



Regional Update EW 40

Influenza
(October 18, 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 Canada¹, in EWs 39 and 40, influenza activity increased slightly but remained relatively low. The ILI consultation rates remained similar to previous weeks and still within expected levels for this time of year. The percentage of positive samples during EW 39-40 (less than 1%) increased compared to the previous weeks and was higher than what is usually observed during this time of the year but much lower than what was observed in 2009. Of the positive influenza specimens, approximately, one third were influenza A/H3N2 and two thirds were reported as untyped influenza A. Low levels of other respiratory viruses continued to be reported.

In Mexico², nationally, the proportion of reported influenza-like illness (ILI) and severe acute respiratory illness (SARI) cases decreased from EW 38-40 (from ~3% to 1%). At the regional level, the highest rate of ILI and SARI activity was in the southern region of Chiapas. From EW 30-38 the primary influenza virus in circulation was influenza A/H3N2.

In the United States,³ in EW 40, 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 remained below the epidemic threshold. No influenza -associated pediatric deaths were reported this week. During EW 40, influenza activity remained low — 3,3% of samples tested were positive for influenza (influenza A 2009 H1N1, influenza A/H3 and influenza B).

In Uruguay⁴, during the last six EWs, the proportion of SARI cases, out of the total number of hospitalizations showed a decreasing trend, remaining in less than 3%. The proportion of SARI hospitalized in intensive care units among all ICU admissions decreased between EW 38 and EW 40 (from ~5% to 2,5%). The proportion of SARI deaths among all deaths remained low as compared to the winter season.

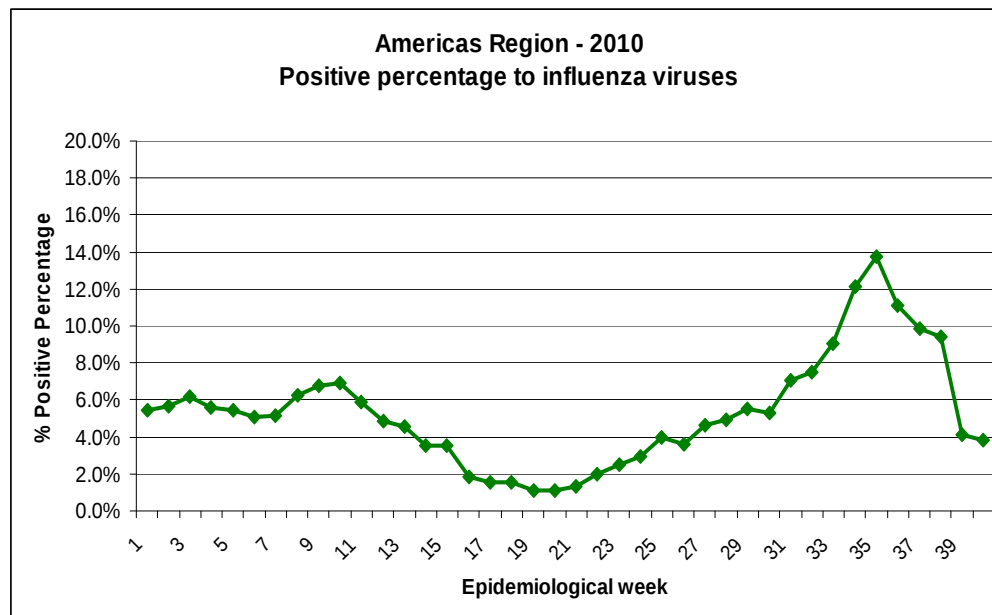
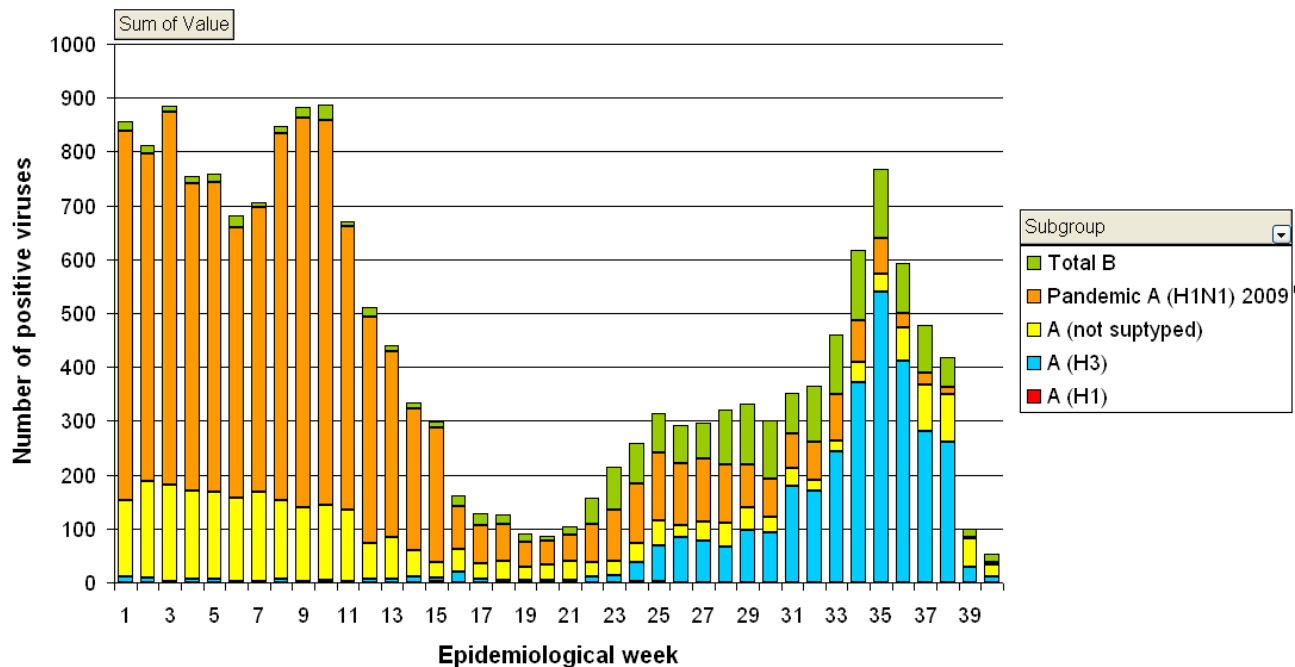
Viral circulation

