

# Ontario Influenza Bulletin

**Mid-Summer Edition**

**Vol. 8, Issue 12 Weeks 27 - 28 (July 3 – July 16, 2005)**

## **Introduction**

The current issue of the Ontario Influenza Bulletin summarizes influenza activity during weeks 27 - 28. It covers the time period from July 3 to July 16, 2005.

Influenza activity continued to decline in Ontario during weeks 27 - 28. Central East and South West regions in Ontario (week 27) and British Columbia (weeks 27 and 28) reported sporadic activity. Other regions in Ontario and the rest of the country experienced no activity in weeks 27 and 28.

## **Influenza Activity in Ontario**

During the period of influenza surveillance between July 3 and July 16, 2005 (reporting weeks 27-28), a total of two laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza A were reported by Ontario laboratories to the Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control (CIDPC). No influenza B isolates were reported during weeks 27-28.

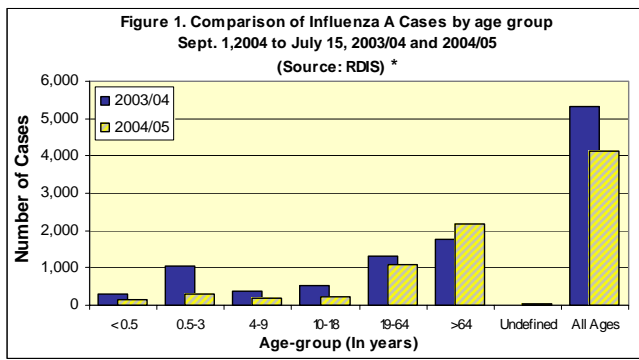
Throughout this period there were no cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), 56 cases of parainfluenza virus (PIV) and 6 cases of adenoviruses, all of which were laboratory-confirmed (Appendix 1). Including late reports, a total of 3,836 influenza A, 1,309 influenza B, 2,846 RSV, 854 PIV and 408 adenoviruses were reported to the CIDPC between August 22, 2004 and July 16, 2005.

## **Integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS)**

Between July 3 and July 16, 2005, there were two new cases of undefined type of influenza and no new cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza A or B reported to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) through iPHIS by 25 of Ontario's health units. Please note that two other health units Timiskaming and Peterborough began reporting using iPHIS on July 4, 2005. Three more health units including York, Haliburton-Kawartha Pine Ridge and Hastings and Prince Edward Counties began reporting using iPHIS on July 11, 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 2 and July 15, 2005, a total of nine laboratory-confirmed sporadic cases of influenza A and 11 laboratory-confirmed sporadic cases of influenza B were reported to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) through RDIS by 11 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 3 to July 16, 2005, five 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 Rhinovirus. Three identified outbreaks reported no causative organism/s. Note that the laboratory result for one outbreak was pending by end of week 28. All respiratory infection outbreaks in weeks 27 and 28 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 3 to July 16, 2005 than from June 19 to July 2, 2005.

### Influenza Activity in Canada

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

Influenza activity continued to decrease across the country during weeks 27 and 28, covering July 2 to July 16, 2005 (Table 1). Sporadic influenza activity was reported in parts of Ontario during weeks 27 and British Columbia during weeks 28 and 28.

In Ontario, influenza activity reported as sporadic in Central East and South West regions during weeks 27 (Table 2).

The number of patients with influenza-like illness (ILI) seen by sentinel physicians in Canada from July 3 to July 16, 2005 was reported as 5/1,000 office visits.

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

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

In Ontario, the number of patients with ILI seen by sentinel physicians ranged from 0/1,000 office visits (week 27 ending July 9, 2005) to 2/1,000 office visits (week 28, ending June 16, 2005).

