

Weekly Report

April 26th, 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?

- Global influenza activity is generally low and decreasing. In Europe, influenza activity continues to decline with levels at baseline for the majority of countries. The proportion of influenza B detections of all influenza detections has increased in the last several weeks. Overall this season, 71% of the influenza viruses identified in Europe have been influenza A and 29% have been influenza B. Of the influenza A viruses sub-typed, 96% were A (H1N1) 2009 and 4% were influenza A (H3N2). Among the influenza viruses typed and sub-typed from hospitalized cases, 90% have been identified as A (H1N1) 2009, 1% as A (H3N2) and 10% as influenza B.
- The pattern of influenza virus transmission observed in North Africa has been similar to that seen in Europe, with illness primarily associated with A (H1N1) 2009 and influenza B to a lesser extent. Activity levels seen here, as well as in most areas of Asia, Central and South America and the Caribbean are currently low. One exception is in Venezuela where a recent outbreak of influenza A (H1N1) 2009 has been reported and associated with at least 12 deaths. Influenza A (H3N2) is currently circulating in the central part of sub-Saharan Africa and influenza A (H1N1) 2009 and influenza B are co-circulating further to the east in Kenya.
- Influenza activity continues to decrease in the United States. After being elevated for several months, the proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza has declined to near baseline levels.
- In Canada, influenza activity continues to decline as well. Influenza B detections currently account for a greater proportion than influenza A. Overall this season, 89% of influenza detections have been identified as type A and 11% as type B. Of the influenza A viruses sub-typed, 15% have been identified as A (H1N1) 2009. Notably, this is only 5% of all influenza detections. Among hospitalized cases, the patterns of virus types have been different between pediatric and adult patients. Among pediatric patients with laboratory confirmed influenza, 16% were confirmed as A (H3N2), 4% as A (H1N1) 2009 and 26% type B. The remaining cases were identified as influenza A but not sub-typed. In contrast, among adult patients with laboratory confirmed influenza, 21% were confirmed as A (H3N2), 5% as A (H1N1) 2009 and only 6% as type B. The remaining 67% of cases were identified as influenza A but not sub-typed.
- In Alberta, influenza activity is declining. As of the end of last week (Apr 23, 2011), the total number of influenza cases confirmed in the province this season is 1430, of which 36.6% have been identified as influenza A (H3), 16.7% as influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 44.8% as influenza type B, and 1.9% influenza A with unresolved sub-typing.
- Since the last update, three new respiratory outbreaks have been reported in Alberta, including one in an Edmonton Zone seniors' lodge with a preliminary attack rate of 5%. The onset of symptoms occurred in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011). The remaining two outbreaks both occurred in Central Zone and included one in a seniors' lodge and one in a long term care facility. The preliminary attack rates were 6% and 15%, respectively. The onset of symptoms for both of these outbreaks occurred in Week 14 (Apr 3-9, 2011). Laboratory confirmations for all three outbreaks are currently pending.

If you have questions about the Alberta Respiratory Virus Surveillance Update, or any of the indicators, please contact:
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 16 (starting Apr 17/11) | | | | | |
| | | | South | Calgary | Central | Edmonton | North | |
| Laboratory Confirmed Cases | Number of cases with a positive respiratory specimen ¹ | Adenovirus | 7 | 44 | 13 | 82 | 17 | 163 |
| | | Coronavirus | 12 | 71 | 43 | 123 | 44 | 293 |
| | | Human metapneumovirus (hMPV) | 9 | 13 | 4 | 23 | 8 | 57 |
| | | Influenza A | 47 | 204 | 115 | 266 | 157 | 789 |
| | | Influenza B | 89 | 170 | 66 | 193 | 123 | 641 |
| | | Parainfluenza | 35 | 115 | 66 | 231 | 109 | 556 |
| | | Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) | 122 | 476 | 211 | 776 | 327 | 1912 |
| | | Rhino enterovirus | 114 | 505 | 203 | 701 | 345 | 1868 |
| | | Mixed | 38 | 158 | 54 | 167 | 94 | 511 |
| | | Total | 473 | 1756 | 775 | 2562 | 1224 | 6790 |
| Outbreaks | # laboratory confirmed respiratory outbreaks ² | 0 | 23 | 15 | 37 | 7 | 82 | |
| Influenza Immunizations | Total number of clients who have received 1 dose administered by AHS Public Health ³ (cumulative since Oct 3, 2010) | 43,425 | 194,154 | 61,954 | 162,371 | 63,165 | 525,069 | |
| | The reported number of people who have received 1 dose administered by external providers (Oct 3-Dec 31, 2010) ⁴ | 17,639 | 120,408 | 17,789 | 62,481 | 5,075 | 223,392 | |

-- Information not available

*Note: 28 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. Five specimens were positive for both influenza A & B.

¹ Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 2011).

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

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

⁴ 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: April 26, 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 an increase in the levels of some respiratory virus indicators in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011), influenza activity is declining in Alberta.

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

Influenza activity continues to decline in Alberta. Rhino-enterovirus once again appears to be the predominant virus circulating. As of the end of last week (Apr 23, 2011), the total number of confirmed cases of influenza in the province this season is 1430 (36.6% influenza A (H3), 16.7% influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 44.8% influenza type B, and 1.9% 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 19.7 per 10,000 compared to 9.2 per 10,000 or lower for all other age groups.

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

Three new respiratory outbreaks were reported last week (Apr 17-23, 2011) including one in an Edmonton Zone seniors' lodge with a preliminary attack rate of 5%. The onset of symptoms occurred in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011). The remaining two outbreaks both occurred in Central Zone, including one in a seniors' lodge and one in a long term care facility. The preliminary attack rates were 6% and 15%, respectively. The onset of symptoms for both of these outbreaks occurred in Week 14 (Apr 3-9, 2011). Laboratory confirmations for these three outbreaks are currently pending.

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

Although the number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties increased slightly in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) compared to the previous week, the trend over the last several weeks has been declining.

Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

The number of visits to emergency departments/urgent care centers (ED's) for influenza-like illness (ILI) in the City of Calgary and Edmonton Zone remained relatively unchanged in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) from the previous week, while the number of hospital admission for this reason decreased by 21%. Generally, both of these indicators have been declining.

The number of emergency department visits for cough increased by 20% in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) from the previous week, while the number of hospital admissions for this reason decreased by 6%. Generally, both indicators have been declining over the last several weeks.

Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits of all visits to sentinel physician offices in Alberta increased by 90% in Week 15 (Apr 10-16, 2011) compared to the previous week. This indicator has been fluctuating in recent weeks.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

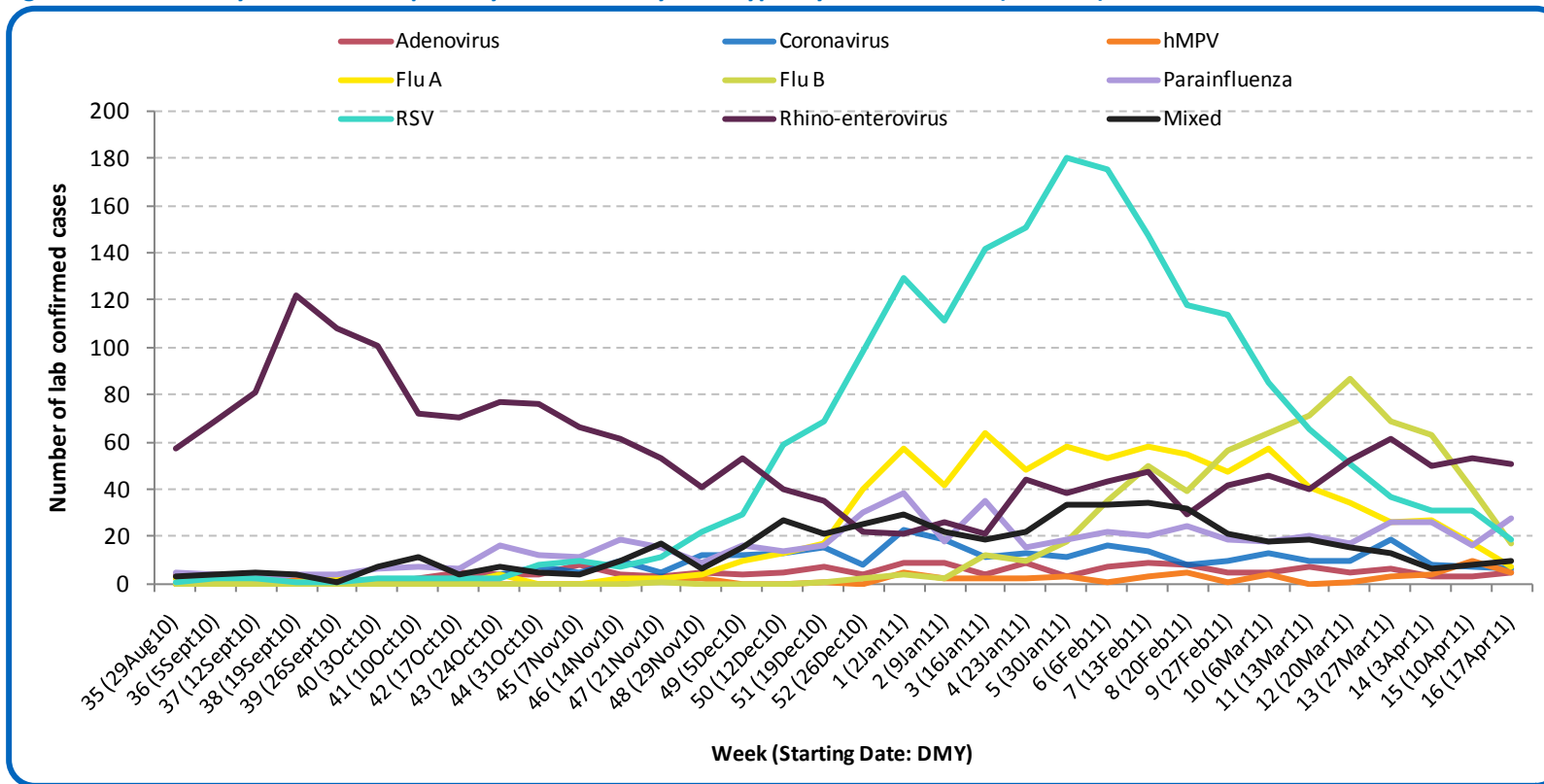
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 2011

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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 Apr 23, 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

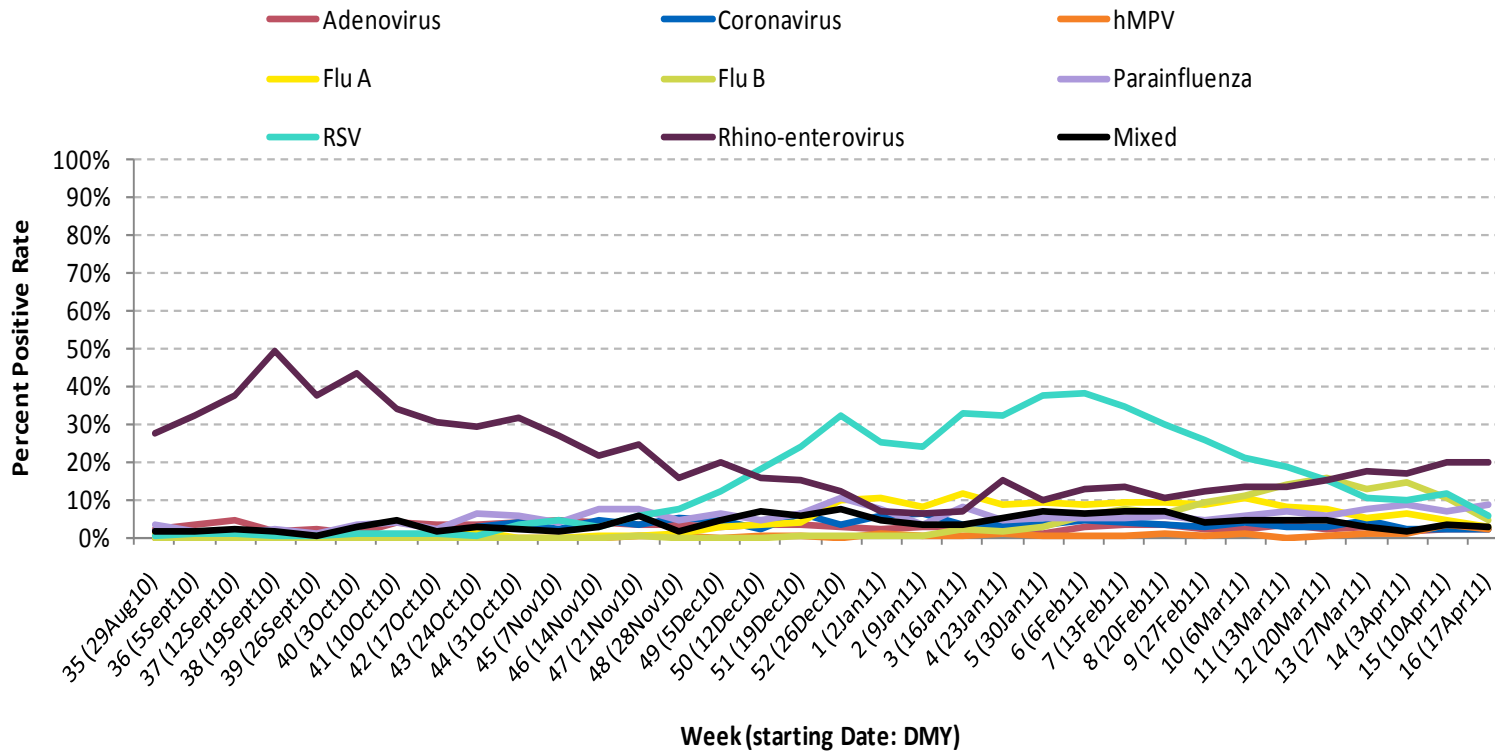
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 2011

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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 Apr 23, 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

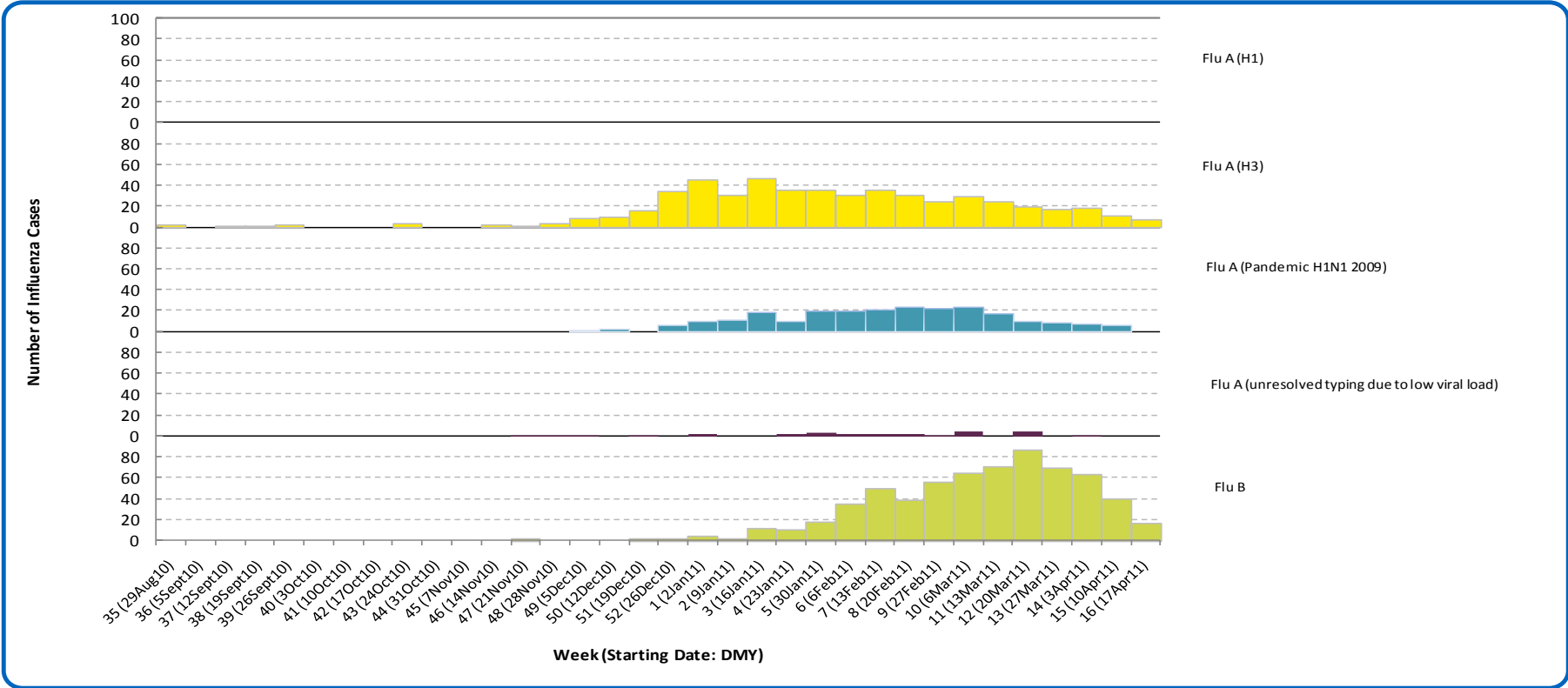
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 2011

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



*Note: 28 specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s). Five specimens were positive for both influenza A & B.
 Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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 1A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Alberta (Week 16: Apr 17-23, 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 | 0.5 | 5 | 0.5 |
| 2 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.3 |
| 5 to <9 years | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.2 | 3 | 0.2 |
| 9 to <18 years | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | <0.1 | 1 | 0.0 |
| 18 to <65 years | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | <0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | <0.1 | 7 | 0.0 |
| 65 to <75 years | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | <0.1 | 2 | 0.1 |
| 75+ years | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 7 | <0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 17 | <0.1 | 24 | 0.1 |

Table 1B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Alberta (Aug 29, 2010 – Apr 23, 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 | 78 | 7.5 | 31 | 3.0 | 5 | 0.5 | 90 | 8.7 | 204 | 19.7 |
| 2 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | 43 | 2.9 | 16 | 1.1 | 2 | 0.1 | 75 | 5.1 | 136 | 9.2 |
| 5 to <9 years | 0 | 0.0 | 36 | 2.0 | 10 | 0.6 | 2 | 0.1 | 91 | 5.1 | 139 | 7.7 |
| 9 to <18 years | 0 | 0.0 | 31 | 0.7 | 18 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.1 | 134 | 3.2 | 186 | 4.5 |
| 18 to <65 years | 0 | 0.0 | 214 | 0.9 | 161 | 0.7 | 12 | 0.0 | 211 | 0.9 | 598 | 2.4 |
| 65 to <75 years | 0 | 0.0 | 23 | 1.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 22 | 1.0 | 48 | 2.2 |
| 75+ years | 0 | 0.0 | 98 | 5.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.2 | 18 | 1.0 | 119 | 6.5 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 523 | 1.4 | 239 | 0.6 | 27 | 0.1 | 641 | 1.7 | 1430 | 3.9 |

Source for Table 1A & 1B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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

