



Regional Update EW 38

Influenza
(October 4, 2010 - 17 h GMT; 12 h EST)

The information contained within this update is obtained from data provided by Ministries of Health of Member States and National Influenza Centers through reports sent to Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) or updates on their web pages.

Epidemiologic influenza update

In Chile¹, nationally, after a 6 weeks increase, influenza-like illness (ILI) activity decreased in epidemiological week (EW) 38, as compared to the previous week; however it still remained well above the epidemic threshold. At the regional level, the highest rates of ILI activity were in the regions of Los Lagos and Maule. This EW, the proportion of emergency services consultations for respiratory illness, out of the total number of consultations, decreased in children but remained high in adults, as compared to the last week.

CAREC^{* 2}, reported an overall decreasing trend from EW 35 to EW 37, in the proportion of admissions for severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) out of the total hospitalizations. No SARI deaths were reported in EW 37. CAREC reported the predominance of influenza A/H3N2 since EW 33.

In Canada³, in EWs 37 and 38, the ILI consultation rate increased as compared to previous weeks but was still within expected levels for this time of year. Less than 1% of laboratory tests were positive for influenza during this two week period. Of the positive tests, approximately, half were influenza A/H3N2 and half were reported as untyped influenza A. Low levels of other respiratory viruses continued to be reported.

Mexico⁴ reported that the genetic and molecular characterization of 13 different strains of influenza A/H3N2 isolated in different geographical areas of Mexico indicate that it belong to the A/Perth/16/2009-like strain, which is included in the 2010-2011 Northern Hemisphere and the 2010 Southern Hemisphere influenza vaccine based on WHO recommendations.

In the United States,⁵ in EW 38, the proportion of outpatient consultations for ILI continued to remain below the national baseline. All the sub-national surveillance regions reported the proportion of ILI to be below their region-specific baselines. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was below the epidemic threshold. No influenza -associated pediatric deaths were reported this week.

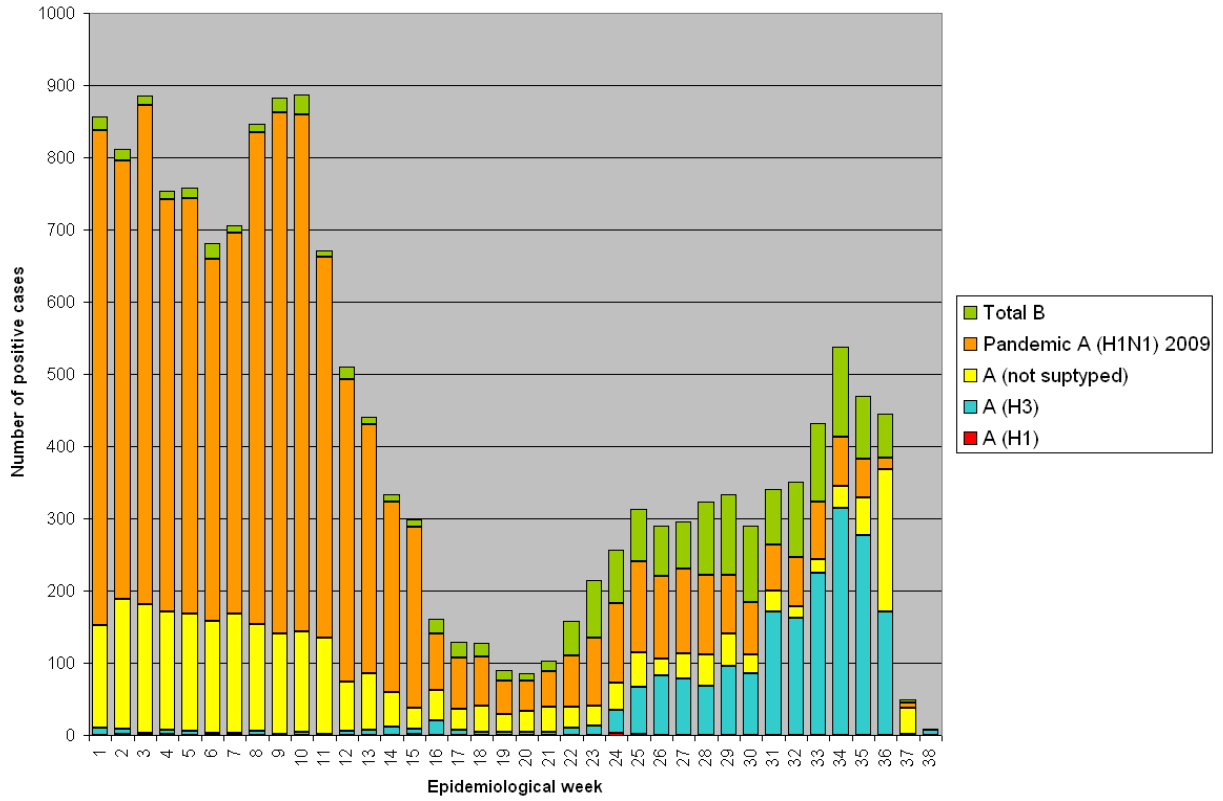
Viral circulation

The information below is based on reports from National Influenza Centers and influenza laboratories from the Region.

