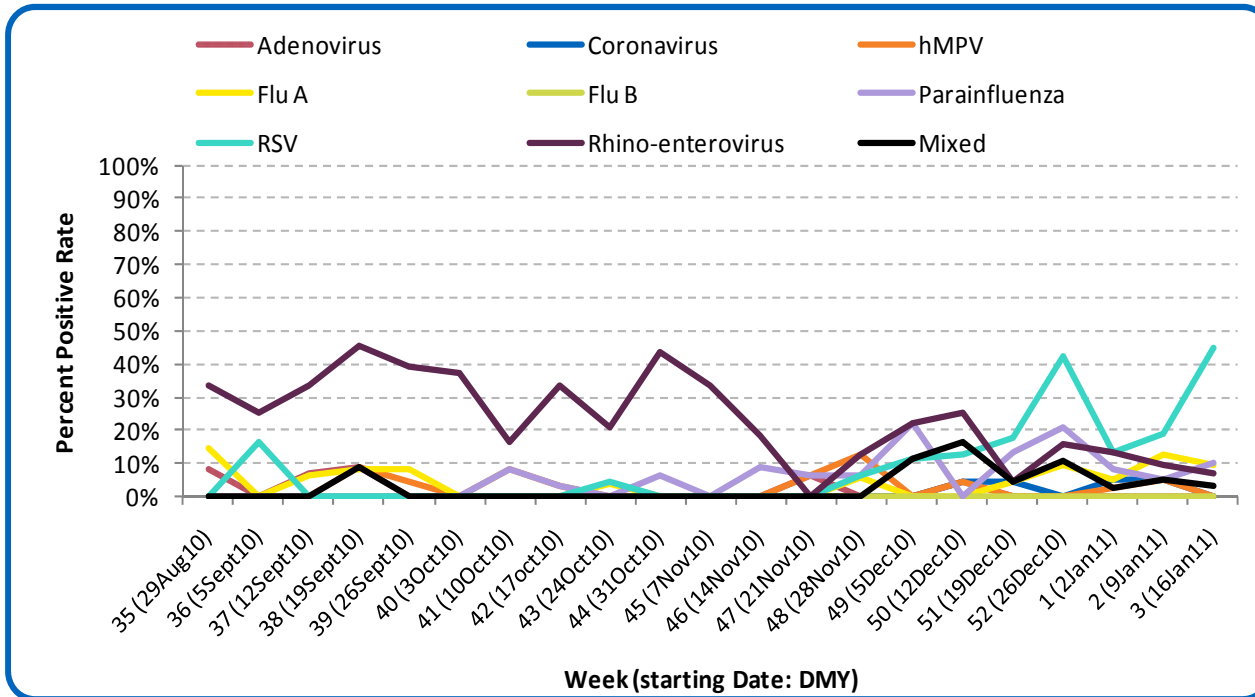
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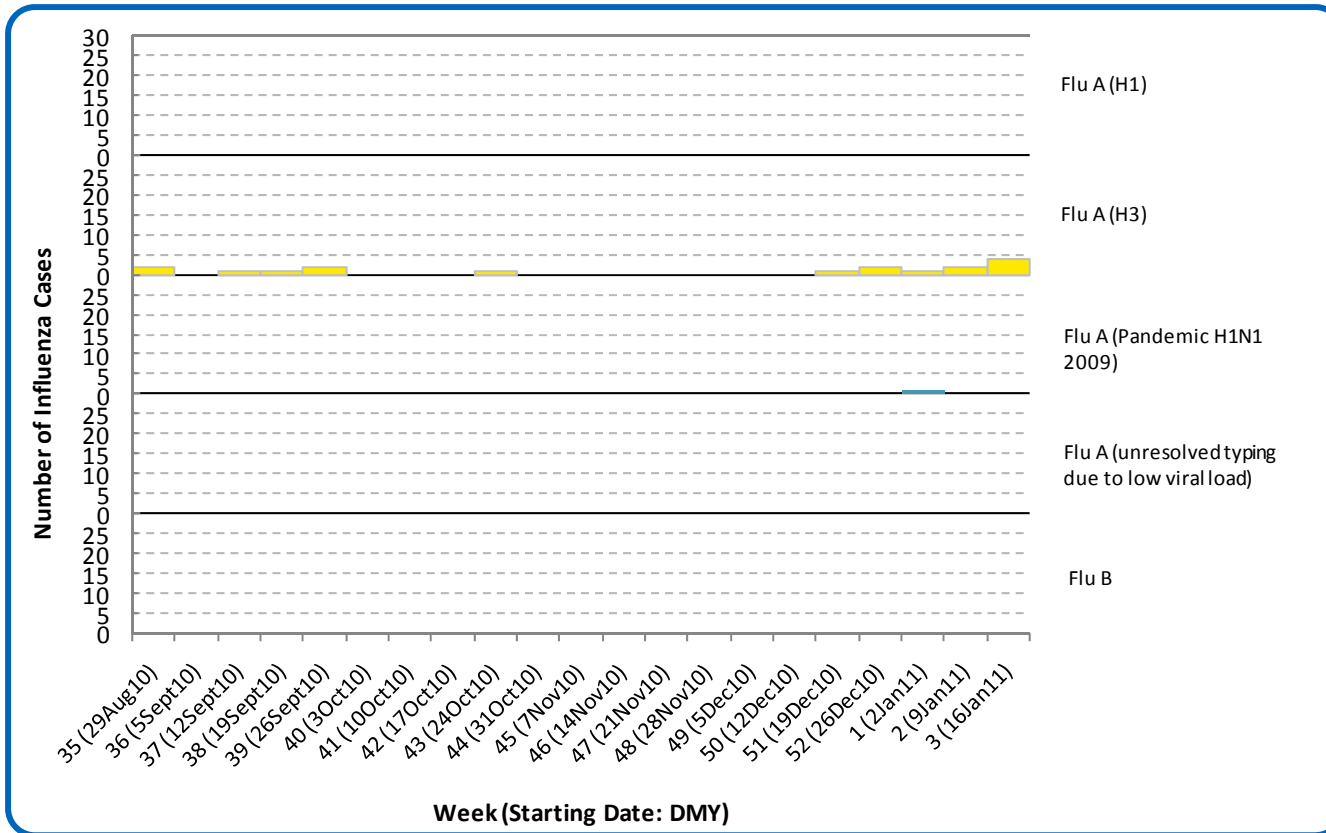
Figure 2B: Respiratory Specimen Percent Positive Rates, by virus type, by week, South Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011)
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Figure 2C: Laboratory confirmed Influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, South Zone (2010-2011)



Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Table 2A: New Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, South Zone (Week 3: Jan 16-22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	3	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.2
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
Total	0	0.0	4	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.1

Table 2B: Cumulative Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, South Zone (Aug 29, 2010–Jan 22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.2
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	4	3.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	3.5
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	11	0.6	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	12	0.7
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
Total	0	0.0	17	0.6	1	<0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	18	0.6

Source for Tables 2A & 2B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

Population data values used to calculate rates are for June 30, 2009 and are estimated using actual population values from the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) Registration File as of March 31, 2009.

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SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

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[Back to first page](#)**Attack rates in respiratory outbreaks**

There have been no respiratory outbreaks reported in South Zone this season.

Influenza-like illness visits to emergency departments and urgent care centers

This information is not available for South Zone.

Respiratory related calls to Health Link Alberta

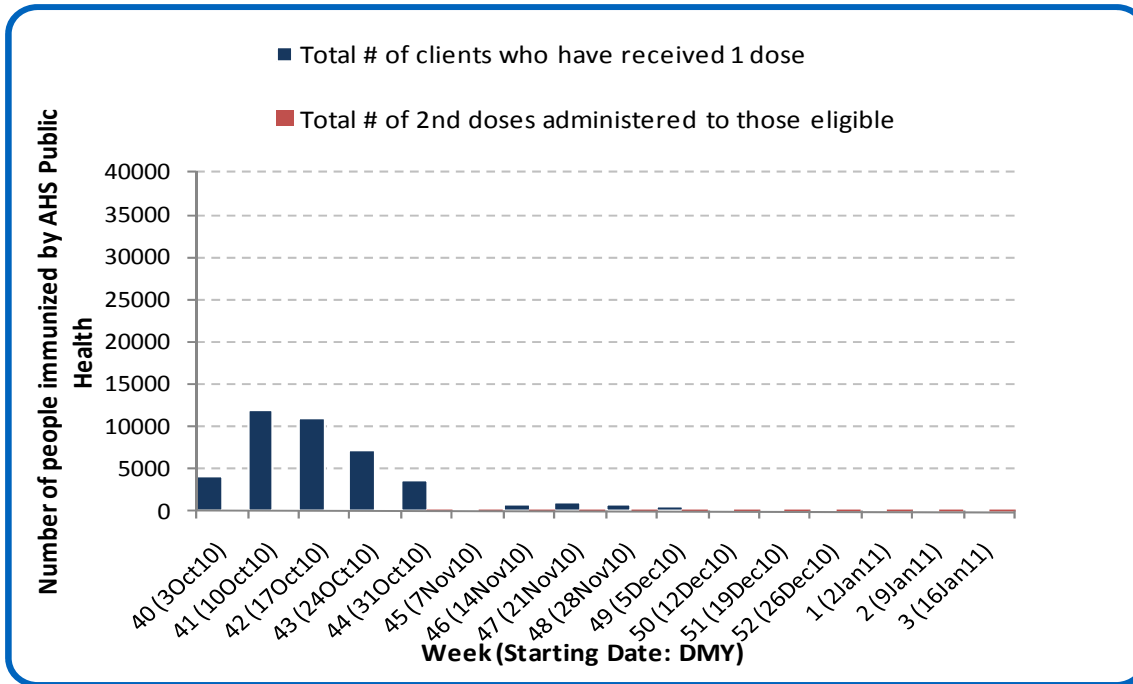
The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties by residents of South Zone in Week 3 (Jan 16 – 22, 2011) doubled from the Week 2 level. This indicator is currently the highest it has been this season.

Percentage of visits to sentinel offices for influenza-like illness (ILI) or lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI)

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of South Zone was 37% lower in Week 2 (Jan 9-15, 2011) than in Week 1 because of fewer ILI-related visits.

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Figure 2D: Number Immunized by AHS (Public Health), by week, South Zone (2010-2011)



Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)
 Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season
 For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

Table 2C: AHS (Public Health) Delivered Influenza Immunizations (with Cumulative totals), by priority group, South Zone (2010-2011)

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Priority Group		Number Immunized (Week 3 – Jan 16-22, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff		4	614
Health care workers		6	1,555
Pregnant women		2	296
Residents of long term care		1	730
65 years of age and over		8	15,568
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	37	1,356
	Dose #2	41	444
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	13	1,909
	Dose #2	18	114
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	5	493
	Dose #2	2	15
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years		15	4,082
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	15	1,455
	Dose #2	7	50
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years		78	14,508
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose		184	42,566
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*		68	623

Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)

*Children under 9 years of age who have not received at least one dose of seasonal influenza vaccine in past years require two doses, given at least four weeks apart.

Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season

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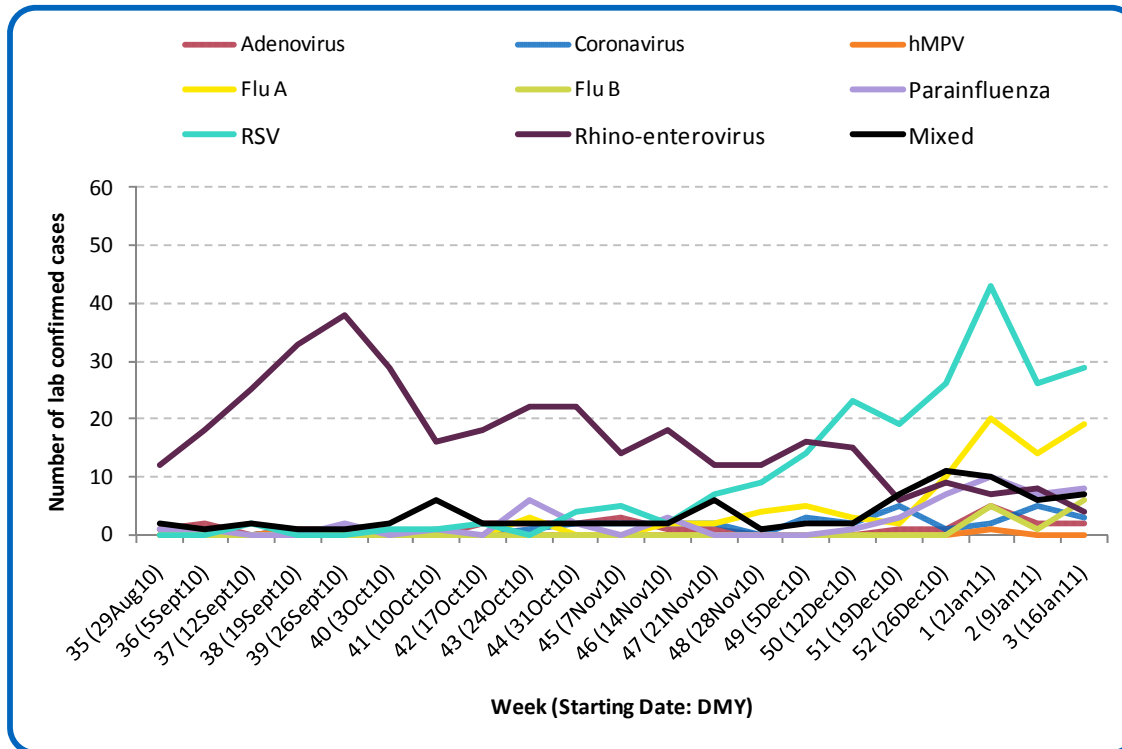
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SECTION 3: ZONE 2 - CALGARY

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RSV and influenza continue to be the predominant viruses in Calgary Zone. Since the beginning of the season, a total of 96 cases of influenza have been confirmed in Calgary Zone (60.4% influenza A (H3); 23.9% influenza A (H1N1) 2009; 3.1% influenza A with unresolved sub-typing and 12.5% influenza B).

Figure 3A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

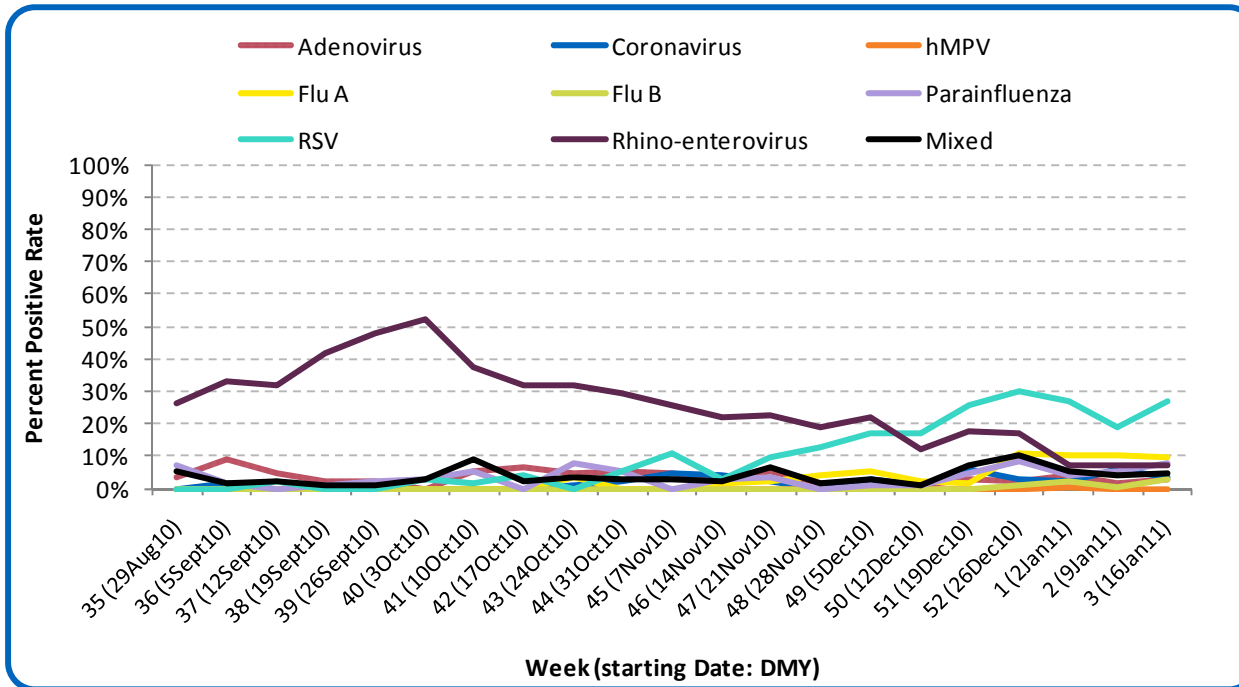
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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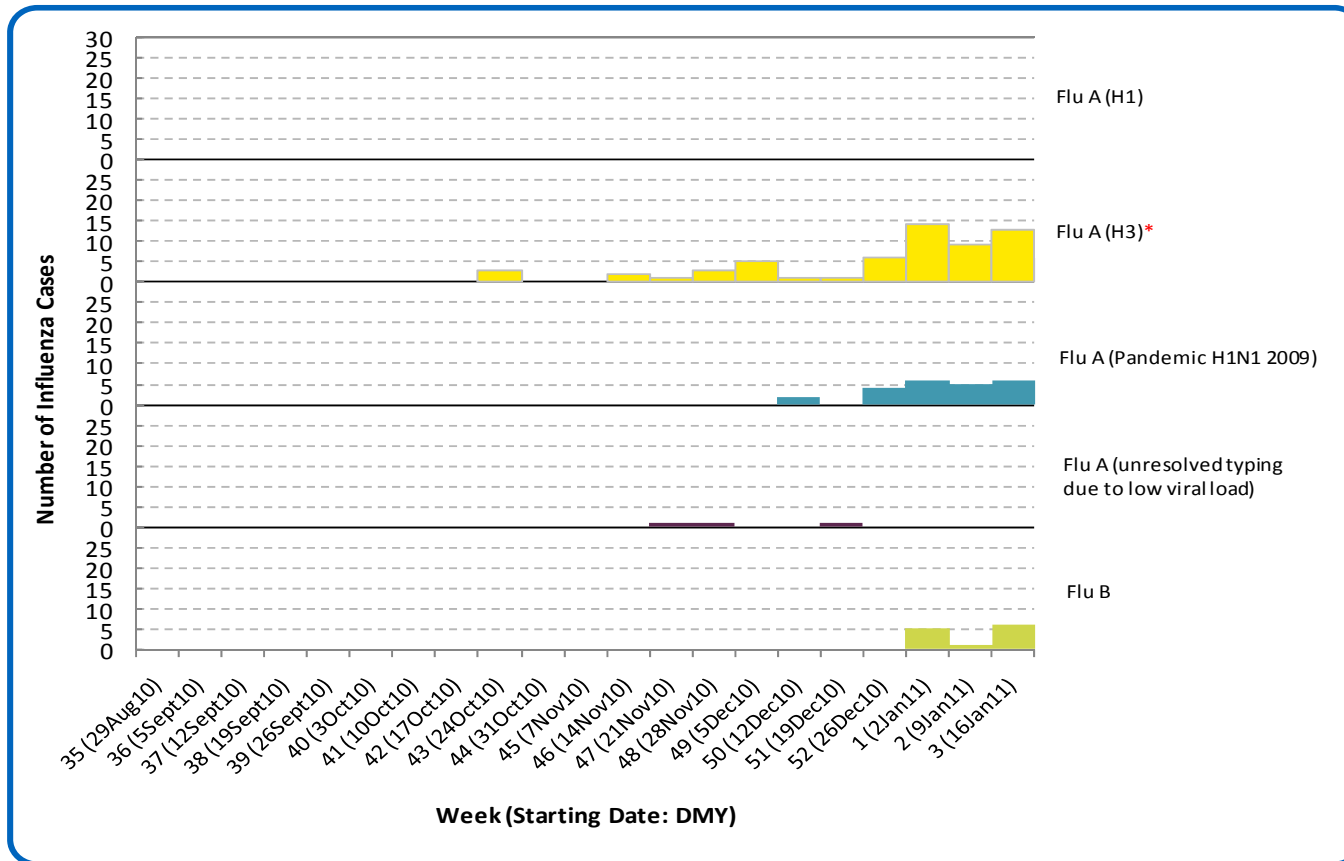
Figure 3B: Respiratory Specimen Percent Positive Rates, by virus type, by week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011)
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Figure 3C: Laboratory confirmed Influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)



*Note: One specimen was positive for both RSV and influenza A (H3).

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Table 3A: New Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Calgary Zone (Week 3: Jan 16-22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
	0 to <2 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.3	1
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.2	0	0.0	3	0.5	5	0.8
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	2	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.1
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	5	0.1	5	0.1	0	0.0	2	<0.1	12	0.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	5	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	0.8
Total	0	0.0	13	0.1	6	<0.1	0	0.0	6	<0.1	25	0.2

Table 3B: Cumulative Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Calgary Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Jan 22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
	0 to <2 years	0	0.0	3	0.8	3	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.5	8
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	2	0.4	1	0.2	1	0.2	1	0.2	5	1.0
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	2	0.3	1	0.2	0	0.0	3	0.5	6	1.0
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	4	0.3	0	0.0	1	0.1	1	0.1	6	0.4
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	30	0.3	18	0.2	1	<0.1	5	0.1	54	0.6
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	4	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.6
75+ years	0	0.0	13	2.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	13	2.2
Total	0	0.0	58	0.4	23	0.2	3	<0.1	12	0.1	96	0.7

Source for tables 3A & 3B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

Population data values used to calculate rates are for June 30, 2009 and are estimated using actual population values from the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) Registration File as of March 31, 2009.

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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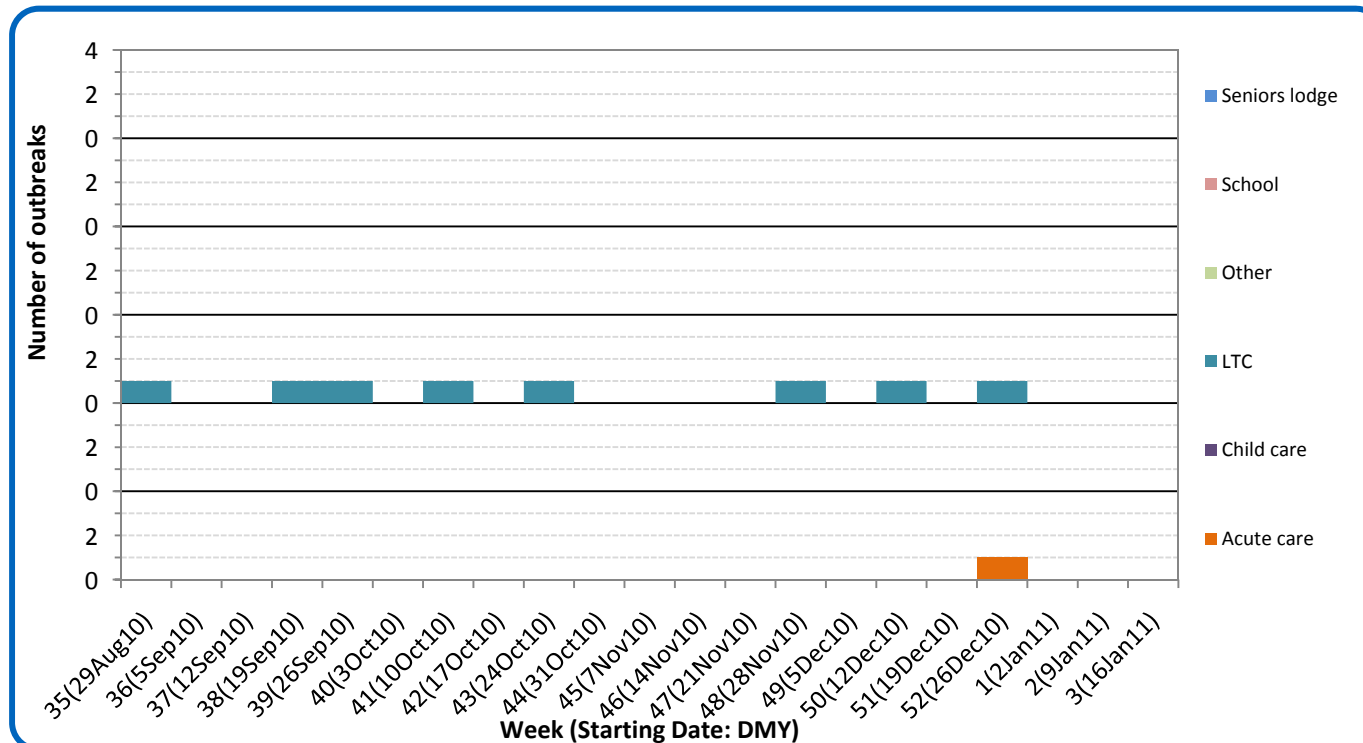
Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Since the last report, one respiratory outbreak has been reported in a Calgary Zone long term care facility in Calgary Zone (onset date: Jan 17, 2011). This outbreak is currently pending laboratory confirmation.