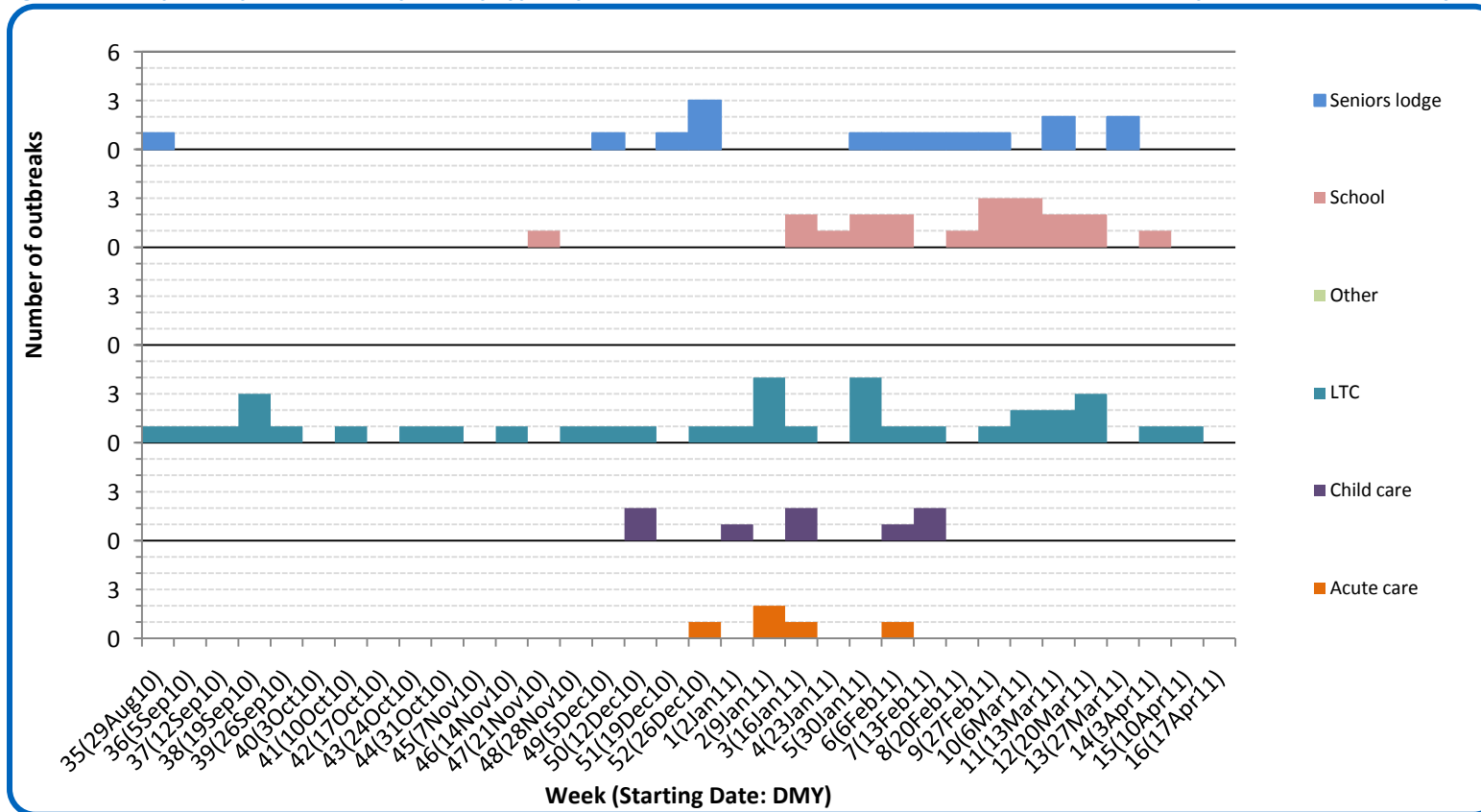
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 2011

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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 Apr 23, 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

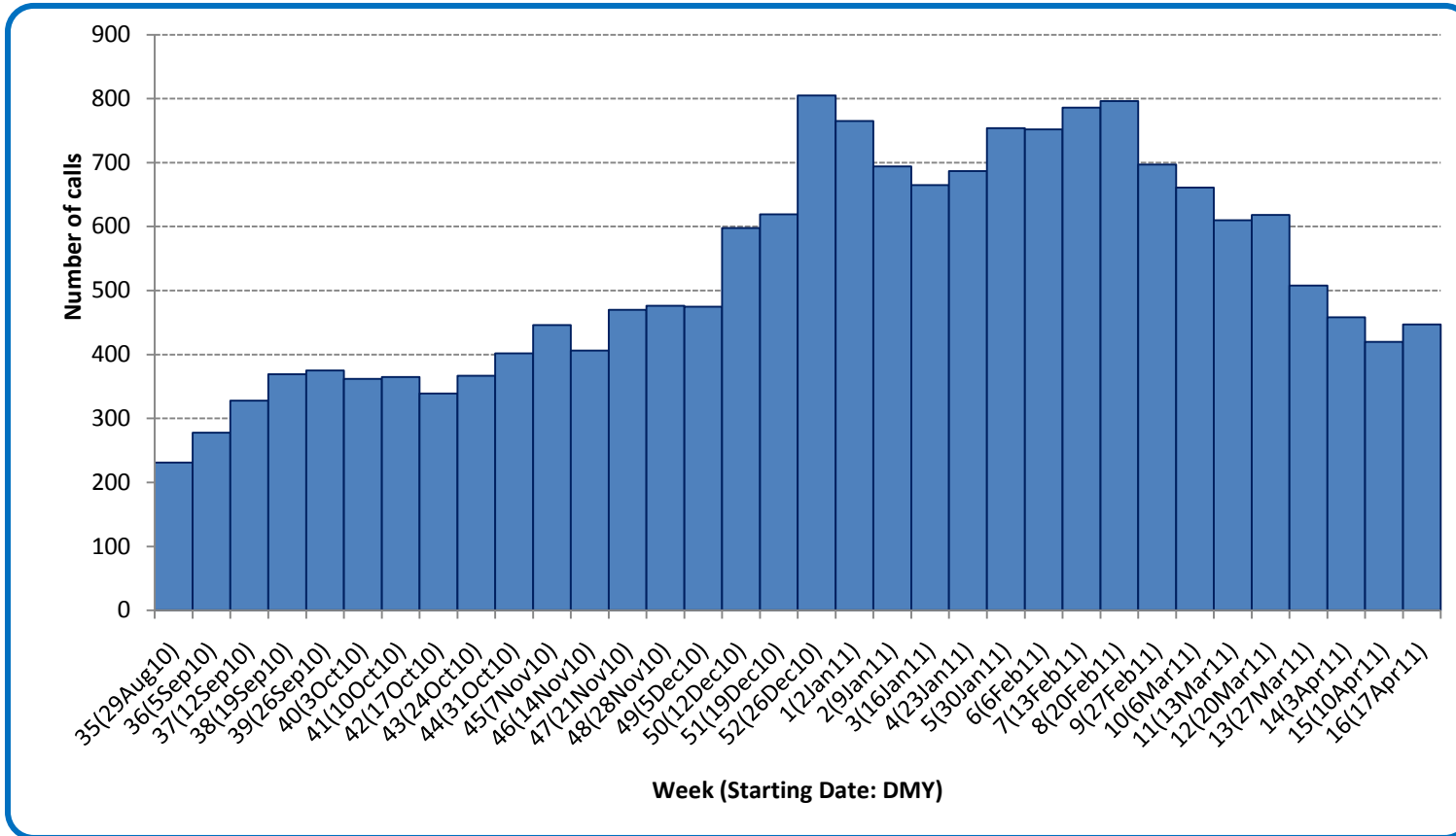
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Figure 1E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, Alberta (2010-11)



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

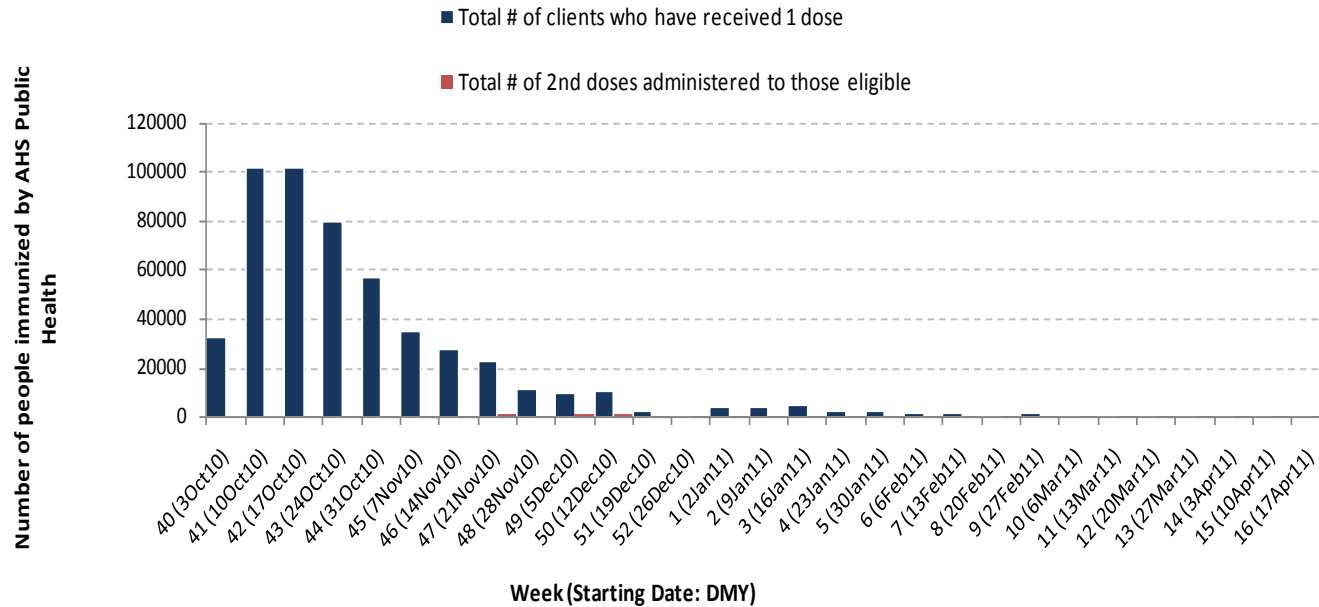
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 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](#)

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 1C: AHS (Public Health) delivered influenza immunizations (with cumulative totals), by priority group, Alberta (2010-11)

| Priority Group | # Immunized (Week 16 – Apr 17-Apr 23, 2011) | Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010) |
|---|---|---|
| Long term care staff | 1 | 2,650 |
| Health care workers | 3 | 19,104 |
| Pregnant women | 0 | 4,763 |
| Residents of long term care | 0 | 4,842 |
| 65 years of age and over | 2 | 146,815 |
| All children 6 months up to and including 23 months* | Dose #1 | 22 |
| | Dose #2 | 148 |
| All children 24 months up to and including 59 months* | Dose #1 | 4 |
| | Dose #2 | 6 |
| 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 | 3 | 56,130 |
| Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | Dose #2 | 5 |
| Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years | 36 | 212,056 |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 71 | 525,069 |
| Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible* | 159 | 12,349 |

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 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 | |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 223,392 | |
| 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 2nd 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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SECTION 2: ZONE 1 - SOUTH

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Summary

Despite some fluctuations in the levels of respiratory virus indicators over the last several weeks, influenza activity is declining in South Zone.

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

Influenza B activity continues to decline in South Zone. As of the end of last week (Apr 23, 2011), the total number of laboratory confirmed cases of influenza in this part of the province this season is 136. The age specific rate for confirmed influenza in South zone is highest for children between the ages of 2 to less than 5 years, at 15.0 per 10,000.

Outbreaks

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

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

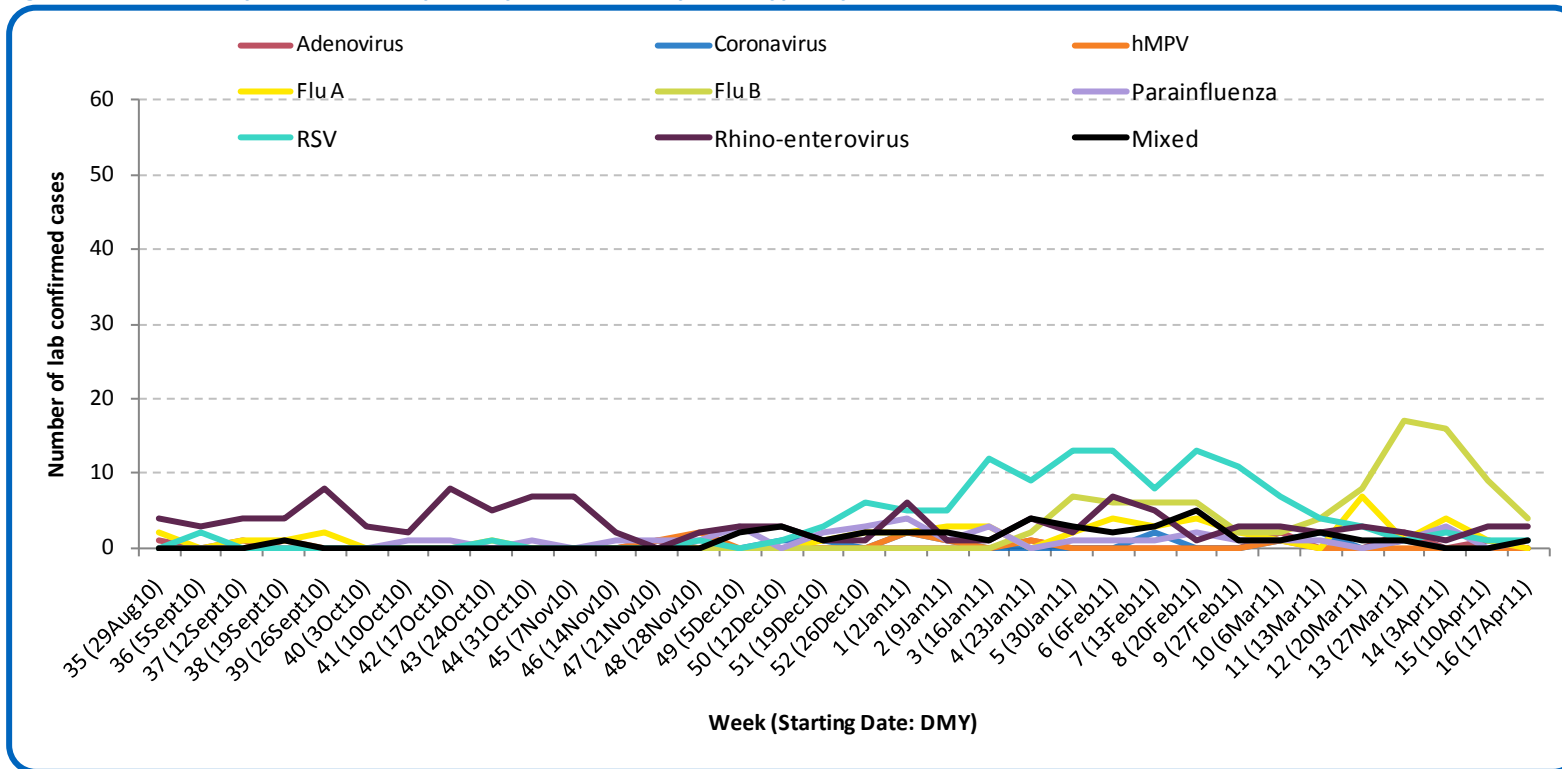
The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties in the South Zone increased in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) compared to the previous week. This is the second consecutive increase observed. Generally, this indicator has been fluctuating over the last several weeks.

Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

This information is not available for South Zone.

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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 Apr 23, 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

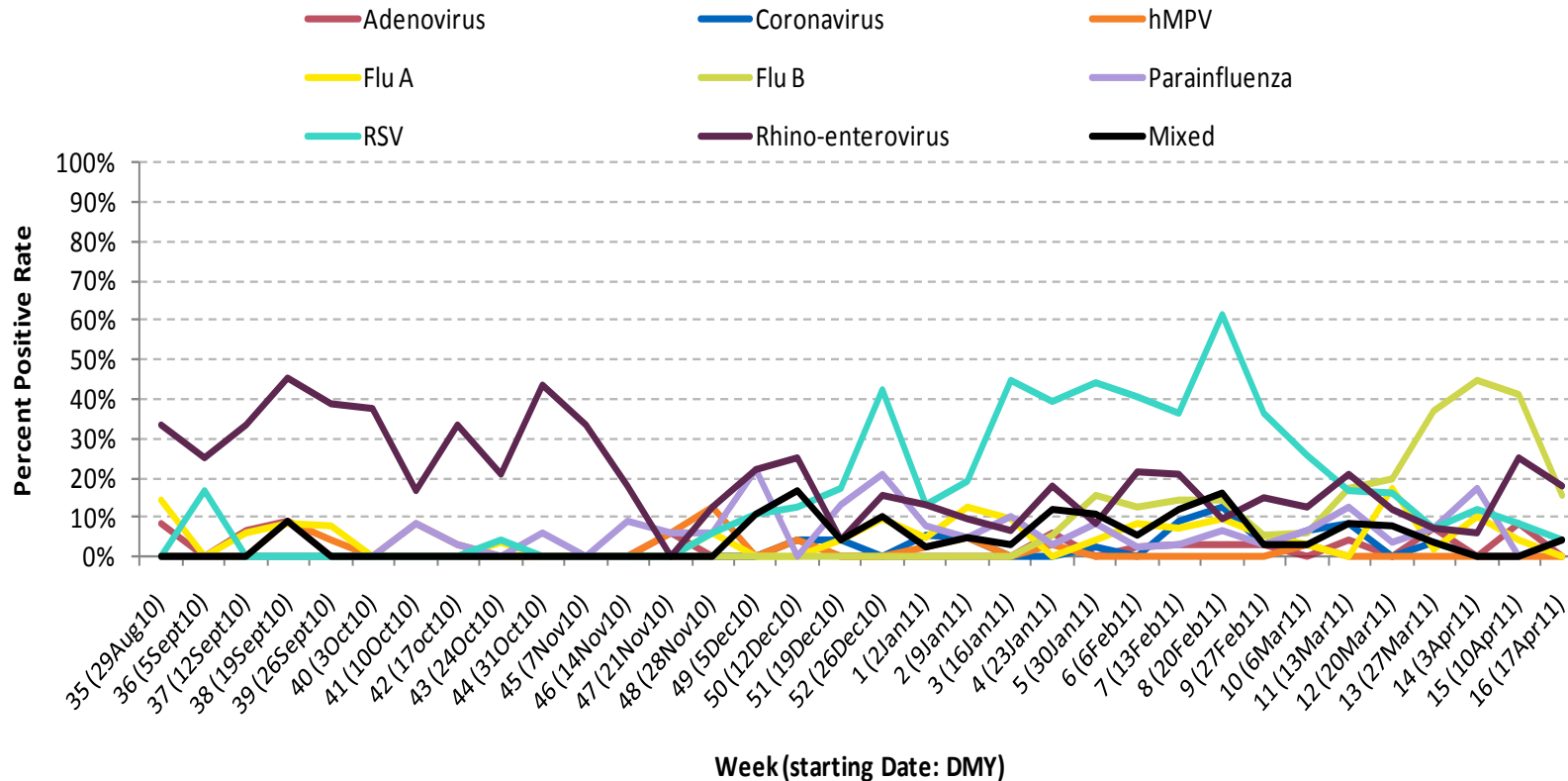
Public Health Surveillance

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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 Apr 23, 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

