

Weekly Report

February 23, 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.

To navigate to certain sections of the report or to visit other relevant websites, use the Quick Links below

[Alberta Snapshot](#)

[Section 1: Alberta](#)

[Section 2: Zone 1 - South](#)

[Section 3: Zone 2 - Calgary](#)

[Section 4: Zone 3 - Central](#)

[Section 5: Zone 4 - Edmonton](#)

[Section 6: Zone 5 - North](#)

[Annex: Data Notes](#)

[Current Global Information](#)

[FluWatch \(PHAC\)](#)

[FluView \(US CDC\)](#)

[HPA \(UK\)](#)

[WHO](#)

[Travel Advisories](#)

What's New?

- Most European countries continue to report widespread respiratory virus activity. In week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011), 2/3 of the influenza virus detections were type A, while the remaining 1/3 were type B. Almost all of the sub-typed influenza A infections were caused by the influenza A (H1N1) 2009 virus. Nearly all of the viruses characterized in Europe this season are antigenically related to those in the current seasonal influenza vaccine, however a small number of influenza B viruses of the Yamagata lineage have been detected. In the western part of Europe (Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Ireland, Spain and the UK), the number of influenza infections with severe outcome have decreased recently. There is uncertainty as to whether this trend is occurring in other parts of Europe as there has been limited hospital surveillance.
- Several countries in southern Asia have reported a recent increase in influenza activity; mostly due to influenza A (H1N1) 2009 virus. Influenza activity in northern Africa and the Middle East has peaked and is declining.
- The latest FluView report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that influenza activity in the US remains elevated. Throughout the season, the predominant influenza virus type has varied by week, region, and even between states within the same region. In Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011), 21.4% of the positive influenza specimens were type B, while the remaining were type A. Of the influenza type A specimens sub-typed, just over half were A (H3) and just under half were A (H1N1) 2009.
- In Canada, the latest information available indicates that influenza activity continues to increase in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces. The predominant virus type this season has been influenza A (H3), however influenza B detections have recently increased as a proportion of positive influenza detections.
- Last week, an article published in *Eurosurveillance* reported on the mid-season estimates of influenza vaccine effectiveness. The article states that the estimates of the effectiveness of having received the 2010/11 trivalent influenza vaccine was 31% in preventing medically attended influenza-like-illness (ILI), and 58% in preventing laboratory confirmed influenza. Having received the monovalent influenza A (H1N1) 2009 vaccine in the 2009/10 season had an independent preventive effect against medically attended ILI, and having received both vaccines had a 68% effectiveness in preventing laboratory confirmed influenza. For more details, visit www.eurosurveillance.org
- In Alberta, overall respiratory virus activity appears to be increasing. RSV is still the predominant virus circulating however influenza B detections have increased substantially over the last several weeks. Since last week's update, six new respiratory outbreaks have been reported in Alberta. One occurred in a Calgary Zone school and was attributed to influenza B. The remaining five were in the Edmonton Zone and included one in a school attributed to influenza B, one in an acute care facility attributed to parainfluenza, one in a child care facility attributed to influenza A and two in long term care facilities attributed to parainfluenza and adenovirus, respectively.

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

[Back to first page](#)

Indicators			Cumulative Counts					Alberta
			Week 35 (starting Aug 29/10) to week 7 (starting Feb 13/11)					
			South	Calgary	Central	Edmonton	North	
Laboratory Confirmed Cases	Number of cases with a positive respiratory specimen ¹	Adenovirus	4	32	8	60	15	119
		Coronavirus	7	51	25	88	32	203
		Human metapneumovirus (hMPV)	8	5	0	6	5	24
		Influenza A	27	140	49	173	87	476
		Influenza B	21	54	7	45	8	135
		Parainfluenza	25	68	43	143	84	363
		Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	79	361	129	579	212	1,360
		Rhino enterovirus	93	395	150	548	257	1,443
		Mixed	26	112	43	112	76	369
		Total	290	1218	454	1754	776	4,492
Outbreaks	# laboratory confirmed respiratory outbreaks ²	0	16	7	27	2	52	
Influenza Immunizations	Total number of clients who have received 1 dose administered by AHS Public Health ³ (cumulative since Oct 3, 2010)	42,981	189,608	61,403	160,867	62,363	517,222	
	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: 19 specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s). These cases have been included in the influenza counts, as well as the other respective specimen type(s). They have not been included in the 'Mixed' category. One specimen was positive for both influenza A & B.

¹ Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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: February 23, 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

[Back to first page](#)

Summary

Overall, respiratory virus activity appears to be increasing in Alberta. RSV is still the predominant virus circulating however influenza B activity has increased substantially over the last several weeks.

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

In Alberta, RSV continues to be the predominant virus circulating. The number of influenza type B cases continues to increase, and Influenza A (H3 and H1N1 2009) continue to circulate as well. The total number of influenza type B cases confirmed in the province this season is 135 (40.0% of which have been under the age of 9 years). As of the end of last week (Feb 19, 2011), the total number of confirmed cases of influenza in the province this season is 611 (56.0% influenza A (H3), 19.5 % influenza A (H1N1) 2009, 22.1% influenza type B, and 2.5% 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 8.5 per 10,000 compared to less than 4.0 per 10,000 for all other age groups.

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

Six respiratory outbreaks have been confirmed in Alberta since the last report. One of them occurred in Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) in a Calgary Zone school. This outbreak was attributed to influenza B and had an attack rate of 15%. The remaining five new outbreaks occurred in Edmonton Zone. Two of the Edmonton Zone outbreaks occurred in long term care facilities in Weeks 5 (Jan 30-Feb 5, 2011) and 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) and were caused by parainfluenza (with a 4% attack rate) and adenovirus (with a 27% attack rate), respectively. The other three outbreaks occurred in a school (caused influenza B with a 10% attack rate), an acute care facility (caused by parainfluenza with an 8% attack rate) and a child care facility (caused by influenza A with a 25% attack rate).

Additionally, one respiratory outbreak was reported in North Zone. This outbreak is currently pending laboratory confirmation.

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

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties by Albertans in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) increased by 4% from Week 6. This is the second highest this indicator has been this season.

Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

The combined number of visits to the emergency departments/urgent care centers (ED's) for influenza-like illness (ILI) in the City of Calgary and the Edmonton Zone increased by 22% in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) from the previous week. The proportion of ILI is currently close to 7% of all screened visits. The number of hospital admissions also increased by 26% during the same period. Both indicators are the highest they have been this season.

The number of ED visits for symptoms with cough increased by 13% in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) from the previous week. The increasing trend continues. The number of hospital admissions for the same reason, however, remains unchanged in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) from the previous week.

Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits was 54% lower in Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) compared to the previous week. This indicator is currently at the level seen in mid October 2010 as the percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits have both recently decreased sharply.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

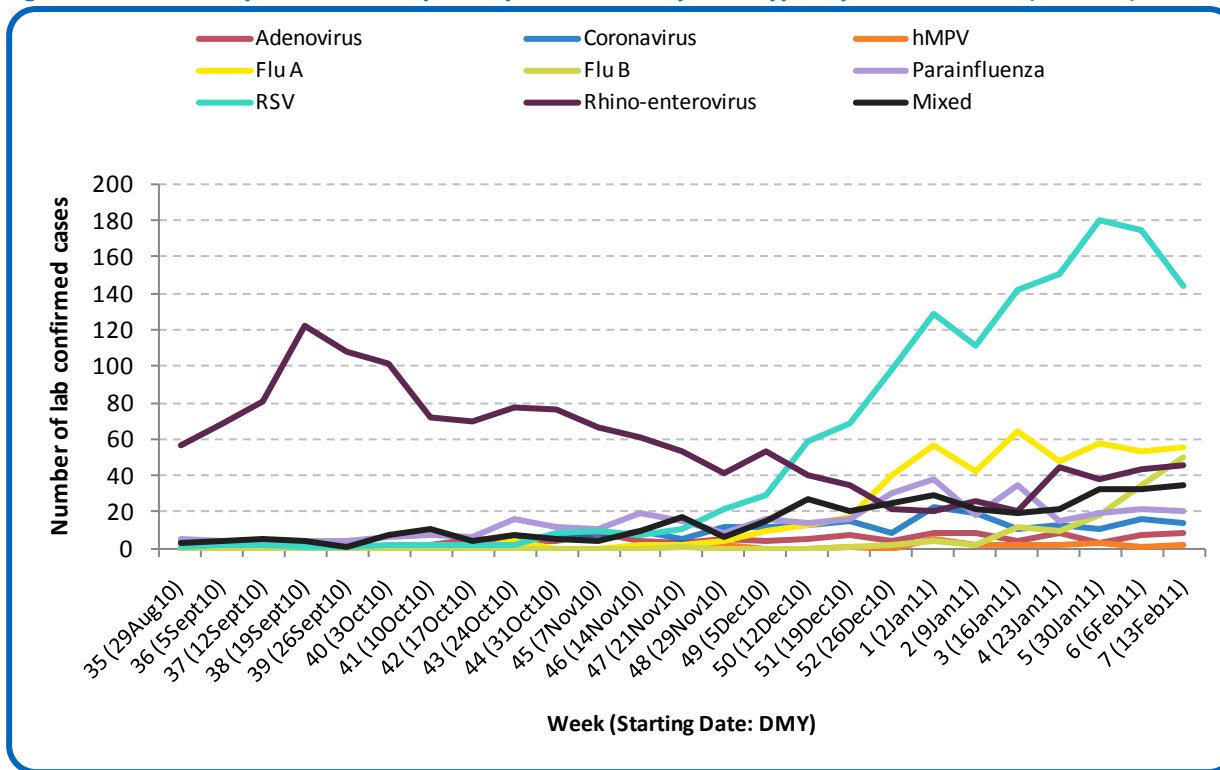
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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

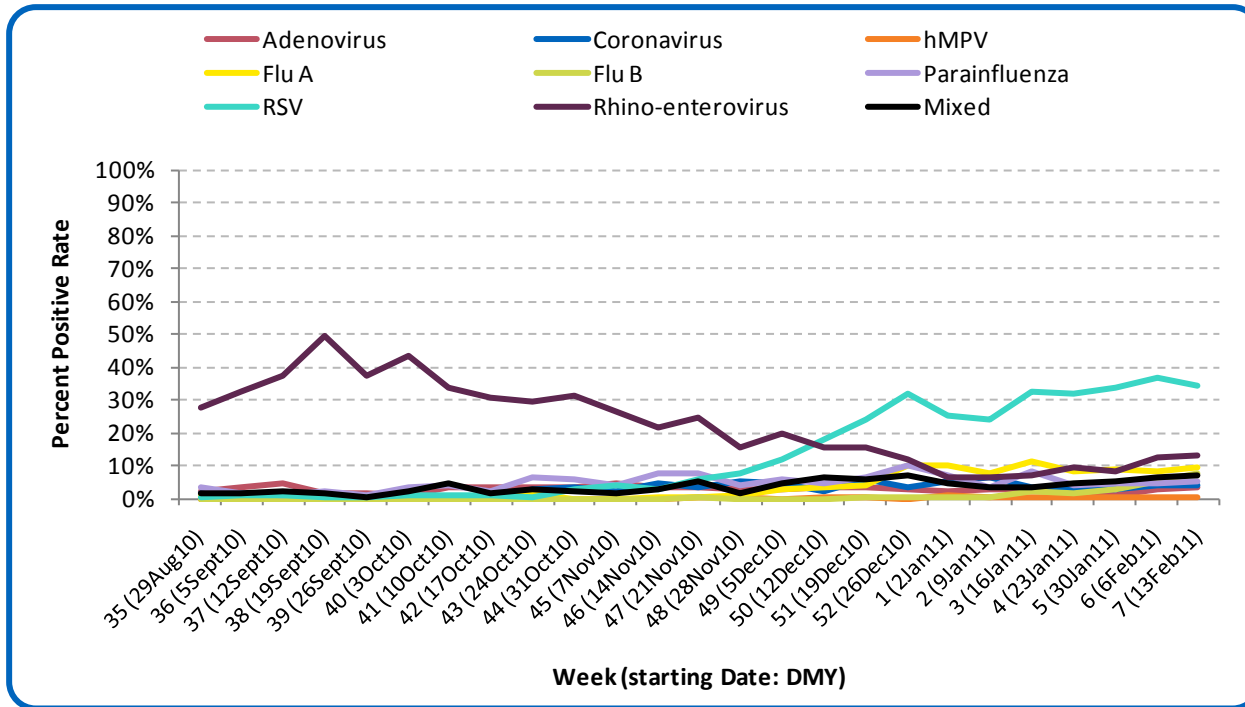
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

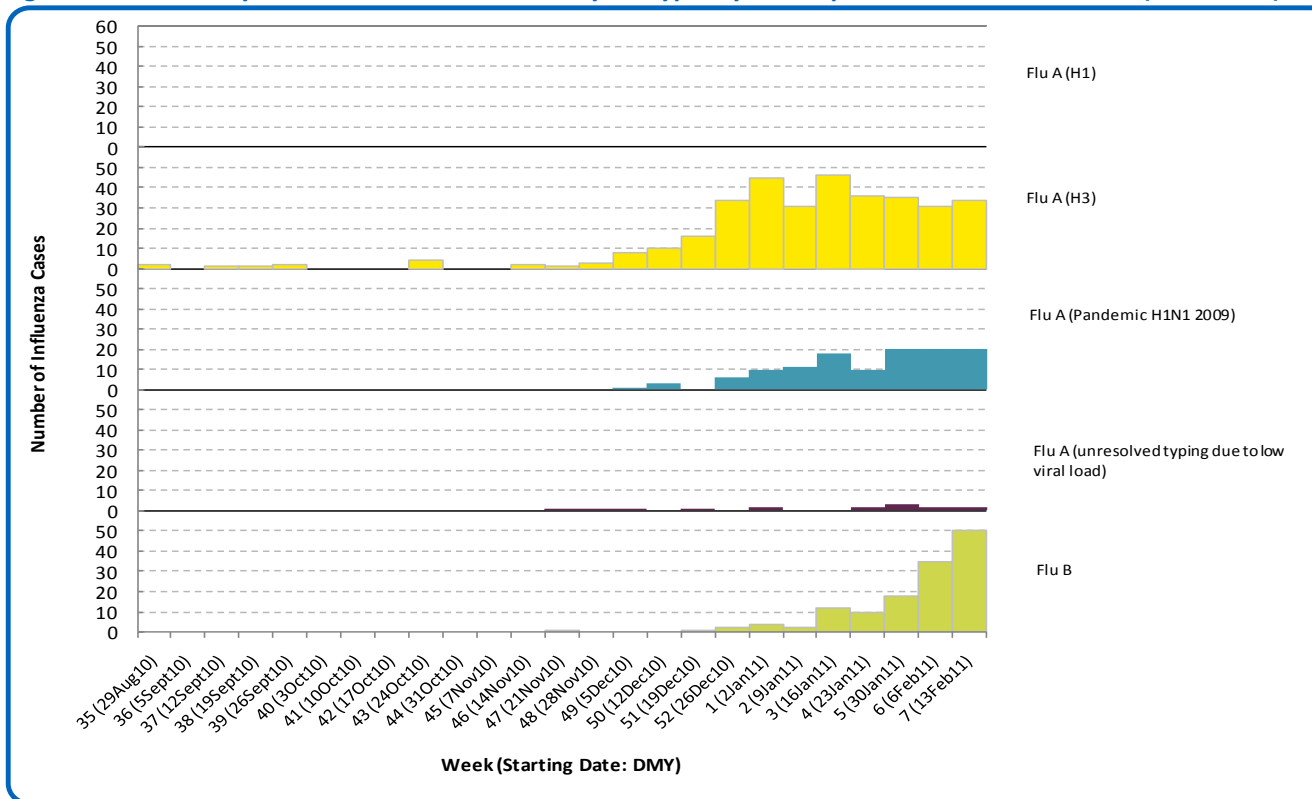
Figure 1B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Alberta (2010-11)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

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



*Note: 19 specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s). These cases have been included in the influenza counts, as well as the other respective specimen type(s). They have not been included in the 'Mixed' category. One specimen was positive for both influenza A & B.