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

Americas Region (FluNet data)

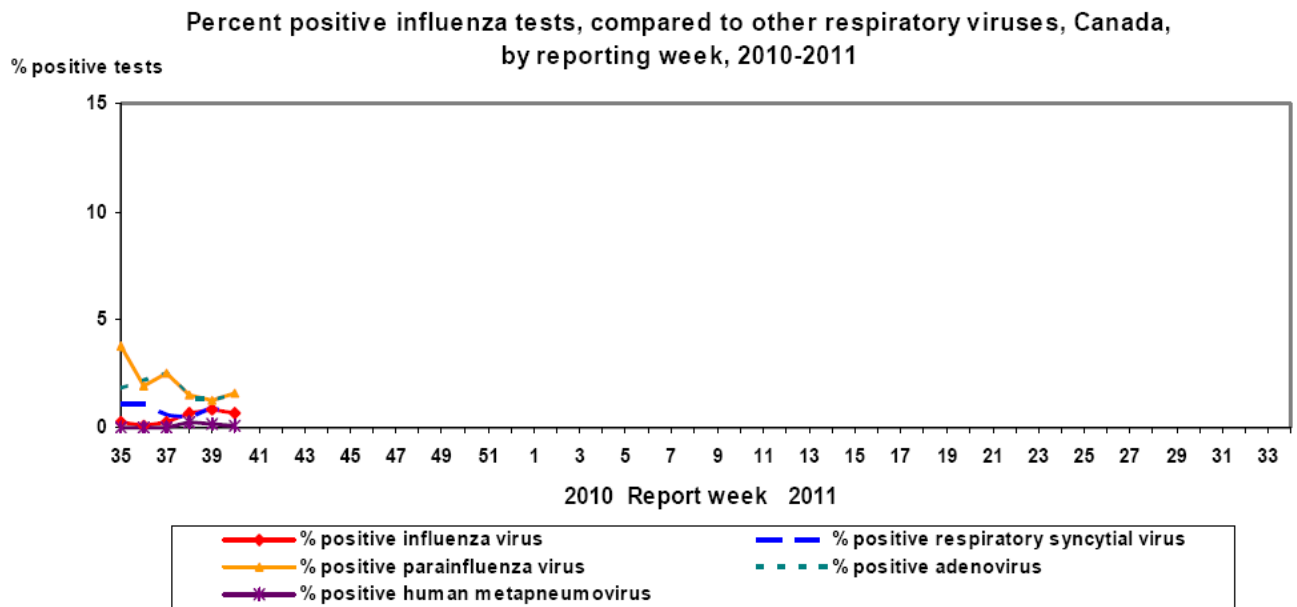
This graph includes data from countries who reported to FluNet: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, French Guiana, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Martinique, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and The United States.

Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW, 2010

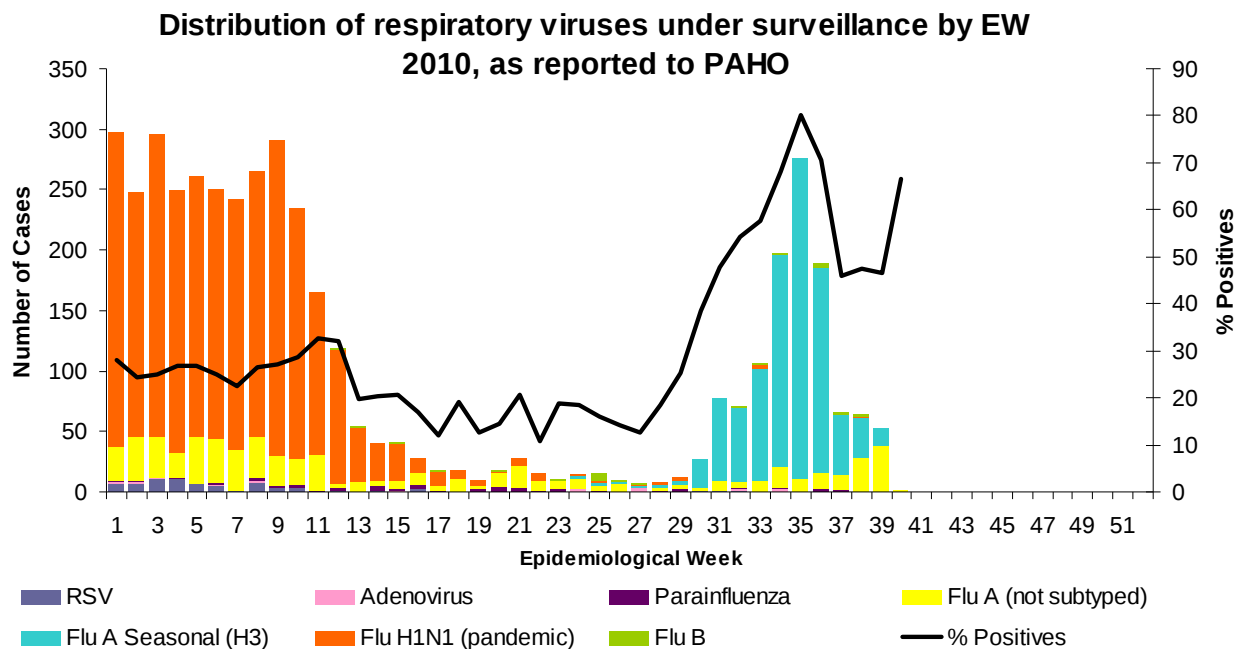


North America

Canada

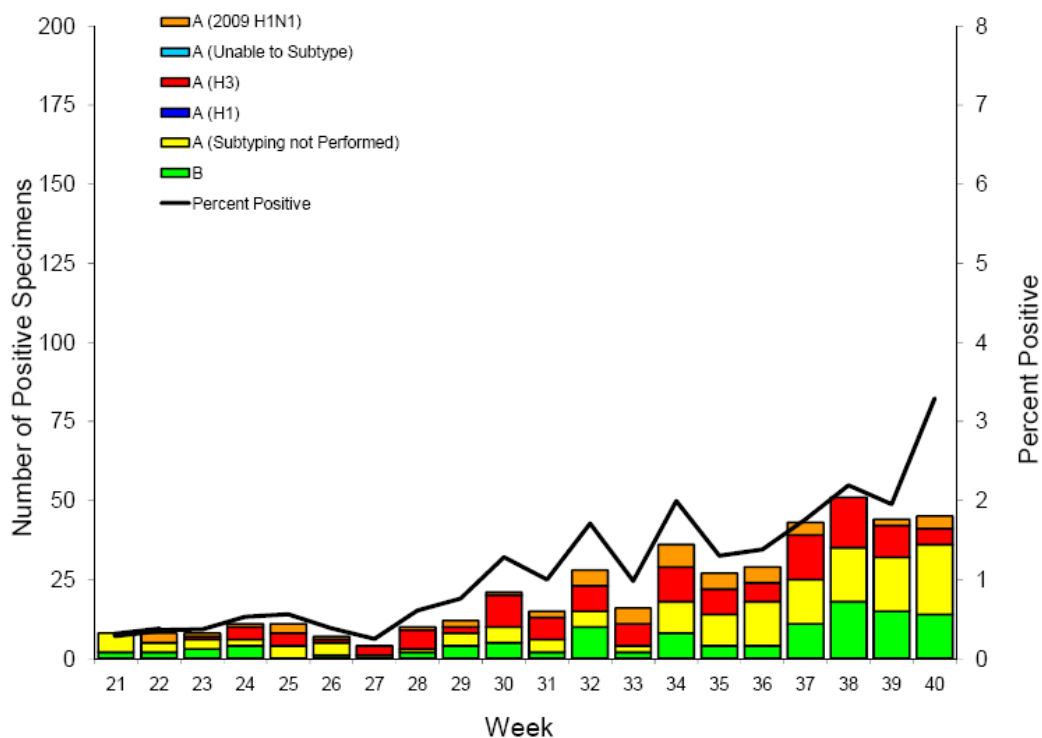


Mexico



