The percentage of patients with ILI reported by the TN SPN was 3.88% for Week 37 - down from 4.75% reported in Week 36. Of 147 specimens tested, 58 (39.5%) were positive by PCR for influenza: 100% were pandemic H1N1. The new SPN Protocol (eff. Sept 1, 2009): Sentinel Providers report ILI by the end of Tuesday (was Monday) following the end of the reporting week; collect and ship specimens from ILI cases on Mondays and/or Wednesdays (maximum 10/wk) using the SPN Specimen Collection Form dated 8/21/09. Sentinel providers should contact regional SPN coordinators with questions.

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) = 2.4%]. When the percentage of patients with ILI exceeds this baseline, this suggests that influenza viruses may be circulating.

*The percentage of influenza-like-illness patients seen in each region is compared to the statewide average. Regions with percentages statistically-significantly different from the state average are noted as “higher” or “lower.”
Effective September 1, a new laboratory testing protocol was started. Testing is now done specifically for Seasonal A (H1) A(H3) & B virus subtypes, in addition to Pandemic A (H1). Non-subtyped and non-subtypable results are no longer reported in this chart or on the state map.

All Sentinel Provider specimens MUST now be accompanied by the SPN Influenza Submission form dated 8/21/2009, or testing will not be done.

This table shows all specimens tested by the State Lab. The state lab policy for influenza testing is at http://health.state.tn.us/H1N1.htm#hcp.
Influenza confirmed by culture or PCR in Tennessee from specimens collected by any source within the past 6 weeks. August 9, 2009 to September 19, 2009

- 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 marks counties with large metropolitan populations (Memphis, Jackson, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, and the Tri-Cities area)
- Novel 2009 H1N1 results are for confirmed cases identified by PCR testing; counties with their first case identified are indicated by diagonal striping.
**Important Information**

**Novel influenza:** [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)  or [http://health.state.tn.us/H1N1.htm](http://health.state.tn.us/H1N1.htm)

Submit weekly reports to:  

**State Lab:**  
- Jerry Hindman or Susan McCool  
  615-262-6351 or 6374

**SPN Questions:**  
- Regional SPN Coordinator (see map)  
- Robb Garman or Robert Taylor  
  800-404-3006 or 615-741-7247