



INFLUENZA WATCH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Los Angeles County

Respiratory and influenza activity remained at a moderate level during week 6; influenza A is predominant throughout Los Angeles County. Of the influenza A viruses tested by the Public Health Laboratory 90.5% have been confirmed as H1. One outbreak previously reported during week 5 (onset during week 4) was confirmed influenza A H1 positive. Laboratory confirmed cases of RSV have declined in Los Angeles County for the 3rd straight week.

Table 1: Surveillance System Overview

| SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM* | Week 6 | 2008-2009 YTD |
|---|--------|---------------|
| Percent Positive Influenza Tests [±] | 12.1 | 4.0 |
| Percent Positive RSV Tests [‡] | 23.0 | 18.9 |
| Percent Positive Flu A / Flu B [‡] | -- | 92% / 8% |
| Severe Pediatric Influenza Cases [†] | 0 | 1 |
| Respiratory Outbreaks | 1 | 6 |
| Influenza Vaccines Administered (PH) | -- | 59,486 |

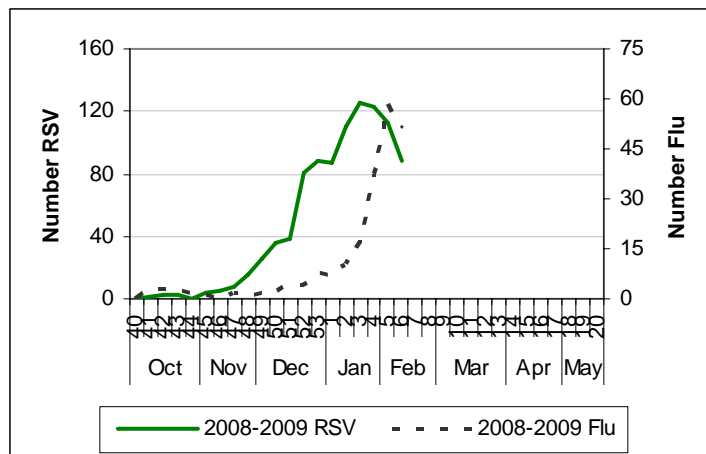
*See <http://lapublichealth.org/acd/flu.htm> for a description of surveillance methods.

± Sentinel sites (9 participating facilities).

‡ Sentinel sites (4 participating facilities).

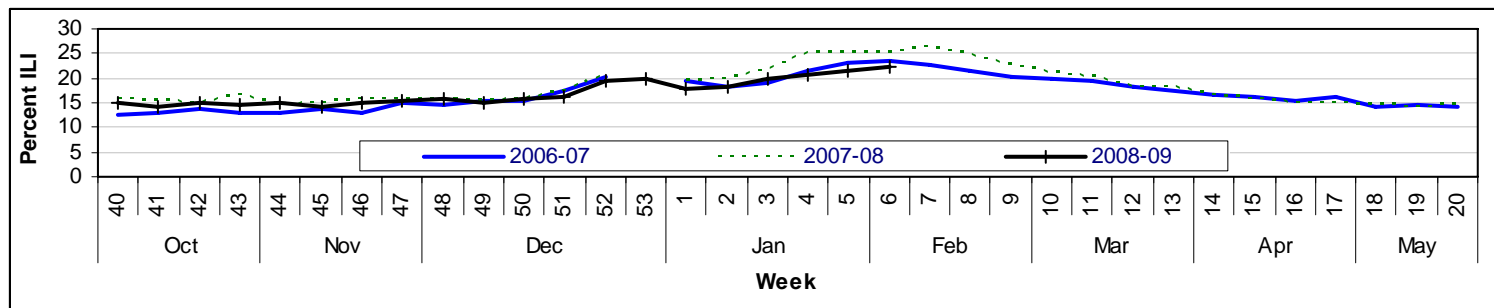
†The number of deaths is indicated by the parenthesis.

Figure 1: Positive Influenza and RSV Tests by Week



RSV data in Figure 1 represent testing completed in four reporting facilities for the 2008-2009 season. Influenza data represent testing completed in nine facilities.

Figure 2: Percent of ED Visits for ILI by Week



California

During week 5 (February 1-February 7), influenza activity in California increased to **regional**, based on increased laboratory detections Northern and Southern California. Antiviral prescriptions in Northern and Southern California increased.

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/PROGRAMS/VRDL/Pages/CaliforniaInfluenzaSurveillanceProject.aspx>

United States

Influenza activity increased during week 5 (February 1-February 7) but remains low. During this week, 16 states reported **wide-spread** activity, 16 states reported **regional** activity, 14 reported **local** activity, and 4 reported **sporadic** activity. Influenza activity is lower compared to the same week last year.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>

In the News

Influenza Activity— United States, 09/28/08—01/31/09

Influenza activity in the United States remained low but began to increase towards the end of January. The influenza season, thus far, has been predominated by influenza A virus (84%) and the strains that have been detected, for the most part, appear to antigenically match the vaccine strains. Of the influenza A H1N1 viruses tested for antiviral resistance 97.4% are resistant to oseltamivir. Additionally, 100% of the influenza A H3N2 viruses are resistant to adamantanes. Deaths for which influenza or pneumonia was listed as an underlying condition have remained below the epidemic threshold thus far this season. There was one novel influenza strain detected this year (swine influenza A H1N1); this patient fully recovered and investigation into the source of exposure is ongoing.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5805a4.htm>