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

Table 1A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Alberta (Week 7: Feb 13-19, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	3	0.3	1	0.1	0	0.0	6	0.6	10	1.0
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	6	0.4	1	0.1	0	0.0	5	0.4	12	0.9
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	2	0.1	2	0.1	1	0.1	5	0.3	10	0.6
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	1	<0.1	3	0.1	0	0.0	21	0.5	25	0.6
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	18	0.1	12	0.1	1	<0.1	13	0.1	44	0.2
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	2	0.1	1	<0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	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	34	0.1	20	0.1	2	<0.1	50	0.1	106	0.3

Table 1B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Alberta (Aug 29, 2010 – Feb 19, 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	49	4.8	18	1.8	2	0.2	17	1.7	86	8.5
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	30	2.1	6	0.4	2	0.1	16	1.1	54	3.8
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	19	1.1	9	0.5	2	0.1	21	1.2	51	2.9
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	19	0.5	9	0.2	2	<0.1	41	1.0	71	1.7
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	141	0.6	75	0.3	5	<0.1	35	0.1	256	1.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	16	0.8	2	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.1	20	1.0
75+ years	0	0.0	68	3.8	0	0.0	2	0.1	3	0.2	73	4.1
Total	0	0.0	342	0.9	119	0.3	15	<0.1	135	0.4	611	1.7

Source for Table 1A & 1B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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

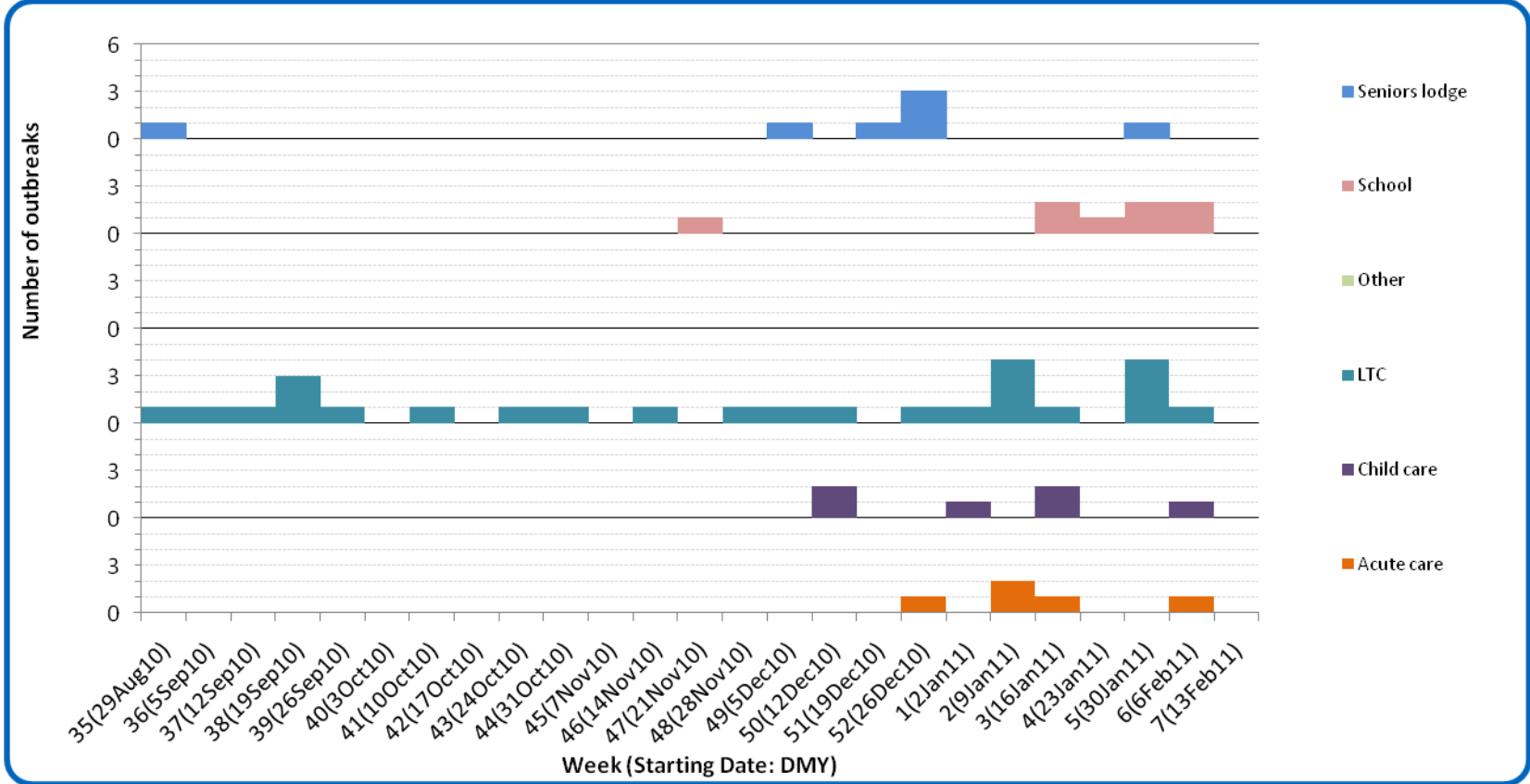
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

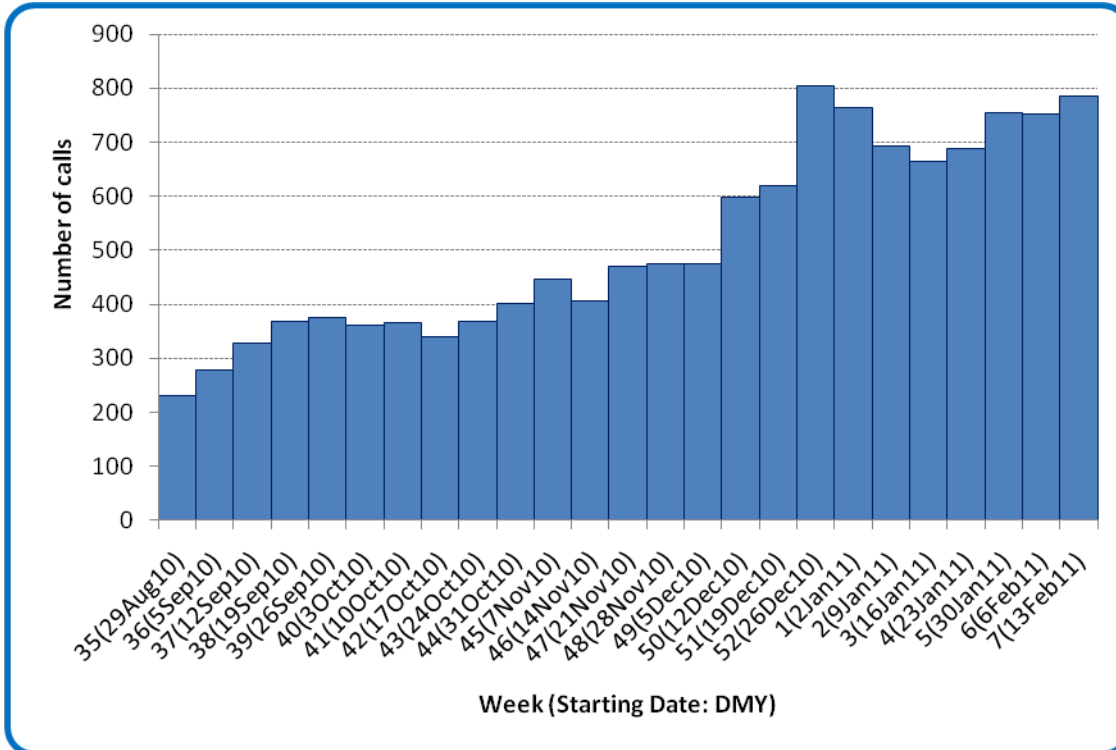
Figure 1D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, Alberta (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



Source: Alberta Outbreak Reporting Form as of 23:59 on Feb 19, 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](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

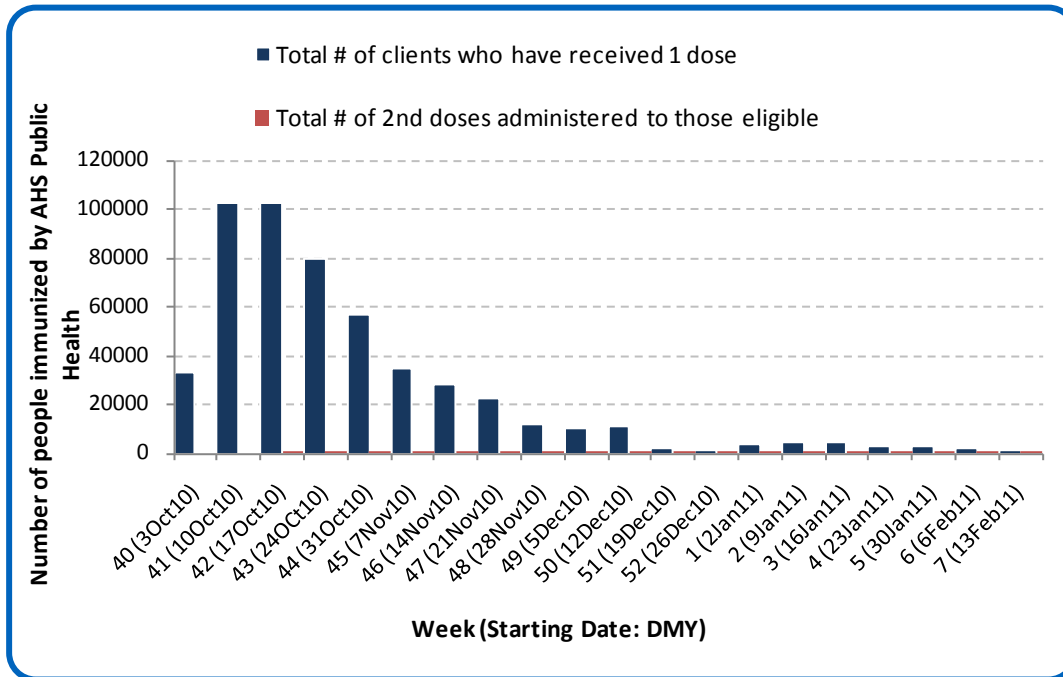
Figure 1E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, Alberta (2010-11)



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Feb 19, 2011. For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

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](#)

[Back to start of section](#)
Table 1C: AHS (Public Health) delivered influenza immunizations (with cumulative totals), by priority group, Alberta (2010-11)

Priority Group	# Immunized (Week 7 – Feb 13-19, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	9	2,618
Health care workers	21	18,939
Pregnant women	20	4,668
Residents of long term care	0	4,835
65 years of age and over	41	146,656
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	24,975
	Dose #2	7,332
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	24,983
	Dose #2	1,352
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	5,748
	Dose #2	138
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	94	55,745
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	18,600
	Dose #2	576
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	538	209,455
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose	1,574	517,222
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	384	9,398

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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

SECTION 2: ZONE 1 - SOUTH

[Back to first page](#)

Summary

Laboratory data and the number of call to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties indicate that respiratory activity in South Zone remains steady in recent weeks, although an increase in ILI-related visits to sentinel physicians' offices shows that activity may be increasing.

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

RSV is currently the predominant virus being confirmed in South Zone. So far this season, there have been a total of 48 confirmed cases of influenza in this part of the province (40.0% of those have been influenza B cases confirmed in the last 3 weeks). At this point in the season, the age specific rate for confirmed influenza A (H3) cases in South zone is highest for infants under the age of 2 years and children between the ages of 2 to less than 5 years, at 3.6 per 10,000 and 3.5 per 10,000, respectively. For confirmed influenza type B, the age specific rate is highest for children between the ages of 9 to less than 18 years, at 2.6 per 10,000 compared to other age groups.

Outbreaks

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

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

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties by residents of South Zone was 25% lower in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) compared to Week 6. This number has been fluctuating from one week to another since early January.

Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

This information is not available for South Zone.

Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of South Zone was 220% higher in Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) than in Week 5. This increase is due only to ILI-related visits as there were no LRTI-related visits.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

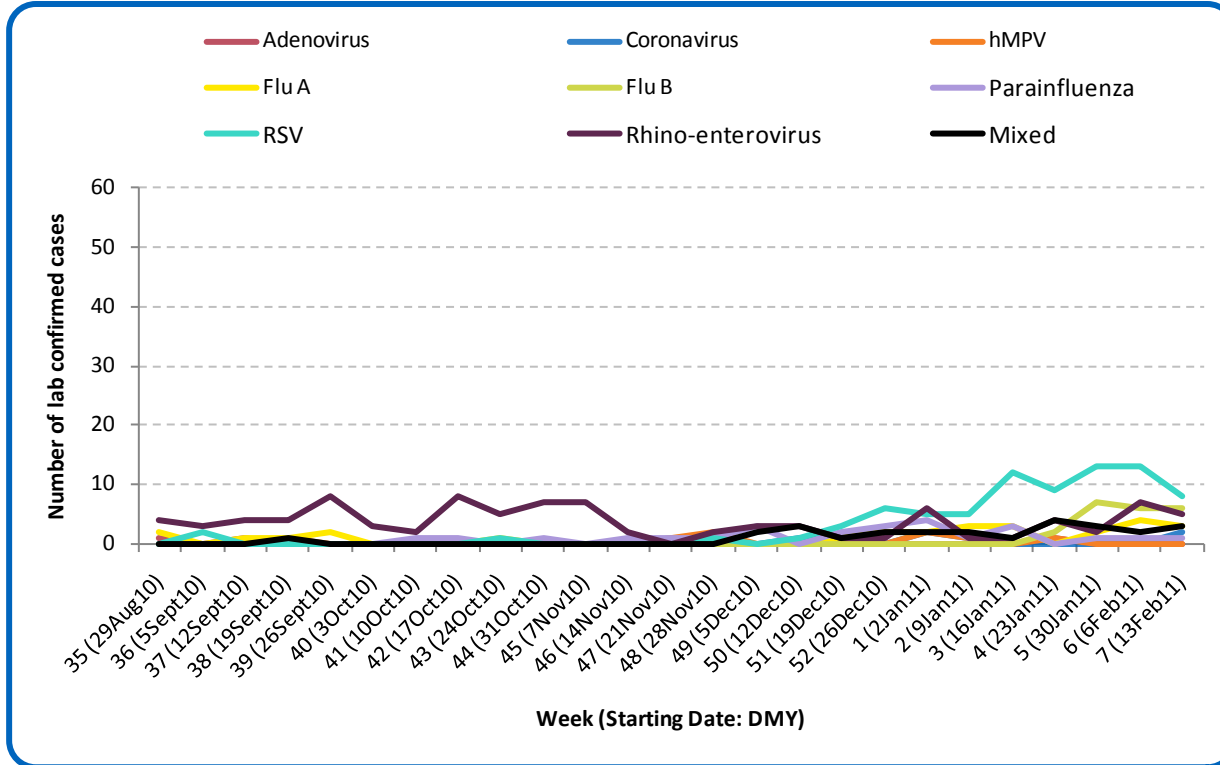
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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

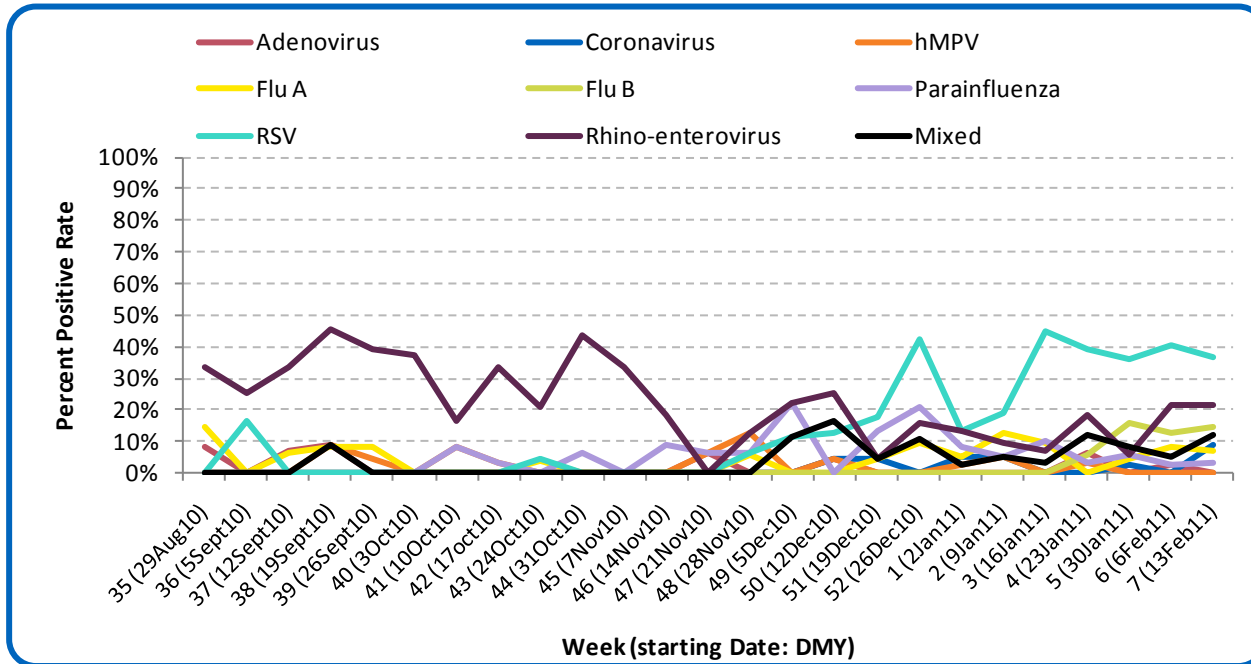
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