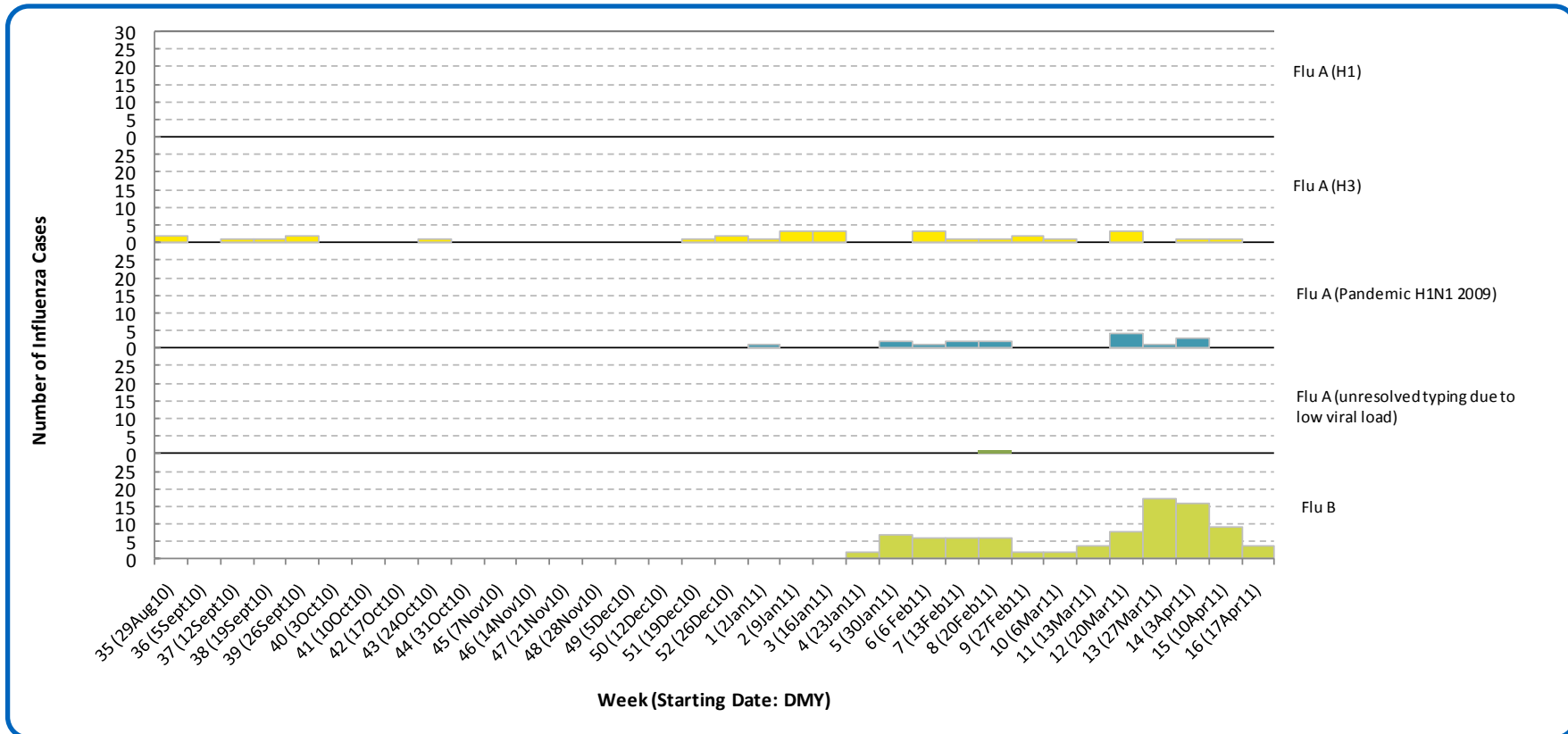
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Figure 2C: Laboratory confirmed influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, South Zone (2010-2011)



Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 2011).

*Note: Two specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one other virus type. One specimen was positive for both influenza A & B.

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: April 26, 2011

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Table 2A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, South Zone (Week 16: Apr 17-23, 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 | 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 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.2 | 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 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 |

Table 2B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, South Zone (Aug 29, 2010–Apr 23, 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 | 4.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 6.0 | 9 | 10.8 |
| 2 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 4.2 | 2 | 1.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 11 | 9.2 | 18 | 15.0 |
| 5 to <9 years | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 10 | 6.8 | 11 | 7.5 |
| 9 to <18 years | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 23 | 6.8 | 24 | 7.1 |
| 18 to <65 years | 0 | 0.0 | 18 | 1.0 | 11 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.1 | 36 | 2.1 | 66 | 3.8 |
| 65 to <75 years | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 1.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 1.5 | 5 | 2.6 |
| 75+ years | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 1.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.5 | 3 | 1.6 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 30 | 1.1 | 16 | 0.6 | 1 | <0.1 | 89 | 3.2 | 136 | 4.8 |

Source for Tables 2A & 2B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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

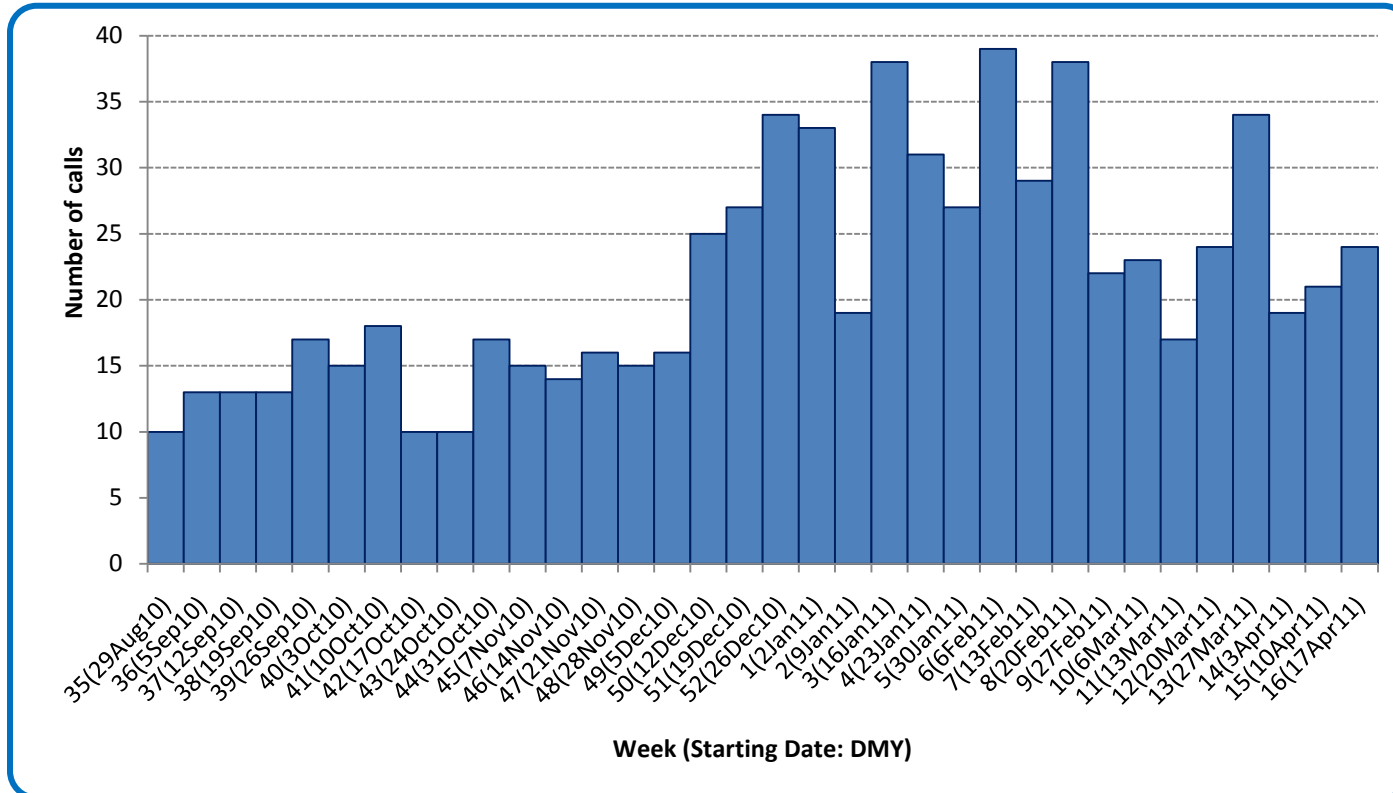
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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, South Zone (2010-11)



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

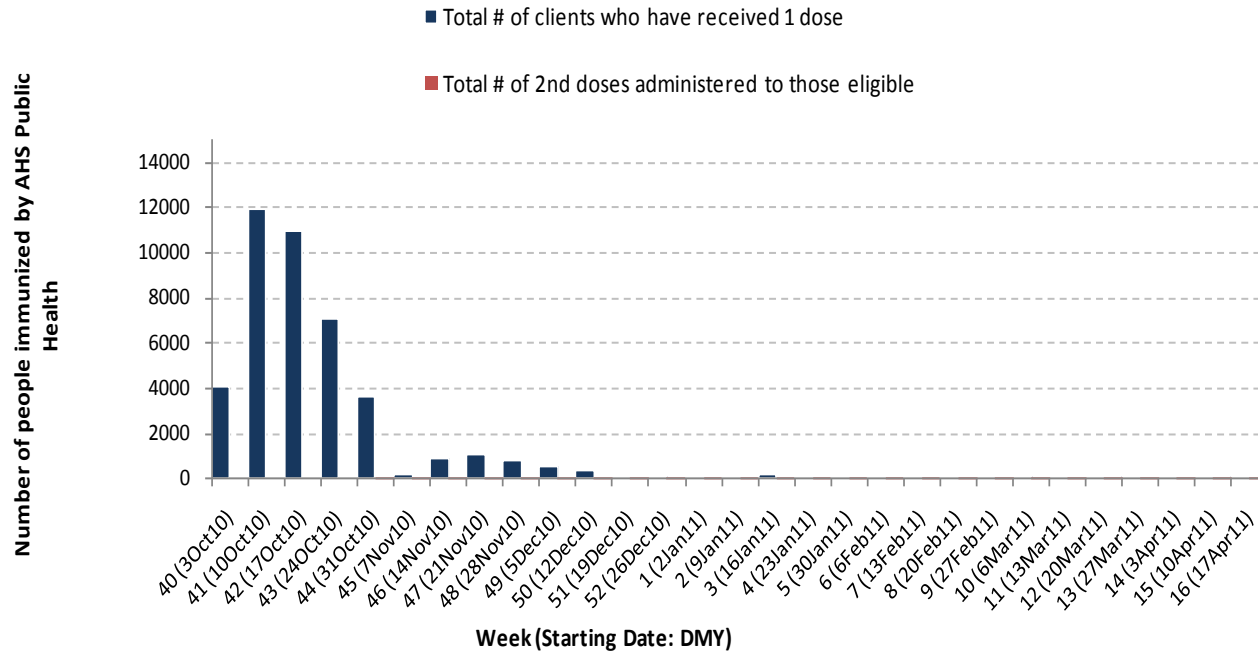
SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance
Report Date: April 26, 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 | # Immunized (Week 16 – Apr 17-Apr 23, 2011) | Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010) |
|--|---|---|
| Long term care staff | 0 | 618 |
| Health care workers | 0 | 1,577 |
| Pregnant women | 0 | 302 |
| Residents of long term care | 0 | 730 |
| 65 years of age and over | 0 | 15,604 |
| All children 6 months up to and including 23 months* | Dose #1 | 8 |
| | Dose #2 | 17 |
| All children 24 months up to and including 59 months* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | 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 | 0 | 4,131 |
| Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | Dose #2 | 1 |
| Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years | 16 | 14,764 |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 24 | 43,425 |
| Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible* | 18 | 949 |

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: April 26, 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 | |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 17,639 | |
| 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 2nd 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: April 26, 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

The levels for a number of indicators of respiratory virus activity increased in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) compared to the previous week, however it appears this may be due to rhino-enterovirus transmission, as influenza activity is declining in Calgary Zone.

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

Influenza activity continues to decline in Calgary Zone however rhino-enterovirus activity has been increasing in the last several weeks. Since the beginning of the season, a total of 374 cases of influenza have been confirmed in Calgary Zone (38.2% have been identified as influenza A (H3), 13.6% as influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 45.5% as influenza type B and 2.8% as influenza A with unresolved sub-typing). 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 12.2 per 10,000.

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

There have been no new outbreaks confirmed in Calgary Zone since the last update.

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

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties in the Calgary Zone increased by 30% in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) compared to the previous week. This is the first increase observed for this indicator in several weeks.

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

The number of emergency department 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 increased by 23% and 15%, respectively in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) compared to the previous week. Generally, the trend over the last several weeks for emergency department visits for ILI has been decreasing, while the number of hospital admissions for ILI has been fluctuating.

The number of visits to emergency departments for patients with cough symptoms increased by 11% in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) compared to the previous week, while the number of hospital admissions for the same reason decreased by 20%. While the general trend for the number of hospital admissions has fluctuated in recent weeks, the number of visits to emergency departments for cough has been declining overall.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

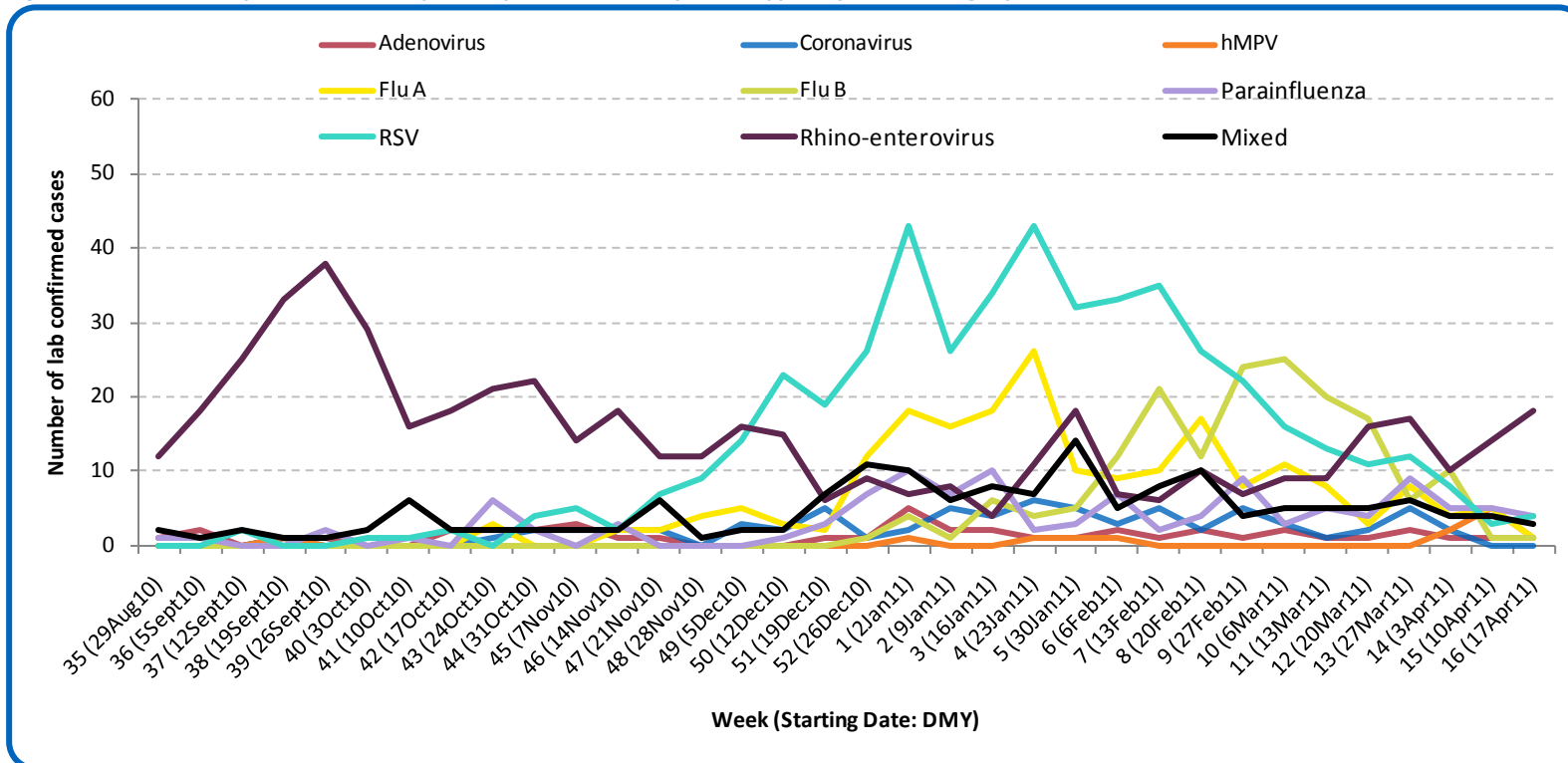
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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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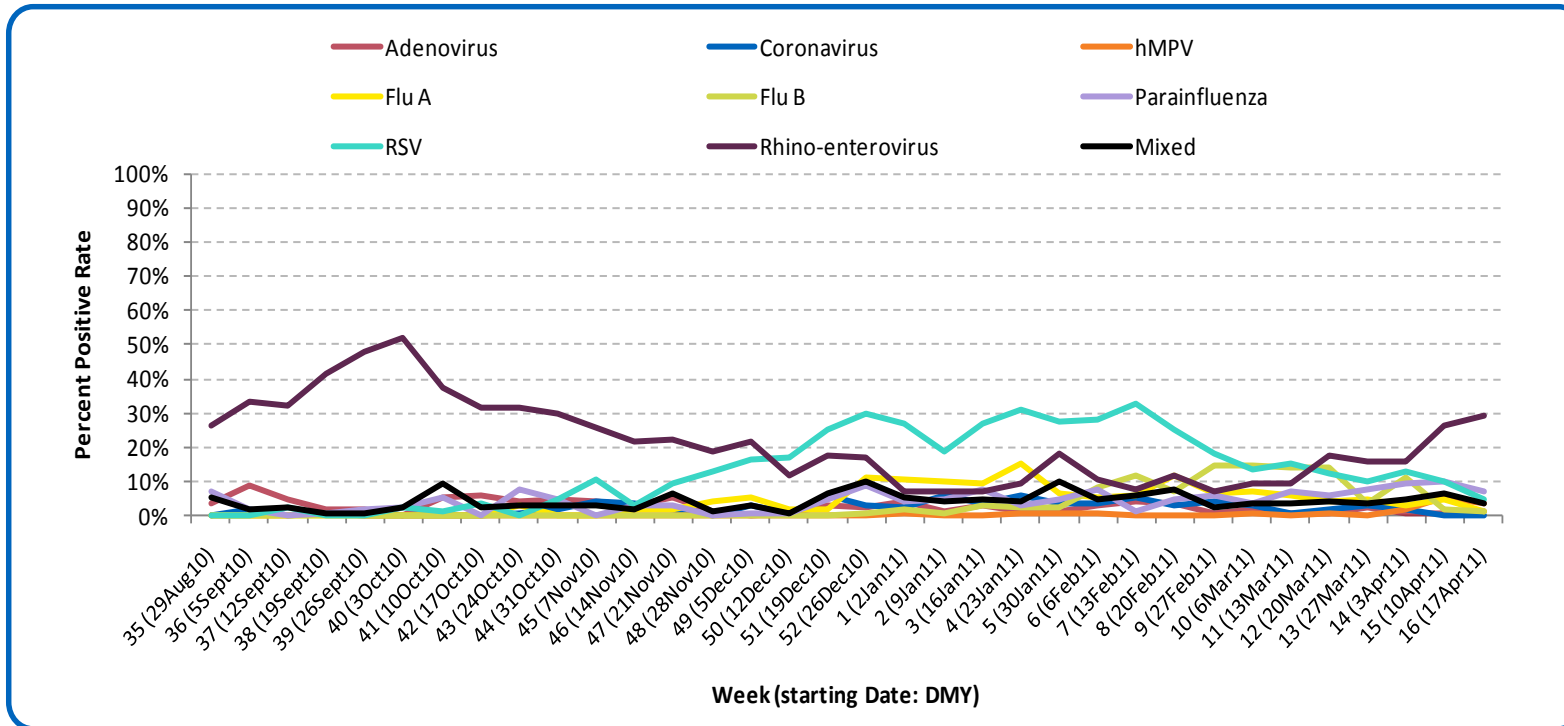
Figure 3A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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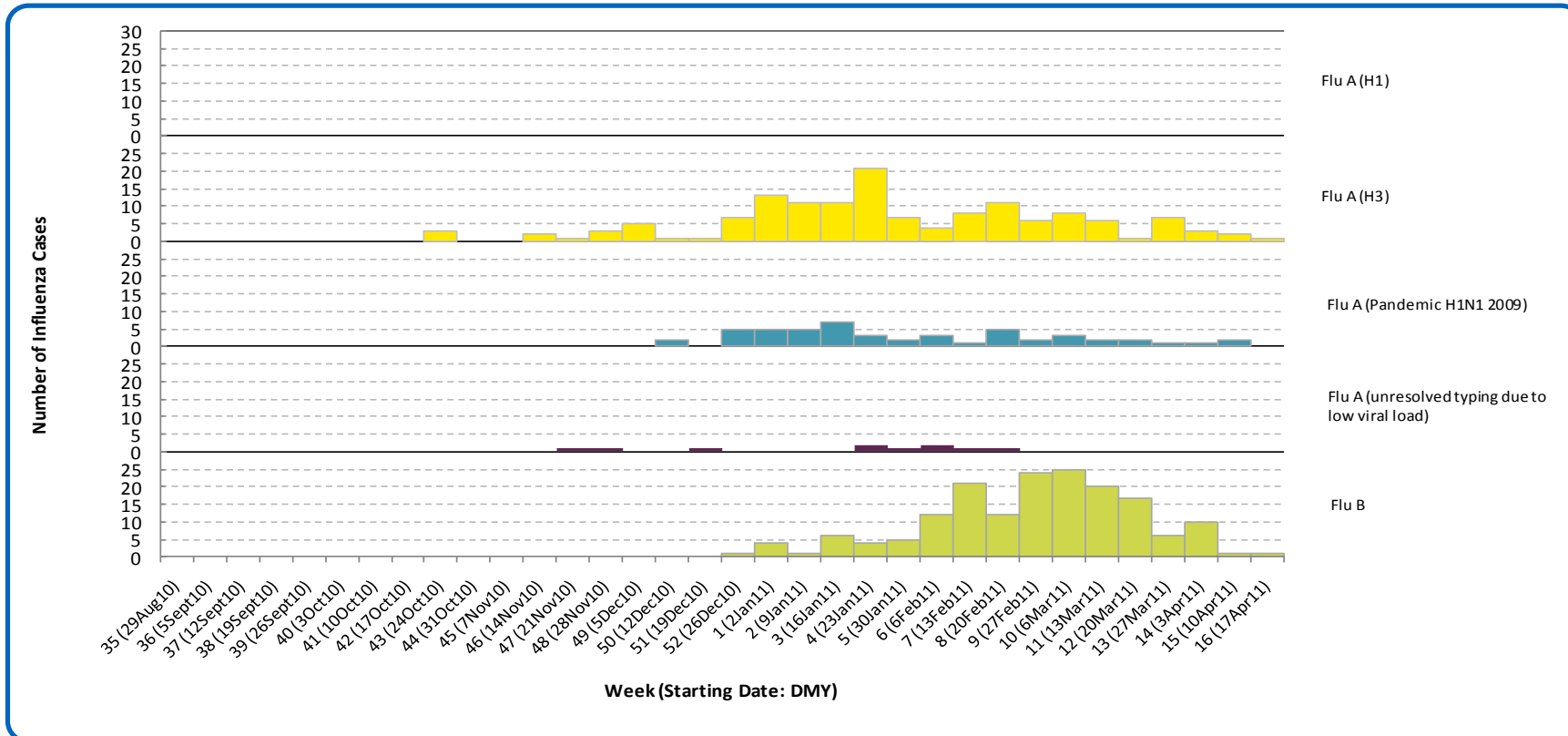
Figure 3B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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: Five 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 Apr 23, 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 3A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Calgary Zone (Week 16: Apr 17-23, 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 | 0.3 |
| 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 | 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 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | <0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | <0.1 | 2 | <0.1 |

