



PAHO interactive influenza data: [http://ais.paho.org/phip/viz/ed\\_flu.asp](http://ais.paho.org/phip/viz/ed_flu.asp)

Influenza Regional Reports: [http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=3352&Itemid=2469&to=2246](http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3352&Itemid=2469&to=2246)

The information presented in this update is based on data provided by Ministries of Health and National Influenza Centers of Member States to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) or from updates on the Member States' Ministry of Health web pages.

- In North America, influenza activity continued to remain low
- In Central America and the Caribbean, low levels of respiratory viruses have been circulating
- In South America, overall influenza activity remains low and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) continues to be the predominant respiratory virus circulating

### **Epidemiologic and virologic influenza update**

#### ***North America***

In Canada<sup>1</sup>, during epidemiologic weeks (EW) 25 and 26, all regions except one (Alberta) reported no influenza activity. The influenza-like illness (ILI) consultation rate was low and within expected levels for this time of year. The percent of tests positive for influenza, among those tested was less than one percent. Among samples tested, the proportion of tests positive for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) continued to decrease to less than five percent and for parainfluenza virus increased slightly, after peaking in EW 19.

In Mexico, in EW 24, the percentage of samples positive for influenza, among those tested, remained low (3.4%).

In the United States<sup>2</sup>, in EW 26, at the national level, the proportion of consultations for ILI (0.7%) was below the national baseline. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was at the epidemic threshold. This week, no pediatric deaths associated with influenza were reported. During EW 26, the percentage of samples positive for influenza, among those tested, was less than one percent.

#### ***Caribbean***

CAREC<sup>\*</sup>, in EW 26, reported a small increase in the percent of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) admissions, among all hospital admissions, but overall the percent has been stable and less than four percent for all of 2011. No SARI deaths were reported in the last EW. In EW 26, the highest percent of hospitalizations for SARI among all hospitalizations, was in children 6–48 months of age (~3%). Since EW 21, RSV has been the primary virus in circulation.

In Cuba, in EW 25, the proportion of tests positive for any respiratory virus, among all samples tested, remained high at ~50%. Viruses other than adenovirus, influenza, parainfluenza, and RSV, were the most common viruses detected.

In the Dominican Republic, in EW 26, among all samples tested, the percentage of samples positive for respiratory viruses decreased slightly to ~35% and influenza A/H1N1 2009 has been the primary virus in circulation since EW 13.

#### ***Central America***

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\* Includes Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica, St Vincents and the Grenadines, St Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago

In Costa Rica, in EW 26, among all samples tested, the percentage of samples positive for respiratory viruses was ~40% with adenovirus being the primary virus in circulation.

In Honduras<sup>3</sup> in EW 26, at the national level, the percent of admissions for ILI decreased slightly and remained less than five percent, and for SARI, increased slightly but also remained less than five percent. In EW 25, no respiratory viruses were detected.

In El Salvador, in EW 25, the percent of samples positive for respiratory viruses decreased to ~40%. RSV was the most common virus detected.

In Nicaragua, in EW 26, the percent of samples positive for respiratory viruses increased to more than 20%, with viruses other than adenovirus, influenza, parainfluenza, and RSV most commonly detected. No influenza viruses have been detected since EW 10.

In Panama, in EW 25, there was low respiratory virus circulation and since EW 23, there has been no influenza virus detection.

### ***South America – Andean***

In Bolivia, in EW 26, in the department of Santa Cruz (east of the country), no influenza viruses were detected.

In Colombia, in EW 26, there was there was low respiratory virus circulation, with co-circulation of influenza A/H1N1 2009 and A/H3.

In Ecuador, nationally, over the last four weeks, the proportion of SARI hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and deaths has been trending downwards, remaining less than 10% since EW 17. This week, the percentage of positive samples for respiratory viruses decreased slightly to ~15%. No influenza viruses have been detected since EW 11. RSV has been the predominant respiratory virus in circulation since EW 11.

### ***South America – Southern Cone***

In Argentina, in EW 26, RSV continued to predominate and ~2% of samples tested were positive for influenza.

