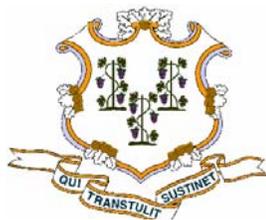




CT Department of  
Emergency Management  
and Homeland Security



M. Jodi Rell, Governor



CT Department of  
Public Health

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT H1N1 Situation Report

Report Period: November 13, 2009 to November 19, 2009

The Connecticut Departments of Public Health (DPH) and Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) are working together to provide a weekly CT Situation Report on what the State of Connecticut is doing in preparation and response to a H1N1 influenza pandemic. 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 data from the week ending November 14, 2009 indicates that influenza activity continues to increase in Connecticut as seen by an increasing number of lab confirmed tests and increasing activity in the DPH syndromic surveillance system.
- Case Update from August 30, 2009 to present: Laboratory-Confirmed H1N1 Cases (by county) Fairfield 267, Hartford 321, Litchfield 25, Middlesex 23, New Haven 209, New London 45, Tolland 48, Windham 23 and Unknown 9. **Total 970 confirmed cases.** Of the 970 cases 525 are Female (54.1%), 435 are Male (44.8%) and 10 or 1% Unknown. Age Range: less than 1 year to 88 years old with a Median Age: 15 years old
- Hospitalizations: 207 (plus 50 patients hospitalized with influenza confirmed infections identified only as influenza type A or type B)
- There have been 10 deaths reported in CT due to H1N1 since August 30, 2009. Deaths by county are: Fairfield-1, Hartford-5, Litchfield-1, Middlesex-1, New Haven-0, New London-1, Tolland-0 and Windham-1.

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

- As of November 18, 2009 524,600 doses of H1N1 vaccine have arrived in Connecticut.
- Vaccine priority groups will be expanding to include people between the ages of 25-64 with underlying medical conditions beginning November 19. [CT DPH Vaccine Priority memo](#)

**CT Public Health Laboratory Update:** *Laboratory-confirmed cases represent only a fraction of the likely number of cases in the state because many persons with mild symptoms do not seek care from a doctor or hospital but recover at home.*

##### **Influenza test results from November 18, 2009:**

- Total specimens received 11/17/2009: 41
- Total H1N1 positive: 18
- Total negative for all influenza: 31
- Total pending: 14
- Total seasonal influenza: 0
- Total H1N1 positive since 8/30/2009: 320

#### **Local Update**

Local health departments are conducting H1N1 Flu clinics across the state based on vaccine availability. Most clinics are by appointment only to ensure vaccines are provided to the priority populations.

## Schools

Schools in the Shepaug School District (Region 12) reopened Monday, November 16.

## 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 continues to receive requests from local Emergency Management Directors for CERT and MRC activation approvals to assist flu clinics with traffic control, check-in, information, and other administrative duties.
- DEMHS is currently assisting DPH with the distribution of supplemental N95 respirators. Regional distribution to cities and towns began November 17, 2009.
- Commissioner Peter Boynton participated in the H1N1 informational hearing before the Legislature's Public Health & Public Safety and Security Committees on November 18, 2009.

## Other State Agencies

- State agencies are currently reporting their COOP status to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) through WEB EOC.

## Public Information

- DPH Call center volume: Total number of calls into the DPH Hotline since inception (Oct 5<sup>th</sup>): 7,904
- 211 Infoline: For the week, Nov. 8-Nov. 14, 2009, 2-1-1 Infoline answered only 7 calls related to the H1N1 virus; however, the H1N1 recorded messages were selected over 550 times. The majority of messages selected continue to be regarding vaccine availability and the difference between seasonal flu and H1N1.
- Current public messaging:
  - We are well into the second wave of the pandemic in Connecticut
  - We expect to continue to see increasing cases over the next few weeks, including hospitalizations and even death
  - Like seasonal flu, H1N1 can cause severe illness, so people should take precautions to protect themselves and others from the flu (stay home if you're sick, wash your hands, cover your cough)

## **II. NEW ENGLAND STATES SITUATION/FEMA REGION A (Inc New York & New Jersey) UPDATE SUMMARY**

- **Maine** reports two more deaths linked to the H1N1 virus: a resident between the ages of 25 and 50, and a resident over the age of 65. Both had underlying medical conditions. Since August, Maine has had five H1N1-related deaths. This last week has brought a "continued" and "significant" surge in H1N1 in Maine.

