The percentage of patients with ILI reported by the TN SPN was 3.29% for Week 40 - down from 4.19% reported in Week 39. Of 126 specimens tested, 33 (26.2%) were positive by PCR for influenza: 32/33 (96.7%) were pandemic H1N1, 1/33 (3.3%) was seasonal B. Sentinel Providers (SPs): please note that CDC’s ILI reporting format (not reflected in this summary report) will have new age groupings (0-4y, 5-24y, 25-49y, 50-64y, 65+y) for ILI reporting starting the week of October 4-10. The SPN Protocol (eff. Sept 1, 2009): SPs report ILI by the end of Tuesday 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.

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.”
Laboratory 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 30, 2009 to October 10, 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 Novel 2009 H1N1 positive result in the past 6 weeks are indicated by diagonal striping.
Important Information

Novel influenza: www.cdc.gov or http://health.state.tn.us/H1N1.htm

Submit weekly reports to:
www.ncid.cdc.gov/flu/ or Fax 888-232-1322

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