

### SURVEILLANCE WEEK 38-39 (September 14, 2008– September 27, 2008)

This issue of the Ontario Influenza Bulletin provides information on the surveillance period from September 14, 2008-September 27, 2008, (Weeks 38&39). The analysis for this issue occurred on Thursday October 2, 2008, therefore all data is current to that date unless otherwise specified.

Overall, influenza activity in Ontario during weeks 38 & 39, 2008 was lower than weeks 36 & 37 2008. There was one confirmed case of influenza reported through iPHIS from health units. There were no new reports of institutional influenza outbreaks. For week 39, the majority of health regions reported no influenza activity, with the exception of Central East and Toronto, which had 'sporadic' level activity.

In Canada for weeks 37 & 38, influenza activity remained low with the majority of the influenza surveillance regions reporting 'no activity'. In week 38, 4 regions reported 'sporadic' influenza activity (in Ontario and Alberta) and 'localized' activity was reported in the region of Toronto. Note: No data was received from the Northwest Territories this week<sup>†</sup>

#### Institutional Outbreaks: Data Entry Reminder

Please ensure when entering confirmed institutional outbreaks using the iPHIS summary outbreak functionality, that the **total number of cases** is entered along with the aetiologic agent (if known) **within 1 business day of outbreak notification**. This enables us to provide you with the most accurate and timely description of influenza-like illness activity in Ontario.

For a definition of influenza-like illness (ILI) activity levels and links to websites providing current influenza information from other sources, please refer to the attached Appendix- I. If you would like to provide feedback on the Bulletin, please contact Christine D'Souza ([christine.dsouza1@ontario.ca](mailto:christine.dsouza1@ontario.ca), 416-212-5323) or Anne-Luise Winter ([anne-luise.winter@ontario.ca](mailto:anne-luise.winter@ontario.ca), 416-327-7301).

**Table 1: Summary of confirmed influenza cases and institutional influenza outbreaks by health region (Weeks 38 & 39, 2008).**

| Confirmed influenza cases*                | HEALTH REGION |            |         |              |         |            |              | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------|------------|---------|--------------|---------|------------|--------------|-------|
|                                           | North West    | North East | Eastern | Central East | Toronto | South West | Central West |       |
| Influenza A                               | 0             | 0          | 0       | 0            | 1       | 0          | 0            | 1     |
| Influenza B                               | 0             | 0          | 0       | 0            | 0       | 0          | 0            | 0     |
| Influenza A & B                           | 0             | 0          | 0       | 0            | 0       | 0          | 0            | 0     |
| <b>Total new cases</b>                    | 0             | 0          | 0       | 0            | 1       | 0          | 0            | 1     |
| <b>Institutional influenza outbreaks‡</b> | 0             | 0          | 0       | 0            | 1       | 0          | 0            | 1     |

**SOURCE:** Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, extracted [02/10/2008].

\* Includes reports of confirmed influenza through iPHIS, as well as cases in institutional outbreaks, with dates of onset in the surveillance period.

<sup>†</sup> These data have been obtained from the FluWatch report of the Public Health Agency of Canada for Weeks 37 & 38, 2008.

<sup>‡</sup> Confirmed outbreaks in institutions with onset date of symptoms during the surveillance period.

Table 2: Confirmed cases of influenza by health unit & health region, with an episode date<sup>†</sup> during Weeks 38 & 39, 2008

| Region       | Health Unit                             | Confirmed Influenza |             |          |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------|
|              |                                         | Influenza A         | Influenza B | TOTAL    |
| North West   | Northwestern                            | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Thunder Bay District                    | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL NORTH WEST</b>                 | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b> |
| North East   | Algoma                                  | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | North Bay Parry Sound District          | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Porcupine                               | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Sudbury & District                      | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Timiskaming                             | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL NORTH EAST</b>                 | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b> |
| Eastern      | City of Ottawa                          | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Eastern Ontario                         | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Hastings & Prince Edward Counties       | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Leeds, Grenville And Lanark District    | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Renfrew County And District             | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL EASTERN</b>                    | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b> |
| Central East | Durham Region                           | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge        | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Peel Region                             | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Peterborough County-City                | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Simcoe Muskoka District                 | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | York Region                             | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL CENTRAL EAST</b>               | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b> |
| Toronto      | Toronto                                 | 1                   | 0           | 1        |
|              | <b>TOTAL TORONTO</b>                    | <b>1</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>1</b> |
| South West   | Chatham-Kent                            | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Elgin-St. Thomas                        | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Grey Bruce                              | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Huron County                            | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Lambton County                          | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Middlesex-London                        | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Oxford County                           | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Perth District                          | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Windsor-Essex County                    | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL SOUTHWEST</b>                  | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b> |
| Central West | Brant County                            | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | City Of Hamilton                        | 1                   | 0           | 1        |
|              | Haldimand-Norfolk                       | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Halton Region                           | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Niagara Region                          | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | Waterloo Region                         | 0                   | 0           | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL CENTRAL WEST</b>               | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b> |
|              | <b>TOTAL ONTARIO</b>                    | <b>1</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>1</b> |

SOURCE: Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, extracted [02/10/2008].

