

# California Influenza Surveillance Project

## Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory

**2008-2009**

### Influenza Update – Week 42 (October 12 – 18 2008)

**National Influenza Activity:**

During week 42 (October 12-18, 2008), a low level of influenza activity was reported in the United States. Ten (1.0%) specimens tested by U.S. World Health Organization (WHO) and National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) collaborating laboratories and reported to CDC/Influenza Division were positive for influenza. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the epidemic threshold. The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was below national and region-specific baseline levels. Eleven states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico reported sporadic influenza activity; 38 states reported no influenza activity; and one state did not report.

**California Influenza Activity:**

During week 42 (October 12-18, 2008), influenza activity, including sentinel provider outpatient influenza-like illnesses and Kaiser Permanente P&I (pneumonia and influenza), remains low throughout California. Based on reports of infrequent positive influenza laboratory tests in both Northern and Southern California, influenza activity in California remained **sporadic** (defined by the CDC as “Isolated cases of lab confirmed influenza in the state, but ILI activity is not increased”). No cases of severe pediatric influenza\* or influenza-associated pediatric fatalities have been reported.

\*Age 0- 17 years; a clinical syndrome consistent with influenza or complications of influenza; confirmation by laboratory testing; and have been hospitalized in the ICU or died (with no period of complete recovery between the illness and death.

**Kaiser Permanente inpatient, sentinel providers’ outpatient influenza-like illnesses, and Kaiser Permanente antiviral data:**

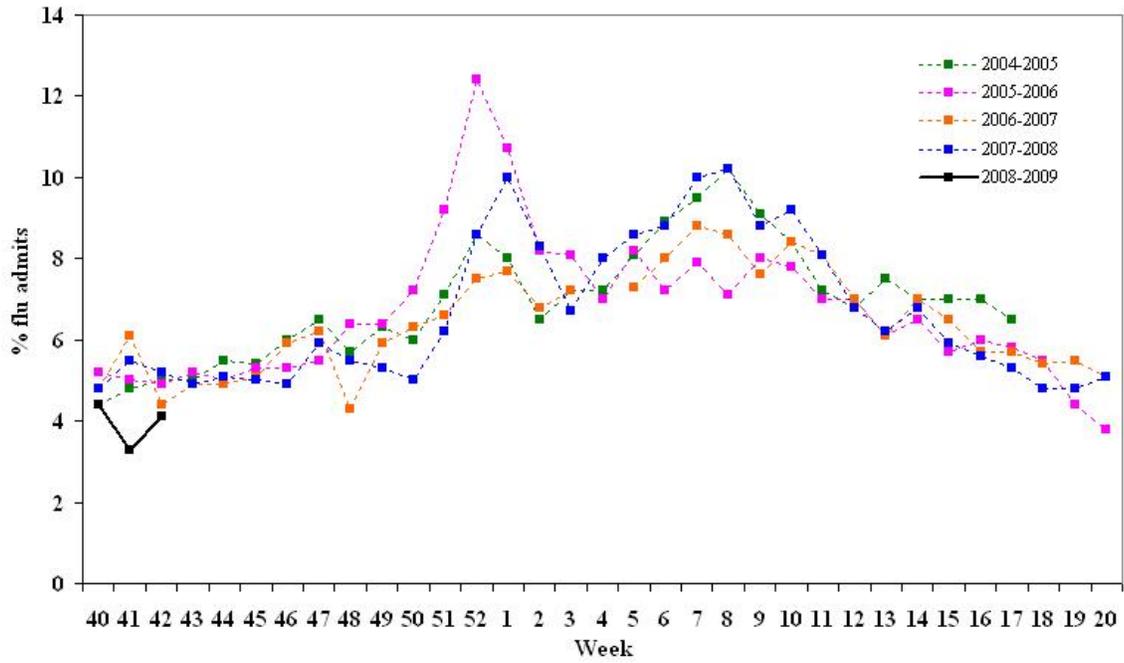
Week	Kaiser Inpatient Data % (range)*		Outpatient ILI Data %(# reported)‡	Kaiser Antiviral Data§	
	Northern CA	Southern CA		Northern CA	Southern CA
<b>42</b>	4.1 (1.6–7.8)	1.7 (0.5–3.3)	2.4 (72 reported)	Data not available	Data not available
<b>Previous week</b>	3.3 (0.0–7.1)	1.8 (0.4–3.1)	1.6 (100 reported)	Data not available	Data not available

