

## Weekly Report

March 8, 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 decreasing influenza-like-illness (ILI) and acute respiratory infection (ARI) trends although an increasing proportion of influenza B viruses continue to be reported (with a very small proportion of these characterized as B/Florida/4/2006-like – Yamagata lineage). In Week 8 (Feb 20-26, 2011) influenza B became the dominant influenza virus in a number of European countries (nearly all influenza A viruses identified continue to be A (H1N1) 2009). The number of influenza infections with severe outcomes has decreased in most western European countries that report them (with the exception of Greece where the number remains high). The number of RSV infections in Europe peaked in early 2011 and has been decreasing since that time.
- According to the latest WHO report, influenza transmission in the tropical parts of the Americas is sporadic while transmission in the tropical parts of Asia is low. Australia continues to have transmission of influenza A at low levels.
- In the United States, influenza activity remains elevated. Of the viruses antigenically characterized, 15.9% have been identified as influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 48.6% as influenza A (H3N2), 33.7% as influenza B (Victoria lineage) and 1.8% as influenza B (Yamagata lineage).
- In Canada, Quebec and British Columbia have recently reported an increase in influenza activity while other areas of the country have reported decreases. The proportion of influenza B detections among all influenza viruses identified continues to increase. Of the influenza B viruses characterized this season by the National Microbiology Laboratory (NML), 92.9% were antigenically related to B/Brisbane/60/08 (Victoria lineage), which is the recommended influenza B component for the 2010-11 influenza vaccine. The remaining 7.1% were characterized as B/Wisconsin/01/2010-like, which belongs to the Yamagata lineage and is not a component of the vaccine.
- Despite decreases in some indicators over the last week, and a continuing decline in RSV activity, respiratory virus activity remains steady in Alberta. The proportion of influenza type B cases among all influenza cases confirmed continues to increase. Overall this season, the total number of influenza cases confirmed in the province is 801, of which 48.8% have been identified as influenza A (H3), 20.2% as influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 28.7% as influenza type B, and 2.2% influenza A with unresolved sub-typing.
- Since last week's update, four respiratory outbreaks have been confirmed in Alberta including one in a Calgary Zone and three in Edmonton Zone. The one in Calgary Zone was attributed to influenza B and occurred in a school. The three in Edmonton Zone occurred in a seniors' lodge (attributed to hMPV), a school (attributed to influenza B) and a child care facility (attributed to influenza A). In addition to these, one new respiratory outbreak was reported in Central Zone. This outbreak is currently pending laboratory confirmation.

If you have questions about the Alberta Respiratory Virus Surveillance Update, or any of the indicators, please contact: [AHSPublicHealthSurveillance@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:AHSPublicHealthSurveillance@albertahealthservices.ca) Or phone: 780-342-0210

## Alberta Snapshot

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Indicators			Cumulative Counts					Alberta
			Week 35 (starting Aug 29/10) to week 9 (starting Feb 27/11)					
			South	Calgary	Central	Edmonton	North	
Laboratory Confirmed Cases	Number of cases with a positive respiratory specimen <sup>1</sup>	Adenovirus	4	35	8	69	16	132
		Coronavirus	7	58	28	92	36	221
		Human metapneumovirus (hMPV)	8	5	0	12	5	30
		Influenza A	33	162	66	201	109	571
		Influenza B	29	90	14	73	24	230
		Parainfluenza	28	80	48	158	91	405
		Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	103	404	166	661	254	1,588
		Rhino enterovirus	97	411	155	578	272	1,513
		Mixed	32	124	48	130	82	416
		Total	341	1,369	533	1,974	889	5,106
Outbreaks	# laboratory confirmed respiratory outbreaks <sup>2</sup>	0	17	7	31	2	57	
Influenza Immunizations	Total number of clients who have received 1 dose administered by AHS Public Health <sup>3</sup> (cumulative since Oct 3, 2010)	43,115	191,020	61,587	161,517	62,649	519,888	
	The reported number of people who have received 1 dose administered by external providers (Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010) <sup>4</sup>	17,639	120,408	17,789	62,481	5,075	223,392	

-- Information not available

\*Note: 22 specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s). These cases have been included in the influenza counts, as well as the other respective specimen type(s). They have not been included in the 'Mixed' category. One specimen was positive for both influenza A & B.

<sup>1</sup> Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 2011).

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

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

<sup>4</sup> In some cases, it was not possible to separate dose 1's from dose 2's.

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: March 8, 2011

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

## SECTION 1: ALBERTA

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### Summary

Despite decreases in some indicators over the last week, respiratory virus activity remains steady in Alberta.

### Laboratory Data (see [Figure 1A](#), [Figure 1B](#) & [Figure 1C](#), [Table 1A](#) & [Table 1B](#))

In Alberta, RSV activity continues to decline. Since early January of this year, the number of laboratory confirmed influenza type B cases has been on an increasing trend. This trend continues, with the total number of cases confirmed in the province this season now at 230. The age specific rate for confirmed influenza B cases is highest among infants under the age of 2 years. As of the end of last week (Mar 5, 2011), the total number of confirmed cases of influenza in the province this season is 801 (48.8% influenza A (H3), 20.2% influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 28.7% 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 11.8 per 10,000 compared to 5.1 per 10,000 or lower for all other age groups.

### Outbreaks (see [Figure 1D](#))

Four respiratory outbreaks have been confirmed in Alberta since the last report. One of them occurred in a Calgary Zone school in Week 9 (Feb 27–Mar 5, 2011) and was attributed to influenza B (13% preliminary attack rate). The remaining outbreaks confirmed were in Edmonton Zone, including one in a seniors' lodge in Week 8 (attributed to hMPV with an attack rate of 1%), one in a school in Week 8 (attributed to influenza B) and one in a child care facility in Week 7 (attributed to influenza A H3 with an attack rate of 29%).

One new respiratory outbreak, still pending laboratory confirmation, was reported in a Central Zone long term care facility. The onset date of symptoms occurred in Week 8 and the preliminary attack rate was 23%.

### Health Link Alberta Calls (see [Figure 1E](#))

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties by Albertans decreased by 12% in Week 9 (Feb 27-Mar 5, 2011) from the previous week.

### Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

The combined number of visits and the number of hospital admissions at the emergency departments/urgent care centers (ED's) for influenza-like illness (ILI) in the City of Calgary and Edmonton Zone decreased by 18% and 9% respectively in Week 9 (Feb 27-Mar 5, 2011) from the previous week. The percentage of ILI visits dropped to 7% from 8% of all screened visits in the previous week.

During the same time period, the number of ED visits and hospital admissions for symptoms with cough at the same facilities decreased by 13% and 11%, respectively. There had been two consecutive declines in small magnitude in these indicators in the last two weeks.

### Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits was slightly over 2% of all visits to the sentinel physician offices in Week 8 (Feb 20-26, 2011), a 5% reduction from the value in Week 7. The decline was due primarily to fewer ILI-related visits.

## SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

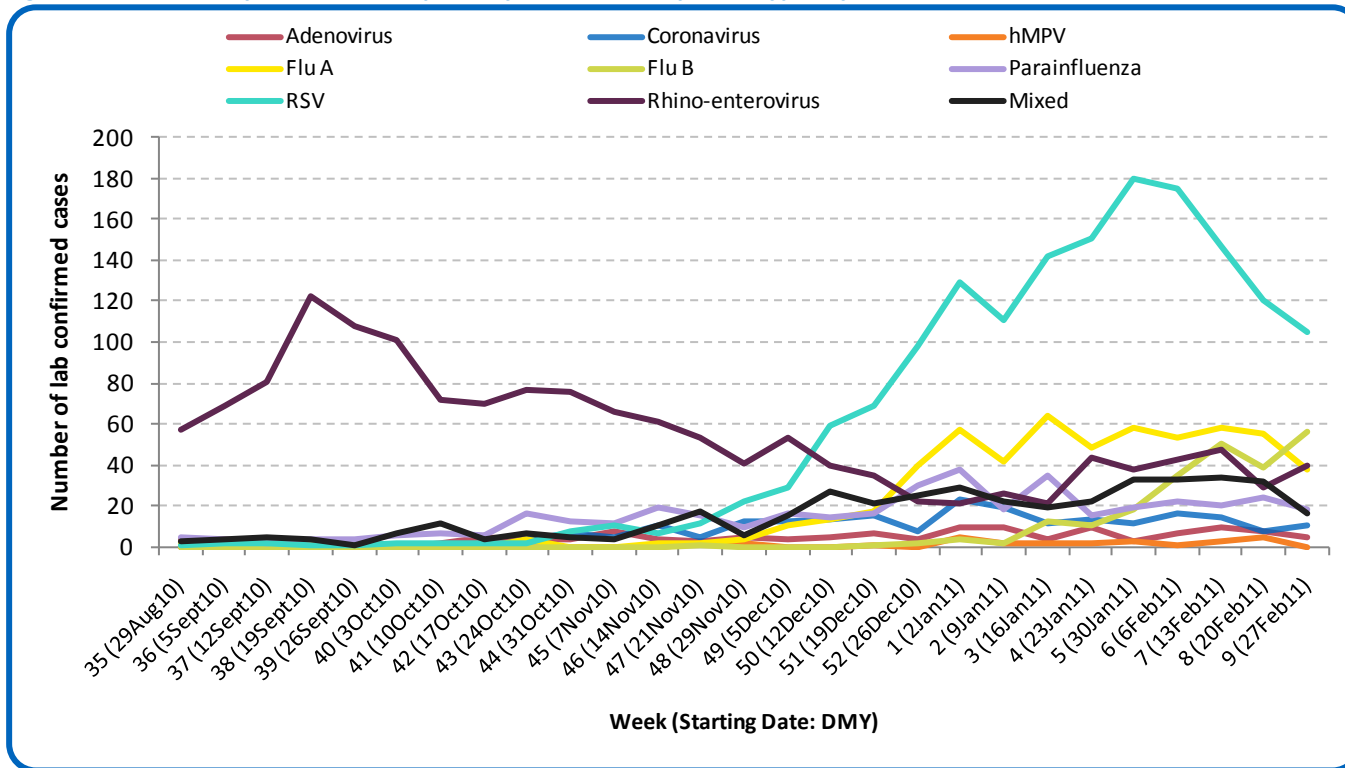
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Figure 1A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, Alberta (2010-11)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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

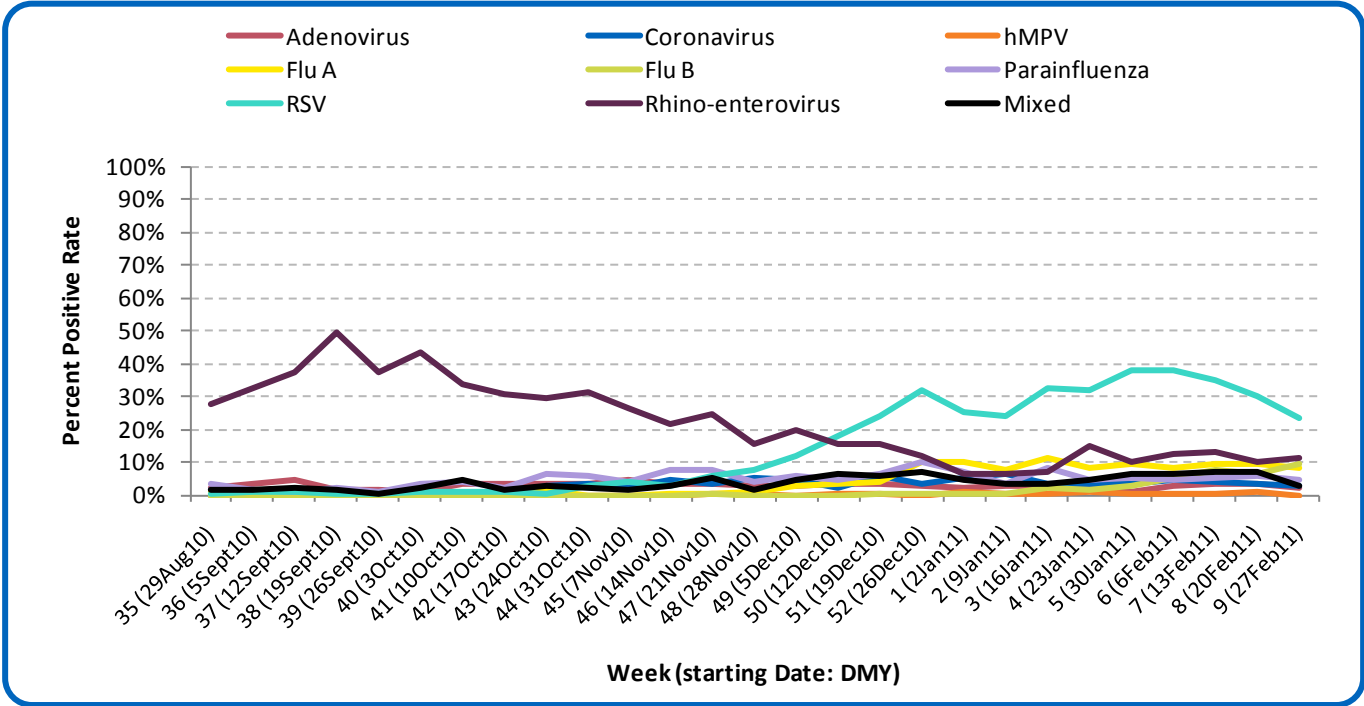
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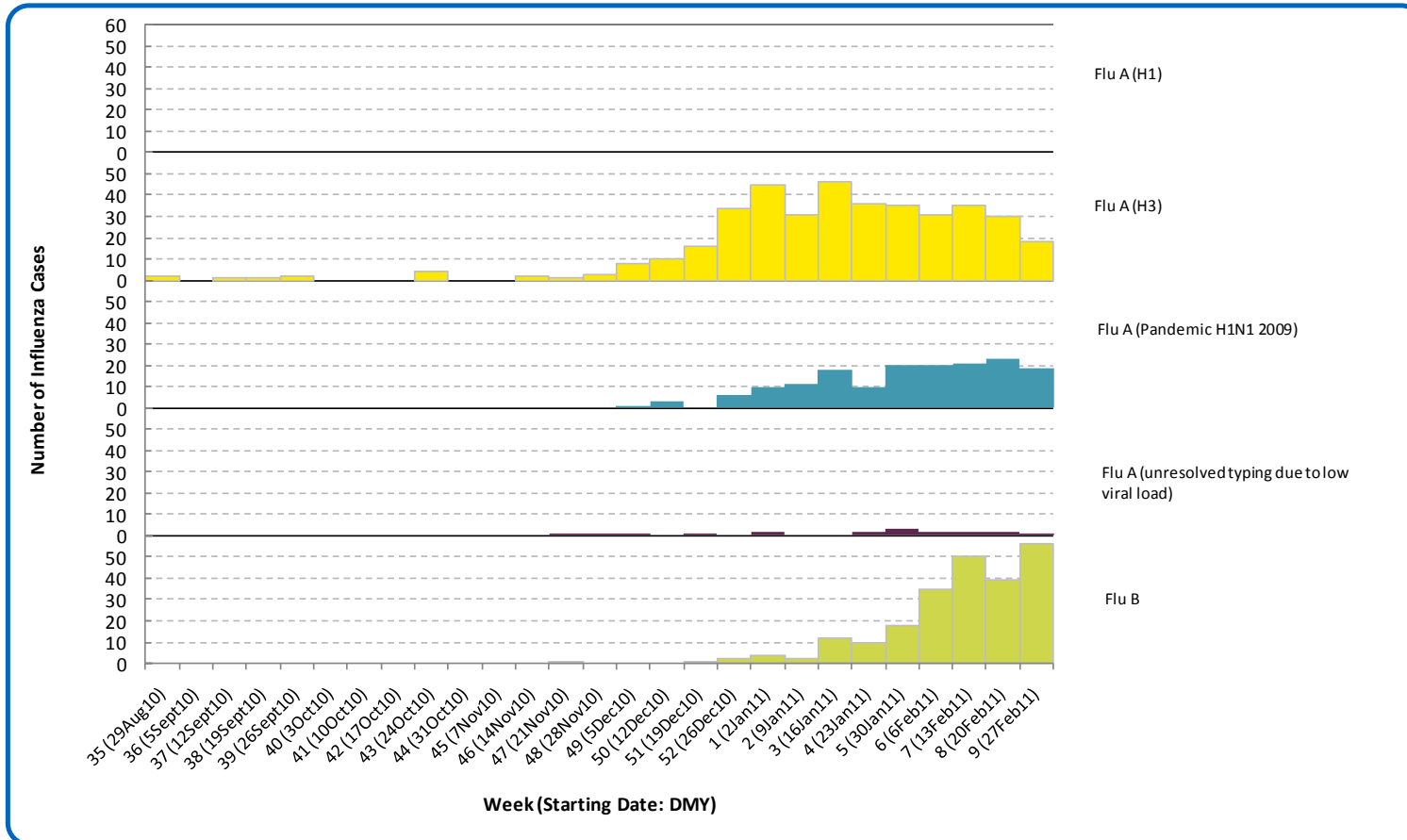
Figure 1B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Alberta (2010-11)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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 1C: Laboratory confirmed influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, Alberta (2010-2011)



\*Note: 22 specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s). One specimen was positive for both influenza A & B.

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 2011).

