

Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) 2007-2008 Flu Season Summary



Keeping Connecticut Healthy

The following table and figures describe influenza activity in Connecticut during the 2007-2008 influenza season (October 1, 2007 – May 31, 2008). A total of 5,648 laboratory confirmed reports were received by the DPH. Of these, 3,094 (54.8%) were identified as type A, 1,777 (31.5%) as type B influenza, and 777 (13.8%) as unknown type (Table 1, Figure 1). Reports from all eight Connecticut counties were received. The DPH Public Health Laboratory culture confirmed the presence of influenza A, H1N1 and H3N2, and influenza B in 513 of all submitted specimens (Figure 2). One additional specimen was culture confirmed by the Yale University School of Medicine virology laboratory. A total of 828 laboratory confirmed reports were received for week 8. This is the highest weekly total observed during the past five influenza seasons (Figure 3).

Five additional indicators of flu activity were tracked throughout the 2007-2008 season. Weekly reports on patients with influenza-like illness (ILI) presenting to “sentinel physicians” are shown in Figure 4. The percentage of patients with ILI peaked during week 7 (week ending February 16, 2008). Data from the DPH Hospital Emergency Department Syndromic Surveillance (HEDSS) System were also analyzed. One category, fever/flu visits, which has been shown to correlate well with influenza activity, peaked during week 8 (week ending February 23, 2008; Figure 5). Statewide pneumonia admissions, as reported through the Connecticut Hospital Admissions Syndromic Surveillance (HASS) System, have been shown to correlate well with influenza activity. These admissions peaked during week 9 (week ending March 1, 2008; Figure 6).

Mortality data were also tracked during the 2007-2008 influenza season. These include pneumonia and influenza deaths from Connecticut cities that participate in the United States 122 Cities Mortality Study, which peaked during week 11 (week ending March 15, 2008; Figure 7). Reports of influenza associated pediatric deaths have been identified since January 2005 including one during each of the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 seasons. Two deaths were reported during the 2007-2008 season. All 6 of these surveillance systems provided additional evidence that Connecticut experienced one of the highest levels of flu activity observed in recent years.