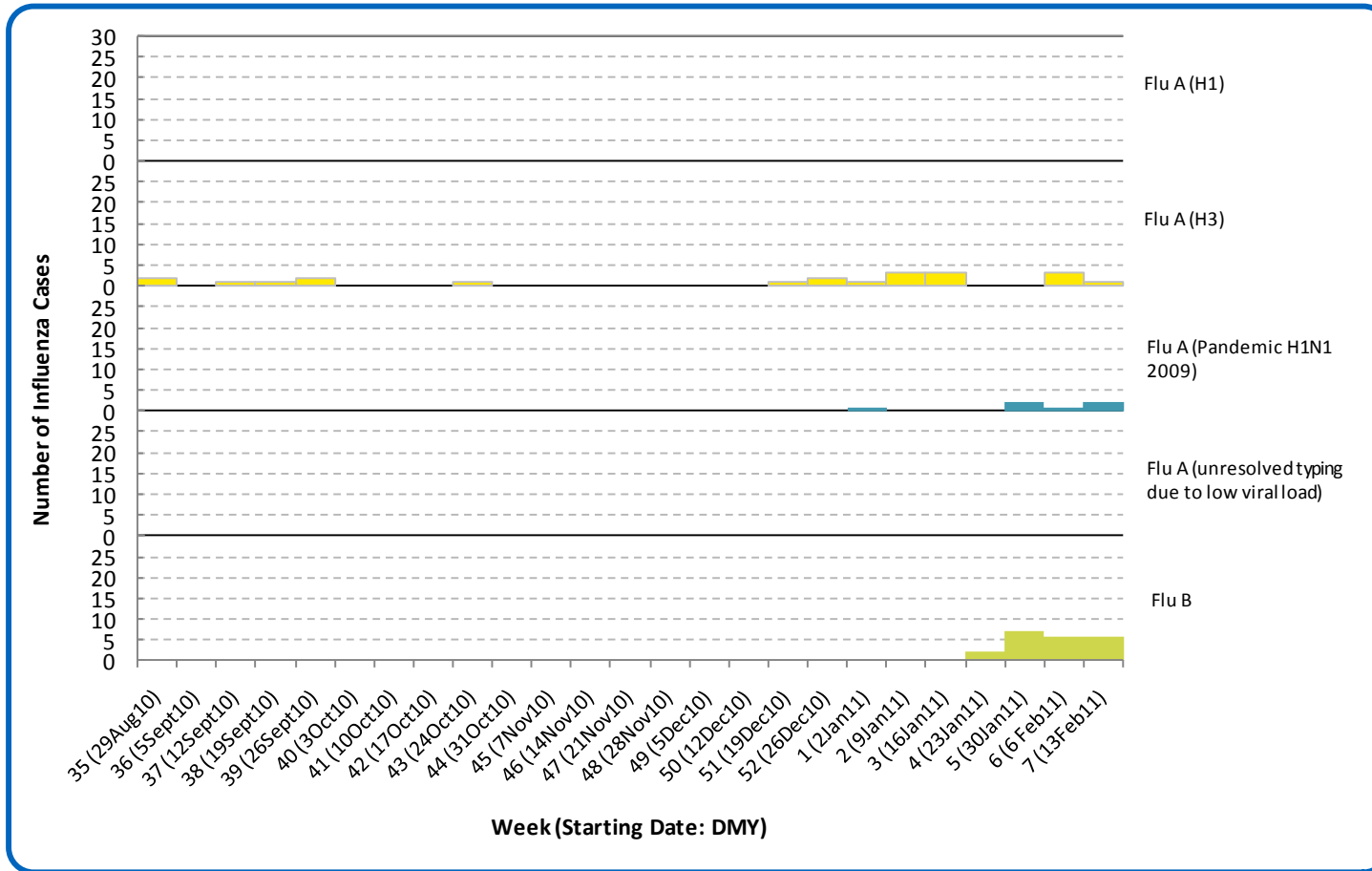
Figure 2B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, South Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 2011)
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 2011).

*Note: 2 specimens were positive for influenza B and one other virus type. These cases have been included in the influenza B count, as well as the other respective specimen types. They have not been included in the 'Mixed' category.

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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

Table 2A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, South Zone (Week 7: Feb 13-19, 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	1	0.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.9
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.4	2	1.4
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.9	3	0.9
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	2	0.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	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	1	<0.1	2	0.1	0	0.0	6	0.2	9	0.3

Table 2B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, South Zone (Aug 29, 2010–Feb 19, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	3	3.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.2	4	4.8
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	4	3.5	2	1.7	0	0.0	2	1.7	8	6.9
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.4	2	1.4
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	2.6	9	2.6
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	13	0.7	2	0.1	0	0.0	7	0.4	22	1.3
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.1
75+ years	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
Total	0	0.0	21	0.8	6	0.2	0	0.0	21	0.8	48	1.7

Source for Tables 2A & 2B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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

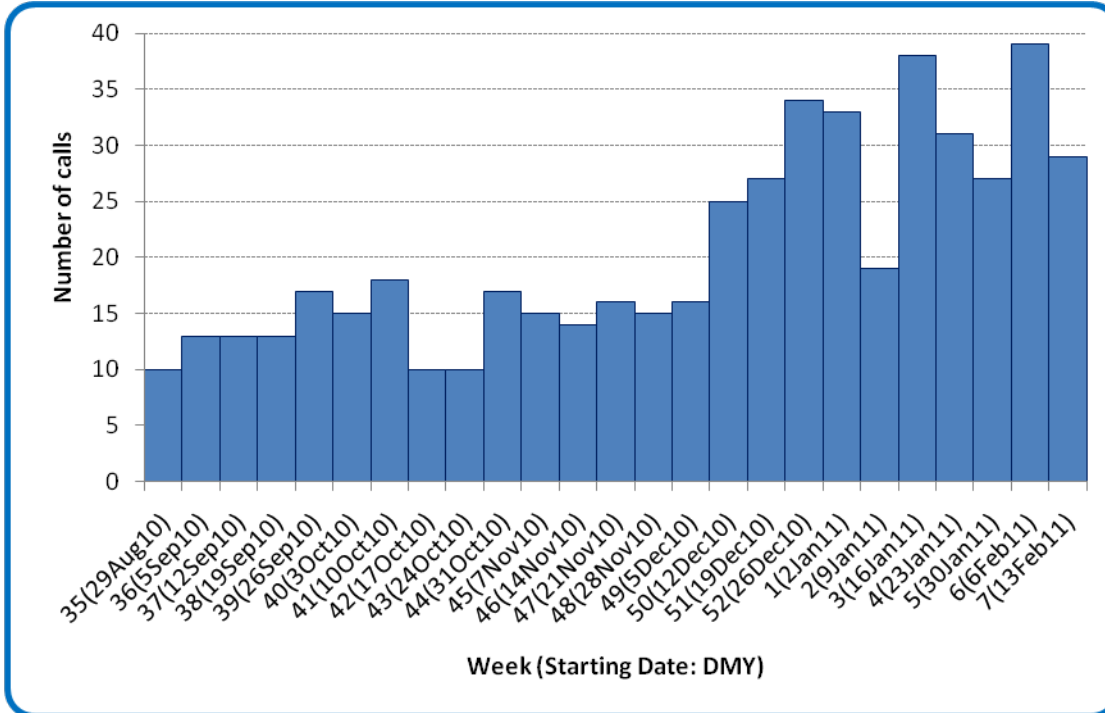
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Feb 19, 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

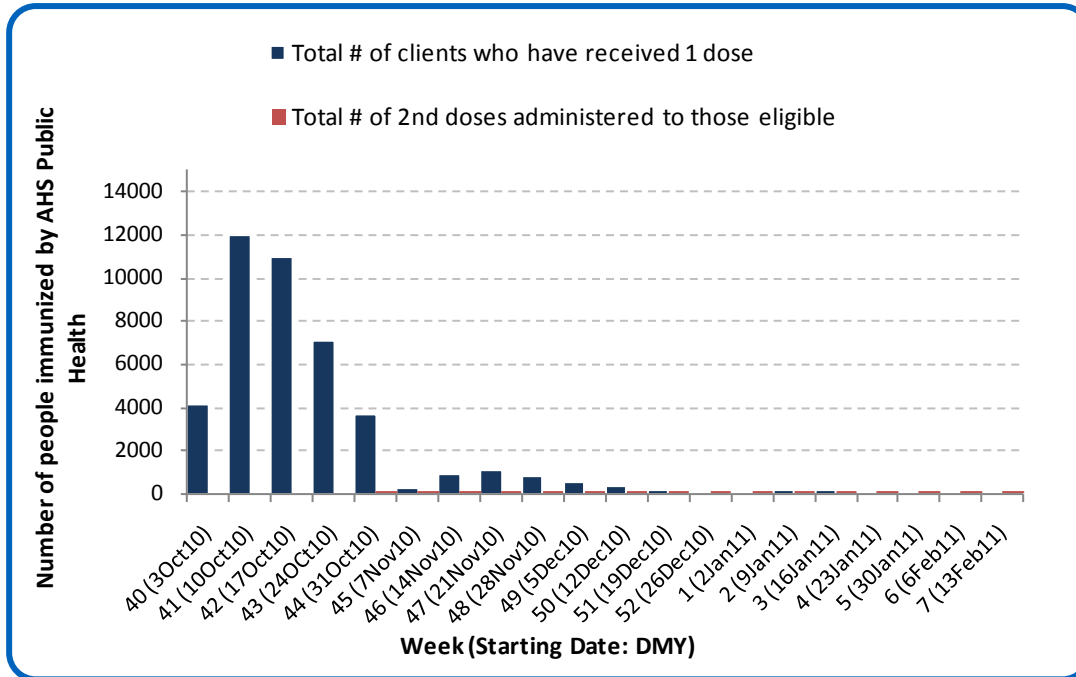
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

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

Priority Group	Number Immunized (Week 7 – Feb 13-19, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	1	616
Health care workers	3	1,567
Pregnant women	3	302
Residents of long term care	0	730
65 years of age and over	0	15,593
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	35
	Dose #2	37
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	23
	Dose #2	3
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	1
	Dose #2	0
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	2	4,098
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	8
	Dose #2	4
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	36	14,629
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose	112	42,981
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	44	739

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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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: February 23, 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

[Back to first page](#)

Summary

The majority of indicators show a general increasing trend in respiratory virus activity over the last several weeks in Calgary Zone.

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

RSV is currently the predominant virus circulating in Calgary Zone, however the number of influenza B cases confirmed in this part of the province has increased substantially over the last 2 weeks. Since the beginning of the season, a total of 194 cases of influenza have been confirmed in Calgary Zone, 20% of which have been influenza B cases in the last 3 weeks. Compared to the age specific rates in other age groups, the rates for confirmed influenza A (H3), influenza A (H1N1) 2009 and influenza type B are highest for infants 0 to less than 2 years of age at this point in the season. Half (50.0%) of the cases in this age group have been typed as influenza A (H3), while 31.8% and 13.6% have been typed as influenza type B and influenza (H1N1) 2009, respectively.

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

Since the update provided last week, one influenza B outbreak has been reported in a Calgary Zone school. It occurred in Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) and had an attack rate of 15%.

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

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties by residents of Calgary Zone was 3% lower in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) compared to the previous week, however the pattern seen over the last several weeks has shown a general increasing trend.

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

The number of visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) at the six urban emergency departments/ urgent care centers (ED's) in the City of Calgary was 32% higher in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) compared to the previous week. This raised the percentage of ILI positive visits to approximately 7% of all screened visits from approximately 6% in the previous week. Hospital admissions for ILI-related visits were 56% higher in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) from the previous week. This is the highest level this indicator has reached this season.

The number of visits for cough symptoms at the same ED's increased by 7% in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) compared to the previous week, while the number of hospital admissions decreased by 5%. This indicator closely mimics the pattern seen for calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties.

Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage for ILI- and LRTI-related visits was 53% lower in Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) compared to week 5 (Jan 30-Feb 5, 2011), as the percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits both declined.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

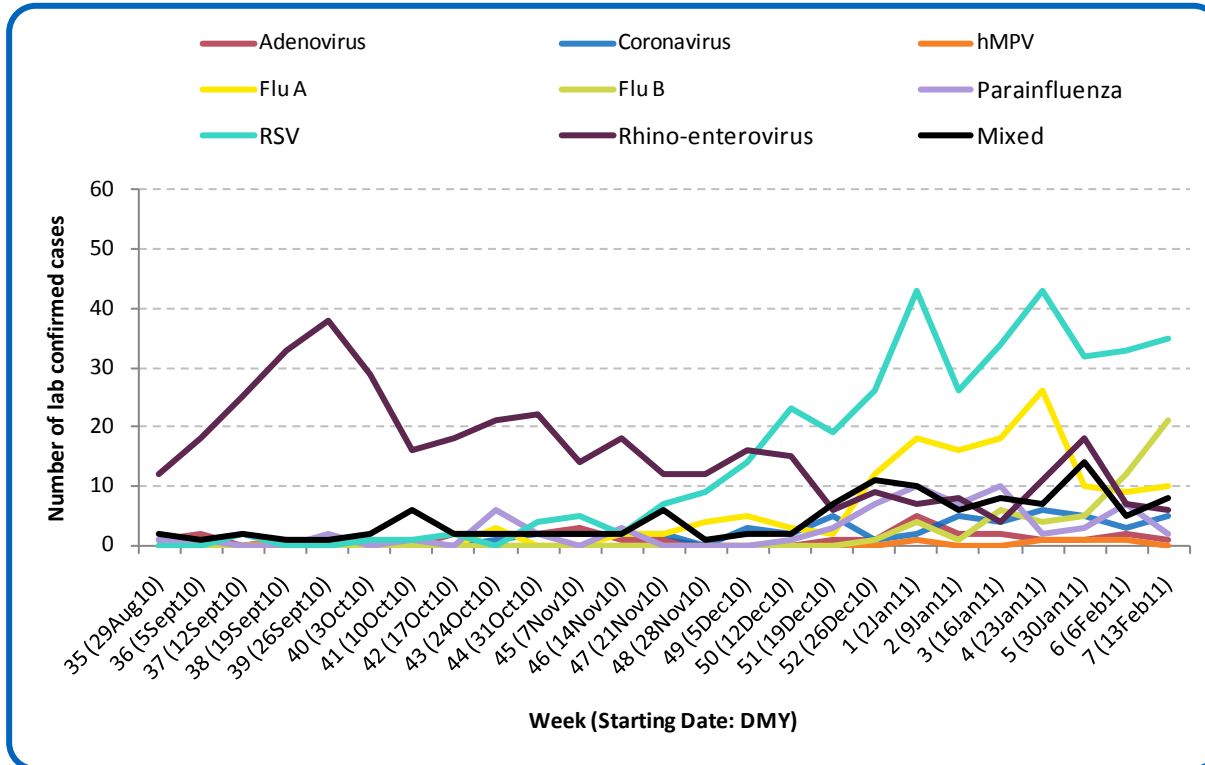
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

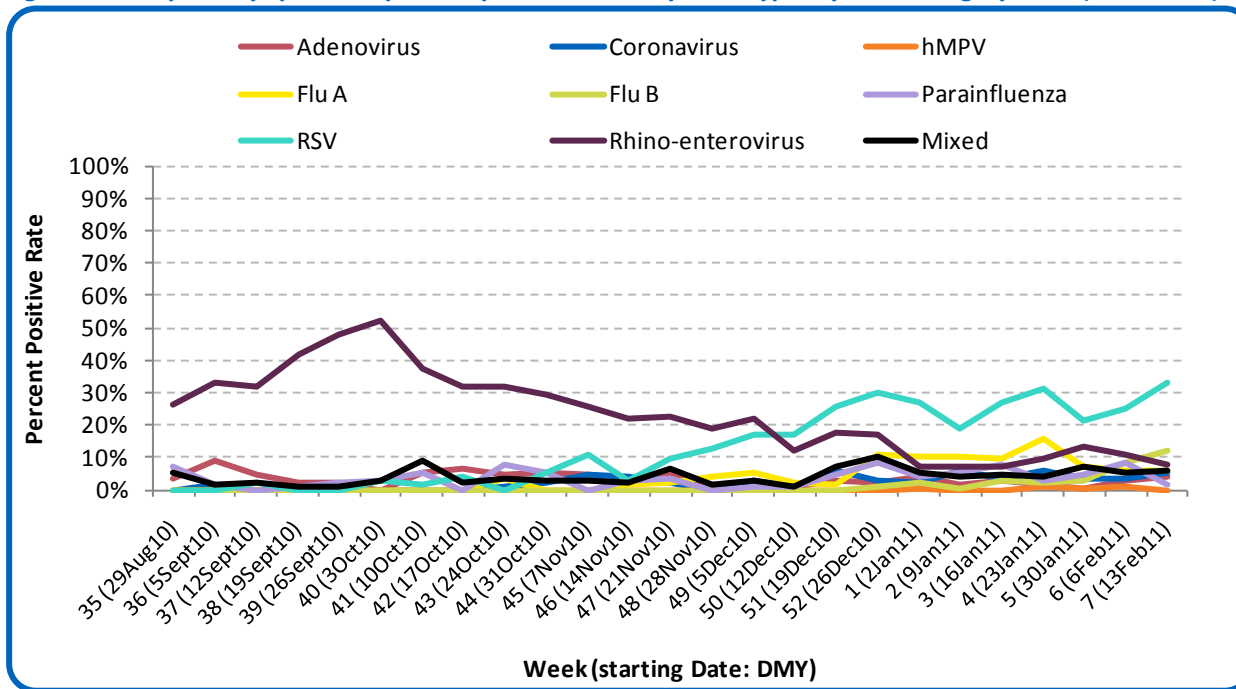
Figure 3A: Laboratory confirmed respiratory virus cases, by virus type, by week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)



Sources: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory and the Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