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**Table 1A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Alberta (Week 9: Feb 27-Mar 5, 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	0.4	3	0.3	0	0.0	11	1.1	18	1.8
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	1	0.1	4	0.3	0	0.0	3	0.2	8	0.6
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	0.4	8	0.5
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	1	<0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	15	0.4	16	0.4
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	7	<0.1	12	0.1	1	<0.1	18	0.1	38	0.2
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	1	<0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	<0.1	2	0.1
75+ years	0	0.0	3	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	4	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>0.3</b>

**Table 1B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Alberta (Aug 29, 2010 – Mar 5, 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	60	5.9	23	2.3	2	0.2	35	3.4	120	11.8
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	32	2.3	13	0.9	2	0.1	24	1.7	71	5.1
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	26	1.5	9	0.5	2	0.1	31	1.8	68	3.9
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	23	0.6	12	0.3	2	<0.1	65	1.6	102	2.4
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	161	0.7	102	0.4	8	<0.1	66	0.3	337	1.4
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	17	0.8	3	0.1	0	0.0	4	0.2	24	1.1
75+ years	0	0.0	72	4.0	0	0.0	2	0.1	5	0.3	79	4.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>2.2</b>

Source for Table 1A & 1B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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

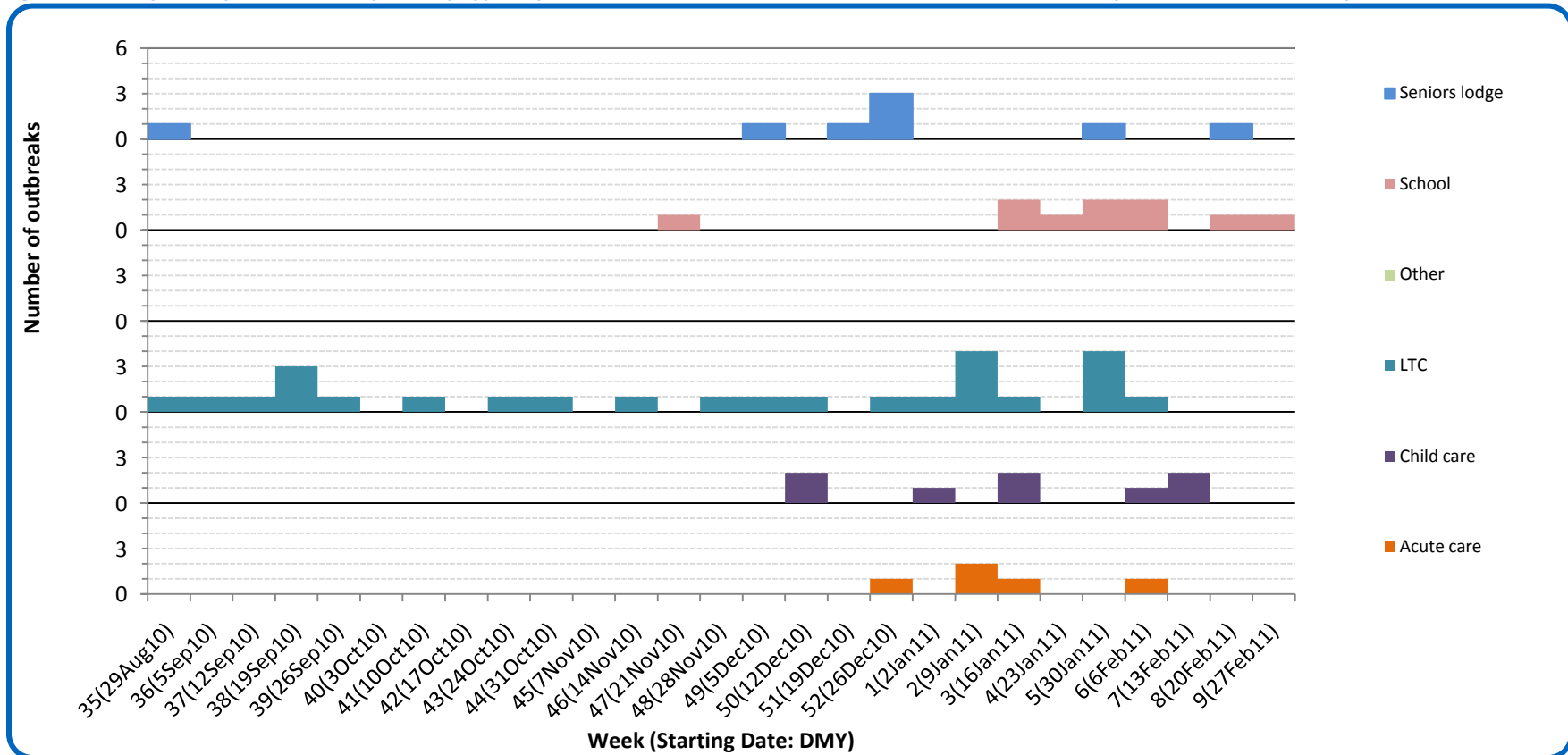
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Figure 1D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, Alberta (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



Source: Alberta Outbreak Reporting Form as of 23:59 on Mar 5, 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

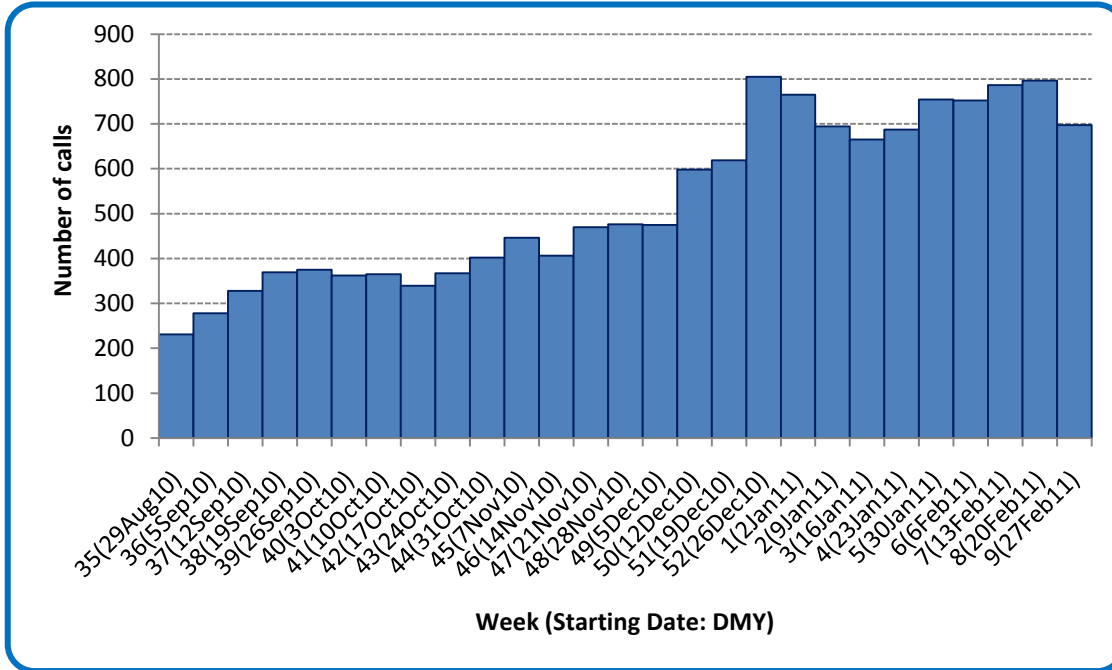
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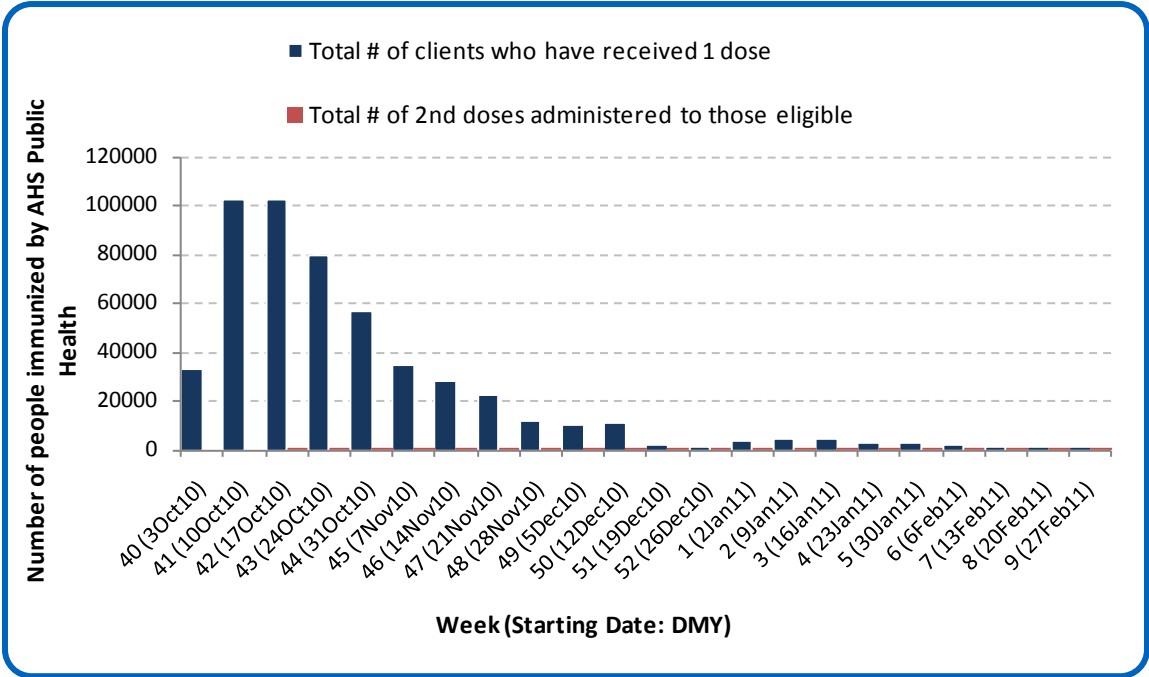
Figure 1E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, Alberta (2010-11)



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Mar 5, 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 1F: Number immunized by AHS (Public Health), by week, Alberta (2010-11)



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 (2010-11)**

Priority Group	# Immunized (Week 9 – Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	7	2,627
Health care workers	24	18,987
Pregnant women	25	4,705
Residents of long term care	4	4,839
65 years of age and over	29	146,720
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	520
	Dose #2	402
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	143
	Dose #2	55
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	14
	Dose #2	4
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	63	55,879
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	76
	Dose #2	22
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	496	210,416
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>1,401</b>	<b>519,888</b>
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	483	10,227

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: March 8, 2011

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**Table 1D: Influenza immunizations delivered by external partners, by priority group, Alberta (Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010)**

Priority Group	# Immunized Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010	
Long term care staff	5,668	
Health care workers	31,866	
Pregnant women	1,640	
Residents of long term care	6,951	
65 years of age and over	52,176	
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	965
	Dose #2**	48
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	1,043
	Dose #2**	27
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	1,685
	Dose #2**	2
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	29,034	
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	2,226
	Dose #2**	5
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	90,138	
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>223,392</b>	
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	82	

Source: AHS Zones (zones are required to report doses of seasonal influenza vaccine administered by community and other providers (e.g. physicians, pharmacists, LTC, WHS/OHS programs) twice during the influenza season. These numbers are from the first report (for doses delivered from Oct 3 to Dec 31, 2010). The remaining doses will be reported at a later date.

\*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.

\*\* In some cases, it was not possible to separate dose 1's from dose 2's. Therefore, the dose 1 category may contain some 2<sup>nd</sup> doses.

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

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## SECTION 2: ZONE 1 - SOUTH

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### Summary

Generally, respiratory virus activity in South Zone has remained steady in recent weeks, although the number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties and the percentage of visits to sentinel physician offices related to ILI and LRTI have shown recent decreases.

### Laboratory Data (see [Figure 2A](#), [Figure 2B](#), [Figure 2C](#), [Table 2A](#) & [Table 2B](#))

RSV is currently the predominant virus being confirmed in South Zone. So far this season, there have been a total of 62 confirmed cases of influenza in this part of the province. At this point in the season, the age specific rate for confirmed influenza in South zone is highest for infants under the age of 2 years and children between the ages of 2 to less than 5 years, at 7.3 per 10,000 and 7.8 per 10,000, respectively.

### Outbreaks

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

### Health Link Alberta Calls (see [Figure 2D](#))

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties by residents of South Zone was 42% lower in Week 9 (Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011) than it was the previous week. This lower level of call volume has not been observed since Week 2 (Jan 9–15, 2011) of this year.

### Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

This information is not available for South Zone.

### Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of South Zone in Week 8 (Feb 20 – 26, 2011) was 30% lower than in the previous week. This was attributed to a lower percentage of ILI-related visits and an absence of LRTI-related visits.

## SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

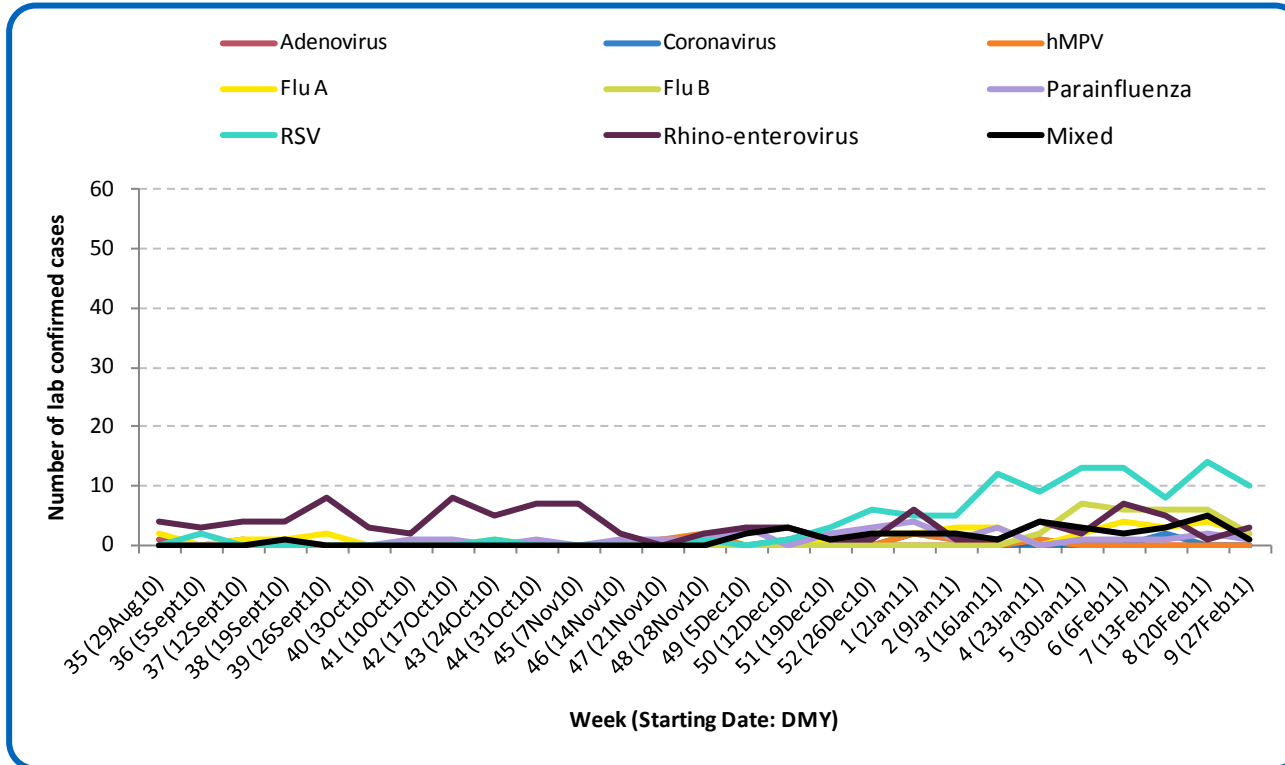
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Figure 2A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, South Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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

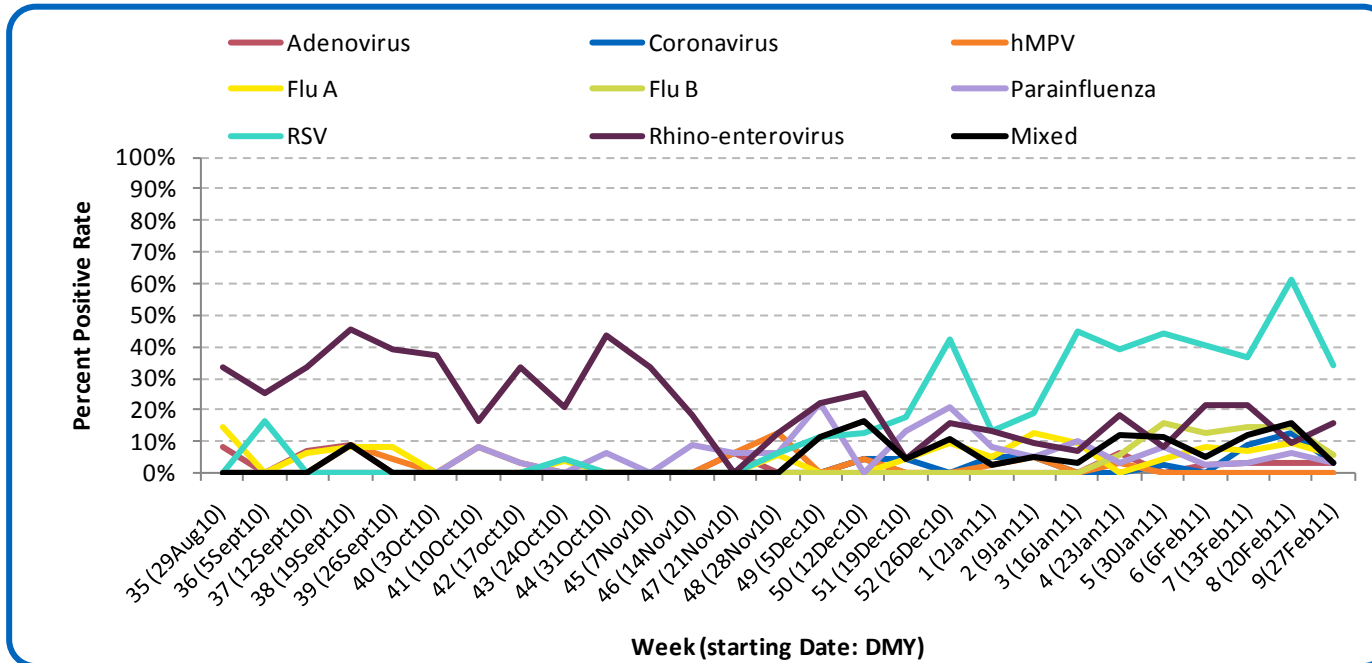
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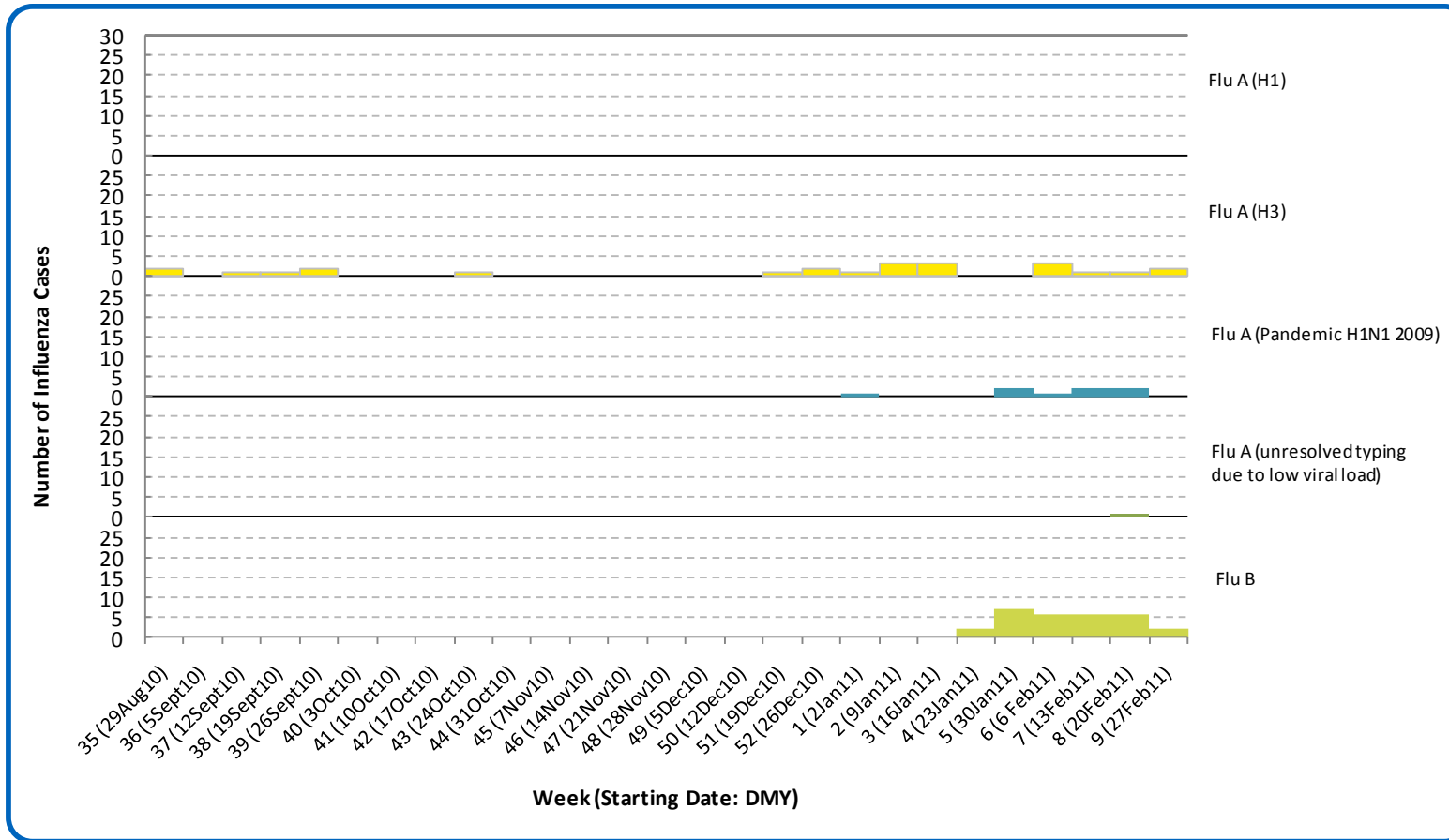
Figure 2B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, South Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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 Mar 5, 2011).

