



Eye on Influenza

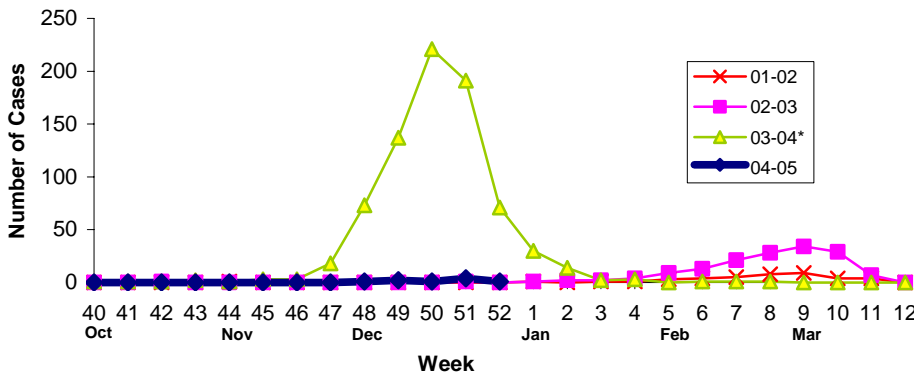
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Orange County Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 1719 W. 17th St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

This report includes information through 1/1/05 (CDC Disease Week 52).

- One case of flu B was reported to OC Public Health during week 52.
- Two additional human cases (with one death) of avian influenza H5N1 have been reported in Vietnam in the past week. These are the first new human cases since September 2004 and coincide with renewed outbreaks in poultry. With the colder weather approaching, additional poultry outbreaks and human cases are expected in Asia. Consider avian influenza infection in your patients with respiratory symptoms and a history of travel to or immigration from certain areas in Asia in the 10 days prior to symptom onset. Please see <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm> for more information and call OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180 with questions or to report suspect cases.
- It's not too late to vaccinate! Flu vaccine is available for purchase by health care providers and directly for patients through Public Health by calling 1-800-564-8448.

**Orange County Influenza Cases
Reported by Week and Season, 2001-2004***



Orange County*

- To date, we have received 10 reports of influenza detections in OC residents for the 2004-2005 season: 3 flu A, 6 flu B, and 1 flu A/B unspecified.
- Please report any pediatric ICU admissions or deaths associated with flu to OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180.
- Sentinel providers: Please fax your choices for the medical handbook incentive to 714-834-8196.

*Note: The number of confirmed cases does NOT correspond to the total number of cases occurring in OC as not all labs participate, the surveillance programs are not population based, and testing may be influenced by many factors such as public interest. However, the trends in influenza activity are likely to be reflected accurately.

Health care providers and labs can aid in monitoring flu by participating in OC flu surveillance. For more information, contact OC Epidemiology at (714) 834-8180.

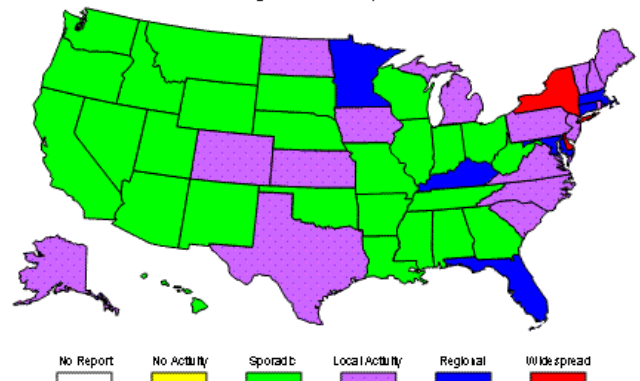
California and USA

- Statewide, flu activity appears to be increasing.
- Nationally, flu activity continues to increase, especially on the East Coast. Delaware and New York reported widespread activity, 6 states reported regional activity, 16 states reported local activity, and 26 states, D.C., and Puerto Rico reported sporadic activity for week 51 (week ending 12/25/04).
- Influenza-like illness visits to sentinel providers and pneumonia and influenza deaths remained below the national baseline for week 51.



**Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported
by State & Territorial Epidemiologists**

Week ending December 25, 2004 - Week 51



Additional Information:

General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>
 OC: www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/flu/index.htm
 California: www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Flutable04-05.htm
 USA: www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

If you have any comments about the flyer, contact Jacqueline Rurangirwa or Kirsten Melbye at (714) 834-8180.
 To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.