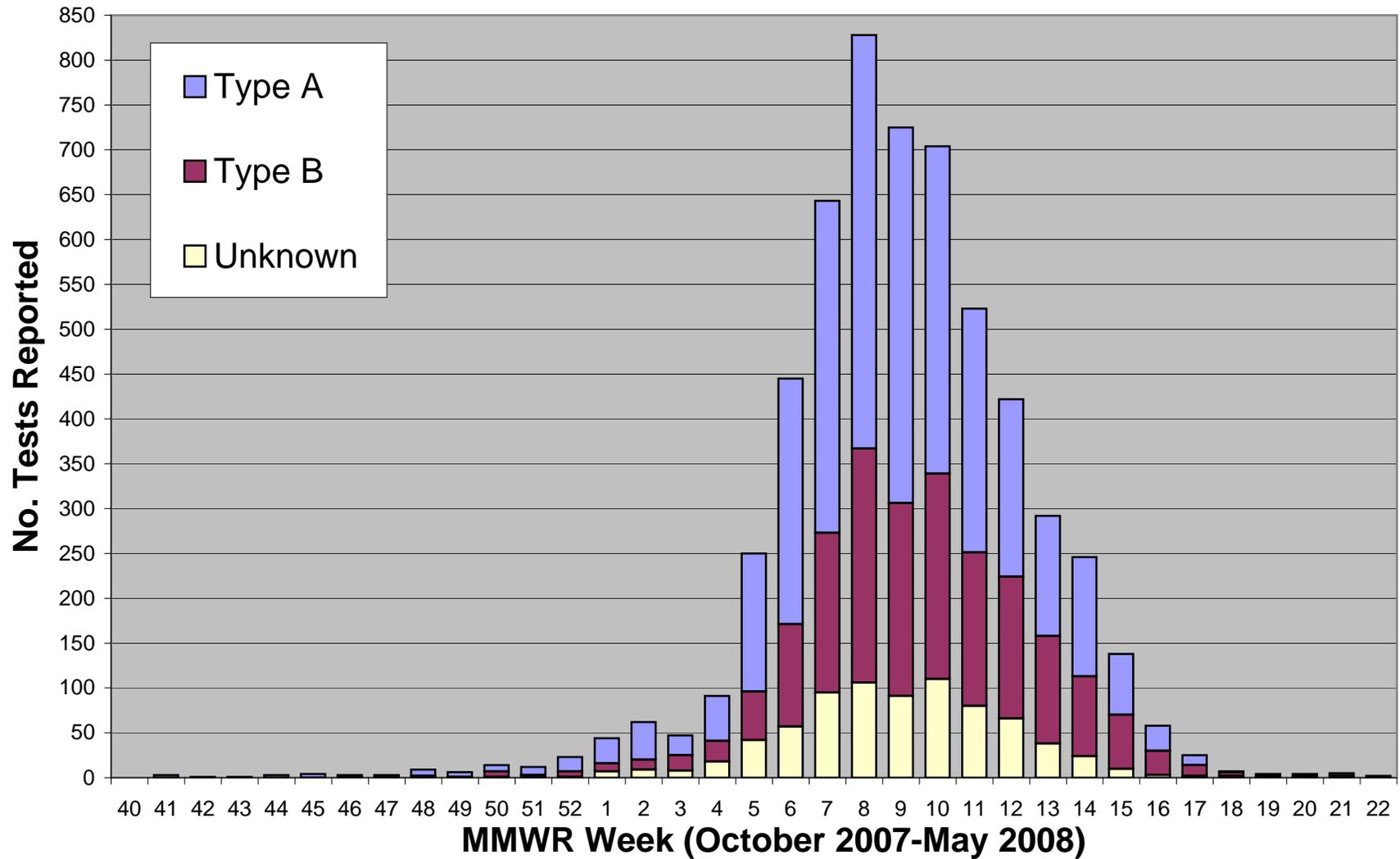
If you have any questions concerning this data, please contact Alan Siniscalchi or Maria Andrews at the Department of Public Health, Epidemiology and Emerging Infections Program, at 860-509-7994.

Connecticut Department of Public Health
Laboratory Confirmed Influenza Testing
Final 2007-2008 Influenza Season Totals (October 1, 2007-May 31, 2008)

Results by		2006-2007	2007-2008
TEST:	Culture	188	519
	Rapid Test	1,950	5,129
FLU TYPE:	Type A	1,702	3,094
	Type B	188	1,777
	Unknown	248	777
COUNTY:	Fairfield	696	1,537
	Hartford	216	750
	Litchfield	85	360
	Middlesex	209	501
	New Haven	758	1,912
	New London	76	215
	Tolland	54	150
	Windham	44	223
GENDER:	Female	1,110	3,096
	Male	1,028	2,552
Total		2,138	5,648

Age:	2006-2007	2007-2008	Week	Dates - 2008	Totals
0-4	335	747	1	Dec. 30 - Jan. 5	44
5-24	721	1,685	2	Jan. 6-12	62
25-64	749	2,207	3	January 13-19	47
≥65	333	1009	4	January 20-26	91
Age Range: <1 - 106 Average Age: 34.9			5	Jan. 27 - Feb. 2	250
			6	February 3-9	445
			7	February 10-16	643
			8	February 17-23	828
			9	Feb. 24 - March 1	725
			10	March 2-8	704
			11	March 9-15	523
			12	March 16-22	423
			13	March 23-29	292
			14	March 30 - April 5	246
			15	April 6-12	138
			16	April 13-19	58
			17	April 20-26	25
			18	April 27 - May 3	7
			19	May 4-10	4
			20	May 11-17	4
			21	May 18-24	5
			22	May 25-31	2

Figure 1. Laboratory Confirmed Tests by Flu Type, Connecticut, 2007-2008 Flu Season



**Figure 2. Department of Public Health Laboratory
Culture Confirmed Tests by Flu Type,
Connecticut, 2007-2008 Flu Season**