<sup>†</sup> Episode Date for a case corresponds to the earliest date on record for the case according to the iPHIS hierarchy (Symptom Date > Clinical Diagnosis Date > Specimen Collection Date > Lab Test Date > Reported Date)

**Table 3: Cumulative\* confirmed cases of influenza by health unit & health region with an episode date<sup>†</sup> between September 1, 2007 – September 27, 2008**

| Region       | Health Unit                             | Confirmed Influenza |             |                 |          |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------|
|              |                                         | Influenza A         | Influenza B | Influenza A & B | TOTAL    |
| North West   | Northwestern                            | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Thunder Bay District                    | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL NORTH WEST</b>                 | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b> |
| North East   | Algoma                                  | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | North Bay Parry Sound District          | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Porcupine                               | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Sudbury & District                      | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Timiskaming                             | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL NORTH EAST</b>                 | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b> |
| Eastern      | City Of Ottawa                          | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Eastern Ontario                         | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Hastings & Prince Edward Counties       | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Leeds, Grenville And Lanark District    | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Renfrew County And District             | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL EASTERN</b>                    | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b> |
| Central East | Durham Region                           | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge        | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Peel Region                             | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Peterborough County-City                | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Simcoe Muskoka District                 | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | York Region                             | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL CENTRAL EAST</b>               | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b> |
| Toronto      | Toronto                                 | 3                   | 1           | 0               | 4        |
|              | <b>TOTAL TORONTO</b>                    | <b>3</b>            | <b>1</b>    | <b>0</b>        | <b>4</b> |
| South West   | Chatham-Kent                            | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Elgin-St. Thomas                        | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Grey Bruce                              | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Huron County                            | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Lambton County                          | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Middlesex-London                        | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Oxford County                           | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Perth District                          | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Windsor-Essex County                    | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL SOUTHWEST</b>                  | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b> |
| Central West | Brant County                            | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | City Of Hamilton                        | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Haldimand-Norfolk                       | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Halton Region                           | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Niagara Region                          | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Waterloo Region                         | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph              | 0                   | 0           | 0               | 0        |
|              | <b>TOTAL CENTRAL WEST</b>               | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b> |
|              | <b>TOTAL ONTARIO</b>                    | <b>3</b>            | <b>1</b>    | <b>0</b>        | <b>4</b> |

**SOURCE:** Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, extracted [02/10/2008].

\* Cumulative case counts include late reports and records that are otherwise reconciled. Therefore, cumulative counts may not equal new cases plus previous cumulative value.

<sup>†</sup> Episode Date for a case corresponds to the earliest date on record for the case according to the iPHIS hierarchy (Symptom Date > Clinical Diagnosis Date > Specimen Collection Date > Lab Test Date > Reported Date)

### Influenza Subtype(s):

During weeks 38 & 39, 1899 isolates were received by the Public Health Agency of Canada, with two testing positive for influenza A and two positive for influenza B. One reported influenza A isolate was from Quebec (50.0%) and the other was from Nova Scotia (50.0%). Among the reported influenza B isolates, one was from Ontario (50.0%) and one was from Alberta (50.0%).\*

### Antigenic Characterization:

The National Microbiology Laboratory (NML) has antigenically characterized one influenza B/Florida/4/2006 virus from Ontario, which is the influenza B component recommended for the 2008-09 influenza vaccine.\*\*

### Antiviral Resistance:

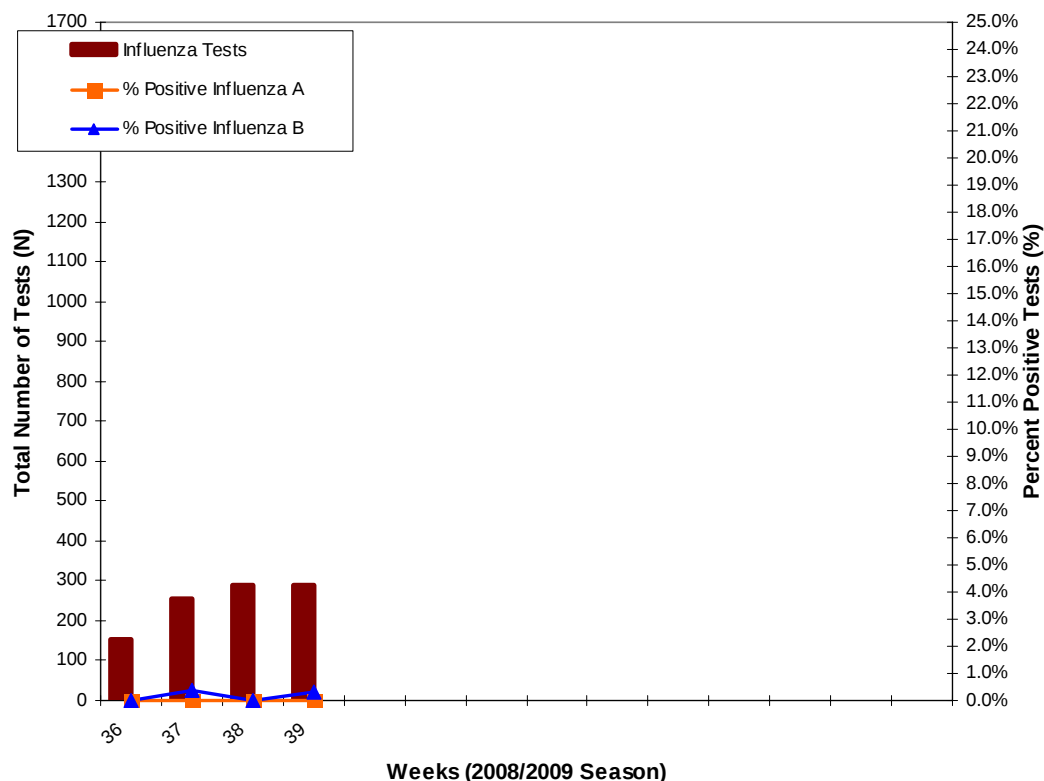
No antiviral resistance results were reported by the NML for the 2008-2009 influenza season.\*\*

