



# INFLUENZA WATCH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

## Los Angeles County

Influenza activity remained low during week 48. To date, there have been no confirmed severe pediatric influenza cases and a total of 33 positive RSV tests in Los Angeles County. Emergency Department ILI (influenza-like illness) surveillance is currently slightly lower than rates experienced during 2007-08. Influenza activity usually peaks in January-February in Los Angeles. There has been 1 documented outbreak of adenovirus and some labs report more adenovirus than influenza virus.

### Surveillance System Overview

SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM*	Week 48	2008-2009 YTD
Percent Positive Influenza Tests±	0.5%	0.9%
Positive RSV Tests‡	13	33
Severe Pediatric Influenza Cases†	0	0
Respiratory Outbreaks	0	1
Influenza Vaccines Administered (PH)	--	39,534

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

±Sentinel sites (8 participating facilities).

‡ Sentinel sites (2 participating facilities).

†The number of deaths is indicated by the parenthesis.

### California

During week 47 (November 16-November 22, 2008), influenza activity in California remained **sporadic**, with activity in Northern California higher than Southern California. Outpatient activity and hospitalizations for ILI remained low as did laboratory detections.

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

### United States

Influenza activity increased slightly during week 47 (11/16-11/22) but remains low. During this week, one state reported **low** activity, 19 reported **sporadic** activity and 29 states reported no activity (one state did not report). Influenza activity is lower compared to the same week last year.

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

Figure 1: Positive Influenza and RSV Tests by Week

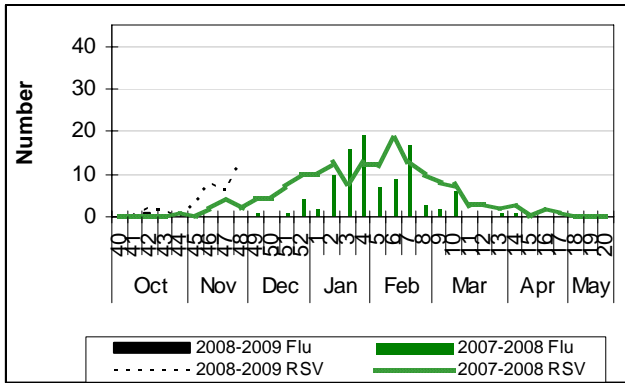
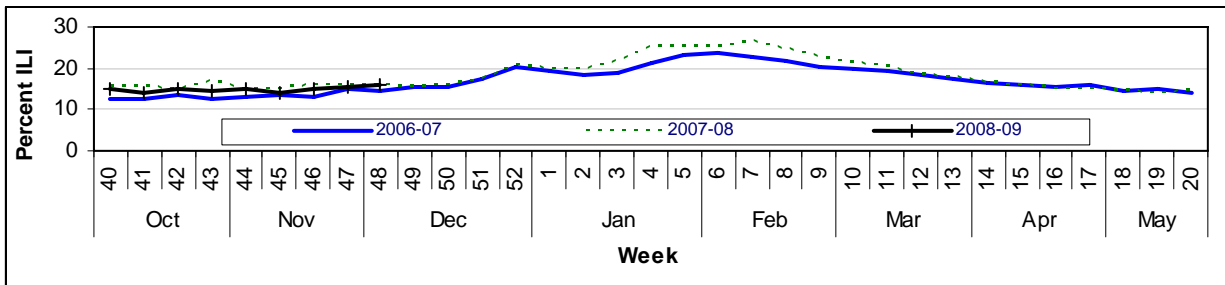


Figure 2: Percent of Emergency Department Visits for ILI



### In the News

#### Influenza Vaccine Effective in Young Children

A new study by the University of Rochester concluded that even during a season when there is a poor match between circulating and vaccine strains of influenza, the vaccine is likely to provide significant protection from the influenza virus for children between 6 months and 5 years of age. Data suggest an approximately 60% reduction in influenza-related medical visits among children in this age group who received all recommended doses of vaccine.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUKTRE4AP7S420081126>