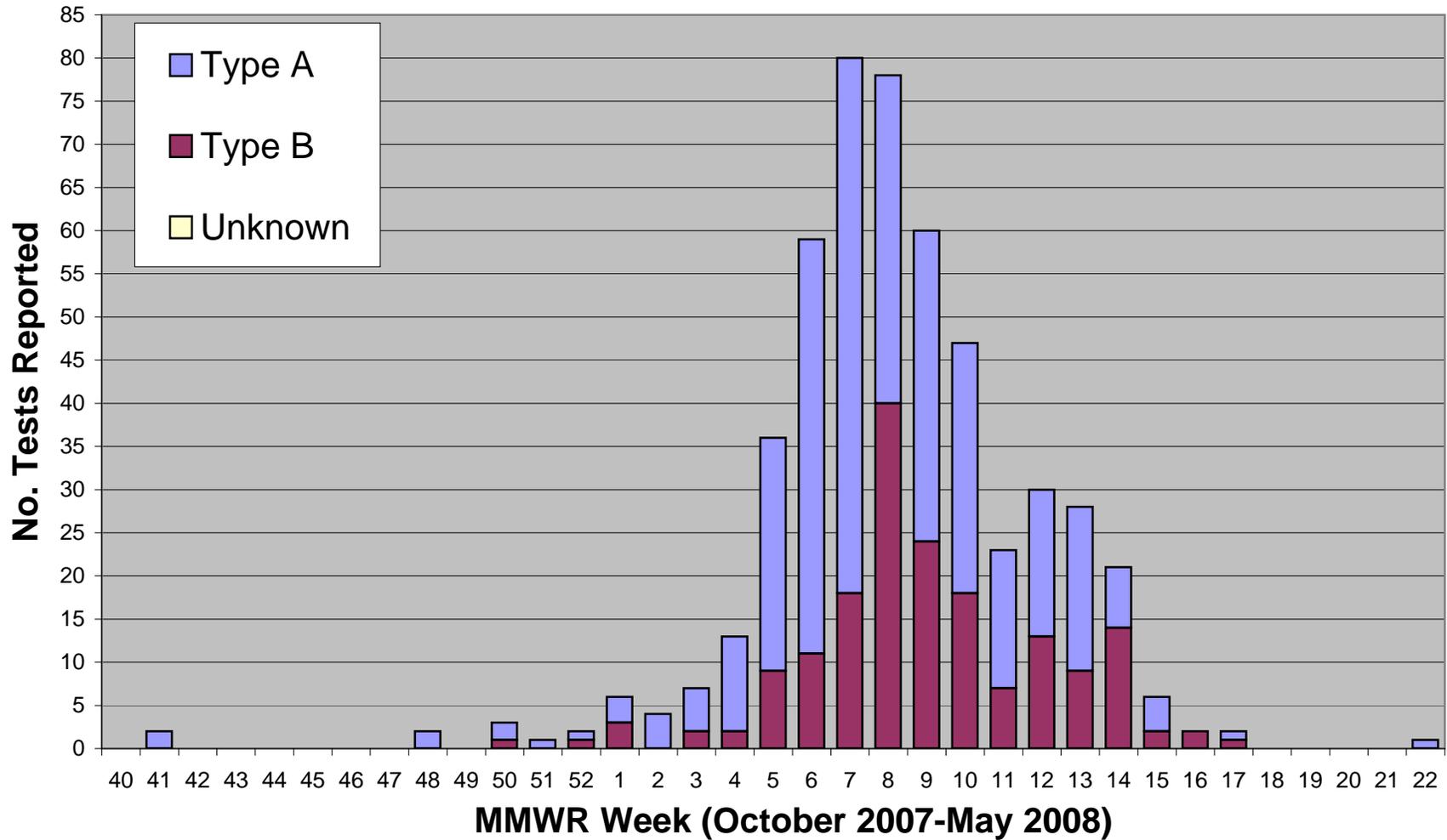


Figure 3. Laboratory Confirmed Influenza Tests by Flu Season, Connecticut, 2003-2008

