



INFLUENZA WATCH

Los Angeles County

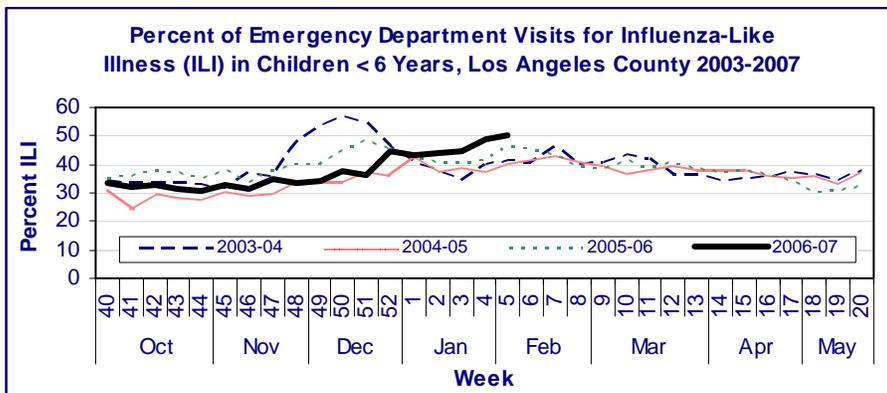
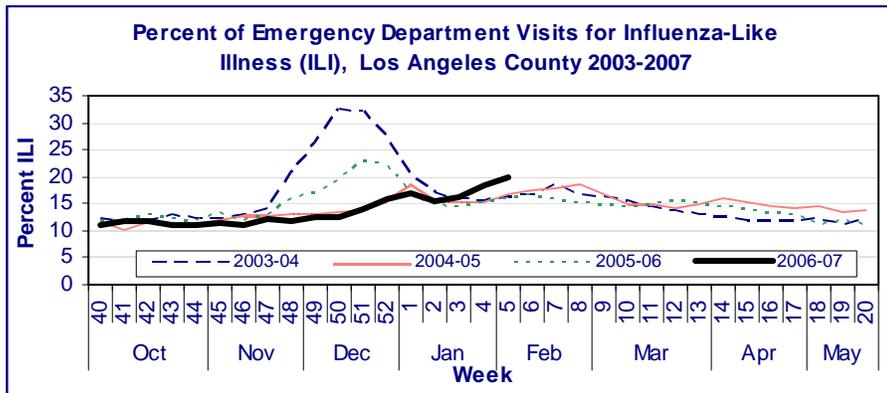
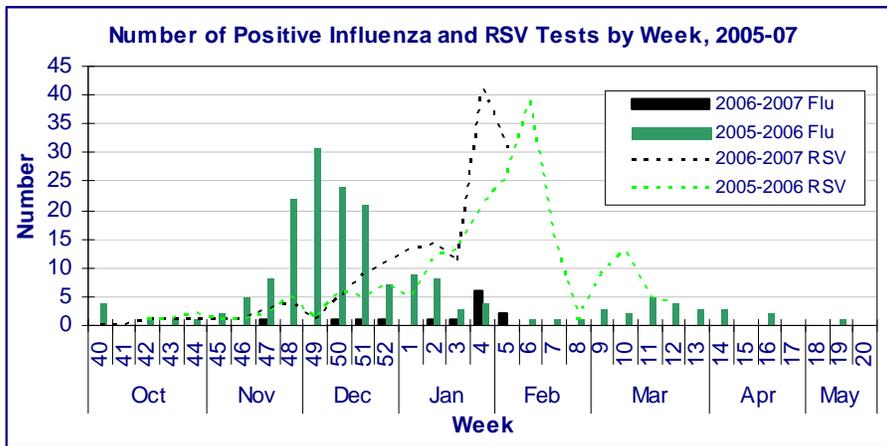
<http://lapublichealth.org/acd/flu.htm>

SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM*	Week 5	To Date
Positive Influenza Tests±	2	14
Positive RSV Tests±	31	148
Hospitalized Influenza Cases±	1	5
Severe Pediatric Influenza Cases	2 (0) [†]	4 (0) [†]
Influenza Vaccines Administered (PH)	--	101,993

*See <http://lapublichealth.org/acd/flu.htm> for a description of surveillance methods.

[†]The number of deaths is indicated by the parenthesis.

±Sentinel sites (5-7 participating facilities).



Important Information

- Influenza activity is increasing in Los Angeles County.
- Influenza-like illness has steadily increased in the past 4 weeks.
- RSV activity decreased during week 5.

Announcements

- **CONSIDER INFLUENZA IN PATIENTS WITH FEVER AND/OR RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS.**
- **IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO VACCINATE YOUR PATIENTS!**

In the News

Scientists Discover a Small Change in the 1918 Influenza Virus that Stops Transmission

Researchers used an animal model to identify molecular properties of the 1918 pandemic influenza virus that affect its ability to spread. They found that altering two amino acids in one of the viral surface proteins stopped its ability to transmit from ferret to ferret (*Science Feb 2007*).

For additional information, visit:

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/ga/1918flumallchange.htm>

Influenza Activity: CA & USA

California: Outpatient and inpatient ILI data increased during Week 4 (1/21-1/27/07). Influenza activity remains regional.

United States: Influenza activity increased during week 4. Influenza-like illness (ILI) was above baseline level while the percent of deaths due to pneumonia and influenza remained below baseline level.

For more information see the CA influenza report: www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm