



California Department of Public Health Influenza Surveillance Program

California Influenza and Other Respiratory Disease Surveillance for Weeks 17–18 (April 21– May 4, 2013)

Note: This report includes information from many different data sources, including syndromic surveillance, laboratory surveillance, and mandatory reporting of influenza deaths for cases ages 0-64 years. The information contained in this report should be viewed as a “snapshot” of influenza activity for each surveillance week, and should not be considered as population-based data or representative of all California public health jurisdictions. Additionally, it is important to keep in mind that the data included in this report represent a sampling of various influenza indicators and are not meant to capture all influenza cases in the state. The trends of these influenza indicators, however, are useful for monitoring influenza activity. Data in previous weeks may be revised as additional information becomes available.

Avian Influenza A(H7N9)

Additional cases of avian influenza A(H7N9) continue to be identified in China. As of May 8, 2013, a total of 131 cases have been reported, including 32 deaths. Cases have been reported in China from eight provinces [Anhui (4), Fujian (5), Henan (4), Hunan (3), Jiangsu (26), Jiangxi (5), Shandong (2) and Zhejiang (46)] and two municipalities [Beijing (1) and Shanghai (34)], and in Taiwan (1). There is currently no evidence that the virus has become easily transmissible from person to person. CDPH has issued guidance to local health departments implementing CDC recommendations on testing for avian influenza A(H7N9) in any person with influenza-like illness who has visited a country with human cases in the past 10 days. For additional information, please visit the [CDPH H7N9 Information Website](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/h7n9-virus.htm) at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/h7n9-virus.htm>.

Overall influenza activity in California remained “sporadic*” during Weeks 17-18.

During Weeks 17-18, influenza activity continued to decrease statewide.

- A total of 84 and 58 enrolled sentinel providers have reported data for Weeks 17 and 18, respectively, compared to an average of 115 providers reporting for each of the previous weeks. Based on available data, the percentage of visits for ILI in Week 17 (1.4%) and Week 18 (1.0%) remained below baseline levels for their respective weeks (2.7% and 2.6%).
- The percentage of hospitalizations for pneumonia and influenza (P&I) in Kaiser Permanente facilities in northern California decreased during Week 17 (4.4%) and Week

18 (4.1%), compared to Week 16 (4.6%), and remained below baseline levels for their respective weeks (5.3% and 5.1%).

- No laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported to the California Emerging Infections Program (CEIP) Influenza Surveillance Network (FluSurv-NET) during Weeks 17–18.
- The percentage of influenza detections in the RLN and sentinel laboratories decreased in Week 17 (3.5%) and Week 18 (2.1%), compared to 6.8% in Week 16.
- Of 845 total specimens tested by Respiratory Laboratory Network (RLN) and sentinel laboratories during Weeks 17-18,
 - 24 (2.8%) were positive for influenza virus; of these
 - 17 (70.8%) were influenza B and
 - 7 (29.2%) were influenza A
 - 2 (28.6%) were subtyped as seasonal A(H3)
 - 2 (28.6%) were subtyped as 2009 A(H1)
 - 3 (42.9%) were not subtyped
- Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) detections decreased in Week 17 (2.3%) and Week 18 (2.0%), compared to 4.2% in Week 16. Low levels of rhinovirus, parainfluenza virus, human metapneumovirus, and adenovirus activity continue to be reported.
- The California Department of Public Health Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (CDPH-VRDL) has tested 91 influenza isolates for antiviral resistance to date; none have been resistant to neuraminidase inhibitors.
- Fifty-seven specimens from California residents have been strain-typed this season; of these, 55 (96.5%) match the components of the 2012–2013 influenza vaccine.
- Nine influenza-associated deaths in individuals less than 65 years of age (including two pediatric) were reported during Weeks 17 and 18 with deaths occurring from January 5, 2013 to April 9, 2013.
- No reports of laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks were received by CDPH during Weeks 17–18. A total of 139 laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks have been reported to date during the 2012–2013 influenza season.
No cases of novel influenza have been detected in California to date.

*For the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) definitions of influenza geographic distribution, please go to the [CDC influenza webpage](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm) <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm>

For questions regarding influenza surveillance and reporting in California, please email InfluenzaSurveillance@cdph.ca.gov. This account is monitored daily by several epidemiologists.

For more information regarding the different influenza surveillance data sources, please visit the [CDPH Influenza Surveillance Program](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Flu-Reports.aspx) at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Flu-Reports.aspx>

To obtain additional information regarding influenza, please visit the [CDPH Influenza Website](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Influenza.aspx) at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Influenza.aspx>

A copy of the case report form for reporting any laboratory-confirmed influenza case that was either admitted to the ICU or died can be downloaded from [Severe Influenza Case History Form Link](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/CDPH%20Document%20Library/ControlledForms/cdph9070.pdf) <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/CDPH%20Document%20Library/ControlledForms/cdph9070.pdf>.