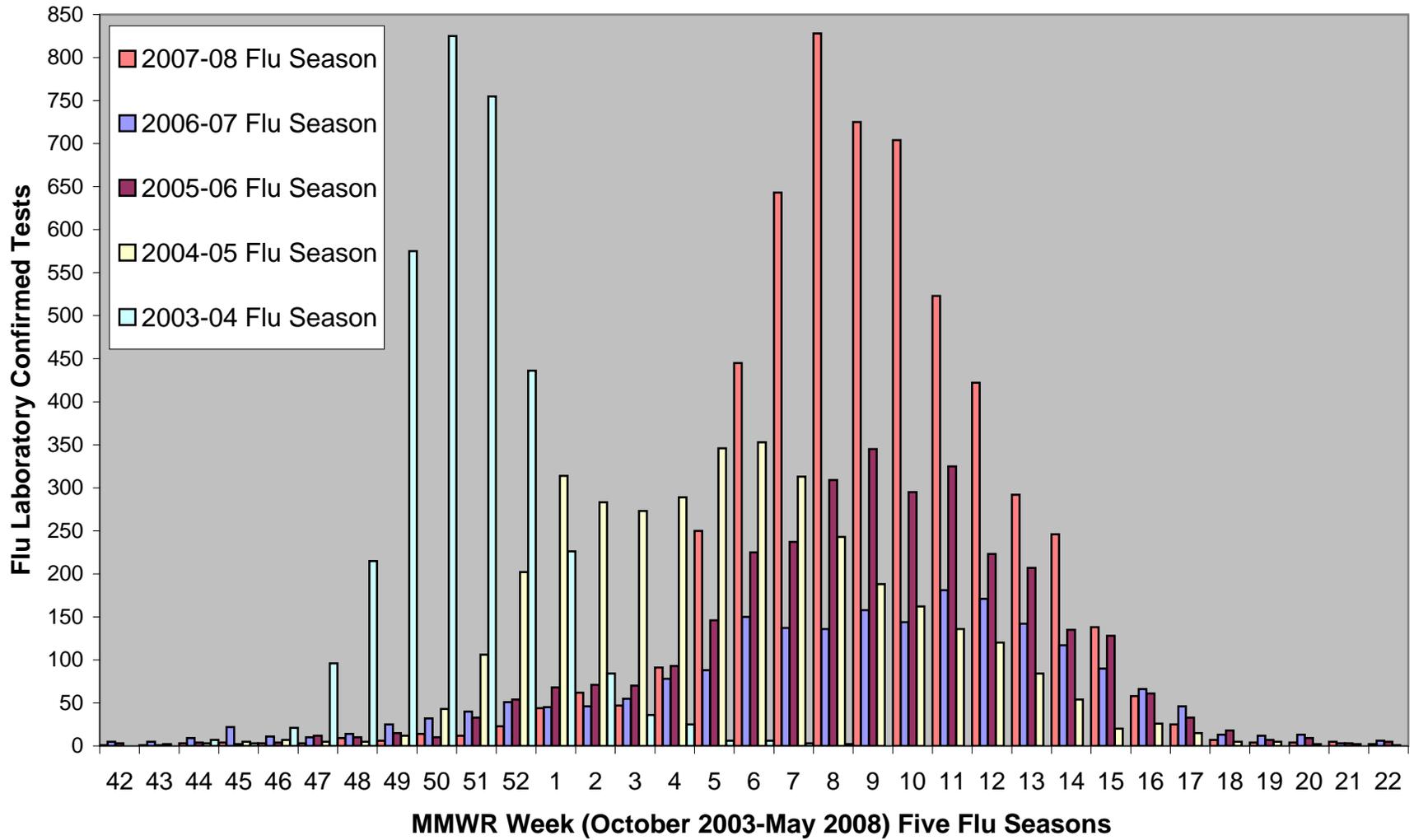


Figure 4. Sentinel Provider Reports of Influenza-Like Illness (ILI), 2007- 2008

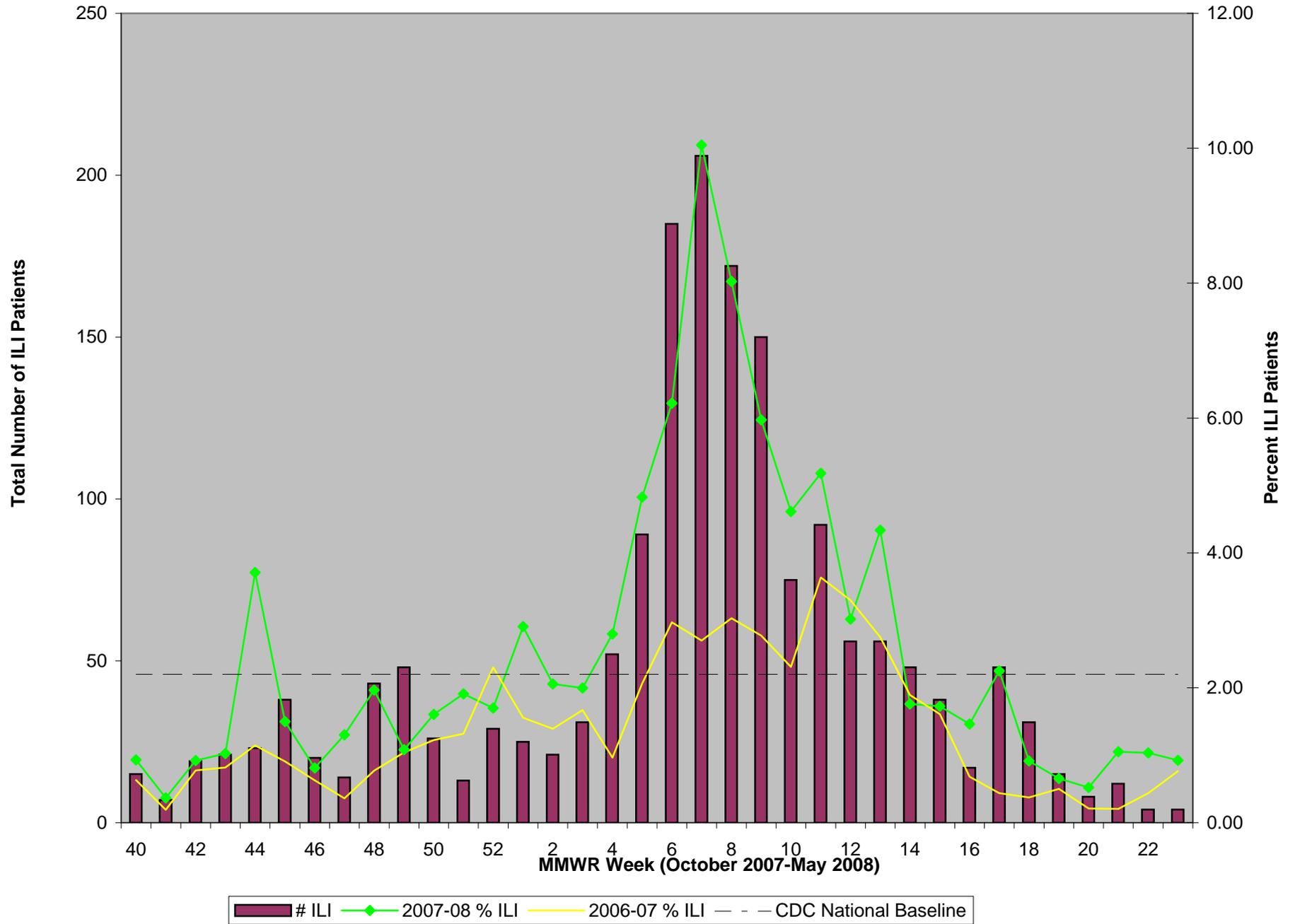


Figure 5. Hospital Emergency Department Syndromic Surveillance (HEDSS) System, Statewide Fever/Flu Visits by Flu Season, Connecticut, 2005-2008