Table 3B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Calgary Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Apr 23, 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 | 19 | 5.0 | 6 | 1.6 | 1 | 0.3 | 20 | 5.3 | 46 | 12.2 |
| 2 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | 12 | 2.2 | 3 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.2 | 15 | 2.8 | 31 | 5.7 |
| 5 to <9 years | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 1.4 | 1 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.3 | 29 | 4.5 | 41 | 6.3 |
| 9 to <18 years | 0 | 0.0 | 10 | 0.7 | 1 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.1 | 44 | 3.0 | 57 | 3.9 |
| 18 to <65 years | 0 | 0.0 | 64 | 0.7 | 39 | 0.4 | 3 | <0.1 | 59 | 0.6 | 165 | 1.8 |
| 65 to <75 years | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 1.2 | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.3 | 12 | 1.6 |
| 75+ years | 0 | 0.0 | 20 | 3.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.2 | 22 | 3.6 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 143 | 1.0 | 51 | 0.4 | 10 | 0.1 | 170 | 1.2 | 374 | 2.7 |

Source for tables 3A & 3B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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

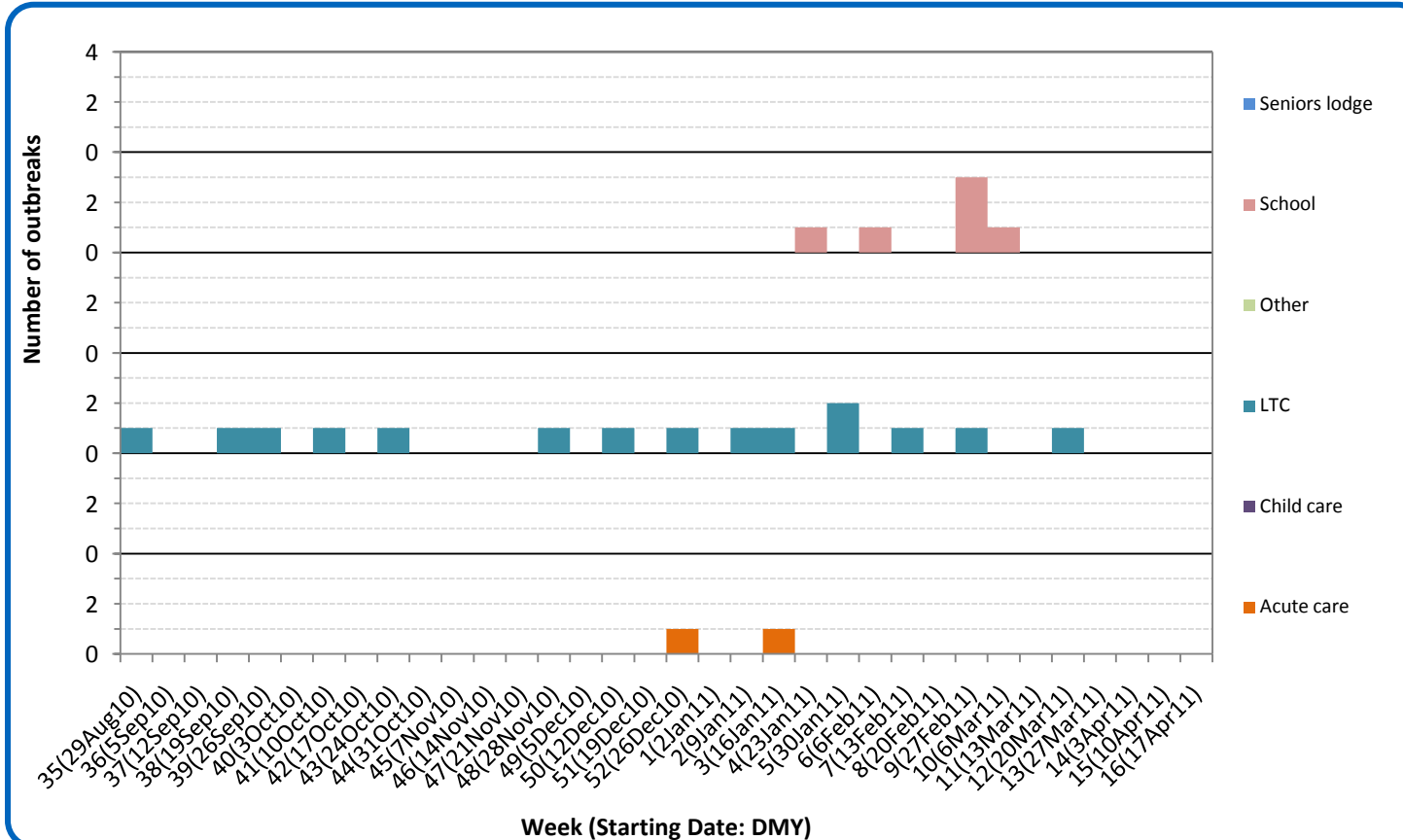
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 Apr 23, 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

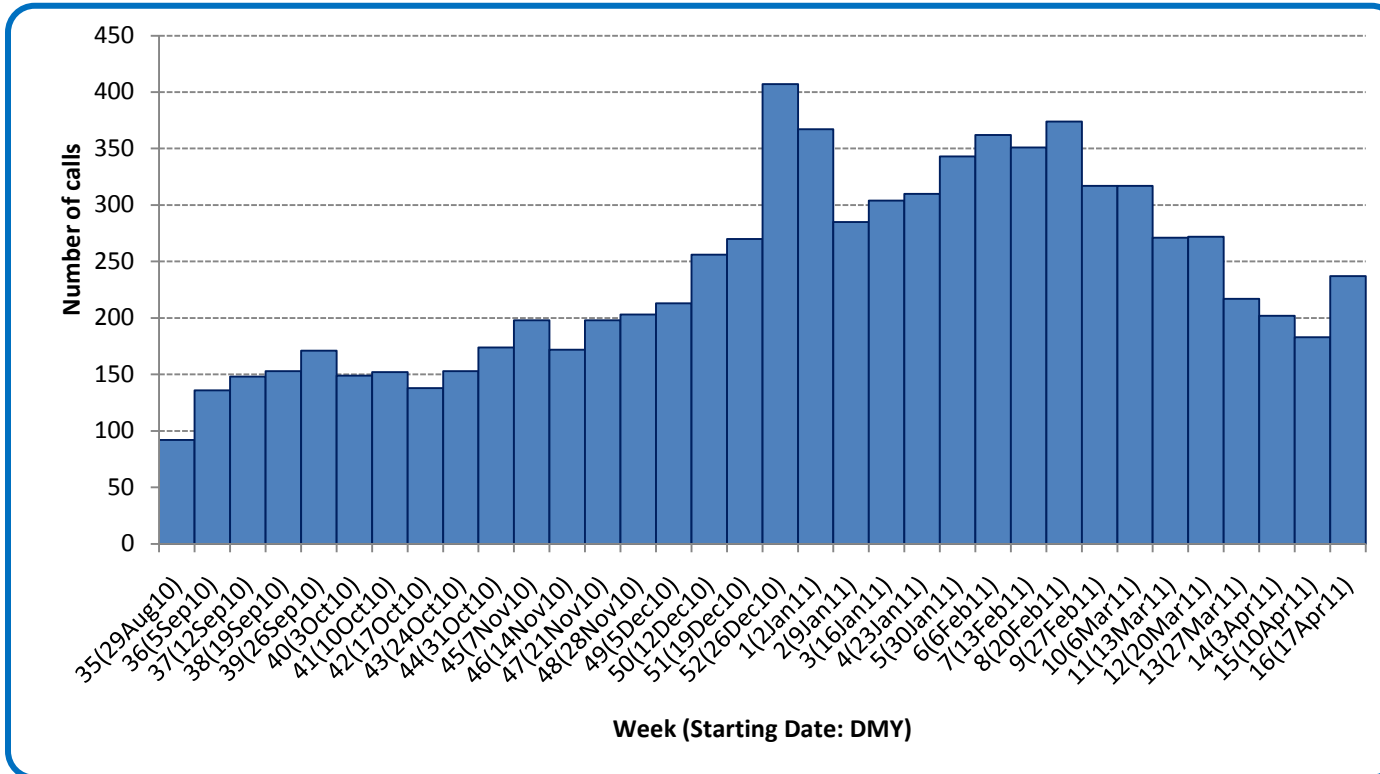
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 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 Apr 23, 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

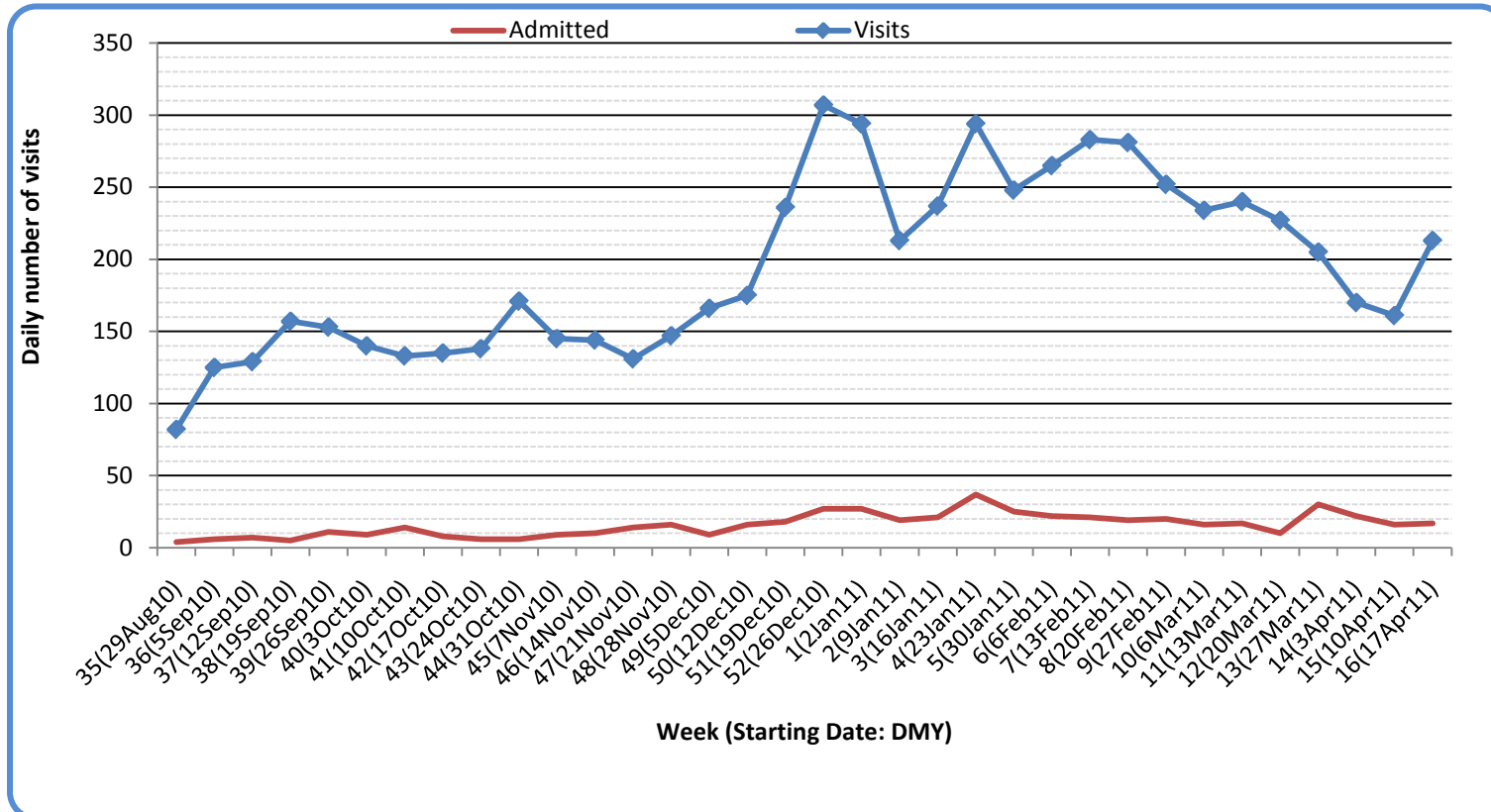
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 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 Apr 23, 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

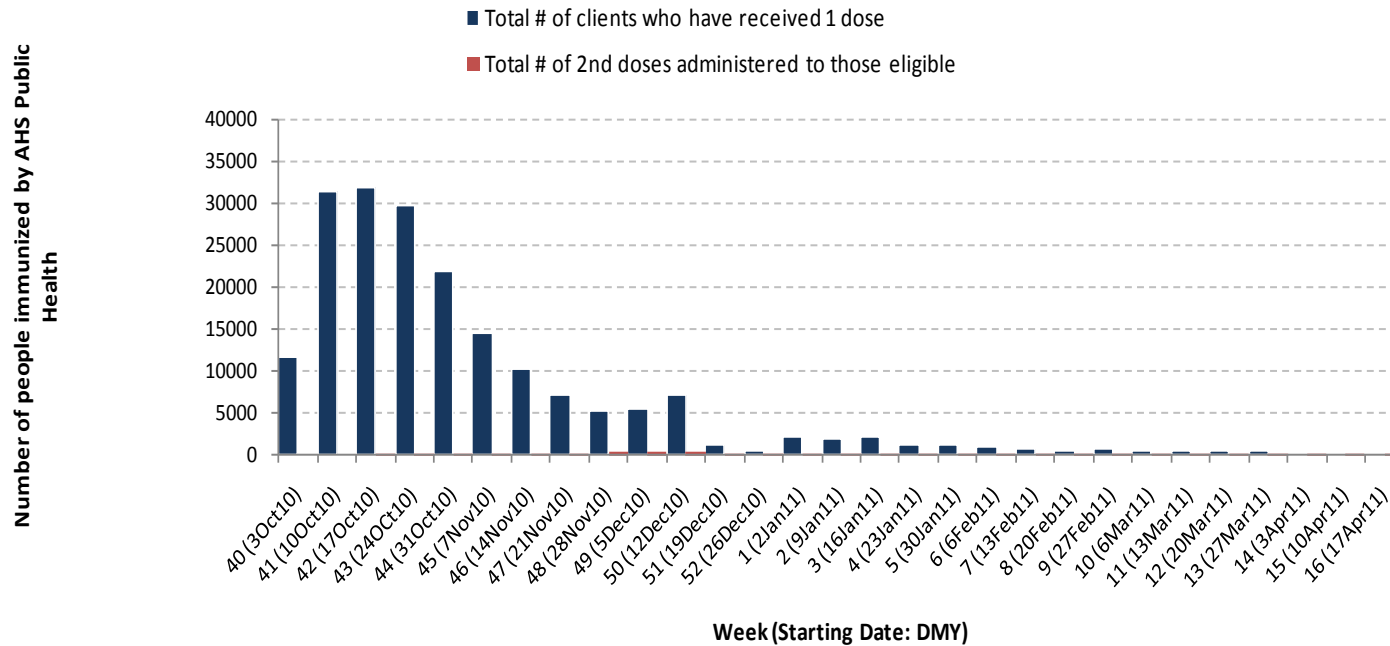
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 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 | # Immunized (Week 16 – Apr 17-Apr 23, 2011) | Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010) |
|--|---|---|
| Long term care staff | 0 | 453 |
| Health care workers | 0 | 5,355 |
| Pregnant women | 0 | 2,007 |
| Residents of long term care | 0 | 706 |
| 65 years of age and over | 0 | 44,723 |
| All children 6 months up to and including 23 months* | Dose #1 | 9 |
| | Dose #2 | 100 |
| All children 24 months up to and including 59 months* | Dose #1 | 4 |
| | Dose #2 | 5 |
| 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 | 1 | 20,042 |
| Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | Dose #2 | 3 |
| Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years | 3 | 84,674 |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 17 | 194,154 |
| Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible* | 108 | 5,733 |

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: April 26, 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 | |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 120,408 | |
| 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 2nd 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: April 26, 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

Despite some indications of continuing respiratory virus activity, influenza activity is declining in Central Zone.