Figure 3D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



Source: Alberta Outbreak Reporting Form as of 23:59 on Jan 22, 2011. LTC stands for long term care facility. For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

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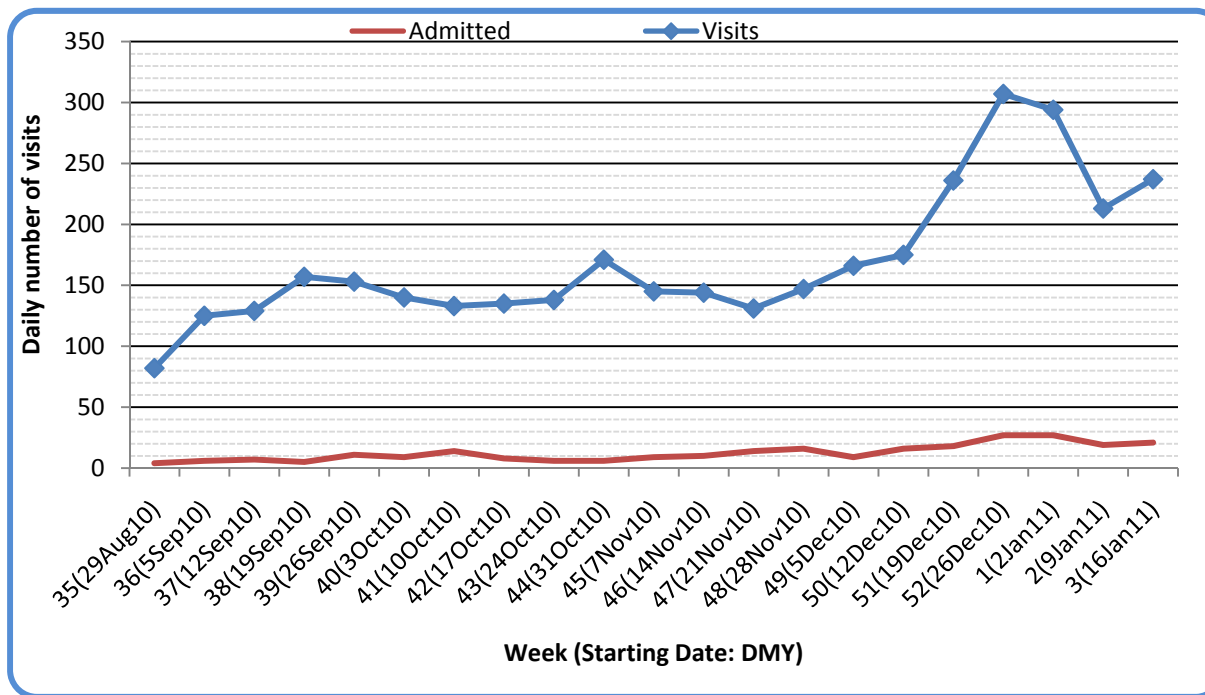
Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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The number of visits and hospital admissions of patients with cough symptoms at the six urban emergency departments/urgent care centers in the City of Calgary increased by 11% and 10%, respectively, in week 3 (Jan 16-22, 2011) compared to the previous week. This reverses the downward trend seen since the peak in Week 52.

Figure 3E: Visits to urban emergency departments/urgent care centers in the City of Calgary with cough symptoms and admissions to hospitals, by visit week (2010-2011)



Source: Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Jan 22, 2011.
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

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An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Attack rates in respiratory outbreaks

The new respiratory outbreak in Calgary Zone (pending laboratory confirmation) had a preliminary attack rate of 8%.

Influenza-like illness visits to emergency departments and urgent care centers

The number of visits and hospital admissions for influenza-like illness (ILI) at the six urban emergency departments/ urgent care centers (ED's) in the City of Calgary was 49% and 47% higher, respectively, in Week 3 (Jan 16-22, 2011) compared to the previous week, bringing the percentage of ILI positive visits up to approximately 7% of all screened visits.

Respiratory related calls to Health Link Alberta

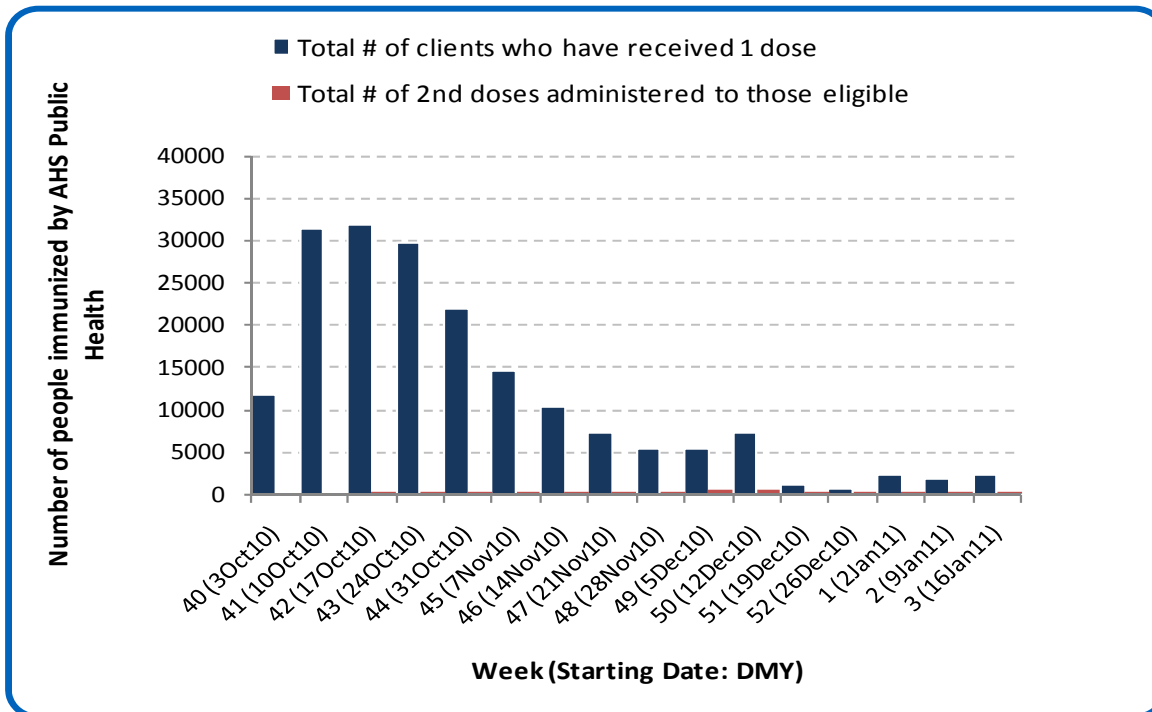
The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties by residents of Calgary Zone was 7% higher last week than it was the previous week.

Percentage of visits to sentinel offices for influenza-like illness (ILI) or lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI)

The combined percentage for ILI- and LRTI-related visits was 20% lower in Week 2 (Jan 9-15, 2011) compared to week 1. This is in line with the declining trend seen in ED visits for ILI symptoms for the same period.

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Figure 3F: Number Immunized by AHS (Public Health), by week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)



Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)
 Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season
 For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

Table 3C: AHS (Public Health) Delivered Influenza Immunizations (with Cumulative totals), by priority group, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)

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Priority Group		Number Immunized (Week 3 – Jan 16-22, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff		2	444
Health care workers		29	5,266
Pregnant women		39	1,870
Residents of long term care		0	706
65 years of age and over		127	44,605
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	518	11,021
	Dose #2	277	2,545
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	250	10,632
	Dose #2	50	461
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	28	2,250
	Dose #2	3	36
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years		130	19,746
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	123	7,015
	Dose #2	11	194
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years		1,029	81,759
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose		2,275	185,314
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*		341	3,236

Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)

*Children under 9 years of age who have not received at least one dose of seasonal influenza vaccine in past years require two doses, given at least four weeks apart.

Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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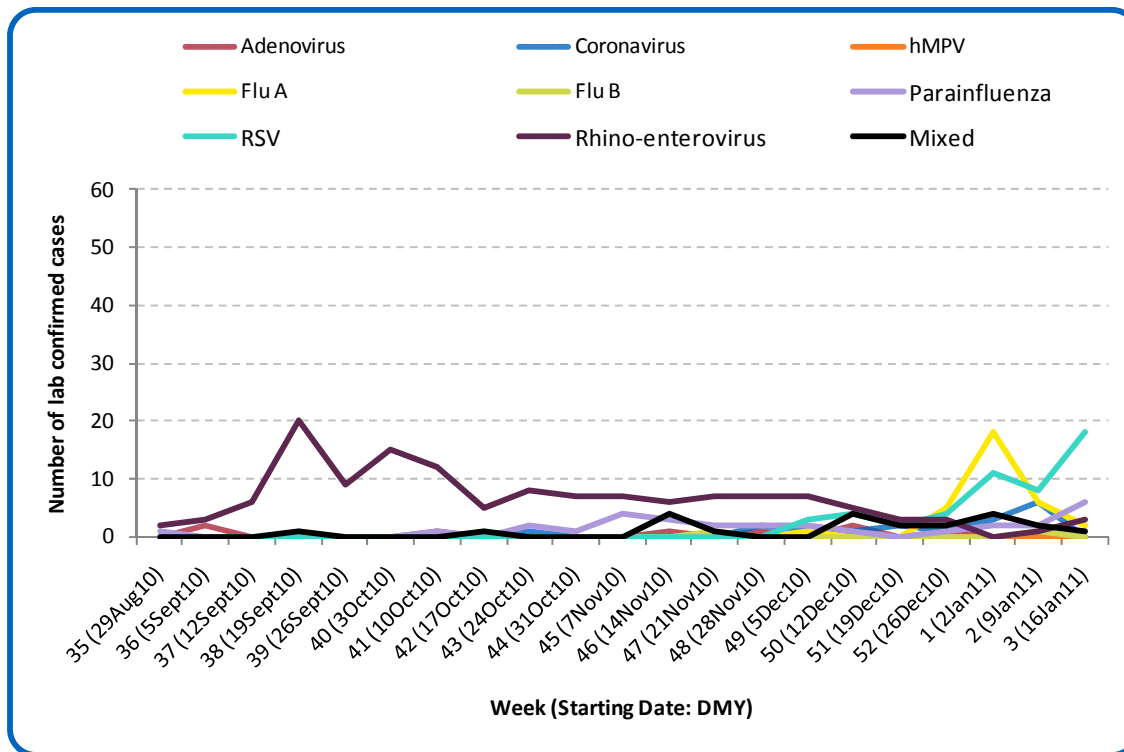
An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

SECTION 4: ZONE 3 - CENTRAL

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The number of new cases of confirmed RSV increased last week compared to the week before. In addition, there were 2 new cases of influenza A (H3) confirmed in Central Zone last week, bringing the total number of influenza cases confirmed in this zone this season to 34. At this point in the season, the age-specific rate for confirmed cases of influenza in those 75 years and over is currently 5.5 per 10,000, while the age-specific rate is 3.3 for infants aged 0 to less than 2 years of age. For all other age groups, it is less than 1 per 10,000.