United States

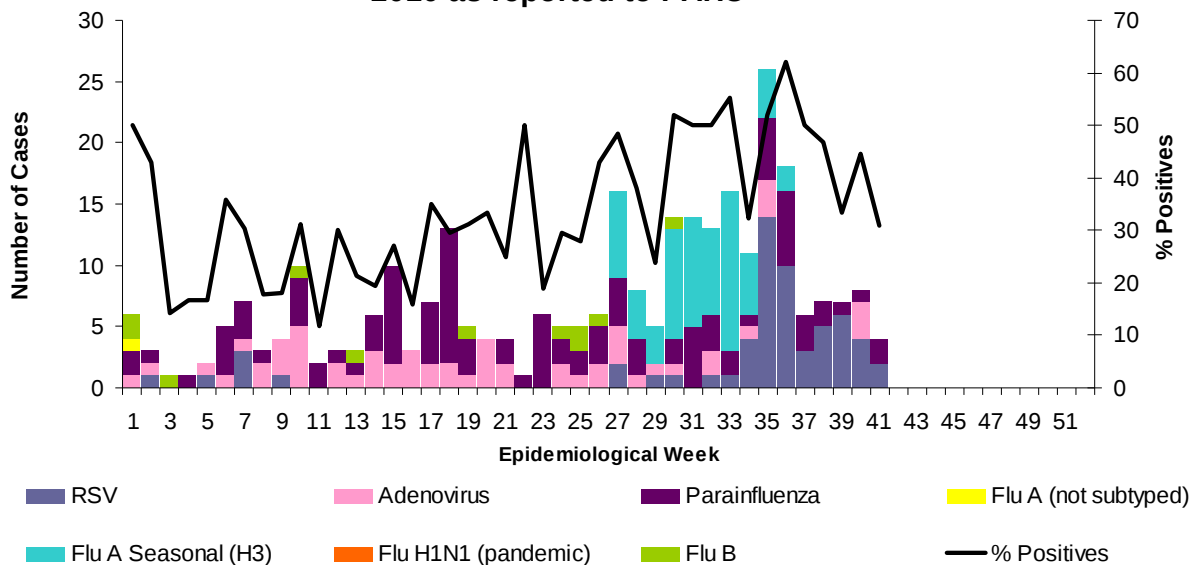
Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. WHO/NREVSS
Collaborating Laboratories, National Summary, May 23 – October 9, 2010