\* “Flu admissions” are present year-round. During the off-season, these consist chiefly of pneumonia, which represents approximately 3–5% of all admissions

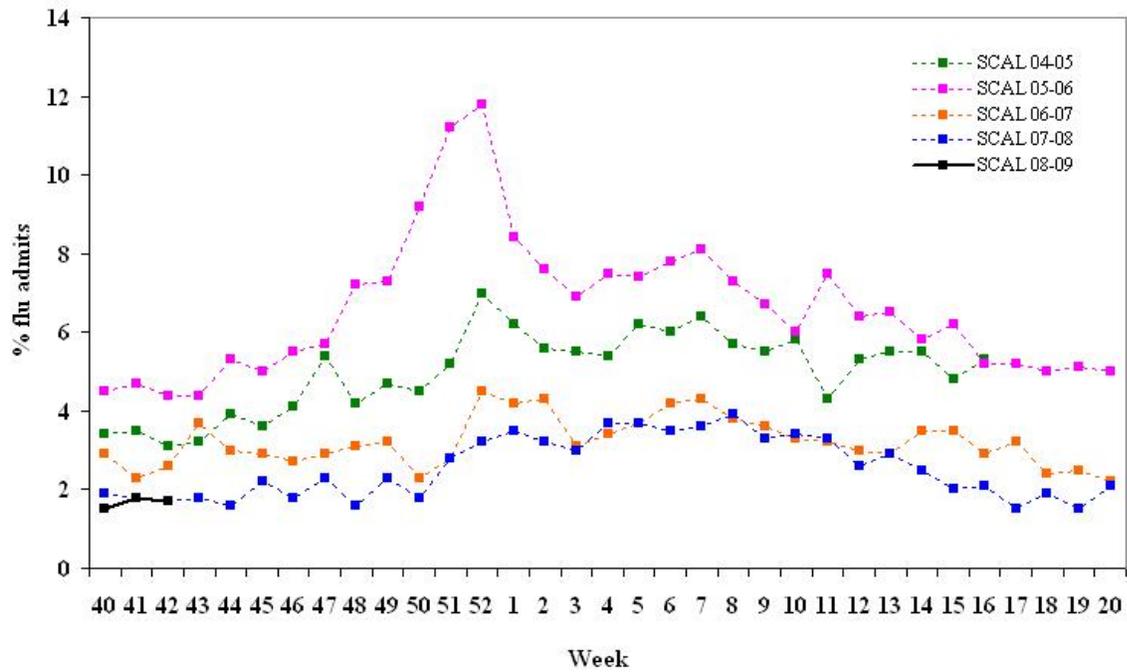
‡ The percentage of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) is calculated by dividing the number of ILI visits by the total number of outpatient visits per week

§ The number of prescriptions filled for the antiviral drugs used for influenza (amantadine, rimantadine, zanamivir, and oseltamivir) by Kaiser outpatient pharmacies in California

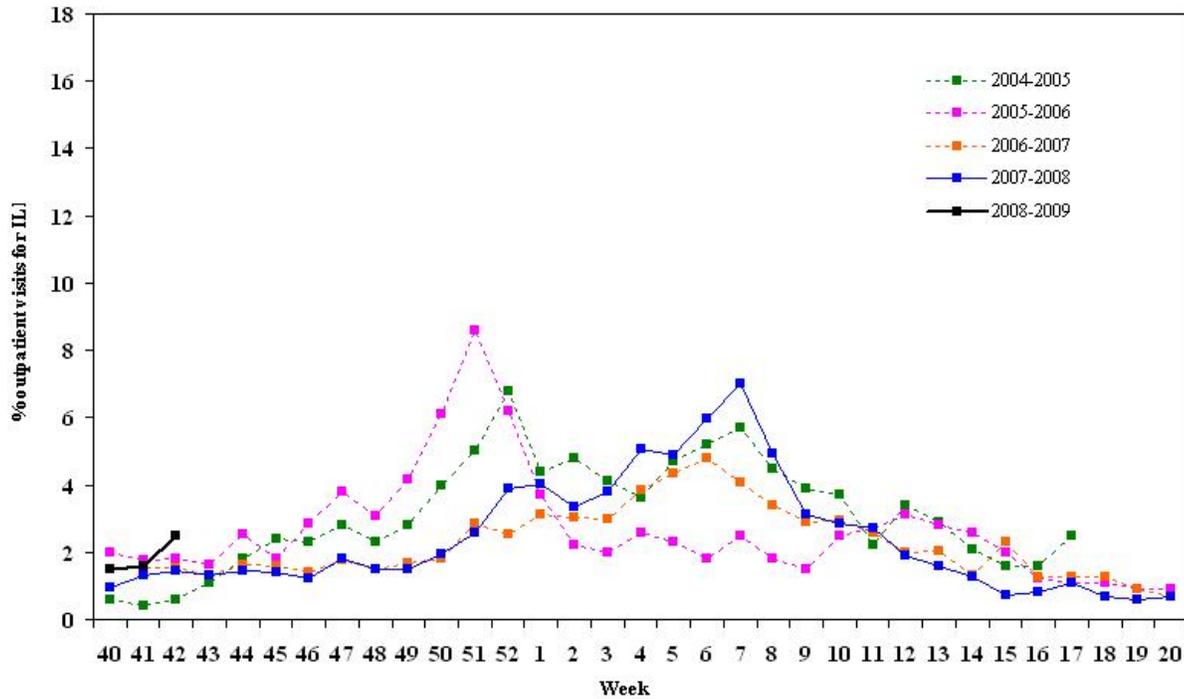
**Inpatient "Flu" Admissions 2004-2009  
Northern California Kaiser**