Figure 4A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, Central Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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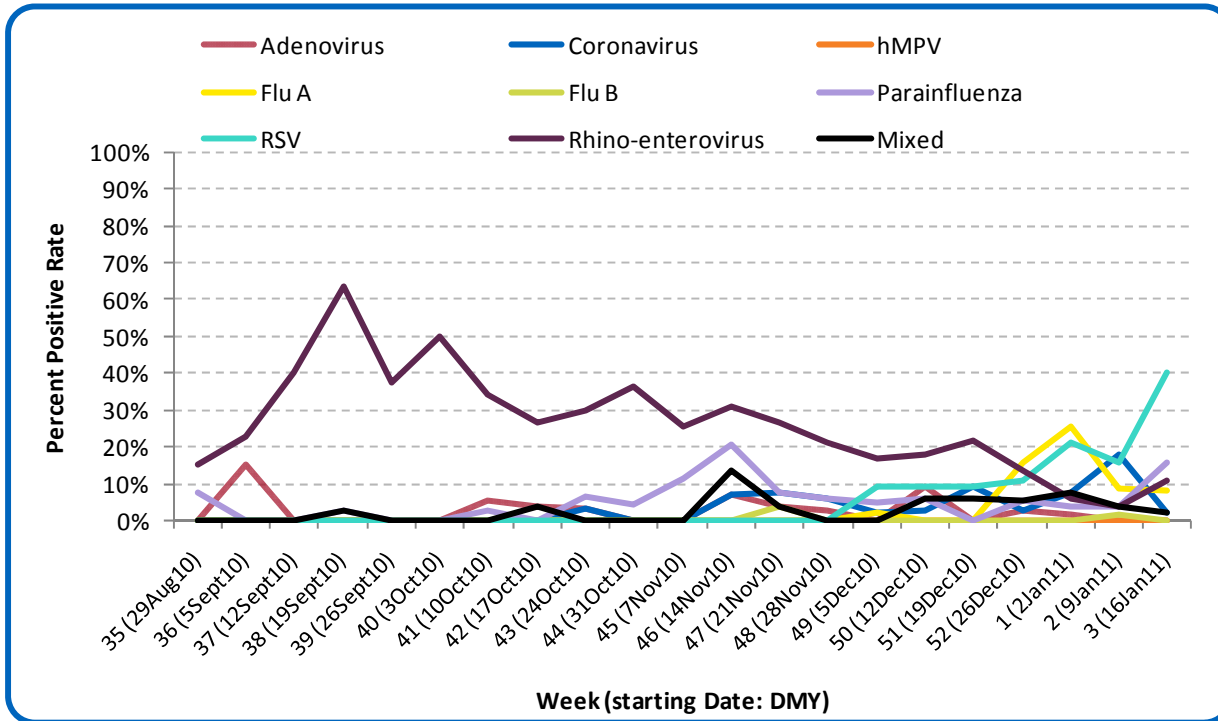
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

Figure 4B: Respiratory Specimen Percent Positive Rates, by virus type, by week, Central Zone (2010-2011)

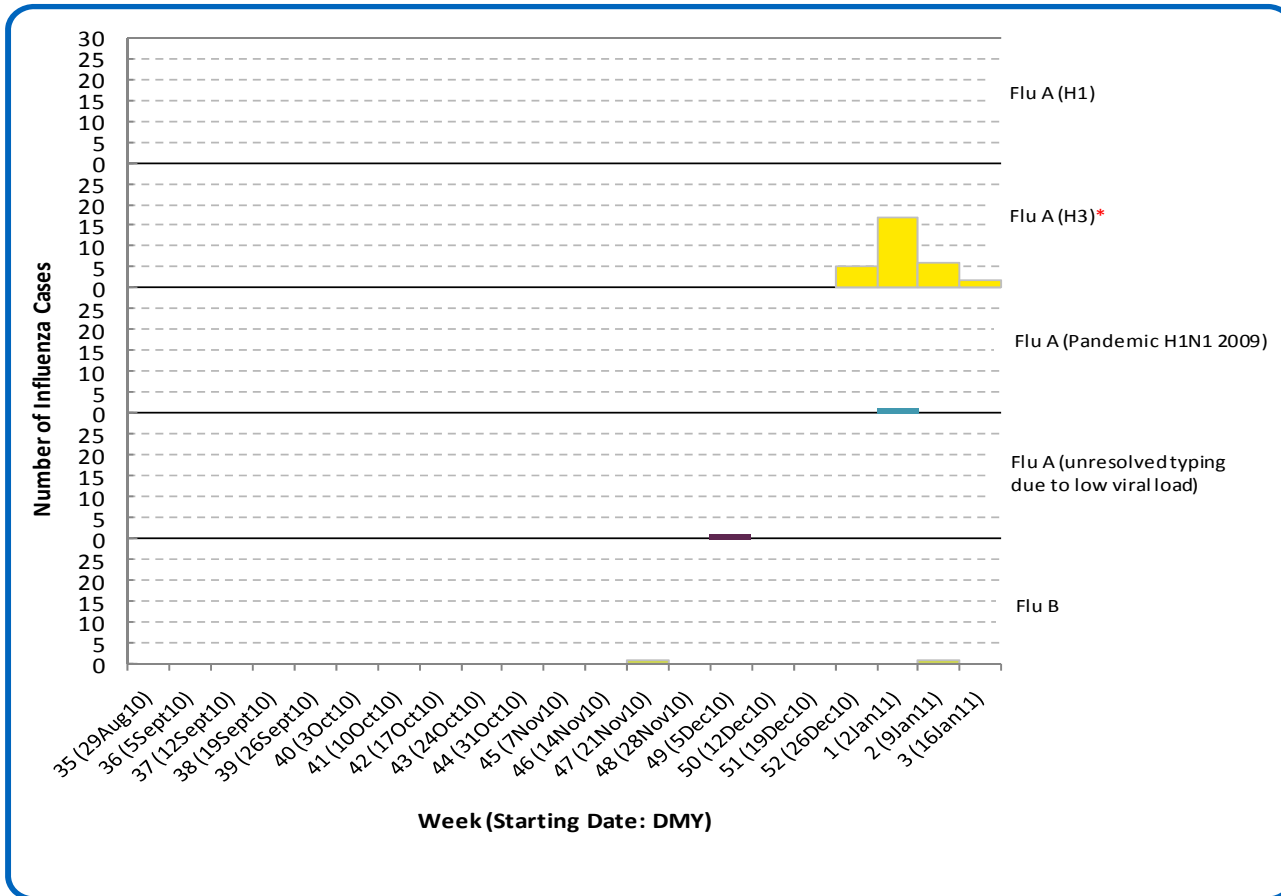
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Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011)
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Figure 4C: Laboratory confirmed Influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, Central Zone (2010-2011)



*Note: Two specimens were positive for both RSV and influenza A (H3).

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Table 4A: New Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Central Zone (Week 3: Jan 16-22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	1	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.8
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	0	0.0	2	<0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0

Table 4B: Cumulative Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Central Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Jan 22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	4	3.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	3.3
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	8	0.3	1	<0.1	1	<0.1	2	0.1	12	0.4
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	2	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.7
75+ years	0	0.0	15	5.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	15	5.5
Total	0	0.0	30	0.7	1	<0.1	1	<0.1	2	<0.1	34	0.8

Source for Tables 4A & 4B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before *Jan 22, 2011*).

Population data values used to calculate rates are for June 30, 2009 and are estimated using actual population values from the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) Registration File as of March 31, 2009.

For more information on data definitions and sources see Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report

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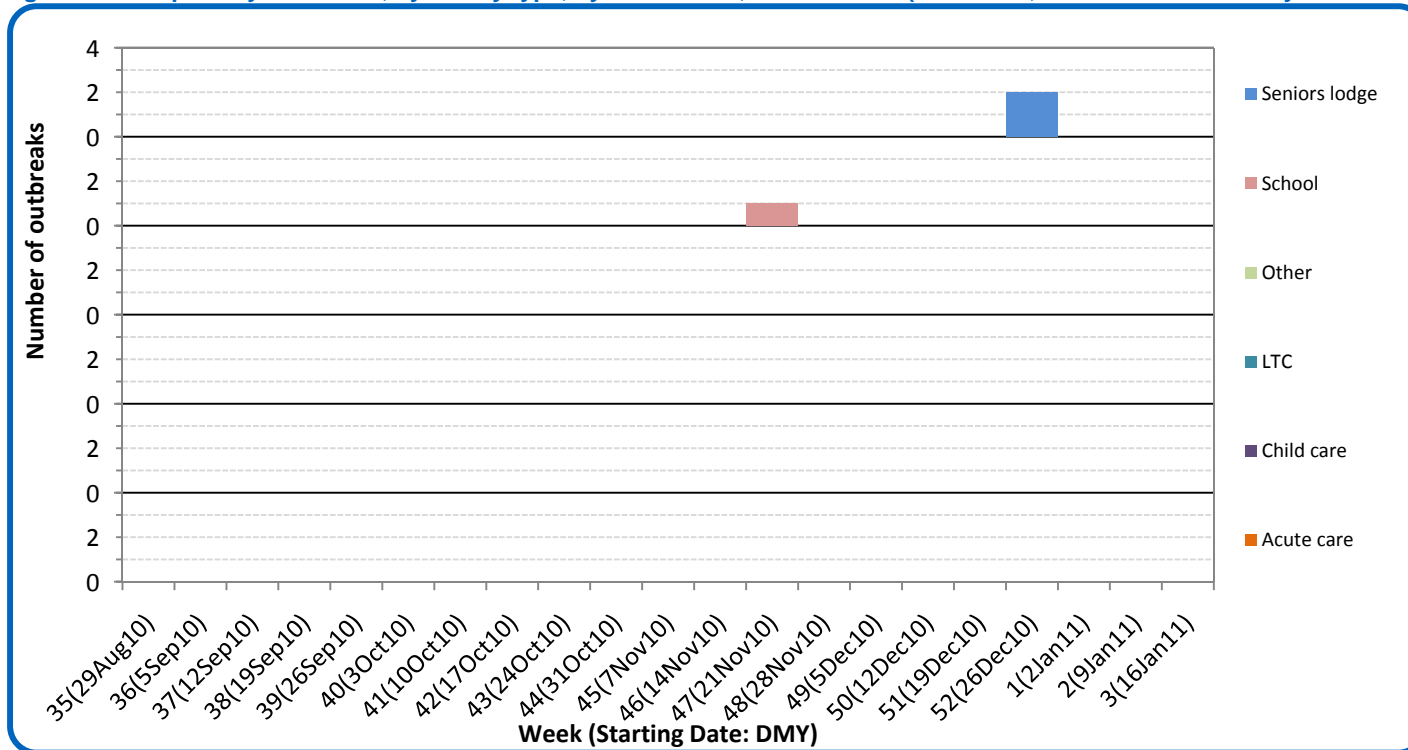
Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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The three outbreaks mentioned in last week's update are still pending laboratory confirmation. One occurred in a seniors' lodge/assisted living facility and the other two occurred in long term care facilities.

Figure 4D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, Central Zone (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



Source: Alberta Outbreak Reporting Form as of 23:59 on Jan 22, 2011.

For more information on data definitions and sources see Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report. LTC stands for long term care facility.

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An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Attack Rates in respiratory outbreaks

As mentioned in last week's report, the three Central Zone outbreaks pending laboratory confirmation had preliminary attack rates of 20% (seniors' lodge), 21% (long term care facility) and 40% (long term care facility).

Influenza-like illness visits to emergency departments and urgent care centers

There are no data available from this zone.

Respiratory related calls to Health Link Alberta

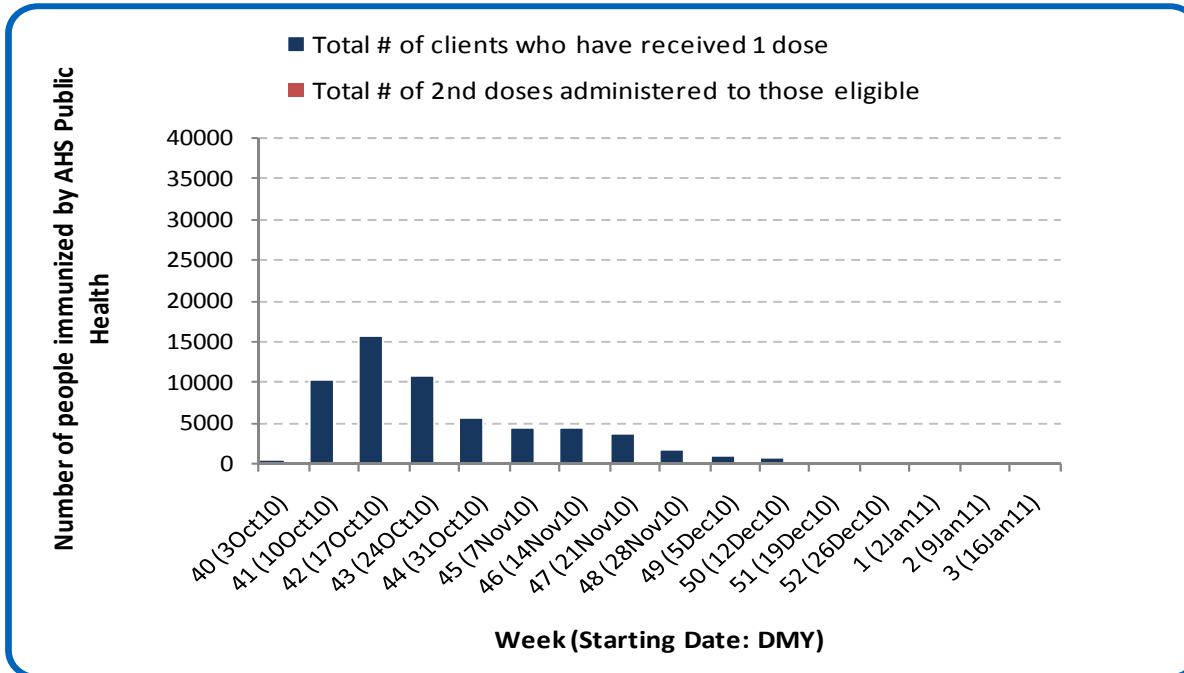
The number of calls to Health Link Alberta by residents of Central Zone for cough or breathing difficulties was 30% lower in Week 3 (Jan 16-22, 11) than in Week 2. This reverses the increasing trend seen in the two weeks prior to that.