* Participating CAREC member countries, which include, Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago, were assessed together

Americas Region (FluNet data)

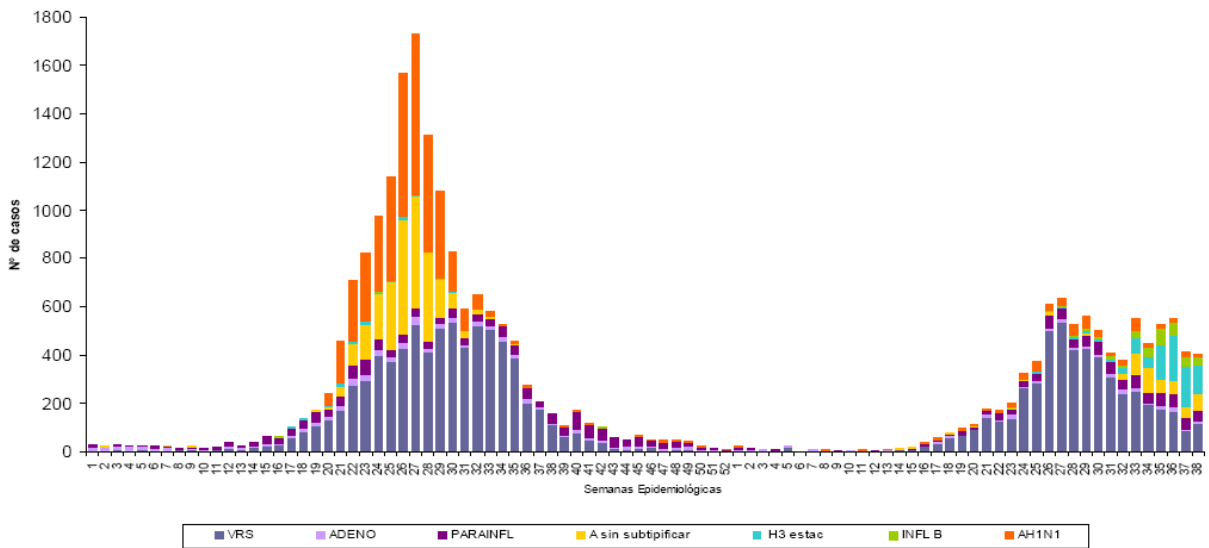
This graph includes data from countries who reported to FluNet



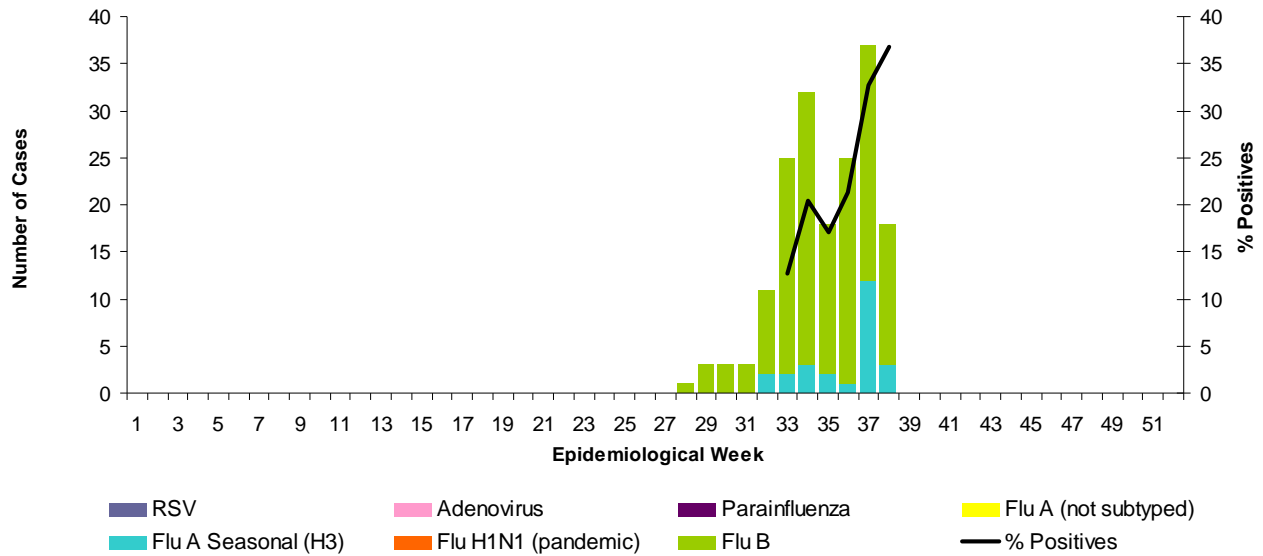
South America - Southern Cone

Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW Chile

Distribución virus respiratorios por semana epidemiológica, vigilancia ISP. Chile, sem 1 a 52 de 2009 y 1 a 38 de 2010.