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

Influenza activity is decreasing in Central Zone. Rhino-enterovirus appears to be the predominant respiratory virus currently circulating. This season, the total number of influenza cases confirmed in Central Zone is 181 (50.2% have been identified as influenza A (H3), 11.0% as influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 36.4% as influenza B and 2.2% as influenza A with unresolved sub-typing). 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 18.6 per 10,000.

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

Two new respiratory outbreaks were reported in Central Zone since the last update, including one in a seniors' lodge and one in a long term care facility. The preliminary attack rates were 6% and 15%, respectively. The onset of symptoms for both of these outbreaks occurred in Week 14 (Apr 3-9, 2011). Laboratory confirmations for these three outbreaks are currently pending.

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

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta in the Central Zone for cough or breathing difficulties decreased by 21% in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) from the previous week. This indicator is generally decreasing.

Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

There are no data available from this zone.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

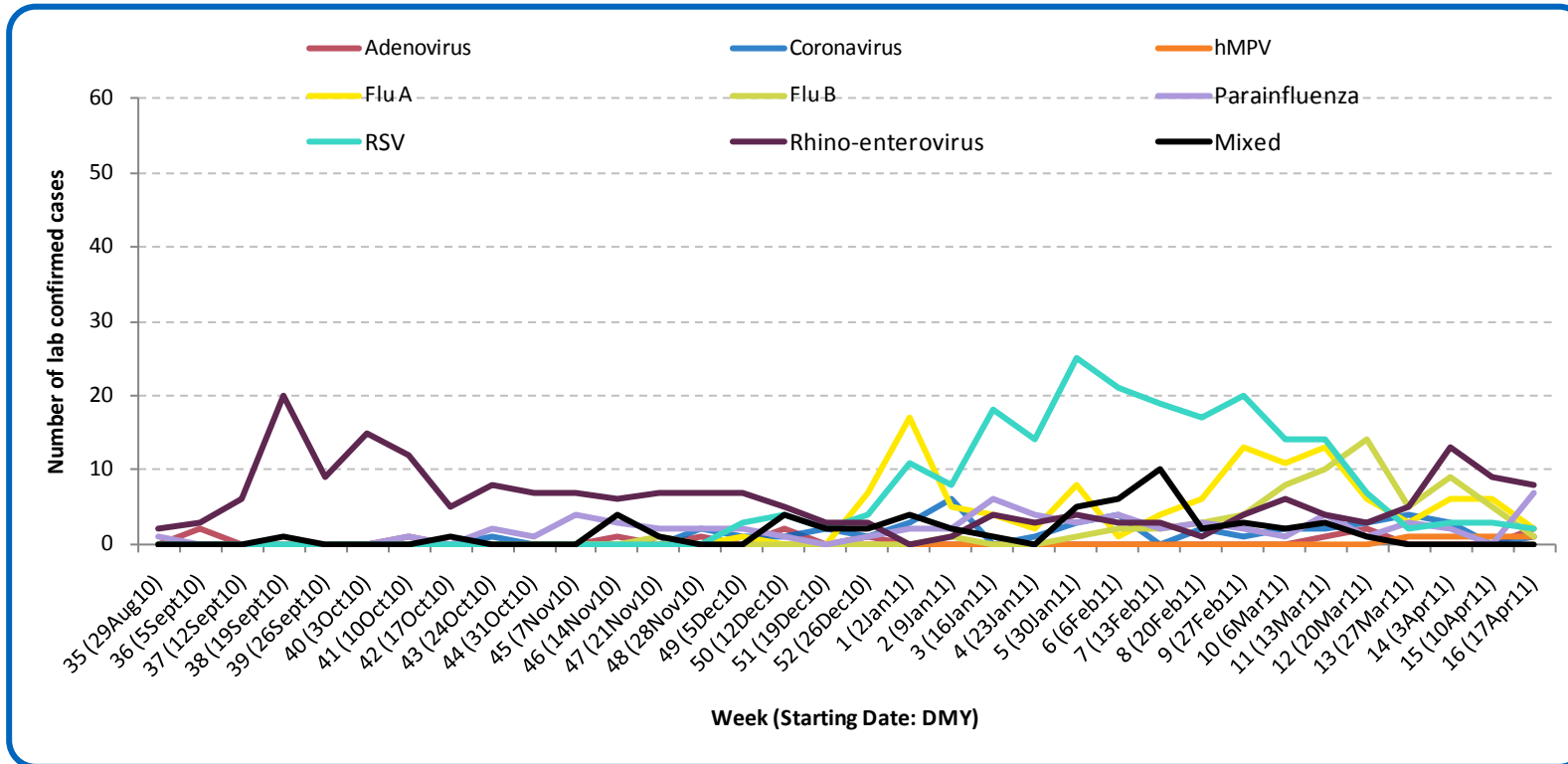
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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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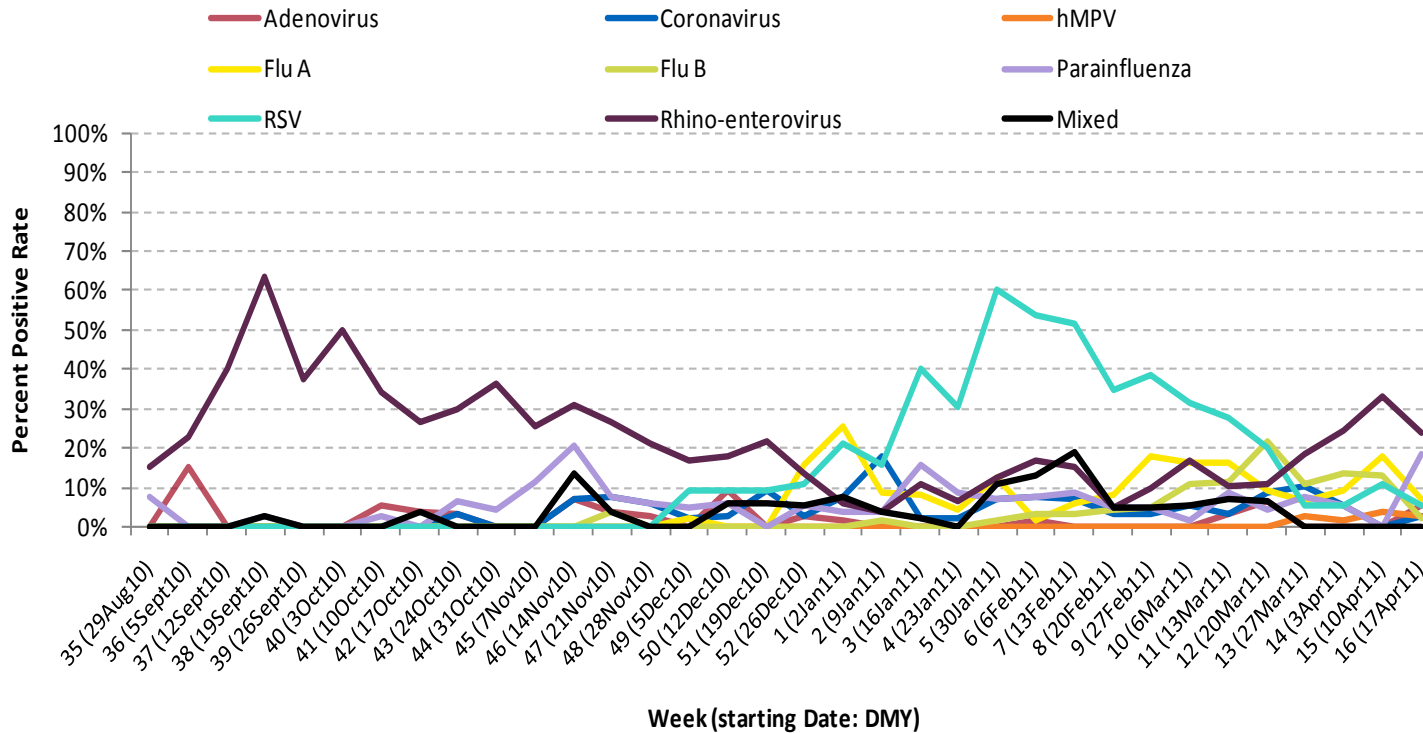
Figure 4A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, Central Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

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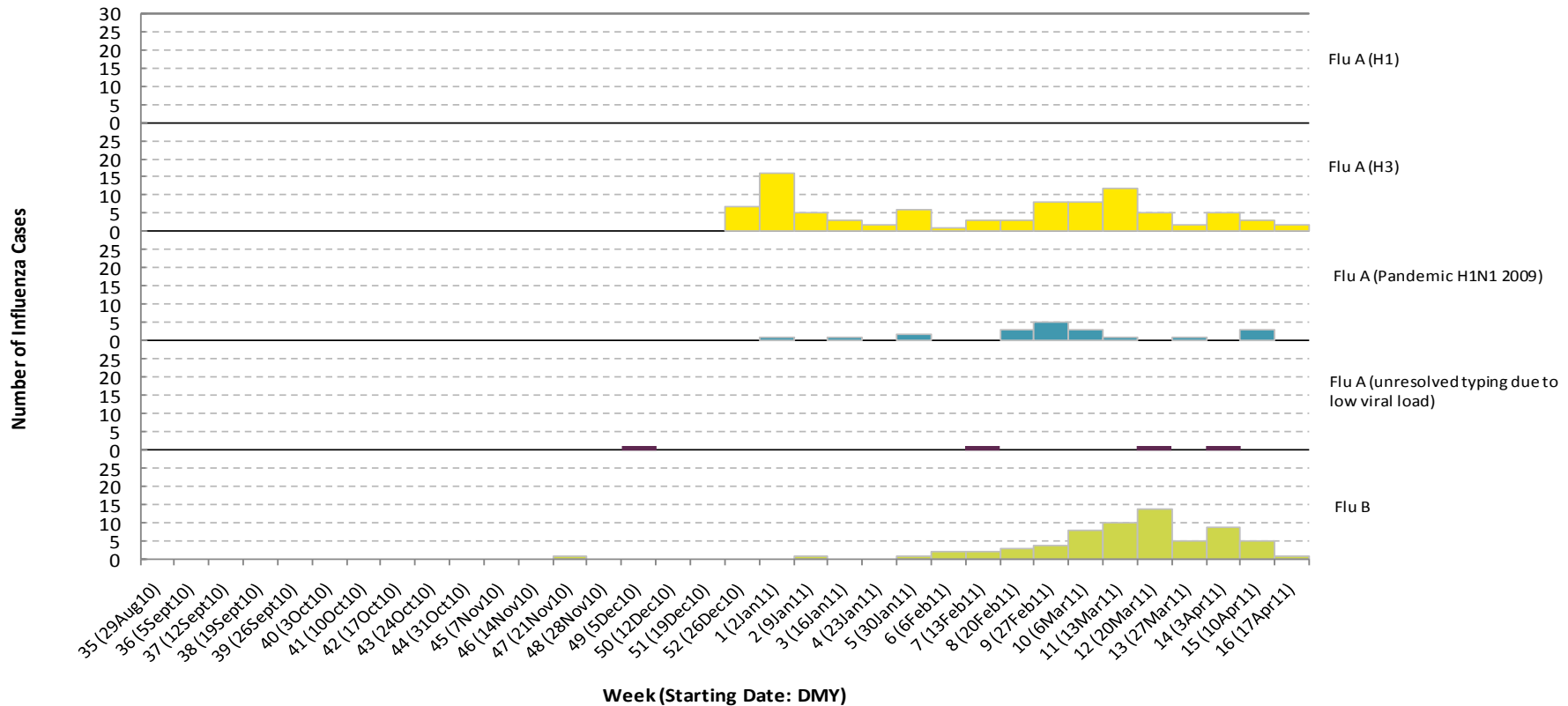
Figure 4B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Central Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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: Seven 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 Apr 23, 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 4A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Central Zone (Week 16: Apr 17-23, 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 | 1 | 0.8 | 2 | 1.6 |
| 2 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.6 |
| 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 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.2 |
| 65 to <75 years | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.3 |
| 75+ years | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 0.1 | 11 | 0.2 |

Table 4B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Central Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Apr 23, 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 | 10 | 8.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 13 | 10.5 | 23 | 18.6 |
| 2 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 1.1 | 2 | 1.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 8 | 4.4 | 12 | 6.6 |
| 5 to <9 years | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 1.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 4.0 | 13 | 5.8 |
| 9 to <18 years | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.6 | 2 | 0.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 7 | 1.3 | 12 | 2.2 |
| 18 to <65 years | 0 | 0.0 | 36 | 1.3 | 16 | 0.6 | 3 | 0.1 | 24 | 0.9 | 79 | 2.8 |
| 65 to <75 years | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 1.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 1.0 | 6 | 1.9 |
| 75+ years | 0 | 0.0 | 33 | 12.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.7 | 36 | 13.1 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 91 | 2.0 | 20 | 0.4 | 4 | 0.1 | 66 | 1.5 | 181 | 4.1 |

Source for Tables 4A & 4B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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

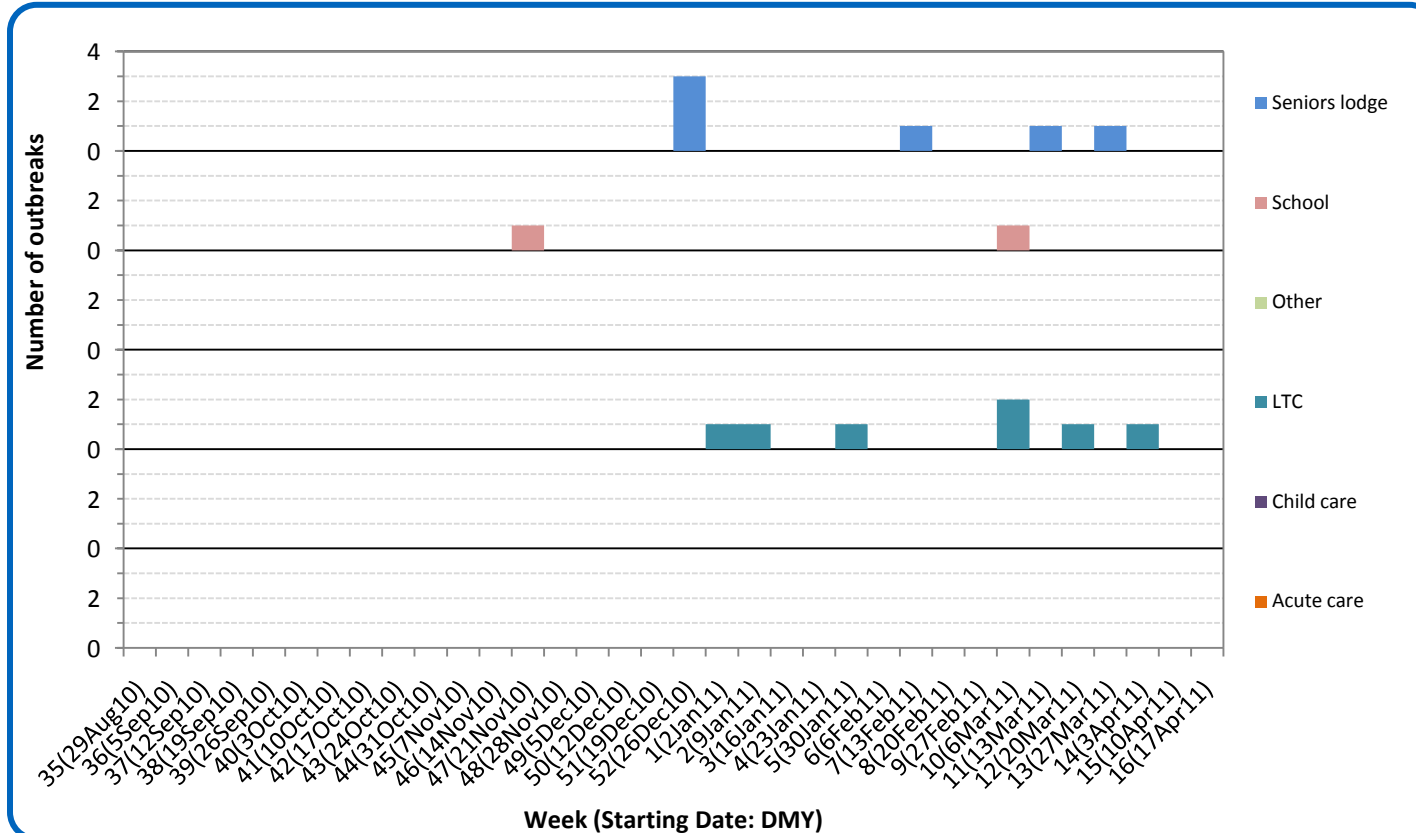
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 Apr 23, 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

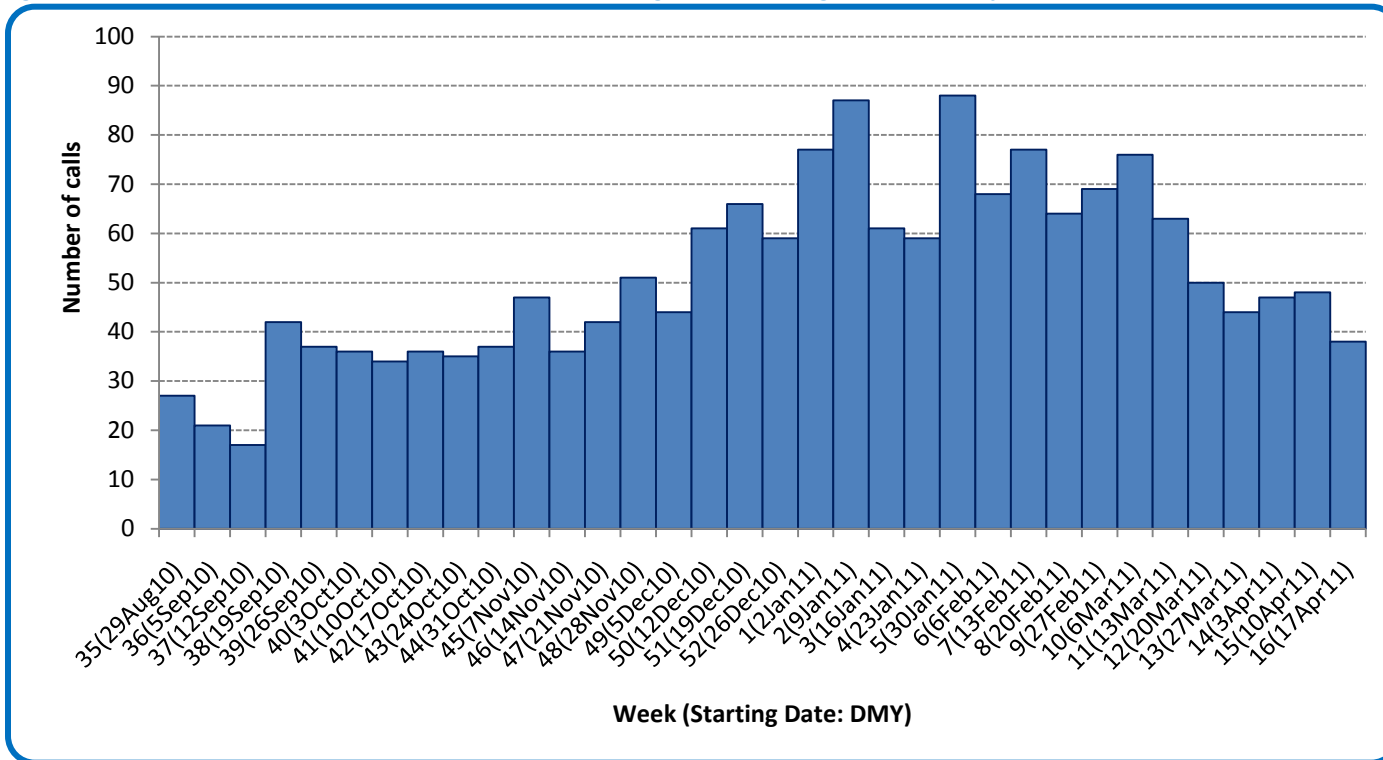
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 Apr 23, 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

