

2009-2010 Influenza Season

(August 30, 2009 – present)

Utah Public Health

Situation Report

12/02/09

Updated Wednesdays at: <http://health.utah.gov/epi/h1n1flu/>



Status summary as of Saturday, November 28:

Note: Data in this report is from Sunday to Saturday, November 22, 2009 to November 28, 2009.

Utah:

Circulation:

- The indicator used by public health to measure the circulation of influenza in the community is influenza-like illness (ILI) as reported by sentinel clinics. (An ILI sentinel clinic is a clinic that reports to public health the percentage of patient visits seen for influenza-like illnesses).
- Influenza is currently circulating at a level that is typical for what is seen during regular flu seasons, but is slightly higher than what is usually expected for this time of the year. At this time ILI activity appears to have decreased for the fifth consecutive week, but is still above the statewide epidemic threshold of 1.1%.
- For the past week (MMWR week 47), the ILI rate for Utah is 2.63% (down from 3.06% last week).
 - This value is above the ILI outbreak threshold of 1.1%.
 - ILI is down for the fifth consecutive week.

Severity:

- The severity of an influenza outbreak (epidemic or pandemic) is measured by the number of influenza infections that result in hospitalization or death. To date, severity for the 2009 H1N1 Pandemic is comparable to or slightly greater than the severity seen during regular flu seasons.
- At this time there is no evidence that severity for the 2009 H1N1 Pandemic is changing.
- A total of **807** influenza-associated hospitalizations (IAHs) (due to both seasonal and 2009 pandemic (H1N1) strains) have been reported to public health this influenza season. This is **37** more than reported last week (last week's total IAHs was **770**). Of the **37** IAHs reported this week, **11** occurred within this last reporting week (11/22/09 to 11/28/09), and **26** occurred prior to that but were not reported to public health until this week. In some instances reporting lag times exist from the time the hospitalization occurs to when it is reported to public health.

2009 Pandemic A (H1N1) deaths:

- The severity measure listed above is for influenza caused by all strains (regular seasonal flu and the 2009 Pandemic A (H1N1)). In addition, Utah

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is collecting data on patient deaths (whether hospitalized or not) known to have been related to the 2009 Pandemic A (H1N1) strain.

- A total of **22** deaths related to 2009 Pandemic A (H1N1) have been reported to public health this influenza season. This is **two** more than reported last week. Of the **two** deaths reported this week, **one** died within the last reporting week (11/22/09 to 11/28/09) and **one** died prior to 11/22/09, but it was reported this past reporting week. For more information regarding these deaths, please refer to the Local Health District.
- Deaths not previously reported:
 - 1 in Weber-Morgan Health District
 - 1 female, age 5-24 (died within the last reporting week)
 - 1 in Southwest Utah Health District
 - 1 female, age 50-64 (died prior to this last reporting week)

Circulating strains:

Laboratory data reported from 11/22/09 to 11/28/09 shows that 77 total specimens were tested at the Utah Public Health Laboratory for the presence of influenza. Of the 77 tested, 12 (15.6%) were positive for influenza A. Of the 12 positive for influenza A, 11 (91.7%) were 2009 Pandemic A (H1N1) and one (8.3%) was for seasonal influenza A (H1).

- 100 % Influenza A:
 - 91.7% were 2009 Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1)
 - 8.3% were seasonal A (H1)
 - 0% were seasonal A (H3)
 - 0% subtyping not performed
 - 0% unable to subtype
- 0% Influenza B

National/international surveillance:

- Influenza illness is ongoing in the U.S. At this time, national ILI levels are above national baseline levels and are higher than what is expected during this time of year.
- During the past week, widespread influenza activity was reported in 32 states, with regional influenza activity being reported in 17 states (see map below).
- Nationally, the proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) during the past week was 8.2%, which is above the epidemic

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This antiviral susceptibility profile is compiled by CDC and represents strains identified since September 1, 2009.

	Samples tested	% resistant to Oseltamivir	Samples tested	% resistant to Zanamivir
2009 Pandemic A (H1N1)	1,409	0.9%	402	0%
Seasonal A (H1N1)	0	0	0	0
Seasonal A (H3N2)	5	0	0	0
Influenza B	1	0	0	0

2009 Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1) Vaccine Information:

- Utah has been allocated 92,500 doses of vaccine to order this week. When that order arrives, Utah will have received a total of 625,000 doses.
- 2009 Pandemic A H1N1 vaccine continues to arrive in weekly shipments and vaccine is still in limited supply. Check with your Local Health Department or designated health care provider to find out what type of vaccine they have available and to whom they are giving it. Visit <http://www.ualhd.org/Department/Department.htm> for a list of local health department websites.
- New: 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine - Administration with Seasonal Influenza and Other Vaccines. Chart available at: http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/vaccine_admin.html
- New: 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine - Dose Spacing for Children 6 Months through 9 Years of Age. Chart available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/dosespaceing.html>
- New: 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Dose Spacing and Administration with Seasonal Influenza and Other Vaccines. Chart available at: http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/dosespaceing_admin.html
- Currently, all health departments are vaccinating the recommended priority groups. As the H1N1 vaccine supply continues to improve, vaccination may be expanded to other groups. Check with your local health department to determine which groups are currently eligible for vaccination in your county.