\*Note: 2 specimens were positive for influenza B and one other virus type.

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 9: Feb 27-Mar 5, 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	1.2	1	1.2
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	1	0.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.9
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.7
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	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	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
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.1</b>

**Table 2B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, South Zone (Aug 29, 2010–Mar 5, 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	3.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	3.6	6	7.3
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	5	4.3	2	1.7	0	0.0	2	1.7	9	7.8
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	1	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	2.1	4	2.8
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	2.6	9	2.6
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	14	0.8	4	0.2	1	0.1	10	0.6	29	1.7
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.1	0	0.0	1	0.5	3	1.6
75+ years	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5	2	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>2.2</b>

Source for Tables 2A & 2B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before *Mar 5, 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

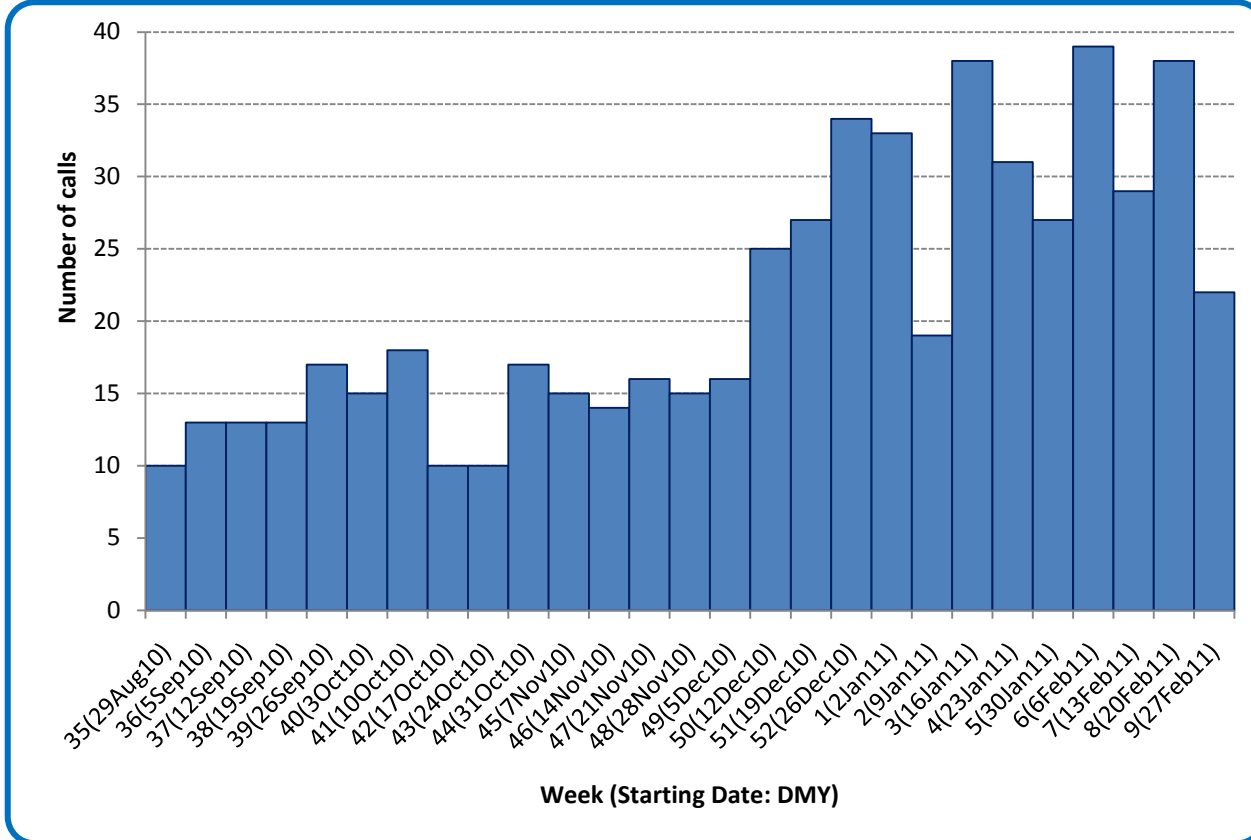
### Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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 2D: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, Alberta (2010-11)



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Mar 5, 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**

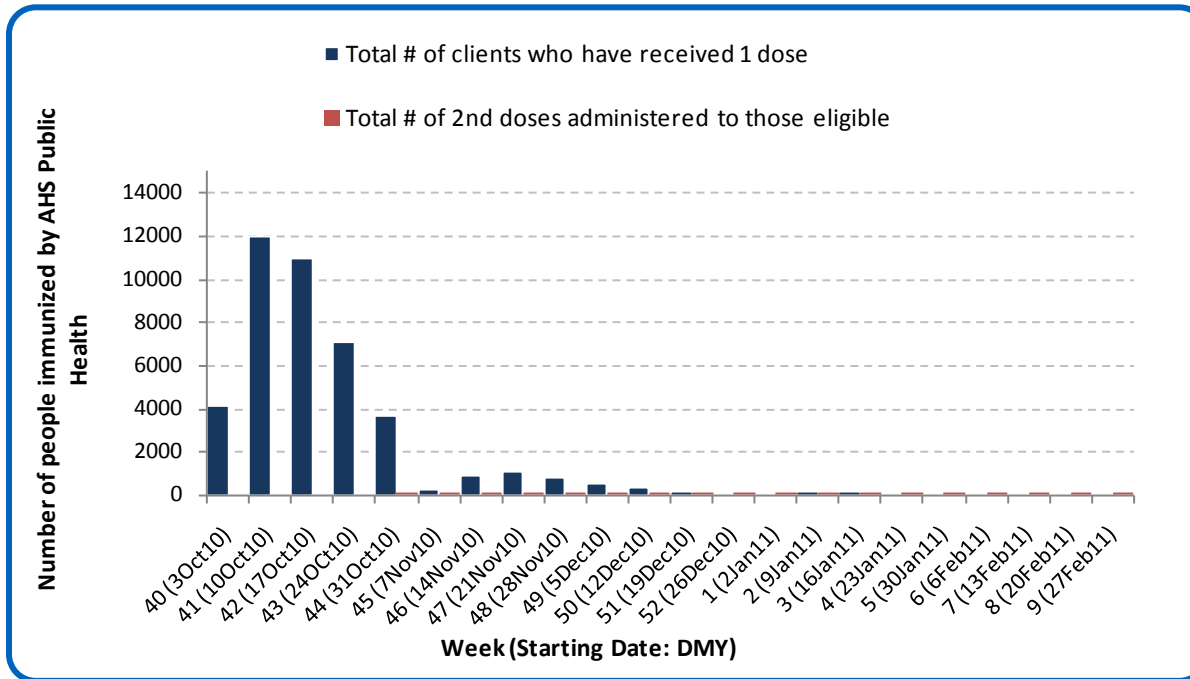
**Public Health Surveillance**

Report Date: March 8, 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 2E: 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](#)

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**Table 2C: AHS (Public Health) delivered influenza immunizations (with cumulative totals), by priority group, South Zone (2010-2011)**

Priority Group	Number Immunized (Week 9 – Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	0	616
Health care workers	0	1,567
Pregnant women	0	302
Residents of long term care	0	730
65 years of age and over	3	15,597
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	27
	Dose #2	32
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	8
	Dose #2	4
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	1
	Dose #2	0
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	6	4,105
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	2
	Dose #2	1
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	27	14,673
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>43,115</b>
<b>Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>791</b>

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: March 8, 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 2D: Influenza immunizations delivered by external partners, by priority group, South Zone (Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010)**

Priority Group	# Immunized Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010	
Long term care staff	558	
Health care workers	3,288	
Pregnant women	205	
Residents of long term care	570	
65 years of age and over	4,248	
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	9
	Dose #2**	0
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	11
	Dose #2**	0
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	41
	Dose #2**	0
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	2,188	
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	14
	Dose #2**	0
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	6,507	
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>17,639</b>	
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	0	

Source: AHS Zones (zones are required to report doses of seasonal influenza vaccine administered by community and other providers (e.g. physicians, pharmacists, LTC, WHS/OHS programs) twice during the influenza season. These numbers are from the first report (for doses delivered from Oct 3 to Dec 31, 2010). The remaining doses will be reported at a later date.

\*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.

\*\* In some cases, it was not possible to separate dose 1's from dose 2's. Therefore, the dose 1 category may contain some 2<sup>nd</sup> doses.

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: March 8, 2011

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

## SECTION 3: ZONE 2 - CALGARY

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### Summary

Respiratory virus activity remains at a steady level in Calgary Zone, although several indicators have shown recent declines.

### Laboratory Data (see [Figure 3A](#), [Figure 3B](#), [Figure 3C](#), [Table 3A](#) & [Table 3B](#))

RSV and influenza B are currently the predominant viruses being confirmed in Calgary Zone, although RSV activity appears to be declining. Since the beginning of the season, a total of 252 cases of influenza have been confirmed in Calgary Zone (44.4% have been identified as influenza A (H3), 15.9% as influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 35.7% as influenza type B and 4.0% as influenza A untyped). The proportion of influenza type B cases identified among all influenza types has been steadily increasing. Compared to the age specific rates in other age groups, the rate for confirmed influenza is highest among infants less than 2 years of age at 8.1 per 10,000.

### Outbreaks (see [Figure 3D](#))

Since the last report, one respiratory outbreak has been reported in a Calgary Zone school. It was attributed to influenza B and had a preliminary attack rate of 13%.

### Health Link Alberta Calls (see [Figure 3E](#))

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties by residents of Calgary Zone was 15% lower in Week 9 (Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011) compared to the level in the previous week.

### Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions (See [Figure 3F](#))

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 were 18% and 13% lower, respectively, in Week 9 (Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011) compared to the previous week. The percentage of ILI positive visits out of all those screened decreased from 9% to 8% of all screened visits during the same time period.

Similarly, the number of visits attributed to cough symptoms at the same ED's declined by 10% in Week 9 compared to the previous week. The number of hospital admissions for the same reason however was 5% higher during the same time period.

### Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage for ILI- and LRTI-related visits was 37% lower in Week 8 (Feb 20-26, 2011) compared to Week 7.

## SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

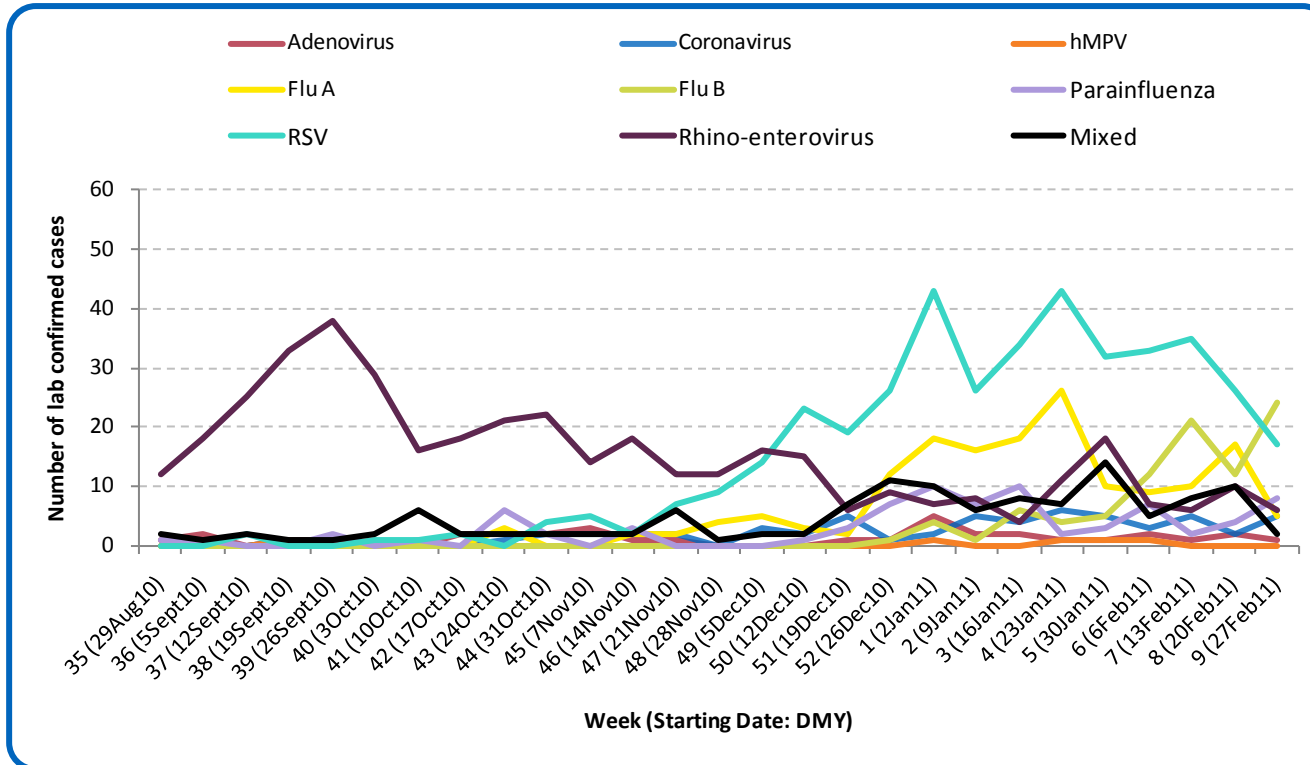
### Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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 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 Mar 5, 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**

