



# Eye on Influenza

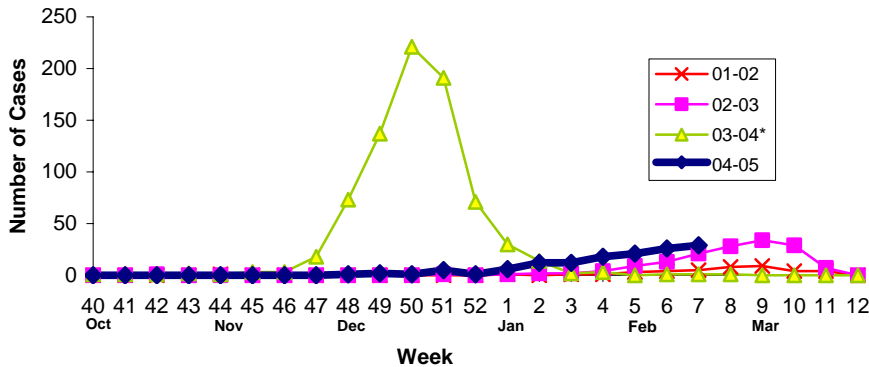
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This report includes information through 02/19/05 (CDC Disease Week 7).

- Both flu A and flu B reports are increasing in OC. We have not yet reached our peak activity!
- It's not too late to vaccinate, as the CDC recommends that influenza vaccination should continue in the United States during the influenza season as long as influenza viruses continue to circulate in this country. For more information, see <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/0405vaccination.htm>.
- 45% of influenza A (H3N2) isolates typed this season have been similar to A/California, which was not in the 2004-2005 vaccine. Therefore, WHO recommended that A/California/7/2004(H3N2)-like virus be included in the 2005-2006 Northern Hemisphere vaccine (along with A/New Caledonia/20/99(H1N1)-like virus, and B/Shanghai/361/2002-like virus).

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



### Orange County\*

- OC reported 29 cases of influenza last week: 9 flu A and 20 flu B.
- To date this season, we have received 133 reports of influenza detections in OC residents (37 flu A, 89 flu B, and 7 flu A/B unspecified).
- Sentinel providers: Please continue to report ILI and rapid test kit usage weekly by Mondays! Thanks!

*\*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.

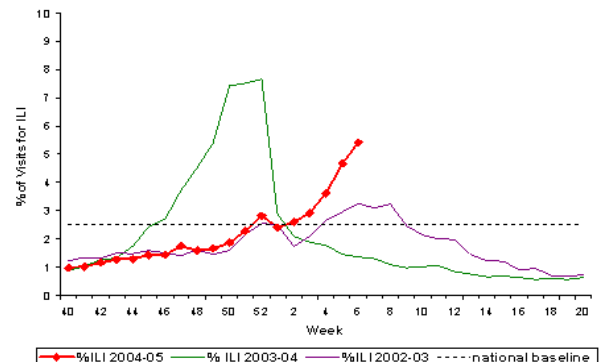
Health care providers and labs can aid in monitoring flu by participating in OC flu surveillance. For more information, contact OC Epidemiology at (714) 834-8180.

### California and USA

- Statewide, influenza activity continues to be regional.
- Nationally, influenza-like illness visits to sentinel providers continued to increase and were well above the national baseline for the week ending 2/12/05.



**Percentage of Visits for Influenza-like Illness  
Reported by Sentinel Providers, National Summary  
2004-05 and Previous 2 Seasons**



### Additional Information:

General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>  
 OC: [www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/flu/index.htm](http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/flu/index.htm)  
 California: [www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcde/VRDL/html/FLU/Flutable04-05.htm](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcde/VRDL/html/FLU/Flutable04-05.htm)  
 USA: [www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/](http://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](mailto:epi@ochca.com).