Caribbean

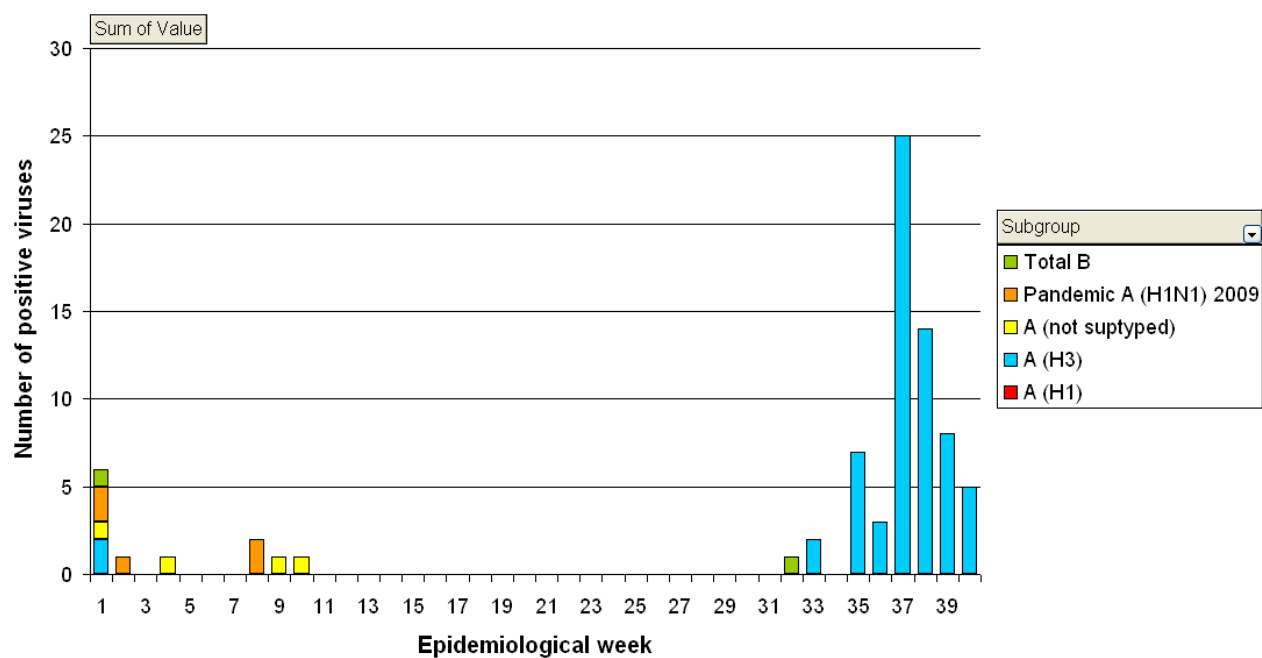
Dominican Republic

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



Jamaica (FluNet data)

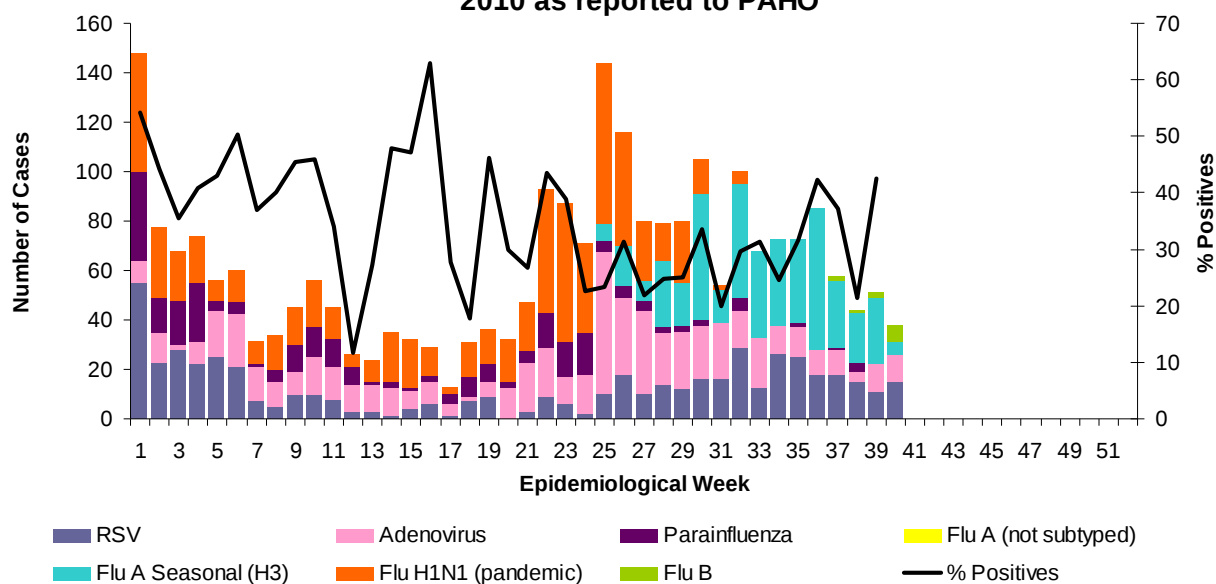
Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW, 2010



