



Miami-Dade County Health Department Office of Epidemiology and Disease Control Influenza/Respiratory Illness Surveillance Report Week 52: 12/21/2008 – 12/27/2008

Contacts

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Report Summary

The Weekly Influenza/Respiratory Illness Surveillance Report includes information from the following data sources:

1. Hospital Emergency Department Surveillance (ESSENCE)
2. Florida Sentinel Physician Influenza Surveillance Network (FSPISN)
3. Outbreak Report

Each reporting week starts on Sunday and ends on Saturday.

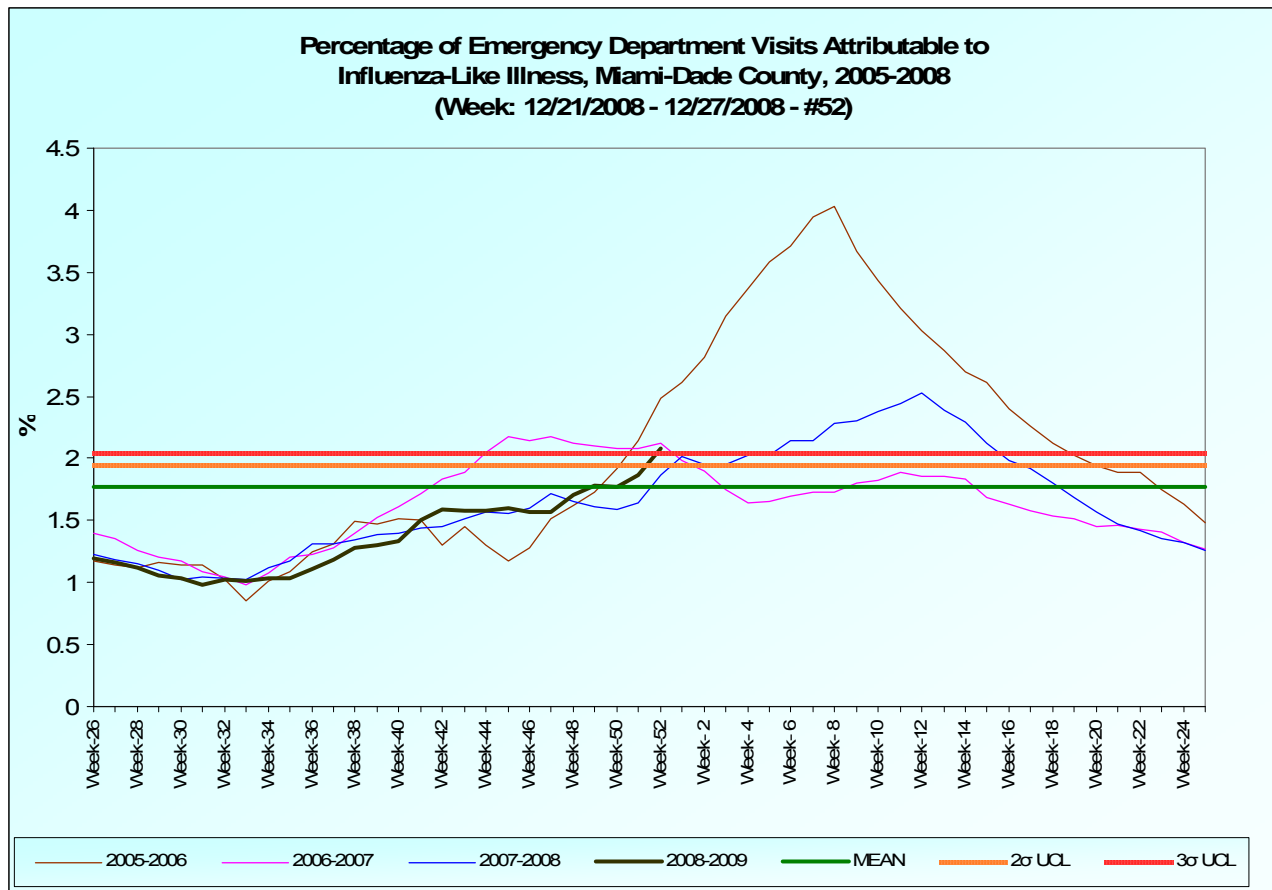
Methods

An exponentially weighted moving average (EWMA) is calculated based on historical data from January 1, 2008 to current data. The thresholds are estimated by EWMA based on last 3 influenza seasons (2005-2006, 2006-2007 and 2007-2008). The Upper Control Limits (UCL) are at 2 and 3 standard deviations above the mean. Increased activity is determined based on a threshold that is 2 standard deviations above the historical mean.

