



# MI FluFocus

## Influenza Surveillance and Avian Influenza Update

Bureau of Epidemiology  
Bureau of Laboratories



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### New updates in this issue:

- **Michigan Surveillance:** Influenza-like illness activity continues at expected levels.
- **National Surveillance:** Overall activity continues to be low; 13 states report sporadic activity.
- **Avian Influenza:** A new avian influenza outbreak confirmed in Laos.

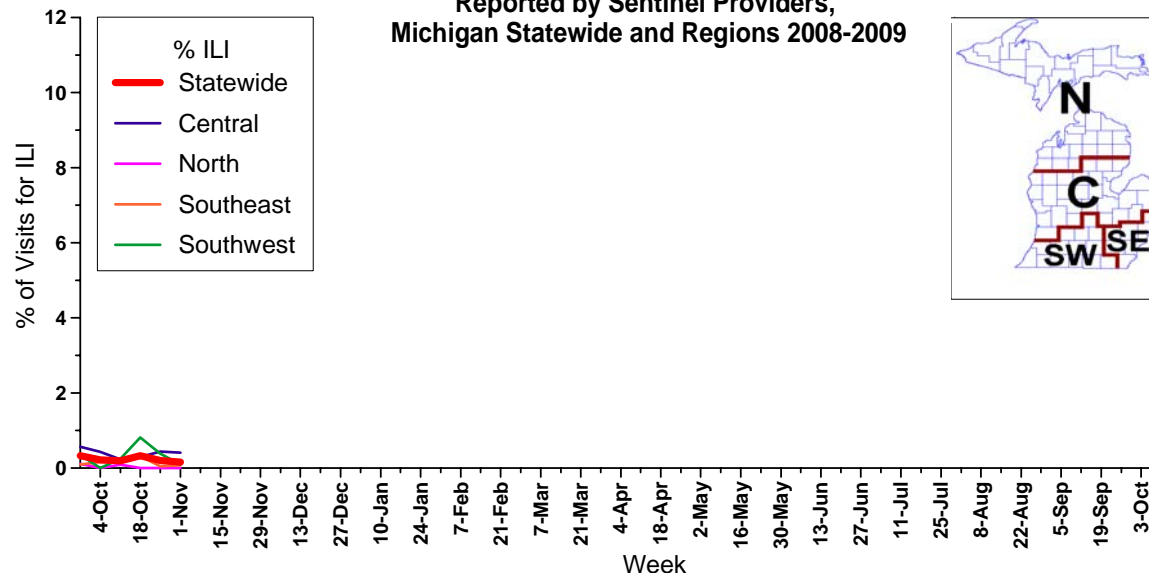
**Michigan Disease Surveillance System:** The week ending November 1 saw both individual influenza and aggregate flu-like disease reports remain steady near last week's levels. Individual reports are consistent with levels seen at this time last year, while aggregate numbers are slightly lower.

**Emergency Department Surveillance:** Emergency department visits from both respiratory and constitutional complaints remained steady near last week's levels. Respiratory complaints are consistent with numbers seen this time last year, while constitutional complaints are slightly lower. Six constitutional alerts in the C(2), SE(2) and SW(2) Influenza Surveillance Regions and thirteen respiratory alerts in the C(4), N(4), SE(1) and SW(4) Influenza Surveillance Regions were generated last week.

**Over-the-Counter Product Surveillance:** Overall, OTC product sales were steady last week. Children's electrolytes overall saw a slight increase from last week's numbers, but the unpromoted sales remained unchanged. Indicator levels are comparable to those seen at this time last year.

**Sentinel Provider Surveillance (as of November 6):** During the week ending November 1, 2008, the proportion of visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) remained at a low level, 0.2%; 15 patient visits due to ILI were reported out of 9,490 office visits. This level of ILI activity is consistent with that reported in early fall during prior years' surveillance. Twenty-six sentinels provided data for this report. Note that these rates may change as additional reports are received.