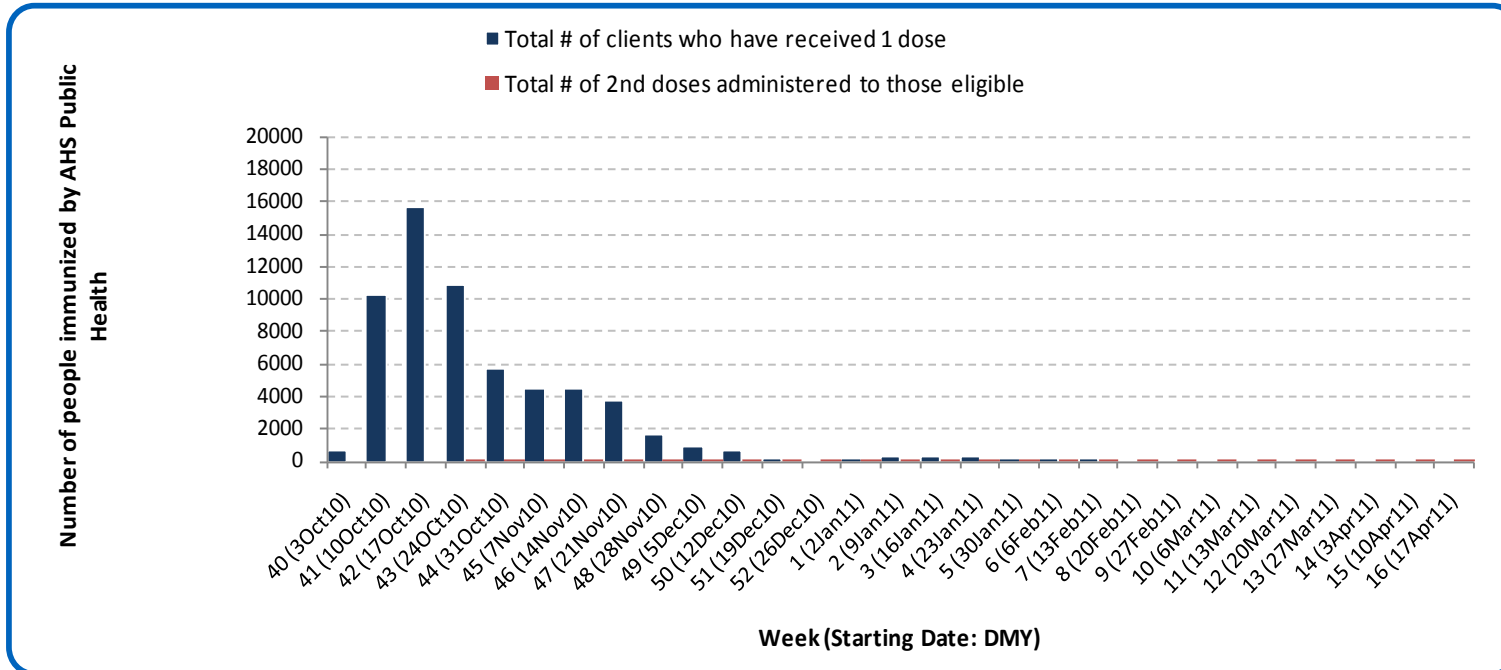
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 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 | # Immunized (Week 16 – Apr 17-Apr 23, 2011) | Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010) |
|--|---|---|
| Long term care staff | 0 | 428 |
| Health care workers | 0 | 2,626 |
| Pregnant women | 0 | 429 |
| Residents of long term care | 0 | 1,106 |
| 65 years of age and over | 0 | 22,162 |
| All children 6 months up to and including 23 months* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | Dose #2 | 13 |
| All children 24 months up to and including 59 months* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | 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 | 0 | 6,893 |
| Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | Dose #2 | 0 |
| Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years | 0 | 20,853 |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 0 | 61,954 |
| Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible* | 13 | 1,509 |

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: April 26, 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 | |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 17,789 | |
| 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 2nd 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: April 26, 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 some fluctuating levels in some respiratory virus indicators over the last several weeks, influenza activity is decreasing in Edmonton Zone.

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

Influenza activity continues to decline in Edmonton Zone. As of the end of last week (Apr 23, 2011), the total number of influenza cases confirmed in this part of the province this season is 459 (39.4% have been identified as influenza A (H3), 16.1% as influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 42.0% as influenza B and 2.3% as influenza A with unresolved sub-typing). 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 23.9 per 10,000 (compared to 9.4 per 10,000 or lower for other age groups).

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

Since the last update, there has been one respiratory outbreak reported in Edmonton Zone. It occurred in a seniors' lodge and had a preliminary attack rate of 5%. The onset of symptoms occurred in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011). Laboratory confirmation is currently pending.

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

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta in the Edmonton Zone for cough or breathing difficulties continues to decline.

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

The number of visits and hospital admissions to nine emergency departments/urgent care centers for ILI symptoms decreased by 7% and 37%, respectively, in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) from the previous week. Generally, these indicators appear to be declining.

Despite some fluctuations, the number of visits for symptoms of cough/congestion has generally been decreasing since the end of February, 2011. After an unusual spike in Week 14 (Apr 3-9, 2011), the number of hospital admissions for cough/congestions has decreased for two consecutive weeks.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

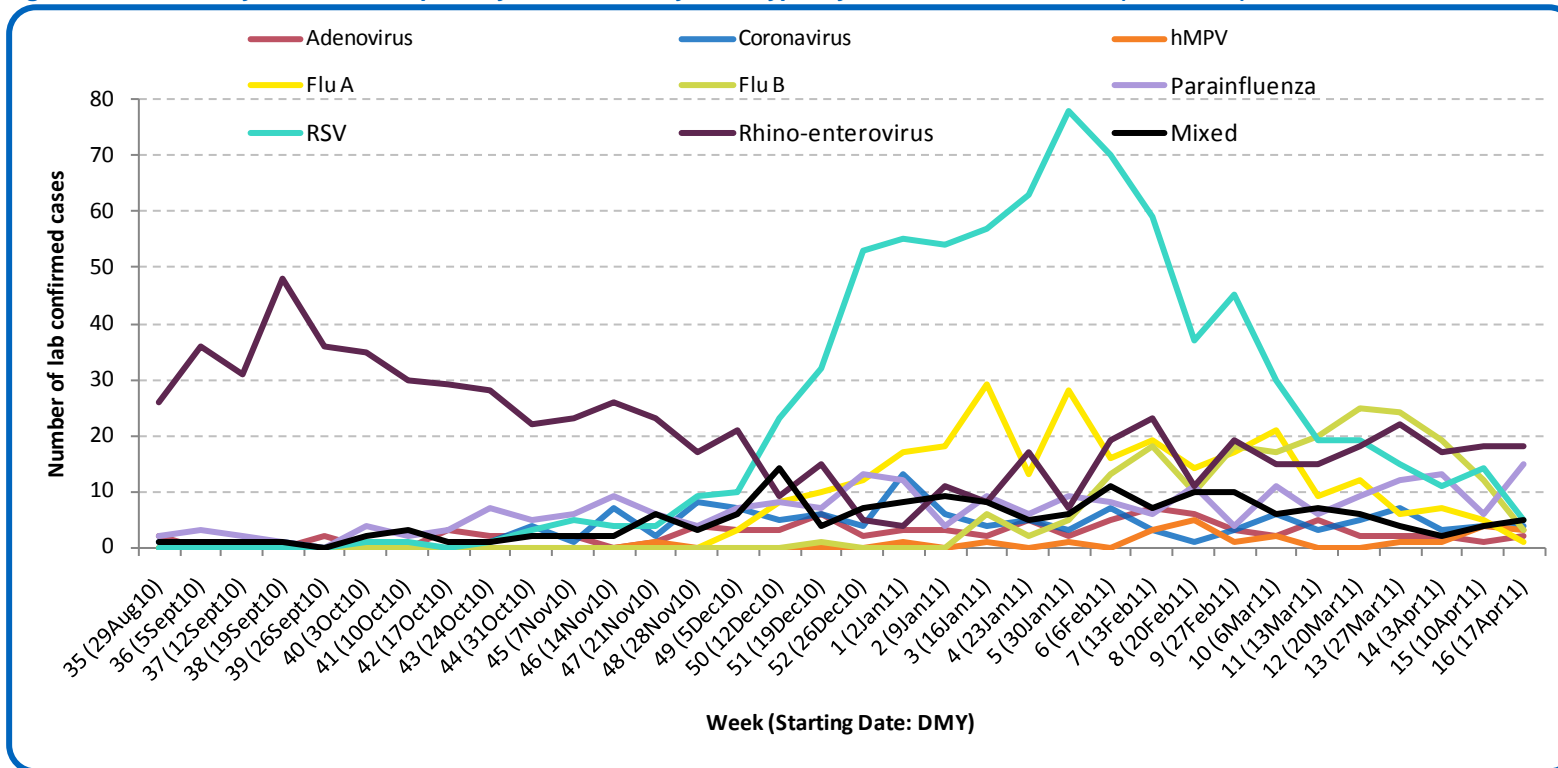
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 Apr 23, 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

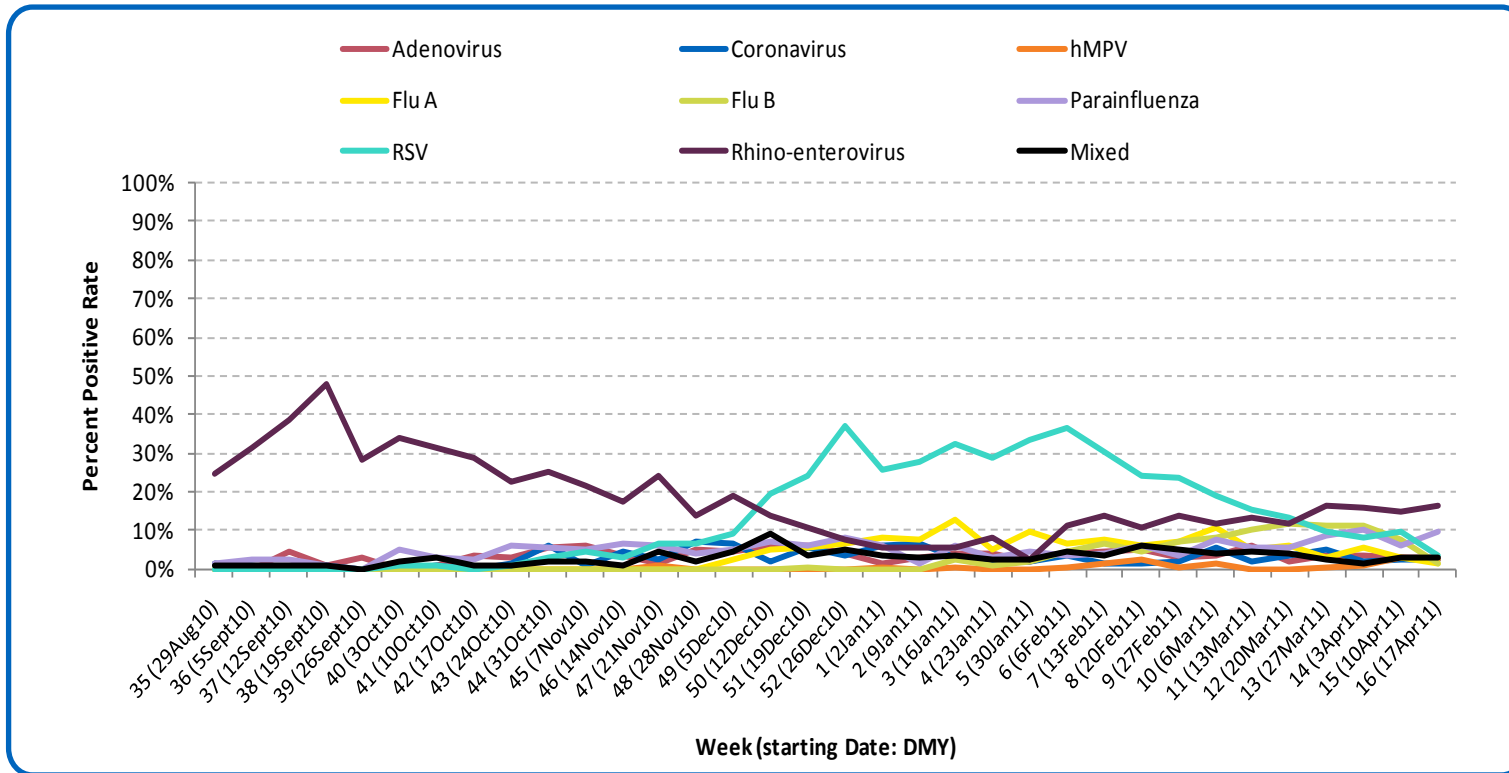
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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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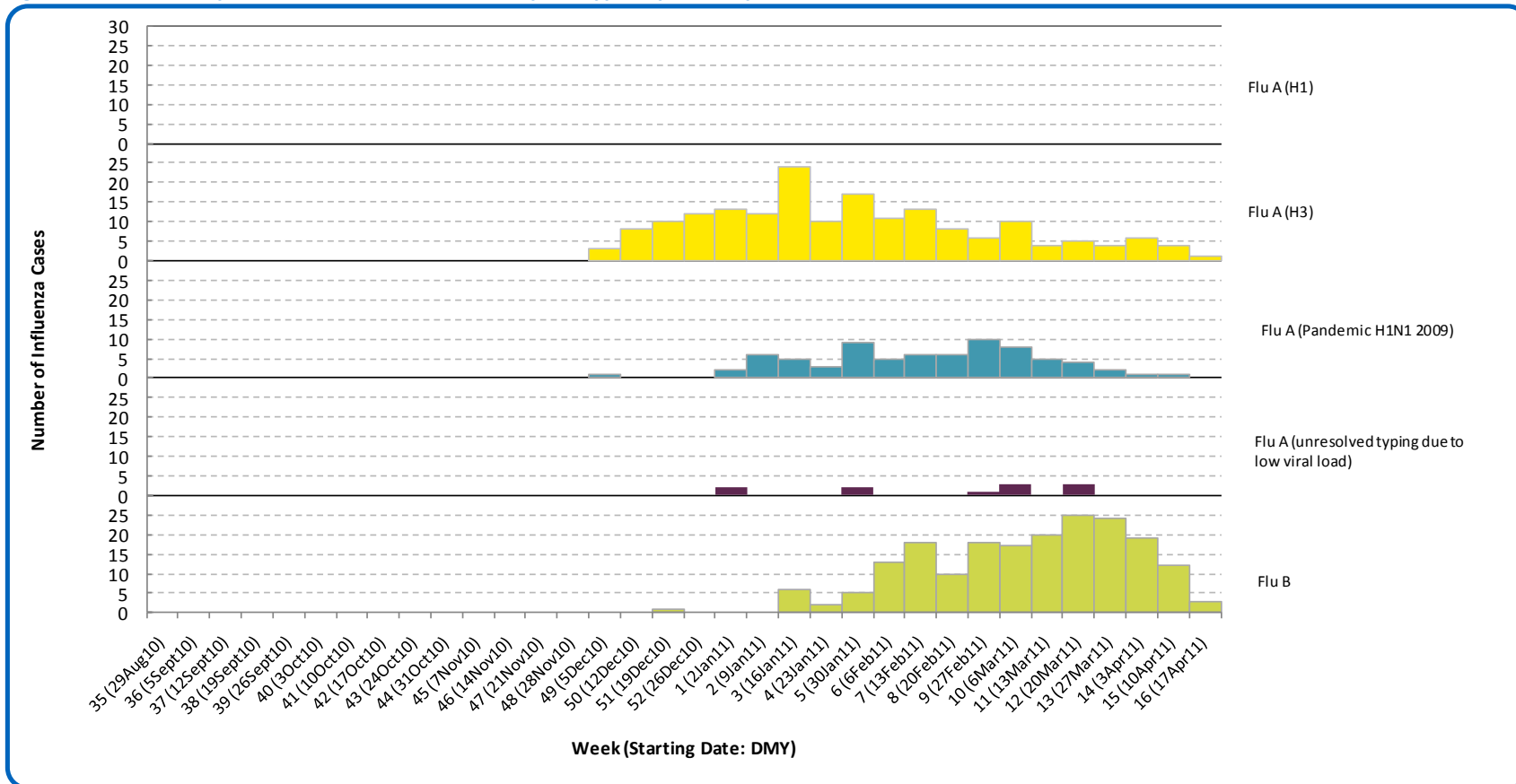
Figure 5B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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: Six specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s). Three specimens were positive for both influenza A & B.
 Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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 16: Apr 17-23, 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 | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.2 |
| 5 to <9 years | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.4 |
| 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 | 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 | 1 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.2 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | <0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | <0.1 | 4 | 0.0 |

Table 5B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Edmonton Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Apr 23, 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 | 31 | 10.1 | 8 | 2.6 | 3 | 1.0 | 31 | 10.1 | 73 | 23.9 |
| 2 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | 15 | 3.4 | 5 | 1.1 | 1 | 0.2 | 20 | 4.6 | 41 | 9.4 |
| 5 to <9 years | 0 | 0.0 | 11 | 2.1 | 4 | 0.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 30 | 5.6 | 45 | 8.5 |
| 9 to <18 years | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 0.7 | 3 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.1 | 42 | 3.4 | 55 | 4.4 |
| 18 to <65 years | 0 | 0.0 | 69 | 0.9 | 54 | 0.7 | 5 | 0.1 | 48 | 0.6 | 176 | 2.3 |
| 65 to <75 years | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 1.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 8 | 1.1 | 17 | 2.4 |
| 75+ years | 0 | 0.0 | 37 | 6.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.2 | 14 | 2.3 | 52 | 8.5 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 181 | 1.6 | 74 | 0.6 | 11 | 0.1 | 193 | 1.7 | 459 | 4.0 |

Source for tables 5A & 5B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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