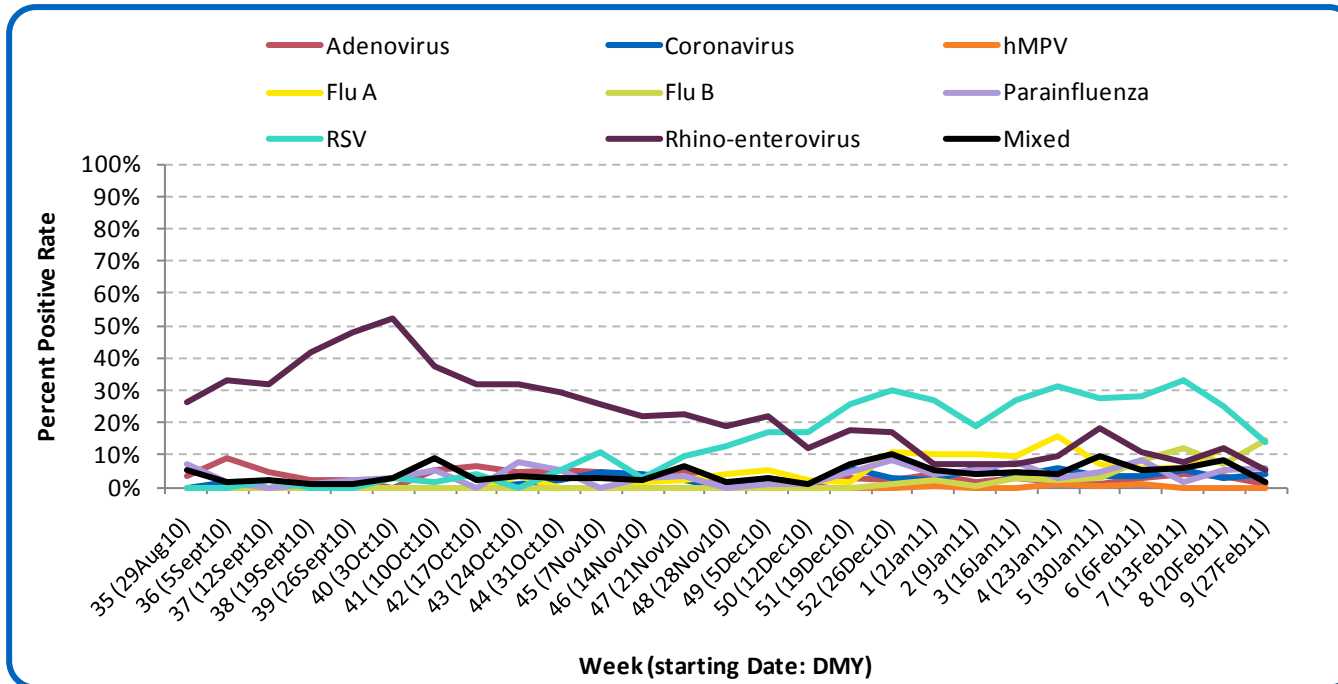
**Public Health Surveillance**

Report Date: March 8, 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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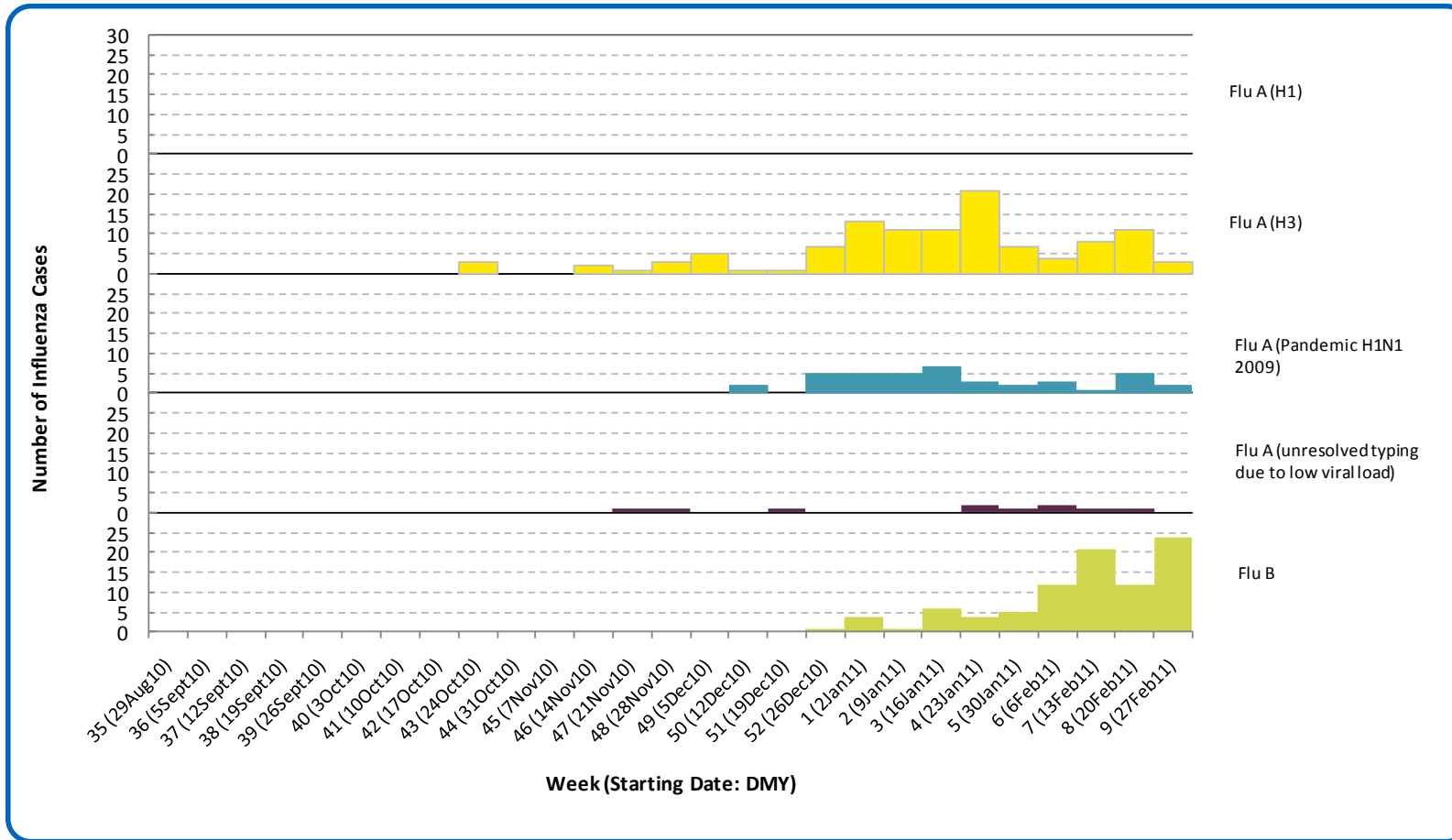
Figure 3B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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: 5 specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s). One specimen was positive for both influenza A & B.

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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: March 8, 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 3A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Calgary Zone (Week 9: Feb 27-Mar 5, 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	5	1.3	5
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	2	0.3	2	0.3
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	0.4	6	0.4
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	1	0.0	2	<0.1	0	0.0	11	0.1	14	0.2
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1
75+ years	0	0.0	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0.2</b>

**Table 3B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Calgary Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Mar 5, 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	14	3.8	3	0.8	1	0.3	12	3.2	30
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	8	1.6	2	0.4	1	0.2	8	1.6	19	3.7
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	7	1.1	1	0.2	2	0.3	13	2.1	23	3.7
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	8	0.5	1	0.1	2	0.1	24	1.6	35	2.4
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	53	0.6	32	0.4	3	<0.1	31	0.3	119	1.3
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	6	0.8	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1	8	1.1
75+ years	0	0.0	16	2.7	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.2	18	3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>1.9</b>

Source for tables 3A & 3B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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

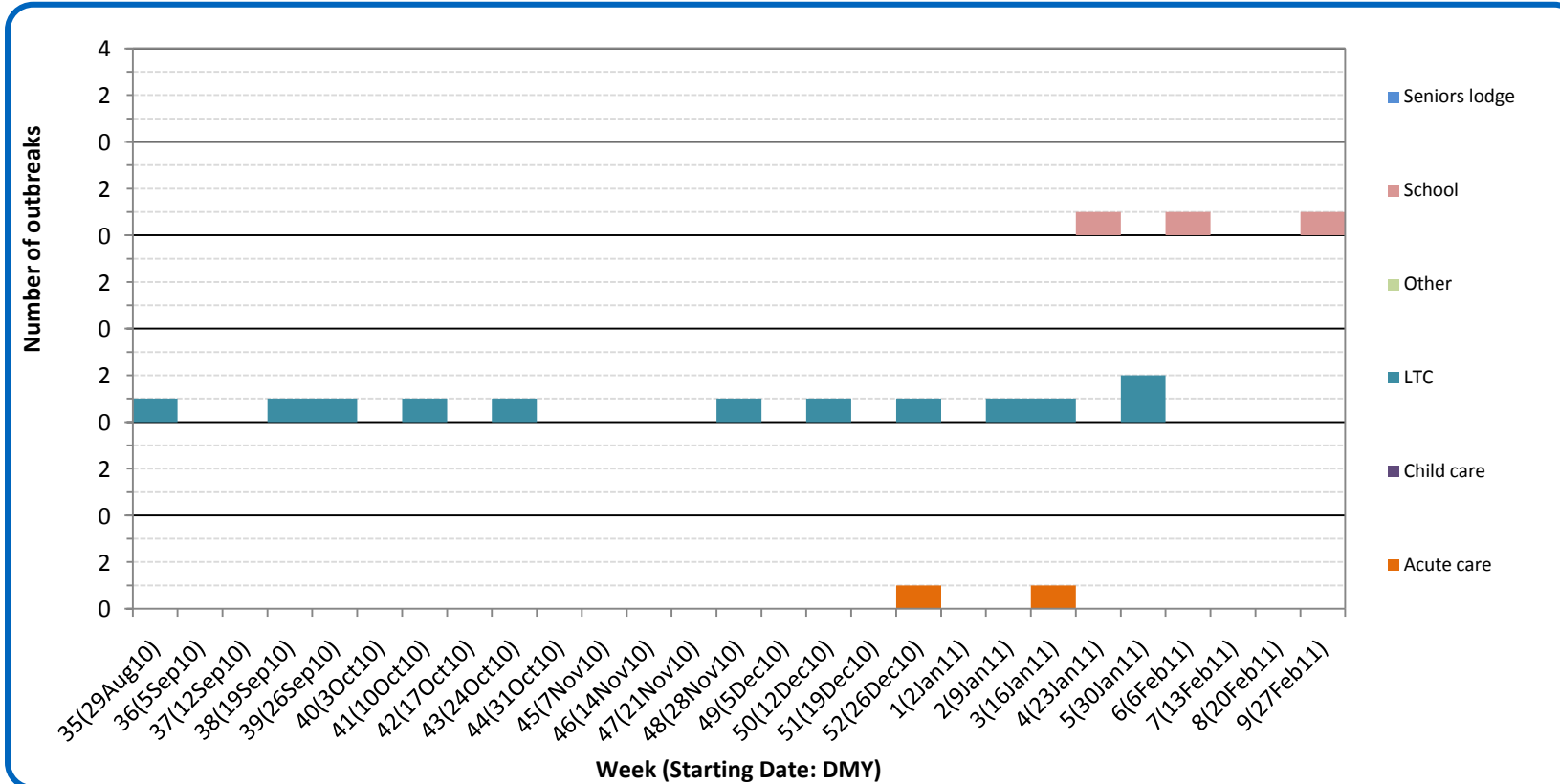
### Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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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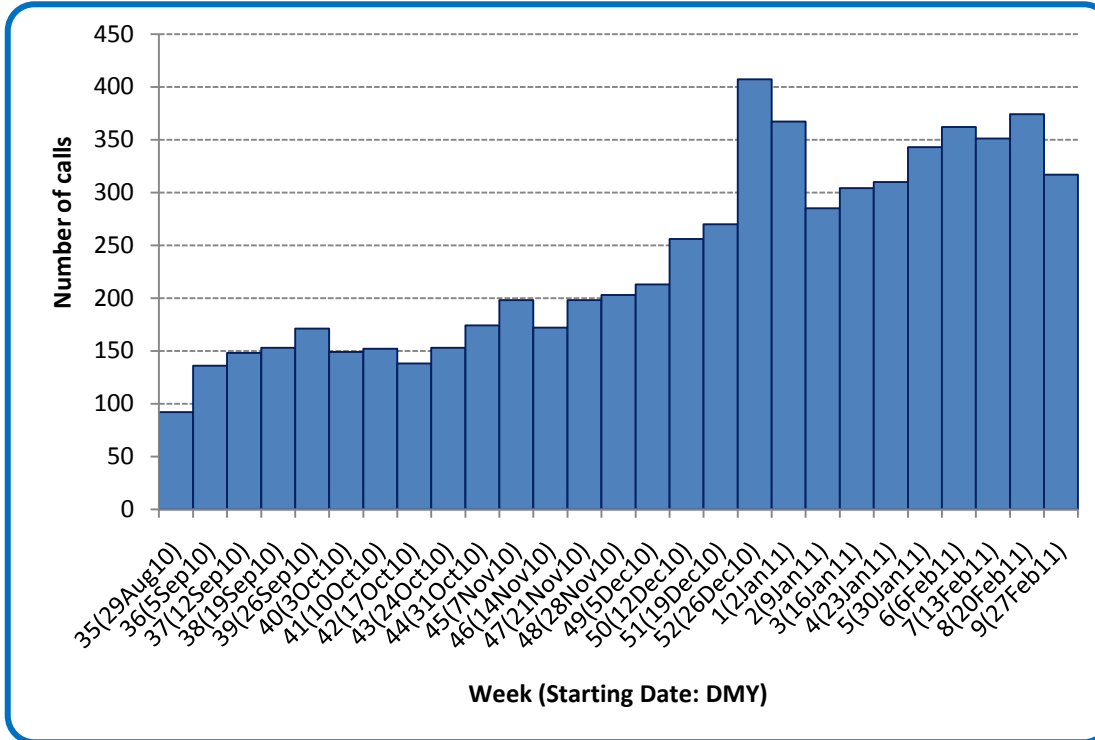
Figure 3D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



Source: Alberta Outbreak Reporting Form as of 23:59 on Mar 5, 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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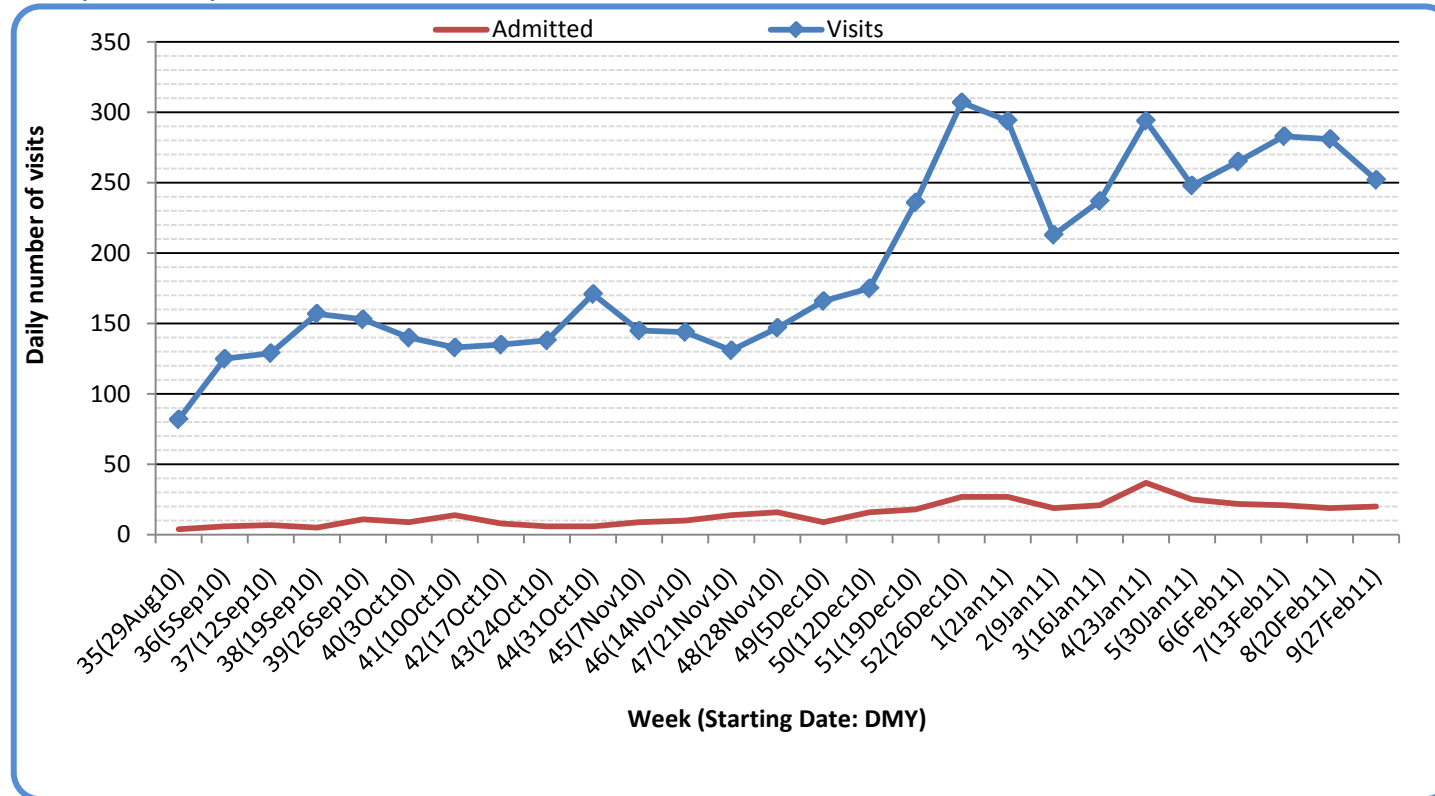
Figure 3E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, Calgary Zone (2010-11)



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Mar 5, 2011. For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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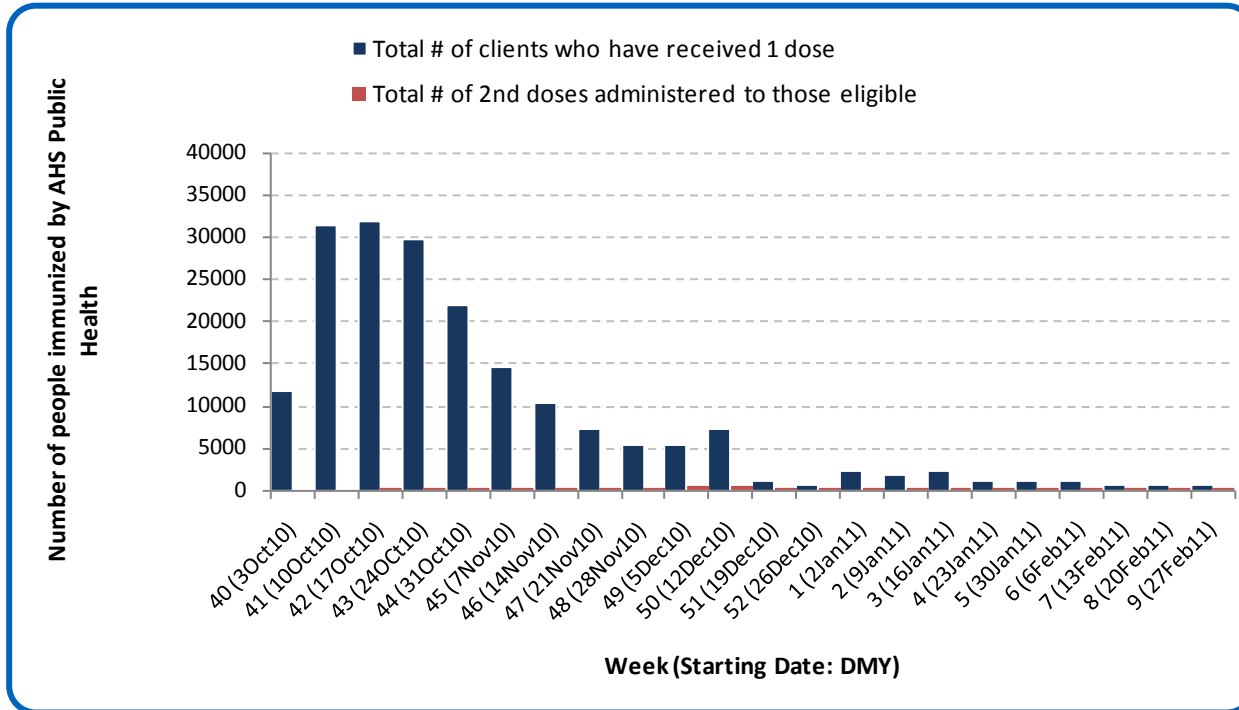
Figure 3F: Visits to urban emergency departments/urgent care centers in the City of Calgary with cough symptoms and admissions to hospitals, by visit week (2010-2011)



Source: Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Mar 5, 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 3G: 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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**Table 3C: AHS (Public Health) delivered influenza immunizations (with cumulative totals), by priority group, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)**

Priority Group		Number Immunized (Week 9 – Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff		1	452
Health care workers		6	5,329
Pregnant women		11	1,967
Residents of long term care		0	706
65 years of age and over		3	44,690
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	365	13,155
	Dose #2	230	3,554
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	89	11,270
	Dose #2	41	597
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	8	2,337
	Dose #2	2	50
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years		18	19,955
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	51	7,343
	Dose #2	10	233
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years		224	83,816
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>		<b>776</b>	<b>191,020</b>
<b>Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*</b>		<b>283</b>	<b>4,434</b>

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: March 8, 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 3D: Influenza immunizations delivered by external partners, by priority group, Calgary Zone (Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010)**

Priority Group	# Immunized Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010	
Long term care staff	3,348	
Health care workers	13,764	
Pregnant women	1,257	
Residents of long term care	3,539	
65 years of age and over	27,582	
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	660
	Dose #2**	0
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	523
	Dose #2**	0
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	788
	Dose #2**	0
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	14,231	
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	1,280
	Dose #2**	0
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	53,436	
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>120,408</b>	
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	0	

Source: AHS Zones (zones are required to report doses of seasonal influenza vaccine administered by community and other providers (e.g. physicians, pharmacists, LTC, WHS/OHS programs) twice during the influenza season. These numbers are from the first report (for doses delivered from Oct 3 to Dec 31, 2010). The remaining doses will be reported at a later date.