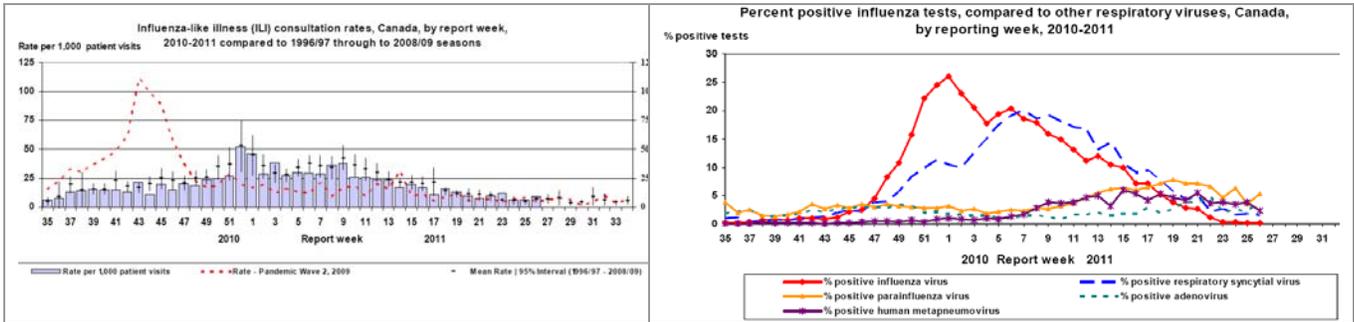
In Paraguay<sup>4</sup>, in EW 26, the proportion of ILI consultations among all consultations remained <10%. Among SARI hospitalizations, the proportion of: SARI admissions among all admissions, SARI ICU admissions among all ICU admissions and SARI deaths among all deaths, remained similar to the previous week and below 15%. In EW 26, the percentage of samples positive for respiratory viruses decreased to less than 20%, with RSV being the predominant virus detected. There has been no influenza detection since EW 9.

In Uruguay<sup>5</sup>, in EWs 26 and 27, the percent of SARI hospitalizations among all hospitalizations and the percent of SARI deaths among all deaths remained stable and less than five percent. The percent of SARI ICU admissions among all ICU admissions has been trending upwards over the last month and this week was ~7%.