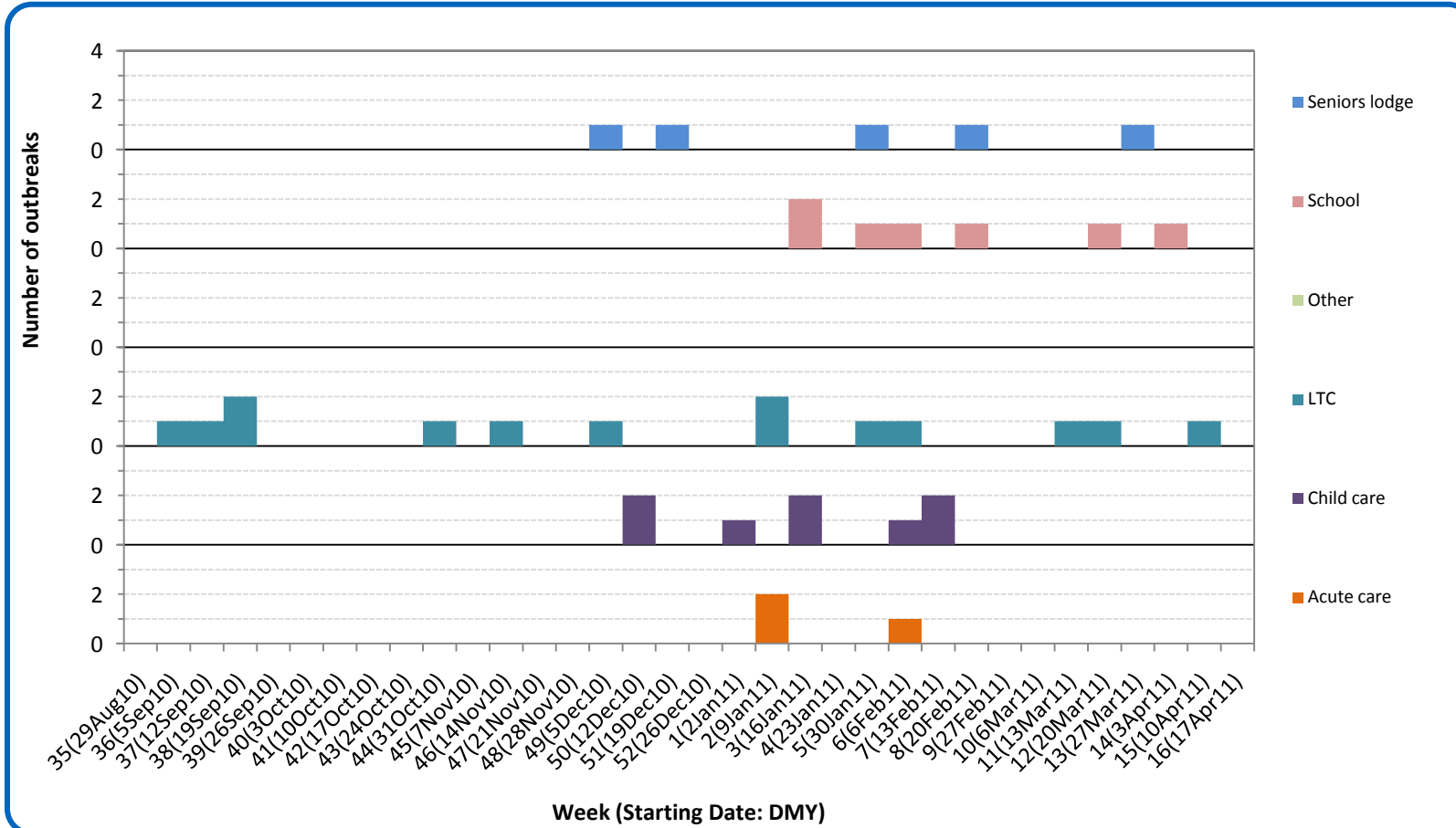
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 Apr 23, 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

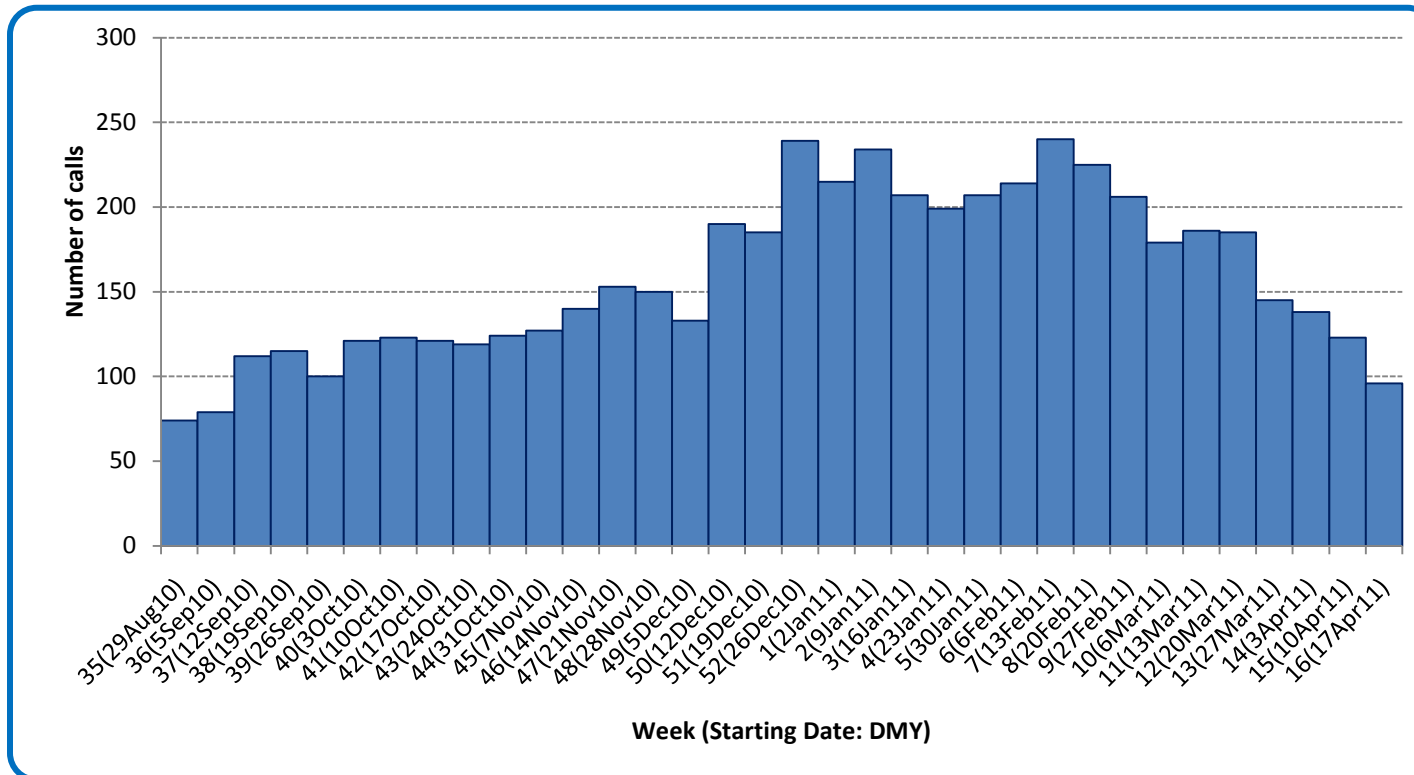
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 Apr 23, 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

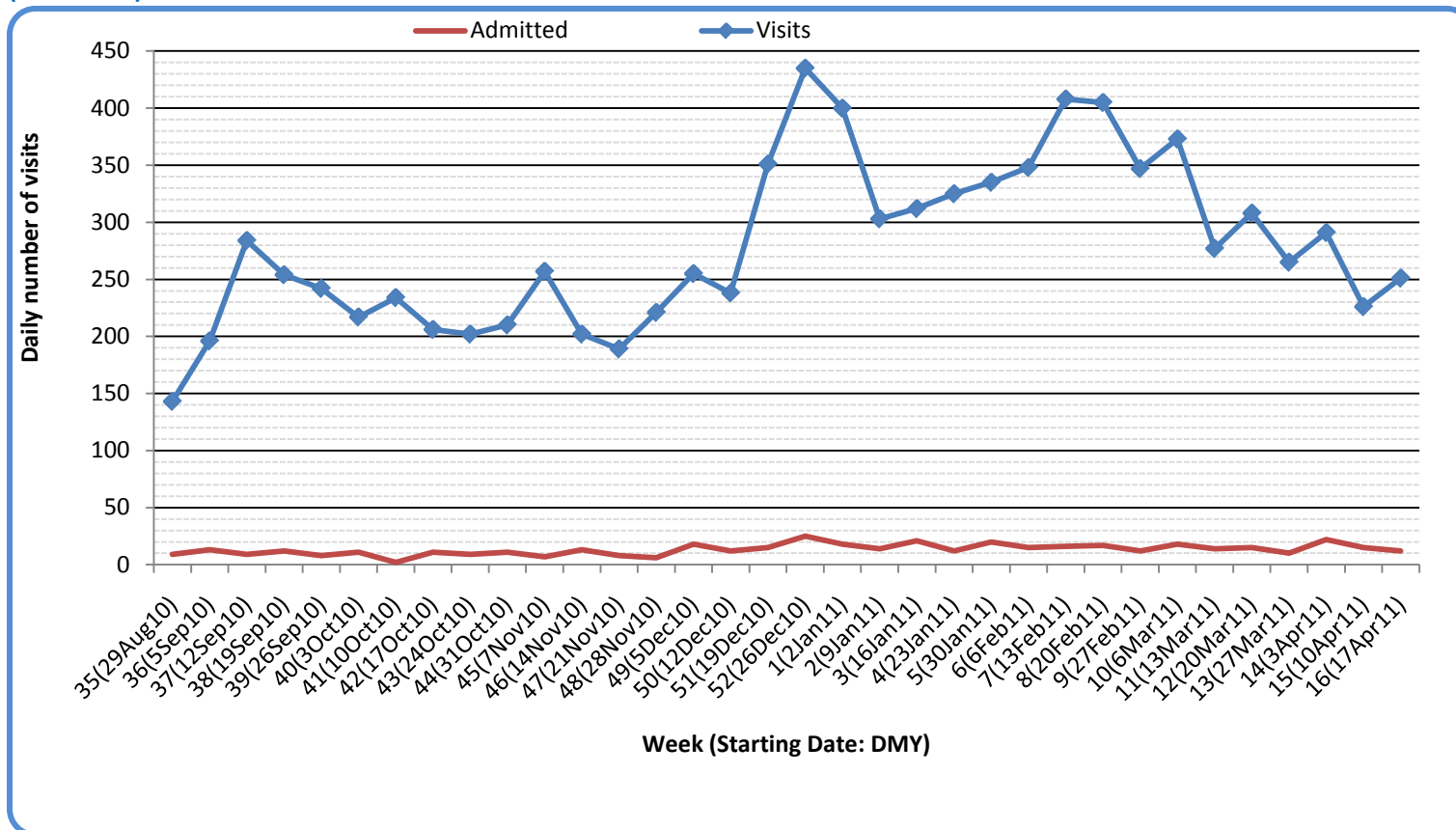
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 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 Apr 23, 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

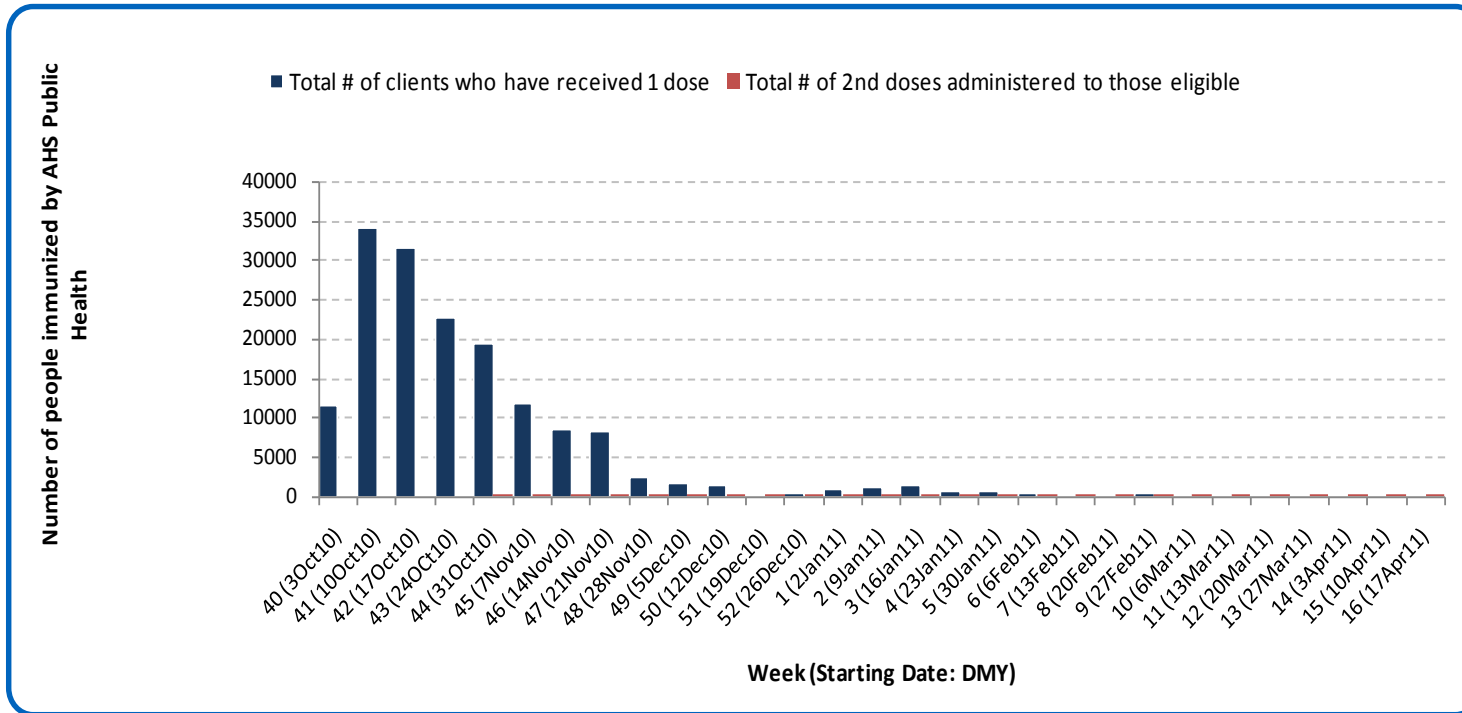
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 | # Immunized (Week 16 – Apr 17-Apr 23, 2011) | Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010) |
|--|---|---|
| Long term care staff | 1 | 331 |
| Health care workers | 3 | 4,826 |
| Pregnant women | 0 | 1,452 |
| Residents of long term care | 0 | 1,051 |
| 65 years of age and over | 2 | 48,515 |
| All children 6 months up to and including 23 months* | Dose #1 | 6,832 |
| | Dose #2 | 2,363 |
| All children 24 months up to and including 59 months* | Dose #1 | 7,204 |
| | Dose #2 | 414 |
| High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years* | Dose #1 | 1,359 |
| | Dose #2 | 39 |
| High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years | 1 | 17,186 |
| Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years* | Dose #1 | 5,498 |
| | Dose #2 | 183 |
| Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years | 14 | 68,117 |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 26 | 162,371 |
| Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible* | 16 | 2,999 |

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: April 26, 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 | |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 62,481 | |
| 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 2nd 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: April 26, 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

Despite a general decreasing trend in influenza activity overall, the number of influenza A (H3) cases confirmed in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) was higher than the number confirmed in the previous week. Several other viruses continue to circulate in North Zone as well.

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

Although the number of confirmed influenza A (H3) cases increased in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) compared to the previous week, influenza activity generally appears to be declining in North Zone. So far this season, 280 cases of influenza have been confirmed in North Zone (27.9% have been identified as influenza A (H3), 27.9% as influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 43.9% as influenza B and 0.3% as influenza A with unresolved sub-typing). At this point in time, the age specific rate for confirmed influenza (all types) among infants under the age of 2 years is much higher than the rate for any other age group (37.2 per 10,000 compared to 16.7 per 10,000 or lower).

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

Since the last report, there have been no respiratory outbreaks confirmed or 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 increased by 18% in Week 16 (Apr 17-23, 2011) from the previous week. This is the first increase observed in this indicator in several weeks.

Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

There are no data available for the North Zone.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

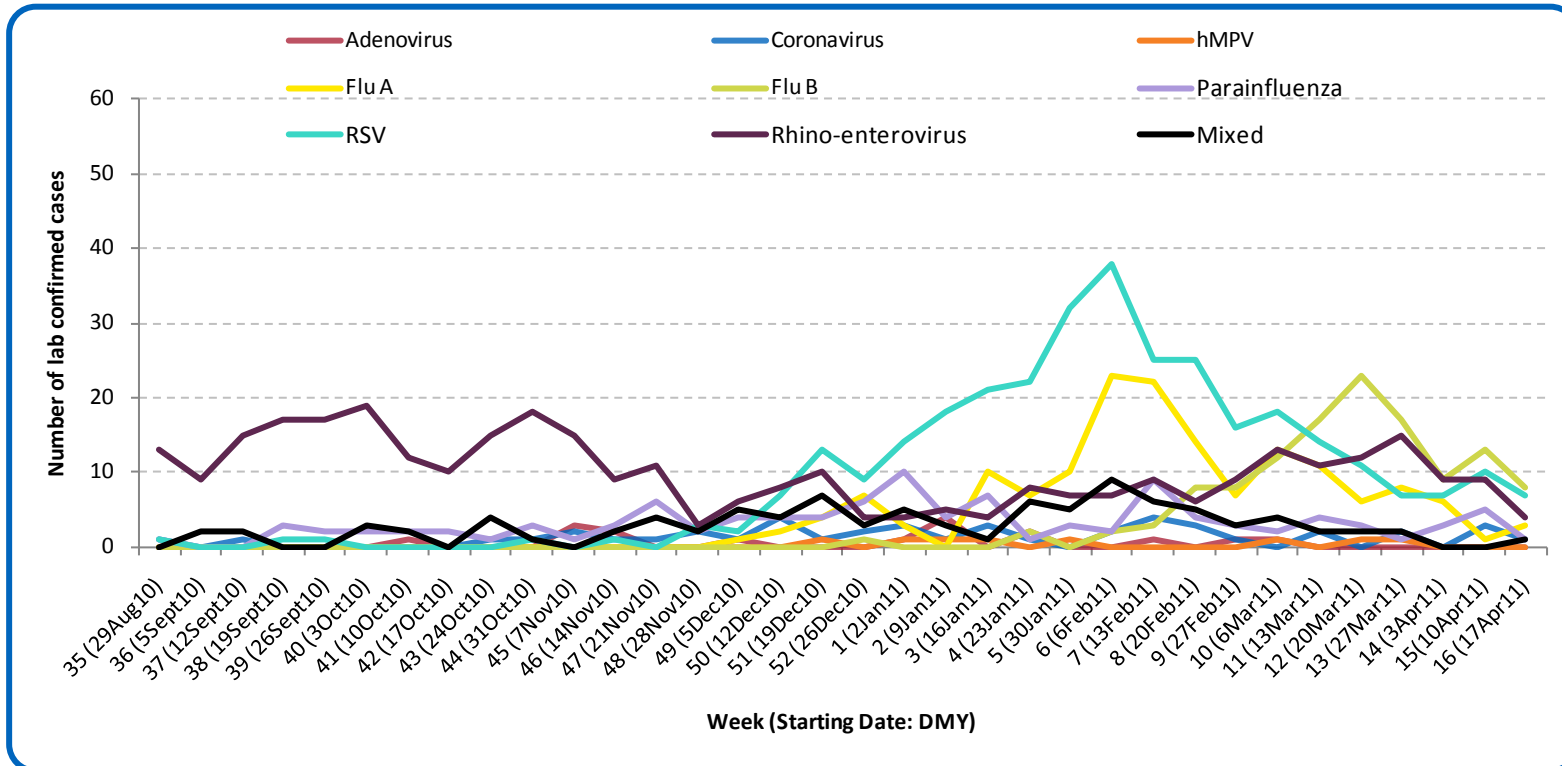
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: April 26, 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 Apr 23, 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