Uruguay*
Distribution of respiratory viruses under SARI surveillance by EW
2010

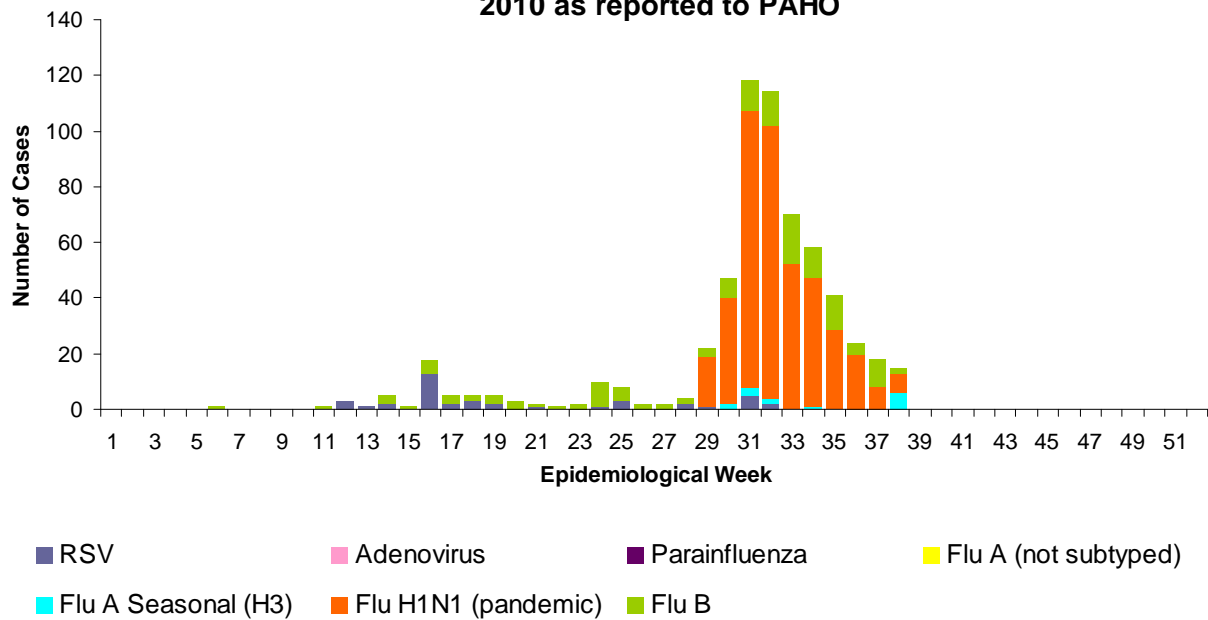


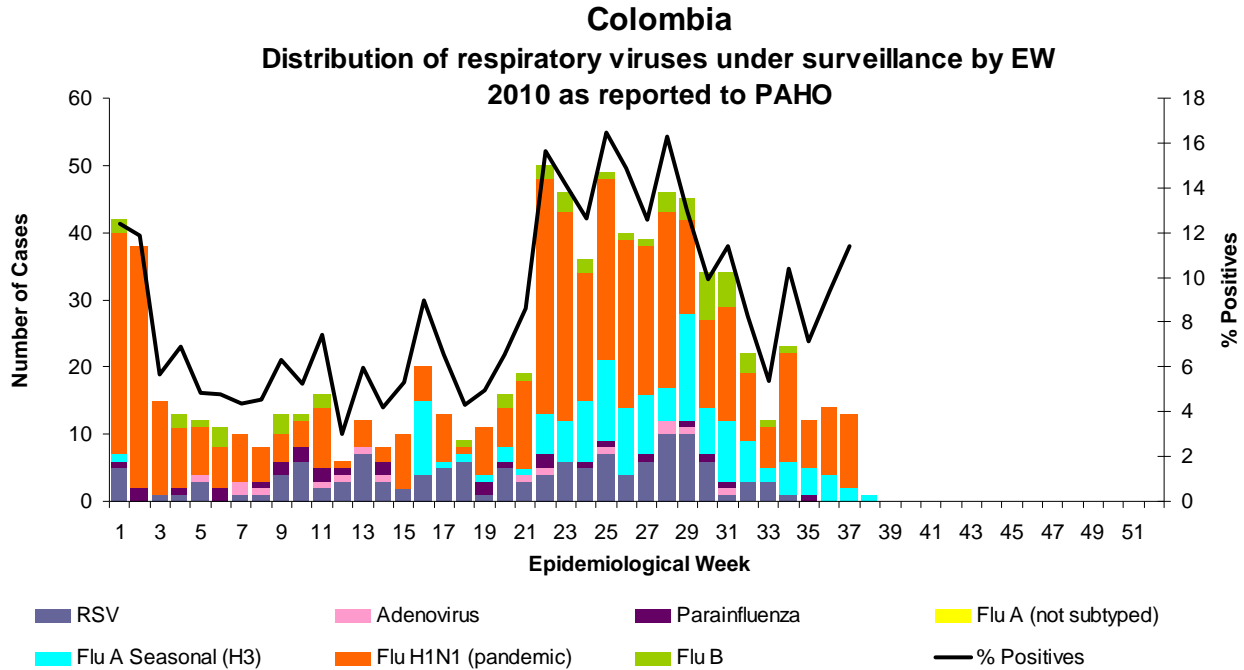
* Data published in: <https://trantor.msp.gub.uy/epidemiologia/servlet/iraggrafmenu>

Andean

Bolivia

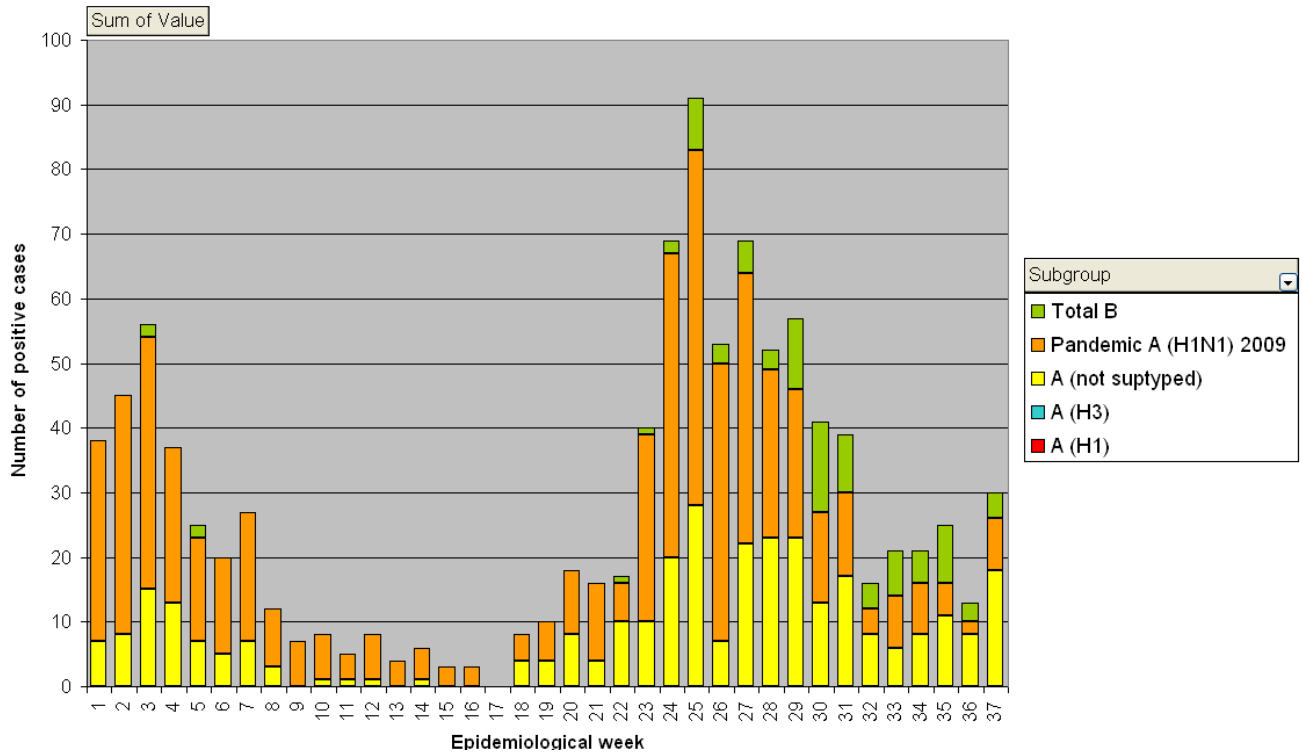
Bolivia (La Paz - INLASA)
Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW
2010 as reported to PAHO