Guidance:

New CDC guidance available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/whatsnew.htm>

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- New: CDC Guidance for Emergency Shelters for the 2009-2010 Flu Season. This updated guidance provides detailed recommendations for emergency shelters on planning, staffing, and arranging the shelter to reduce the risk of influenza transmission (posted Tuesday, November 24, 2009).
- Update: 2009 H1N1 Monovalent Influenza Vaccine Dosage, Administration, and Storage. This document has been revised to include updated information related to FDA approval of the GSK 2009 H1N1 monovalent influenza vaccine to be used in persons ages 18 years old and older and the expanded use of CSL 2009 H1N1 monovalent influenza vaccine to younger age groups (posted Tuesday, November 24, 2009).
- Update: 2009 H1N1 Influenza: Resources for Pharmacists. This updated information includes new information on antiviral availability and additional information that may be useful for pharmacists working in both outpatient and inpatient settings (posted Wednesday, November 25, 2009).
- Update: Interim Guidance for Management of Influenza-Like Illness aboard Commercial Aircraft during the 2009-10 Influenza Season. This provides updated guidance for the management of influenza-like illness (ILI) before, during and after a flight, including personal protective measures for the crew, and reporting of ILI to CDC Quarantine Stations (posted Tuesday, December 1, 2009).
- NEW: Caregiver Instruction Sheet: Opening and Mixing Tamiflu® Capsules with Liquids if Child Cannot Swallow Capsules. This provides instructions for caregivers on how to open and mix Tamiflu® capsules with a thick sweetened liquid for children who cannot swallow capsules (posted Tuesday, December 1, 2009).
- Alert: Fraudulent emails referencing CDC-sponsored State Vaccination Program. CDC has received reports of fraudulent emails (phishing) referencing a CDC sponsored State Vaccination Program. Please follow this link (http://www.cdc.gov/hoaxes_rumors.html) to read more about these fraudulent emails (Posted Wednesday, December 2, 2009).

Pre-Hospital Influenza A (H1N1) Data:

- The UDOH daily receives data from Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers in the State. Included in the data are primary patient symptoms, primary impressions of paramedics and medical technicians of the patients, and other surveillance indicators for flu-like illness. This week, rates for pre-hospital influenza-like illness symptoms, impressions and indicators

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have slightly increased since last week. The overall trend for the past few weeks is still an overall decrease in these factors.

Hospital Data:

- Utah hospitals reported a statewide total of 1,902 available, staffed hospital beds. This is 13 less than last week, and 15 more than the previous week. There are a total of 5,840 licensed hospital beds in the state.
- Utah hospitals reported that 423 staffed ventilators were available this week. This is 8 more than the previous week. 348 pediatric capable ventilators were reported as available this week. This is 5 more than the previous week.
- Hospitals reported 28 patients on rescue therapies*, such as ventilators, which is 5 less than the previous week. Fifty is the highest number reported since reporting began on October 7, 2009.

*All causes for rescue therapies included, not just influenza like illness.

In the News:

- Many stories continue to run in local and statewide newspapers and television stations regarding the H1N1 flu and vaccine. No major rumors or incorrect information has been detected this week.
- CDC has received reports of fraudulent emails (phishing) referencing a CDC sponsored State Vaccination Program. The messages request that users must create a personal H1N1 (swine flu) Vaccination Profile on the cdc.gov website. The message then states that anyone that has reached the age of 18 has to have his/her personal Vaccination Profile on the cdc.gov site. The CDC has NOT implemented a state vaccination program requiring registration on www.cdc.gov. Users that click on the email are at risk of having malicious code installed on their system. CDC reminds users to take the following steps to reduce the risk of being a victim of a phishing attack:
 - Do not follow unsolicited links and do not open or respond to unsolicited email messages.
 - Use caution when visiting un-trusted websites.
 - Use caution when entering personal information online.
- The Washington Post has also posted an article in reference to the scam. http://voices.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2009/12/cdc_swine_flu_vaccine_scam.html