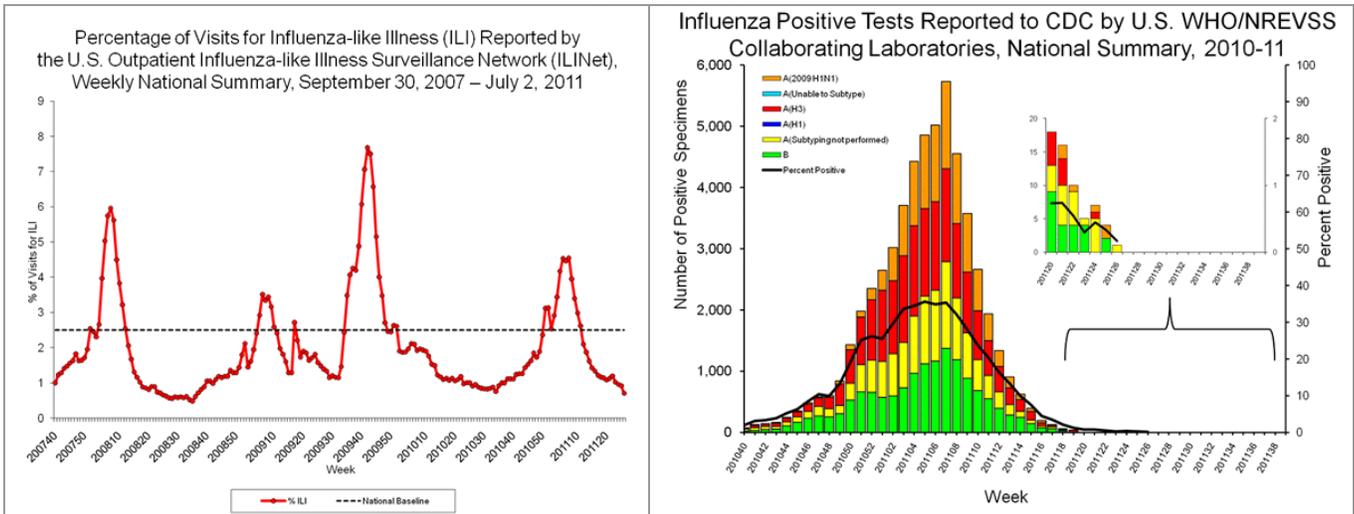
Graphs

North America

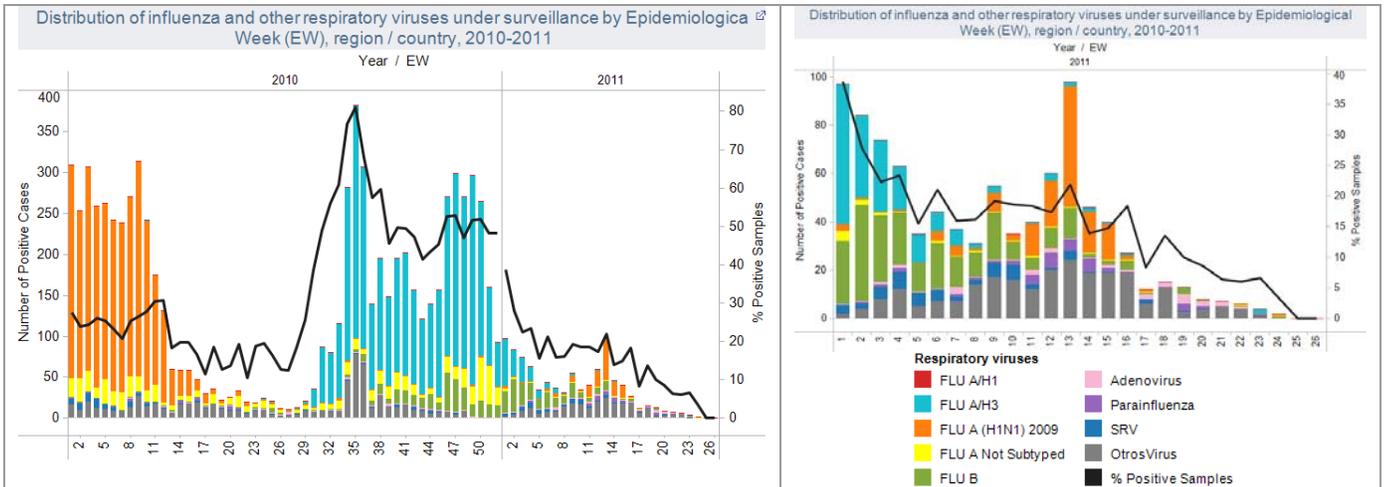
Canada



United States



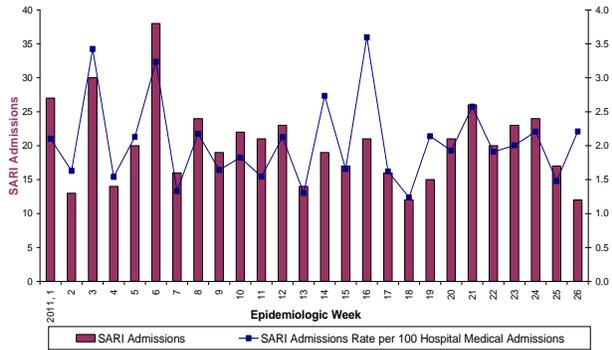
Mexico



# Caribbean

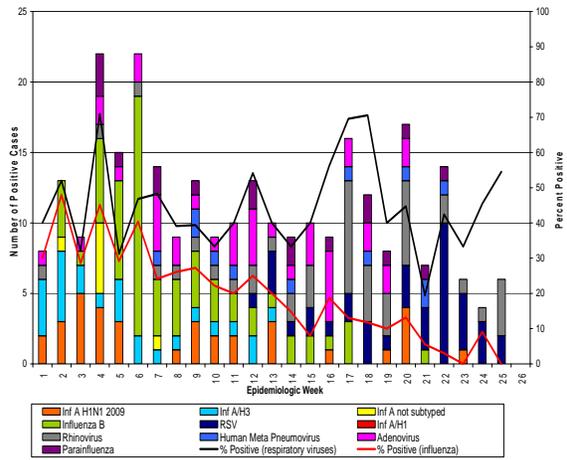
## CAREC SARI Admissions

Graph A: SARI Admissions and SARI Admissions Rate per 100 Hospital Medical Admissions from Sentinel Sites in Select CAREC Member Countries, 2011\*



\* Note: Graph includes data from Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Tobago.