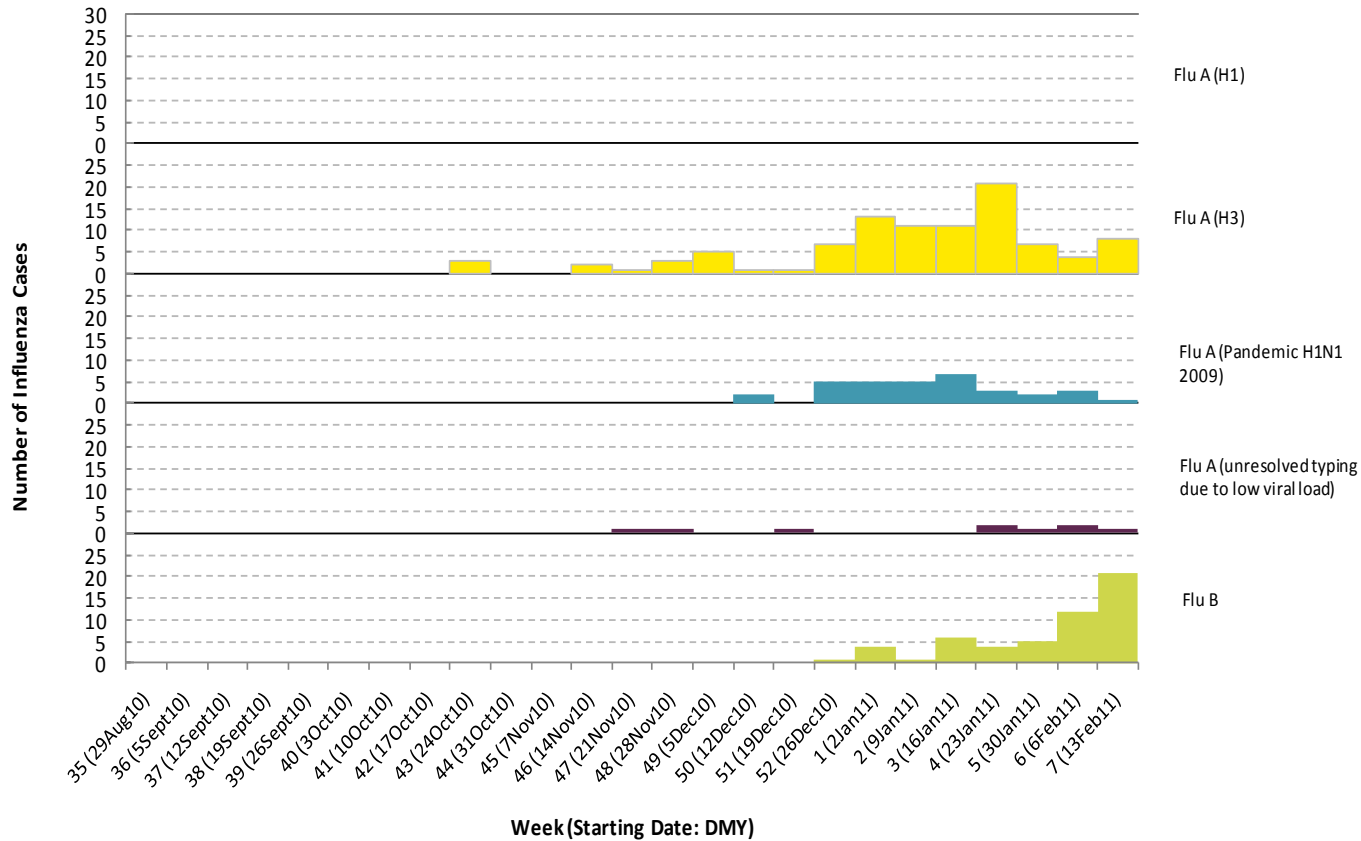
Figure 3B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 2011)
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

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



*Note: 4 specimens were positive for influenza A or B and one or more other virus type(s). These cases have been included in the influenza counts, as well as the other respective specimen type(s). They have not been included in the 'Mixed' category. One specimen was positive for both influenza A & B.
 Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

Table 3A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Calgary Zone (Week 7: Feb 13-19, 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	3	0.8	3	0.8
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	2	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2	3	0.6
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	1	0.2	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.2	3	0.5
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	11	0.7	11	0.7
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	4	<0.1	1	<0.1	0	0.0	5	0.1	10	0.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1
75+ years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	0	0.0	8	0.1	1	<0.1	1	<0.1	21	0.2	31	0.2

Table 3B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Calgary Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Feb 19, 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	11	3.0	3	0.8	1	0.3	7	1.9	22	5.9
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	8	1.6	2	0.4	1	0.2	6	1.2	17	3.3
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	5	0.8	1	0.2	2	0.3	10	1.6	18	2.9
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	6	0.4	0	0.0	2	0.1	15	1.0	23	1.6
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	48	0.5	27	0.3	2	<0.1	14	0.2	91	1.0
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	5	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	6	0.8
75+ years	0	0.0	15	2.5	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.2	17	2.9
Total	0	0.0	98	0.7	33	0.2	9	0.1	54	0.4	194	1.5

Source for tables 3A & 3B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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

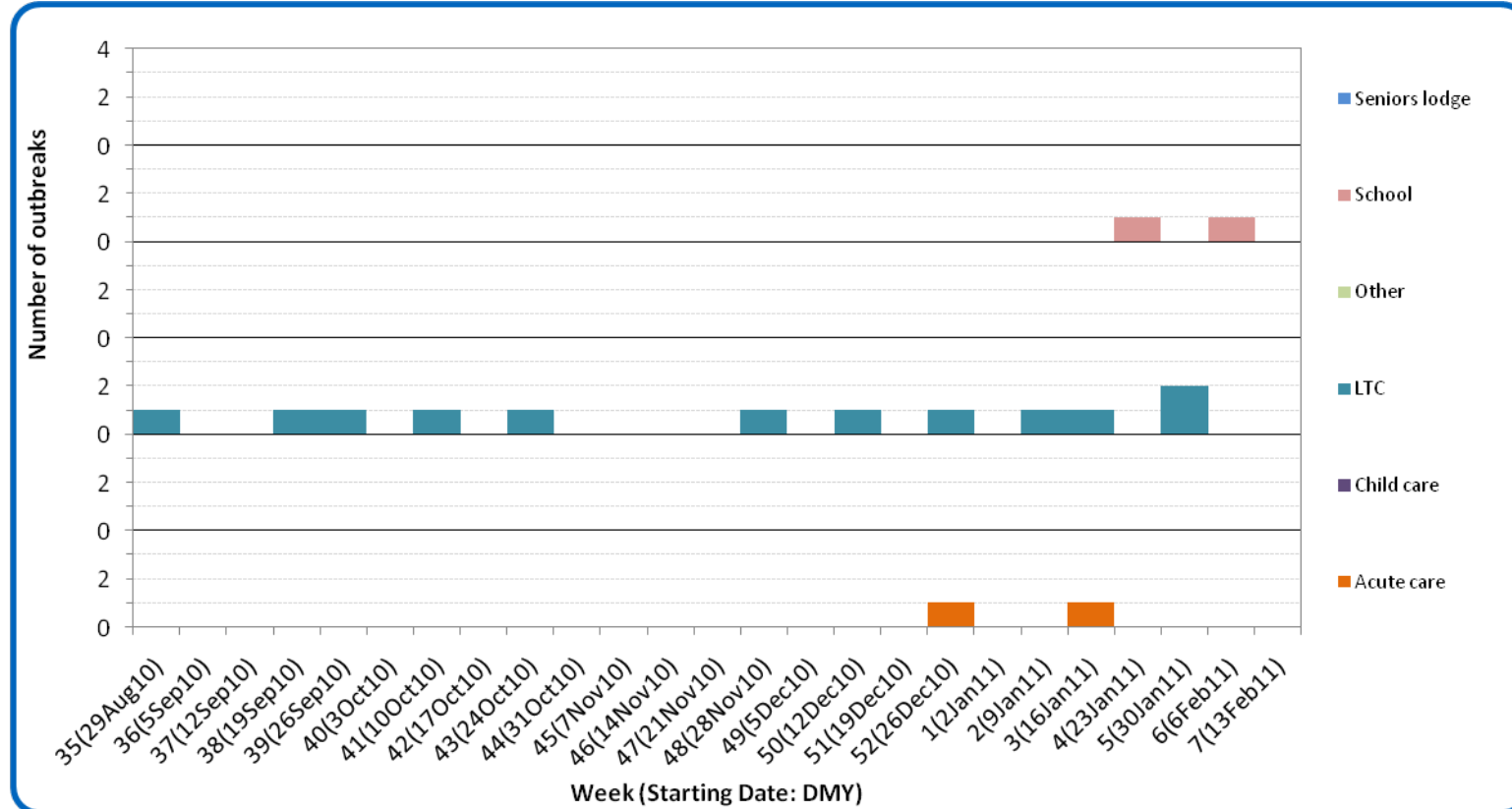
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

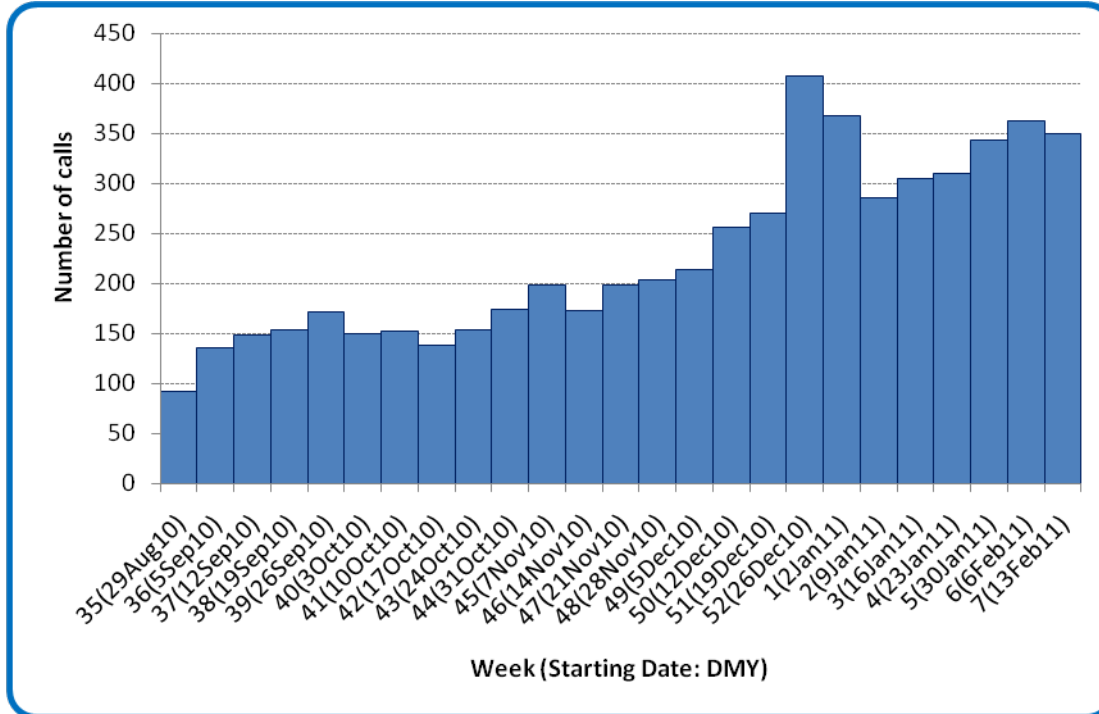
Figure 3D: Respiratory outbreaks, by facility type, by onset week, Calgary Zone (2010-2011; school outbreaks may not have a laboratory confirmation)



Source: Alberta Outbreak Reporting Form as of 23:59 on Feb 19, 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](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

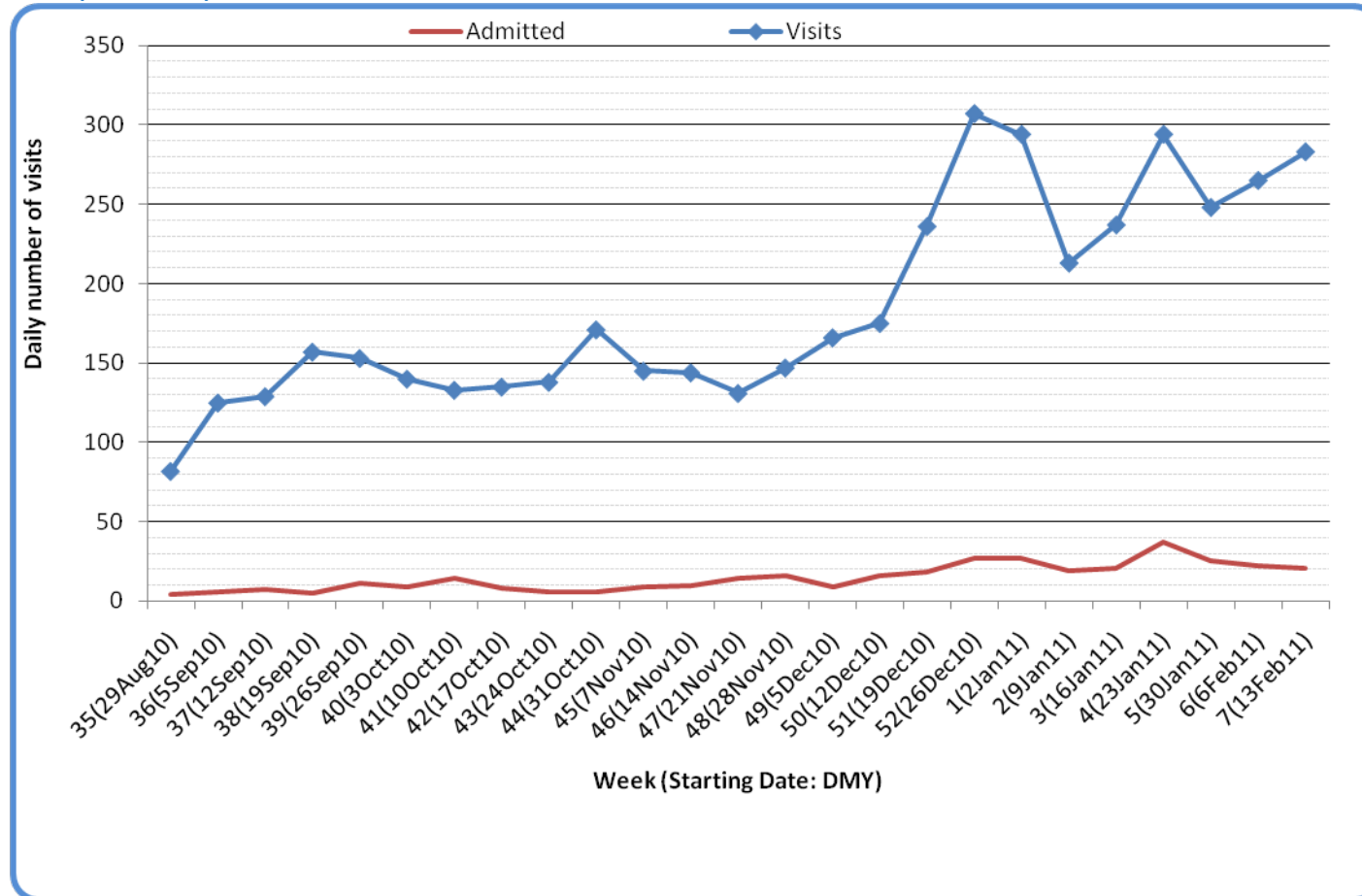
Figure 3E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, Calgary Zone (2010-11)



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSN) as of 23:59 on Feb 19, 2011. For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

[Back to first start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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

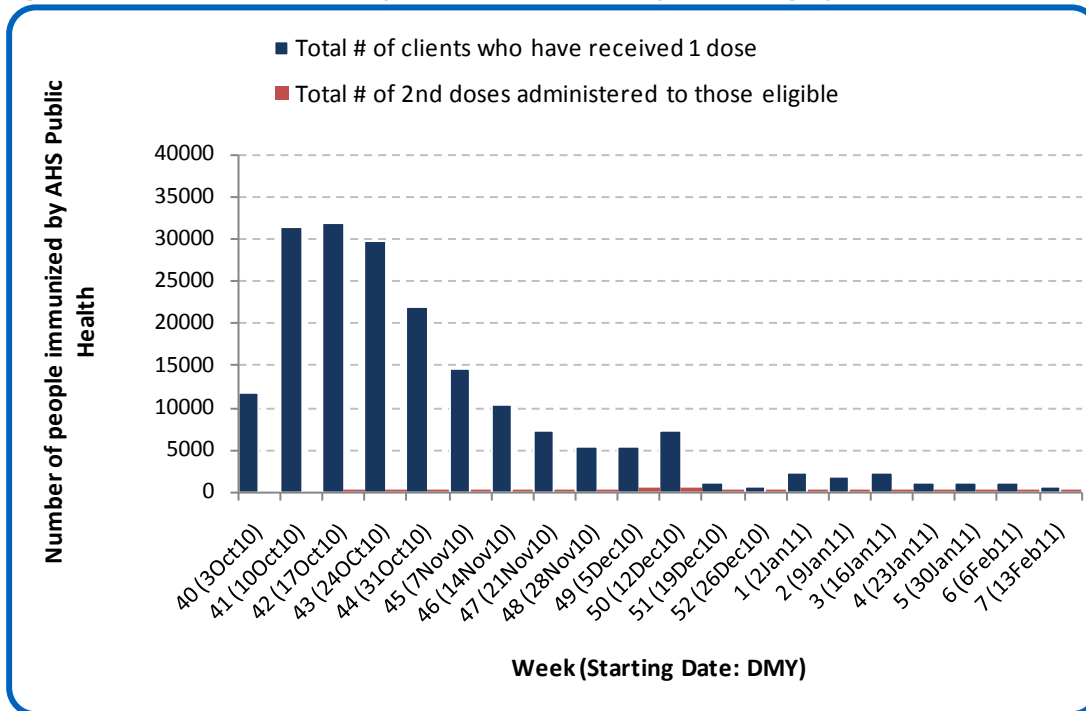
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

Table 3C: AHS (Public Health) delivered influenza immunizations (with cumulative totals), by priority group, Calgary Zone (2010-2011)

Priority Group	Number Immunized (Week 7 – Feb 13-19, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	1	451
Health care workers	2	5,315
Pregnant women	8	1,954
Residents of long term care	0	706
65 years of age and over	2	44,679
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	328
	Dose #2	151
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	93
	Dose #2	16
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	15
	Dose #2	1
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	30	19,920
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	46
	Dose #2	1
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	249	83,381
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose	774	189,608
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	169	3,997

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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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: February 23, 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

[Back to first page](#)

Summary

Generally, respiratory virus activity in Central Zone appears to be fairly steady in the last several weeks. Of note, infections caused by 2 or more respiratory viruses (mostly rhino-enterovirus, RSV and/or coronavirus) have been showing an upward trend in infants under the age of 2 years since the end of January, 2011.