Hospital Emergency Department Surveillance

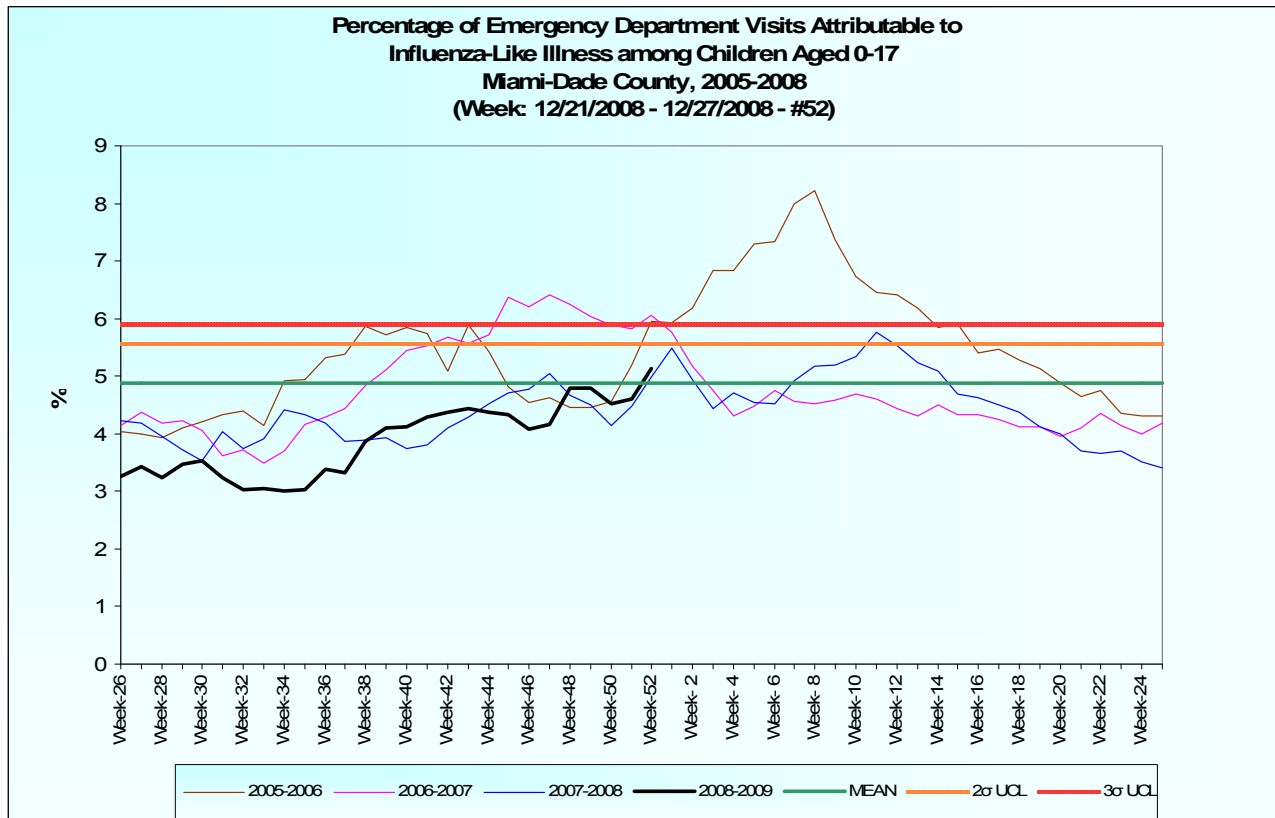
On a daily basis, selected Miami-Dade County hospitals electronically transmit hospital emergency department data to the Miami-Dade County Health Department. This data is then categorized into 10 distinct syndromes. The influenza-like illness (ILI) syndrome consists of fever with either cough or sore throat. It can also include a chief complaint of “flu”. Each week, staff will determine the percentage of all emergency department visits that fall into the ILI category.

Influenza-Like-Illness, All Ages



During this week, influenza-like illness activity increase and was above the mean. About 2.6% of emergency department visits were attributed to influenza-like illness, compared with 2.41% observed during the same week last influenza season.

Influenza-Like-Illness, Children Aged 0-17



During this week, there was an increase in influenza-like illness seen among children. The activity level is above the mean. About 6.4% of emergency department visits were attributed to influenza-like illness, compared with 6.2% observed during the same week last influenza season.