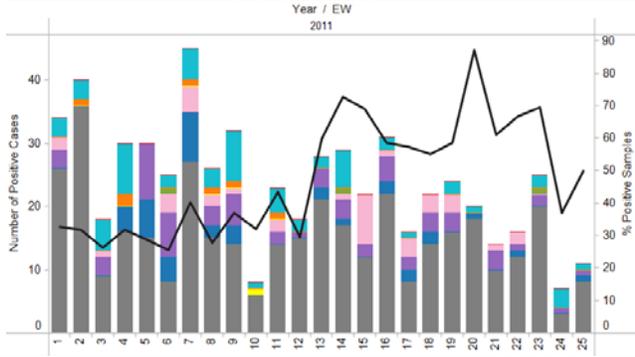
Distribution of influenza and other respiratory viruses under surveillance  
CAREC Member Countries  
Epidemiologic weeks 1-26, 2011



## Cuba and Dominican Republic

### Cuba

Distribution of influenza and other respiratory viruses under surveillance by Epidemiological Week (EW), region / country, 2010-2011

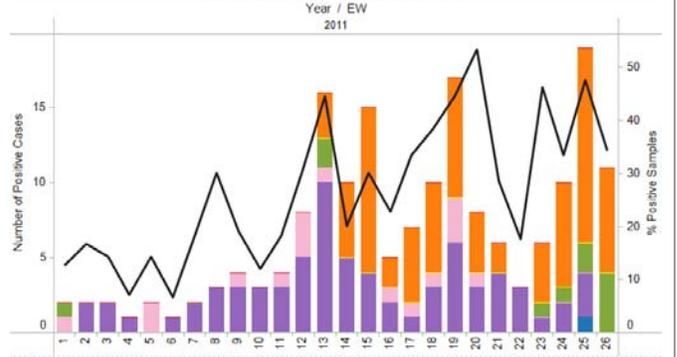


#### Respiratory viruses

- FLU A/H1
- FLU A (H1N1) 2009
- FLU B
- Parainfluenza
- Other viruses
- FLU A/H3
- FLU A Not Subtyped
- Adenovirus
- SRV
- % Positive Samples

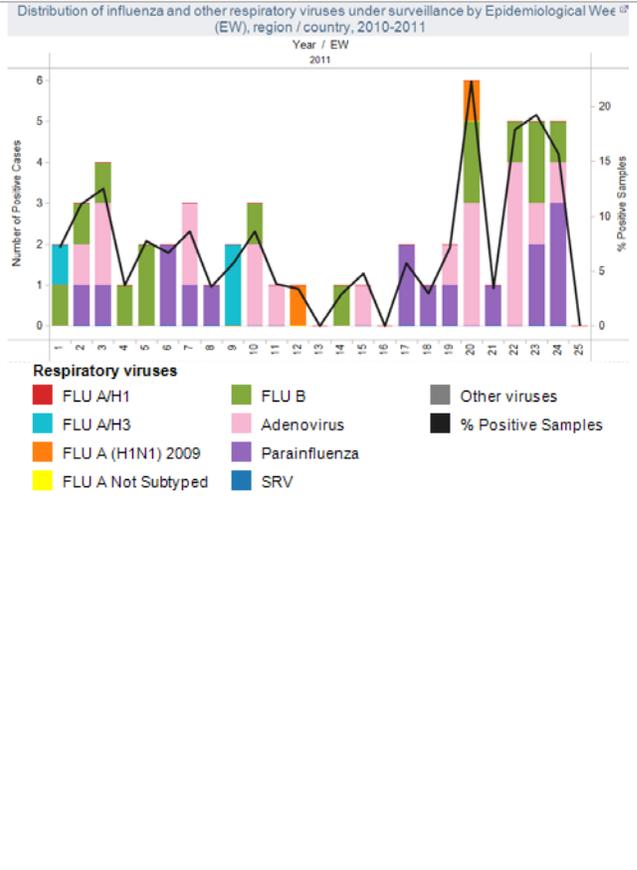
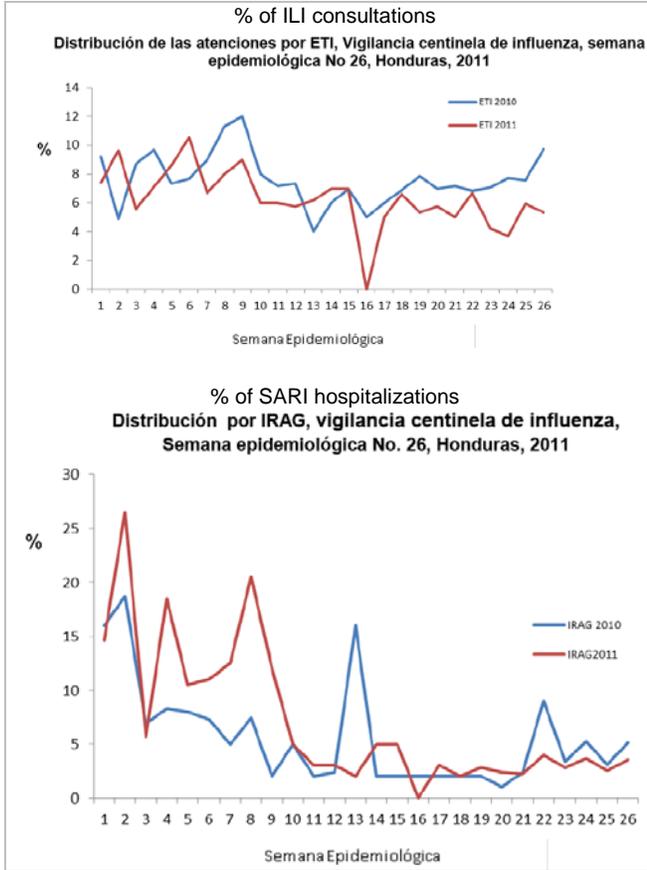
### Dominican Republic

