

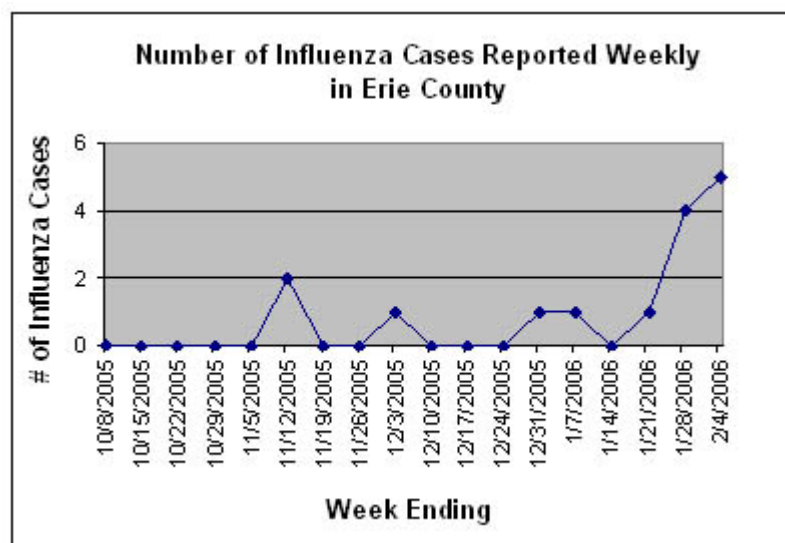
Health Alerts

Health Update #163 - Erie County Influenza Surveillance Report - February 15, 2006

The Erie County Department of Health presents local Influenza Surveillance data to inform providers of the influenza activity in our community.

1. Local Laboratory Reports:

Erie County receives reports of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases. The number of positive tests is dependent on the community prevalence and the total number of tests performed. These data estimate the Erie County influenza burden.



2. Sentinel Laboratory Reports:

The Erie County Department of Health receives reports of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases and the number of specimens tested from two local sentinel laboratories. The data below present the number and proportion of positive influenza tests and influenza types reported by the sentinel Erie County Laboratories.

Erie County Surveillance System Laboratories Influenza Testing Results by Week

Influenza Testing Results by Week					
Week Ending	Sentinel Lab	Total # Specimens Tested	# Positive for Influenza A	# Positive for Influenza B	Total # Positive
2/4/2006	WCHOB ECMC	110	3	0	3
1/28/2006	WCHOB	103	1	0	1

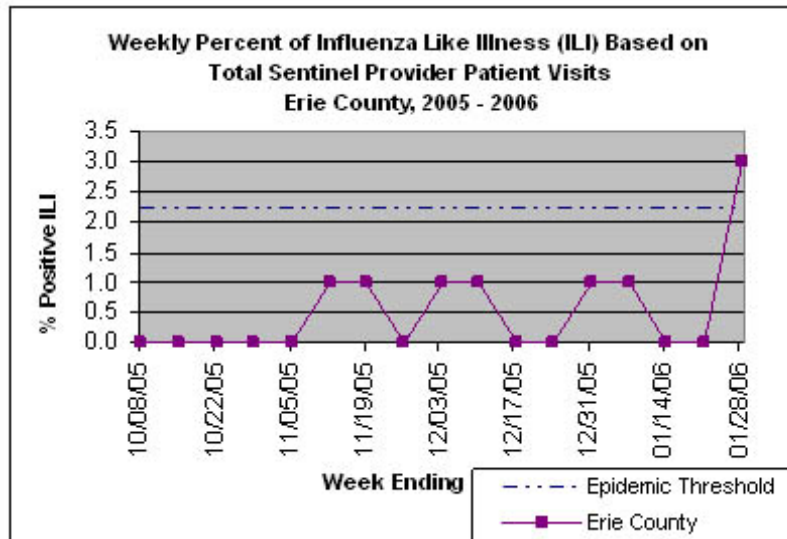
	ECMC	9	0	0	0
1/21/2006	WCHOB	103	1	0	1
	ECMC	13	0	0	0
1/14/2006	WCHOB	112	0	0	0
	ECMC	15	0	0	0
1/7/2006	WCHOB	73	0	0	0
	ECMC	7	1	0	1
12/31/2005	WCHOB	131	0	0	0
	ECMC	22	0	0	0
12/24/2005	WCHOB	92	0	0	0
	ECMC	11	0	0	0
12/17/2005	WCHOB	77	0	0	0
	ECMC	10	0	0	0
12/10/2005	WCHOB	77	0	0	0
	ECMC	8	0	0	0
12/3/2005	WCHOB	49	0	0	0
	ECMC	13	1	0	1
11/26/05	WCHOB	38	0	0	0
	ECMC	10	0	0	0
11/19/05	WCHOB	79	0	0	0
	ECMC	9	0	0	0
11/12/05	WCHOB	68	0	0	0
	ECMC	12	0	0	0
Totals*		1476	7	0	7

*Weeks ending prior to 11/12/05 not shown.

WCHOB: Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo; ECMC: Erie County Medical Center

3. Sentinel Influenza Like Illness (ILI) Provider Reports:

In Erie County, six sentinel providers report the percentage of Influenza Like Illness patient visits. These data are dependent on consistent provider reporting and estimate the influenza disease burden in the area. Influenza like illness is defined as temperature = 100° F with cough or sore throat in the absence of a known cause. The Erie County Department of Health would like to thank the providers who report these cases to the CDC weekly. If interested in influenza sentinel surveillance participation, please contact Gale Burstein at ECDOH at (716) 858-6462 or Pamela Duncan at NYSDOH at (518) 473-4439.



4. Nosocomial Influenza Activity Report:

There have been no reports of laboratory-confirmed nosocomial influenza activity from institutions such as nursing homes, hospitals, prisons, schools, etc. during the time period from October 8, 2005 thru February 11, 2006.

New York State Influenza Surveillance information is available at:

<http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/flu/surveillance.htm>