\*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.

\*\*In some cases, it was not possible to separate dose 1's from dose 2's. Therefore, dose 1 category may contain some 2<sup>nd</sup> doses.

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: March 8, 2011

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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### Summary

Respiratory virus activity remains steady in Central Zone, with several indicators showing only small fluctuations.

### Laboratory Data (see [Figure 4A](#), [Figure 4B](#), [Figure 4C](#), [Table 4A](#) & [Table 4B](#))

RSV is still the predominant virus being confirmed in Central Zone, however the number of influenza A (H3) cases has been steadily increasing since early February, 2011. As of the end of Week 9 (Mar 5, 2011), the total number of influenza cases confirmed in Central Zone this season was 80, with over 2/3 typed as influenza A (H3). At this point in the season, the age-specific rate for confirmed cases of influenza (all types) is highest for infants under the age of 2 years (at 9.0 per 10,000) and adults aged 75 years and over (at 7.0 per 10,000).

### Outbreaks (see [Figure 4D](#))

Since the last report, one new respiratory outbreak with a preliminary attack rate of 23% was reported in a long term care facility in Central Zone. The causative agent is currently pending laboratory confirmation.

### Health Link Alberta Calls (see [Figure 4E](#))

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta by residents of Central Zone for cough or breathing difficulties was 8% higher in Week 9 (Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011) than it was the previous week. Despite small fluctuations seen in recent weeks, this indicator has been on a declining trend since early February, 2011.

### Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

There are no data available from this zone.

### Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits was 66% lower in Week 8 (Feb 20-26, 2011) compare to Week 7. At that time, the value of this indicator was considered low for this season in this Zone.

## SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

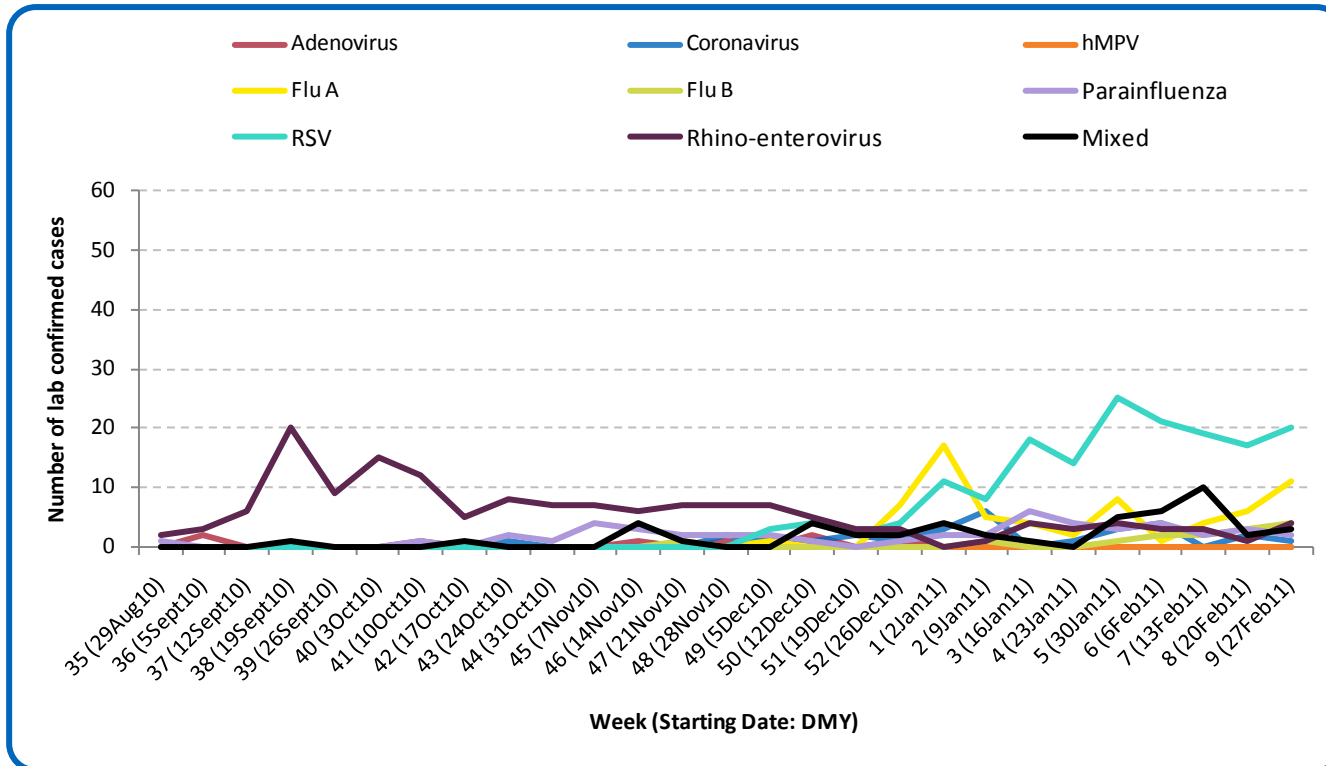
### Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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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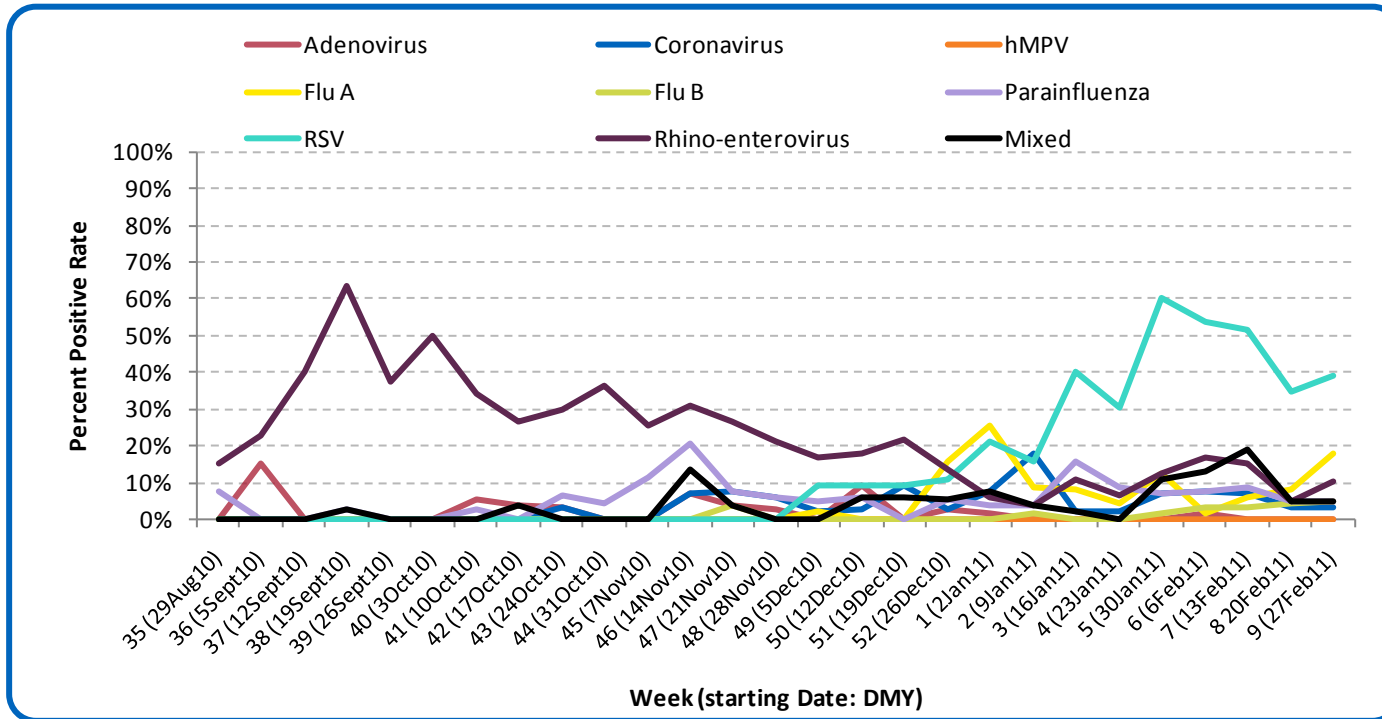
Figure 4A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, Central Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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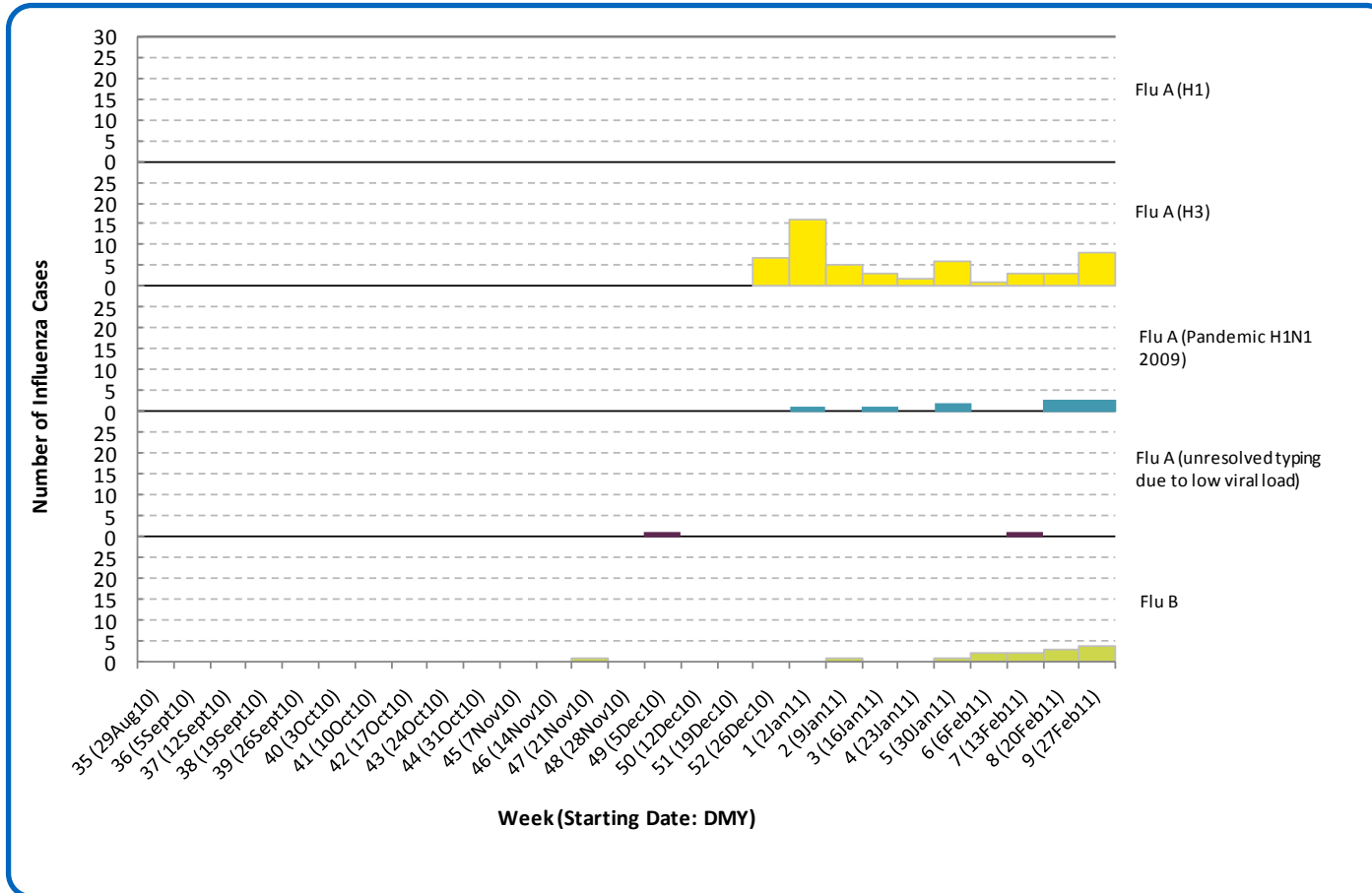
Figure 4B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Central Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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: 5 specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s).

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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: March 8, 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 4A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Central Zone (Week 9: Feb 27-Mar 5, 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	2	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.2
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.2
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	5	0.2	1	<0.1	0	0.0	3	0.1	9	0.3
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	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0.3</b>

**Table 4B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Central Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Mar 5, 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	7	5.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	3.3	11	9.0
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.2	0	0.0	1	0.6	3	1.7
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	2	0.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.9
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	2	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.6	5	0.9
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	22	0.8	8	0.3	2	0.1	6	0.2	38	1.4
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	19	7.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	19	7.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1.8</b>

Source for Tables 4A & 4B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before *Mar 5, 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

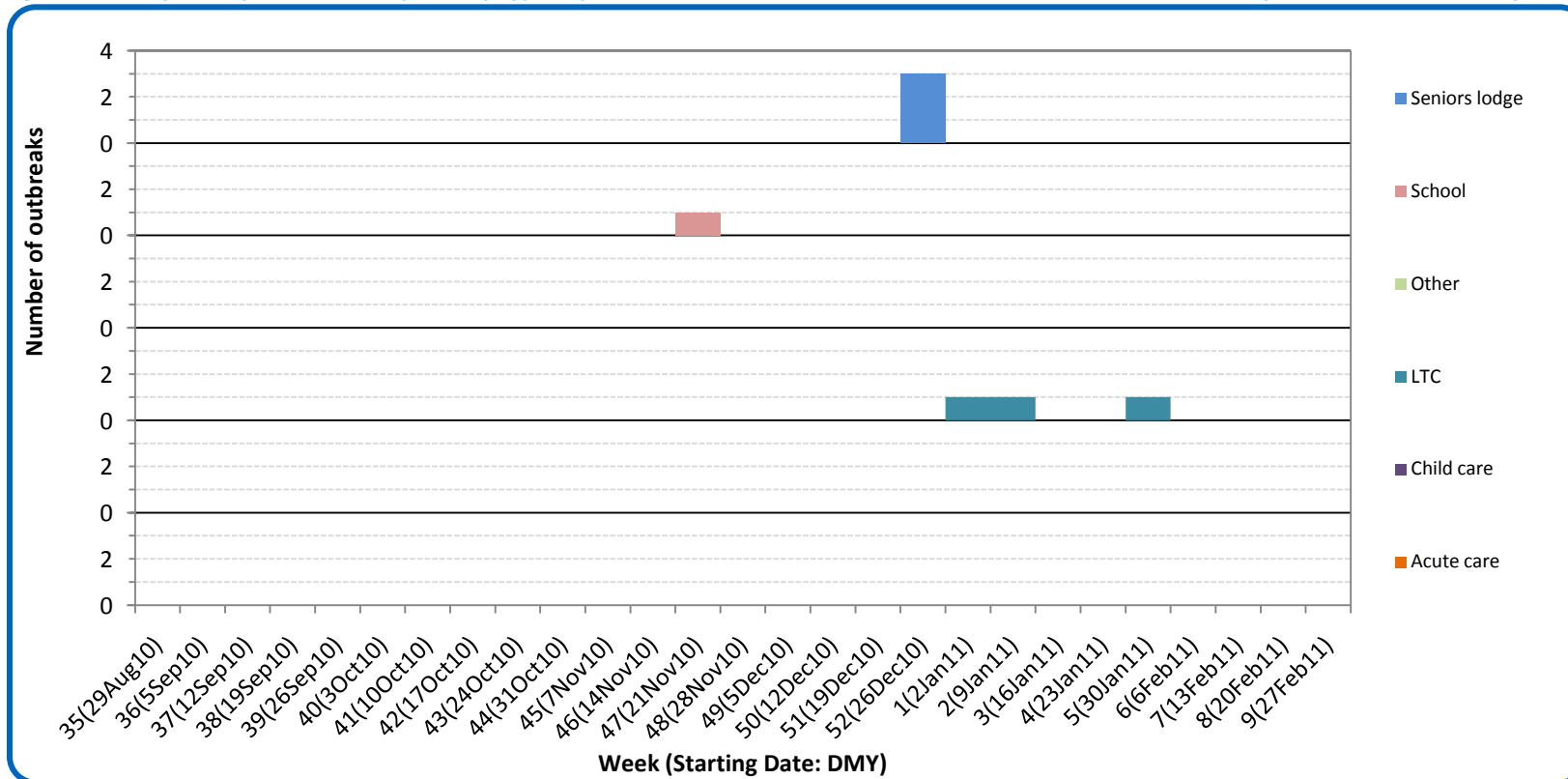
### Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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 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 Mar 5, 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.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