The WHO recommends that the influenza vaccine to be used in the 2008-2009 season for the northern hemisphere contain the following: an A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1)-like virus; an A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2)-like virus; and a B/Florida/4/2006-like virus.  
[http://www.who.int/csr/disease/influenza/recommendations2008\\_9north/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/influenza/recommendations2008_9north/en/index.html)

\* These data have been obtained from the Respiratory Virus Detection tables of Public Health Agency of Canada and do not include data from late reports to PHAC: Weeks 38 & 39, 2008

\*\* These data have been obtained from the FluWatch report of the Public Health Agency of Canada for Weeks 37 & 38, 2008.

**Figure 1: Total number of influenza tests performed and percent of positive tests in Ontario reported to the Centre for Immunization and Respiratory Infectious Diseases (CIRID), by report week\*.**



Source: Public Health Agency of Canada

\* Total numbers reported include late reports; therefore totals may not be equal to the sum of the weekly numbers.

Note: Cumulative numbers for season to date are available through FluWatch: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>

**Table 4a: Institutional respiratory infection outbreaks in Ontario: New Outbreaks\* in Week 38 & 39 and Total Outbreaks for the Season\*\***

| <b>Institutional Respiratory Infection Outbreaks</b>                 |           |                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| <b>New Outbreaks*</b>                                                | <b>N</b>  | <b>% (of outbreaks)</b> |
| Influenza A                                                          | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Influenza B                                                          | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Influenza A and B                                                    | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Parainfluenza (All types)                                            | 0         | 0.0                     |
| RSV                                                                  | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Other organisms                                                      | 1         | 8.3                     |
| No organism identified                                               | 11        | 91.7                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                         | <b>12</b> | <b>100</b>              |
| <b>Total Respiratory Infection Outbreaks of the Season to date**</b> | <b>N</b>  | <b>% (of outbreaks)</b> |
| Influenza A                                                          | 1         | 3.9                     |
| Influenza B                                                          | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Influenza A and B                                                    | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Parainfluenza (All types)                                            | 1         | 3.9                     |
| RSV                                                                  | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Combined Outbreaks <sup>†</sup>                                      | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Other organisms                                                      | 2         | 7.7                     |
| No organism identified                                               | 22        | 84.6                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                         | <b>26</b> | <b>100</b>              |
| <b>Types of Institutions (All Outbreaks) **</b>                      | <b>N</b>  | <b>% (of outbreaks)</b> |
| Long-Term Care Homes                                                 | 14        | 53.9                    |
| Hospitals                                                            | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Retirement Homes                                                     | 1         | 3.9                     |
| Other                                                                | 0         | 0.0                     |
| Unknown                                                              | 11        | 42.3                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                         | <b>26</b> | <b>100</b>              |

**SOURCE:** Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, extracted [02/10/2008]

\* New outbreaks are those in which the date of onset of illness in the first case occurred and recorded through iPHIS in the current surveillance period; i.e. September 14, 2008 – September 27, 2008

\*\* Season to date includes all outbreaks in which the date of onset of illness in the first case occurred from September 1, 2007 – September 27, 2008

<sup>†</sup> Combined outbreaks include outbreaks in which more than one non-influenza organism has been identified (e.g. RSV, parainfluenza, rhinovirus, etc.)

**Table 4b: Outbreak Related Complications in institutional respiratory infection outbreaks in Ontario during the Surveillance Season\***

| <b>Outbreak Related Complications<br/>(All Outbreaks)</b>       | <b>N</b>   | <b>% (of total cases)</b>    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Total Cases</b>                                              |            |                              |
| Residents                                                       | 273        | 82.0                         |
| Patients                                                        | 0          | 0.0                          |
| Staff                                                           | 60         | 18.0                         |
| <b>Total Cases</b>                                              | <b>333</b> | <b>100</b>                   |
| <b>Deaths</b>                                                   |            | <b>% (of cases per role)</b> |
| Residents                                                       | 4          | 1.5                          |
| Patients                                                        | 0          | 0.0                          |
| Staff                                                           | 0          | 0.0                          |
| <b>Pneumonia (Chest x-ray confirmed)</b>                        |            | <b>% (of cases per role)</b> |
| Residents                                                       | 7          | 2.6                          |
| Patients                                                        | 0          | 0.0                          |
| Staff                                                           | 0          | 0.0                          |
| <b>Hospitalizations</b>                                         |            | <b>% (of cases per role)</b> |
| Residents                                                       | 14         | 5.1                          |
| Staff                                                           | 0          | 0.0                          |
| <b>Outbreak Related Complications<br/>(Influenza Outbreaks)</b> | <b>N</b>   | <b>% (of total cases)</b>    |
| <b>Total Cases</b>                                              |            |                              |
| Residents                                                       | 11         | 84.6                         |
| Patients                                                        | 0          | 0.0                          |
| Staff                                                           | 2          | 15.4                         |
| <b>Total Cases</b>                                              | <b>13</b>  | <b>100</b>                   |
| <b>Deaths</b>                                                   |            | <b>% (of cases per role)</b> |
| Residents                                                       | 0          | 0.0                          |
| Patients                                                        | 0          | 0.0                          |
| Staff                                                           | 0          | 0.0                          |
| <b>Pneumonia (Chest x-ray confirmed)</b>                        |            | <b>% (of cases per role)</b> |
| Residents                                                       | 2          | 18.2                         |
| Patients                                                        | 0          | 0.0                          |
| Staff                                                           | 0          | 0.0                          |
| <b>Hospitalizations</b>                                         |            | <b>% (of cases per role)</b> |
| Residents                                                       | 2          | 18.2                         |
| Staff                                                           | 0          | 0.0                          |