Percentage of visits to sentinel offices for influenza-like illness (ILI) or lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI)

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of Central Zone was 45% lower in Week 2 (Jan 9-15, 11) compared to Week 1; both ILI-related and LRTI-related visits declined.

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Figure 4E: Number Immunized by AHS (Public Health), by week, Central Zone (2010-2011)



Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)
 Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season
 For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Table 4C: AHS (Public Health) Delivered Influenza Immunizations (with Cumulative totals), by priority group, Central Zone (2010-2011)

Priority Group		Number Immunized (Week 3 – Jan 16-22, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff		0	403
Health care workers		11	2,548
Pregnant women		3	421
Residents of long term care		0	1,103
65 years of age and over		47	22,046
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	67	1,990
	Dose #2	55	683
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	17	2,192
	Dose #2	6	151
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	5	628
	Dose #2	1	23
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years		28	6,784
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	10	1,899
	Dose #2	2	66
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years		89	20,463
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose		277	60,477
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*		64	923

Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)

*Children under 9 years of age who have not received at least one dose of seasonal influenza vaccine in past years require two doses, given at least four weeks apart.

Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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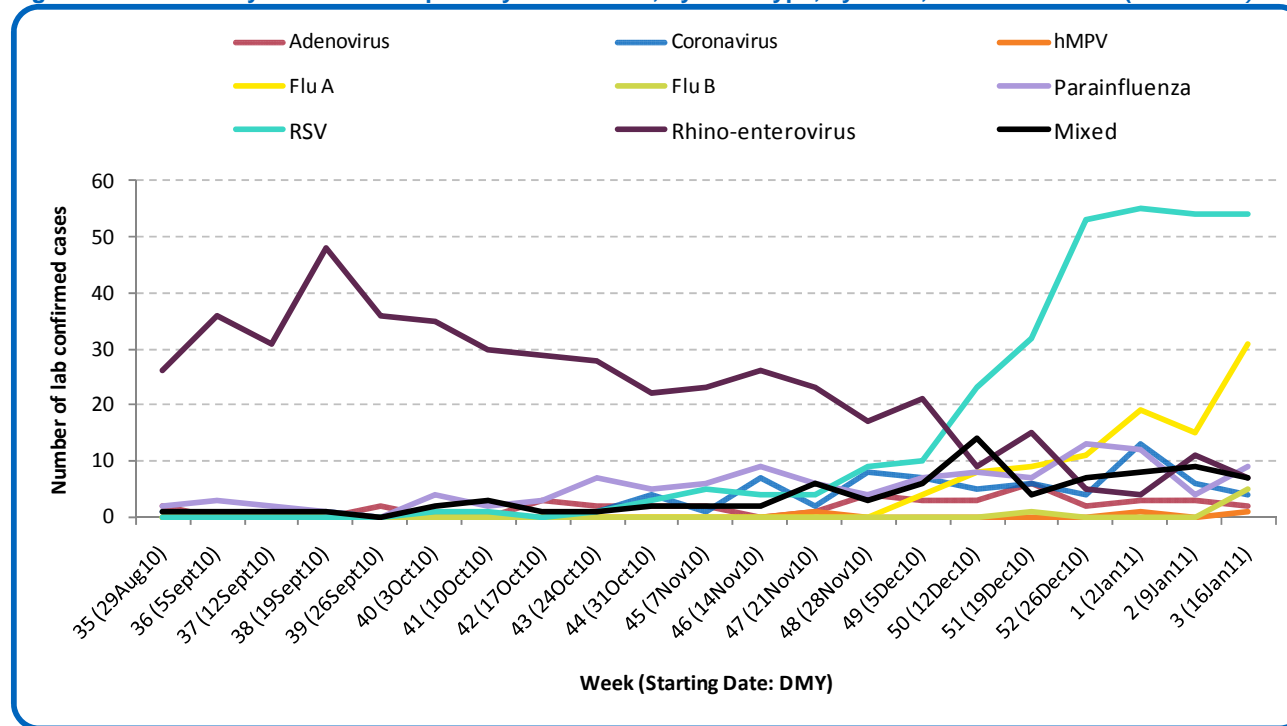
An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

SECTION 5: ZONE 4 – EDMONTON

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RSV continues to be the predominant respiratory virus circulating in Edmonton Zone, although there was a fairly large increase in the number of new confirmed cases of influenza A & B last week. This season, there have been a total of 103 influenza cases confirmed in the Edmonton Zone. The age-specific rates for infants 0 to less than 2 years of age and for adults aged 75 years and over are higher compared to other age groups, at 6.3 per 10,000 and 4.4 per 10,000, respectively.

Figure 5A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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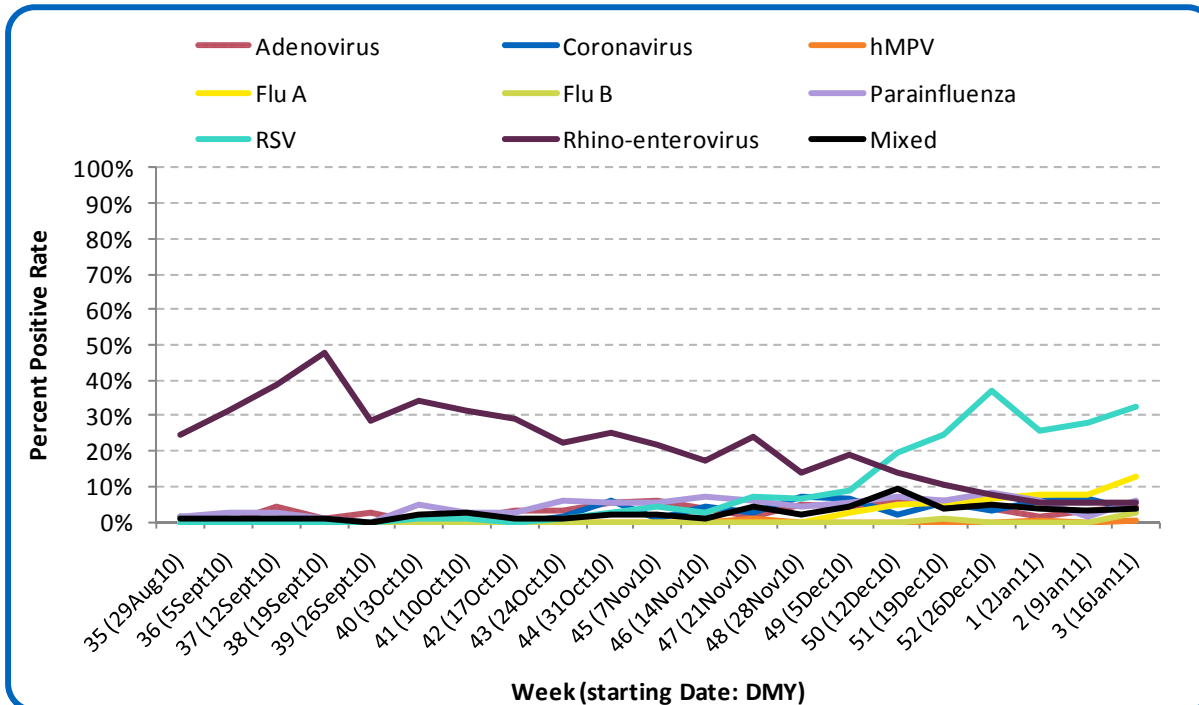
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An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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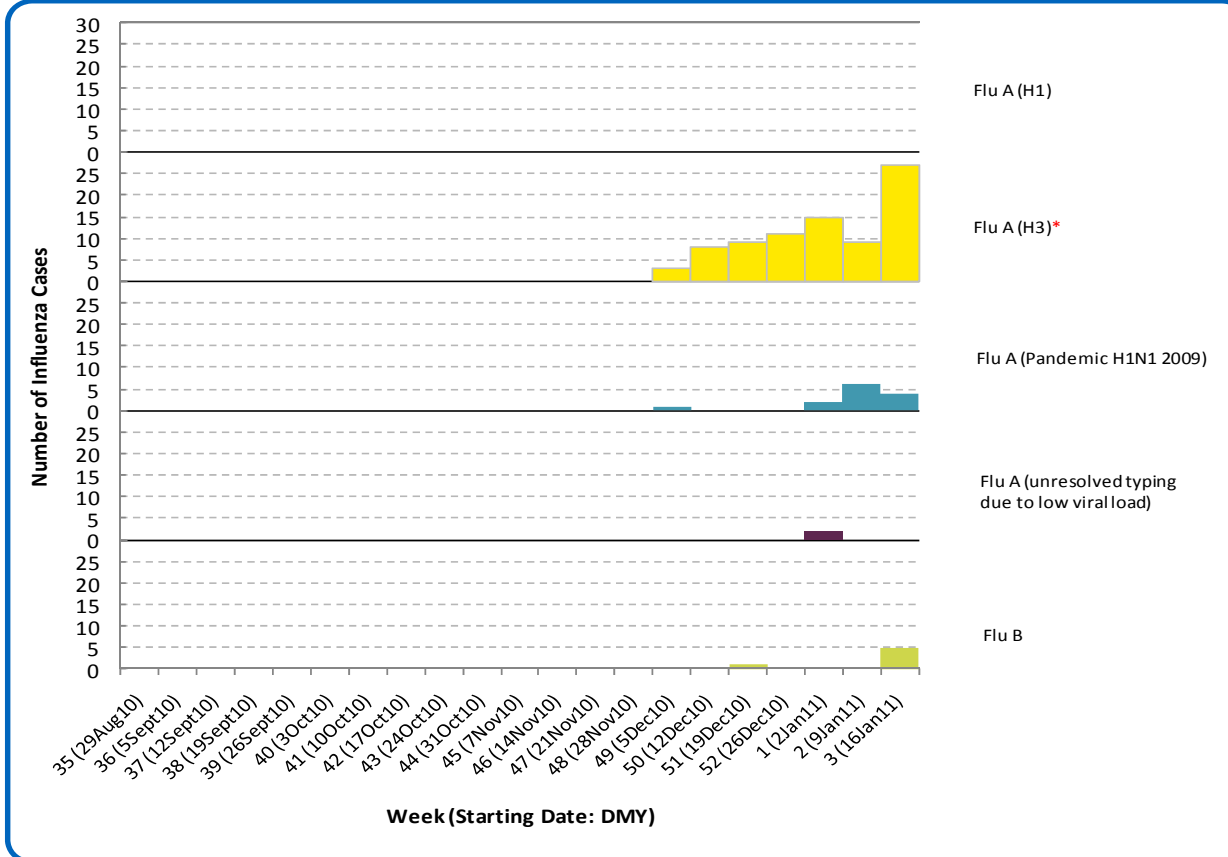
Figure 5B: Respiratory Specimen Percent Positive Rates, by virus type, by week, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011)
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

Figure 5C: Laboratory confirmed Influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)

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*Note: One specimen was positive for both RSV and influenza A (H3).