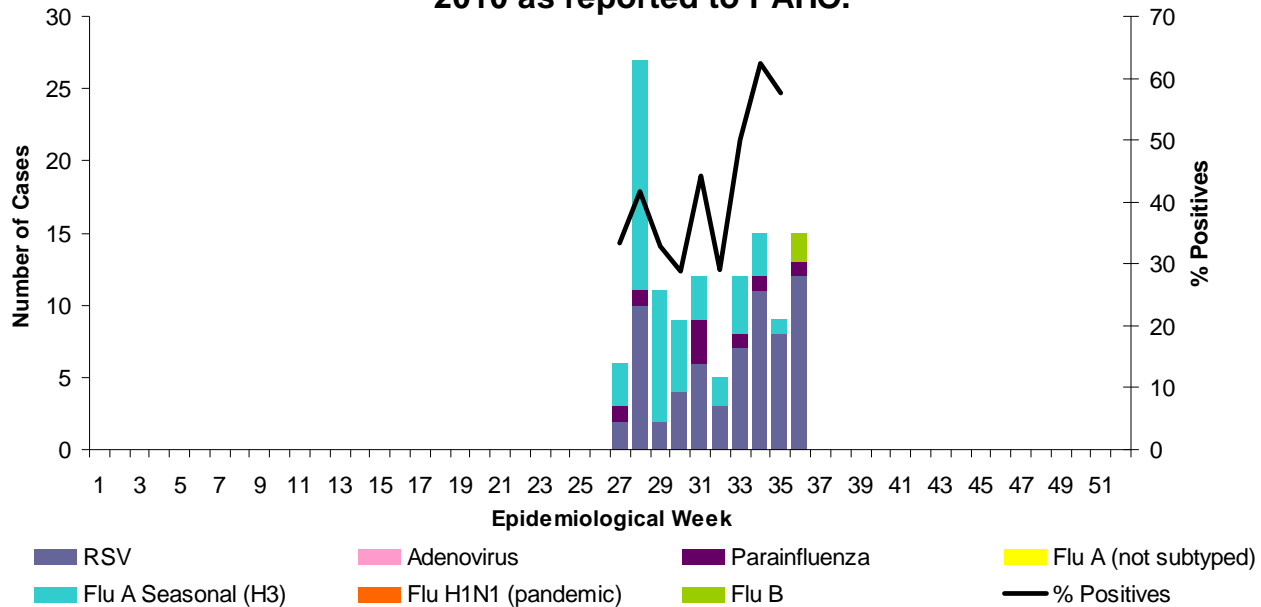
Peru (FluNet data)

