



# Nevada State Health Division

## Public Health Preparedness

October 23, 2009

### In This Report

- [Introduction](#)
- [Nevada State Public Health Laboratory Counts](#)
- [H1N1 Vaccination Activities](#)
- [H1N1 Planning and Response Activities](#)
- [H1N1 Tribal Community Activities](#)
- [H1N1 Public Information Activities](#)
- [H1N1 Disease and Surveillance Activities](#)
- [Seasonal Influenza Activity](#)
- [CDC Updates](#)

### Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide pertinent public health information to public health, healthcare providers, and other community stakeholders, as well as to the general public. This report will be published weekly.

### Nevada State Public Health Laboratory Counts

Laboratory update was **not available** for this week. According to the Nevada State Public Health Laboratory (NSHPL), as of 9:00am PT, October 14, 2009, Nevada had 1,871 **confirmed** cases of H1N1 flu and 51 **probable** cases. All of the probable cases, with one exception, are due to samples with viral loads too low for subtyping. **\*\*Does not include private laboratory testing\*\***

Nevada State Public Health Laboratory Cases of H1N1 Flu Infection			
County	Confirmed	Probable	Deaths
Carson City	265	17	0
Clark	229	3	12
Washoe	946	24	2
Other 14 counties	431	6	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,871</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>15</b>

Laboratory update was **not available** for this week. The NSPHL has tested a total of 4,714 samples since April 26, 2009. Cumulative total results, detailed for the last 12 weeks, are noted below. No samples identified as H1, H3 or B have been received since May 2009, thus cumulative totals remain unchanged. **\*\*Does not include private laboratory testing\*\***

	Total Tested	H1N1	% H1N1	H1	H3	B	Total Other	% Other	Total Negative	% Negative
October 14, 2009	4,714	1,871	39.7%	20	73	78	171	3.6%	2,672	56.7%
October 7, 2009	4,467	1,677	37.6%	20	73	78	171	3.8%	2,619	58.6%
September 30, 2009	4,119	1,526	37.1%	20	73	78	171	4.1%	2,422	58.8%
September 17, 2009	3,476	1,179	33.9%	20	73	78	171	4.9%	2,126	61.2%
September 3, 2009	3,034	917	30.2%	20	73	78	171	5.7%	1,946	64.1%
August 20, 2009	2,618	794	30.4%	20	73	78	171	6.5%	1,673	63.1%
August 13, 2009	2,459	713	29.0%	20	73	78	171	7.0%	1,575	64.0%
August 6, 2009	2,320	663	28.6%	20	73	78	171	7.4%	1,486	64.0%
July 23, 2009	1,876	468	24.9%	20	73	78	171	9.1%	1,237	66.0%
July 16, 2009	1,667	381	22.9%	20	73	78	171	10.3%	1,115	66.8%
July 9, 2009	1,575	320	20.3%	20	73	78	171	10.9%	1,084	68.8%
July 2, 2009	1,450	293	20.2%	20	73	78	171	11.8%	986	68.0%

\*\* update not available for July 30, 2009

## **H1N1 Vaccination Activities**

### **Target Groups**

On July 29, 2009, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)-an advisory committee to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-recommended that H1N1 flu vaccine be made available first to the following five groups:

- Pregnant women.
- Healthcare workers and emergency medical services workers.
- People 6 months through 24 years of age.
- People who care for infants under 6 months of age.
- People 24 through 66 years of age with chronic medical conditions.

### **Vaccine Distribution**

- H1N1 vaccine is being allocated on a weekly basis by the CDC. The IZ Program orders H1N1 vaccine on Mondays. The CDC processes and ships the orders via their distributor on Tuesdays. Orders are then delivered by the end of the week.
- For the week ending October 23, 2009 Nevada's expected allotment was to have been 43,440 doses. Nevada actually received 33,100 doses, or a little over 76% of the expected allotment.
- In total, as of October 23, 2009, Nevada has been allocated 138,000 doses of vaccine allocation from the CDC. Of that, 104,300 doses have been ordered, received and distributed to public health entities, community health nurses, and Federally Qualified Health Centers (in rural areas without a public health presence).
  - FluMist (intranasal) – 55,200
  - Injectable (shots) – 49,100

### **Vaccine Dosing Guidelines**

- For healthy adults and children over the age of 10 years, one (1) dose of the H1N1 vaccine is recommended.
- For children under the age of 10 years, two (2) doses are recommended for full protection against the H1N1 virus.
- The inhaled vaccine (FluMist) is approved for healthy individuals between the ages of 2-49 years.
- The inhaled vaccine is not approved for pregnant women, or children/adults who have underlying medical conditions, such as diabetes or asthma.