Central America

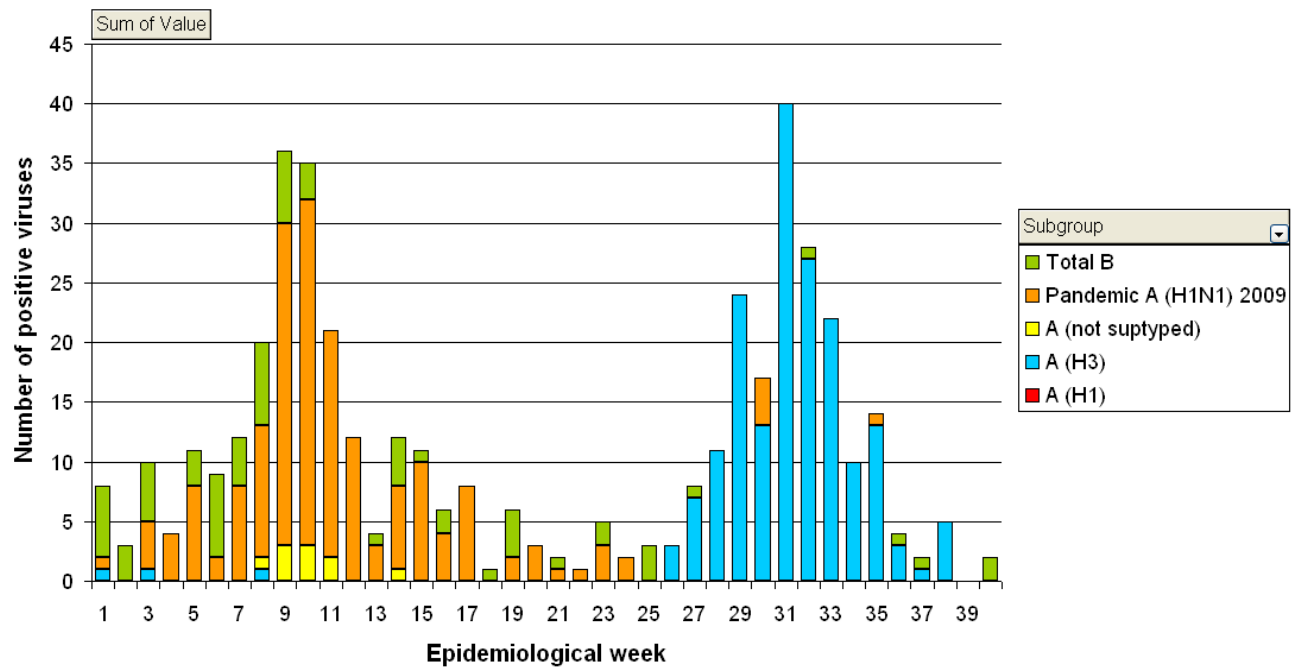
Costa Rica

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



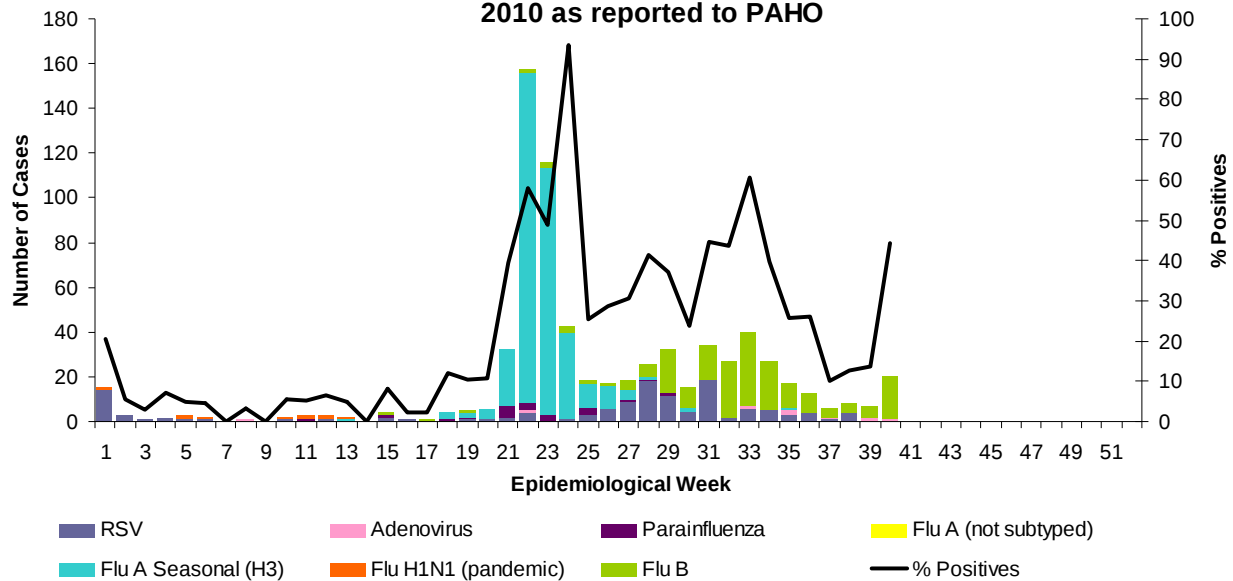
Honduras (FluNet data)

Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW, 2010

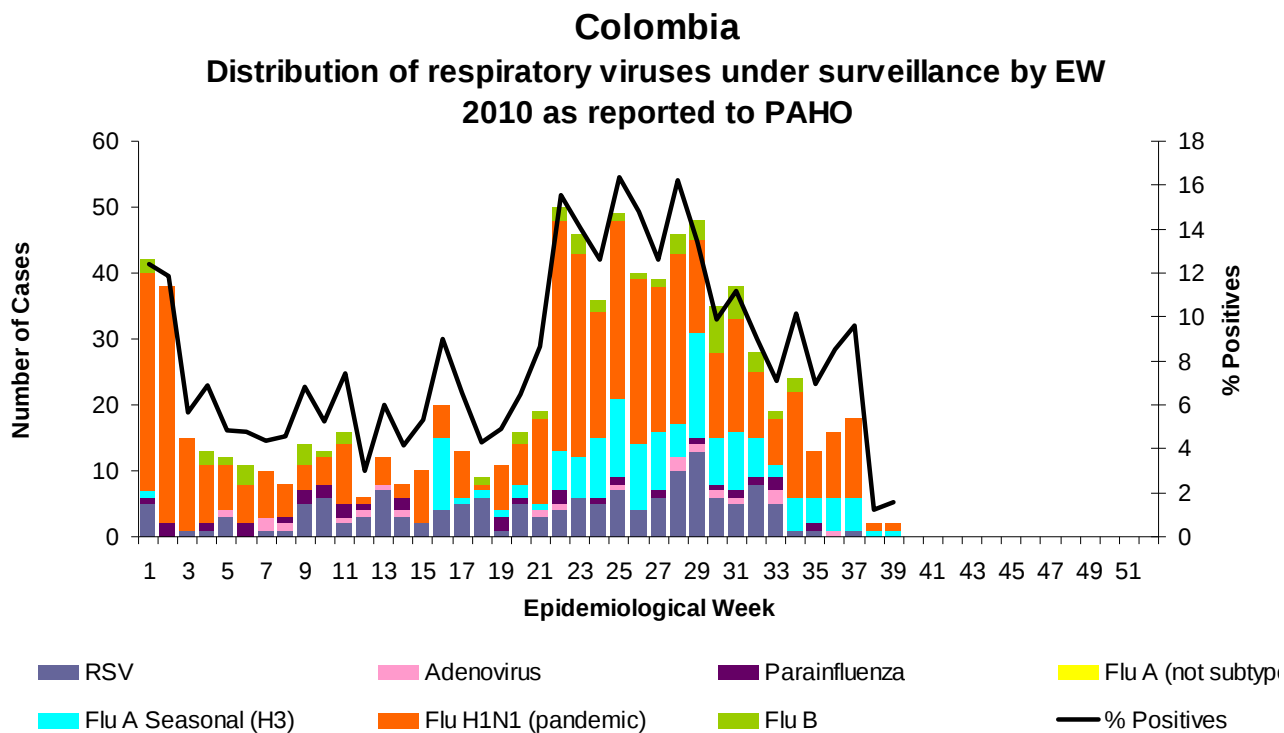


Nicaragua

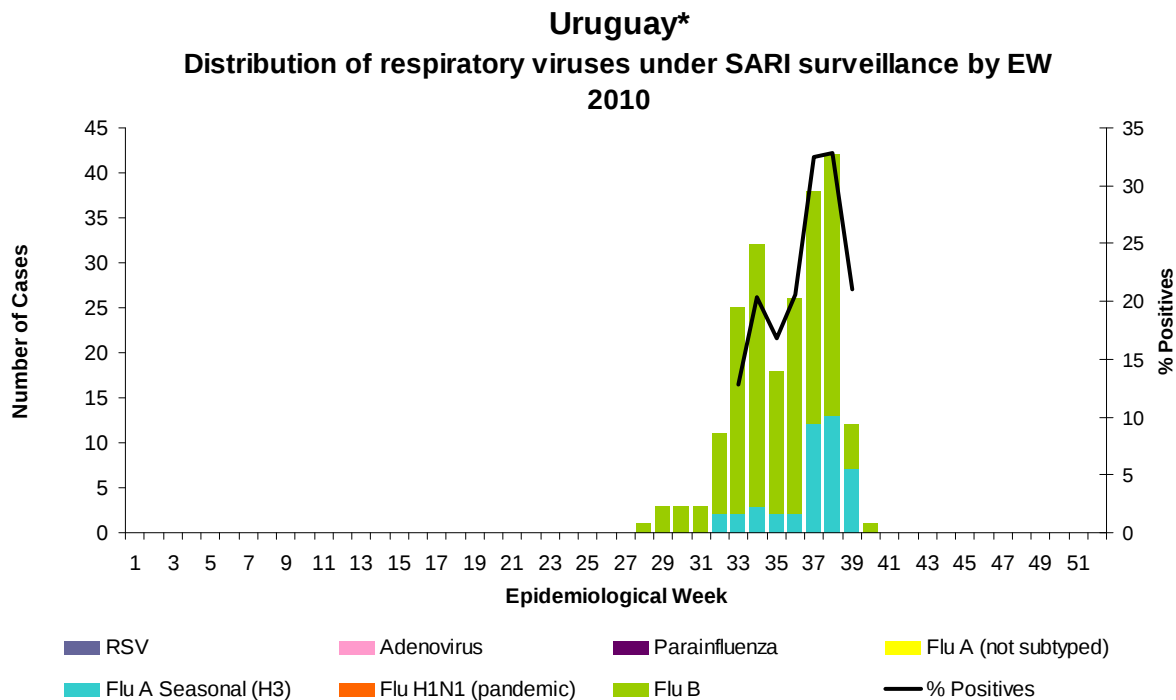
Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW 2010 as reported to PAHO



South America - Andean



South America - Southern Cone



¹ FluWatch Report. EW 39-40. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>

² Mexico. Communication with the Mexican Ministry of Health & Weekly Report of Epidemiologic Surveillance, EW 40.

³ Surveillance Summary. Week 40. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

⁴ Uruguay. Vigilancia de IRAG. <https://trantor.msp.gub.uy/epidemiologia/servlet/iraggrafmenu>