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

- National H1N1 vaccine allocation as of Nov. 16: 47.65 million
- The H1N1 virus activity remains widespread in the U.S., with 46 states reporting widespread activity.
- Nationally, influenza like illness (ILI) has declined overall; however, visits to doctors for influenza-like illness remain higher than what is seen during the peak of many regular flu seasons.
- Approximately, 6.7% of doctor's visits for the current reporting period were H1N1-related (a decline of one percent from last week), which is above the national baseline of 2.3%.
- Total influenza hospitalization rates for laboratory-confirmed flu continue to climb across the nation, and remain higher than expected for this time of year. Hospitalization rates continue to be highest in younger populations with the highest hospitalization rate reported in children 0-4 years old.
- The CDC reports that nearly 4,000 Americans have died from the H1N1 virus since it first emerged in April. Previous estimates put the number of fatalities at around 1,000, but the death toll has been recalculated to include deaths from flu-related complications, such as pneumonia and bacterial infections.
- The CDC estimates that 22 million Americans have gotten the virus and close to 100,000 have been hospitalized.
- Eight million children nationwide have been infected with H1N1. 540 have died.
- Almost all of the influenza viruses identified so far continue to be 2009 H1N1 influenza A viruses. These viruses remain similar to the virus chosen for the 2009 H1N1 vaccine, and remain susceptible to the antiviral drugs oseltamivir and zanamivir with rare exception.

- News reports indicate that Oklahoma has become the first state to allow anyone who wishes to receive the H1N1 vaccine to do so.
- Google Inc. has launched a nationwide flu shot finder to help people locate clinics that offer both seasonal and H1N1 vaccines. You can access the flu shot finder at [www.google.com/flushot](http://www.google.com/flushot). Connecticut is not currently providing information for input into this system, but will do so at such time as when clinics are open to all.
- Federal Trade Commission Press Release - *FTC Warns Internet Peddlers that Marketing Unproven H1N1 Flu Products May Be Illegal* - [www.ftc.gov/opa/2009](http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2009).

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

##### **WHO Update – Weekly update** 13 November 2009 –

- As of November 8, 2009, worldwide more than 206 countries and overseas territories or communities have reported laboratory confirmed 503536 cases of pandemic influenza H1N1 2009, including over 6250 deaths.
- The winter influenza season, which began unusually early across much of the Northern Hemisphere, shows early signs of peaking in parts of North America but is intensifying across much of Europe and Central and Eastern Asia.
- In North America, Canada reported sharp increases in rates of influenza-like-illness (ILI), detections of pandemic H1N1 virus, and school outbreaks over the past three weeks as pandemic activity continues to spread west to east. In the United States, influenza transmission remains geographically widespread and intense but largely unchanged since the previous reporting week; rates of hospitalizations among persons aged 0-4 years, 5-17 years, and 18-49 years have now exceeded those seen during recent previous influenza seasons. Disease activity may have peaked in the earlier affected southern and southeastern parts of the United States. In Mexico, influenza activity remains geographically widespread with a significant wave of cases reported since early September, most notably from central and southern Mexico.
- The countries and overseas territories/communities that have newly reported their first pandemic (H1N1) 2009 confirmed cases since the last web update (No.73): Somalia, Nigeria, and Burundi.
- The countries and overseas territories/communities that have newly reported their first deaths among pandemic (H1N1) 2009 confirmed cases since the last web update (No 73): Saint Lucia.

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

No report

Distribution List: CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Chief Elected Officials/Chief Executive Officers  
 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  
 Regional Planning Organizations/Agencies, Council of Governments/Elected Officials  
 DEMHS Coordinating Council  
 Regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Councils  
 State of Connecticut Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Liaisons  
 Security Communications Access Network (SCAN)

Submitted by: Peter J. Boynton, Commissioner, CT Dept. of Emergency Management & Homeland Security  
 Dr. J. Robert Galvin, Commissioner, CT Department of Public Health

November 19, 2009