Country

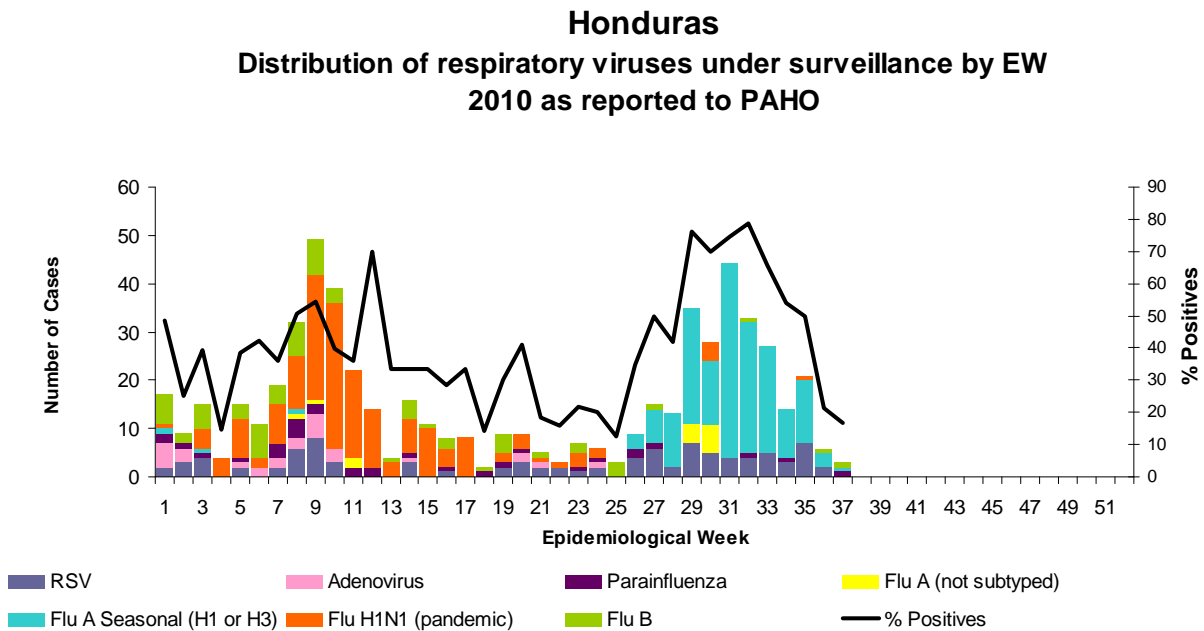
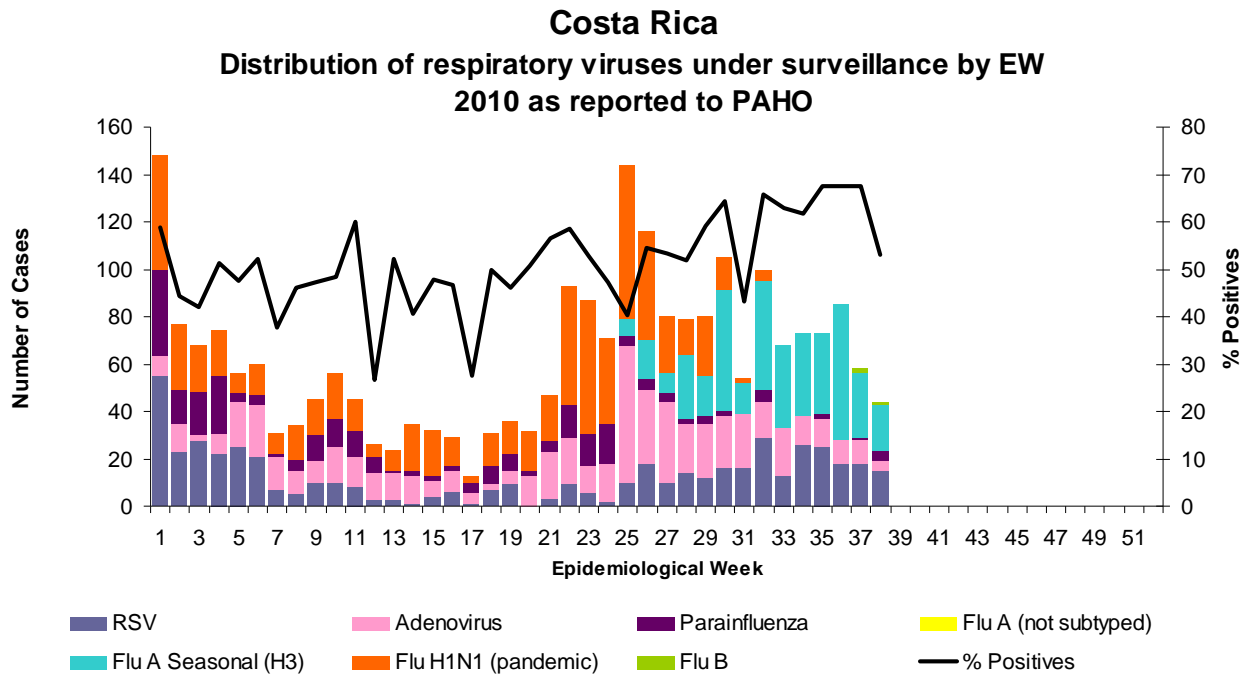


Venezuela

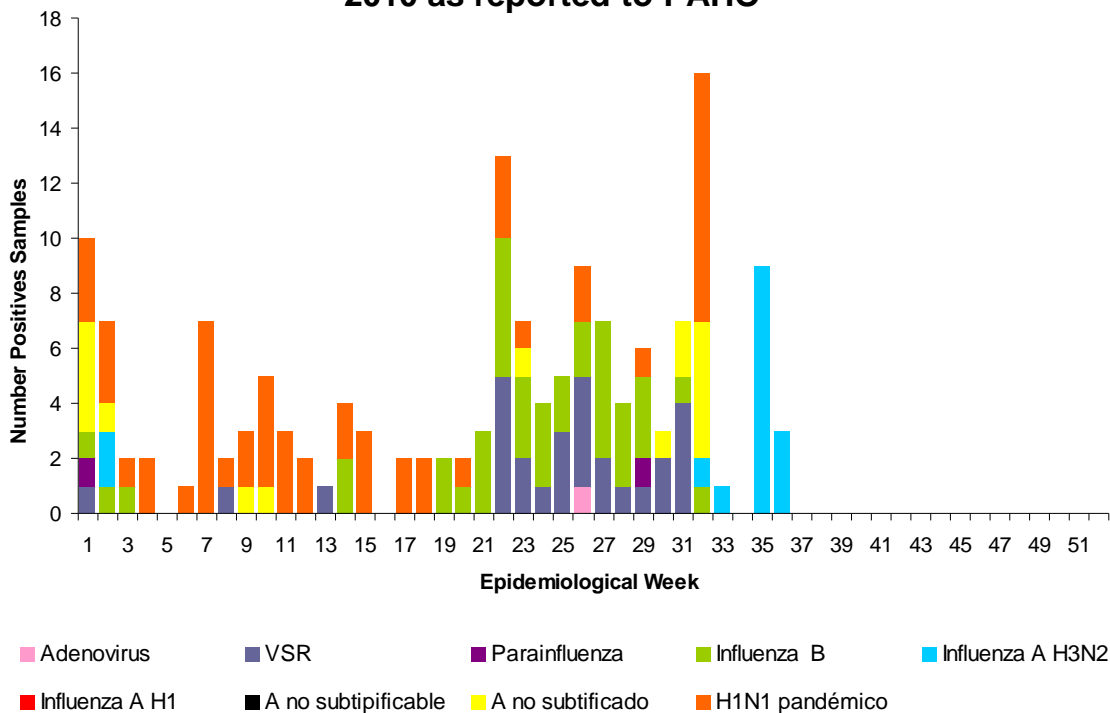
Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW 2010 as reported to PAHO.