Distribution of influenza and other respiratory viruses under surveillance by Epidemiological Week (EW), region / country, 2010-2011

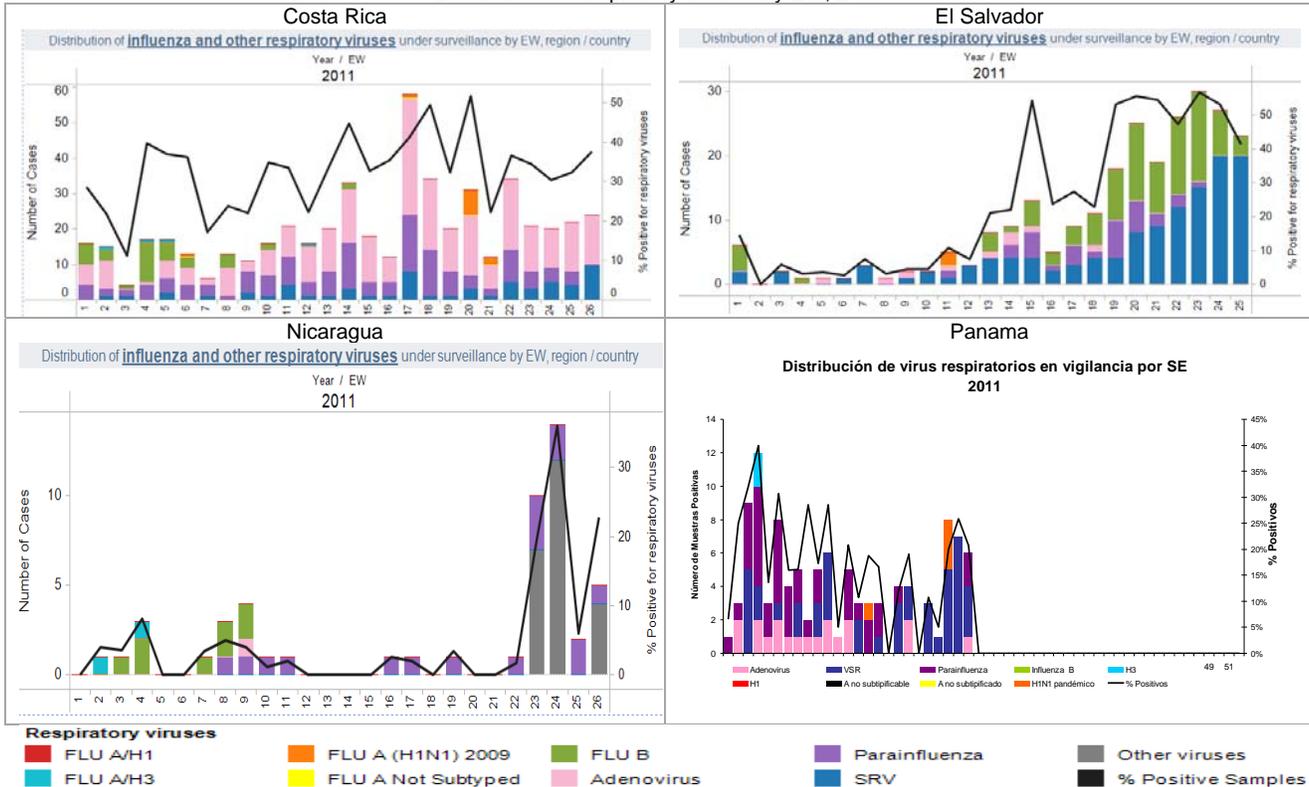


# Central America

## Honduras



## Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama