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Table 5A: New Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Edmonton Zone (Week 3: Jan 16-22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	2	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.3	3	1.0
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	2	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.5
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.4
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.3	4	0.3
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	9	0.1	2	<0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	11	0.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	14	2.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	14	2.4
Total	0	0.0	27	0.2	4	<0.1	0	0.0	5	<0.1	36	0.3

Table 5B: Cumulative Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Edmonton Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Jan 22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	13	4.3	3	1.0	1	0.3	2	0.7	19	6.3
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	7	1.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	1.7
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	2	0.4	2	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.8
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	2	0.2	1	0.1	0	0.0	4	0.3	7	0.6
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	29	0.4	7	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	36	0.5
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	4	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.6
75+ years	0	0.0	25	4.2	0	0.0	1	0.2	0	0.0	26	4.4
Total	0	0.0	82	0.7	13	0.1	2	<0.1	6	0.1	103	0.9

Source for tables 5A & 5B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

Population data values used to calculate rates are for June 30, 2009 and are estimated using actual population values from the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) Registration File as of March 31, 2009.

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

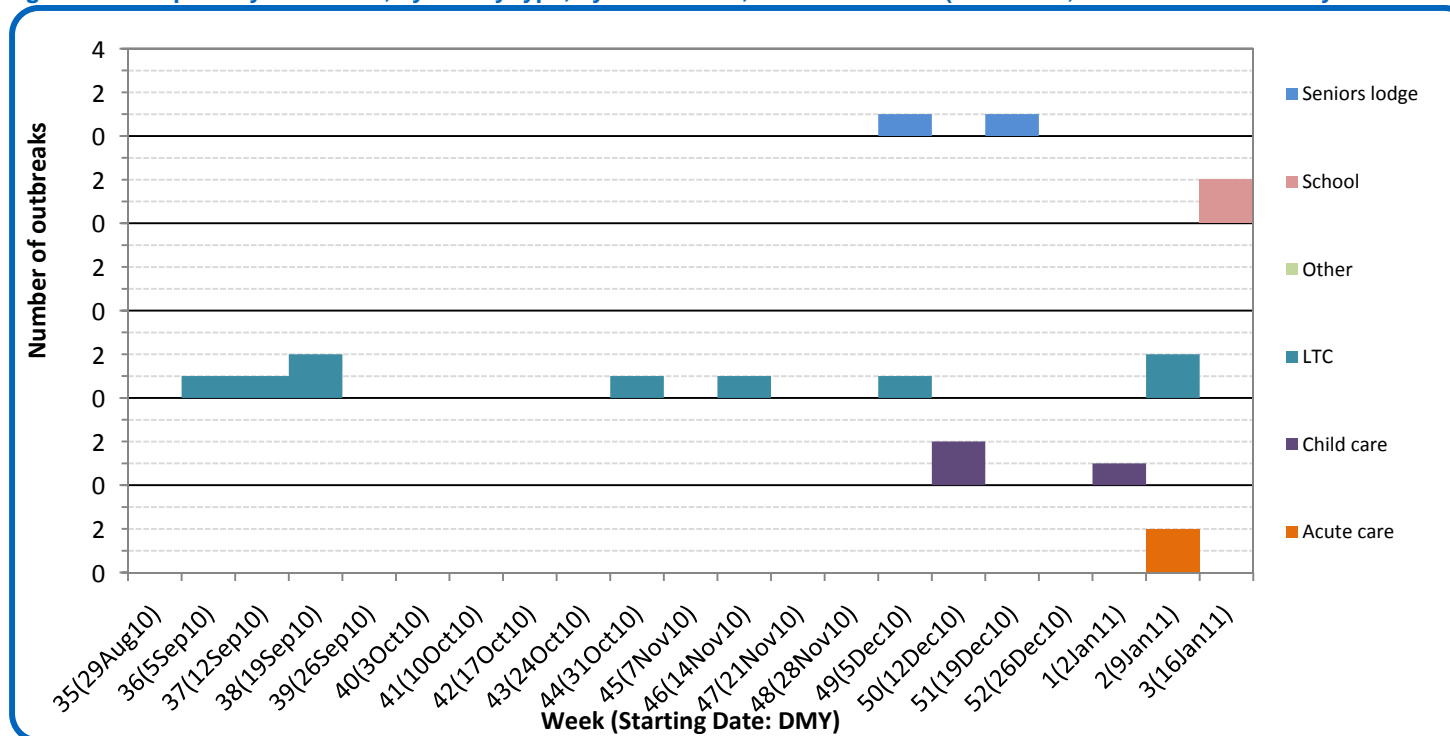
Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Five respiratory outbreaks have been reported in Edmonton Zone since last week's update. Three were attributed to seasonal Influenza A (H3), including two in acute care facilities and another in a long term care facility; one was attributed to Influenza B in a school; and the other, also in a school, is currently pending laboratory confirmation. The influenza B outbreak is the first to be reported in the province this season.

Figure 5D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



Source: Alberta Outbreak Reporting Form as of 23:59 on Jan 22, 2011. LTC stands for long term care facility. For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

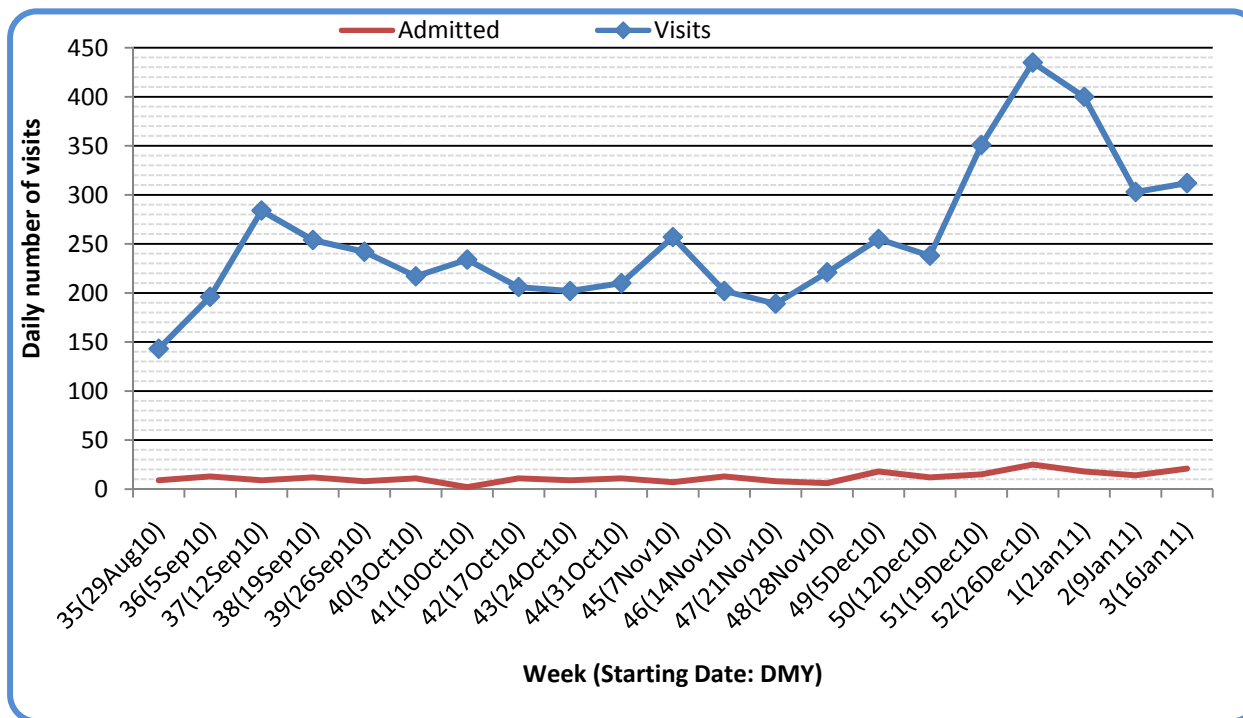
Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Last week, compared to the previous week, the number of visits and hospital admissions of patients with cough/congestion symptoms increased by 3% and 50%, respectively, at the nine emergency departments/urgent care centers in Edmonton Zone.

Figure 5E: Visits to emergency departments/urgent care centers for cough/congestion and admissions to hospitals, Edmonton Zone, by visit week (2010-2011)



Source: Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Jan 22, 2011.
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

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Attack rates in respiratory outbreaks

The influenza A (H3) outbreaks in the two acute care facilities had preliminary attack rates of 7% and 29%; the influenza A (H3) outbreak in the long term care facility had a preliminary attack rate of 5%. The influenza B outbreak in the school had a preliminary attack rate of 13%, and the outbreak in another school which is pending laboratory confirmation had an attack rate of 35%.

Influenza-like illness visits to emergency departments and urgent care centers

The number of visits and hospital admissions of patients with ILI symptoms at the nine emergency departments/urgent care centers in Edmonton Zone decreased by 8% and 18%, respectively, in Week 3 (Jan 16-22, 2011) from their Week 2 level, bringing down the percentage of ILI-related visits close to 5% of all visits which were screened for ILI symptoms.

Respiratory related calls to Health Link Alberta

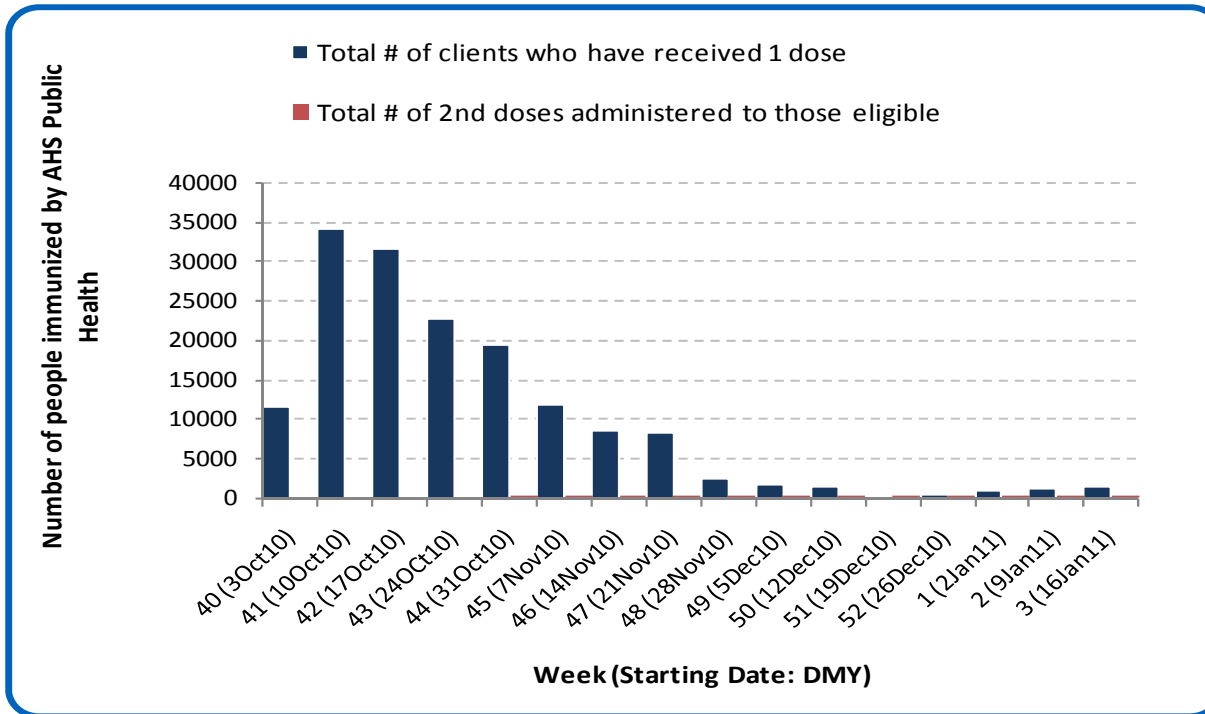
The number of calls to Health Link Alberta by residents of Edmonton Zone for cough or breathing difficulties was 11% lower in Week 3 (Jan 16-22, 2011) compared to the previous week. This pattern is similar to that seen for cough/congestion or ILI symptoms at the emergency departments and urgent care centers.

Percentage of visits to sentinel offices for influenza-like illness (ILI) or lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI)

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of Edmonton Zone was 16% higher in Week 2 (Jan 9-15, 2011) than in Week 1, as both ILI- and LRTI-related visits had increased. This increase contrasted with the decrease in visits to ED's or Calls to Health Link Alberta for ILI symptoms for the same period.

