



# Weekly Local Influenza Surveillance Bulletin

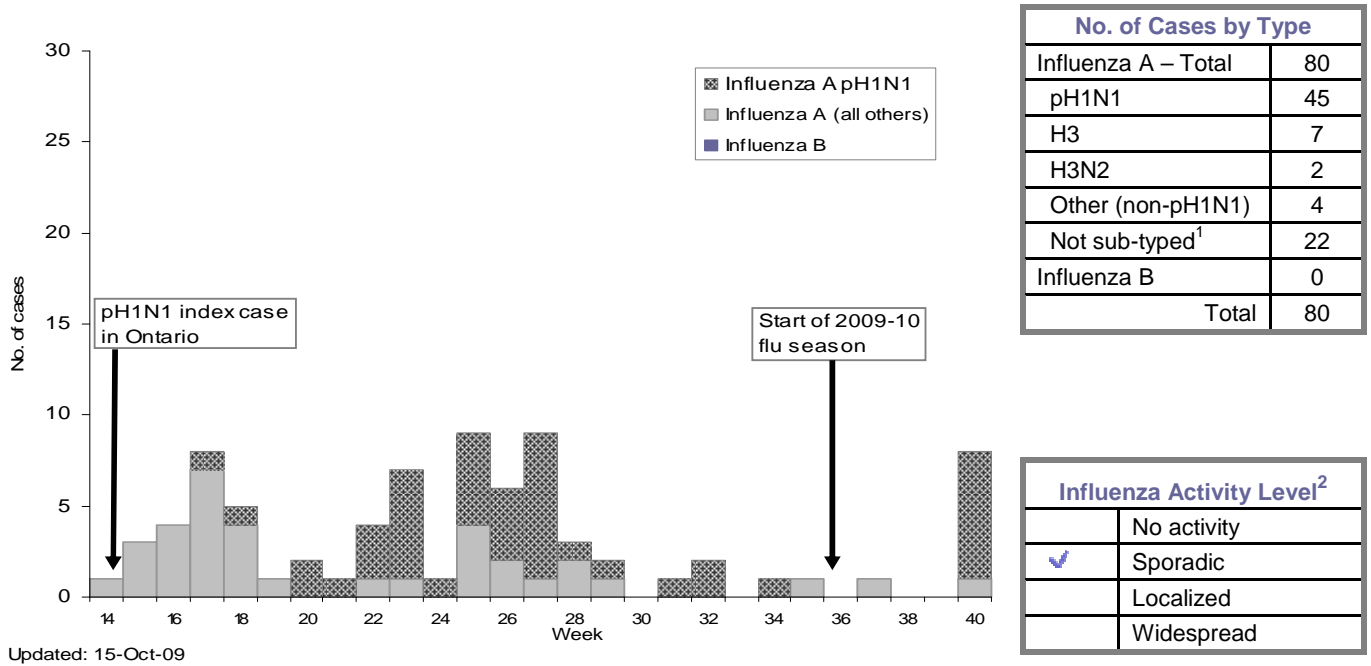
Released October 15, 2009

Region of Waterloo

PUBLIC HEALTH

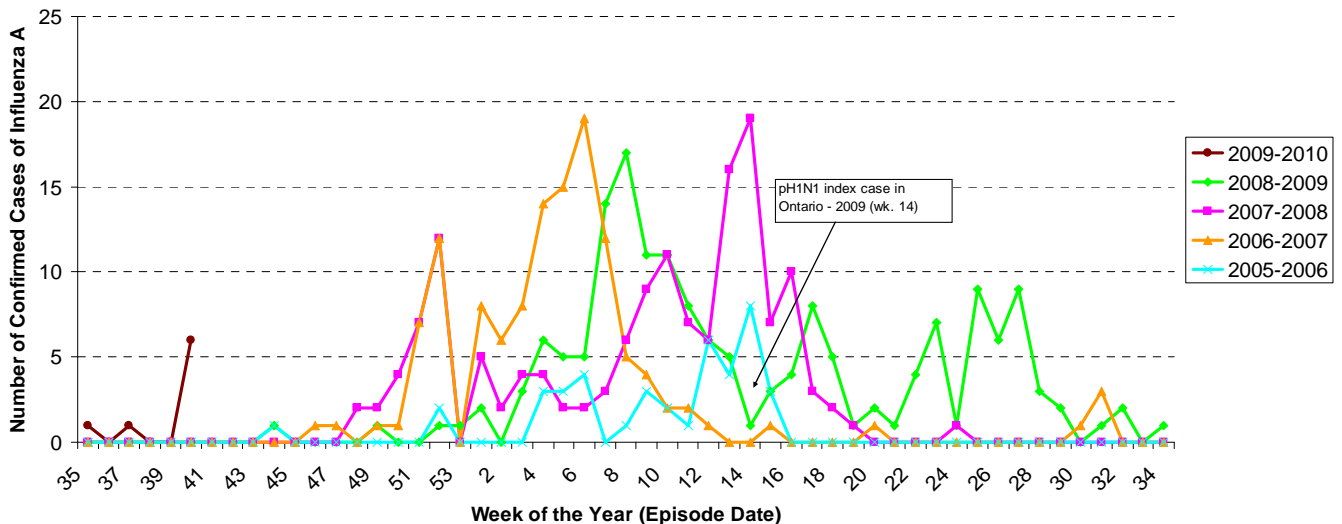
Influenza Activity: April 5, 2009 to October 10, 2009 (Week 14-40)