### **Healthcare Providers**

- Provider enrollment has begun for H1N1 vaccine. As of October 21, 2009, approximately 559 providers have submitted enrollment forms, with 320 enrollments completed.
- The IZ Program will not ship vaccine to any provider who has not enrolled. Provider enrollment deadlines are now on Fridays, by 5pm, in order to receive initial vaccine allotments the following week.
- The IZ Program is conducting weekly provider teleconferences, with an average of over 100 participants. This is an information sharing call, ending with questions and answers. Notes from these calls are posted every week on the [www.flu.nv.gov](http://www.flu.nv.gov) website for those providers who are unable to attend.
- Webinars for providers began on October 13, 2009. As of October 21, 2009, 6 webinars have been conducted. Topics include proper vaccine storage and handling, as well as reporting and ordering requirements. Numerous sessions have been scheduled and the schedule can be found at [www.flu.nv.gov](http://www.flu.nv.gov), under the Healthcare Provider tab and scroll down to Webinars. Registration information for the webinars is also provided.
- Also under the Webinar section is a *How To Administer Vaccine* self-study course for healthcare providers.

### **Tracking of Doses Administered**

As NSHD receives shipments of the H1N1 vaccine and distributes it across Nevada, public, private and tribal providers will be required to report the doses that they administer on a weekly basis. The NSHD's IZ Program has begun collecting this data and reporting it as required to the CDC. Aggregate data is noted below. Beginning with the next report, data will be reported by county.

- As of October 21, 2009, a total of 8,593 doses of H1N1 vaccine have been administered throughout the state, by both private and public providers.
  - 7,852 doses (October 11-17, 2009).
  - 741 doses (October 4-10, 2009).

## H1N1 Planning and Response Activities

Planning and response activities have been ongoing to ensure Nevada is ready to act during the 2009-2010 influenza season. These ongoing activities include:

- H1N1 vaccine (nasal spray and shots) are now being offered by local health departments, for those who are in the CDC's target groups listed on page 2 of this report. Vaccines are offered at no cost, on a first-come, first-served basis. Check the **H1N1 Flu Vaccine Locator** at: <http://health.nv.gov/> or contact the appropriate local health department for clinic specific information.
  - **Thursday, October 29, 2009 from 8:30am – 11:30am and 1pm – 4:30pm**
    - Carson City Health & Human Services  
900 East Long Street, Carson City  
Nasal spray and shots offered
  - **Thursday, October 29, 2009, from 1pm – 7pm**
    - Washoe County Health District - Admin Complex, Building B, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
1001 E. Ninth Street, Reno (corner of Wells Ave & 9<sup>th</sup> St., south of Livestock Event Center)  
Nasal spray and shots offered
  - **Tuesday, October 27, 2009, from 1pm – 7pm**
    - Washoe County Health District - Admin Complex, Building B, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
1001 E. Ninth Street, Reno (corner of Wells Ave & 9<sup>th</sup> St., south of Livestock Event Center)  
Nasal spray and shots offered
  - **Monday, October 26, 2009 from 10am – 2pm**
    - Carson City Health & Human Services  
900 East Long Street, Carson City  
Nasal spray and shots offered
  - **Monday, October 26 – Thursday, October 29, 2009 from 10am – 6pm (based on vaccine availability)**
    - Ravenholt Public Health Center  
625 Shadow Lane, Las Vegas  
Nasal spray offered
  - **Friday, October 23, 2009, from 10am – 6pm (based on vaccine availability)**
    - Ravenholt Public Health Center  
625 Shadow Lane, Las Vegas  
Nasal spray offered
  - **Thursday, October 22, 2009, from 1pm – 7pm**
    - Washoe County Health District - Admin Complex, Building B, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
1001 E. Ninth Street, Reno (corner of Wells Ave & 9<sup>th</sup> St., south of Livestock Event Center)  
Nasal spray and shots offered
- NSHD employees participated in Carson City, Douglas County, Lyon County and Washoe County seasonal influenza clinics conducted by the local health departments during the month of October.
- For the week of October 11-17, 2009, the toll-free bilingual hotline (866-767-5038) received 2,276 calls seeking information on H1N1. The previous week (October 4-10, 2009), 402 calls were received.
- NSHD activated its Division Operations Center (DOC) to manage all H1N1 planning and response efforts. The DOC follows the Incident Command System (ICS) structure. Weekly meetings are conducted to discuss Health Division H1N1 activities and updates.
- The NSHD conducts a weekly conference call with the local health departments to share H1N1 planning and response activities and information to ensure effective and unified H1N1 operations statewide.

## H1N1 Tribal Community Activities

The NSHD's PHP Tribal Liaison is working with the various tribal communities to ensure that they are prepared for the 2009-2010 influenza season.

- All tribal clinics are now enrolled to receive H1N1 vaccine for administration in their communities.
- Indian Health Board of Nevada is participating in NSHD's weekly H1N1 vaccine distribution conference call.