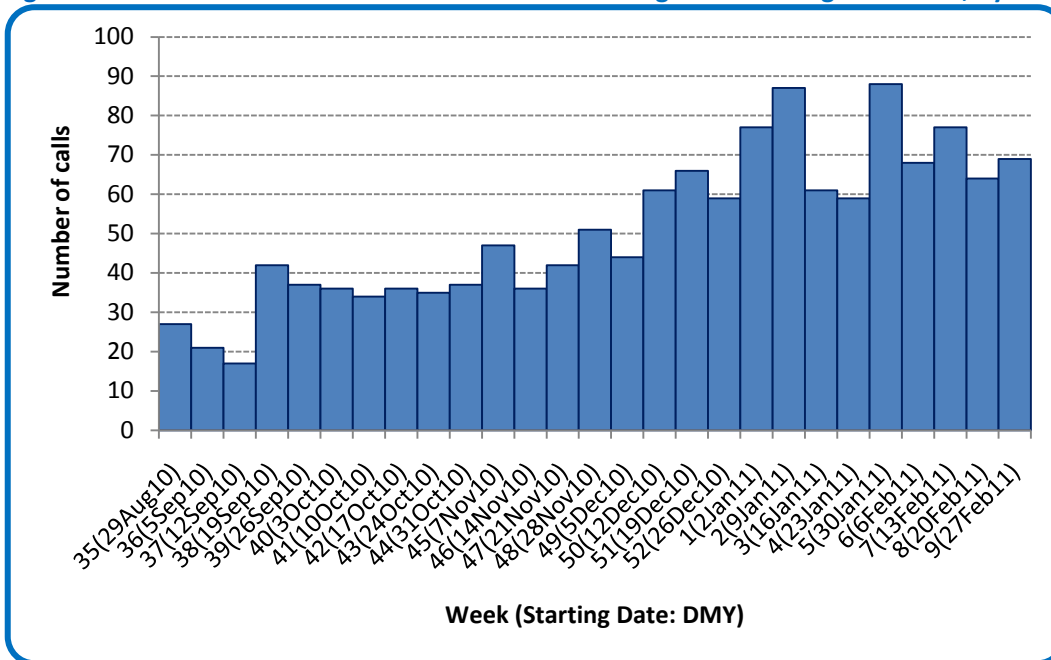
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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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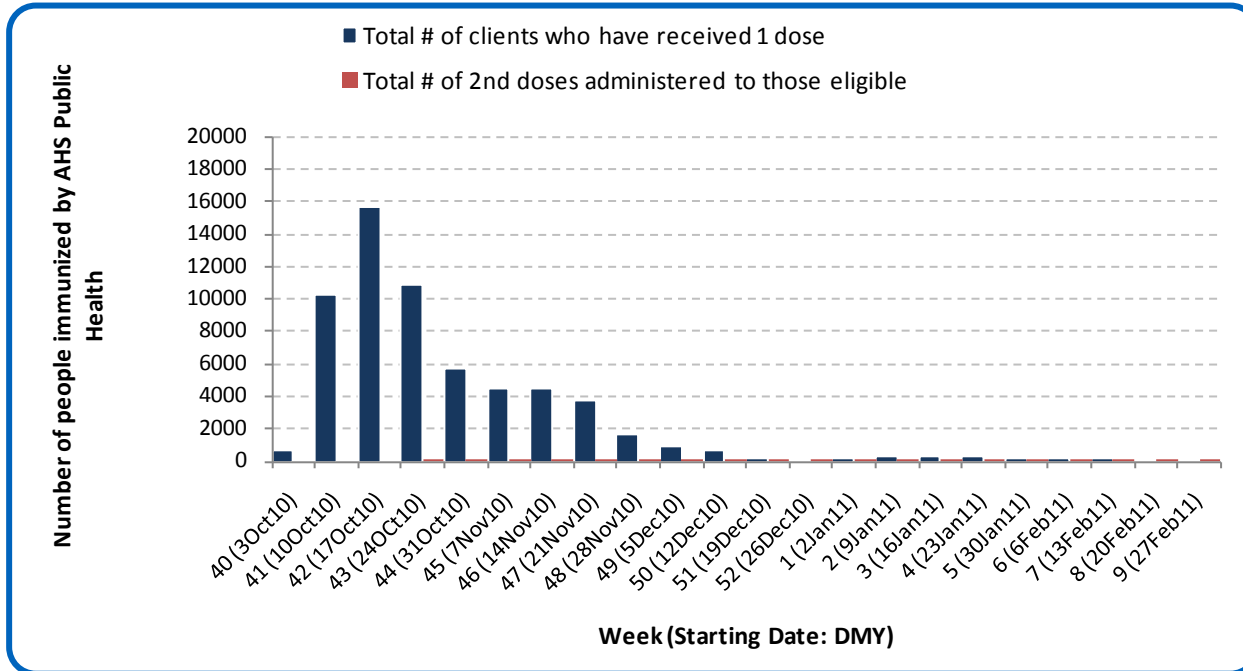
Figure 4E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, Central Zone (2010-11)



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Mar 5, 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 4F: 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 9 – Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	2	421
Health care workers	6	2,605
Pregnant women	0	427
Residents of long term care	0	1,104
65 years of age and over	3	22,153
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	29
	Dose #2	41
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	9
	Dose #2	4
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	0
	Dose #2	1
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	5	6,874
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	4
	Dose #2	5
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	21	20,766
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>61,587</b>
<b>Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>1,263</b>

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: March 8, 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 4D: Influenza immunizations delivered by external partners, by priority group, Central Zone (Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010)**

Priority Group	# Immunized Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010	
Long term care staff	827	
Health care workers	5,744	
Pregnant women	8	
Residents of long term care	1,748	
65 years of age and over	4,063	
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	1
	Dose #2**	0
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	4
	Dose #2**	0
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	8
	Dose #2**	0
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	1,609	
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	15
	Dose #2**	0
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	3,762	
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>17,789</b>	
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	0	

Source: AHS Zones (zones are required to report doses of seasonal influenza vaccine administered by community and other providers (e.g. physicians, pharmacists, LTC, WHS/OHS programs) twice during the influenza season. These numbers are from the first report (for doses delivered from Oct 3 to Dec 31, 2010). The remaining doses will be reported at a later date.

\*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.

\*\*In some cases, it was not possible to separate dose 1's from dose 2's. Therefore, dose 1 category may contain some 2<sup>nd</sup> doses.

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: March 8, 2011

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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### Summary

Despite recent small decreases in several indicators, respiratory virus activity appears to be steady in Edmonton Zone.

### Laboratory Data (see [Figure 5A](#), [Figure 5B](#), [Figure 5C](#), [Table 5A](#) & [Table 5B](#))

RSV continues to be the predominant virus being confirmed in Edmonton Zone. Since the end of August, 2010, there have been a total of 274 cases of influenza confirmed in this part of the province. At this point in the season, the age-specific rate for confirmed influenza (all types) for infants less than 2 years of age is higher compared to other age groups, at 15.0 per 10,000 (compared to 6.1 per 10,000 or lower for other age groups).

### Outbreaks (see [Figure 5D](#))

Since the last report, three respiratory outbreaks have been confirmed in Edmonton Zone. They include one attributed to hMPV in a seniors' lodge in Week 8 (with a 1% attack rate), one attributed to influenza B in a school in Week 8 (with an unknown attack rate) and one attributed to influenza A (H3) in a child care facility in Week 7 (with a 29% attack rate).

### Health Link Alberta Calls (see [Figure 5E](#))

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta by residents of Edmonton Zone for cough or breathing difficulties was 8% lower in Week 9 (Feb 27-Mar 5, 2011) compared to the previous week. This is the second week in a row that this indicator has declined from the previous week.

### Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions (See [Figure 5F](#))

The number of visits and hospital admissions for ILI symptoms at the nine emergency departments/urgent care centers in Edmonton Zone decreased by 18% and 8%, respectively, in Week 9 (Feb 27-Mar 5, 2011) compared to the previous week. The percentage of ILI-related visits of all screened visits declined from 7% to 6% during this time period.

Similarly, the number of visits and the number of hospital admissions for cough/congestion symptoms declined by 14% and 29%, respectively. The percentage of visits with cough/congestion symptoms of all ED visits is now below 5%. This pattern coincides with that of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough and breathing difficulties.

### Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of Edmonton Zone was close to 4% in Week 8 (Feb 20-26, 2011). This is a 135% increase from the previous week, as the percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits were both at their highest levels of the season at that point.

## SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

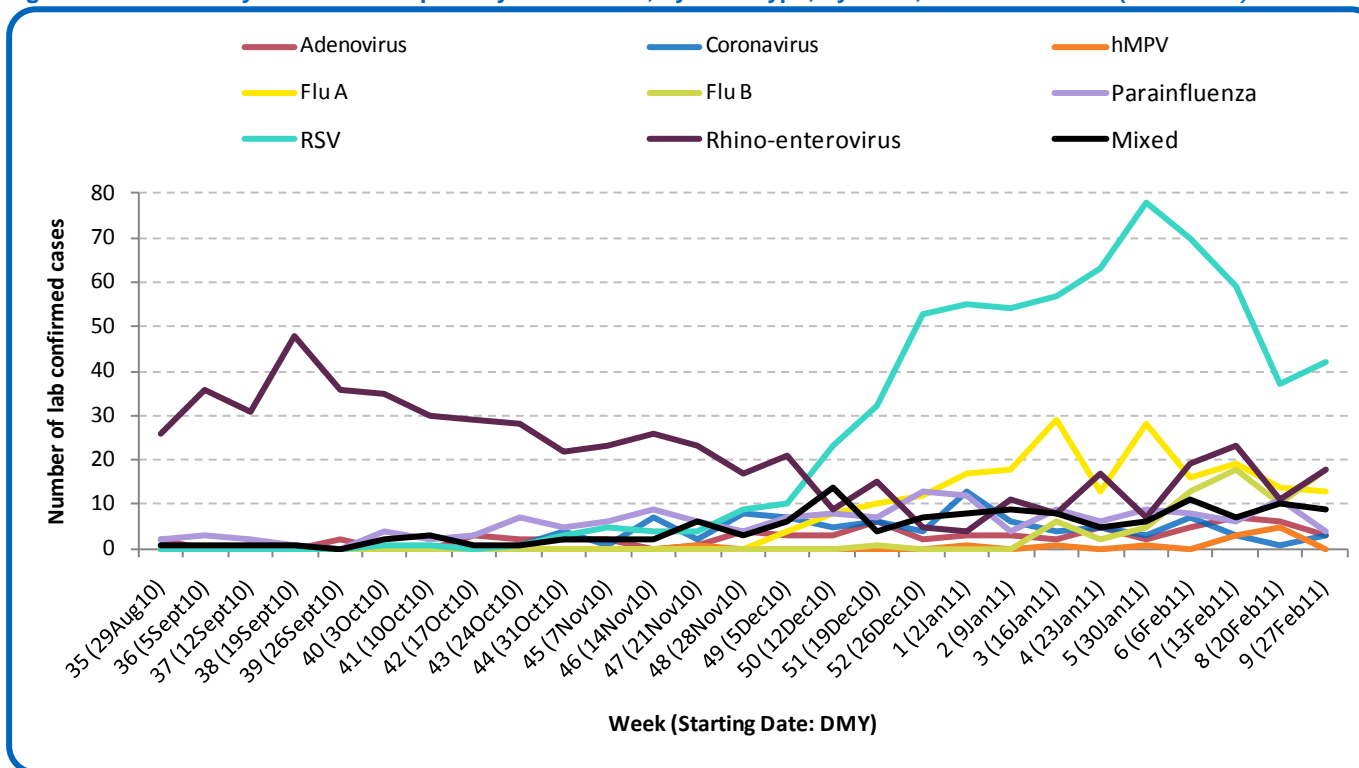
### Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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 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 Mar 5, 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**

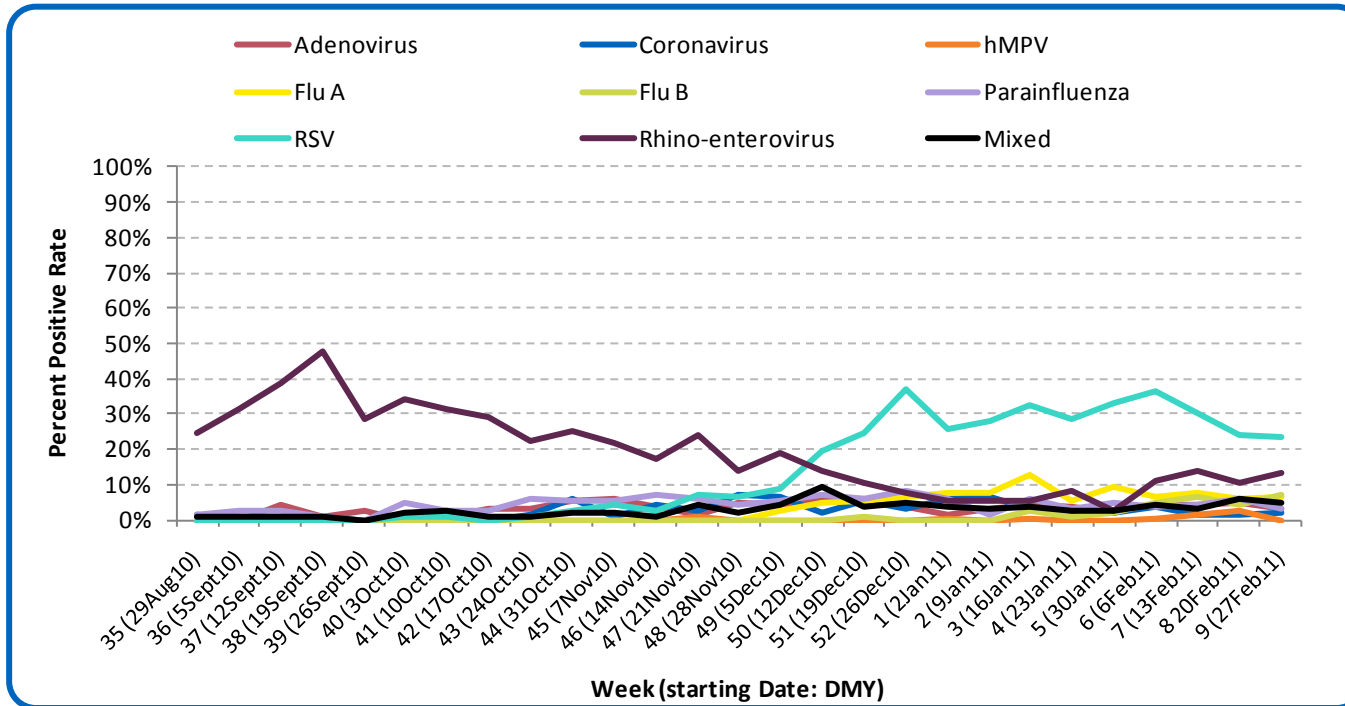
**Public Health Surveillance**

Report Date: March 8, 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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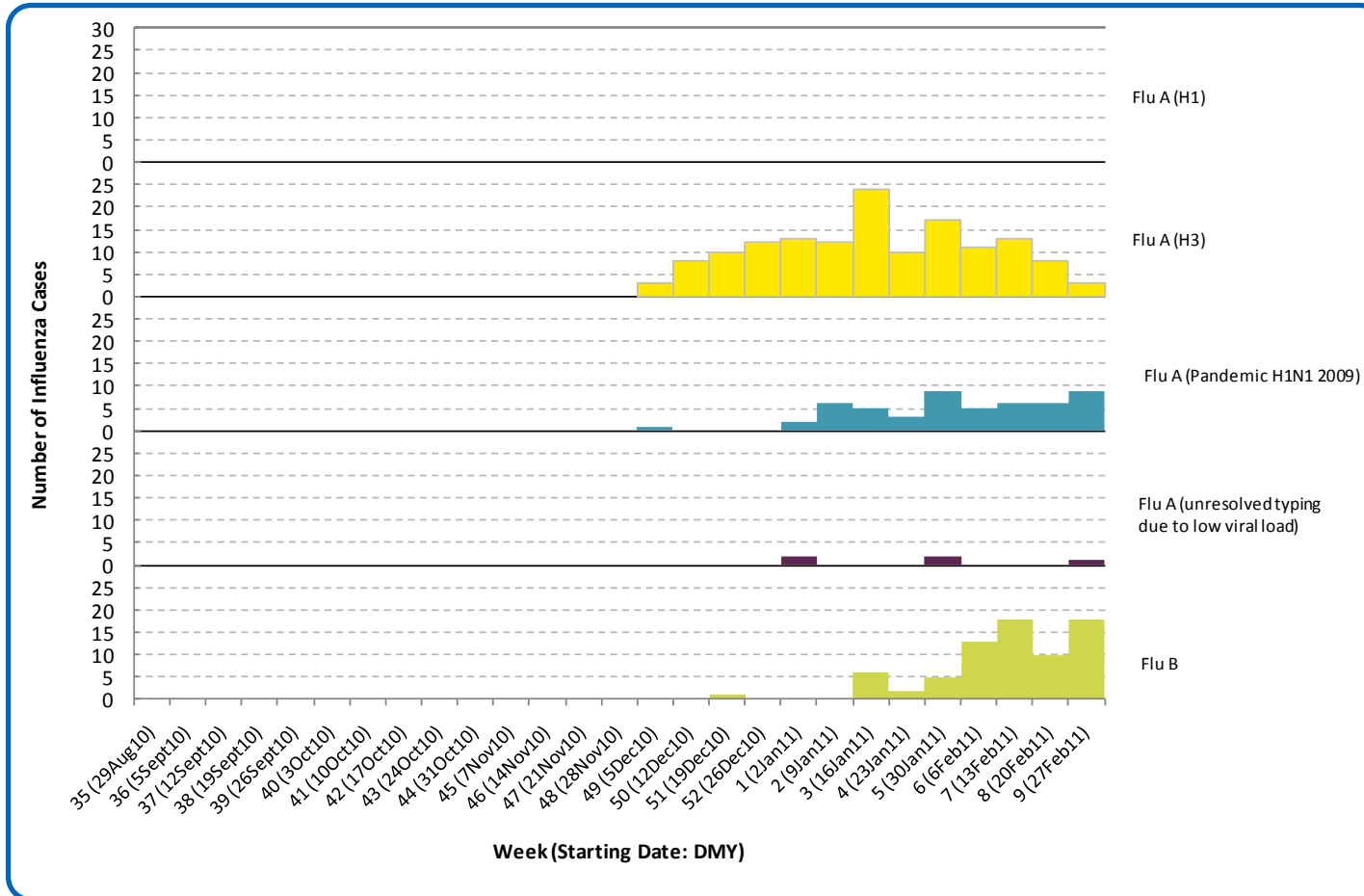
Figure 5B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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 5C: Laboratory confirmed influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)



\*Note: 4 specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s).