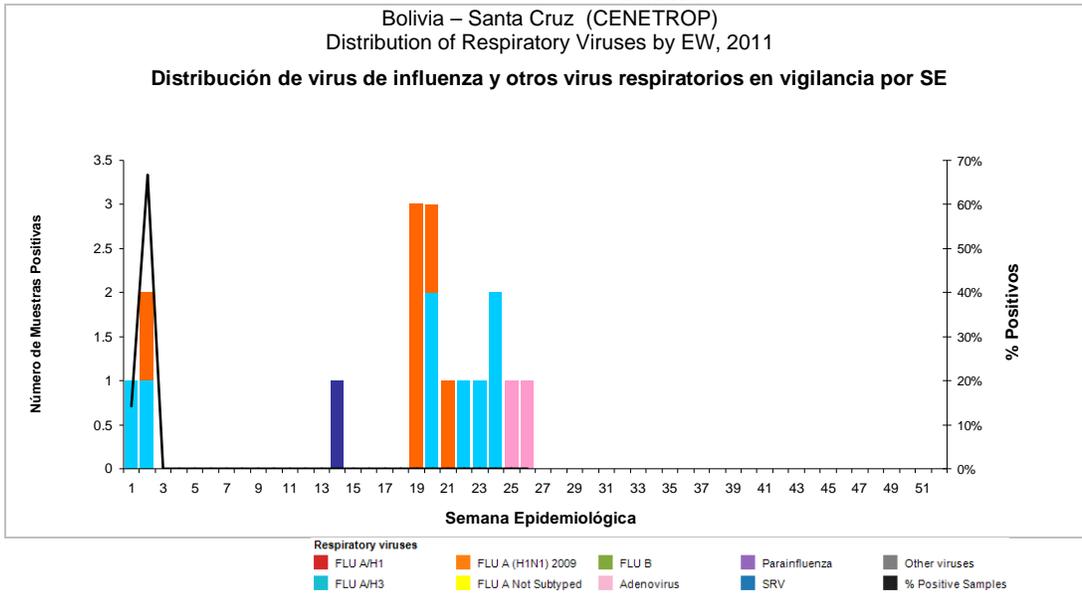


## South America - Andean

### Bolivia

Bolivia – Santa Cruz (CENETROP)  
Distribution of Respiratory Viruses by EW, 2011

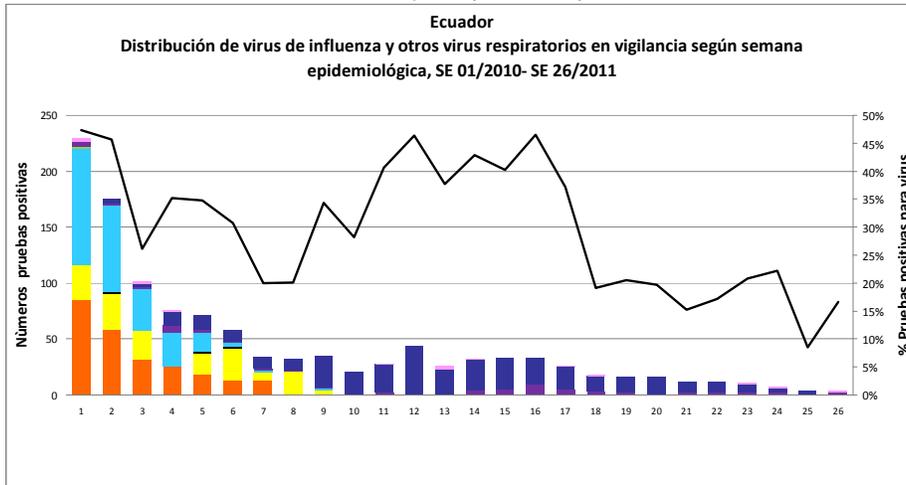
Distribución de virus de influenza y otros virus respiratorios en vigilancia por SE



