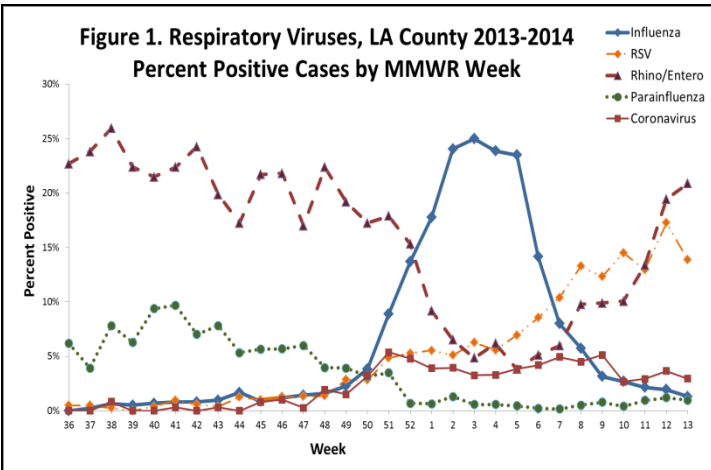


Influenza on Its Way Out

Overall influenza activity in LAC remains low; however the virus continues to cause significant illness sporadically. National and state data reflect similar low levels of influenza with A H1N1 tapering off and replaced by an increase of type B. The influenza season defined by the Health Officer Order issued at the beginning of the season mandating health care workers to either vaccinate or wear a mask ended March 31, 2014. This will be the last regular issue of Influenza Watch unless influenza activity increases above expected levels. The 2013-2014 season summary will be released in the coming weeks.



LA County Surveillance Summary	Week 14 3/30/14-4/5/14	2013-14 YTD (9/1/13-Present)
Positive Flu Tests/Total Tests† (Percent Positive Flu Tests)	6/402 (1.5%)	3,783/35,280 (10.7%)
Percent Flu A/B	17/83	95/5
Community Respiratory Outbreaks	0	11
Influenza confirmed outbreaks††	0	2
Pediatric Flu Deaths	0	4
Adult Flu Deaths, confirmed†††	1	90
Total	1	94

†Sentinel sites (9 participating) ††Associated with at least one positive influenza lab test
†††Confirmed influenza death is defined by a positive lab test, compatible symptoms, and clear progression from illness to death
Note: LA County tracks flu deaths of all ages, CA State reports on those <65 years only

RSV Prevalent Through Spring
As influenza season comes to a close other respiratory virus activity has increased. RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) incidence in Los Angeles County has been steadily rising as flu decreases (Figure 1). The usual RSV season starts in December and continues through the spring months. RSV symptoms include cough, sneeze, runny nose and fever. The CDC estimates that each year 75,000-125,000 children in the US are infected with RSV. Those at risk of severe illness are: premature infants, children with underlying medical conditions, and anyone with weakened immune systems. Currently there is no vaccine for RSV however infection can be prevented by avoiding contact with those who have cold symptoms, washing your hands frequently, and covering your cough or sneeze.

[CDC - Frequently Asked Questions - RSV](#)