Central America

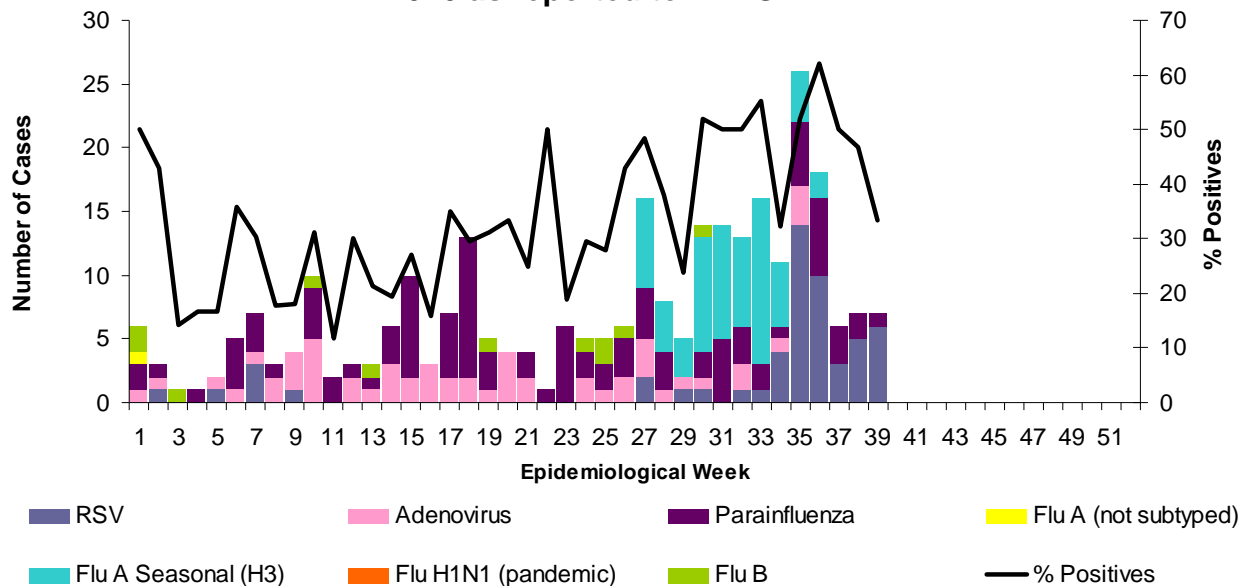


CAREC Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance 2010 as reported to PAHO



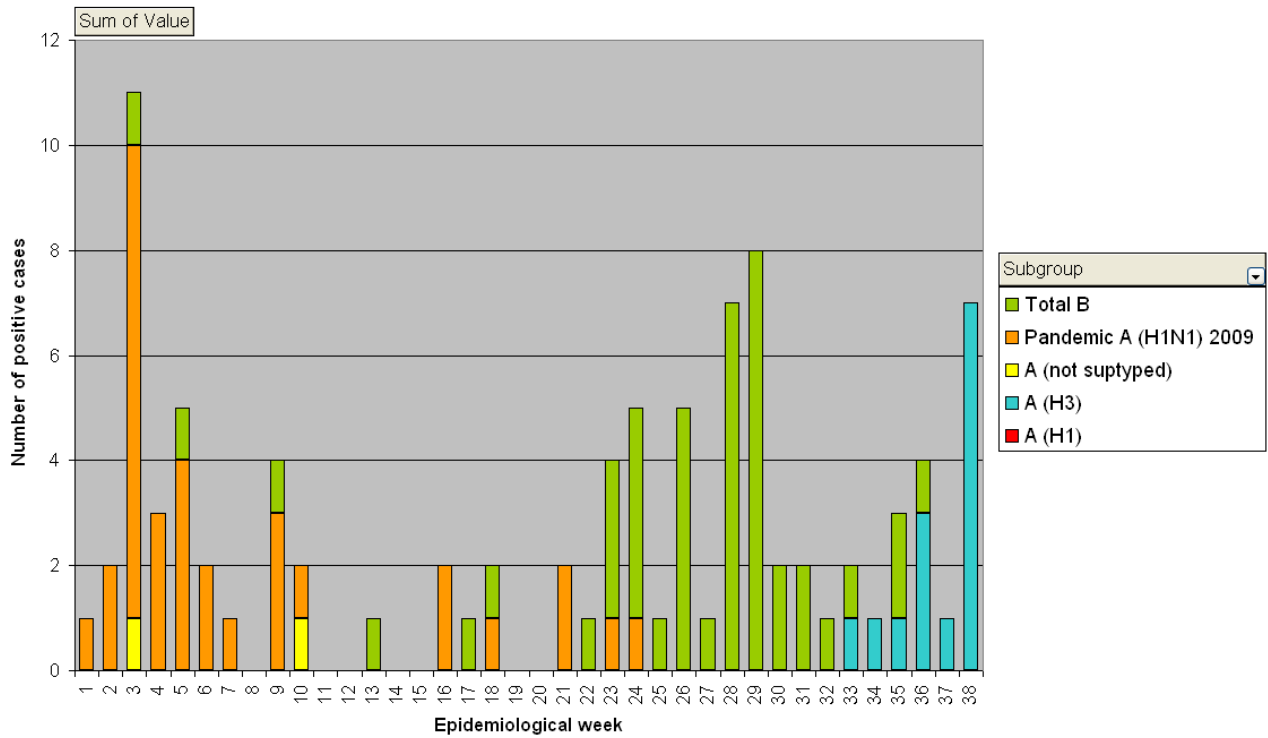
* Participating CAREC member countries, which include, Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago, were assessed together

Dominican Republic Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW 2010 as reported to PAHO