**Table 1:** Influenza activity in Canada by Province, July 3 to July 16, 2005 (Weeks 27 to 28).

Province	Week 27 July 3 - 9, 2005	Week 28 July 10 -16, 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	1
Alberta	1	1
British Columbia	1-2	1-2

**Table 2:** Influenza activity in Ontario by Region, July 3 to July 16, 2005 (Weeks 27 to 28).

Region	Week 27 July 3 - 9, 2005	Week 28 July 10-16, 2005
Ontario	1	1
East	1	1
Central East	2	1
Central West	1	1
South West	2	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 3 to July 16, 2005 (2004/05 Season)

Organism	Influenza Viruses			Other Respiratory Viruses						
	Time interval	A & B	A	B	RSV	PIV1	PIV2	PIV3	PIV4	Other PIVs
<b>Total until July 2, 2005 (Week 26)</b>	[5143]	[3834]	[1309]	[2846]	[178]	[38]	[549]	[16]	[9]	[398]
Week ending July 9, 2005 (week 27)	1[5144]	1[3835]	0[1309]	0[2846]	16[194]	0[38]	15[564]	0[16]	0[9]	5[403]
Week ending July 16, 2005 (week 28)	1[5145]	1[3836]	0[1309]	0[2846]	5[199]	0[38]	20[584]	0[16]	0[9]	1[404]
Number of late reports, from August 22, 2004 to July 16, 2005	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[2]	[0]	[6]	[0]	[0]	[4]
<b>Total number of isolates, August 22, 2004 to July 16, 2005*</b>	[5145]	[3836]	[1309]	[2846]	[201]	[38]	[590]	[16]	[9]	[408]

[ ] Accumulative numbers from August 22, 2004

\* Late reports are included

**Appendix 2a. Weekly Lab-Confirmed Cases of Influenza by Health unit, week 27 - 28 (Source: iPHIS)**

Health Unit	Week 27, July 3 - 9, 2005			Week 28, July 10 – July 16, 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 [1]	[0]	[0]	[1]	[0]	[0]
Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Leeds, Grenville and Lanark* District	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Huron County	1 [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 Prince Edward Counties **	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 [33]</b>	<b>0 [21]</b>	<b>0 [33]</b>	<b>0 [33]</b>	<b>0 [21]</b>	<b>0 [33]</b>

[ ] Cumulative number from Go-live date ,2005

\* Reporting to iPHIS from July 4, 2005 \*\* Reporting to iPHIS from July 11, 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 27 - 28 (Source: RDIS)**

Health Unit	Week 27, July 2 - 8, 2005		Weeks 28, July 9 - 15, 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	3 [115]	5 [60]	5 [120]	6 [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 <sup>+</sup>	[92]	[48]	[92]	[48]
Halton	[174]	[73]	[174]	[73]
Hamilton-Wentworth	[275]	[106]	[275]	[106]
Hasting – P.E <sup>+</sup>	[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	[633]	[303]	1 [634]	[302]
Waterloo	[231]	[38]	[231]	[38]
Wellington - Dufferin - Guelph	[98]	[19]	[98]	[19]
Windsor - Essex	[30]	[10]	[30]	[10]
York <sup>+</sup>	[447]	[87]	[447]	[87]
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 [4116]</b>	<b>5 [1245]</b>	<b>6 [4122]</b>	<b>6 [1250]</b>

[ ] Cumulative number from September 1, 2004

\* Reporting to iPHIS from July 4, 2005

+Reporting to iPHIS from July 11, 2005

\*\* No longer exists as of April 1,

<b>Appendix 3. Respiratory infection outbreaks in Institutions from July 3 to July 16, 2005</b>				
<b>Respiratory Infection Outbreaks</b>	July 3 - 9, 2005 (week 27)		July 10 - 16, 2005 (week 28)	
	<b>Total Respiratory Infection Outbreaks</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>[996]*</b>	<b>3</b>
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	0		1	
No organism isolated	2		1	
Laboratory results pending	0		1	
No specimen sent for laboratory testing	0		0	
<b>Ongoing Outbreaks</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>3</b>	
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	0		1	
No organism isolated	0		1	
Laboratory results pending	0		1	
No specimen sent for laboratory testing	0		0	
<b>Types of Institutions</b>				
<b>LTCHs</b>	2		3	
<b>Hospitals</b>	0		0	
<b>Other±</b>	0		0	
<b>Total Outbreaks from September 1, 2004</b>	<b>[1096]#</b>		<b>[1099]#</b>	

[ ] 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 10, 2005

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