

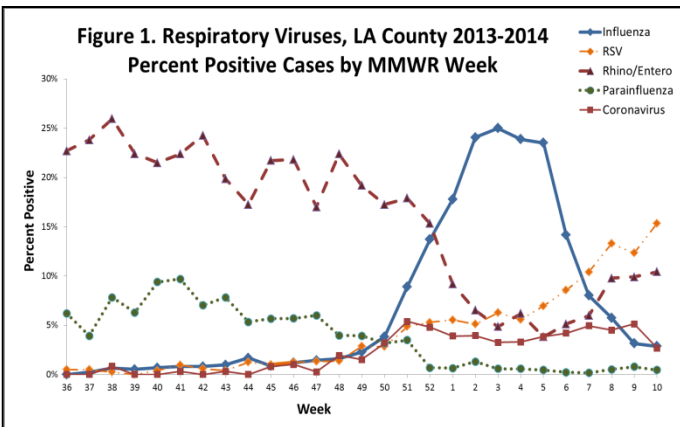
## Influenza Levels Continue to Decline

Influenza activity in Los Angeles County (LAC) has continued to decrease over the past two weeks with sentinel laboratories reporting percent positive influenza rates of 3.2% and 2.9% respectively (Table 1). Additionally, syndromic surveillance of emergency department visits for influenza-like-illness is down (Figure 2). As influenza activity drops in LAC, other respiratory viruses are increasing (Figure 1).

Table 1. LA County Surveillance Summary 2013-2014

LA County Surveillance Summary	Week 10 3/2/14-3/8/14	2013-14 YTD (9/1/13-Present)
Positive Flu Tests/Total Tests† (Percent Positive Flu Tests)	34/1185 (2.9%)	3,717/31,383 (11.8%)
Percent Flu A/B	56/44	96/4
Community Respiratory Outbreaks	0	9
Influenza confirmed outbreaks††	0	2
Adult Flu Deaths, confirmed†††	1	79
Pediatric Flu Deaths	2	3
Total	3	82

†Sentinel sites (9 participating) ††Associated with at least one positive influenza lab test  
†††Confirmed influenza death is defined by a positive lab test, compatible symptoms, and clear progression from illness to death  
Note: LA County tracks flu deaths of all ages, CA State reports on those <65 years only



## Children with Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Delay At Higher Risk for Severe Influenza Outcomes

A study published in BMJ looked at severe H1N1 outcomes (death or ICU admission) in children and found that the top two risk factors were a history of chronic lung disease and a history of cerebral palsy/developmental delay. The study looked at children presenting with influenza-like-illness (ILI) who developed severe outcomes from lab confirmed H1N1 infection. This information may be helpful to clinicians who encounter children with symptoms of ILI as well as these underlying medical conditions.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23940290>

## 2013-2014 Vaccine Effectiveness

Early estimates of vaccine effectiveness for the 2013-14 seasonal vaccine were recently released by the CDC. They estimate that overall vaccine efficacy against types A and B was 61%. The estimate for effectiveness against pH1N1 specifically (which accounted for 98% of tested specimens nationally) was 62% and was similar across age groups.

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6307a1.htm?cid=mm6307a1\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6307a1.htm?cid=mm6307a1_e)

Figure 2. Percent Positive Influenza-Like-Illness in Participating LAC Emergency Departments 2007-2014

