

Ontario Influenza Bulletin

Mid-Summer Edition**Vol. 8, Issue 13 Weeks 29 - 30 (July 17 – July 30, 2005)**

Introduction

The current issue of the Ontario Influenza Bulletin summarizes influenza activity during weeks 29 - 30. It covers the time period from July 17 to July 30, 2005.

Influenza activity continued to decline in Ontario during weeks 29 - 30. All regions in Ontario reported no activity in weeks 29 and 30, while British Columbia (weeks 29 and 30), Saskatchewan (week 29) and Alberta (weeks 29 and 30) reported sporadic activity. Other regions in the rest of the country experienced no activity in weeks 29 and 30.

Influenza Activity in Ontario

During the period of influenza surveillance between July 17 and July 30, 2005 (reporting weeks 29-30), no laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza A or B were reported by Ontario laboratories to the Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control (CIDPC). Throughout this period there were no cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), 23 cases of para-influenza virus (PIV) and 5 cases of adenoviruses, all of which were laboratory-confirmed (Appendix 1).

Including late reports, a total of 3,836 influenza A, 1,309 influenza B, 2,846 RSV, 877 PIV and 413 adenoviruses were reported to the CIDPC between August 22, 2004 and July 30, 2005.

Integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS)

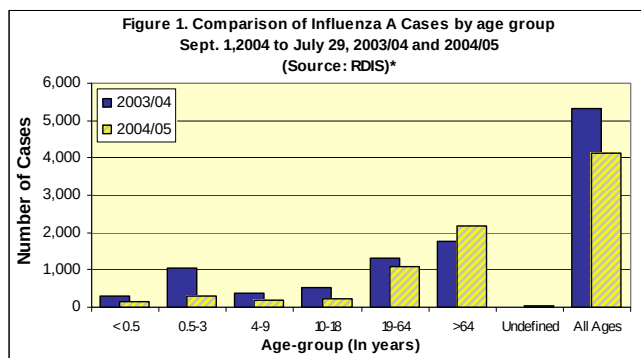
Between July 17 and July 30, 2005, there were no new cases of cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza A or B reported to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) through iPHIS by 28 of Ontario's health units. Please note that three other health units including County of Lambton, Chatham- Kent Health unit and Windsor – Essex began reporting using iPHIS on July 18, 2005. Appendix 2a reflects the number of influenza cases reported by each health unit through iPHIS since their Go-live date.

Reportable Disease Information System (RDIS)

Between July 16 and July 29, 2005, no laboratory - confirmed sporadic cases of influenza A or B were reported to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) through RDIS by 8 of Ontario's health units.

The total number of lab-confirmed cases of influenza A and B reported between September 1, 2004 and July 15, 2005 were 4,122 and 1,250, respectively (Appendix 2b). The total number of influenza A is more than two thirds (77.4%) of the total number of cases for all age groups in same period of time for last season

(Figure 1).



* Includes laboratory confirmed cases only

Institutional Respiratory Infection Outbreaks

From July 17 to July 30, 2005, nine respiratory infection outbreaks were reported by Ontario's health units to the MOHLTC (Appendix 3). None of the reports were due to influenza A or B. One laboratory-confirmed outbreak was due to parainfluenza virus. Six identified outbreaks reported no causative organism/s. Note that the laboratory result for two outbreaks was pending by end of week 30. Almost 89% (8/9) of respiratory infection outbreaks in weeks 29 and 30 occurred in Long-Term Care Homes.

(Source: Appendix D's-preliminary reports and E's-final reports)

Taken together, data from the CIDPC, RDIS, iPHIS and the Respiratory Infection Outbreak Database indicated comparatively lower activity in Ontario during the period from July 17 to July 30, 2005 than from July 3 19 to July 16, 2005.

Influenza Activity in Canada

A summary of influenza activity in Canada as reported in FluWatch is provided below.

No Influenza activity continued to be reported in most part of the country during weeks 29 and 30, covering July 17 to July 30, 2005 (Table 1). Sporadic influenza activity was reported in parts of British Columbia (weeks 29 and 30), Saskatchewan (week 29) and Alberta (week 30).

In Ontario, No influenza activity reported by all regions during weeks 29 and 30 (Table 2).

The number of patients with influenza-like illness (ILI) seen by sentinel physicians in Canada from July 17 to July 30, 2005 was reported as 1/1,000 office visits.

Additional information on influenza activity in Canada can be found at:

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>

In Ontario, the rate of ILI seen by sentinel physicians ranged from 1.20 per 1,000 office visits (week 30 ending July 30, 2005) to 2.29 per 1,000 office visits (week 29, ending July 23, 2005).

