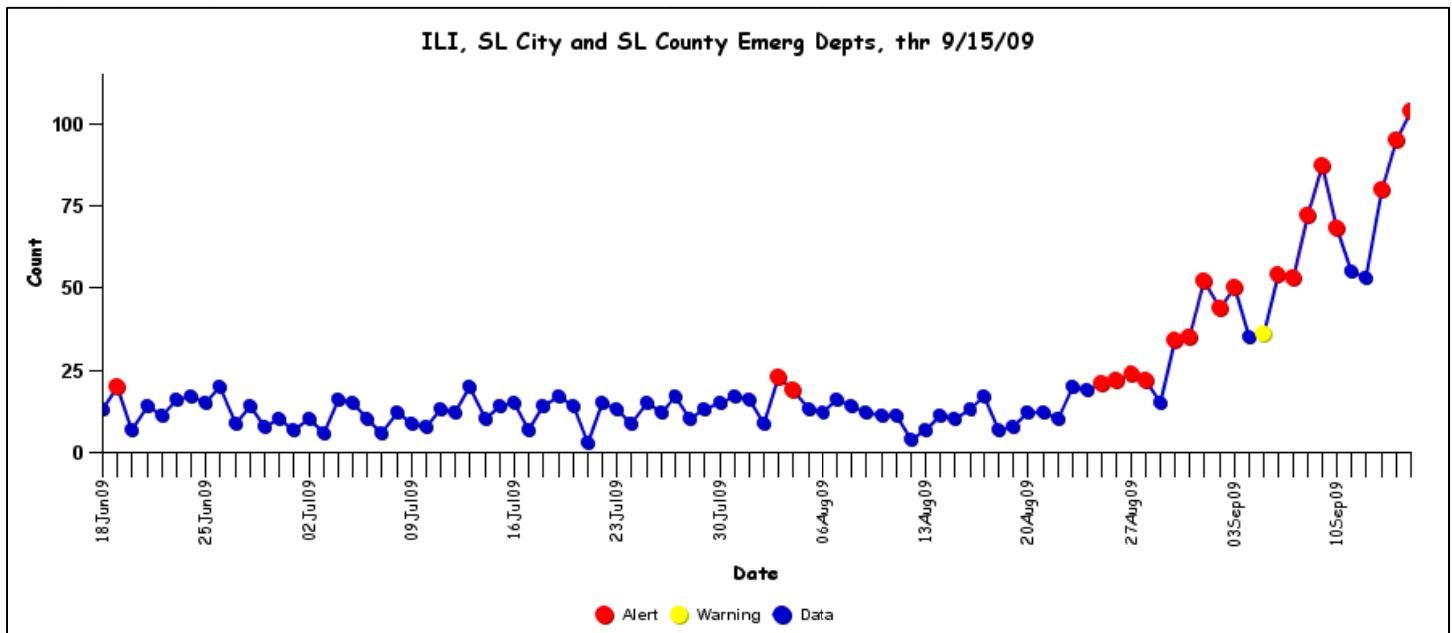


Influenza Surveillance Report

St. Louis County Department of Health, 9/16/09



Influenza-like Illness Data from ESSENCE



ESSENCE is continuing to flag at an alert level ($p < 0.01$) for influenza-like illness (ILI) in SL City and SL County emergency departments. Yesterday, ESSENCE detected 104 cases of ILI when 60 were expected. Persons between the ages of 5 and 17 are flagging more frequently than other age groups.

Please remember the following points when interpreting ESSENCE data:

- Data are from all hospital emergency departments in St. Louis City and St. Louis County only. ESSENCE does not include data from private physicians, clinics, or ambulatory care centers.
- ESSENCE is based on chief complaints, not final diagnoses or laboratory confirmed tests.
- ILI includes chief complaints with the character strings "FLU", "INFLUENZA", and "FLULIKE" and those that ESSENCE parses to (Fever and (Cough or Sore Throat)).

Active Influenza Surveillance, Laboratory Confirmed Tests

The St. Louis County Department of Health has 23 provider sites enrolled in its active influenza surveillance program. These sites include all hospitals located in the County, pediatric practices, ambulatory care facilities, and a university student health center. Weekly, these sites report positive influenza findings to the Department of Health.

