The percentage (%) of patients with ILI reported in Week 18 was 0.11% as compared to 0.41% in Week 17. Of the 4 specimens received from Week 18, none (0.0%) tested positive for influenza viruses. A map of counties with confirmed PCR or culture-confirmed influenza in the past six weeks is below.

State Public Health Laboratory
Respiratory Viral Panel
*Note: The RVP testing instrument is still being serviced. Only influenza PCR results are currently available.
Influenza confirmed by culture or PCR in Tennessee from specimens collected by any source within the past 6 weeks.

March 27, 2011 to May 7, 2011

- Strains are reported by county of case residence or, if unknown, county where the specimen was collected.
- Counties where influenza sentinel providers are located are identified with bold boundary lines.
- Stars mark counties with large metropolitan populations (Memphis, Jackson, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, and the Tri-Cities area)
Reference Information for Sentinel Provider Network

1 Influenza-like illness (ILI) is defined as fever > 100°F (37.8°C) plus cough and/or sore throat, in the absence of a known cause (other than influenza). Classification of ILI is based upon symptoms only and does not require any test.

2 The % of patients with ILI seen in each region is compared to the statewide average. Regions with % statistically-significantly different from the state average are noted as “higher” or “lower.” The CDC reports that the percentage of patients visiting outpatient healthcare providers in the Sentinel Provider Network (SPN) with influenza-like-illness (ILI) when influenza viruses are not circulating is expected to fall at or below a specific SPN baseline [nationwide = 2.2%, East South Central region (AL, TN, MS, KY) = 2.3%]. When the percentage of patients with ILI exceeds this baseline, this suggests that influenza viruses may be circulating.

Important information for Sentinel Providers

Sentinel Providers report ILI by the end of Tuesday following the end of the reporting week (www2a.cdc.gov/ilinet) and collect and ship specimens from ILI cases Monday through Thursday (maximum 10/week per provider). All Sentinel Provider specimens MUST be accompanied by the Influenza and Respiratory Viral Panel Submission form dated 8/18/2010, or testing will not be done. The Respiratory Viral Panel is only validated for nasopharyngeal (NP) specimens. Specimens collected from other sites cannot be tested.

Additional laboratory supplies can be obtained by completing the lab order supply form. To ensure the order is filled, please include the CDC Provider ID Code.

Contact Information
Submit weekly reports to: http://www2a.cdc.gov/ilinet/ OR Fax 888-232-1322

State Lab: Susan McCool 615-262-6351

SPN Questions:
State: Robb Garman or Robert Taylor 800-404-3006 OR 615-741-7247
County/Region: Regional SPN Coordinator (see map)