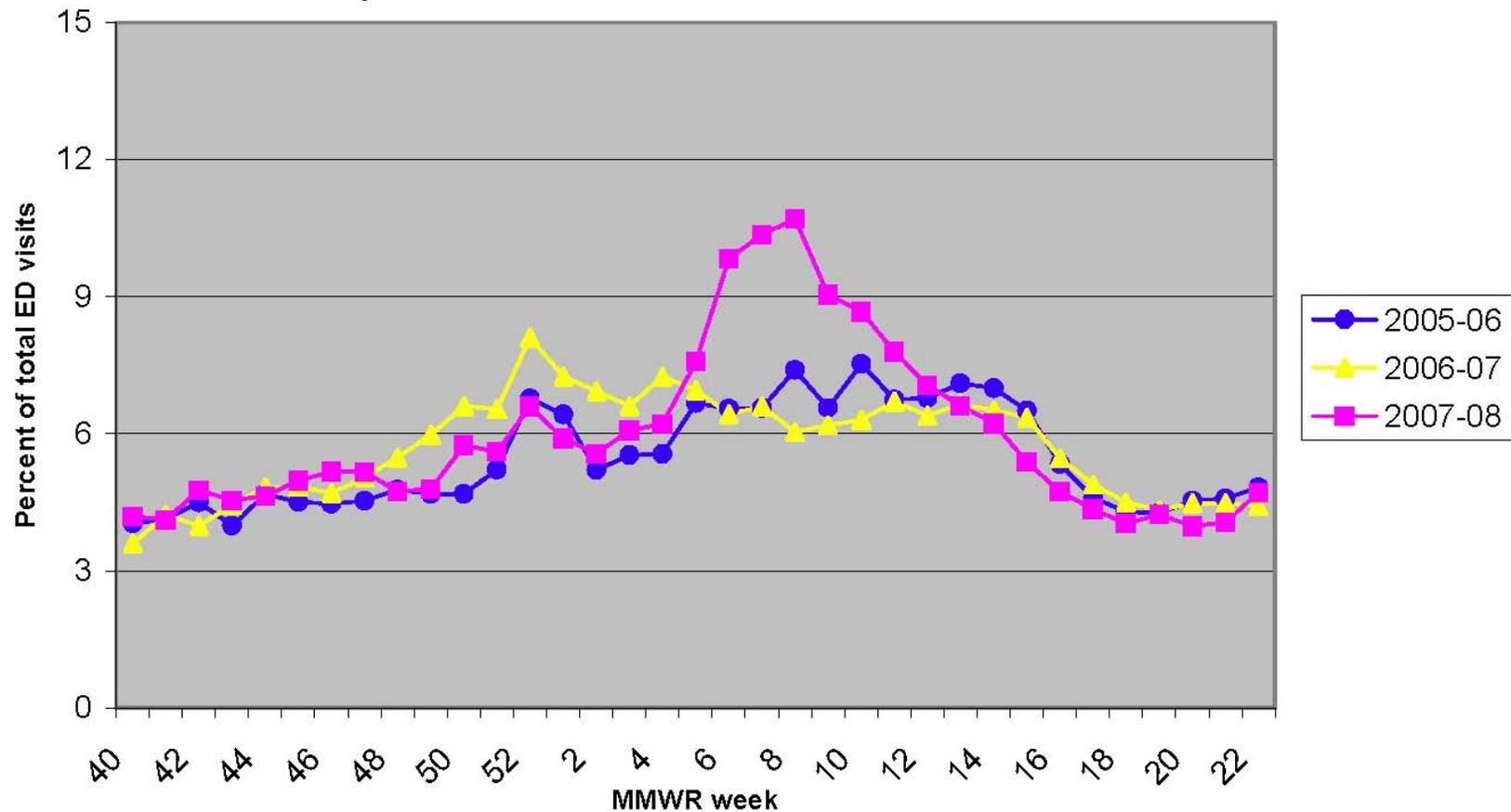


Figure 6. Hospital Admissions Syndromic Surveillance (HASS) System, Statewide Pneumonia Admissions by Flu Season, 2005-2008