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

RSV is currently the predominant virus being confirmed in Central Zone. In addition, laboratory data show an increase in “mixed” infections over the last several weeks, both in terms of the number of cases confirmed and the percentage of respiratory samples tested. Most of these infections have been caused by a combination of either rhino-enterovirus and RSV or coronavirus and RSV. As of the end of last week (Feb 19, 2011), the total number of influenza cases confirmed in Central Zone this season is 56, with over ¾ typed as influenza A (H3). At this point in the season, the age-specific rate for confirmed cases of influenza (all types) is highest for those 75 years and over (at 6.6 per 10,000) and infants under the age of 2 years (at 5.7 per 10,000). For all other age groups, it is less than 1 per 10,000.

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

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

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

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta by residents of Central Zone for cough or breathing difficulties was 13% higher In Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) compared to the week before.

Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

There are no data available from this zone.

Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits in Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) was slightly over 1% which is higher than the previous week (note: this is due predominantly to more physicians reporting in Week 6 compared to the previous week).

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

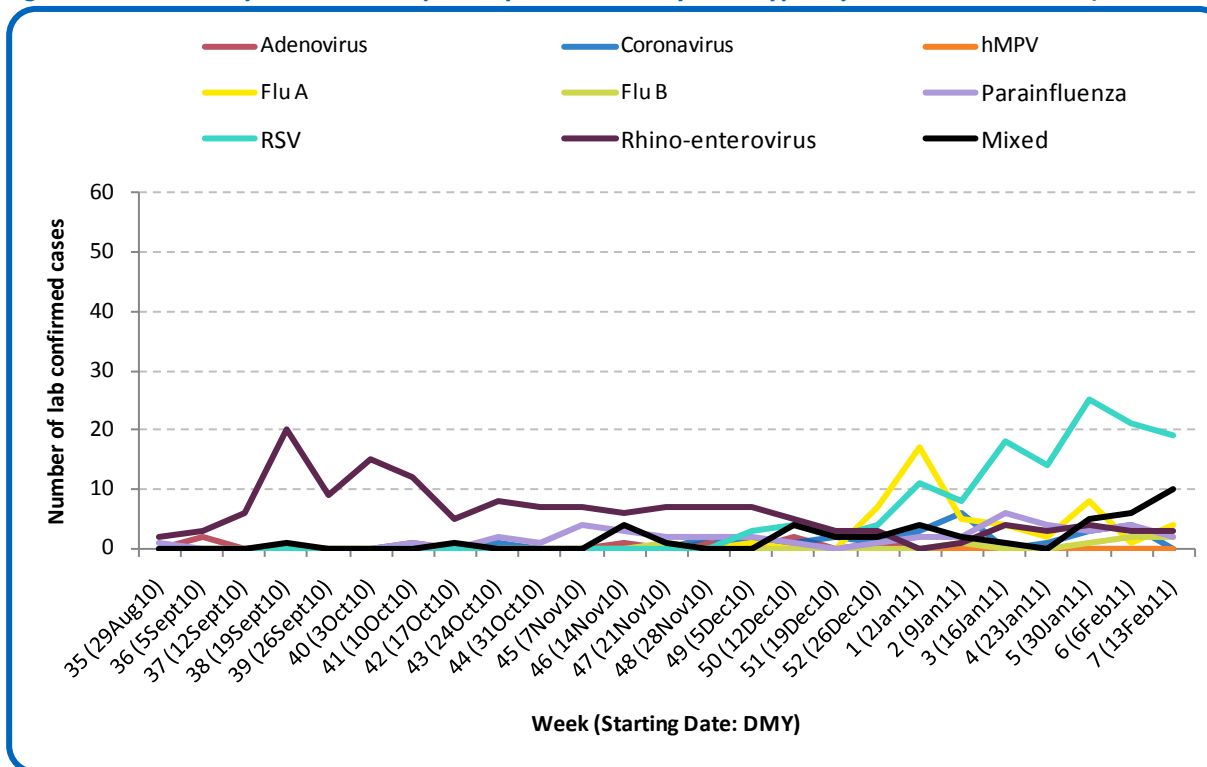
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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

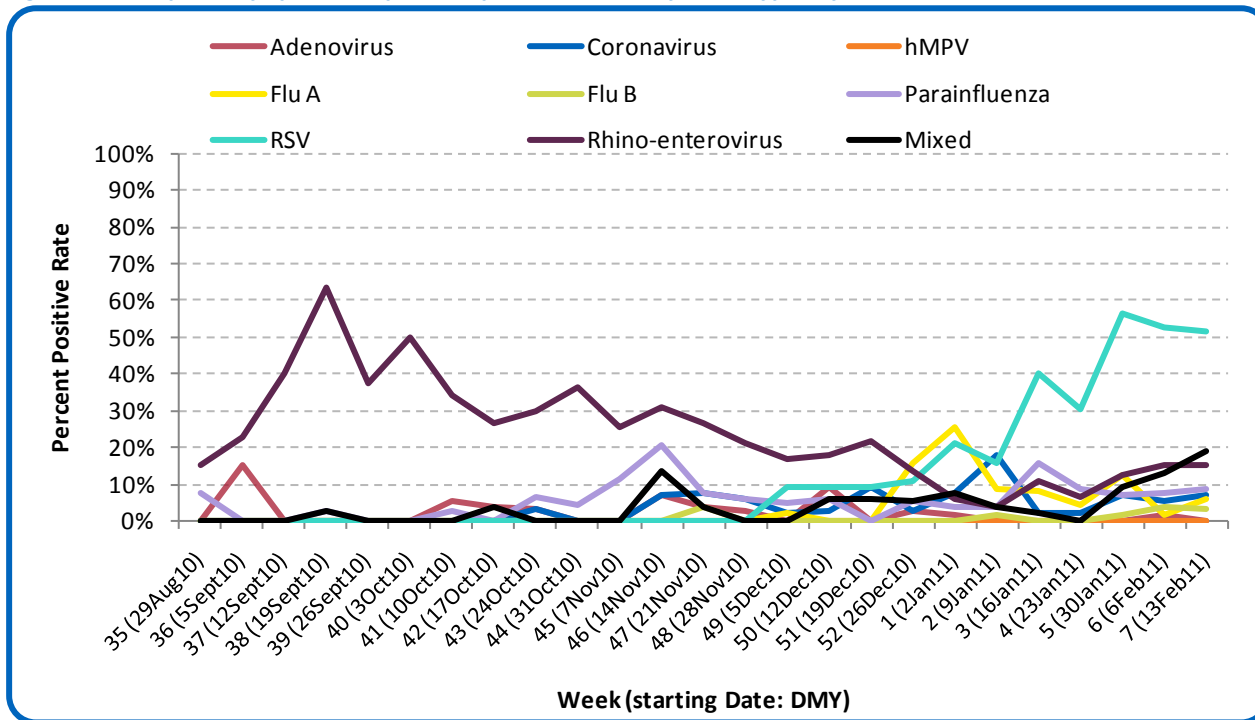
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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

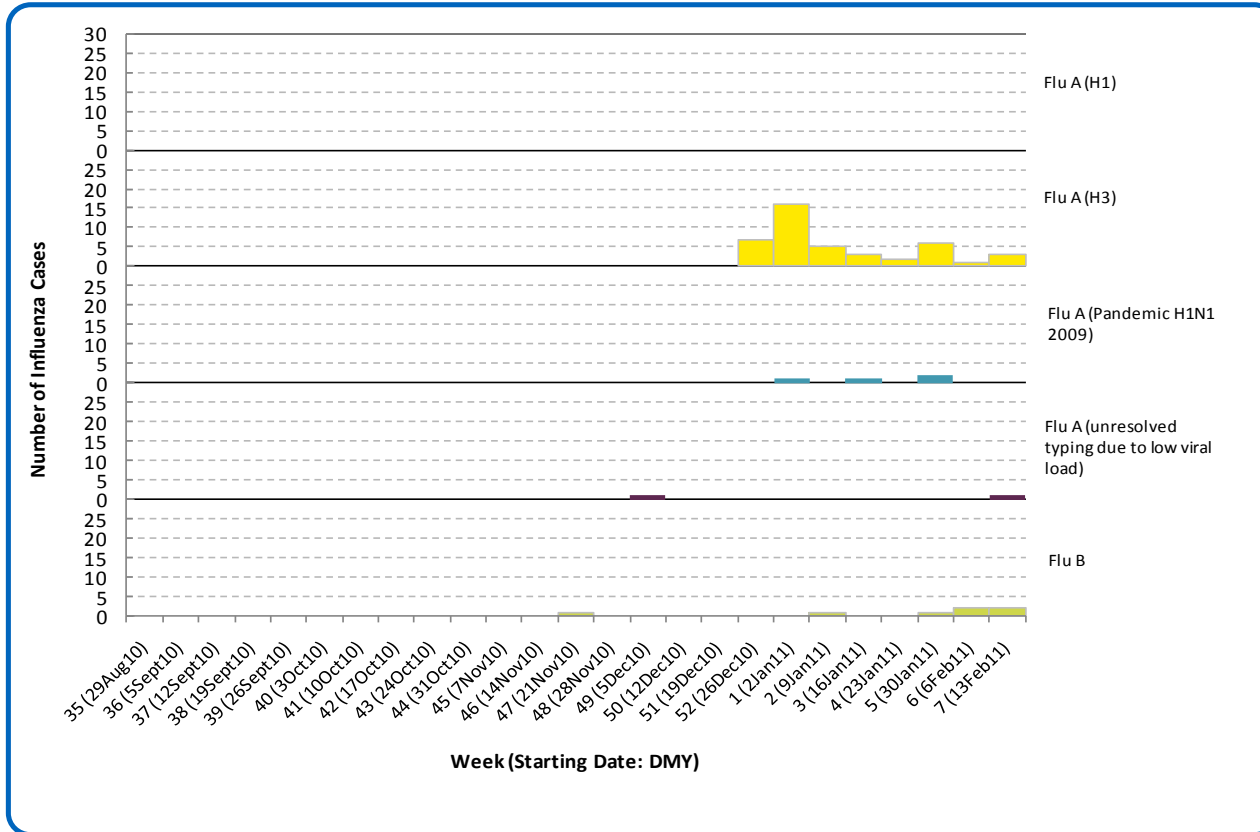
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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



*Note: 4 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.

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

Table 4A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Central Zone (Week 7: Feb 13-19, 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	0.8	1	0.8
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	3	0.1	0	0.0	1	<0.1	0	0.0	4	0.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	0	0.0	3	0.1	0	0.0	1	<0.1	2	<0.1	6	0.1

Table 4B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Central Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Feb 19, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	5	4.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.6	7	5.7
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	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	2	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2	3	0.6
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	15	0.5	4	0.1	2	0.1	3	0.1	24	0.9
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	2	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.7
75+ years	0	0.0	18	6.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	18	6.6
Total	0	0.0	43	1.0	4	0.1	2	<0.1	7	0.2	56	1.3

Source for Tables 4A & 4B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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

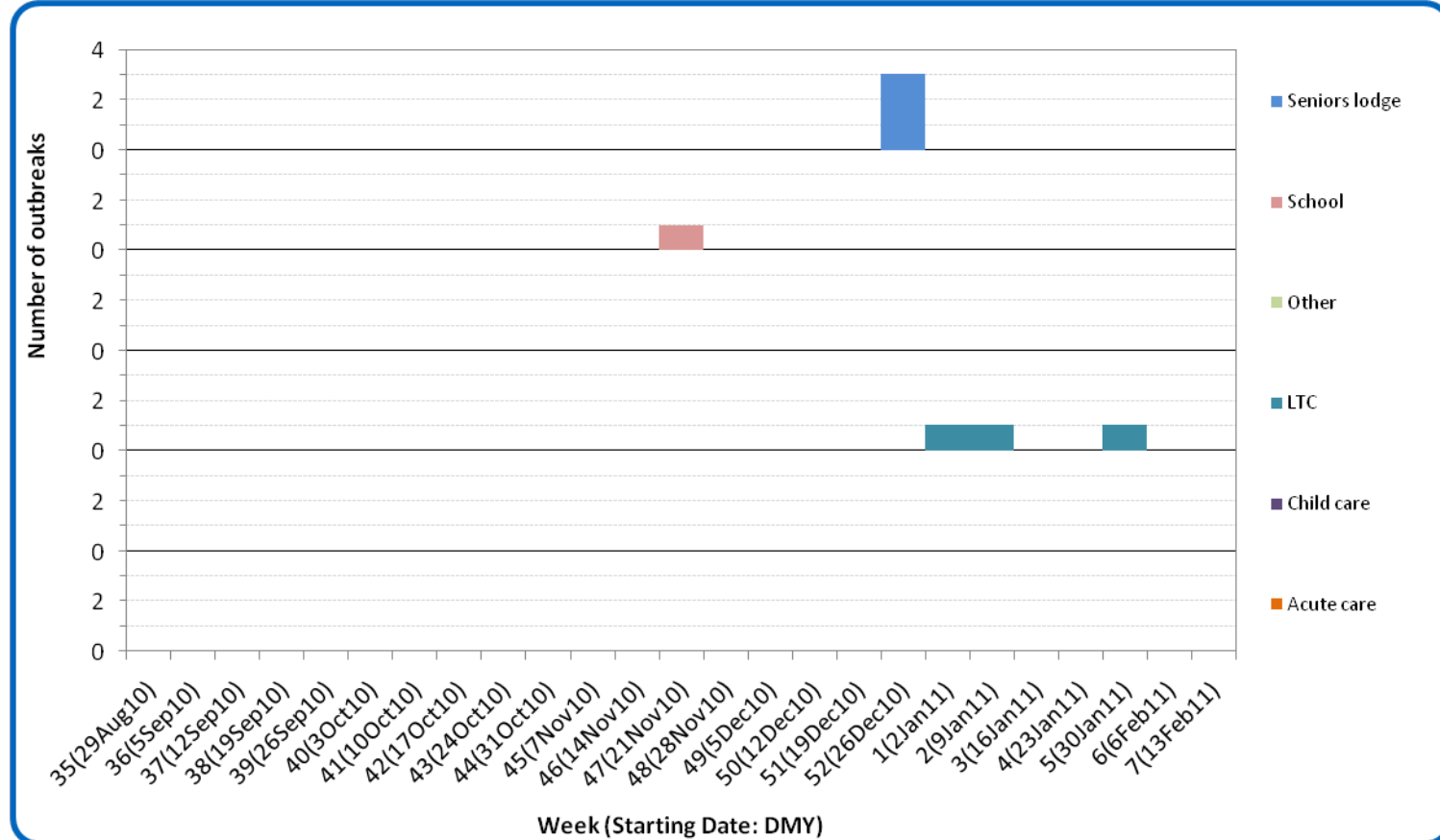
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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.