Figure 1: Number of laboratory confirmed cases of influenza by week and type, Waterloo Region, April 5, 2009 to October 10, 2009<sup>3</sup>



Updated: 15-Oct-09

Figure 2: Number of laboratory confirmed cases of influenza A by week, Waterloo Region, 2005-2009



<sup>1</sup> Not sub-typed includes all Influenza A cases that had a sub-type of "blank", "untypeable" or "not-subtyped".

<sup>2</sup> For definitions of influenza activity levels: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/09-10/def09-10-eng.php>

<sup>3</sup> Note: In Ontario, the onset date of symptoms for the first confirmed case of Influenza A pH1N1 virus was April 11, 2009. The weeks refer to FluWatch weeks, which are established by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

**Table 1: Pandemic H1N1 indicators, Waterloo Region and Ontario**

Indicator	Waterloo Region*	Ontario^
Total # of laboratory confirmed cases of H1N1 (since April 2009)	45	4,144
Attack rate (since April 2009)	9.0 per 100,000 residents	32.0 per 100,000 Ontarians
New cases (since September 1, 2009)	7	33
Total # of H1N1 hospitalizations (since April 2009)	11	387
Population-based hospitalization rate	2.2 per 100,000 residents	3.0 per 100,000 Ontarians
Total # of deaths among H1N1 confirmed cases	0	25
Population-based mortality rate	0	0.19 per 100,000 Ontarians
Age range of laboratory confirmed H1N1 cases	1 – greater than 65 years	Less than 1 to 84 years
Age of hospitalized cases	Range: 3 – 80 years Median age: 40 years Average age: 37 years	Range: < 1 – 84 years Median age: 21 years Average age: 28 years
Statistics on fatal cases	N/A	80 per cent were over age 40 88 per cent had underlying medical conditions