**SOURCE:** Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, extracted [02/10/2008]

\* Season to date includes all outbreaks in which the date of onset of illness in the first case occurred from September 1, 2007 – September 27, 2008

**Figure 2: Institutional respiratory infection outbreaks in Ontario by onset of illness in the first case: Total Outbreaks from September 1, 2007 – September 27, 2008 by causative organism**

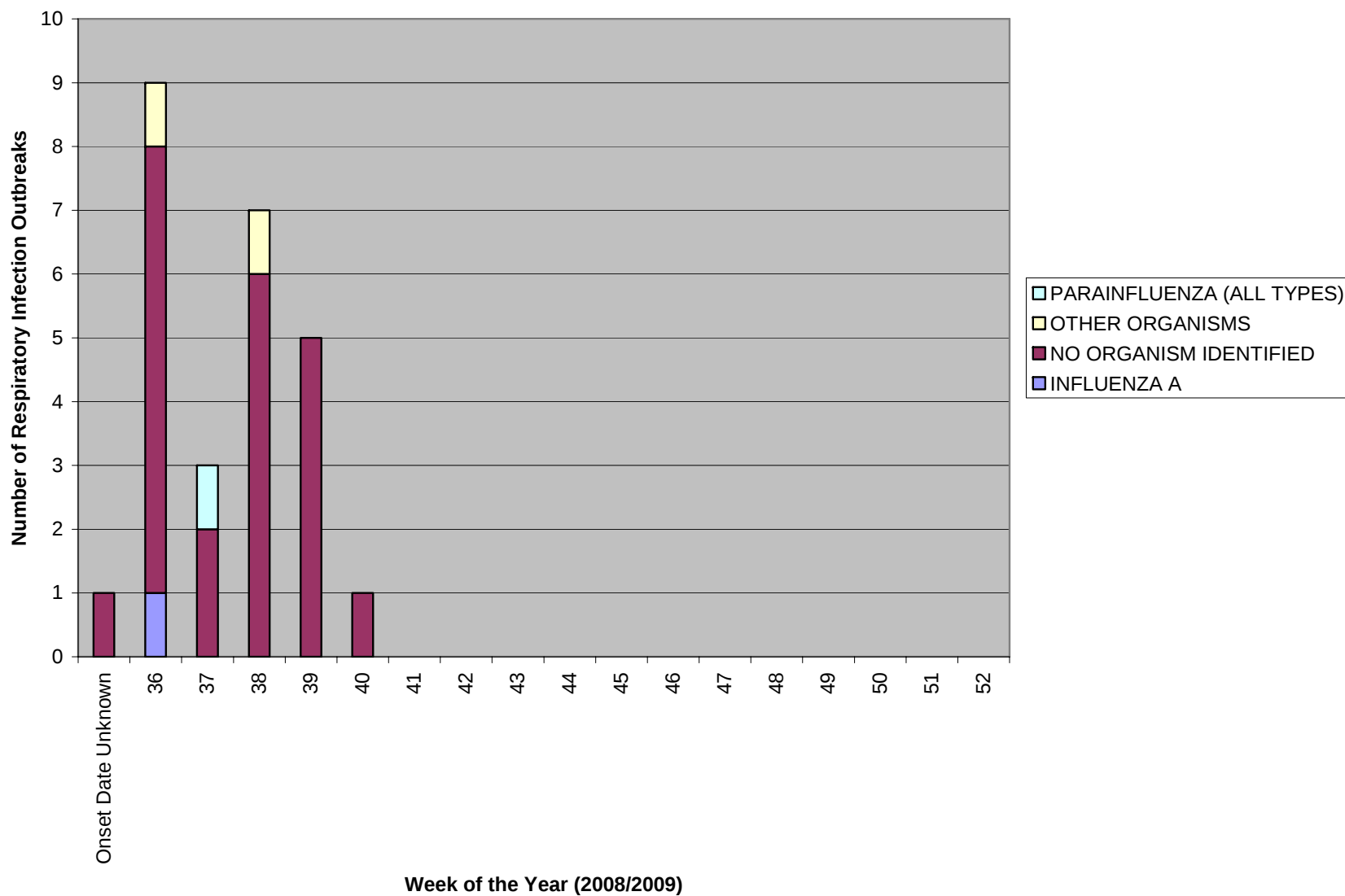
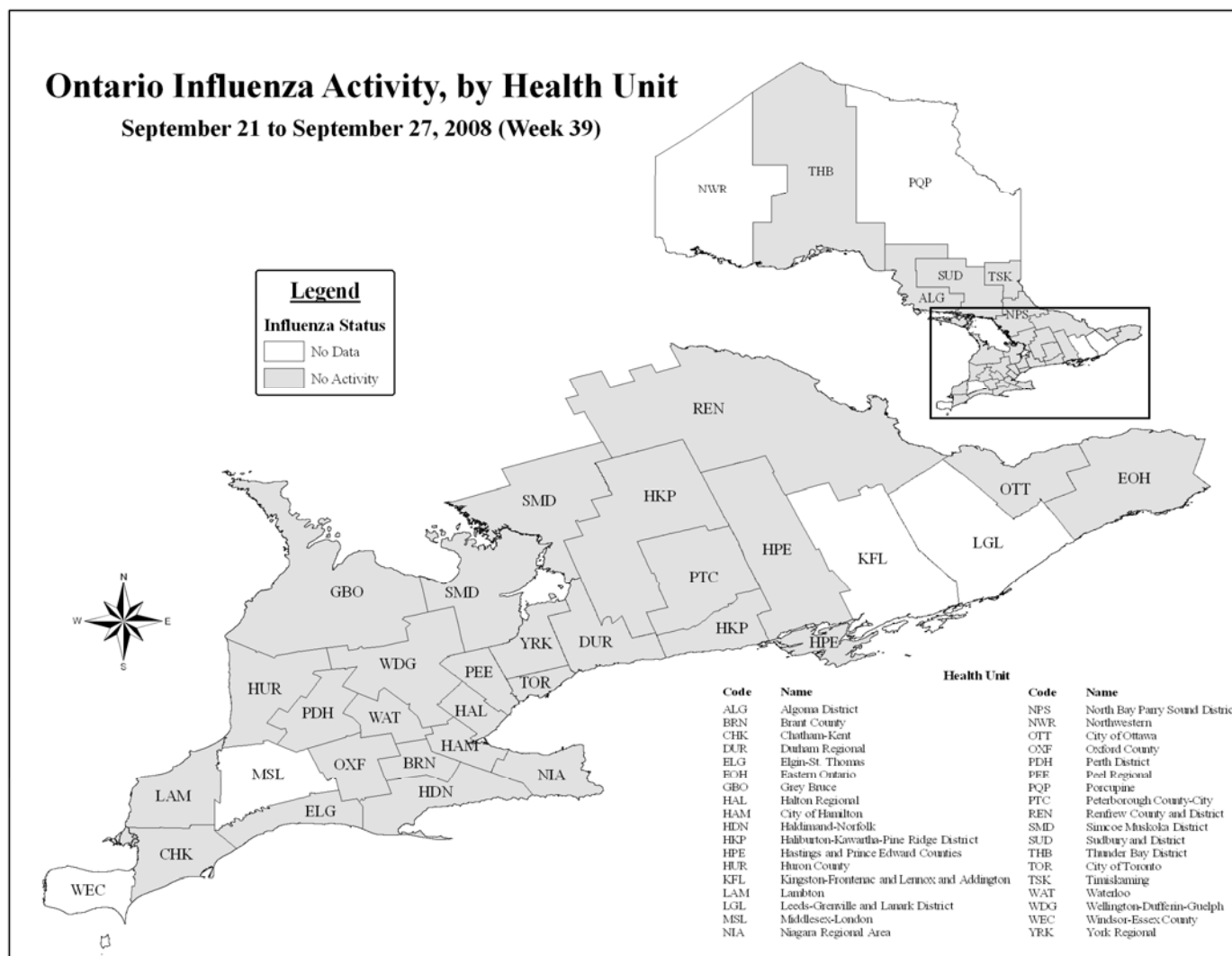


