National Synopsis:

During week 8 (February 22-28, 2009), influenza activity in the United States remained at approximately the same level as in the previous week.

- One thousand four hundred eighteen (21.2%) 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.
- Five influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.
- The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was above the national baseline. ILI increased nationally and in five of the nine regions compared to the previous week. All nine surveillance regions reported ILI above their region-specific baselines.
- Thirty-one states reported widespread influenza activity, 16 states reported regional activity; the District of Columbia and two states reported local influenza activity; and Puerto Rico and one state reported sporadic influenza activity.
- One human infection with a novel influenza A virus was reported.

Delaware Influenza Surveillance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Laboratory Confirmed Cases: 548</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Influenza A:</strong> 379</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Influenza B:</strong> 167</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Influenza A&amp;B:</strong> 2</td>
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**Counties:**
- New Castle – 229
- Kent – 178
- Sussex – 141

**Age Range:** 20 days – 94 yo

**Deaths:** 0

**Total Unconfirmed Cases:** 91

**Influenza Activity for Week 9:** Widespread

Note: Beginning in Week 8, the DPH Lab requested that each hospital submit only 3-5 specimens per week for confirmatory testing; this may affect the number of unconfirmed cases in the future weeks.

**Activity Levels:**
- **No Activity:** No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in the number of cases of ILI.
- **Sporadic:** Small numbers or isolated cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases or a single laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI.
- **Local:** Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.
- **Regional:** Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI and recent laboratory confirmed influenza in at least 2 but less than half the regions of the state. (This level of activity does not apply for small states with 4 or fewer regions.)
- **Widespread:** Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least half the regions of the state.
ILI cases reported from Sentinel providers
5 of 12 sentinel providers reporting

Note: This data is current as of distribution date and is subject to change.

Note: Week 5 – No sentinel providers reported ILI to DPH (n=0). Therefore, the zero does not indicate there were no cases.

ILI cases reported from corporations/LTCF
5 of 5* sites reporting
(*one organization that previously reported is no longer participating)

Note: This data is current as of distribution date and is subject to change
2008-2009 Influenza season
Confirmed and Unconfirmed Cases*

*Note:
Confirmed cases: PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) positive or Influenza culture positive.
Unconfirmed cases: Rapid assay positive, not confirmed with PCR or culture.