Surveillance sites reported 107 cases of influenza A for the week ending 9/13/09, including 6 cases of 2009 H1N1 influenza. **It should be noted that very few influenza A cases will be tested for 2009 H1N1 influenza, and that the actual number of cases may be much higher. According to the World Health Organization and CDC, 2009 H1N1 continues to be the dominant strain of influenza circulating worldwide.** We have received 6 **additional** cases of 2009 H1N1 influenza to the 3 cases we reported for the week ending 9/6/09, bringing the total of 2009 H1N1 influenza cases for the season to 15.

Influenza by Report Week, Type

St. Louis County Residents Only

For Cases Reported between 8/31/2009 and 9/13/2009

Wk Ending	Type A	Type B	Unk Type	Total
9 /6 /2009	50	1	0	51
9 /13/2009	105	2	0	107
Totals	155	3	0	158

Influenza by Age and Type

St. Louis County Residents Only

Cases Reported Between 8/31/2009 and 9/13/2009

Age Grp	Type A	Type B	Unk Type	Total
00 to <02	4	0	0	4
02 to 04	12	0	0	12
05 to 14	73	1	0	74
15 to 24	41	1	0	42
25 to 49	21	1	0	22
50 to 64	3	0	0	3
65+	1	0	0	1
Totals	155	3	0	158