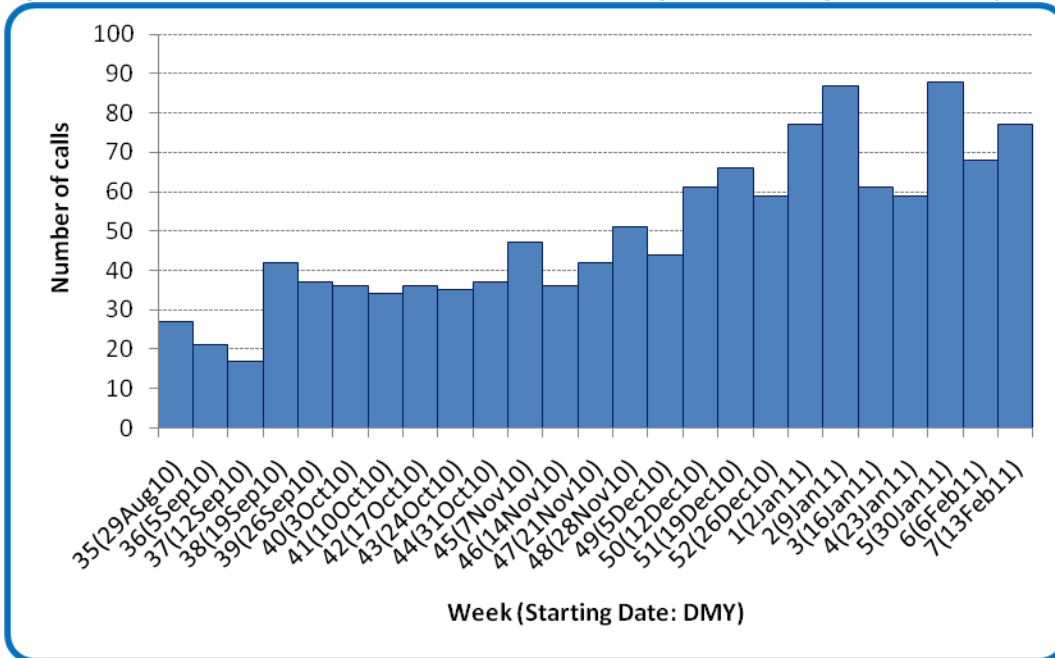
SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance
Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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

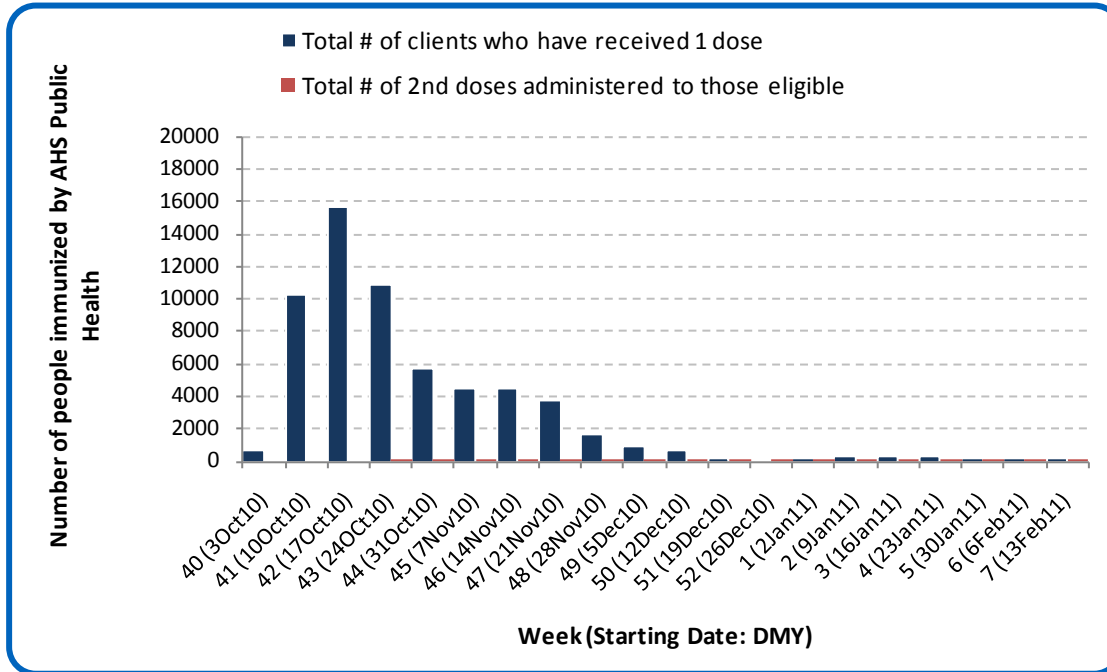
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

Table 4C: AHS (Public Health) delivered influenza immunizations (with cumulative totals), by priority group, Central Zone (2010-2011)

Priority Group	Number Immunized (Week 7 – Feb 13-19, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	7	418
Health care workers	10	2,595
Pregnant women	1	427
Residents of long term care	0	1,104
65 years of age and over	8	22,150
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	61
	Dose #2	56
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	10
	Dose #2	4
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	20	6,865
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	21
	Dose #2	3
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	38	20,703
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose	184	61,403
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	63	1,156

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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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: February 23, 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

[Back to first page](#)

Summary

Generally, respiratory virus activity appears to be increasing in Edmonton Zone.

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

RSV continues to be the predominant virus being confirmed in Edmonton Zone however influenza type B and rhino-enterovirus activity have increased in the last 2 weeks (both in terms of the number of cases confirmed and the percentage of respiratory samples tested). This season, there have been a total of 218 influenza cases confirmed in this part of the province. The proportion of influenza type B cases among all confirmed cases has gone from 13.3% to 50.0% in the last four weeks. At this point in the season, the age specific rate of confirmed influenza type B for children under the age of 9 years is higher than for other age groups. Also at this point in the season, the age-specific rates of confirmed influenza (all types) for infants 0 to less than 2 years of age and for adults aged 75 years and over are higher compared to other age groups, at 11.0 per 10,000 and 5.8 per 10,000, respectively.

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

Since the update provided last week, five new respiratory outbreaks have been reported in Edmonton Zone. Two occurred in long term care facilities in Week 5 (Jan 30-Feb 5, 2011) and Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) caused by parainfluenza (with a 4% attack rate) and adenovirus (with a 27% attack rate), respectively. The other three outbreaks occurred in a school (caused by influenza B with an attack rate of 10%), an acute care facility (caused by parainfluenza with an attack rate of 8%) and a child care facility (caused by influenza A with an attack rate of 25%).

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

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta by residents of Edmonton Zone for cough or breathing difficulties was 12% higher in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) compared to the previous week. This indicator is at its highest level this season.

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

The number of visits and hospital admissions of patients with ILI symptoms at the nine emergency departments/urgent care centers in Edmonton Zone increased by 17% and 16%, respectively, in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) compared to the previous week. The percentage of ILI-related visits close to 7% of all visits screened for ILI symptoms. This indicator is at its highest level this season.

Similarly, the number of visits with cough/congestion symptoms increased by 17% at the same emergency departments/urgent care centers in Edmonton Zone in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) from the week before that. This is the second highest level this indicator has been at this season. The percentage of visits with cough/congestion symptoms increased to slightly over 5% of all ED visits. Hospital admissions of patients with cough/congestion symptoms increased by 7% in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) compared to the previous week.

Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of Edmonton Zone was 62% lower in Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) than it was in Week 5, as the percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits both declined.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

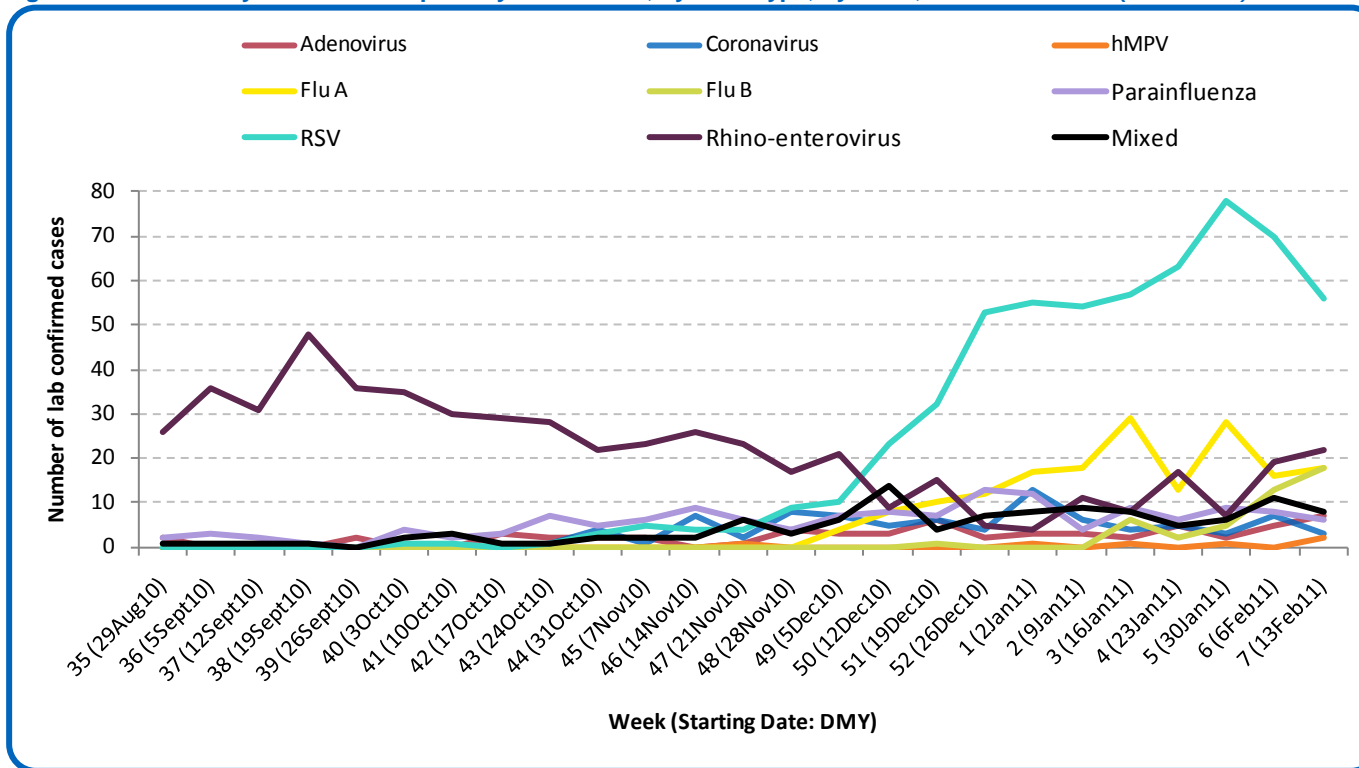
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 2011). For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

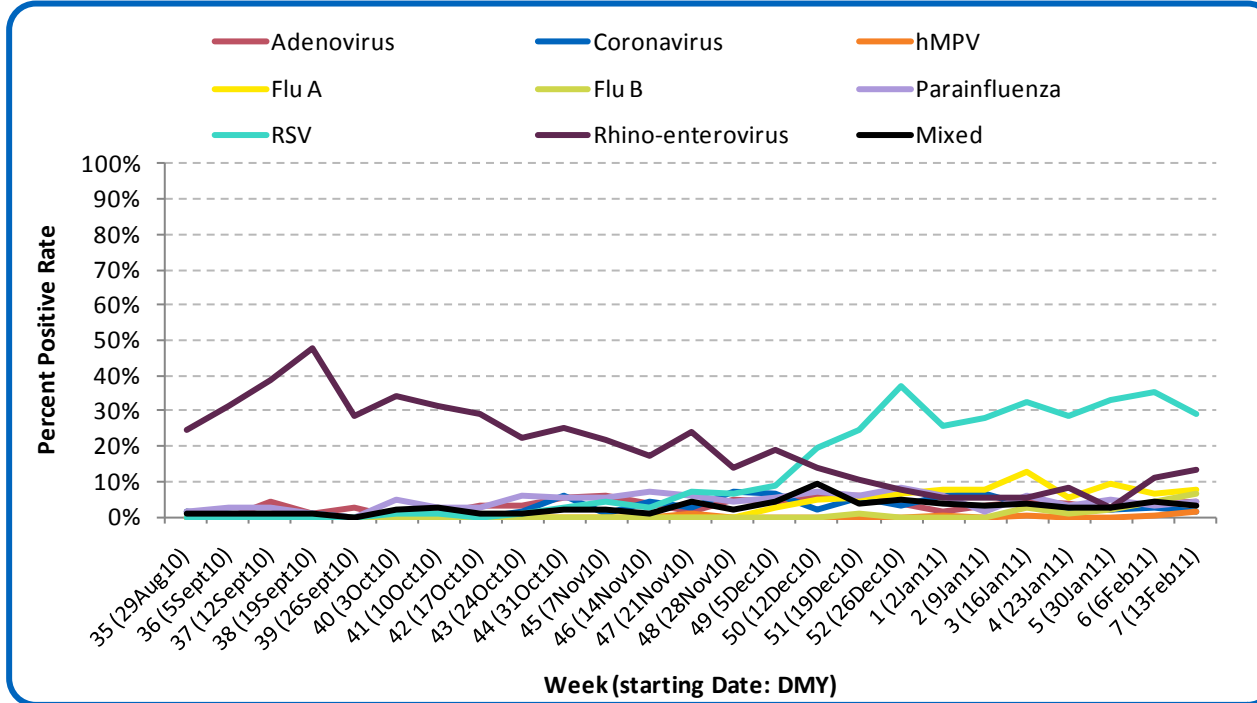
SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance
Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

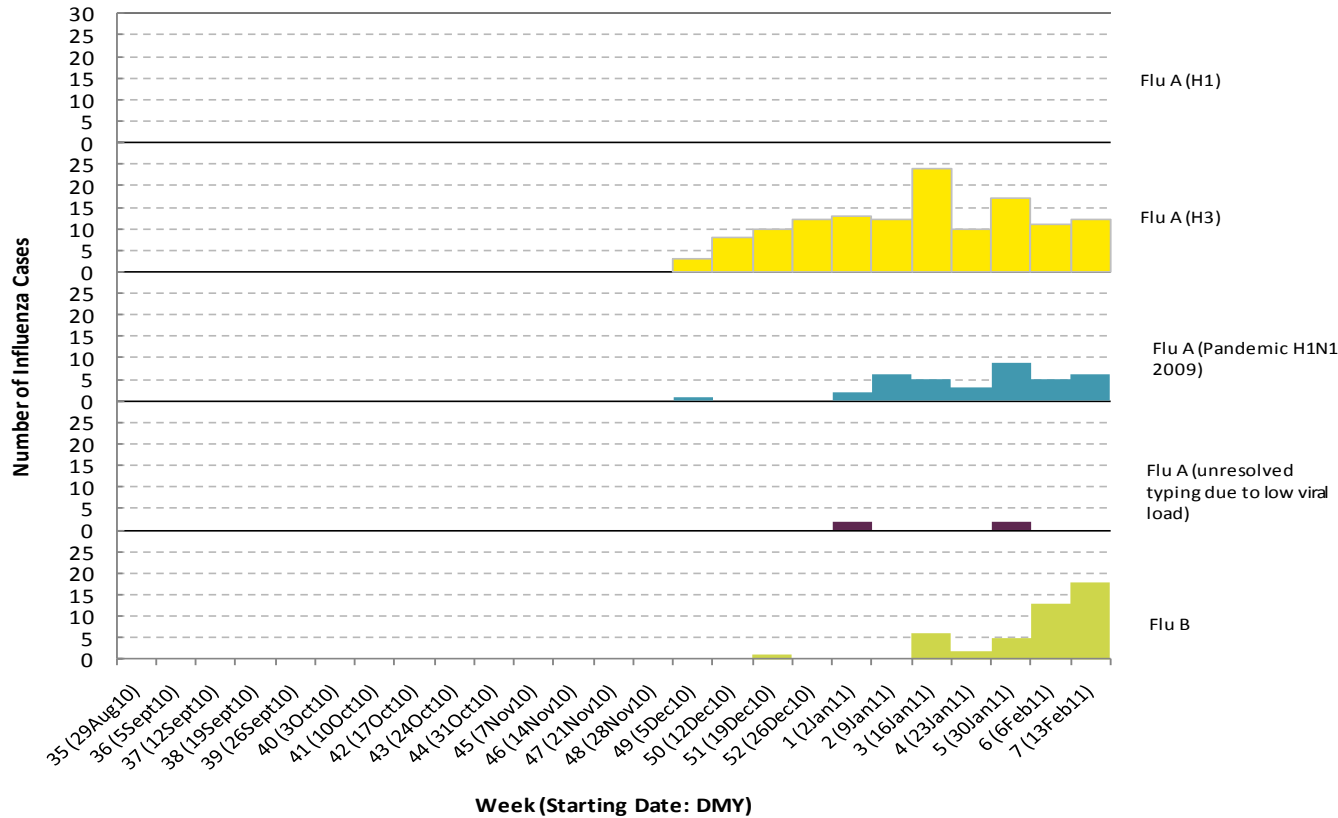
Figure 5B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 2011)
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

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



*Note: 3 specimens were positive for influenza A and one or more other virus type(s). These cases have been included in the influenza A counts, as well as the other respective specimen type(s). They have not been included in the 'Mixed' category.