**Inpatient "Flu" Admissions 2004-2009  
Southern California Kaiser**



## California Sentinel Providers Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Visits 2004-2009



### Laboratory Data (viral isolation and detection)

		Sentinel Laboratories/Respiratory Laboratory Network <sup>‡</sup>	Sentinel Providers
<b>Week 42</b>	<b>Number of Sites Reporting</b>	18	3 specimens submitted through week 42 (0 positive by culture, 1 pending)
	<b>Influenza A</b>	1 <sup>a</sup> Total to date: 1	0
	<b>Influenza B</b>	3 <sup>b</sup> Total to date: 3	0
	<b>Influenza A/B</b>	0 Total to date: 0	0
	<b>RSV</b>	4 <sup>c</sup> Total to date: 4	0
	<b>Other Respiratory Viruses</b>	11 <sup>d</sup> Total to date: 17	0

<sup>‡</sup>Sentinel laboratories are hospital, academic, private, and public health laboratories located throughout California that provide data on the number of laboratory-confirmed influenza and other respiratory virus detections and isolations. The Respiratory Laboratory Network (RLN) is a network of 26 local public health laboratories that offer enhanced diagnostic testing with the “R-mix” shell vial assay, which detects several respiratory pathogens, including influenza A and B viruses, respiratory syncytial virus, parainfluenza virus, and adenovirus. Some RLN labs also offer PCR testing for influenza A and B.

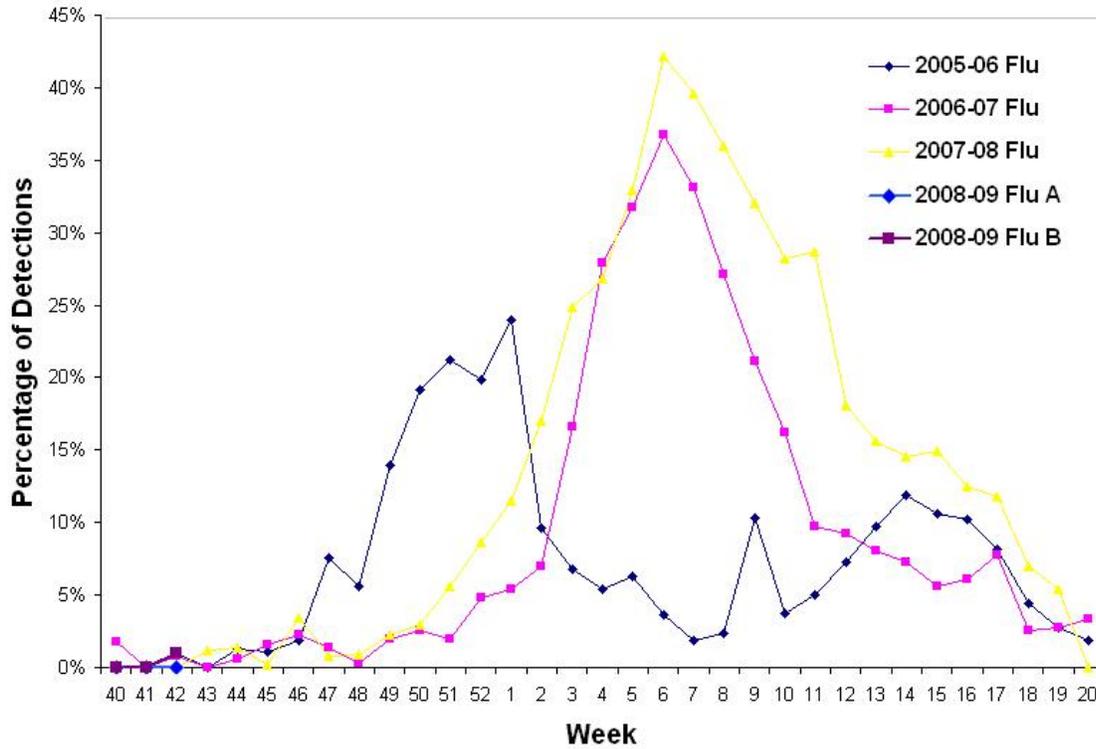
<sup>a</sup> Orange (1)