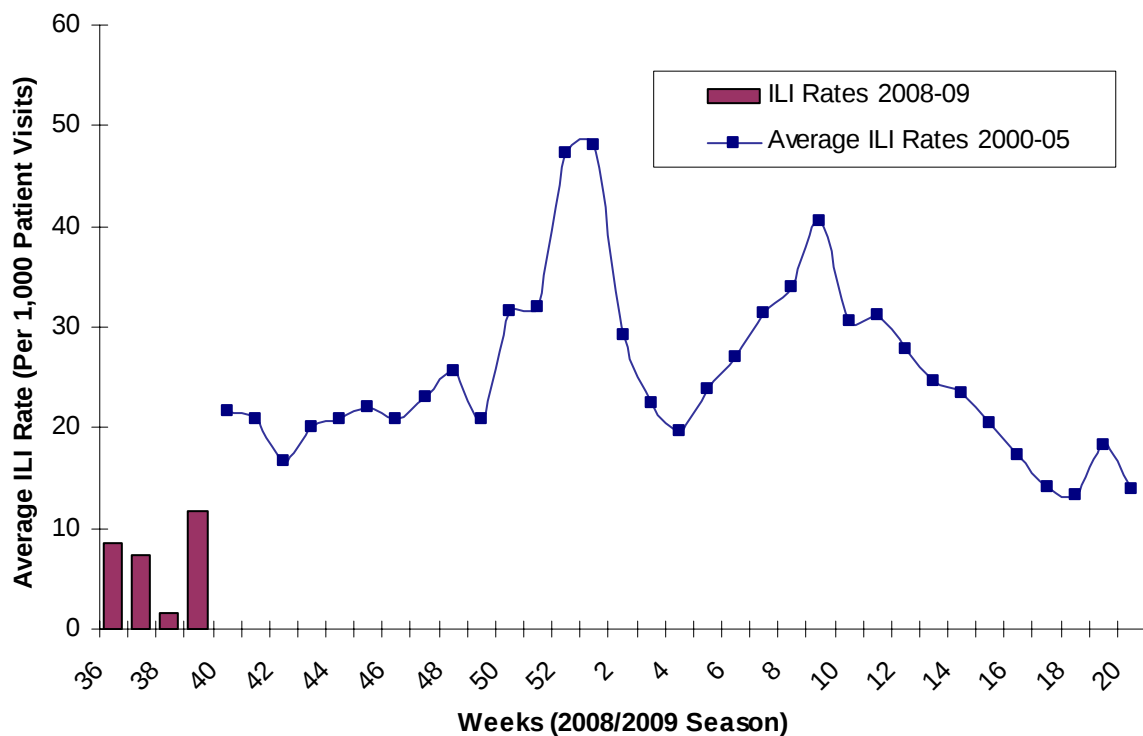
Figure 3: Influenza Activity\* levels in Ontario by health unit for Week 39, 2008