2009 H1N1 Influenza* by Age

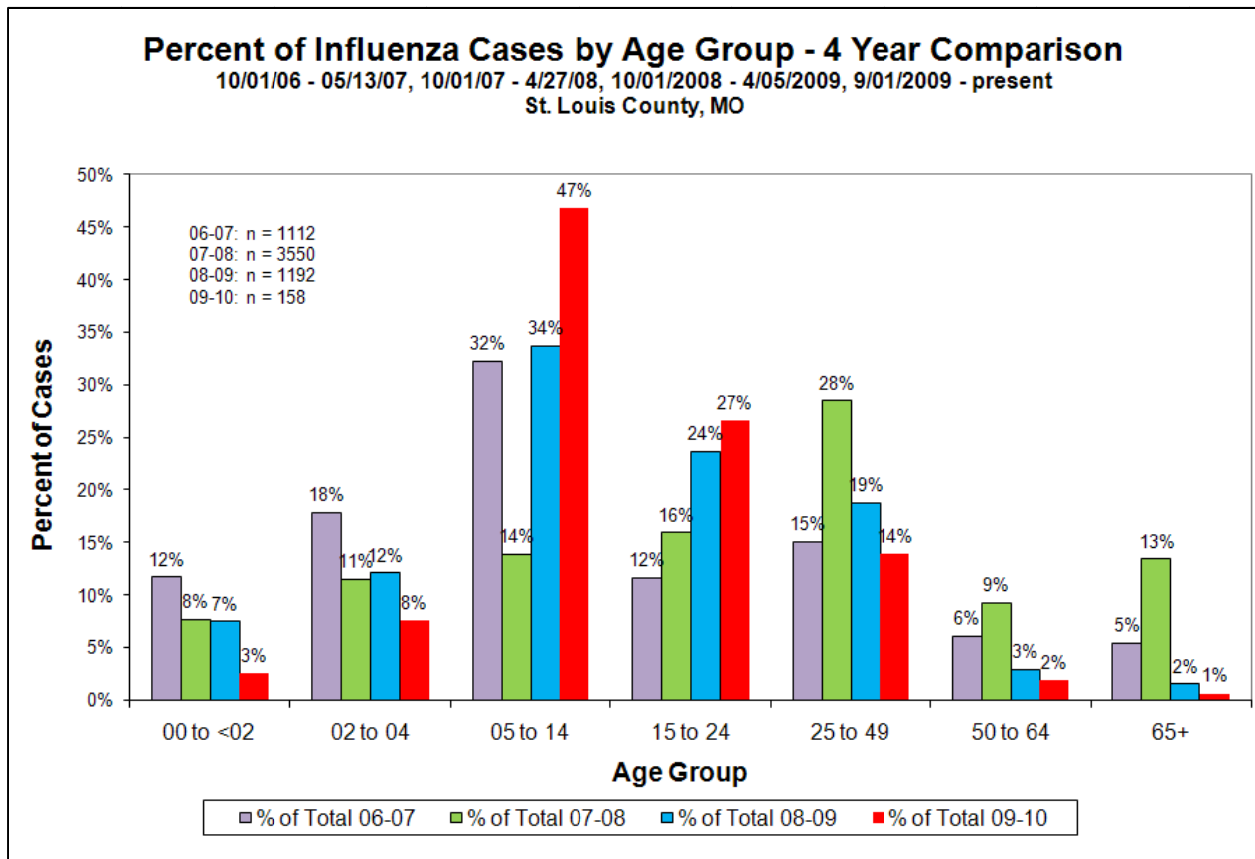
St. Louis County Residents Only

Cases Reported Between 8/31/2009 and 9/13/2009

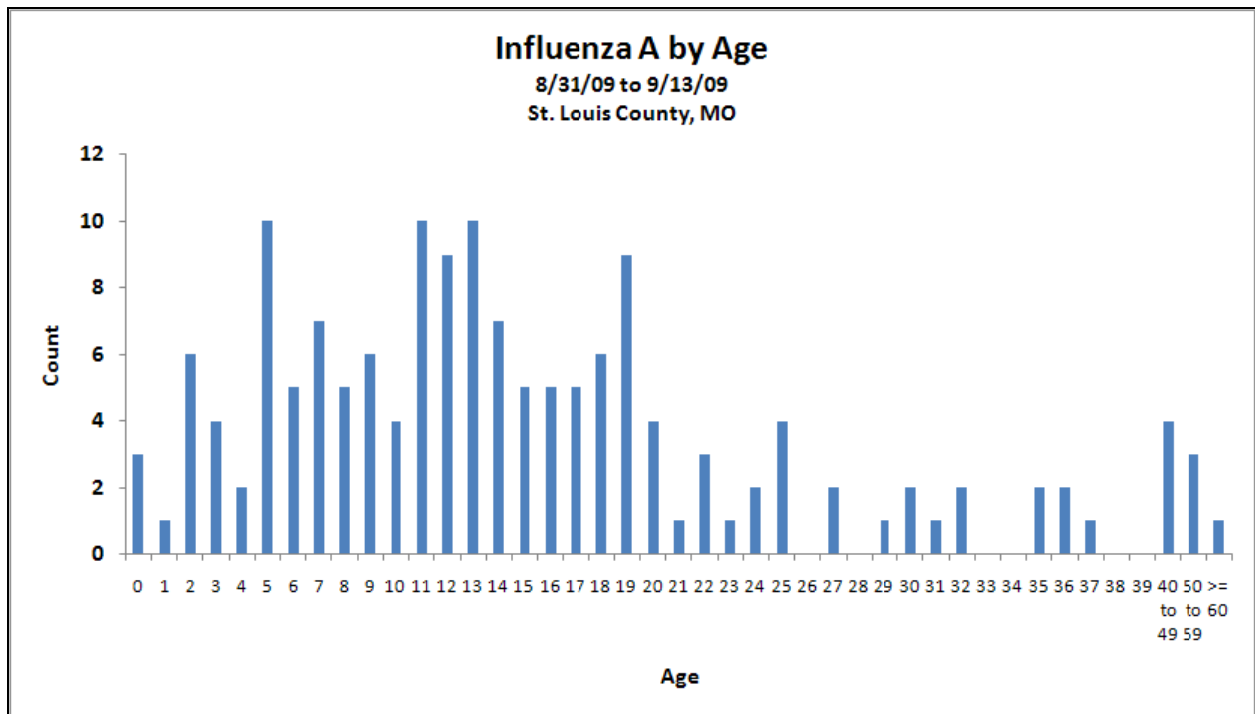
Age Grp	Total
00 to <02	1
02 to 04	0
05 to 14	5
15 to 24	5
25 to 49	2
50 to 64	2
65+	0
TOTAL	15

*It should be noted that very few influenza A cases will be tested for 2009 H1N1 influenza, and that the actual number of cases may be much higher. According to the World Health Organization and CDC, 2009 H1N1 continues to be the dominant strain of influenza circulating worldwide.