Percentage of Visits for Influenza-like Illness (ILI)  
Reported by Sentinel Providers,  
Michigan Statewide and Regions 2008-2009



As part of pandemic influenza preparedness, CDC and MDCH highly encourage year-round participation from all sentinel providers. New practices are encouraged to join the sentinel surveillance program today! Contact Rachel Potter at 517-335-9710 or [potterr1@michigan.gov](mailto:potterr1@michigan.gov) for more information.

**Laboratory Surveillance (as of November 6):** No new influenza isolates were identified at the MDCH Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) during the past week. For the 2008-2009 influenza season, no influenza isolates have been identified at MDCH BOL.

\*\*\*As a reminder, the positive predictive value of influenza rapid tests decreases during times of low influenza prevalence. MDCH suggests that during periods of low influenza activity in your community, all positive rapid tests results be confirmed by sending in a specimen for viral culture; this can be arranged through your local health department.

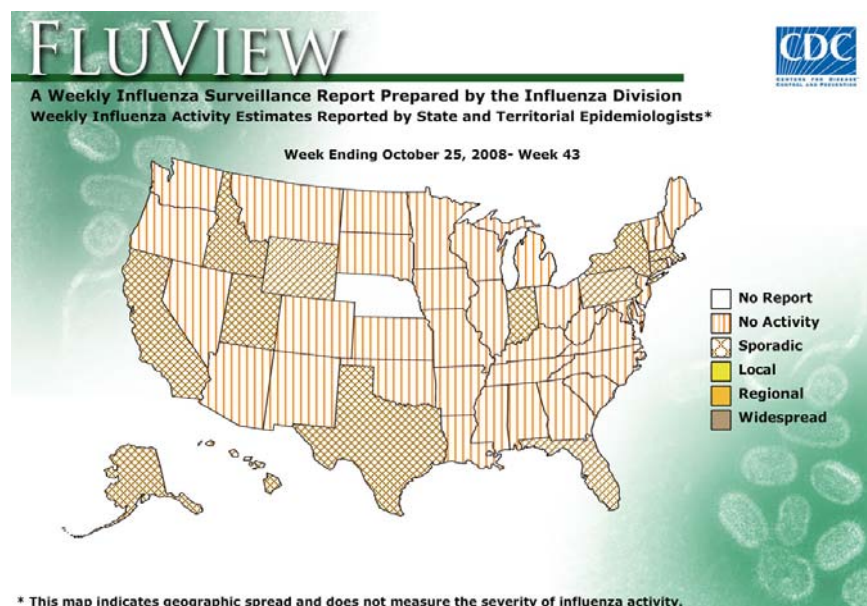
**Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality (as of November 6):** No influenza-associated pediatric mortalities have been reported to MDCH for the 2008-2009 influenza season.

\*\*\*The CDC has asked all states to collect information on any pediatric death associated with influenza infection. This includes not only any death in a child (<18 years) resulting from a compatible illness confirmed to be influenza by an appropriate diagnostic test, but also any unexplained death with evidence of an infectious process in a child. Please immediately call MDCH to ensure that proper clinical specimens are obtained. View the complete MDCH protocol online at [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/ME\\_pediatric\\_influenza\\_guidance\\_v2\\_214270\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/ME_pediatric_influenza_guidance_v2_214270_7.pdf).

**Congregate Settings Outbreaks (as of November 6):** No congregate setting outbreaks due to influenza have been reported to MDCH for the 2008-2009 influenza season.

**National (CDC [edited], October 31):** During week 43 (October 19-25, 2008), a low level of influenza activity was reported in the United States. Five (0.4%) specimens tested by U.S. World Health Organization (WHO) and National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) collaborating laboratories, and reported to CDC/Influenza Division, were positive for influenza. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the epidemic threshold. The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was below national and region-specific baseline levels. Thirteen states and Puerto Rico reported sporadic influenza activity; 36 states and the District of Columbia reported no influenza activity; and one state did not report.

To access the entire CDC weekly surveillance report throughout the influenza season, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>



**International (WHO, October 23):** During the weeks 41-42, overall influenza activity in the southern hemisphere continued to decline. Activity was low in the rest of the world.

China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. A decline in the activity of influenza A(H3) and A(H1) viruses was observed, with influenza A(H3) predominating. Also, a B/Victoria lineage virus was detected.