### Ecuador

Distribution of Respiratory Viruses by EW, 2011

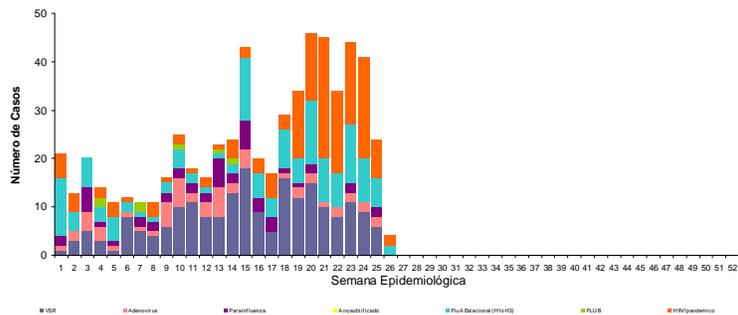
Ecuador  
Distribución de virus de influenza y otros virus respiratorios en vigilancia según semana epidemiológica, SE 01/2010- SE 26/2011



### Colombia

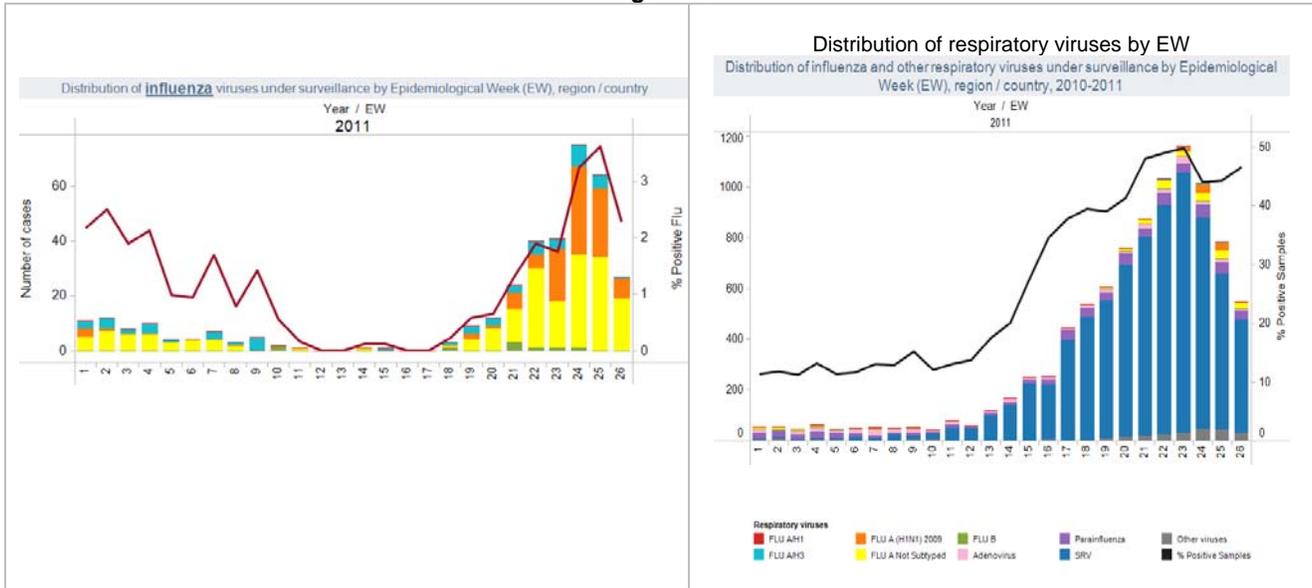
Distribution of Respiratory Viruses by EW, 2011