Table 1: Influenza activity in Canada by Province, July 17 to July 30, 2005 (Weeks 29 to 30).

Province	Week 29 July 17-23, 2005	Week 30 July 24-30, 2005
Ontario	1	1
Newfoundland	1	1
Prince Edward Isl.	1	1
Nova Scotia	1	1
New Brunswick	1	1
Quebec	1	1
Manitoba	1	1
Saskatchewan	1-2	1
Alberta	1	1-2
British Columbia	1-2	1-2

Table 2: Influenza activity in Ontario by Region, July 17 to July 30, 2005 (Weeks 29 to 30).

Region	Week 29 July 17-23, 2005	Week 30 July 24-30, 2005
Ontario	1	1
East	1	1
Central East	1	1
Central West	1	1
South West	1	1
North	1	1

Strain Characterization

A total of 1,085 influenza viruses were characterized by National Microbiology Lab between August 22, 2004 and June 18, 2005. Of these, 886 cases were identified as influenza A (H3N2), including 58.1% (515/886) of A/Fujian/411/02-like. Since February 17, 2005; 371 isolates were identified as A/California/7/04. For the same period of time 199 influenza B isolates, (159 were B/Shanghai/361/02-like viruses and 40 B/Hong Kong/330/01-like viruses) were also identified (table 3).

Table 3: Influenza strains identified by the NML
August 22, 2004 to July 2, 2005

Strain	No. (%)
A/Fujian/411/02-like virus	515 (47.5)
A/California/7/04-like virus	371 (34.2)
B/Shanghai/361/02-like virus	159 (14.6)
B/Hong Kong/330/01-like virus	40 (3.7)

Please note that NML has suspended antigenic characterization for the summer as of June 4, 2005.

Appendix 1. Respiratory viruses isolated and reported to the CIDPC, July 17 to July 30, 2005 (2004/05 Season)

Organism	Influenza Viruses			Other Respiratory Viruses						
	A & B	A	B	RSV	PIV1	PIV2	PIV3	PIV4	Other PIVs	Adenoviruses
Total until July 16, 2005 (Week 28)	[5145]	[3836]	[1309]	[2846]	[201]	[38]	[590]	[16]	[9]	[408]
Week ending July 23, 2005 (week 29)	0[5145]	0[3836]	0[1309]	0[2846]	6[207]	0[38]	4[594]	0[16]	0[9]	3[411]
Week ending July 30, 2005 (week 30)	1[5145]	0[3836]	0[1309]	0[2846]	7[214]	1[39]	5[599]	0[16]	0[9]	2[413]
Number of late reports, from August 22, 2004 to July 30, 2005	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Total number of isolates, August 22, 2004 to July 30, 2005*	[5145]	[3836]	[1309]	[2846]	[214]	[39]	[599]	[16]	[9]	[413]

[] Accumulative numbers from August 22, 2004

* Late reports are included

Appendix 2a. Weekly Lab-Confirmed Cases of Influenza by Health unit, week 29 - 30 (Source: iPHIS)

Health Unit	Week 29, July 17 - 23, 2005			Week 30, July 24 – July 30, 2005		
	Undefined type±	Influenza A	Influenza B	Undefined type±	Influenza A	Influenza B
Algoma	[1]	[0]	[0]	[1]	[0]	[0]
Grey-Bruce	[3]	[10]	[2]	[3]	[10]	[2]
Simcoe - Muskoka	[0]	[11]	[9]	[0]	[11]	[9]
Thunder Bay	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Sudbury	[0]	[0]	[3]	[0]	[0]	[3]
North Bay - Parry Sound	[2]	[0]	[3]	[2]	[0]	[3]
Northwestern	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Wellington - Dufferin - Guelph	[24]	[0]	[0]	[24]	[0]	[0]
Brant	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Waterloo	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Haldimand-Norfolk	[0]	[0]	[16]	[0]	[0]	[16]
Hamilton	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Elgin – St. Thomas	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Middlesex – London	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Perth	[1]	[0]	[0]	[1]	[0]	[0]
Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Leeds, Grenville and Lanark	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Huron County	[1]	[0]	[0]	[1]	[0]	[0]
Eastern Ontario	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Porcupine	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Timiskaming	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Peterborough	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
York	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Haliburton - Kawartha Pine Ridge	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Hastings and P.E. Counties	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
County of Lambton*	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Chatham- Kent Health unit*	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Windsor – Essex*	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Total	0 [33]	0 [21]	0 [33]	0 [33]	0 [21]	0 [33]