**SOURCE:** MOHLTC [Provincial Influenza Activity Report (Appendix C) Database]

\* Influenza activity levels are assigned by local public health units and reported to the MOHLTC by the Tuesday following the end of the surveillance week at 4 pm. Activity levels are assigned based on laboratory confirmations, ILI reports from various sources, and laboratory confirmed institutional outbreaks. [Please refer to detailed definitions for the 2007-2008 season included in the Appendix-1]

**Figure 4: Average influenza-like illness (ILI) consultation rate (per 1,000 patient visits) reported by sentinel physicians\* in Ontario in 2007- 2008 season, by report week, Compared to Ontario average<sup>†</sup> (1999/2000 to 2004/05 seasons).**



**Source:** Public Health Agency of Canada

\* Sentinel physician information is reported to Public Health Agency of Canada.

<sup>†</sup>No data available for mean rate in previous years for weeks 21 to 39 (1999-2000 through 2004-2005 seasons). During weeks 20-39, 2002-2003/2004-2005 seasons, ILI is reported once every two weeks, on even weeks only.

**Table 6: Average Influenza-like illness consultation rate (per 1,000 patient visits) by age group and postal code as reported by Sentinel Physicians\* in Ontario, for Week 39.**

| Postal Code                                             | 0 – 4 | 5 – 19 | 20 – 64 | 65 + | Unknown |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|---------|------|---------|
| K0C1A0                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| K1L8H2                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 1    | 0       |
| K2P1V3                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| K1J9M2                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L1A3W4                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| K0L1H0                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| K0M1A0                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L1S2H6                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L1B1H8                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L4J7Y3                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| M5M1B2                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| M4X1W4                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| M4E1V8                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| M8Y1W3                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| M8V2Z5                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L4Y2N8                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L6W2A4                                                  | 2     | 3      | 1       | 0    | 0       |
| L6V4H6                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L9W1G2                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L6L2X4                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L7R1M6                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L9H1V1                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| L2E7H1                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| N1R2L7                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| N2M3B5                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| N5H1K9                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| N0R1G0                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| N6C2R5                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| P0P1S0                                                  | 0     | 0      | 2       | 0    | 0       |
| P4N1C6                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| P7E1H5                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| P0W1E0                                                  | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0    | 0       |
| <b>ILI Sum</b>                                          | 2     | 3      | 3       | 1    | 0       |
| <b>ILI Consultation Rate (per 1,000 patient visits)</b> | 45.45 | 46.15  | 6.55    | 5.08 | 0.00    |

**Source:** Public Health Agency of Canada

\* Sentinel physician information is reported to the Public Health Agency of Canada.

**Note:** The small numbers of sentinel physicians reporting at the local level make the ILI rates unstable. Please interpret these data correspondingly.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

1. Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
Previous issues of the *Ontario Influenza Bulletin* can be accessed at:  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/pubhealth/flu/flu\\_07/flubul\\_mn.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/pubhealth/flu/flu_07/flubul_mn.html)
2. Health Agency of Canada  
Issues of FluWatch can be accessed at:  
[www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/)
3. United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>
4. European Influenza Surveillance Scheme  
[http://www.eiss.org/cgi-files/bulletin\\_v2.cgi](http://www.eiss.org/cgi-files/bulletin_v2.cgi)

## **INFORMATION ABOUT AVIAN INFLUENZA**

For latest information on the status of avian influenza worldwide please use the following link:

**Public Health Agency of Canada**  
<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/h5n1/index.html>

## **APPENDIX - I**

### **Definitions for influenza activity levels:**

**No Data:** No activity report corresponding to the surveillance week was received at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Call Centre by the Tuesday (at 4 p.m.) following the end of the surveillance period.

**No Activity:** **No laboratory confirmed\* influenza and NO outbreaks detected** within the health unit/ influenza surveillance area, within the prior week, although sporadically occurring ILI may or may not be present.†

**Sporadic:** Sporadically (infrequently) occurring **ILI and at least one lab-confirmed influenza\* case with NO outbreaks** detected within the health unit area.†

**Localized:** sporadically occurring **ILI and lab-confirmed influenza\* together with outbreaks of ILI** in schools and work sites, or laboratory-confirmed influenza in residential institutions occurring in < 50% of the health unit . Outbreaks affect a single and/or adjacent geographic area within the health unit jurisdiction, e.g. outbreaks in a nursing home and a school in close proximity to each other.†

**Widespread:** sporadically occurring **ILI and lab-confirmed influenza\* together with outbreaks of ILI** in schools and work sites, or laboratory-confirmed influenza in residential institutions occurring in > 50% of the health unit. Outbreaks affect multiple and non-adjacent geographic areas within the health unit jurisdiction, such as two or more regions of the health unit, two or more municipalities, two or more electoral wards, etc.†

\* Confirmation of influenza within the surveillance region at any time within the prior week

† Sub-regions within the province or territory as defined by the provincial/territorial epidemiologist

### **Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Definitions:**

#### **A) ILI in the general population:**

Acute onset of respiratory illness with fever and cough and with one or more of the following - sore throat, arthralgia, myalgia, or prostration which could be due to influenza virus. In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present. In patients under 5 or 65 and older, fever may not be prominent.

