



Eye on Influenza

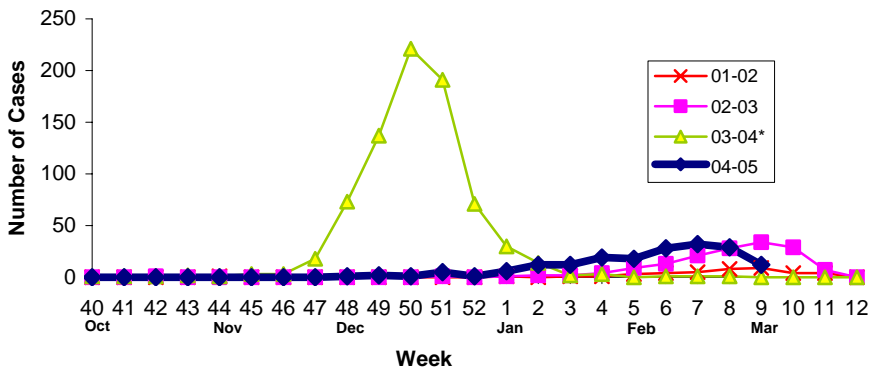
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Orange County Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 1719 W. 17th St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

This report includes information through 3/5/05 (CDC Disease Week 9).

- Flu is decreasing in OC and in the US! We continue to receive reports so flu season is not over yet!
- 10 additional human cases of avian influenza were confirmed in Vietnam, bringing the total of lab-confirmed cases in Vietnam since December 2004 to 24, with 13 fatalities. Since January 2004, there have been 69 human cases of avian influenza, with 46 fatalities, from Vietnam, Thailand, and Cambodia. Investigation of these newer cases by WHO continues as part of an ongoing assessment of pandemic risk. Consider avian flu in travelers with respiratory symptoms returning from Southeast Asia and call OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180 for more information.
- For more information on pandemics, see <http://www.dhhs.gov/nvpo/pandemics/>

**Orange County Influenza Cases
Reported by Week and Season, 2001-2005***



Orange County*

- OC reported 12 cases of influenza last week: 1 flu A and 11 flu B.
- To date this season, we have received 178 reports of influenza detections in OC residents (47 flu A, 120 flu B, and 11 flu A/B unspecified).
- 41% of respiratory specimens submitted by sentinel providers have been positive for influenza. Keep up the good work!

**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.

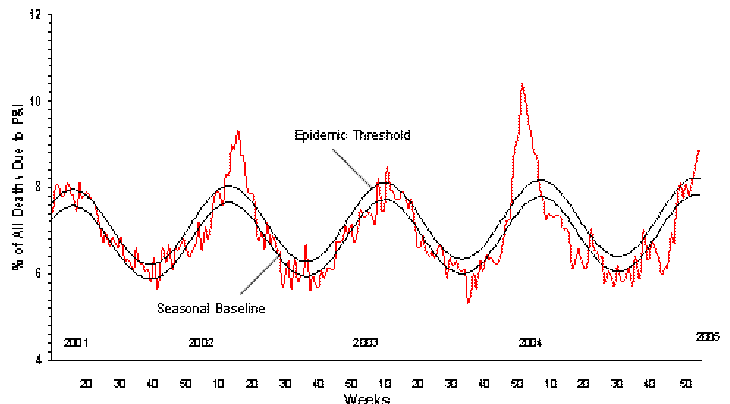
Health care providers and labs can aid in monitoring flu by participating in OC flu surveillance. For more information, contact OC Epidemiology at (714) 834-8180.

California and USA

- Statewide, flu activity was regional.
- In the U.S., flu activity continued to decline, although pneumonia & influenza deaths were above the national baseline. Flu activity was widespread in 24 states, regional in 20 states, local in 5 states, New York City, and DC, and sporadic in Puerto Rico.



**Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality
for 122 U.S. Cities
Week Ending 3/05/2005**



Additional Information:

General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>

OC: www.ochca.com/epi/flu/index.htm

California: www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcde/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.