Between weeks 41 to 42, sporadic influenza activity was detected in Chile (B), the Russian Federation (H1,H3,B) , the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (H1, H3), and the United States of America (A,B).

Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Honduras, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Latvia, Mongolia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland reported no influenza activity.

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MDCH reported **NO INFLUENZA ACTIVITY** to the CDC for the week ending November 1, 2008.

For stakeholders interested in additional information regarding influenza vaccination and education, the MDCH publication *Michigan FluBytes* is available online at [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2940\\_2955\\_22779\\_40563-125027--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2940_2955_22779_40563-125027--,00.html). *FluBytes* is published weekly during the influenza season.

## **End of Seasonal Report**

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### **Avian Influenza Activity**

**WHO Pandemic Phase:** Phase 3 - Human infection(s) with a new subtype, but no human-to-human spread or rare instances of spread to a close contact.

**International, Poultry (Xinhua News, November 4):** A bird flu outbreak has been confirmed in Donngeun village, Xayaboury district of Xayaboury province of Laos, Lao newspaper Vientiane Times reported on Tuesday, citing Xayaboury district governor Phompan Souththivohaneas saying.

The Xayaboury Provincial Avian Influenza Control Committee has declared a red zone which covers areas within one kilometer radius of the outbreak. This area includes the seven villages, said Phompan on Monday. All birds in these villages will be slaughtered to prevent the virus from spreading and the movement, consumption and sale of birds throughout the district has been banned until further notice. This ban also includes products made with the blood of poultry.

A yellow zone will be established to include villages that are outside the red zone, but within five kilometers of the outbreak. Villagers in the yellow zone will be advised to destroy birds at the first sign of illness, without waiting to have them tested for the virus.

Phompan said the district public health office was cooperating with the provincial public health department to monitor people's health, particularly those living in the red zone.

Checkpoints have also been established throughout the district to prevent the movement of poultry. These checkpoints will remain in place until 45 days after the last case of the virus is identified.

**Michigan Wild Bird Surveillance (USDA, as of November 6):** For the 2008 testing season, 1260 Michigan samples have been taken so far, comprised of 324 live birds, 554 hunter-killed birds, 32 morbidity or mortality samples and 350 environmental samples.

HPAI subtype H5N1 has not been recovered from any Michigan samples tested to date, or from the 54,461 birds or environmental samples tested nationwide for the 2008 testing season, which will run from April 1, 2008 - March 31, 2009. For more information, visit the National HPAI Early Detection Data System website at <http://wildlifedisease.nh.gov/ai/>.

To learn about avian influenza surveillance in Michigan wild birds or to report dead waterfowl, go to Michigan's Emerging Disease website at <http://www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases>.

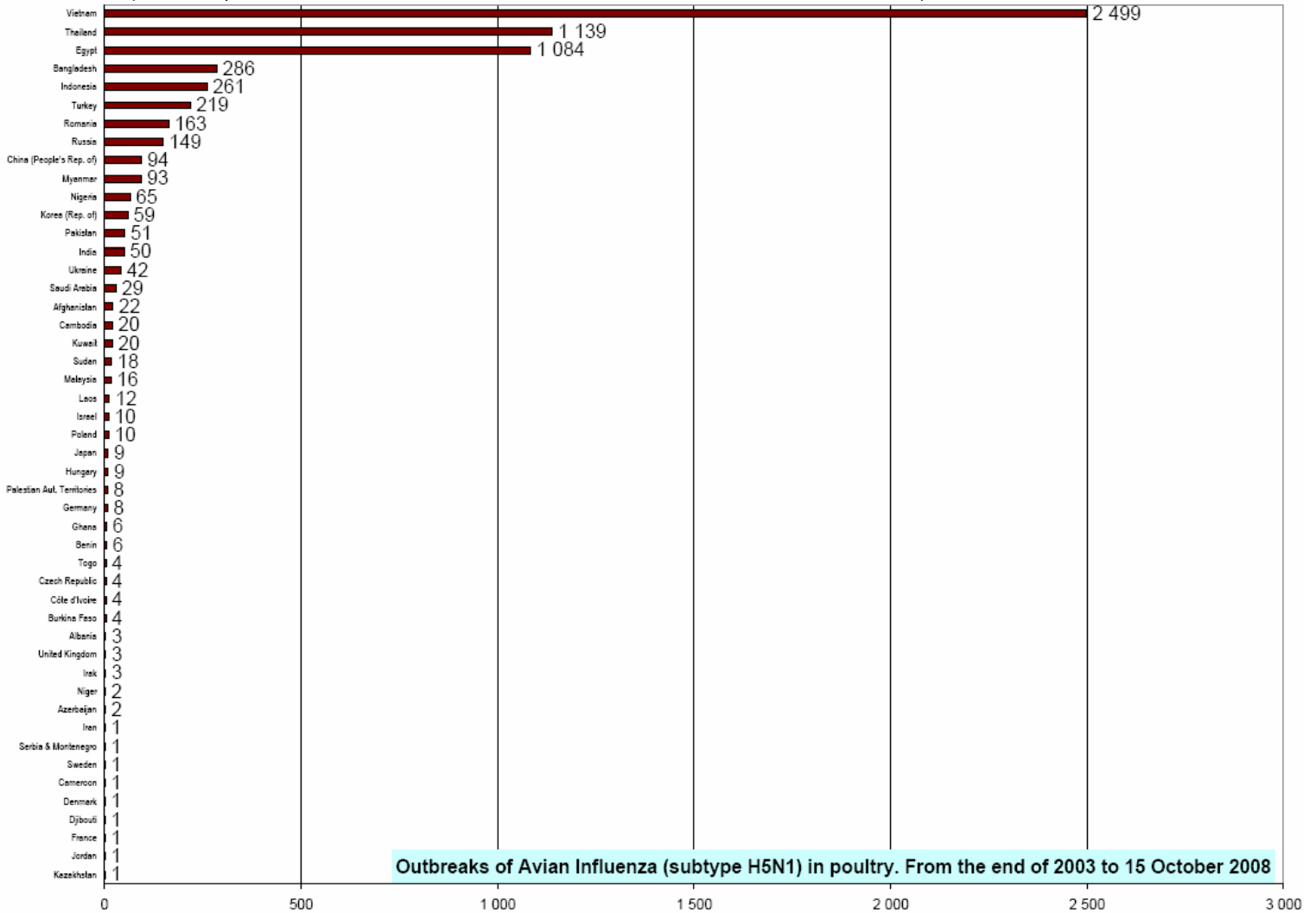
**Please contact Susan Vagasky at [VagaskyS@Michigan.gov](mailto:VagaskyS@Michigan.gov) with any questions regarding this newsletter or to be added to the weekly electronic mailing list.**

**Contributors**

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**Table 1. H5N1 Influenza in Poultry (Outbreaks up to October 15, 2008)**

(Source: [http://www.oie.int/downld/AVIAN%20INFLUENZA/A\\_AI-Asia.htm](http://www.oie.int/downld/AVIAN%20INFLUENZA/A_AI-Asia.htm) Downloaded 10/16/08)



**Table 2. H5N1 Influenza in Humans (Cases up to September 10, 2008)**

([http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian\\_influenza/country/cases\\_table\\_2008\\_09\\_10/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/country/cases_table_2008_09_10/en/index.html) Downloaded 9/10/2008)

Cumulative number of lab-confirmed human cases reported to WHO. Total number of cases includes deaths.

Country	2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		Total	
	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths
Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	5	0	0	0	0	8	5
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Cambodia	0	0	0	0	4	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	7	7
China	1	1	0	0	8	5	13	8	5	3	3	3	30	20
Djibouti	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	10	25	9	7	3	50	22
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	20	13	55	45	42	37	20	17	137	112
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	3	2
Lao PDR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2
Myanmar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Pakistan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	3	1
Thailand	0	0	17	12	5	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	25	17
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	4	0	0	0	0	12	4
Viet Nam	3	3	29	20	61	19	0	0	8	5	5	5	106	52
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>245</b>