<sup>b</sup> Los Angeles (1); Orange (2)

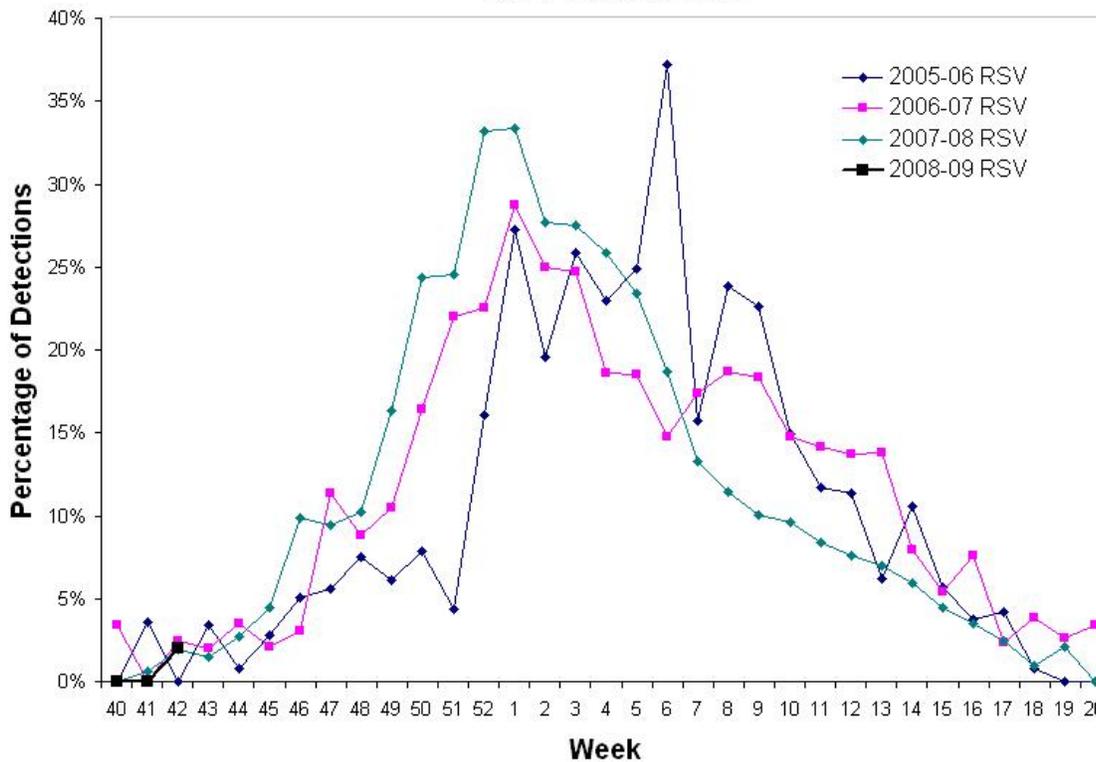
<sup>c</sup> Alameda (1); San Francisco (1); Santa Clara (2)

<sup>d</sup> parainfluenza type 2 (10); adenovirus (1)

### Sentinel Laboratories/Respiratory Laboratory Network Influenza Detections



### Sentinel Laboratories/Respiratory Laboratory Network RSV Detections



**Please continue to assist us in recruiting primary care providers (physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants) to be sentinel physicians in your area.** For more information, contact Melissa Dahlke at [flu@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:flu@cdph.ca.gov) or 510-620-3494.

For questions about the California Influenza Surveillance Project, please contact Erica Boston ([erica.boston@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:erica.boston@cdph.ca.gov)) or Janice Louie ([janice.louie@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:janice.louie@cdph.ca.gov)).