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

Table 5A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Edmonton Zone (Week 7: Feb 13-19, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	1	0.3	1	0.3	0	0.0	2	0.7	4	1.3
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	2	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.7	5	1.2
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.4	3	0.6
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	0.4	5	0.4
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	7	0.1	5	0.1	0	0.0	6	0.1	18	0.2
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1
75+ years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	0	0.0	12	0.1	6	0.1	0	0.0	18	0.2	36	0.3

Table 5B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, Edmonton Zone (Aug 29, 2010 – Feb 19, 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	20	6.6	6	2.0	1	0.3	6	2.0	33	11.0
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	12	2.9	1	0.2	1	0.2	6	1.5	20	4.8
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	6	1.2	3	0.6	0	0.0	8	1.6	17	3.3
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	3	0.2	1	0.1	0	0.0	14	1.1	18	1.4
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	52	0.7	26	0.3	1	<0.1	8	0.1	87	1.1
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	8	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	9	1.3
75+ years	0	0.0	31	5.2	0	0.0	1	0.2	2	0.3	34	5.8
Total	0	0.0	132	1.2	37	0.3	4	<0.1	45	0.4	218	1.9

Source for tables 5A & 5B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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

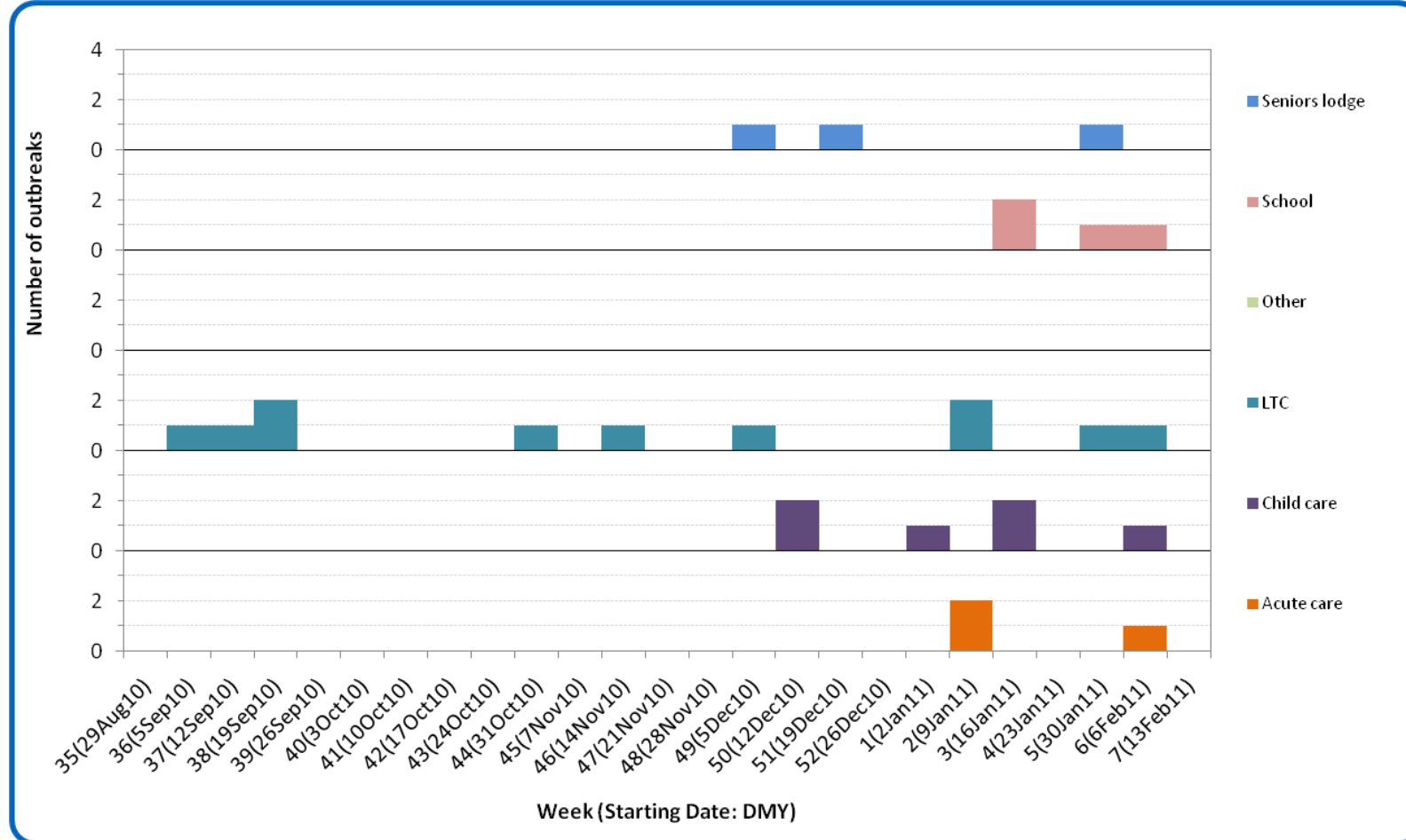
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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](#)

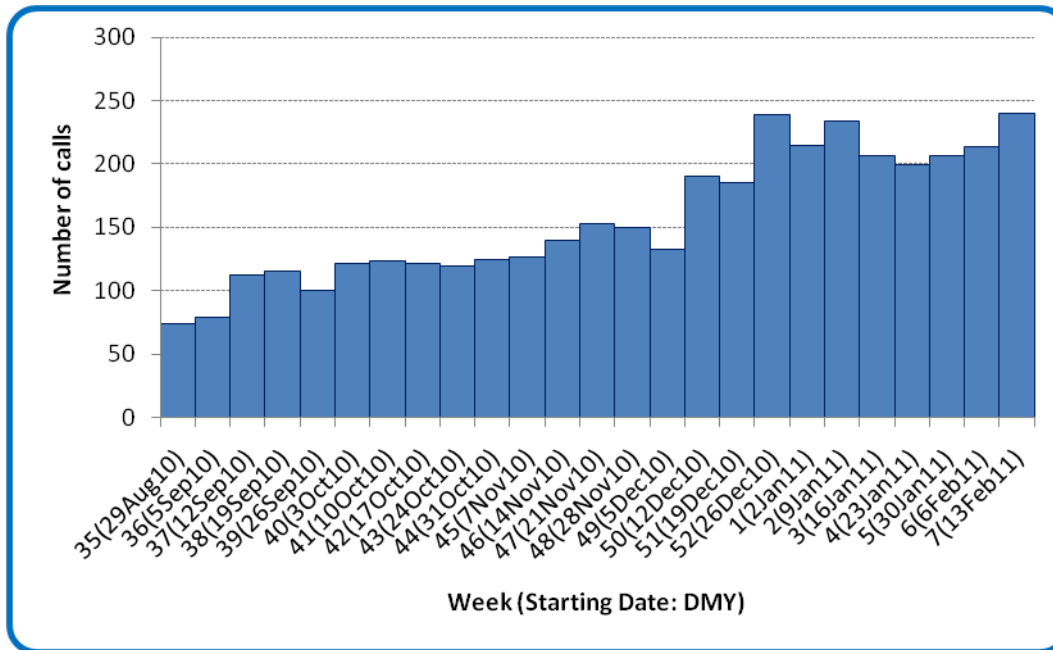
SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance
Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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

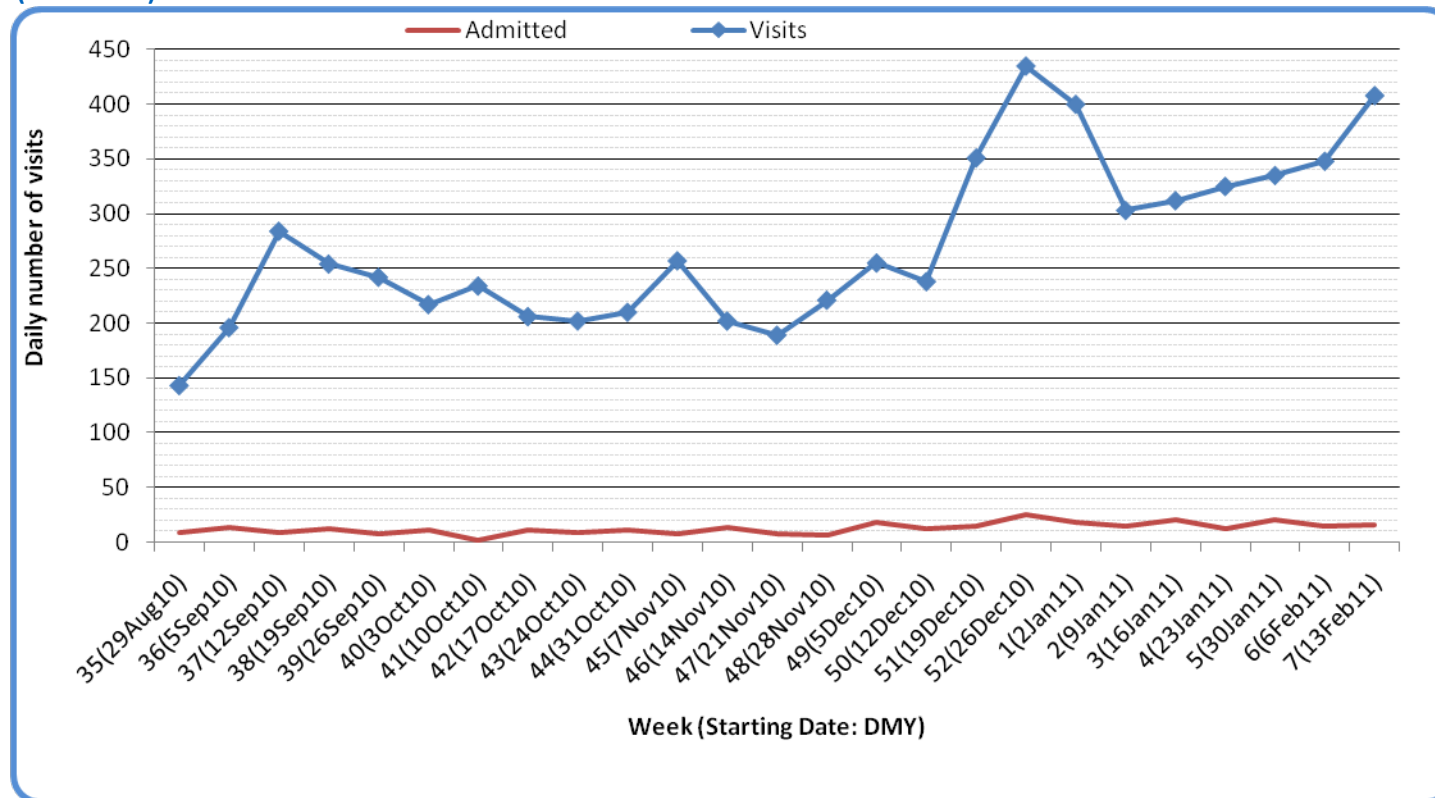
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 2011.
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

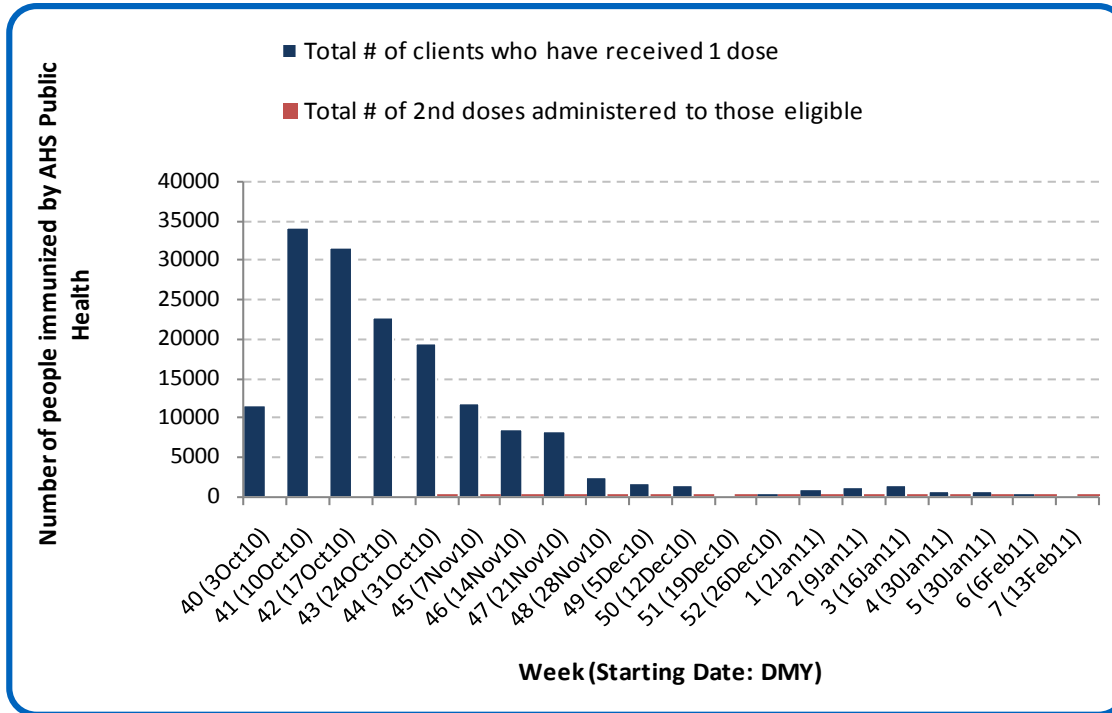
SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance
Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

Table 5C: AHS (Public Health) delivered influenza immunizations (with cumulative totals), by priority group, Edmonton Zone (2010-2011)

Priority Group	Number Immunized (Week 7 – Feb 13-19, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	0	321
Health care workers	3	4,786
Pregnant women	5	1,422
Residents of long term care	0	1,047
65 years of age and over	18	48,457
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	91
	Dose #2	58
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	25
	Dose #2	6
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	5
	Dose #2	0
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	22	17,089
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	14
	Dose #2	0
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	135	67,451
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose	318	160,867
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	64	2,536

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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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: February 23, 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

[Back to first page](#)

Summary

Respiratory virus activity in North Zone has remained steady in the last several weeks.

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

RSV and influenza are currently the predominant viruses circulating in North Zone. Unlike other areas of the province, the proportion of influenza type B among all influenza cases confirmed has not increased. The total number of confirmed influenza cases in North Zone this season is 95. At this point in the season, the age specific rate for confirmed influenza among infants under the age of 2 years is much higher than the rate for any other age group (14.5 per 10,000 compared to 5.5 or less per 10,000). In this area of the province, nearly half (45.0%) of the cases in this age group have been caused by influenza A (H1N1) 2009.

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

Since the last report, one new respiratory outbreak has been reported in a North Zone long term care facility. It has a preliminary attack rate of 16% and is currently pending laboratory confirmation.

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

The number of calls to Health Link Alberta by residents of North Zone for cough or breathing difficulties was 26% higher in Week 7 (Feb 13-19, 2011) than it was in the previous week. This is the third highest this indicator has been this season (and comparable to the highest levels seen in late January and early February of this year).

Emergency Department/Urgent Care Center Visits and Hospital Admissions

There are no data available for the North Zone.

Sentinel Physician Office Visits

The combined percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits to sentinel physician offices by residents of North Zone was 59% lower in Week 6 (Feb 6-12, 2011) compared to the previous week. The percentage of ILI- and LRTI-related visits is currently approximately 4% of all office visits, similar to the level seen in late December 2010.

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

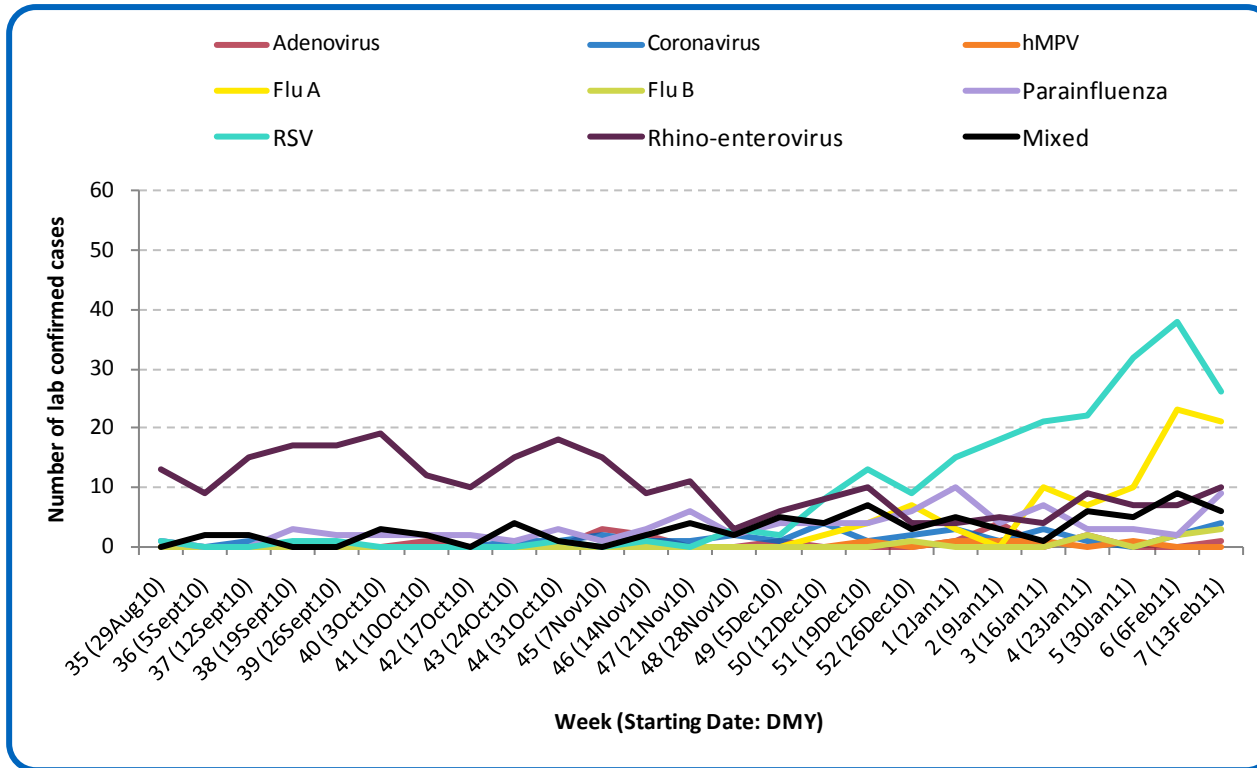
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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