\* Waterloo Region data is current as of October 10, 2009

^ Ontario data is current as of October 3, 2009

## Proxy Indicators for Influenza Surveillance

### ***Influenza-Like-Illness***

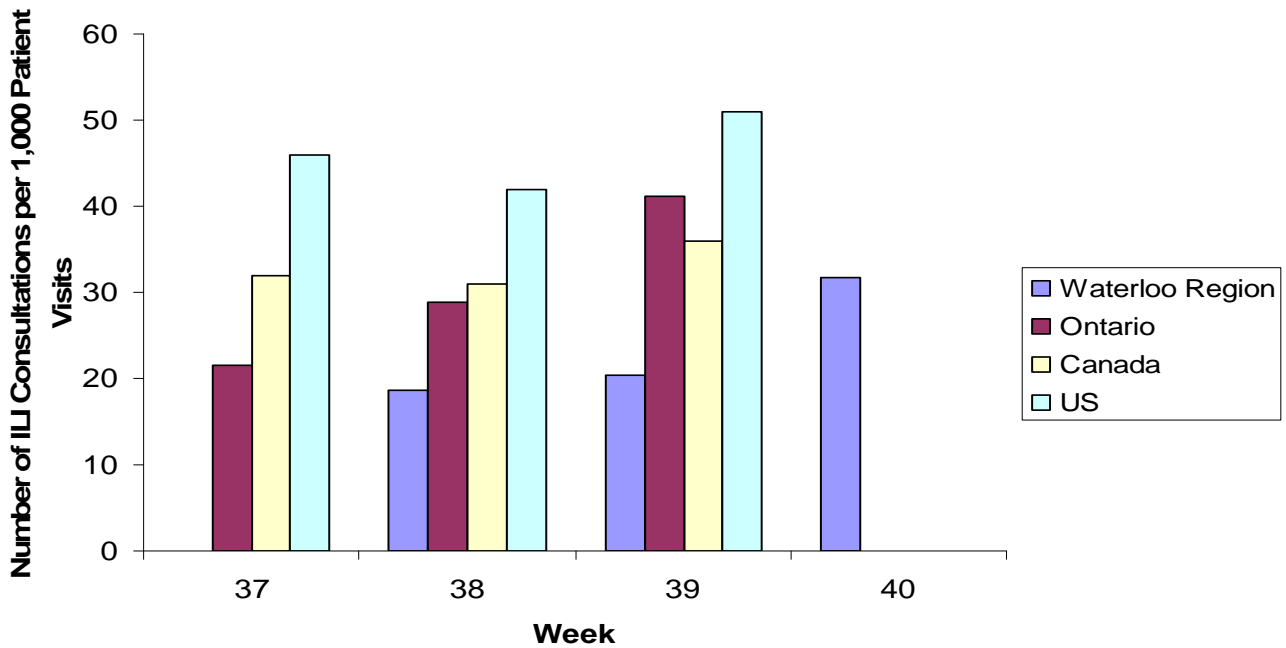
The number of Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)<sup>5</sup> visits is a useful indicator of the level of community transmission of pH1N1 and the resulting burden on primary care practices. The transmission patterns suggest that pH1N1 is more prevalent in the younger age groups (5 – 19 years). As such, we are tracking the ILI consultation rate at post-secondary institutions<sup>6</sup> health services in Waterloo Region as well as in select primary care practices, as an indicator of potential pH1N1 activity.

ILI consultation rates for Waterloo Region are available for weeks 38-40 (September 20 – October 10, 2009), while rates reported by sentinel physicians in Ontario, Canada, and the U.S. are available for weeks 37-39 (September 13 – October 3, 2009).

<sup>5</sup> Case definition for ILI is: 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.

<sup>6</sup> Post-secondary institutions include Conestoga College, Wilfrid Laurier University, and University of Waterloo

**Figure 3: Rates of Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI) consultations by geography, September 13 – October 10, 2009**



**Hospital-Based Data**

Monitoring the number of Emergency Room visits and the number of hospital-based deaths are indicators which the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care is interested in tracking as a useful indicator of the level of community transmission of pH1N1 and the resulting burden on hospitals. The figures below include aggregated data from all three acute care hospitals within the Region of Waterloo: Cambridge Memorial Hospital, Grand River Hospital, and St. Mary’s General Hospital.