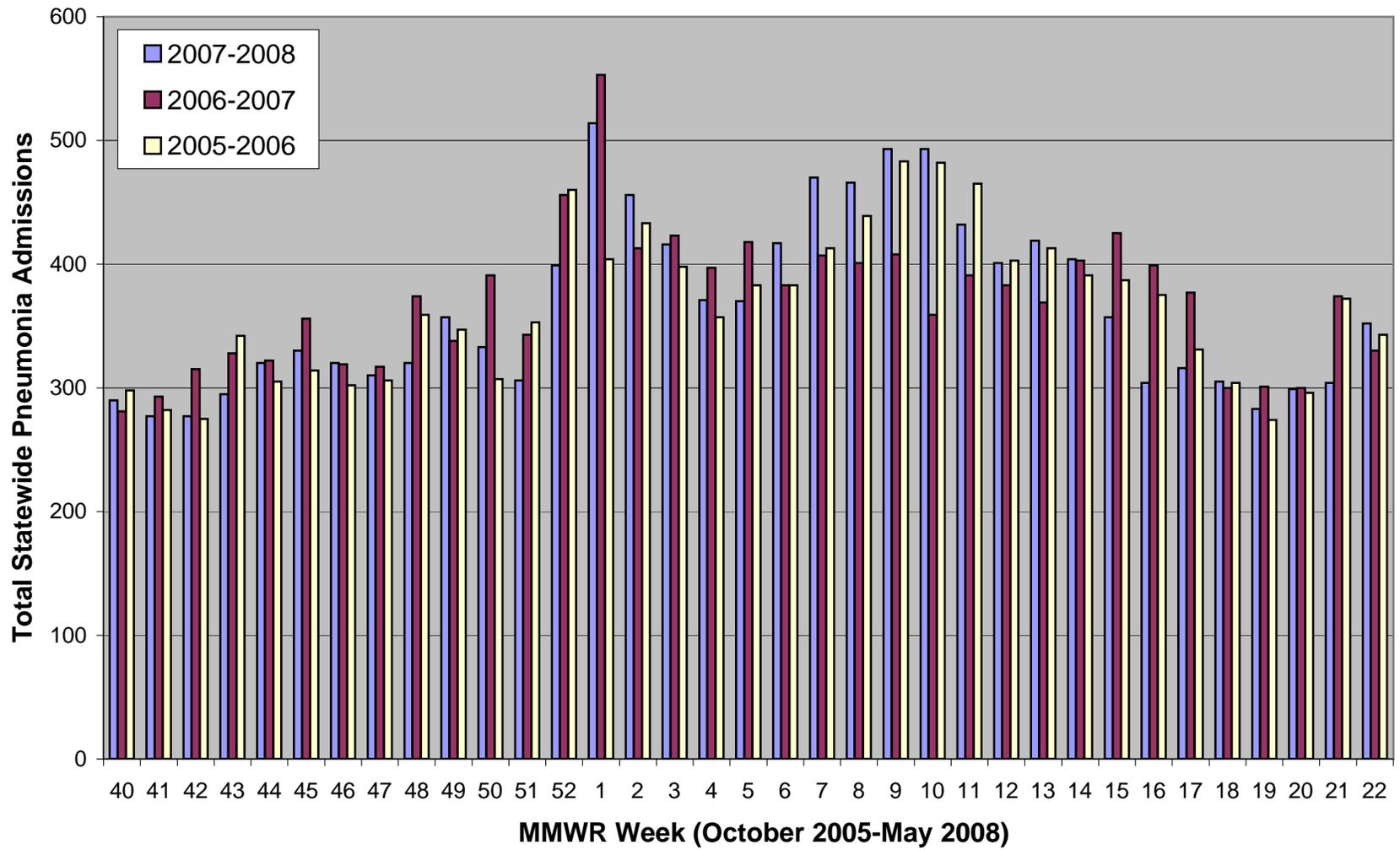


Figure 7. CDC 122 Cities Surveillance: Pneumonia & Influenza Deaths in Selected Connecticut Cities, 2007-2008 Flu Season

