



# Philadelphia Department of Public Health Division of Disease Control

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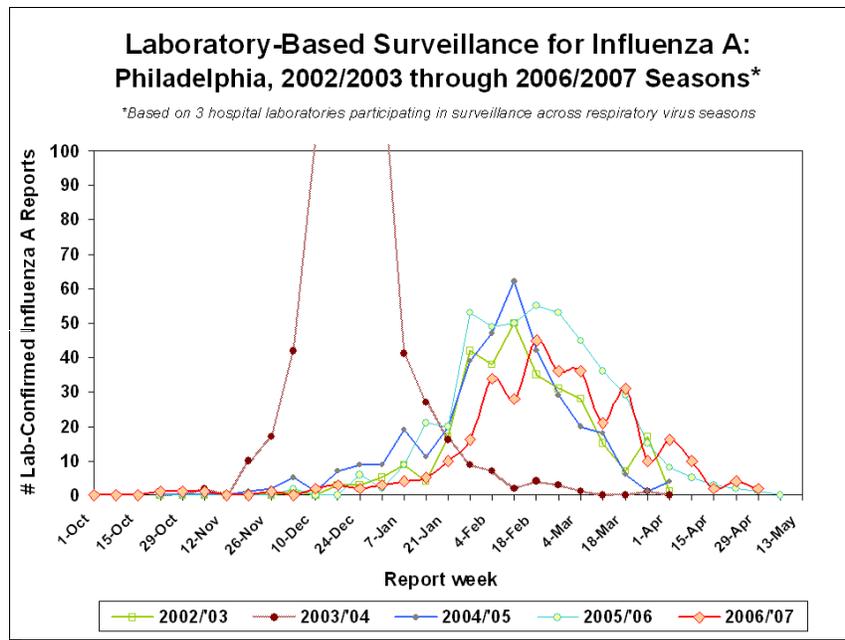
## Health Update: Respiratory Virus Surveillance—May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007

### Local influenza activity decreased

PDPH's surveillance of local clinical laboratory information indicates that **influenza A activity has decreased significantly** over the past several weeks; influenza B activity continues to circulate at very low levels but has also decreased recently. Moreover, seasonal influenza transmission appears to be ending for 2006/2007. Non-influenza respiratory viruses (data not shown) are circulating at low levels. Adenoviruses have circulated for several months. However, parainfluenza virus

activity, the bulk of which is currently due to parainfluenza 3, has increased throughout the last several weeks—marking its expected seasonal increase.

Although routine influenza surveillance has stopped for the season, clinicians and laboratories should be alert to the possibility of influenza cases occurring off-season and test for the infection accordingly. Such cases may indicate an emerging novel strain and should be promptly reported to PDPH.



### Key Facts

- Influenza activity has declined significantly
- Surrounding states are showing similar declines for influenza activity
- Parainfluenza activity, particularly parainfluenza 3, has been increasing
- The 2007-2008 influenza vaccine will include A/SolomonIslands/3/2006-like (H1N1)

### State & National Influenza Activity

The Pennsylvania Department of Health is reporting local influenza activity, with most county health departments reporting decreasing transmission. Roughly 40% of all isolates obtained statewide have been influenza A/H1, but a predominance of A/H3 began late in the season.

Nationally, the picture is similar as reported activity has declined overall. Most of the influenza A viruses CDC have characterized antigenically are H1 subtype. However, CDC has observed an increasing proportion of A/H3 subtype strains late in this transmission season. About one third of these A/H3 isolates matched the vaccine component for H3 (A/Wisconsin/ 67/2005-like), while the rest produced somewhat reduced titers for this component. The WHO has come to an agreement for the influenza vaccine components for the 2007-08 season. The vaccine will be comprised of a new H1 component (A/Solomon Islands/3/2006-like) that began to circulate late in the season. The other components will remain the same as the 2006-07 vaccine. For more information, please visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>

**To report institutional outbreaks of influenza, pediatric mortality due to influenza, or if you have questions or comments please contact DDC at (215) 685-6740.**