#### **B) ILI/Influenza outbreaks:**

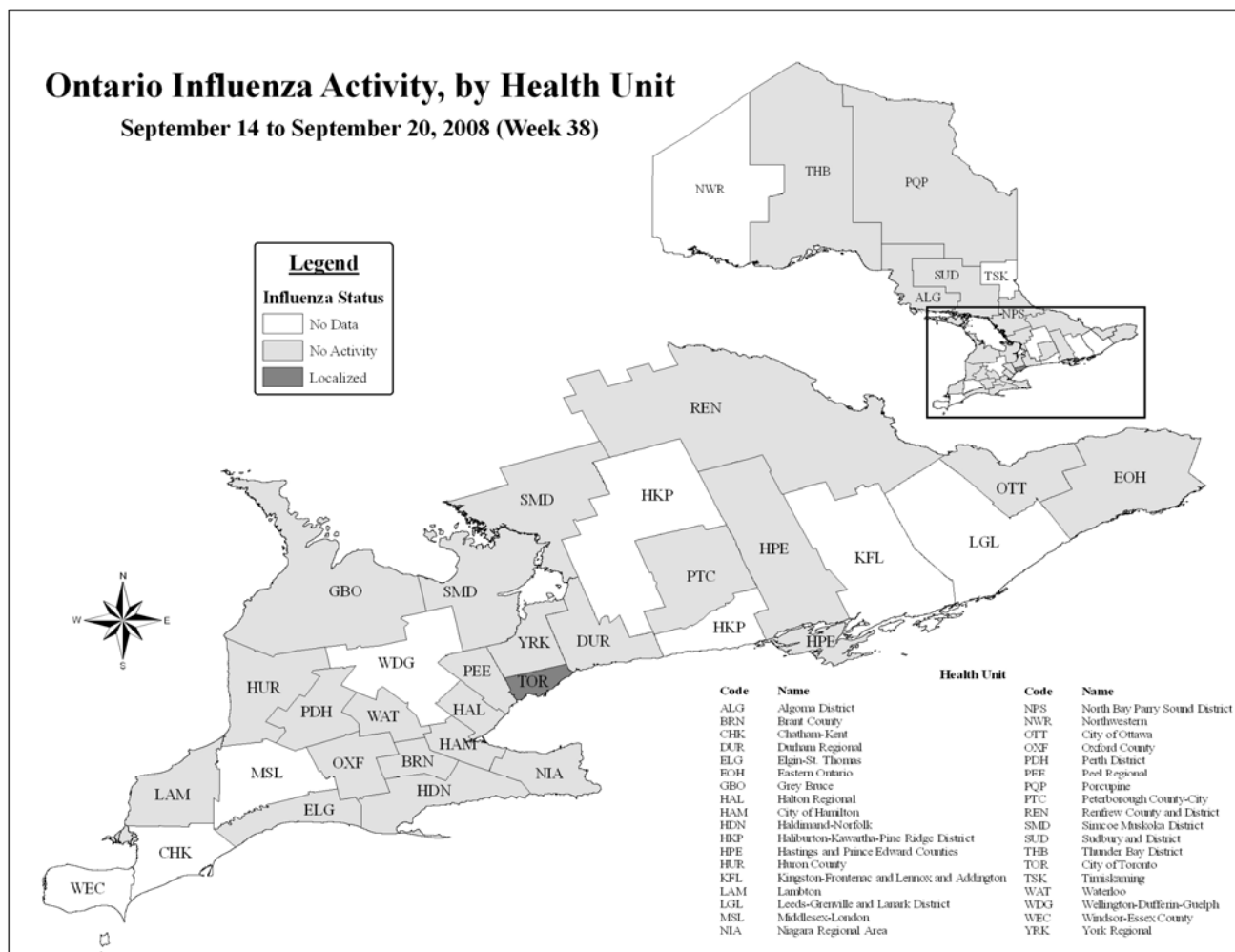
**Schools and work sites:** greater than 10% absenteeism on any day, most likely due to ILI.

**Residential institutions:** two or more cases of ILI within a seven-day period, **including at least one laboratory confirmed case.**

