



CT Department of  
Emergency Management  
and Homeland Security



M. Jodi Rell, Governor



CT Department of  
Public Health

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT H1N1 Situation Report

Report Period: December 11, 2009 to December 17, 2009

The Connecticut Departments of Public Health (DPH) and Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) are working together to provide a weekly CT H1N1 Situation Report. This report provides a brief overview of the H1N1 situation in CT, as well as on the national and international levels.

*NOTE: According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the start of the 2009-10 influenza season began Sunday August 30, 2009. All statistics provided will be based on this calendar.*

### I. CONNECTICUT SITUATION SUMMARY

#### Department of Public Health (DPH)

##### **CT Epidemiology/Infectious Disease Section Update:**

- Preliminary influenza data reviewed from the week ending December 12, 2009 reveals that a decreasing level of influenza activity is still being observed in Connecticut as measured by laboratory confirmed test results and syndromic surveillance system activity.
- This decreasing activity has resulted in a change in our national flu activity classification from “widespread” to the lower “regional” level for the week.
- The 2009 influenza A (H1N1) virus remains the predominate subtype circulating within Connecticut, with only a few specimens of seasonal influenza [type B and influenza A (H3N2) isolates] identified to date.
- No new influenza-associated deaths are being reported this week.

**Laboratory-confirmed H1N1 cases by county:** Fairfield 920, Hartford 726, Litchfield 87, Middlesex 58, New Haven 659, New London 124, Tolland 90, Windham 46, Not known 28, Total: 2,729

##### **Vaccine distribution update:**

- [Department of Health Identifies Providers Who Received Recalled H1N1 Vaccine](#) - *Non-Safety Related Voluntary Recall Involves Low Antigen Levels*
- DPH sent a memo to Registered Providers of H1N1 Vaccine, December 15, 2009 to inform them that H1N1 vaccine can now be administered to anyone who wishes to receive it. Vaccine is no longer restricted to the previously outlined priority groups. See Governor Rell’s press release [H1N1 Vaccine Now Available for All of Connecticut](#).
- CT DPH is issuing guidance to the 62 Connecticut providers who received about 7,800 doses of the recalled H1N1 vaccine between 11/11 and 11/30.
- CT has received 930,100 doses of H1N1 vaccine.

##### **Local Update**

- Local health departments continue to hold H1N1 vaccination clinics across the state.
- Local Health Districts (LHDs) are looking forward to the expansion of the priority groups to the entire population.

- Hartford, Vernon & Enfield are among the health districts looking to partner with their local school systems to vaccinate school-aged children prior to the holiday break.

### **Schools**

- No schools closed this week.

### **Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)**

- Current DEMHS activation level — MONITORING (information review and sharing, and outreach mode). H1N1 incident information has been posted for state and local public safety officials on Web EOC.
- DEMHS Regional Offices continue to receive requests from local Emergency Management Directors for CERT and MRC activation approvals to assist flu clinics.

### **Other State Agencies**

- No report.

### **Public Information**

- The DPH H1N1 Hotline is now open between the hours of 9 AM – 5 PM, Monday through Friday.
- DPH Call center volume: Total number of calls into the DPH Hotline since inception (Oct 5<sup>th</sup>): 8,972
- 211 Infoline: 98 calls were received by 211 during the week of December 6 to December 12, 2009.
- Current public messaging:
  - H1N1 vaccine is now available to all Connecticut residents. Please contact your primary healthcare provider or local health department for details.
  - Connecticut received 7,800 doses of vaccine that were part of a nationwide, voluntary recall by the manufacturer for non-safety related issues.
  - Providers who have received the recalled vaccine have been notified by DPH and are being asked to return any unused vaccine to the manufacturer.
  - The recalled vaccine does not pose a safety concern and the CDC does not recommend that those who received the vaccine be revaccinated (except if they are 9 years old or younger and require a 2nd dose)

## **II. NEW ENGLAND STATES/FEMA REGION A (Inc NY&NJ) H1N1 UPDATE SUMMARY**

- Maine CDC is recommending that providers offer the H1N1 vaccine to all residents.
- Fourteen states are reporting widespread influenza activity; a decline of 11 states from last week. They are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia

## **III. NATIONAL H1N1 SITUATION UPDATE SUMMARY**

- According to new estimates by the CDC, nearly 1 in 6 Americans (or about 15 percent of the country) have been infected by the H1N1 flu virus as of mid-November. This brings the total U.S. cases to approximately 50 million. The CDC estimates that there have been 200,000 hospitalizations and 10,000 deaths since the outbreak of the H1N1 flu last Spring. [www.flu.gov/news/](http://www.flu.gov/news/)
- Sanofi-Pasteur has issued a non-safety related voluntary national recall of certain lots of H1N1 Pediatric (0.25 mL, for 6-35 month olds) vaccine in pre-filled syringes. [www.flu.gov/](http://www.flu.gov/)
- The 2009 H1N1 flu continues to pose a significant threat to public health. This virus is particularly affecting pregnant women, children, young adults and people ages 25 though 64 with medical conditions, such as asthma, heart disease, lung disease and diabetes.
- New York, Illinois and Texas have lifted restrictions and will allow any resident seeking an H1N1 vaccination to receive it.

- The CDC is reporting a continuing trend of decreasing influenza activity with only 14 states now reporting the highest “widespread” activity during this week after 11 consecutive weeks with at least half the states at this level.
- The greatest decrease is being observed among the Great Plains and mountain states such as Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming who are reporting only “sporadic” flu activity. Although flu activity is decreasing nationally, it remains high in some regions including the northeast with all states continuing to report widespread levels except Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, who reported lower “regional” levels.

#### **IV. INTERNATIONAL H1N1 UPDATE SUMMARY**

- In Europe, geographically widespread transmission of 2009 H1N1 continues to be observed. In East Asia, influenza transmission remains variable and in South Asia, influenza activity has begun to increase in the north-western parts of India and in Sri Lanka. In the tropical region of Central and South America and the Caribbean, influenza transmission remains geographically widespread but overall disease activity has been declining in most areas. (*Source: WHO*)
- Warnings are being released that young children may experience fever after their second dose of the 2009 H1N1 vaccine Pandemrix. Prescribers and parents are recommended to monitor the temperature of the vaccinated child. A second vaccine dose increases the immune response against 2009 H1N1. (*Source: European Medicines Agency*)
- An article written by a Vietnamese physicians’ group reports a cluster of seven cases of Tamiflu-resistant 2009 H1N1 from July 2009. The resistance mutation was found in specimens taken before Tamiflu treatment. This is the largest cluster of Tamiflu-resistant 2009 H1N1 cases to date. (*Source: New England Journal of Medicine*)

#### **V. NON-H1N1 INFORMATION**

No report.

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 CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Emergency Management Directors  
 CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Health Department/Districts  
 CT Emergency Management Association (CEMA) – Executive Board  
 CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Public Safety – Police & Fire Chiefs  
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 DEMHS Coordinating Council  
 Regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Councils  
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