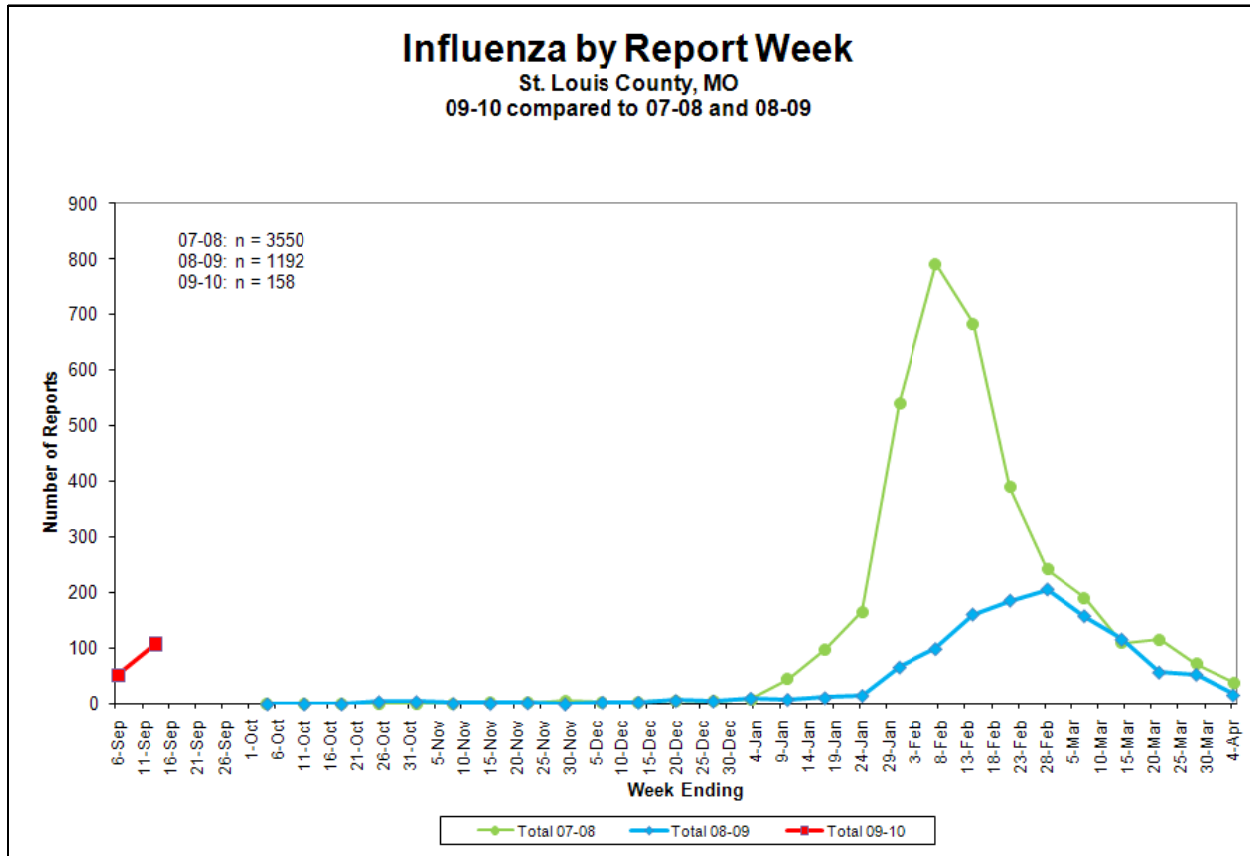
Percent of Influenza Cases by Age Group



Influenza A by Age, 8/31/09 to 9/13/09:



Median age = 13 y/o, 25% <= 7 y/o, 75% <= 19 y/o



Over the Counter Medications and Supplies

Missouri’s ESSENCE system now contains the National Retail Data Monitor (NRDM) sales of over-the-counter (OTC) healthcare products from the University of Pittsburgh’s RODS system. Participating pharmacies in St. Louis County transmit OTC data daily to RODS. Sales of OTCs related to cough/colds fevers at County pharmacies remain high, but have not flagged in the past week.

Antiviral Medications

There are currently adequate supplies of antiviral medications at St. Louis County pharmacies. The DOH will be monitoring public sector supplies.

Weekly Virus/Microbiology Update, St. Louis Children’s Hospital*:

<http://www.stlouischildrens.org/content/ClinicalLaboratories.htm>

*courtesy of Gregory Storch, MD, and the St. Louis Children’s Hospital Clinical Laboratory