Distribución virus respiratorios en vigilancia por semana epidemiologica

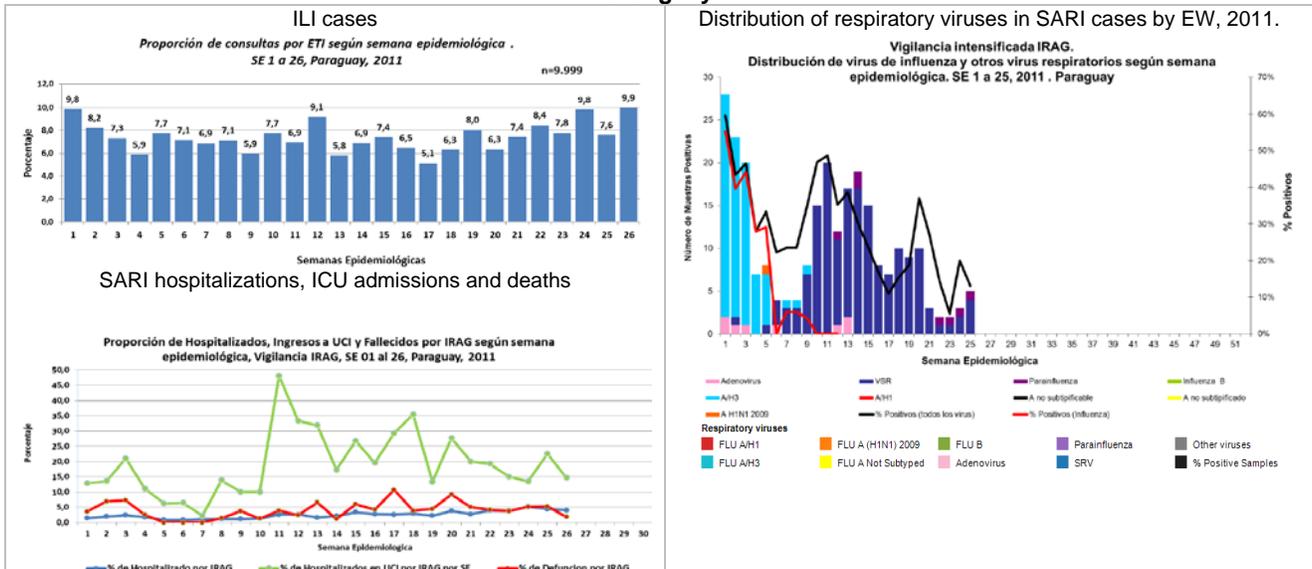


# South America – Southern Cone

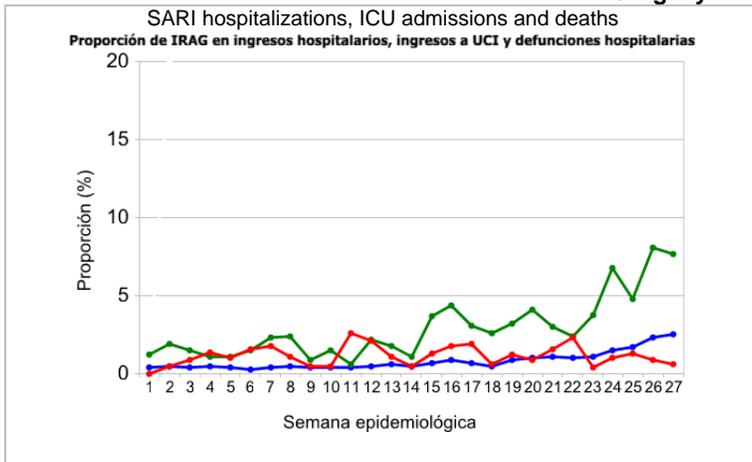
## Argentina



## Paraguay



## Uruguay



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<sup>1</sup> FluWatch Report. EWs 25-26. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>

<sup>2</sup> US Surveillance Summary. Week 26. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<sup>3</sup> Honduras. Vigilancia centinela de Tegucigalpa y San Pedro Sula. SE 26.

<sup>4</sup> Paraguay. Boletín epidemiológico semanal. SE 26. Ministerio de Salud Pública y Bienestar Social

<sup>5</sup> Uruguay. Dirección General de la Salud. División Epidemiología.

<https://trantor.msp.gub.uy/epidemiologia/servlet/iraggrafmenu>