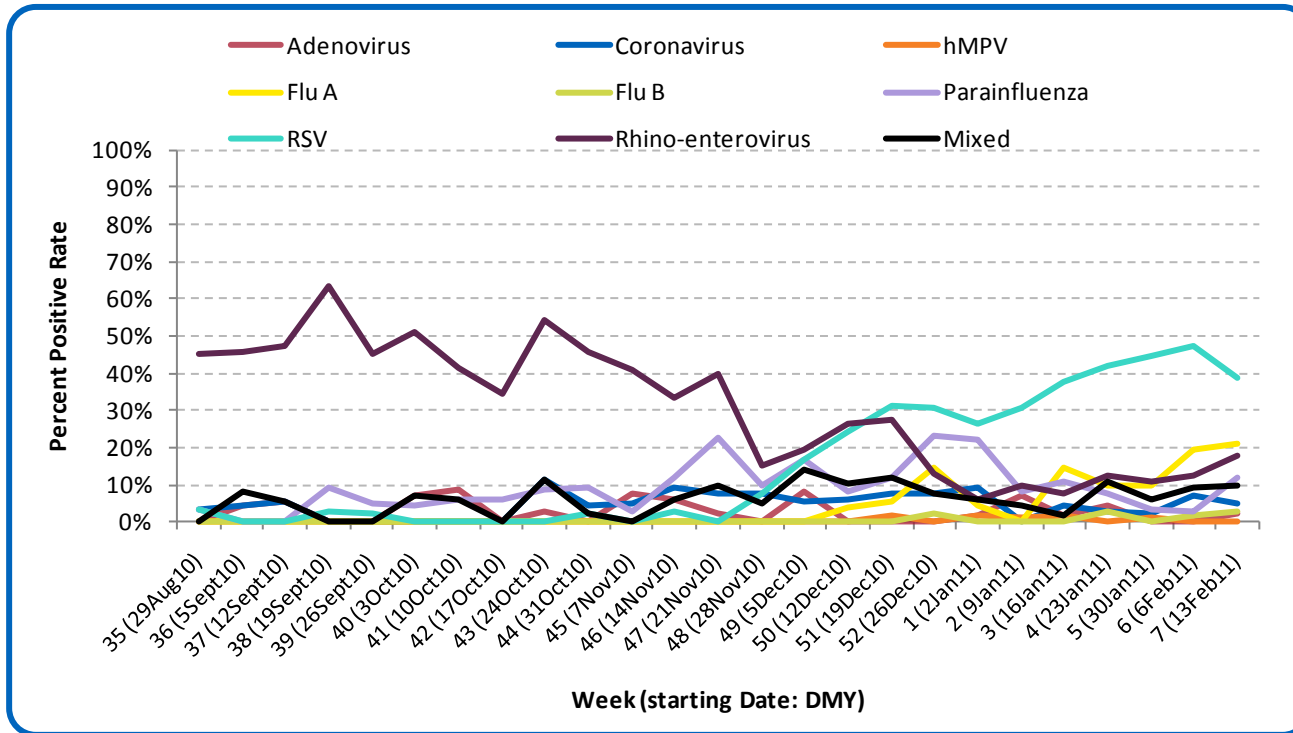
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

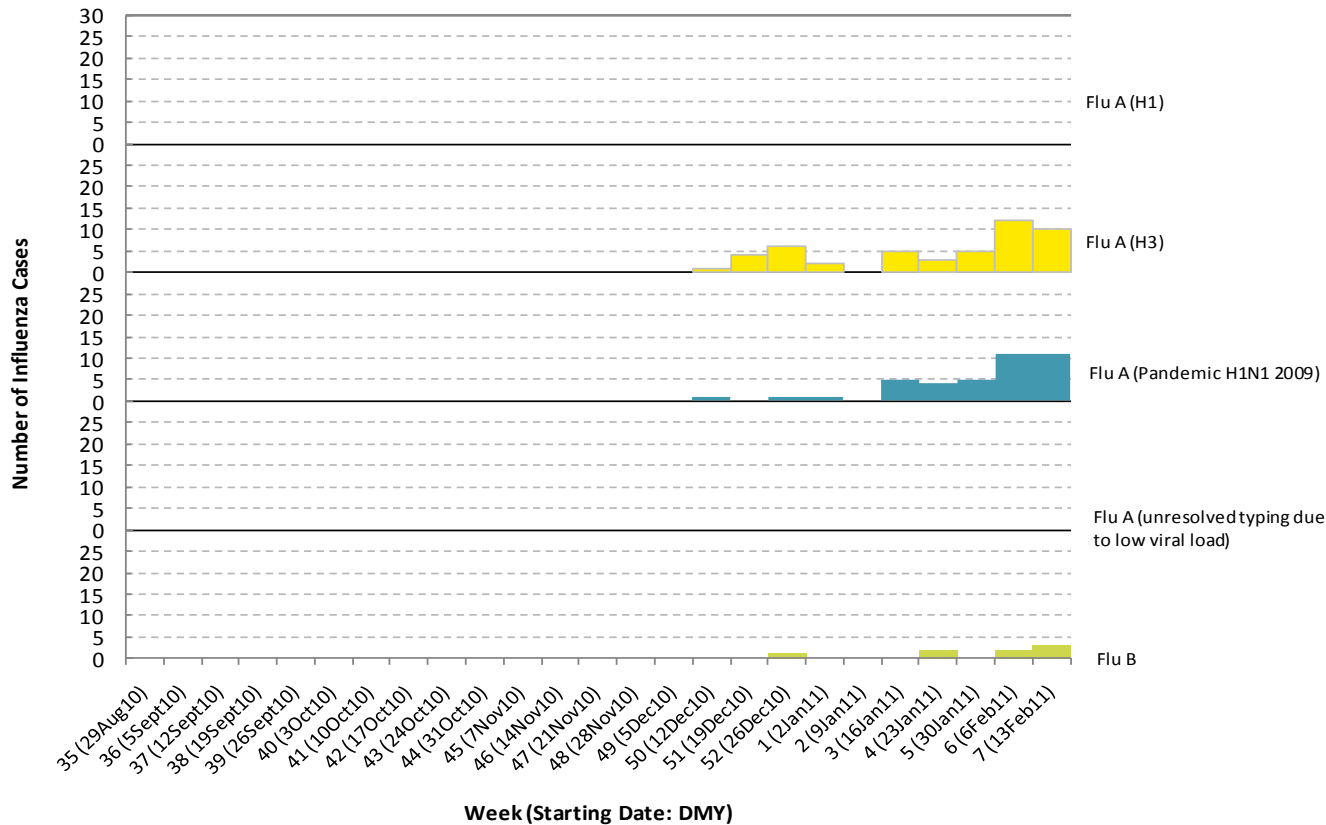
Figure 6B: Respiratory specimen percent positive rates, by virus type, by week, North Zone (2010-2011)



Source: DIAL – Provincial Laboratory (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 2011)
For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

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



*Note: 6 specimens were positive for influenza A and one or more other virus type(s). These cases have been included in the influenza A counts, as well as the other respective specimen type(s). They have not been included in the 'Mixed' category.

Source: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

Table 6A: New influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, North Zone (Week 7: Feb 13-19, 2011)

	Flu A (Seasonal-H1)		Flu A (Seasonal-H3)		Flu A (Pandemic H1N1 2009)		Flu A (unresolved typing due to low viral load)		Flu B		Total	
	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)	#	Rate (per 10,000)
0 to <2 years	0	0.0	2	1.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.4
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	2	1.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.0
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.8
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	1	0.2	3	0.5	0	0.0	2	0.4	6	1.1
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	3	0.1	6	0.2	0	0.0	1	<0.1	10	0.4
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
75+ years	0	0.0	2	1.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.3
Total	0	0.0	10	0.2	11	0.3	0	0.0	3	0.1	24	0.6

Table 6B: Cumulative influenza cases (and age specific rates), by subtype, by age group, North Zone (Aug 29, 2010-Feb 19, 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	7.2	9	6.5	0	0.0	1	0.7	20	14.5
2 to <5 years	0	0.0	6	3.1	1	0.5	0	0.0	1	0.5	8	4.2
5 to <9 years	0	0.0	7	3.0	5	2.1	0	0.0	1	0.4	13	5.5
9 to <18 years	0	0.0	8	1.4	8	1.4	0	0.0	2	0.4	18	3.2
18 to <65 years	0	0.0	13	0.5	16	0.6	0	0.0	3	0.1	32	1.2
65 to <75 years	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
75+ years	0	0.0	3	1.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	1.9
Total	0	0.0	48	1.1	39	0.9	0	0.0	8	0.2	95	2.2

Source for Tables 6A & 6B: Outbreak Response Toolkit (includes cases with positive respiratory specimens received on or before Feb 19, 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

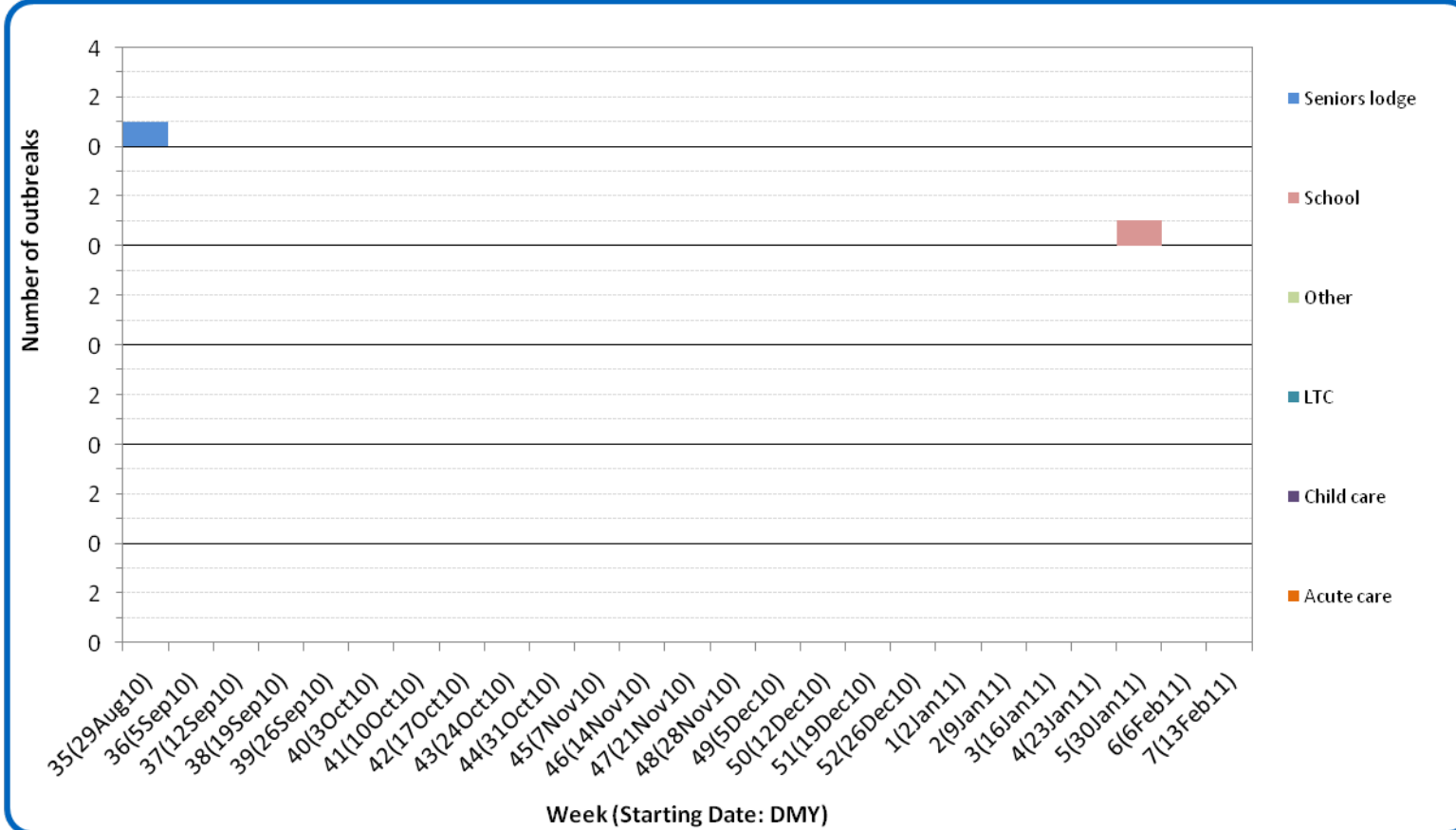
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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 Feb 19, 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

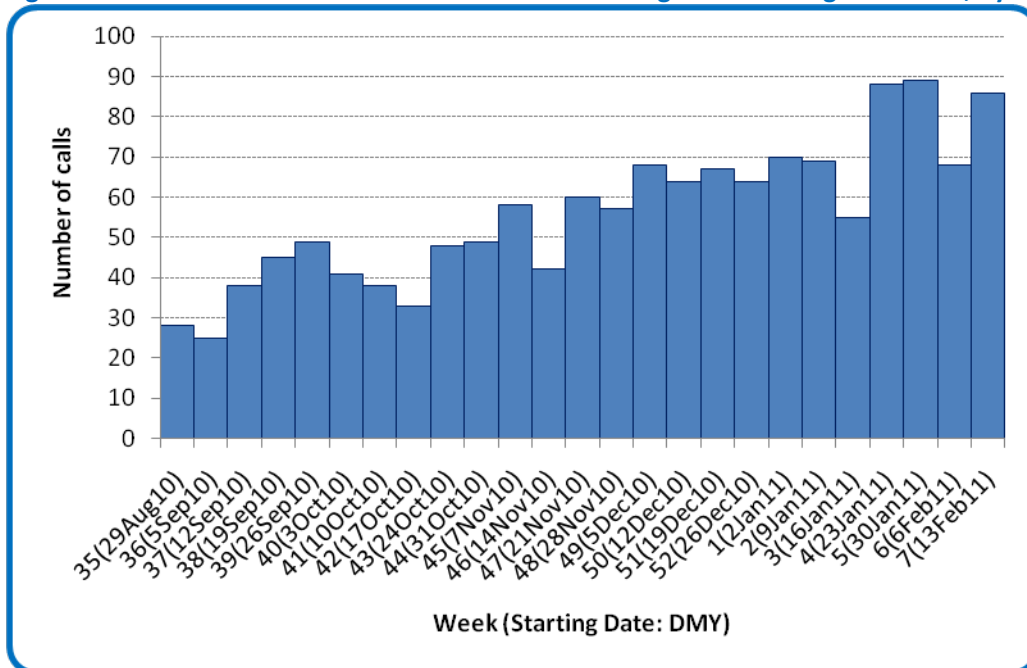
Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

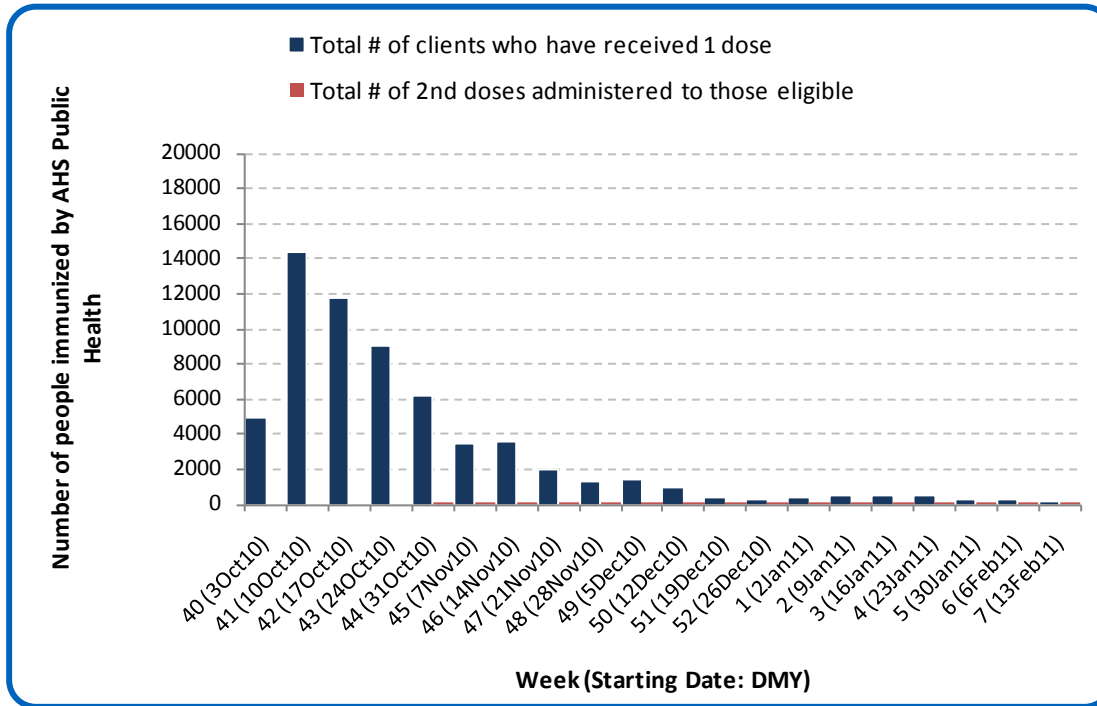
Figure 6E: Number of calls to Health Link Alberta for cough or breathing difficulties, by week, North Zone (2010-11)



Source: Sharp Focus - Health Link Alberta - via Alberta Real Time Syndromic Surveillance Net (ARTSSN) as of 23:59 on Feb 19, 2011. For more information on data definitions and sources see [Annex: Data Notes section at the end of this report](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

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](#)

[Back to start of section](#)

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

Priority Group	# Immunized (Week 7 – Feb 13-19, 2011)	Cumulative Number Immunized (since Oct 3, 2010)
Long term care staff	0	812
Health care workers	3	4,676
Pregnant women	3	563
Residents of long term care	0	1,248
65 years of age and over	13	15,777
All children 6 months up to and including 23 months*	Dose #1	38
	Dose #2	39
All children 24 months up to and including 59 months*	Dose #1	16
	Dose #2	4
High risk: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	5
	Dose #2	1
High risk: 9 years up to and including 64 years	20	7,773
Healthy: 5 years up to and including 8 years*	Dose #1	8
	Dose #2	0
Healthy: 9 years up to and including 64 years	80	23,291
Total number of clients who have received 1 dose	186	62,363
Total number of 2nd doses administered to those eligible*	44	970

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: February 23, 2011

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

[Back to start of section](#)

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](#)

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

ANNEX: DATA NOTES

[Back to first page](#)

LABORATORY

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

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

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

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

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

INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS

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

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

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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

OUTBREAKS

[Back to first page](#)

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

INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATIONS

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

POPULATION NUMBERS

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

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

SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH STATUS ASSESSMENT

Public Health Surveillance

Report Date: February 23, 2011

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