[] Cumulative number from Go-live date ,2005

* Reporting to iPHIS from July 18, 2005

± Type of influenza, i.e. A vs B, was not specified in iPHIS (i.e. Influenza subtype dropdown menu left blank or reported as unspecified)

Please note that these data are preliminary and subject to change

Appendix 2b. Weekly Lab-Confirmed Cases of Influenza by Health unit, week 29 - 30 (Source: RDIS)

Health Unit	Week 29, July 16 - 22, 2005		Weeks 30, July 23 - 29, 2005	
	Influenza A	Influenza B	Influenza A	Influenza B
Algoma	[53]	[3]	[53]	[3]
Brant	[58]	[11]	[58]	[11]
Chatham – Kent *	[48]	[3]	[48]	[3]
Durham	[120]	[66]	[120]	[66]
Eastern Ontario	[89]	[26]	[89]	[26]
Elgin - St. Thomas	[5]	[0]	[5]	[0]
Grey-Bruce	[45]	[11]	[45]	[11]
Haldimand - Norfolk	[32]	[10]	[32]	[10]
Haliburton KPR	[92]	[48]	[92]	[48]
Halton	[174]	[73]	[174]	[73]
Hamilton-Wentworth	[275]	[106]	[275]	[106]
Hasting – P.E	[95]	[19]	[95]	[19]
Huron	[50]	[5]	[50]	[5]
Kingston & FLA	[84]	[14]	[84]	[14]
Lambton *	[42]	[10]	[42]	[10]
Leeds - Grenville	[30]	[10]	[30]	[10]
Middlesex-London	[41]	[4]	[41]	[4]
Muskoka - Parry Sound**	[76]	[1]	[76]	[1]
Niagara	[113]	[28]	[113]	[28]
Northwest	[32]	[8]	[32]	[8]
North Bay - Parry Sound	[82]	[4]	[82]	[4]
Ottawa-Carleton	[220]	[48]	[220]	[48]
Oxford	[40]	[4]	[40]	[4]
Peel	[282]	[162]	[282]	[162]
Perth	[55]	[15]	[55]	[15]
Peterborough	[58]	[28]	[58]	[28]
Porcupine	[89]	[18]	[89]	[18]
Renfrew	[23]	[2]	[23]	[2]
Simcoe - Muskoka	[165]	[38]	[165]	[38]
Sudbury	[46]	[13]	[46]	[13]
Timiskaming	[48]	[2]	[48]	[2]
Thunder Bay	[20]	[4]	[20]	[4]
Toronto	[634]	[302]	[634]	[302]
Waterloo	[231]	[38]	[231]	[38]
Wellington - Dufferin - Guelph	[98]	[19]	[98]	[19]
Windsor – Essex *	[30]	[10]	[30]	[10]
York	[447]	[87]	[447]	[87]
Total	[4122]	[1250]	[4122]	[1250]

[] Cumulative number from September 1, 2004

* Reporting to iPHIS from July 18, 2005

** No longer exists as of April 1,

Appendix 3. Respiratory infection outbreaks in Institutions from July 17 to July 30, 2005				
Respiratory Infection Outbreaks	July 17 -23, 2005 (week 29)		July 24 - 30, 2005 (week 30)	
Total Respiratory Infection Outbreaks	7	[1006]*	2	[1008]*
Influenza A	0		0	
Influenza A & B	0		0	
Influenza A & other organism/s	0		0	
Influenza B	0		0	
Influenza B & other organism/s	0		0	
Other organisms	1		0	
No organism isolated	5		1	
Laboratory results pending	1		1	
No specimen sent for laboratory testing	0		0	
Ongoing Outbreaks	5		2	
Influenza A	0		0	
Influenza A & B	0		0	
Influenza A & other organism/s	0		0	
Influenza B	0		0	
Influenza B & other organism/s	0		0	
Other organisms	1		0	
No organism isolated	3		1	
Laboratory results pending	1		1	
No specimen sent for laboratory testing	0		0	
Types of Institutions				
LTCHs	7		1	
Hospitals	0		0	
Other±	0		1	
Total Outbreaks from September 1, 2004	[1106]#		[1110]#	

[] The number represents the total number of Institutional Outbreaks from the beginning of this season.

*Late reports are not included and subject to change # Late reports are included as of August 12, 2005

±Retirement Homes > 10 beds, children's residences, facilities operated under the *Developmental Services Act* etc.