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Figure 5F: Number Immunized by AHS (Public Health), by week, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)



Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)
 Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season
 For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Table 5C: AHS (Public Health) Delivered Influenza Immunizations (with Cumulative totals), by priority group, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)

Priority Group	Number Immunized (Week 3 – Jan 16-22, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	0	320
Health care workers	33	4,730
Pregnant women	23	1,374
Residents of long term care	9	1,039
65 years of age and over	207	48,289
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	5,923
	Dose #2	1,687
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	6,946
	Dose #2	331
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	1,300
	Dose #2	34
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	126	16,950
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	5,335
	Dose #2	158
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	777	66,438
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose	1,593	158,644
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	186	2,210

Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)

*Children under 9 years of age who have not received at least one dose of seasonal influenza vaccine in past years require two doses, given at least four weeks apart.

Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: January 25, 2011

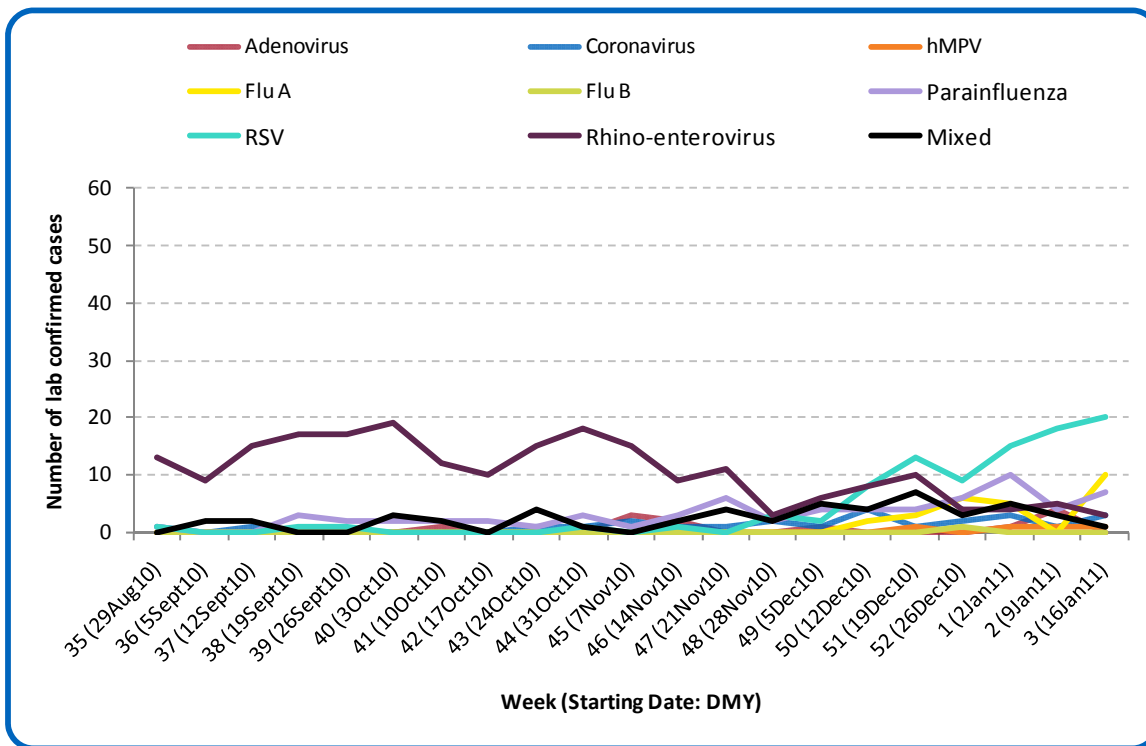
An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

SECTION 6: ZONE 5 – NORTH

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The number of laboratory confirmed RSV cases continues to increase in North Zone. As well, there were ten new cases of influenza confirmed in North Zone last week, including five cases of influenza A (H3) and five cases of influenza A (H1N1) 2009. Consistent with other areas of the province, the age specific rate of confirmed influenza in North Zone is higher than the rate for any other age group (5.8 per 10,000 compared to 1.0 or less per 10,000). The total number of confirmed cases of influenza in North Zone this season is 27; including 18 cases of influenza A (H3), eight cases of influenza A (H1N1) 2009, and one case of influenza type B.

Figure 6A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, North Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

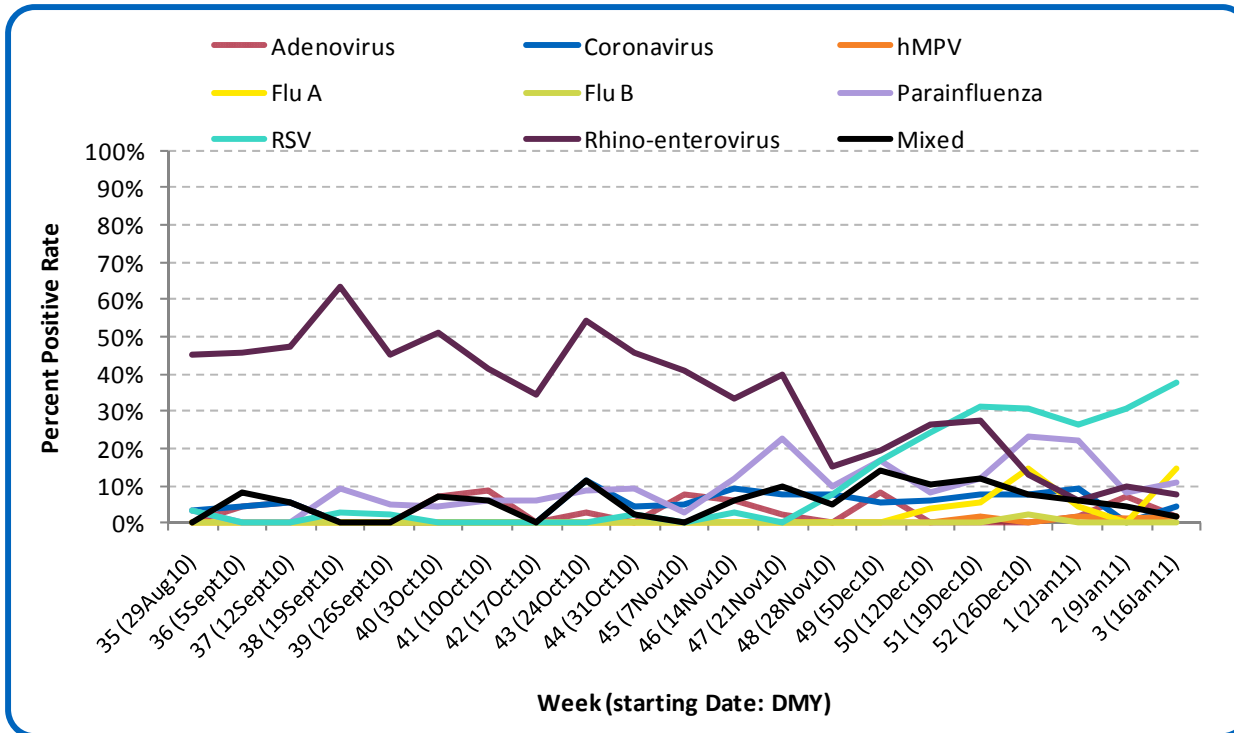
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Figure 6B: Respiratory Specimen Percent Positive Rates, by virus type, by week, North Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011)
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

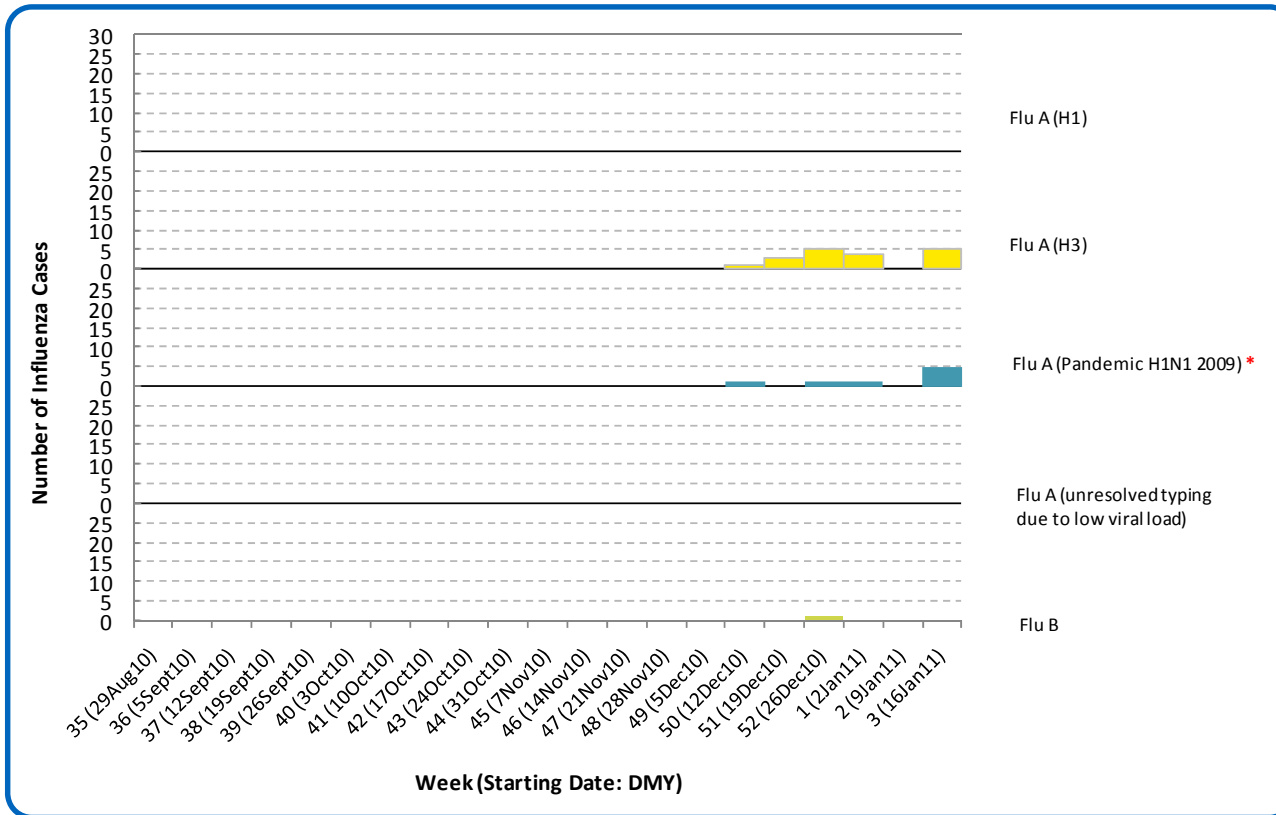
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

Figure 6C: Laboratory confirmed Influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, North Zone (2010-2011)

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*Note: Two specimens were positive for both RSV and influenza A (H1N1) 2009.

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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Table 6A: New Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, North (Week 3: Jan 16-22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	2	1.4	1	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	2.2
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.4
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	1	<0.1	3	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	0	0.0	5	0.1	5	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	0.2

Table 6B: Cumulative Influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, North Zone (Aug 29, 2010-Jan 22, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	5	3.6	3	2.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	5.8
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5	2	1.0
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	1	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.4
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	3	0.5	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.7
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	7	0.3	4	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	11	0.4
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	1	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.6
Total	0	0.0	18	0.4	8	0.2	0	0.0	1	<0.1	27	0.6

Source for Tables 6A & 6B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Jan 22, 2011).

Population data values used to calculate rates are for June 30, 2009 and are estimated using actual population values from the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) Registration File as of March 31, 2009.

