



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

RSA Tower 201 Monroe Street, Suite 914 Montgomery, AL 36104

Phone 334-206-5300 Fax 334-206-5520

www.adph.org

Influenza detected in Alabama

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Catina James
(334) 206-5020
Winkler Sims
(334) 206-5023

The Alabama Department of Public Health reports that influenza activity has been confirmed recently in several Alabama counties including Coffee, DeKalb, Elmore, Greene, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Tuscaloosa. Overall, there has been an increase in influenza activity throughout the state over the past four weeks.

Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer, said, "The incidence of influenza disease in Alabama usually peaks in the months of January and February, just as it does nationally. For protection during the remainder of the flu season, people should consider being vaccinated. Many providers still have flu vaccine available in their clinics."

Please contact your private physician or your local county health department for availability of flu vaccine and clinic times. Also, be aware there are medications your doctor can prescribe to treat or prevent influenza. Other information is available by visiting www.adph.org/influenza.

Influenza can occur any time between November and March. The strains of influenza confirmed were primarily type A/H3 and type A/H1. Please protect yourself and others by washing hands, covering your cough, and avoiding others when you are sick.

-30-

2/6/08