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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: March 8, 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 5A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Edmonton Zone (Week 7: Feb 27-Mar 5, 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	0.3	1	0.3	0	0.0	4	1.3	6
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.6	3	0.6
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	0.6	8	0.6
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	0.1	1	<0.1	2	<0.1	10	0.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	1	0.1
75+ years	0	0.0	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0.3</b>

**Table 5B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Edmonton Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Mar 5, 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	24	8.0	8	2.7	1	0.3	12	4.0	45
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	13	3.1	3	0.7	1	0.2	8	1.9	25	6.1
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	7	1.4	3	0.6	0	0.0	12	2.3	22	4.3
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	5	0.4	2	0.2	0	0.0	25	2.0	32	2.6
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	55	0.7	36	0.5	2	<0.1	11	0.1	104	1.4
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	8	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.3	10	1.5
75+ years	0	0.0	32	5.4	0	0.0	1	0.2	3	0.5	36	6.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>2.4</b>

Source for tables 5A & 5B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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

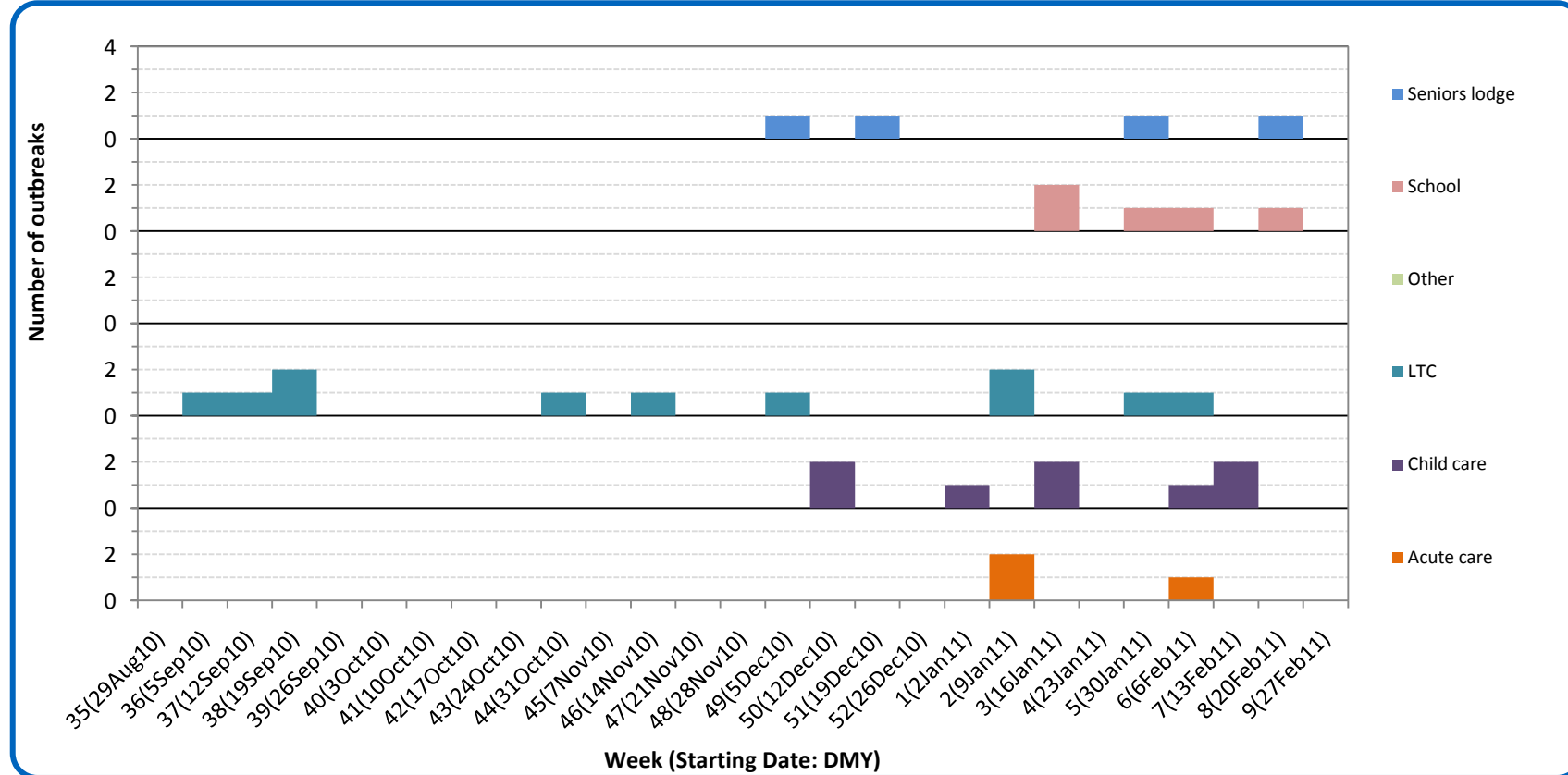
### Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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 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 Mar 5, 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**

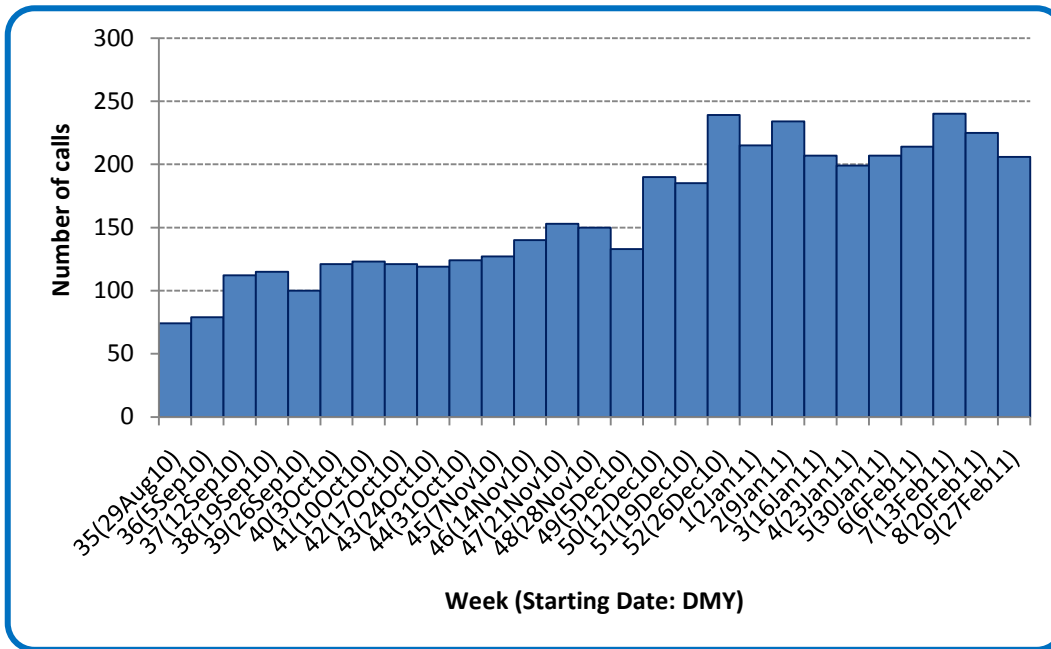
**Public Health Surveillance**

Report Date: March 8, 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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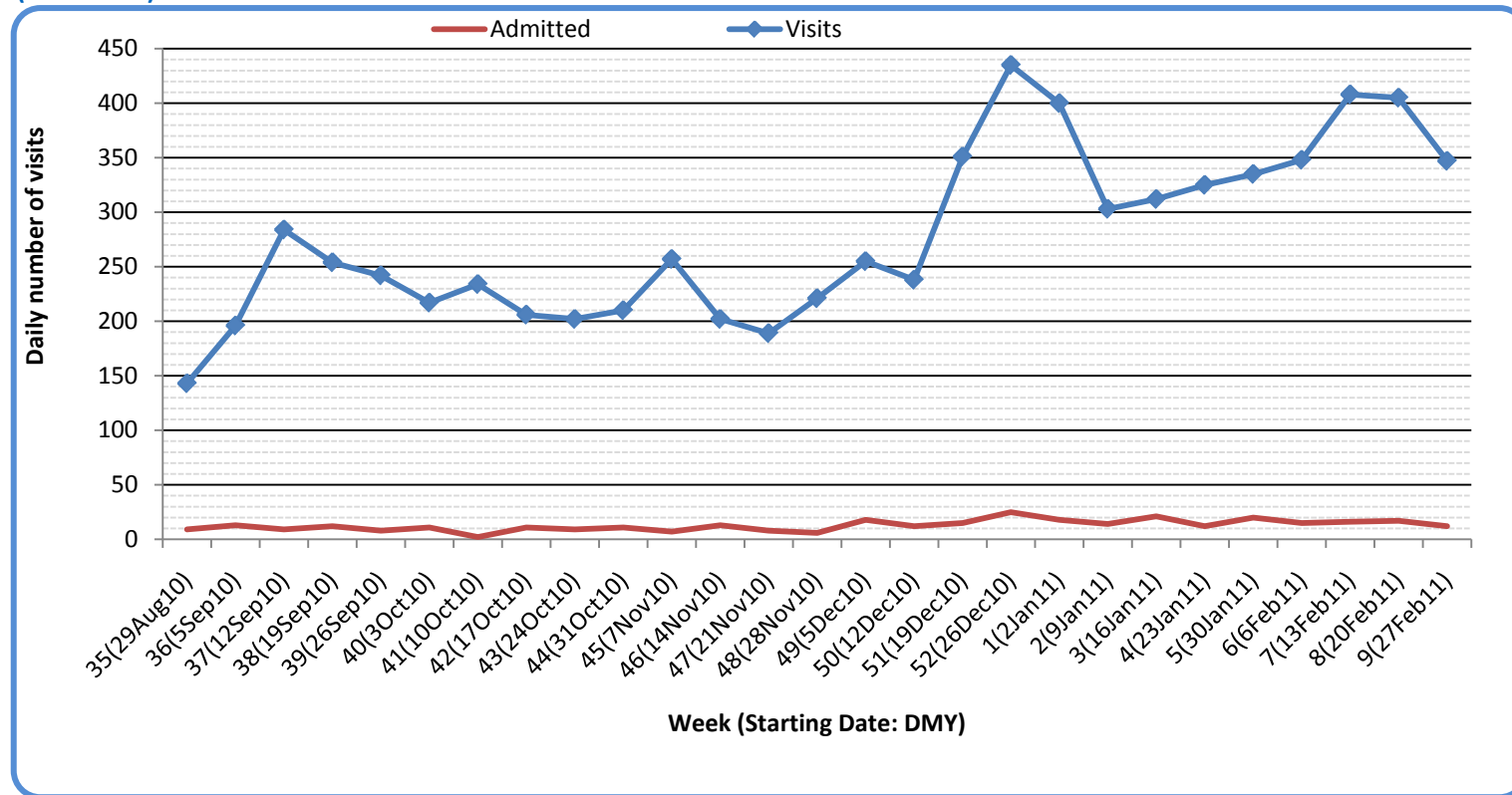
Figure 5E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, Edmonton Zone (2010-11)



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Mar 5, 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 5F: 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 Mar 5, 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

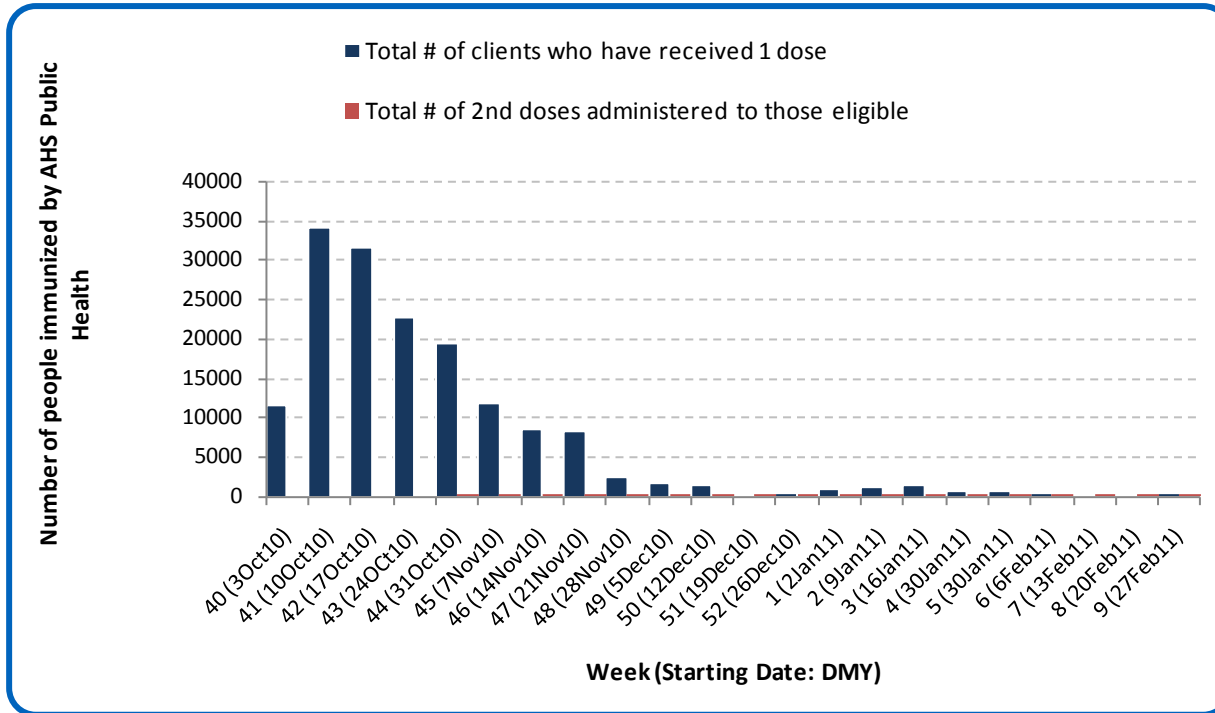
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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 5G: 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 9 – Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	3	324
Health care workers	9	4,800
Pregnant women	11	1,441
Residents of long term care	4	1,051
65 years of age and over	14	48,491
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	78
	Dose #2	73
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	27
	Dose #2	3
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	3
	Dose #2	0
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	27	17,135
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	12
	Dose #2	4
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	173	67,736
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>161,517</b>
<b>Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>2,711</b>

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: March 8, 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 5D: Influenza immunizations delivered by external partners, by priority group, Edmonton Zone (Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010)**

Priority Group	# Immunized Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010	
Long term care staff	926	
Health care workers	8,917	
Pregnant women	166	
Residents of long term care	1,094	
65 years of age and over	15,950	
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	295
	Dose #2**	48
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	504
	Dose #2**	27
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	848
	Dose #2**	2
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	10,373	
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	915
	Dose #2**	5
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	22,493	
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>62,481</b>	
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	82	

Source: AHS Zones (zones are required to report doses of seasonal influenza vaccine administered by community and other providers (e.g. physicians, pharmacists, LTC, WHS/OHS programs) twice during the influenza season. These numbers are from the first report (for doses delivered from Oct 3 to Dec 31, 2010). The remaining doses will be reported at a later date.

\*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.

\*\*In some cases, it was not possible to separate dose 1's from dose 2's. Therefore, dose 1 category may contain some 2<sup>nd</sup> doses.

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: March 8, 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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### Summary

With continuing influenza B activity and recent fluctuations in the number calls to Health Link Alberta, there is no clear indication that respiratory virus activity is decreasing in North Zone.

### Laboratory Data (see [Figure 6A](#), [Figure 6B](#), [Figure 6C](#), [Table 6A](#) & [Table 6B](#))

RSV is currently the predominant virus circulating in North Zone, although the number of estimated cases confirmed by the laboratory has been declining in recent weeks. The total number of confirmed influenza cases in North Zone this season is 133. At this point in the season, the age specific rate for confirmed influenza among infants under the age of 2 years is much higher than the rate for any other age group (20.3 per 10,000 compared to 7.9 per 10,000 or lower). In this area of the province, nearly half (43%) of the cases in this age group have been caused by influenza A (H1N1) 2009.

### Outbreaks (see [Figure 6D](#))

Since the last report, there have been no new respiratory outbreaks reported in North Zone.

### Health Link Alberta Calls (see [Figure 6E](#))

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta by residents of North Zone for cough or breathing difficulties was 14% lower in Week 9 (Feb 27-Mar 5, 2011) than in the previous week.

### Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

There are no data available for the North Zone.

### Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of North Zone was 10% of all visits in Week 8 (Feb 20-26, 2011). This represented a 36% reduction from the previous week, as there were fewer ILI-related visits.

## SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

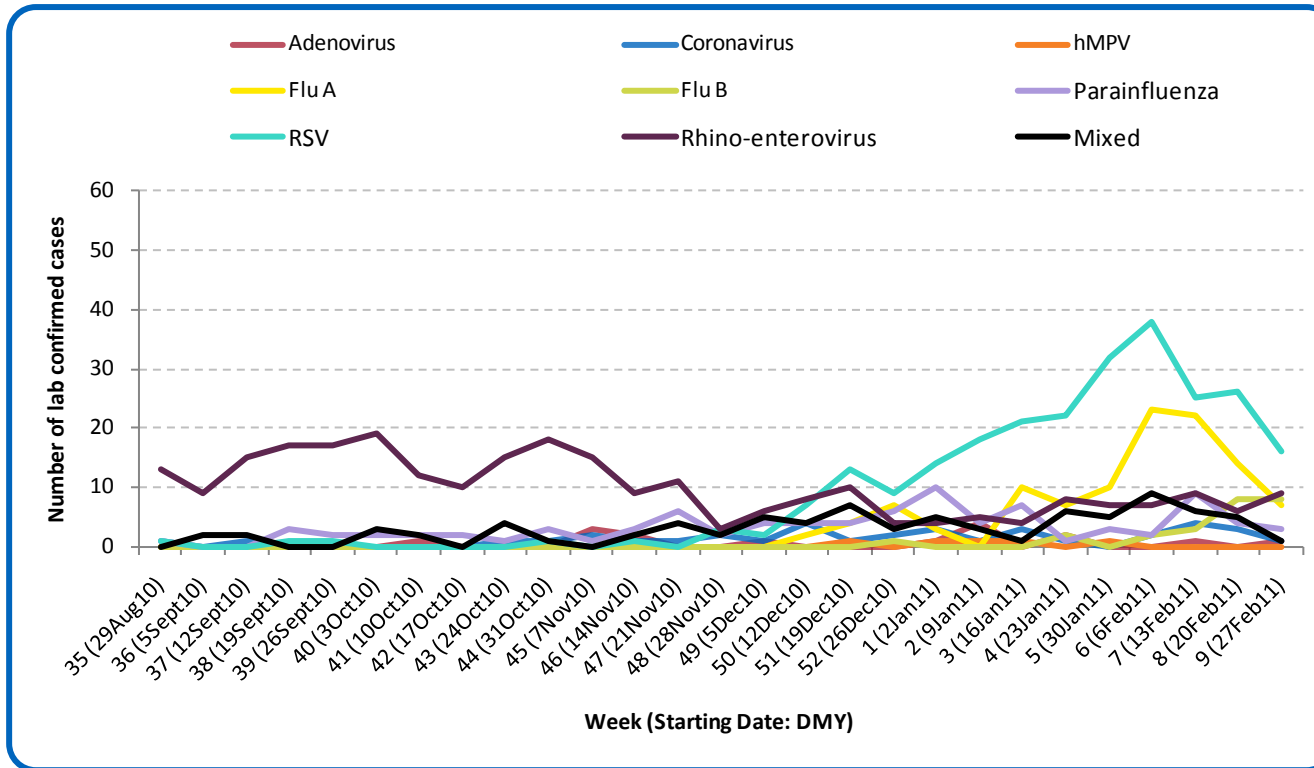
### Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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 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 Mar 5, 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**