## H1N1 Public Information Activities

The NSHD's Public Information Officer (PIO) is working with PIOs at the state and local levels to keep the public informed during the 2009-2010 influenza season and to provide consistent information across the state. Public information activities include:

- Constant updating of the toll-free bilingual hotline (866-767-5038) with general information on H1N1 influenza and H1N1 vaccination clinics being conducted statewide by local health departments.
- Continuing conducting bimonthly PIO meetings, with NSHD PIO serving as the lead.
- Scheduled for October 29, 2009 a second conference call with frontier and rural "PIOs" (those in the rural counties that have been assigned PIO duties for their county).
- Nevada Broadcasting Association flu prevention radio spots in English and Spanish are now airing on the radio statewide.
- PHP funded flu prevention ads are appearing in Parents Magazine on H1N1 (Nov issue).
- Continuing to update the [www.flu.nv.gov](http://www.flu.nv.gov) website.

## H1N1 Disease and Surveillance Activities

Influenza surveillance is being conducted in conjunction with H1N1 vaccination activities. In preparation for the upcoming 2009-2010 influenza (regular and H1N1) season, the following disease and surveillance activities are underway:

- Continue weekly tracking of seasonal and H1N1 influenza confirmed cases, hospitalizations, and deaths in Nevada.
- Continue providing information as requested to the CDC's Influenza Branch.
- Continue regular monitoring of over-the-counter (OTC) healthcare products usage in Nevada and nationwide using the National Retail Data Monitor (NRDM) system. NRDM monitors the sales of these OTCs to help identify disease outbreaks as early as possible.
- Continue daily monitoring of EpiCenter activity. EpiCenter collects and analyzes real-time data from emergency departments of participating Nevada hospitals and urgent care facilities. This provides a picture to public health of disease activity occurring in Nevada and also serves as another tool in the early detection of disease outbreaks.

## Seasonal Influenza Activity

### Seasonal Influenza Statistics

According to the CDC, for MMWR **week 40** (October 4-10, 2009), influenza activity increased in the U.S. Nationwide a total of 20,654 hospitalizations and 2,321 deaths "associated with influenza virus infection, or based on syndromic surveillance for influenza and pneumonia" were reported to the CDC from August 30-October 10, 2009, 2009. According to the CDC:

- Patient visits to doctors for influenza-like illness (ILI) continued to increase in the U.S., and overall these visits are higher than expected for this time of year. ILI activity now is equal to or higher than what is seen at the peak of many regular flu seasons.
- Total influenza hospitalization rates for adults and children that are *laboratory-confirmed* as influenza are higher than expected for this time of year and continue to rise. Hospitalization rates for children ages 5-17 and adults ages 18-49 from April – October 2009 exceed the rates for the average flu season, which occurs from October through April.
- The proportion of deaths associated with pneumonia and influenza has increased and now exceeds what is normally expected at this time of year. A total of 76 laboratory confirmed 2009 H1N1 pediatric deaths have been reported to the CDC since April 2009.
- Forty-one (41) states are reporting **widespread** influenza activity. The number of states reporting widespread activity is unprecedented during seasonal flu.

Nevada has 5 reporting regions. For MMWR week 40, we are at "**widespread**" activity, which is defined as outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least half the regions of the state with recent laboratory evidence of influenza in those regions.

Additional information on influenza activity and surveillance can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>

## Nevada Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Clinics

Seasonal influenza vaccinations are available and are currently being offered at various locations throughout Nevada. Local health departments also offered free seasonal flu (not H1N1) shots at mass vaccination clinics during the month of October at various locations throughout Nevada. These clinics were conducted by the health departments in order to exercise their vaccination plans. Results of those clinics are listed below.

- Washoe County Health District conducted 2 seasonal influenza vaccination clinics in Reno on Saturday, October 17, 2009. Approximately 3,300 vaccinations in total were administered at both sites in a 4 hour period.
- Carson City Health & Human Services conducted a seasonal influenza clinic in Lyon County on Saturday, October 17, 2009. Approximately 750 vaccinations were administered in a 4 hour period.
- Carson City Health & Human Services conducted a seasonal influenza clinic in Douglas County on Saturday, October 17, 2009. Approximately 2,000 vaccinations were administered in a 4 hour period.
- Carson City Health & Human Services conducted 2 seasonal influenza vaccination clinics in Carson City on Saturday, October 10, 2009. Approximately 5,000 vaccinations in total were administered at both sites in a four (4) hour period.

## **CDC Updates**

The CDC has recently issued the following:

- *10 FAQs For Immunization Programs and Providers* at: [http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/top10\\_faq.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/top10_faq.htm).
- *Mixing Tamiflu Capsules with Liquids For Children Who Cannot Swallow Capsules* at: [http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/antivirals/mixing\\_tamiflu\\_qa.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/antivirals/mixing_tamiflu_qa.htm).
- *New Antiviral Safety Information Web Page* at: [http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/antivirals/safety\\_info.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/antivirals/safety_info.htm).
- *New H1N1 & You Question and Answer* at: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/qa.htm>.
- *Flyer: Fight Flu – For First Responders* at: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/freeresources.htm> (PDF file)