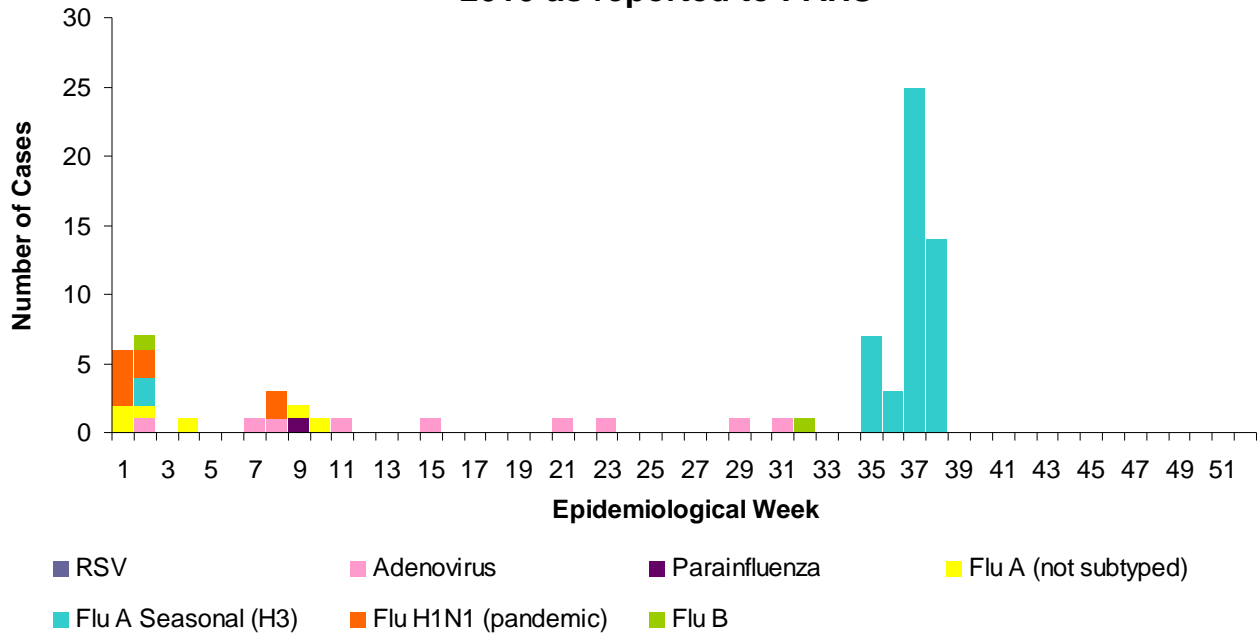
French Guiana (FluNet data)

Country: French Guiana



Jamaica

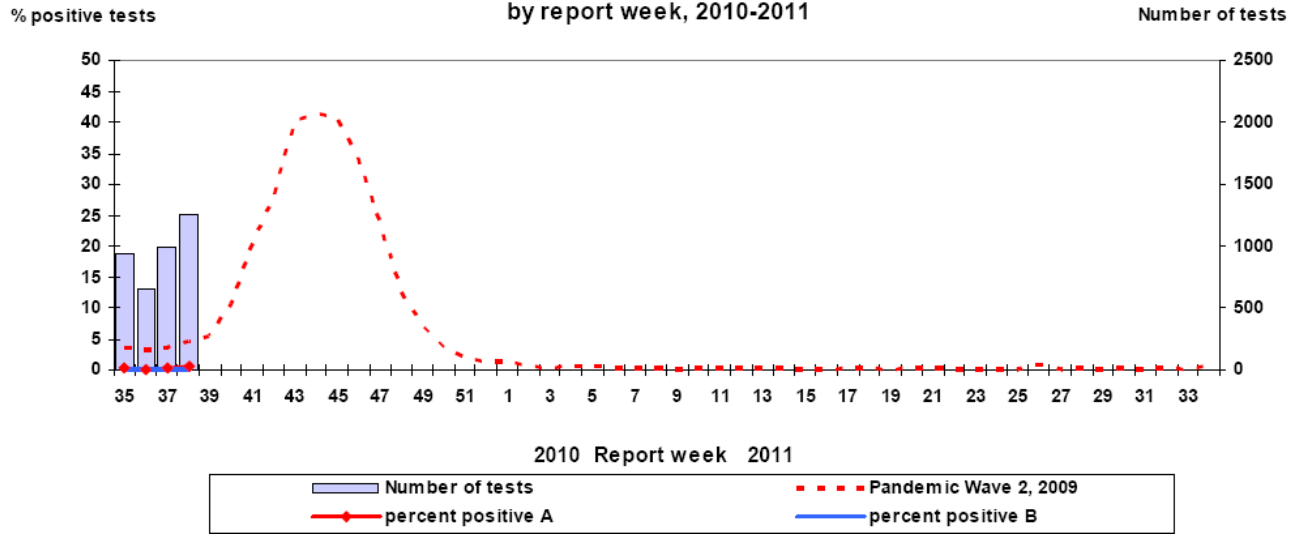
Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW 2010 as reported to PAHO



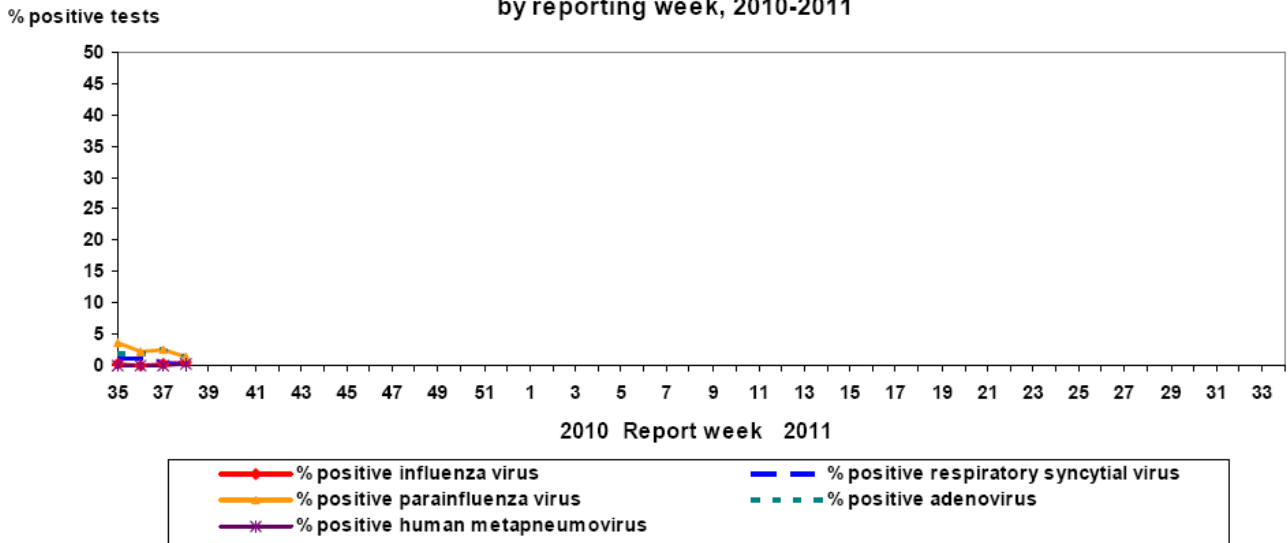
North America

Canada

Influenza tests reported and percentage of tests positive, Canada, by report week, 2010-2011