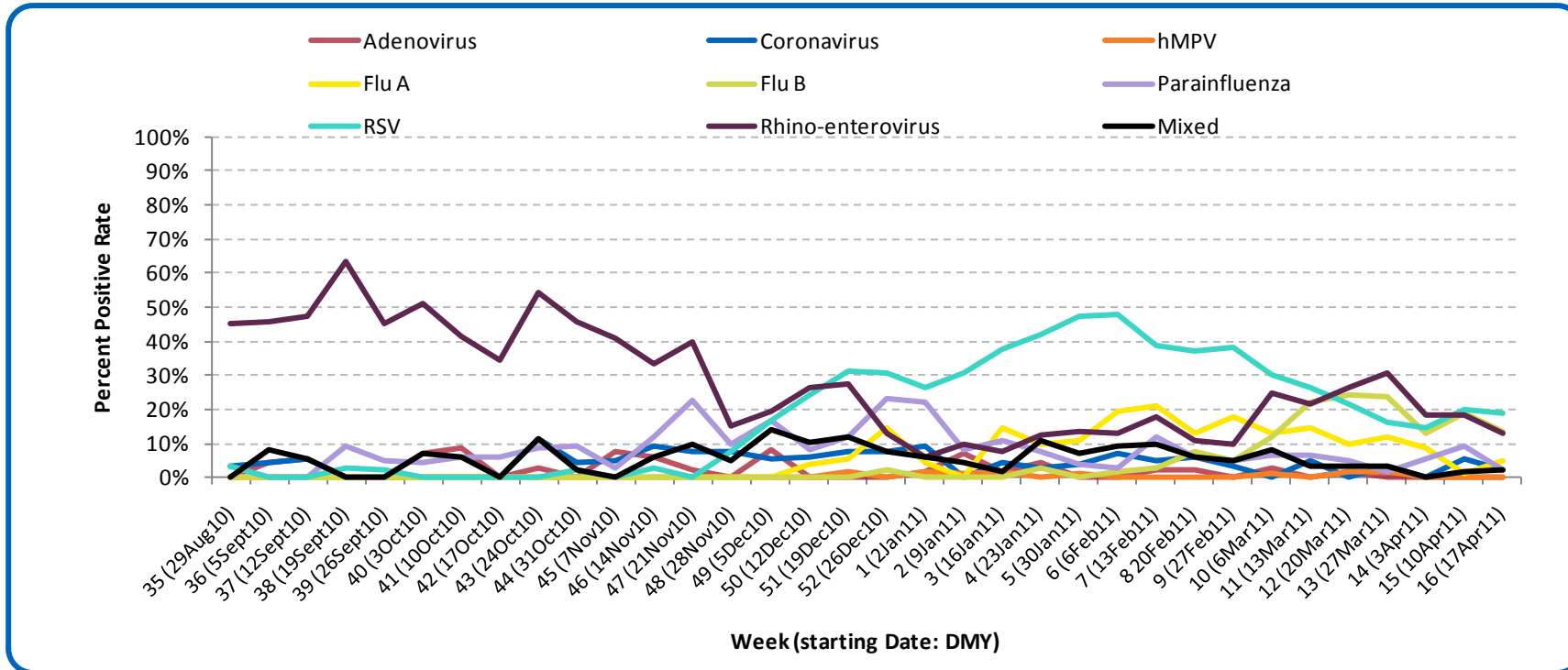
Public Health Surveillance

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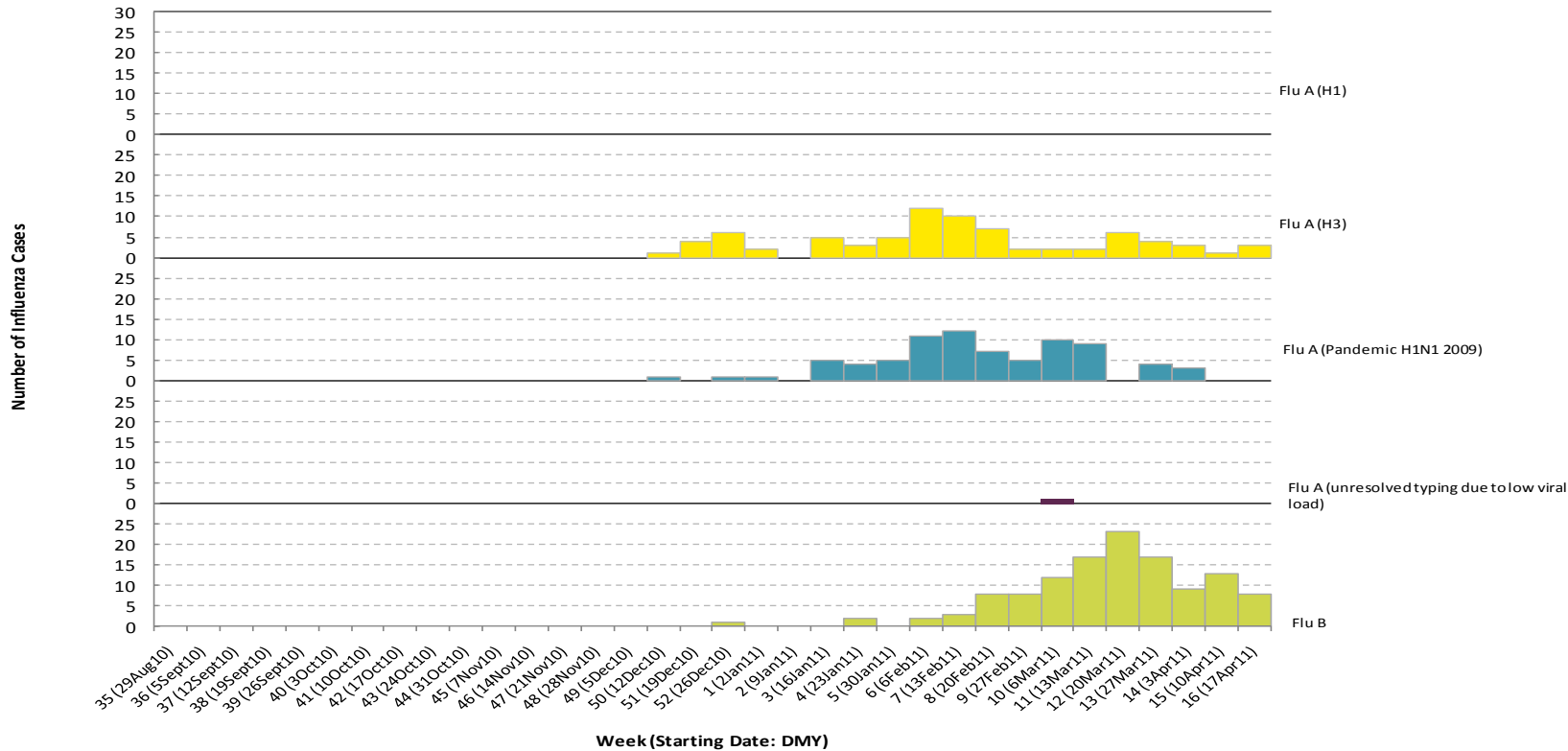
Figure 6B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, North Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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 6C: Laboratory confirmed influenza cases, by subtype, by week specimen received, North Zone (2010-2011)



*Note: Eight 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 Apr 23, 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 6A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, North Zone (Week 16: Apr 17-23, 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 | 4 | 2.8 | 4 | 2.8 |
| 2 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 1.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.5 | 3 | 1.5 |
| 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 | 1 | <0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 |
| 65 to <75 years | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.5 |
| 75+ years | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 8 | 0.2 | 11 | 0.3 |

Table 6B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, North Zone (Aug 29, 2010-Apr 23, 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 | 9.8 | 17 | 11.9 | 1 | 0.7 | 21 | 14.7 | 53 | 37.2 |
| 2 to <5 years | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 4.4 | 4 | 2.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 21 | 10.3 | 34 | 16.7 |
| 5 to <9 years | 0 | 0.0 | 11 | 4.5 | 5 | 2.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 13 | 5.3 | 29 | 11.9 |
| 9 to <18 years | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 1.6 | 11 | 2.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 18 | 3.2 | 38 | 6.8 |
| 18 to <65 years | 0 | 0.0 | 27 | 1.0 | 41 | 1.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 44 | 1.6 | 112 | 4.0 |
| 65 to <75 years | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 6 | 2.7 | 8 | 3.6 |
| 75+ years | 0 | 0.0 | 6 | 3.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 6 | 3.8 |
| Total | 0 | 0.0 | 78 | 1.8 | 78 | 1.8 | 1 | <0.1 | 123 | 2.8 | 280 | 6.4 |

Source for Tables 6A & 6B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Apr 23, 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 (AHCHIP) 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

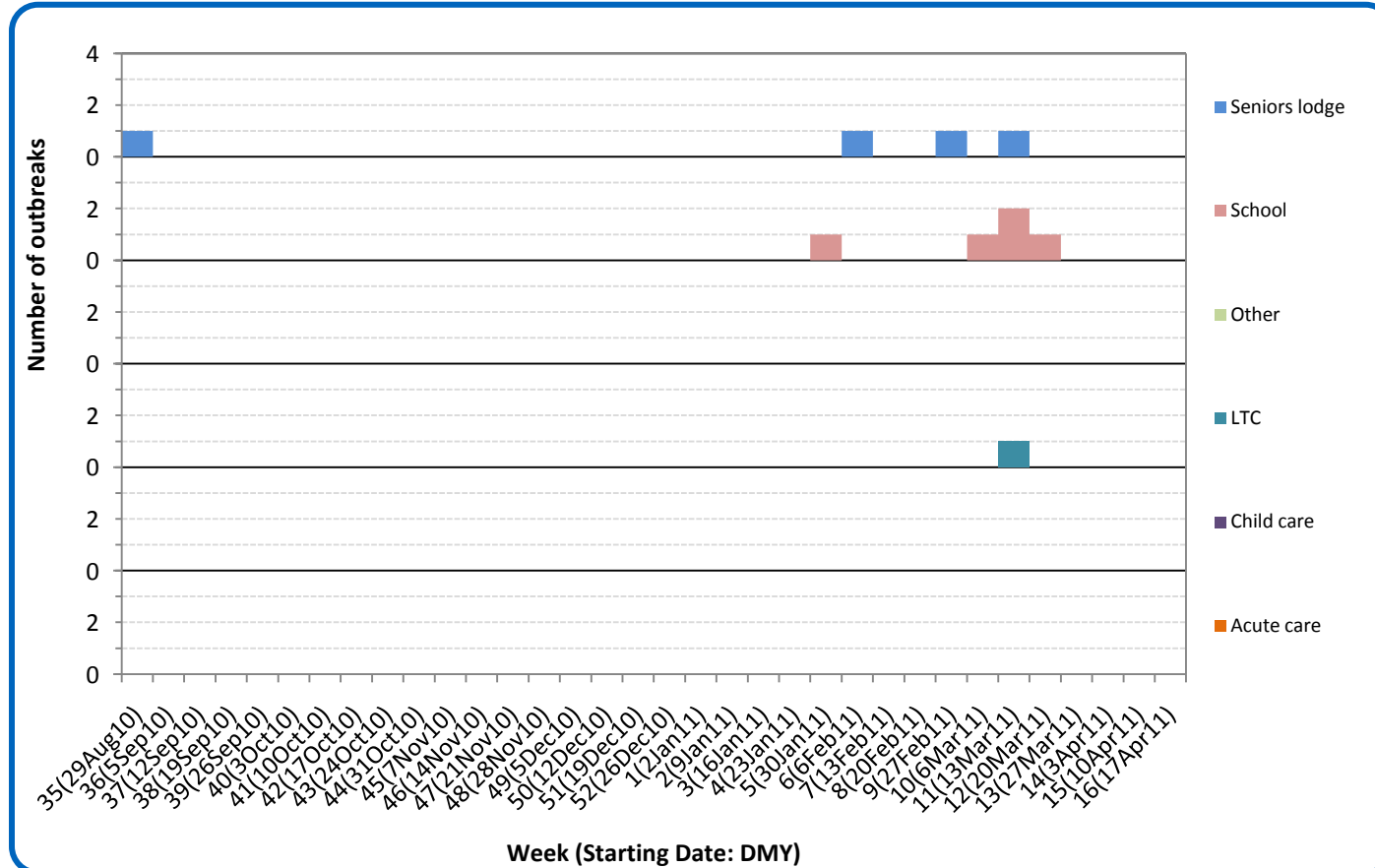
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Figure 6D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, North Zone (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



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

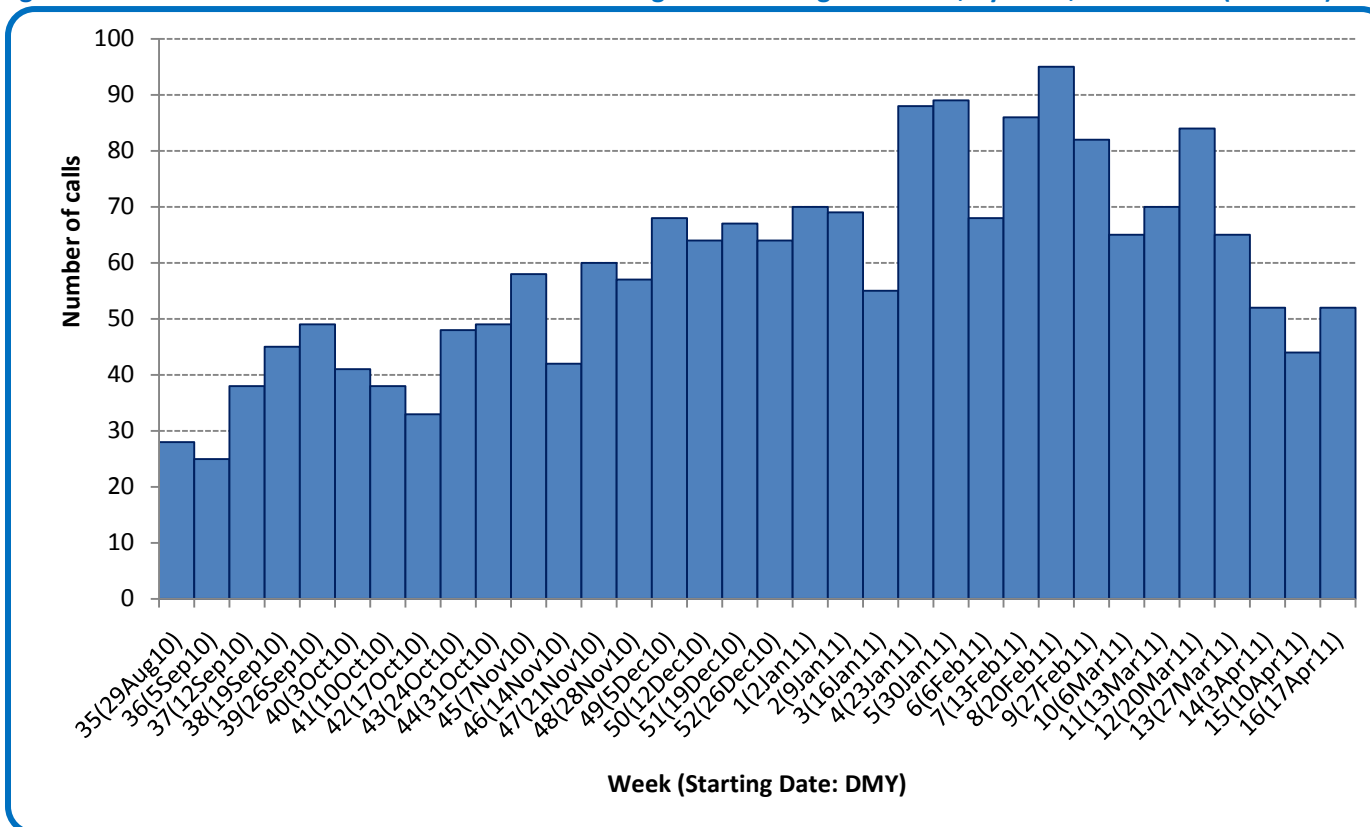
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Figure 6E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, North Zone (2010-11)



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

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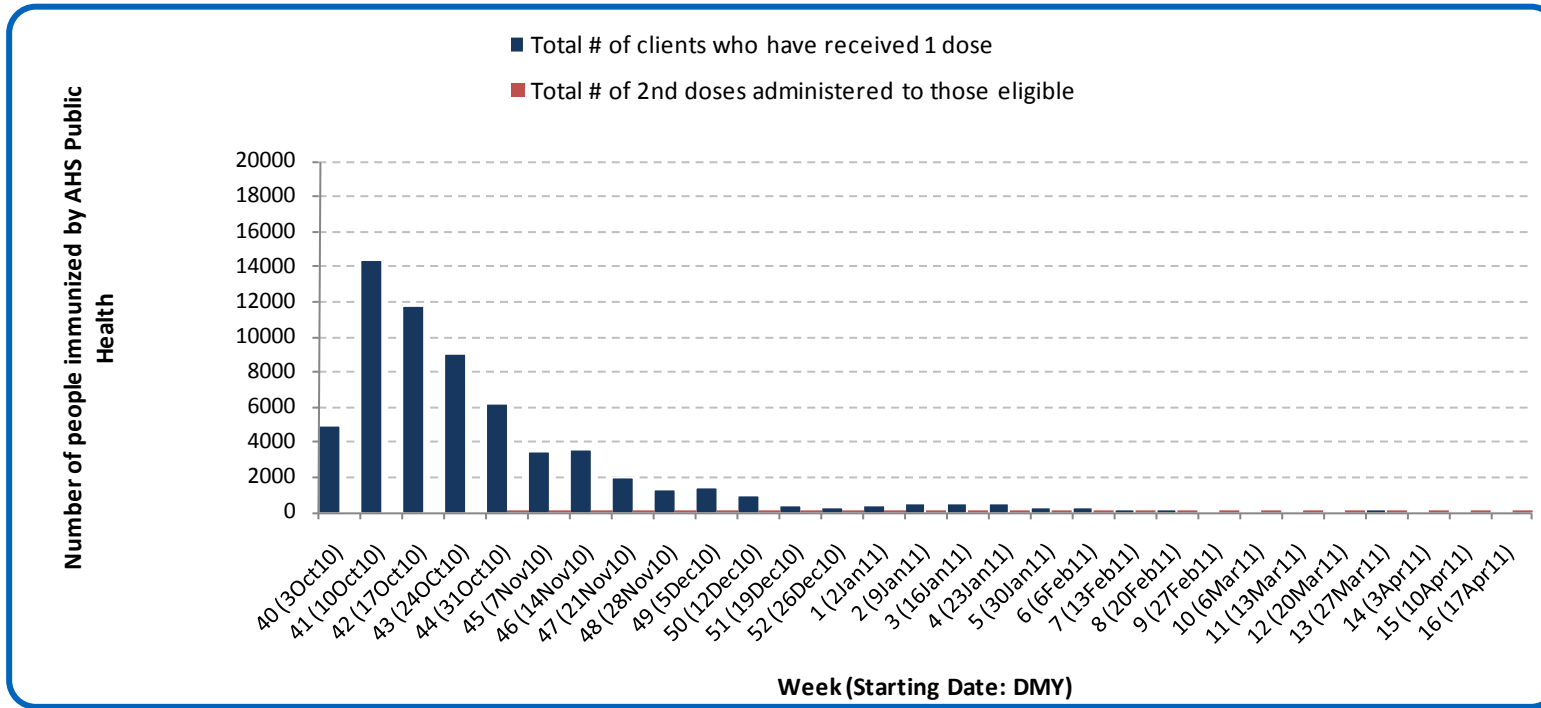
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Figure 6F: Number immunized by AHS (Public Health), by week, North Zone (2010-2011)



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 16 – Apr 17-Apr 23, 2011) | Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010) |
|--|---|---|
| Long term care staff | 0 | 820 |
| Health care workers | 0 | 4,720 |
| Pregnant women | 0 | 573 |
| Residents of long term care | 0 | 1,249 |
| 65 years of age and over | 0 | 15,811 |
| All children 6 months up to and including 23 months* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | Dose #2 | 4 |
| All children 24 months up to and including 59 months* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | 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 | 1 | 7,878 |
| Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years* | Dose #1 | 0 |
| | Dose #2 | 0 |
| Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years | 3 | 23,648 |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 4 | 63,165 |
| Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible* | 4 | 1,159 |

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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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 | |
| Total number of clients who have received 1 dose | 5,075 | |
| 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 2nd 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](#)

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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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