



# INFLUENZA WATCH

Los Angeles County

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

SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM*	Weeks 13-14	To Date
Positive Influenza Tests±	0	21
Positive RSV Tests±	9	285
Hospitalized Influenza Cases±	0	11
Severe Pediatric Influenza Cases	0 (0)†	24 (1)†
Influenza Vaccines Administered (PH)	--	115,665

\*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

- ILI and RSV continue to decrease in LA County.
- In children aged 5 years and younger, ILI is decreasing but still higher than previous years.

## Announcements

- **IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO VACCINATE YOUR PATIENTS, INCLUDING CHILDREN WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED TWO DOSES!**

## In the News

### Flu vaccine grown in insect cells shows promise

Genetically engineered flu vaccine made from caterpillars instead of hen eggs has been shown for the first time to keep people from getting the flu. The results are preliminary but suggest the insect method could be a quicker, easier alternative to the lengthy, antiquated egg-based procedure now used and lead to a more rapid response to a pandemic, the study authors say (JAMA- April 11, 2007).

For additional information, visit:

[http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/news/fullstory\\_47699.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/news/fullstory_47699.html)

## Influenza Activity: CA & USA

**California:** During Week 13 (March 25 – 31, 2007), overall influenza activity declined compared to previous weeks and influenza activity in California was downgraded to **sporadic**.

**United States:** Influenza activity continued to decrease in the United States. The reporting of widespread or regional influenza activity decreased from 29 to 19 from week 12 to 13.

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