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

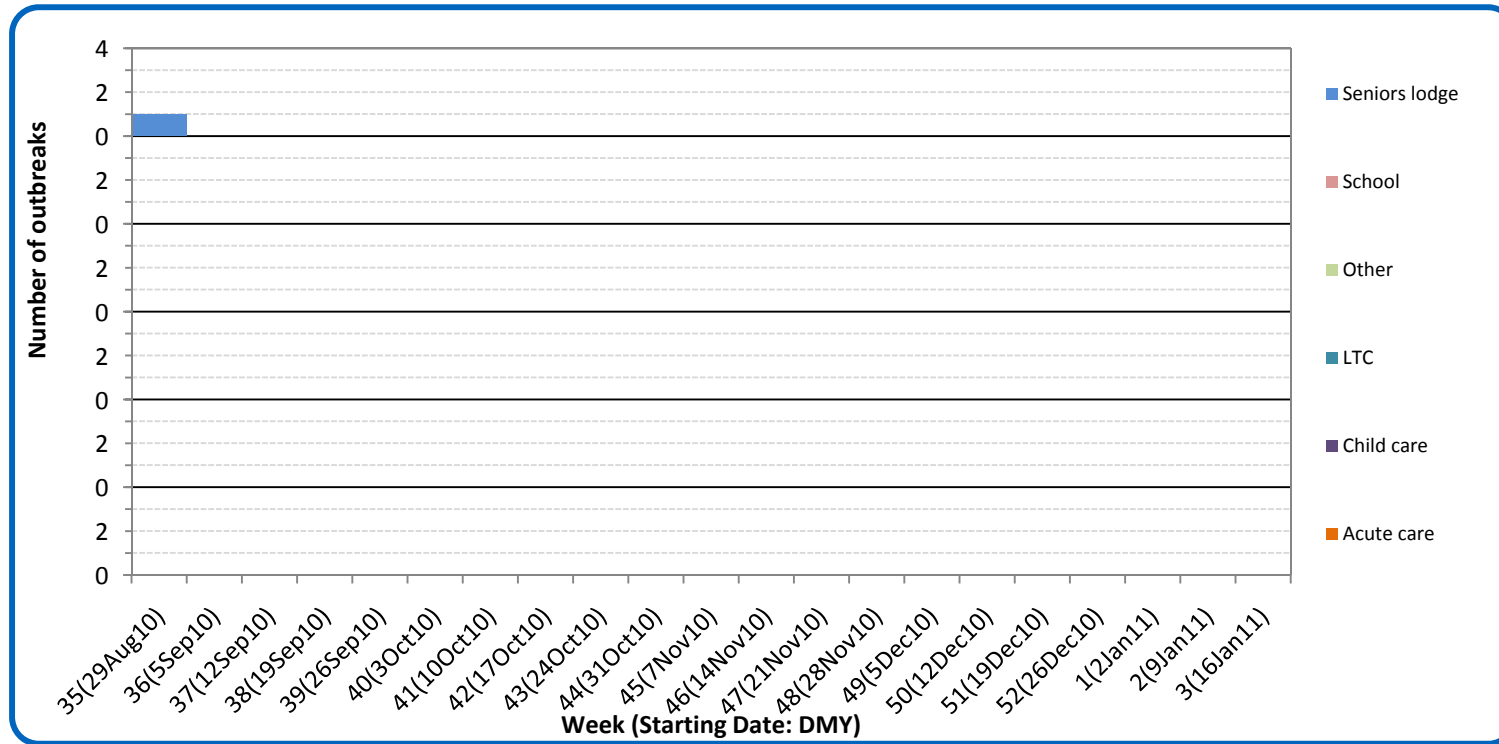
Report Date: January 25, 2011

An influenza report targeted to the general public is available at: <http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/influenza-evidence.html>

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There have been no laboratory confirmed respiratory outbreaks reported in North Zone since the week of Aug 29, 2010.

Figure 6D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, North Zone (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



Source: Alberta Outbreak Reporting Form as of 23:59 on Jan 22, 2011. LTC stands for long term care facility. For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Attack rates in respiratory outbreaks

There have been no reports of respiratory outbreaks from the North Zone since the beginning of September.

Influenza-like illness visits to emergency departments and urgent care centers

There are no data available for the North Zone.

Respiratory related calls to Health Link

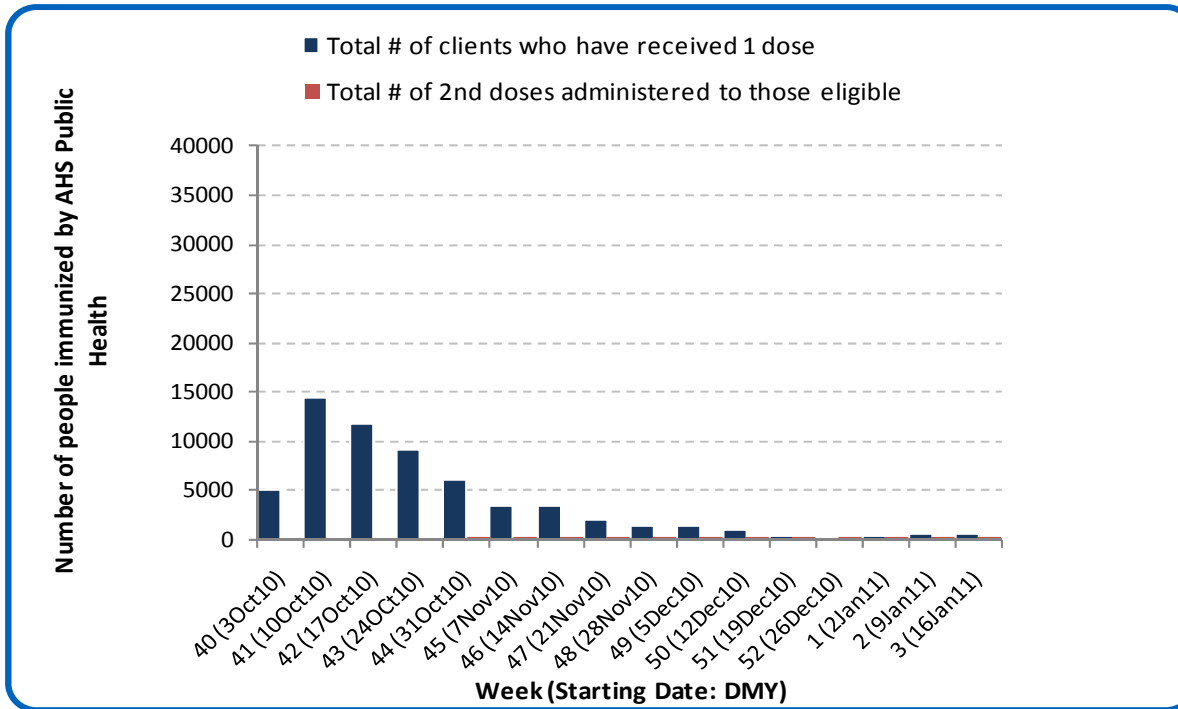
The number of calls to Health Link Alberta by residents of North Zone for cough or breathing difficulties was 20% lower in Week 3 (Jan 16-22, 2011) compared to the previous week. This is a departure from the relatively stable pattern seen in the previous 4 weeks.

Percentage of visits to sentinel offices for influenza-like illness (ILI) or lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI)

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of North Zone was 77% higher in Week 2 (Jan 9 -15, 2011) than in Week 1 (Jan 2-8, 2011), as both ILI- and LRTI-related visits increased.

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Figure 6E: Number Immunized by AHS (Public Health), by week, North Zone (2010-2011)



Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)
 Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season
 For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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Table 6B: AHS (Public Health) Delivered Influenza Immunizations (with Cumulative totals), by priority group, North Zone (2010-2011)

Priority Group		Number Immunized (Week 3 – Jan 16-22, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff		1	804
Health care workers		23	4,643
Pregnant women		9	545
Residents of long term care		1	1,246
65 years of age and over		80	15,678
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	43	2,119
	Dose #2	45	630
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	28	2,448
	Dose #2	10	107
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	14	921
	Dose #2	0	10
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years		44	7,629
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	26	2,374
	Dose #2	0	50
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years		251	22,734
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose		520	61,141
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*		55	797

Source: AHS Zones (doses do not include those delivered by external providers)

*Children under 9 years of age who have not received at least one dose of seasonal influenza vaccine in past years require two doses, given at least four weeks apart.

Note: Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of the influenza season

For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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ANNEX: DATA NOTES

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LABORATORY

Information on laboratory confirmed respiratory virus activity in Alberta is based on data from 2 sources:

- 1) Non-influenza viruses: The Alberta Provincial Public Health Laboratory DIAL system (Data Integration for Alberta Laboratories) – a specimen based system. Cases are determined by rationalizing samples from the same patient with the same virus identified within a 30-day period. The information (i.e. received date) from the first sample identifying the identical virus is used in this report.
- 2) Influenza viruses: The Alberta influenza Case Management System – an influenza case based system.

Both data sources are web-based applications supported by the Canadian Network for Public Health Intelligence.

The data in this report are based on specimens obtained from residents of Alberta; according to the date the specimen was received by the laboratory.

Definition for “mixed” – a single sample where multiple viral organisms were isolated.

INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS

Four data sources are used to provide information on utilization of primary and acute care services by people with Influenza-Like Illness (ILI). *Caution: Each source uses potentially different definitions of ILI.*

1. Primary care summaries are obtained from the TARRANT system. Patients seen by TARRANT physicians may not be representative of the general population. Reported ILI cases represent people seen by TARRANT physicians, according to the date seen by the physician. The percentage of ILI represents the proportion of patients with ILI of all patients seen by the physician.
2. In addition to reporting visits of patients with ILI, TARRANT physicians also report visits with lower respiratory tract infections (LRTI). Each visit is recorded only once, even if a patient has symptoms consistent with ILI and LRTI. The combined ILI- and LRTI-related visits are therefore suggestive of overall respiratory infections in the patient population.
3. Information on visits for ILI in Emergency Departments (ED) and urgent care centers are provided by the Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) data repository. ILI designation is based on patients being screened in emergency departments with an ILI screening tool. The primary purpose of the ILI screening tool is to implement appropriate infection control measures. The original data sources fed to the ARTSSN data repository are EDIS (Emergency Department Information System) for the Edmonton Zone and REDIS for the Calgary Zone.
4. Health Link Alberta is a 24 hour a day, 7 day a week nurse telephone advice and health information service that provides the public with advice and information about health symptoms and concerns. The original data source for the daily calls to Health Link Alberta for ILI, cough, and breathing difficulties is the Health Link database called Sharp Focus.

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OUTBREAKS

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Upon notification of an outbreak, the *Alberta Health & Wellness/Alberta Health Services* Outbreak Reporting Form (Fillable PDF) is completed by Zone Public Health investigators and sent to *Alberta Health & Wellness and AHS Public Health Surveillance*. The form includes information about the type and location of the outbreak, type of facility, and the causative organism (confirmed or suspected). There may be a delay between the reporting of an outbreak and the identification of the organism. This report includes only those outbreaks that are laboratory confirmed and caused by influenza-like illness viruses; outbreaks that are caused by bacteria (i.e. pertussis, invasive pneumococcal disease) and other types of viruses (i.e. measles, rubella (German measles), chickenpox) are excluded. Also excluded are those outbreaks that have no causative agent identified by the Provincial Laboratory for Public Health or where specimens are not tested or an outbreak with only one infected (confirmed or probable) case during a 7 day period. This follows the same approach of PHAC FluWatch for defining ILI/influenza outbreak. The naming convention of outbreak facilities by FluWatch - "Hospital and residential institutions" - is also adopted. Outbreaks in schools are officially counted in tables or graphs whether there is or not a laboratory confirmation; outbreaks in hospital and residential institutions that are pending for laboratory confirmation are described for information only but not officially presented in graphs or tables in this report.

INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATIONS

Influenza immunization data are reported by AHS zones. Numbers are available to the Public Health Surveillance team at the beginning of the week for the doses administered the previous week (Sunday to Saturday). It includes those doses administered by AHS (Public Health) only. Clients can only exist in one priority group. Immunization coverage rates will be reported at the end of March, 2011.

POPULATION NUMBERS

Population data values used to calculate rates are for June 30, 2009 and are estimated using actual population values from the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) Registration File as of March 31, 2009. The following registrants are included: residents of Alberta; 'residents' of Alberta temporarily living elsewhere, such as extended visits or vacations or students attending an educational institute outside of Alberta, or Albertans temporarily (up to four years) working outside Alberta; persons during the first three months after they move from Alberta to another Canadian province; dependants of members of the RCMP and Armed Forces; persons from another country who are working or studying in Alberta on valid visas; and Natives/Aboriginals whose premiums are paid by Health Canada, First Nations and Inuit Health Branch. Not included are: members of the Armed Forces and RCMP; inmates at federal penitentiaries; persons from other provinces during their first three months in Alberta; and persons who have not registered for eligibility, or have opted out.

Slight differences between values provided at this level of aggregation and data provided at other levels of aggregation may occur because of round-off error. Population values are subject to change without notice when new source data is received.

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