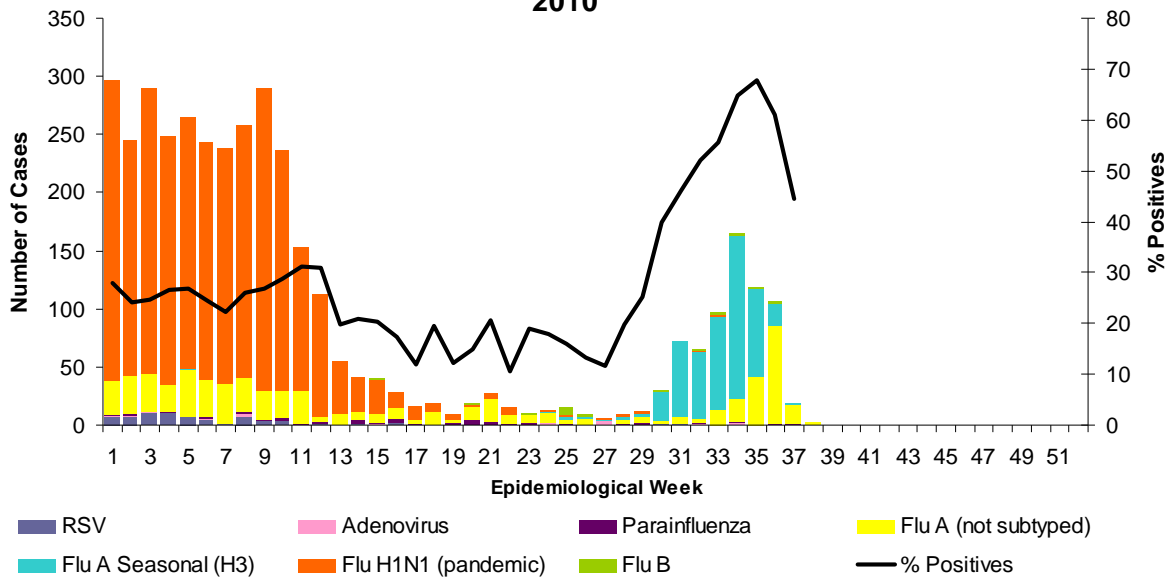


Percent positive influenza tests, compared to other respiratory viruses, Canada, by reporting week, 2010-2011



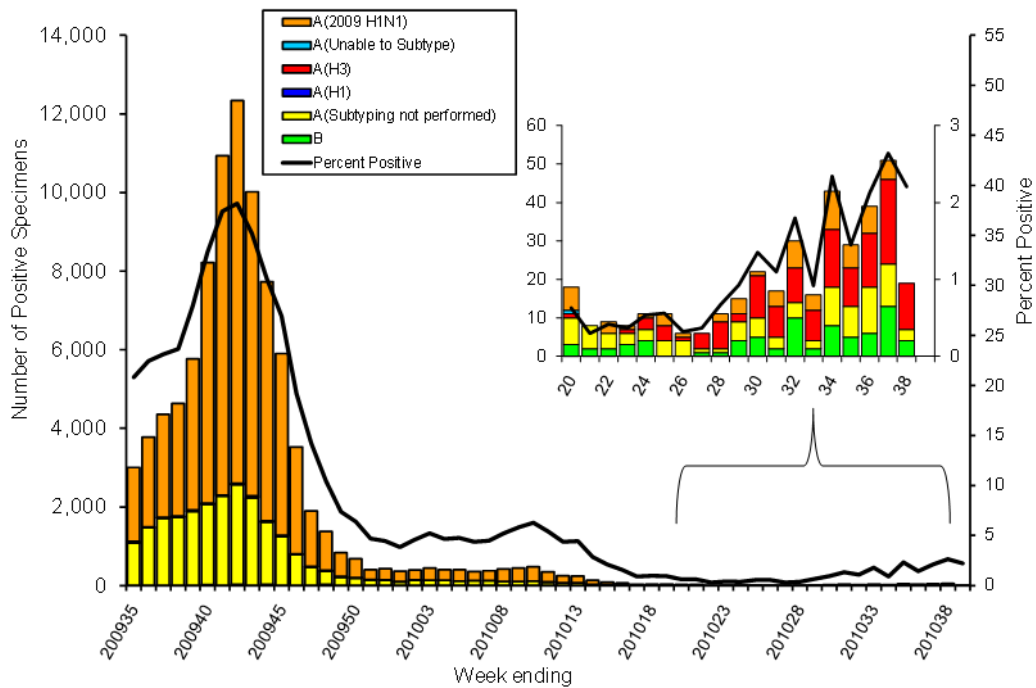
Mexico

Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW 2010



United States

Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. WHO/NREVSS Collaborating Laboratories, National Summary, 2009-10



¹ Chile. Informe de situación. SE 38. www.pandemia.cl

² Surveillance Summary. Week 38, CAREC.

³ FluWatch Report. EW 37-38. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>

⁴ Communication with the Mexican Ministry of Health, EW 38, October 4, 2010.

⁵ Surveillance Summary. Week 38. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.