Influenza Surveillance Weeks 2008-2009 and date of submission of Appendix C

| WEEKS | START     | END       | Appendix C Submission to MOHLTC |
|-------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| WK40  | 28-Sep-08 | 4-Oct-08  | 7-Oct-08                        |
| WK41  | 5-Oct-08  | 11-Oct-08 | 14-Oct-08                       |
| WK42  | 12-Oct-08 | 18-Oct-08 | 21-Oct-08                       |
| WK43  | 19-Oct-08 | 25-Oct-08 | 28-Oct-08                       |
| WK44  | 26-Oct-08 | 1-Nov-08  | 4-Nov-08                        |
| WK45  | 2-Nov-08  | 8-Nov-08  | 11-Nov-08                       |
| WK46  | 9-Nov-08  | 15-Nov-08 | 18-Nov-08                       |
| WK47  | 16-Nov-08 | 22-Nov-08 | 25-Nov-08                       |
| WK48  | 23-Nov-08 | 29-Nov-08 | 2-Dec-08                        |
| WK49  | 30-Nov-08 | 6-Dec-08  | 9-Dec-08                        |
| WK50  | 7-Dec-08  | 13-Dec-08 | 16-Dec-08                       |
| WK51  | 14-Dec-08 | 20-Dec-08 | 23-Dec-08                       |
| WK52  | 21-Dec-08 | 27-Dec-08 | 30-Dec-08                       |
| WK53  | 28-Dec-08 | 3-Jan-09  | 6-Jan-09                        |
| WK1   | 4-Jan-09  | 10-Jan-09 | 13-Jan-09                       |
| WK2   | 11-Jan-09 | 17-Jan-09 | 20-Jan-09                       |
| WK3   | 18-Jan-09 | 24-Jan-09 | 27-Jan-09                       |
| WK4   | 25-Jan-09 | 31-Jan-09 | 3-Feb-09                        |
| WK5   | 1-Feb-09  | 7-Feb-09  | 10-Feb-09                       |
| WK6   | 8-Feb-09  | 14-Feb-09 | 17-Feb-09                       |
| WK7   | 15-Feb-09 | 21-Feb-09 | 24-Feb-09                       |
| WK8   | 22-Feb-09 | 28-Feb-09 | 3-Mar-09                        |
| WK9   | 1-Mar-09  | 7-Mar-09  | 10-Mar-09                       |
| WK10  | 8-Mar-09  | 14-Mar-09 | 17-Mar-09                       |
| WK11  | 15-Mar-09 | 21-Mar-09 | 24-Mar-09                       |
| WK12  | 22-Mar-09 | 28-Mar-09 | 31-Mar-09                       |
| WK13  | 29-Mar-09 | 4-Apr-09  | 7-Apr-09                        |
| WK14  | 5-Apr-09  | 11-Apr-09 | 14-Apr-09                       |
| WK15  | 12-Apr-09 | 18-Apr-09 | 21-Apr-09                       |
| WK16  | 19-Apr-09 | 25-Apr-09 | 28-Apr-09                       |
| WK17  | 26-Apr-09 | 2-May-09  | 5-May-09                        |
| WK18  | 3-May-09  | 9-May-09  | 12-May-09                       |
| WK19  | 10-May-09 | 16-May-09 | 19-May-09                       |
| WK20  | 17-May-09 | 23-May-09 | 26-May-09                       |
| WK21  | 24-May-09 | 30-May-09 | 2-Jun-09                        |
| WK22  | 31-May-09 | 6-Jun-09  | 9-Jun-09                        |
| WK23  | 7-Jun-09  | 13-Jun-09 | 16-Jun-09                       |
| WK24  | 14-Jun-09 | 20-Jun-09 | 23-Jun-09                       |
| WK25  | 21-Jun-09 | 27-Jun-09 | 30-Jun-09                       |

| WEEKS | START     | END       | Appendix C Submission to MOHLTC |
|-------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| WK26  | 28-Jun-09 | 4-Jul-09  | 7-Jul-09                        |
| WK27  | 5-Jul-09  | 11-Jul-09 | 14-Jul-09                       |
| WK28  | 12-Jul-09 | 18-Jul-09 | 21-Jul-09                       |
| WK29  | 19-Jul-09 | 25-Jul-09 | 28-Jul-09                       |
| WK30  | 26-Jul-09 | 1-Aug-09  | 4-Aug-09                        |
| WK31  | 2-Aug-09  | 8-Aug-09  | 11-Aug-09                       |
| WK32  | 9-Aug-09  | 15-Aug-09 | 18-Aug-09                       |
| WK33  | 16-Aug-09 | 22-Aug-09 | 25-Aug-09                       |
| WK34  | 23-Aug-09 | 29-Aug-09 | 1-Sep-09                        |
| WK35  | 30-Aug-09 | 5-Sep-09  | 8-Sep-09                        |



**SOURCE:** MOHLTC [Provincial Influenza Activity Report (Appendix C) Database]

**Influenza Activity** levels are assigned by local public health units and reported to the MOHLTC every week. Activity levels are assigned based on laboratory confirmation of influenza, influenza like illness (ILI) reports from various sources including hospitals, institutions experiencing respiratory infection outbreaks, physicians' offices, etc.

**Activity level definitions for the 2007-08 influenza seasons are as follows:**

**No Data:** No activity report corresponding to the surveillance week was received at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Call Centre by the Tuesday (at 4 p.m.) following the end of the surveillance period. **No Activity:** No laboratory confirmed\* influenza cases(s) or outbreak detected during the past week within the influenza surveillance region, however, sporadically occurring ILI may be reported. **Sporadic:** Sporadically occurring ILI and laboratory confirmed influenza\* case(s) with NO outbreaks detected within the influenza surveillance region. **Localized:** sporadically occurring ILI and laboratory confirmed influenza\* case(s) together with outbreaks of ILI in schools and/or worksites or laboratory confirmed influenza in residential institutions occurring in less than 50% of the influenza surveillance region(s). **Widespread:** sporadically occurring ILI and laboratory confirmed influenza\* case(s) together with outbreaks of ILI in schools and/or worksites or laboratory confirmed influenza in residential institutions occurring in greater than or equal to 50% of the influenza surveillance region(s).

\* Confirmation of influenza within the surveillance region at any time within the prior week

**Note:** The Weekly Ontario Influenza Activity Map will be posted on this site bi-weekly, alternating with the Ontario Influenza Bulletin (which contains the Influenza Activity map), until the end of October, 2008. As of November 3, 2008, the Ontario Influenza Bulletin will be published weekly.