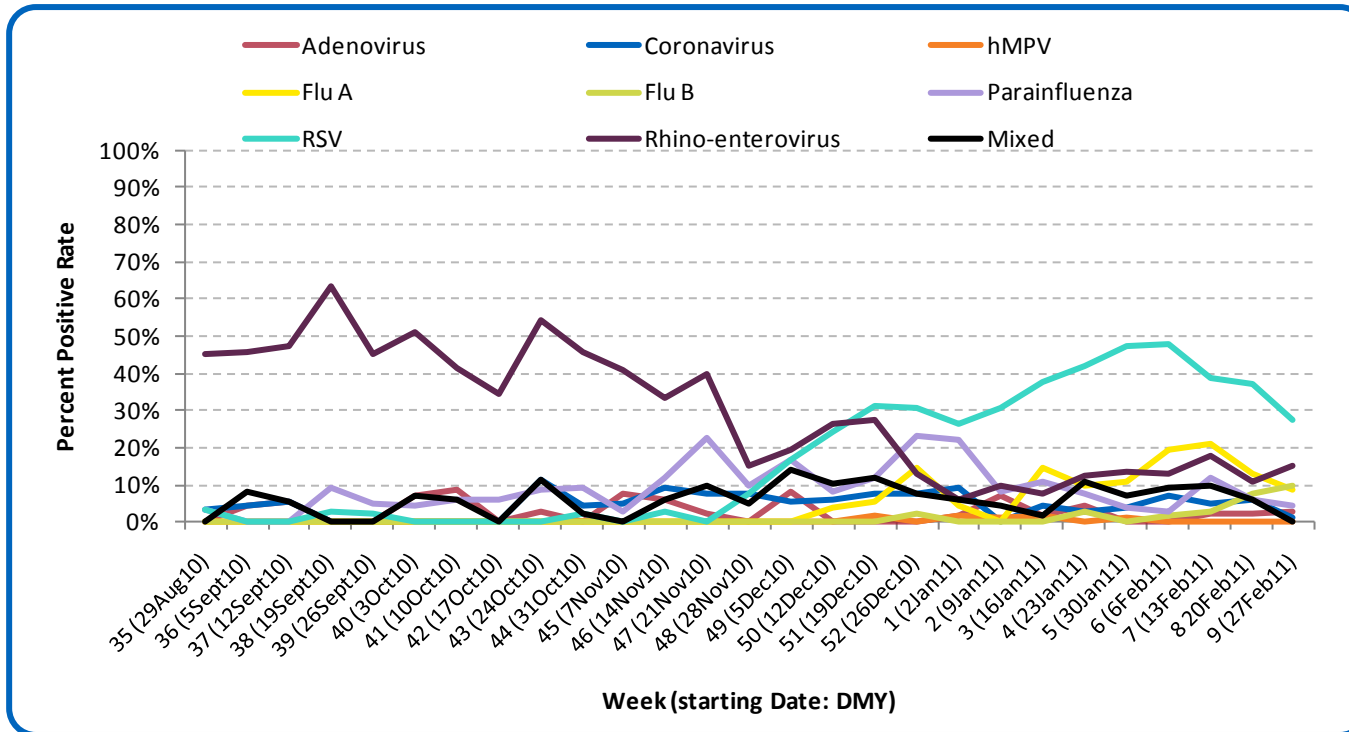
**Public Health Surveillance**

Report Date: March 8, 2011

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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 Mar 5, 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**

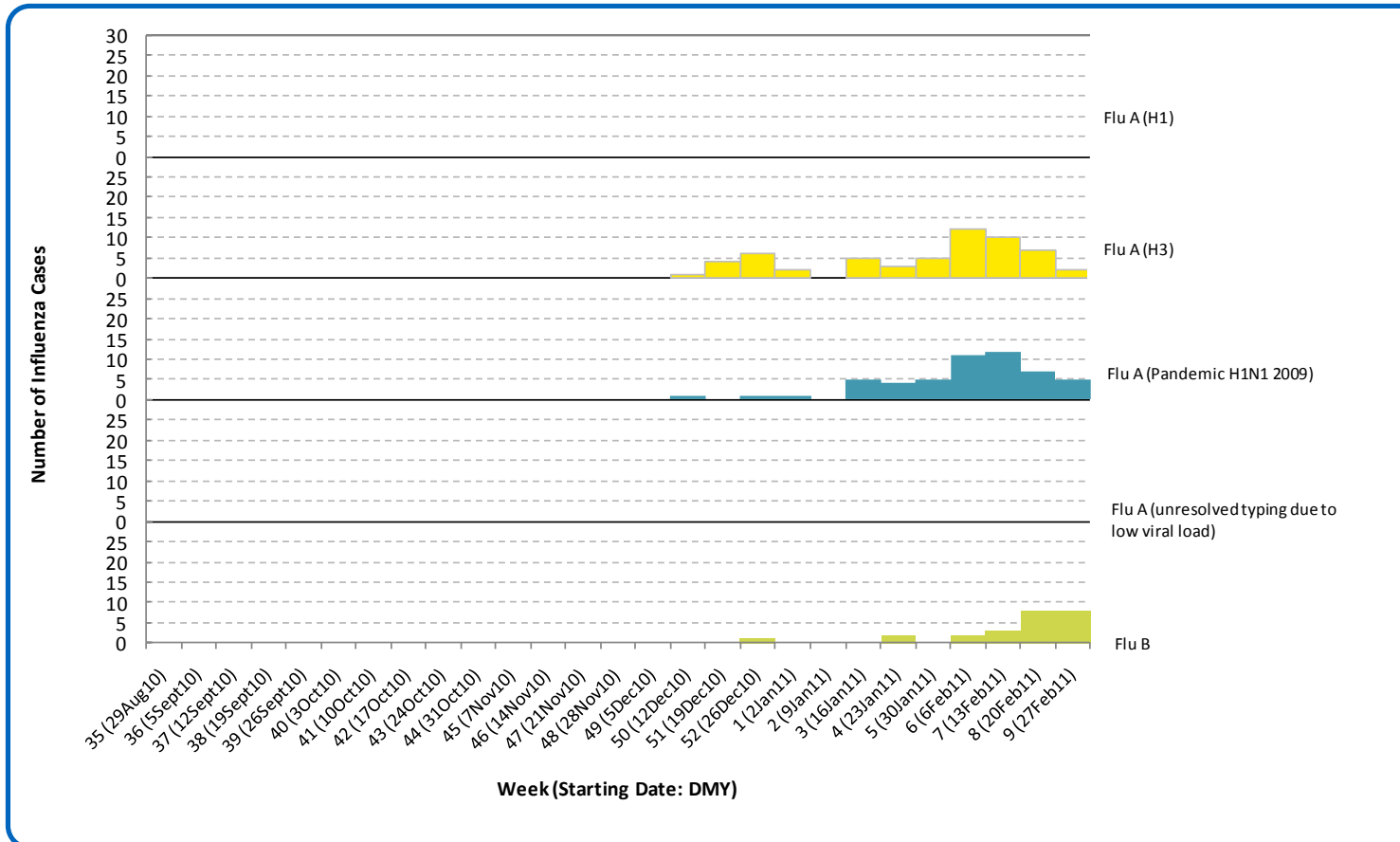
**Public Health Surveillance**

Report Date: March 8, 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 6C: Laboratory confirmed influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, North Zone (2010-2011)



\*Note: 6 specimens were positive for influenza A and one or more other virus type(s).

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Mar 5, 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: March 8, 2011

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**Table 6A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, North Zone (Week 9: Feb 27-Mar 5, 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	2	1.4	0	0.0	1	0.7	5	3.6
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	3	1.6	4	2.1
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.4	1	0.4
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.2
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.1	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
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0.4</b>

**Table 6B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, North Zone (Aug 29, 2010-Mar 5, 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	12	8.7	12	8.7	0	0.0	4	2.9	28	20.3
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	6	3.1	4	2.1	0	0.0	5	2.6	15	7.9
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	9	3.8	5	2.1	0	0.0	3	1.3	17	7.2
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	8	1.4	9	1.6	0	0.0	4	0.7	21	3.7
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	17	0.6	22	0.8	0	0.0	8	0.3	47	1.7
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
75+ years	0	0.0	4	2.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	2.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>3.1</b>

Source for Tables 6A & 6B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before *Mar 5, 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

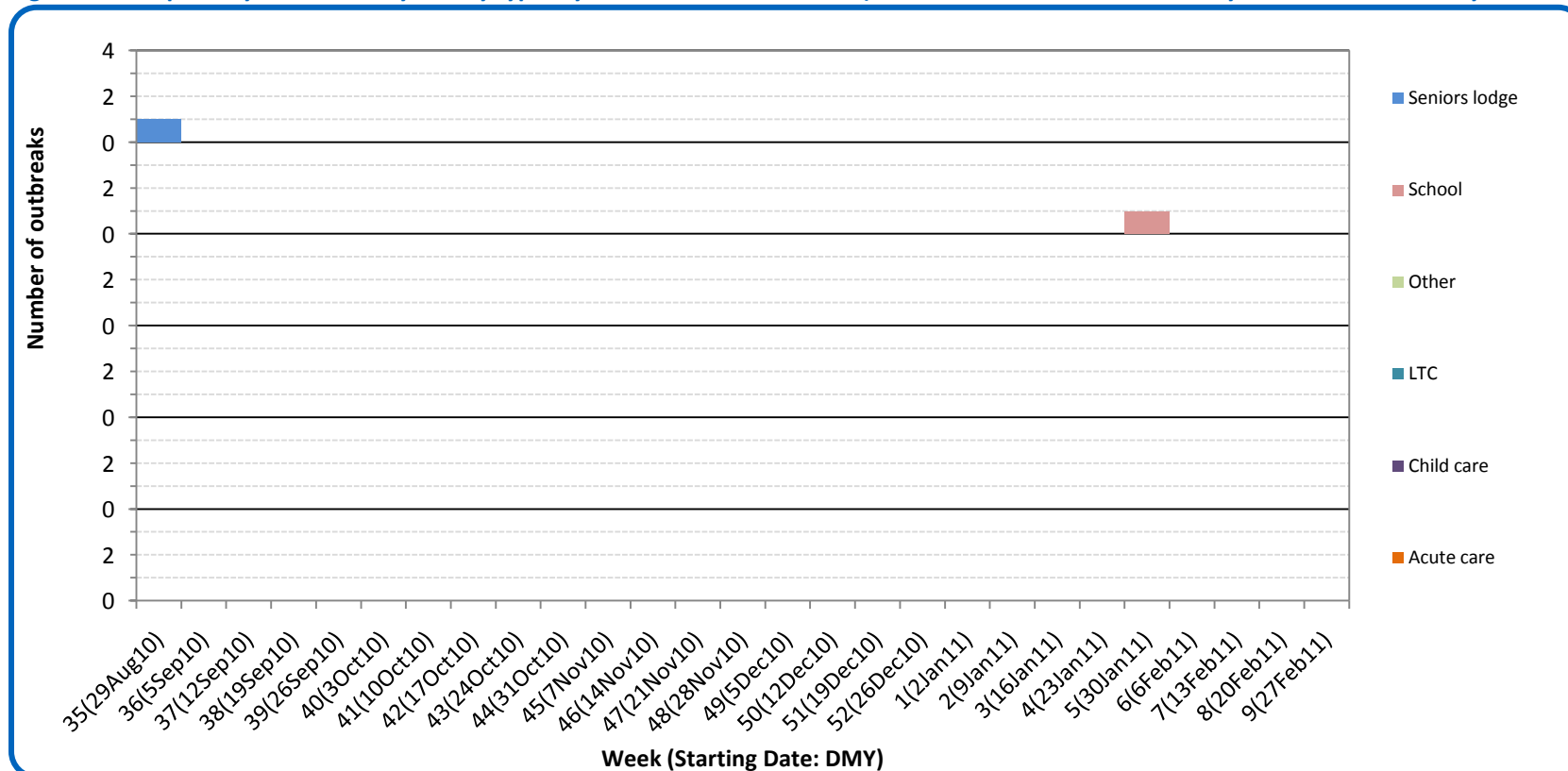
### Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 2011

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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 Mar 5, 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

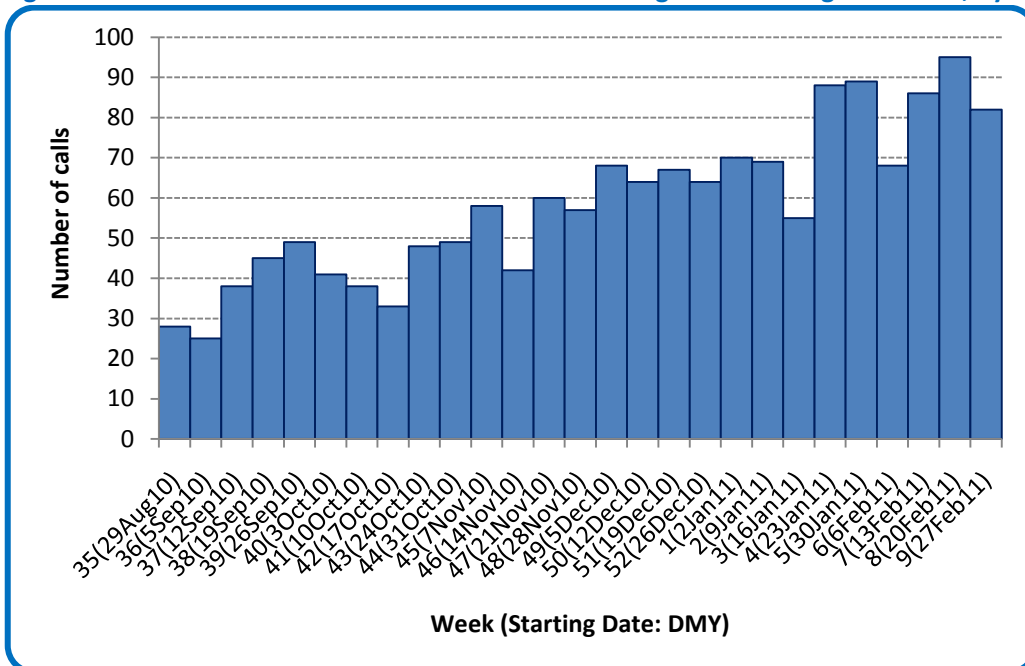
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 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 6E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, North Zone (2010-11)



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Mar 5, 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

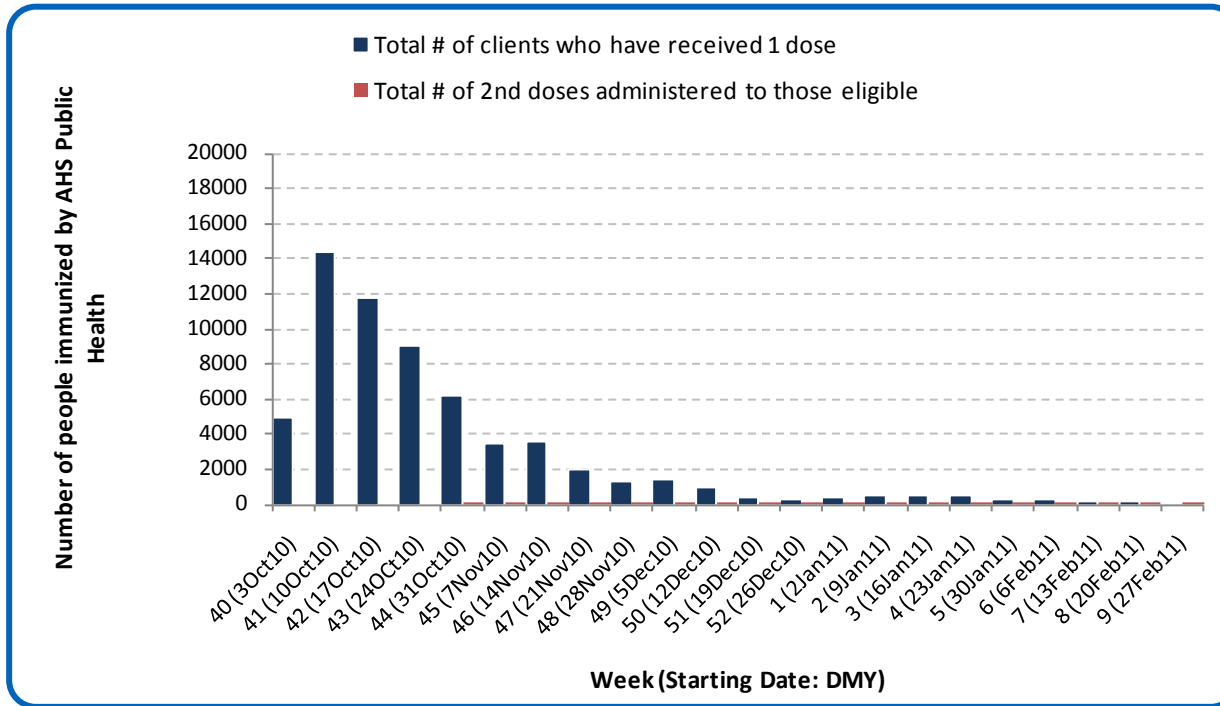
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: March 8, 2011

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Figure 6F: 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 6C: AHS (Public Health) delivered influenza immunizations (with cumulative totals), by priority group, North Zone (2010-2011)**

Priority Group	# Immunized (Week 9 – Feb 27- Mar 5, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	1	814
Health care workers	3	4,686
Pregnant women	3	568
Residents of long term care	0	1,248
65 years of age and over	6	15,789
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	21
	Dose #2	26
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	10
	Dose #2	3
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	2
	Dose #2	1
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	7	7,810
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	7
	Dose #2	2
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	51	23,425
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>62,649</b>
<b>Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1,028</b>

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

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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 6D: Influenza immunizations delivered by external partners, by priority group, North Zone (Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010)**

Priority Group	# Immunized Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010	
Long term care staff	9	
Health care workers	153	
Pregnant women	4	
Residents of long term care	0	
65 years of age and over	333	
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	0
	Dose #2**	0
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	1
	Dose #2**	0
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	0
	Dose #2**	0
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	633	
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	2
	Dose #2**	0
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	3,940	
<b>Total number of clients who have received 1 dose</b>	<b>5,075</b>	
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	0	

Source: AHS Zones (zones are required to report doses of seasonal influenza vaccine administered by community and other providers (e.g. physicians, pharmacists, LTC, WHS/OHS programs) twice during the influenza season. These numbers are from the first report (for doses delivered from Oct 3 to Dec 31, 2010). The remaining doses will be reported at a later date.

\*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.

\*\*In some cases, it was not possible to separate dose 1's from dose 2's. Therefore, dose 1 category may contain some 2<sup>nd</sup> doses.

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

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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.

## SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

### Public Health Surveillance

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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.

## SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

### Public Health Surveillance

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