

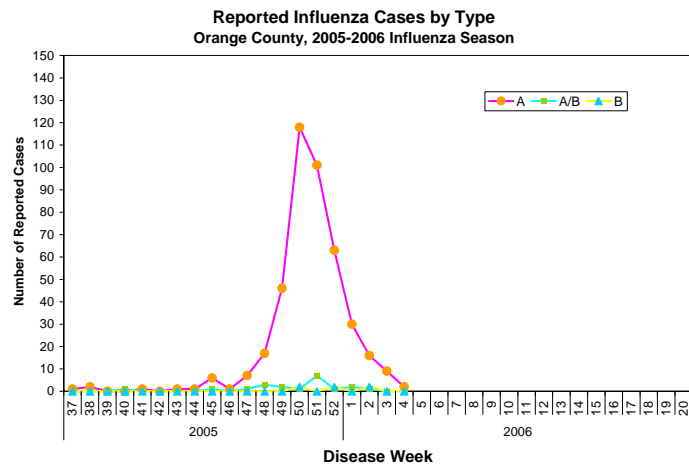


Orange County Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 1719 W. 17th St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

This report includes information through 1/27/06.

Influenza reports in Orange County continue to decrease. However, influenza activity may sometimes have a second peak later in the season so please continue to consider influenza in your patients with fever and respiratory symptoms.

- **California Department of Health Services has released a draft pandemic influenza preparedness plan for public comment.** To view and/or comment on the plan, please visit www.dhs.ca.gov
- **The Lunar New Year (January 29, 2006) will likely result in increased travel to Asia and avian influenza A (H5N1)-affected countries.** Physicians treating patients with fever and respiratory symptoms who have traveled to H5N1-affected areas in the 10 days prior to onset of symptoms should contact public health immediately at (714) 834-8180 for appropriate testing. For recommendations for travelers, visit www.cdc.gov/travel.
- **The Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal has a special issue on influenza (January 2006):** Visit www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/ for free on-line access to these articles.



*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.

Avian Influenza Update

- As of January 25, 2006, 152 human cases of avian influenza H5N1 and 83 deaths have been reported from Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, China, Cambodia and Turkey since winter 2003. For a list of affected areas: <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>.
- Orange County Public Health now has the capability to rapidly diagnosis influenza A and the H5 subtype. Please consult public health immediately at 714-834-8180 for any suspect avian influenza patients.

Additional Information:

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

Orange County*

- To date this season, we have received 448 reports of influenza in OC residents and 3 flu-associated deaths. 422 (94%) cases were influenza A; 100% of 89 isolates subtyped were A/H3N2.
- In OC and nationally, the majority of cases have been influenza A. In Europe, however, a high proportion of viruses detected have been flu B, including a strain (B/Malaysia/2506/2004-like) not currently covered by the '05-'06 northern hemisphere vaccine.

California and USA

- Overall, influenza activity continued at a similar level this week in the U.S. However, activity in CA and surrounding states appears to be decreasing. Some states in the Northern Central US and East Coast have seen increased activity, so please consult the map below for travelers.
- During the week ending 1/21/06, 5 states reported widespread influenza; 23 states (including CA) and NYC regional; 9 states and DC local; and 13 sporadic flu activity.