**Figure 4: Total all-cause Emergency Room (ER) visits by week, Waterloo Region, September 20 – October 10, 2009**

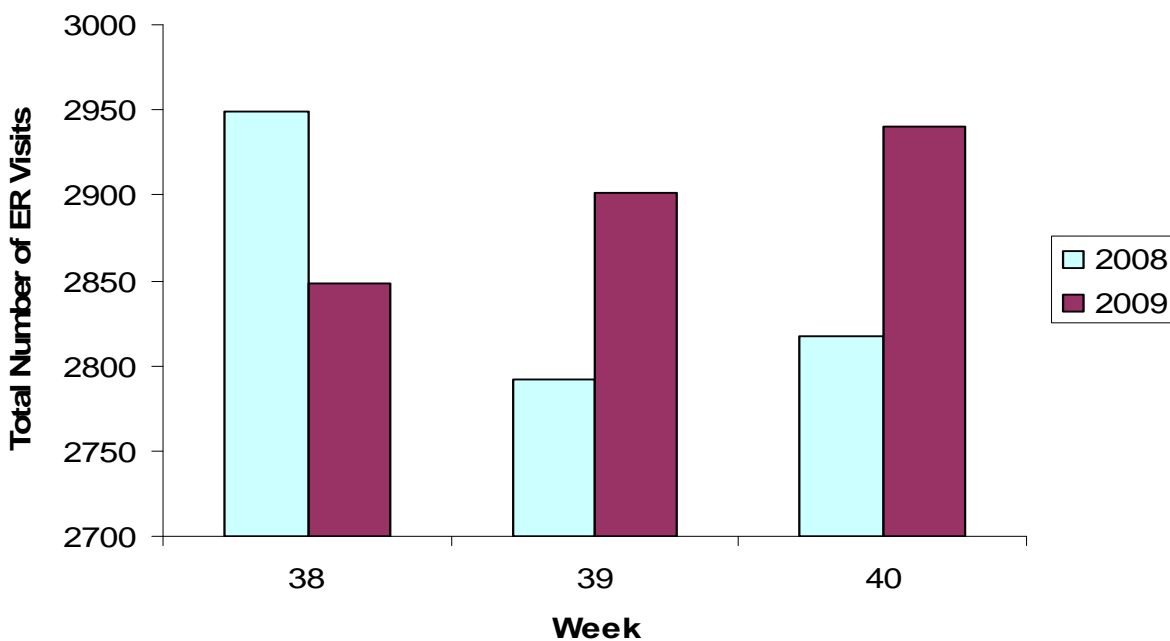
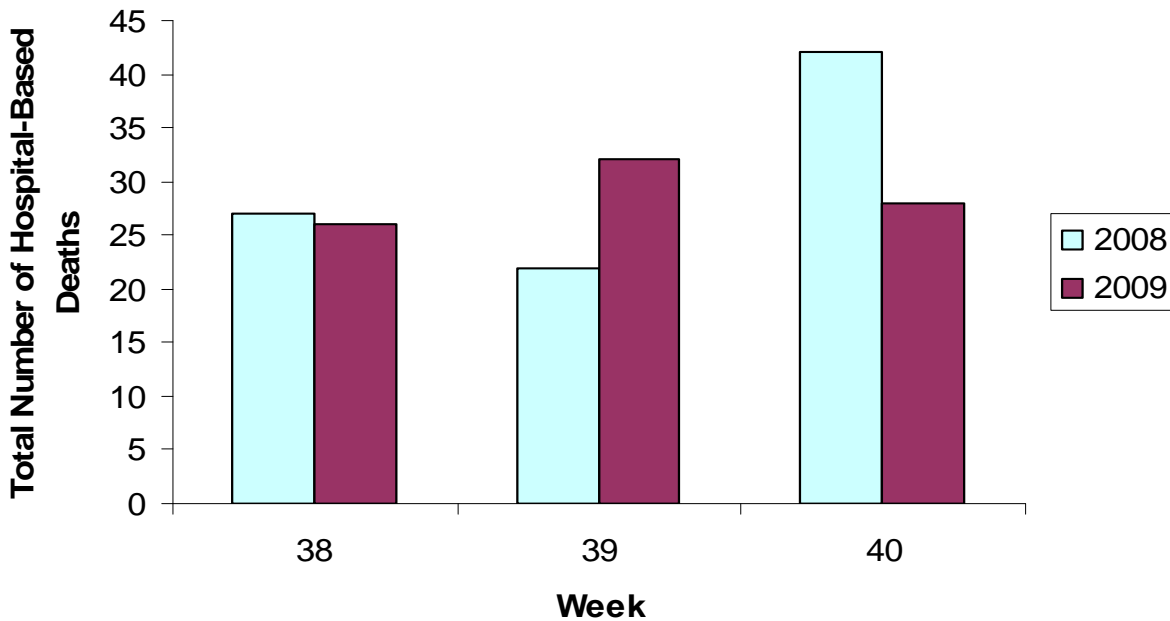


Figure 5: Total all-cause hospital-based mortality by week, Waterloo Region, September 20 – October 10, 2009



For provincial and national influenza information, please visit the following websites:

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE (MOHLTC)**

The latest Ontario Influenza Bulletin can be viewed at the following site:  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/pubhealth/flu/flu\\_08/flubul\\_mn.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/pubhealth/flu/flu_08/flubul_mn.html)

The latest information on Influenza A pH1N1 virus in Ontario can be viewed at the following site:  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/updates/archives/hu\\_09/provider/default.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/updates/archives/hu_09/provider/default.html)

**HEALTH CANADA**

The latest Health Canada FluWatch can be viewed at the following site:  
<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/08-09/index-eng.php>