

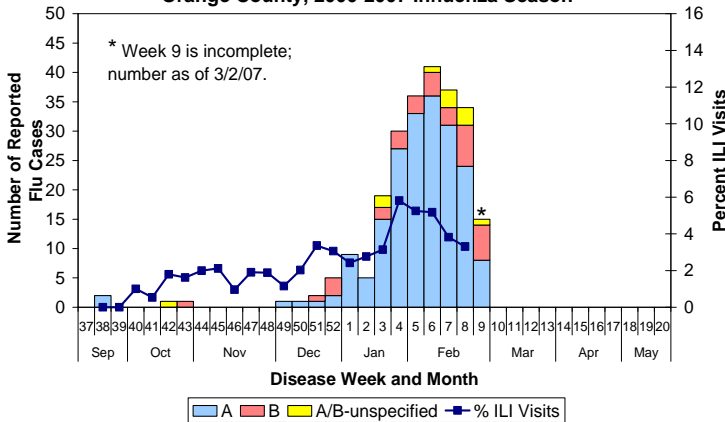


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Influenza reports in Orange County have decreased over the past three weeks; however, secondary peaks late in the season are not uncommon, especially with influenza B.

- **It is not too late to vaccinate against seasonal influenza.** Free flu shots are available for adults of all ages and children 6 months of age and older through programs sponsored by OC Health Care Agency. For more info, call the Health Referral Line at 800-564-8448 or visit www.ochealthinfo.com.
- **Study affirms that young children need to be fully vaccinated (2 doses) against influenza to obtain protective effects.** See *Pediatrics* 2007;119:E587-595 available at <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org>.
- **First human case of H5N1 in Lao People's Democratic Republic** was reported this week. The total number of countries with confirmed human H5N1 cases is now 12. For the latest case counts, see: http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en.
- **Advisory panel recommends that FDA approve the nation's first H5N1 vaccine**, despite evidence that the vaccine is less protective than previously suggested. Two doses of the vaccine, given 28 days apart, generated an immune response in 45% of the recipients. According to the manufacturer, Sanofi Pasteur, there were no serious side effects of significant adverse events. See: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/feb2707vaccine.html>.
- The **Institute of Medicine (IOM)** has created a special **committee on PPE for healthcare workers during an influenza pandemic**. A report is expected in September. For more information, see <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/mar0107iom.html>.

Reported Influenza Cases by Type & Percent of Visits Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)
Orange County, 2006-2007 Influenza Season



Note: The number of reported 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.

Orange County

- Of the 239 total reported cases to date: 82% were A, 14% B, and 5% A/B-unspecified.
- Of the subtyped flu A specimens, 60% were H1 and 40% were H3.
- One new case of severe pediatric influenza was reported this week for a total of 7 cases to-date; all were positive for flu A.



Avian Influenza Update

277 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (6), China (23)*, Djibouti (1), Egypt (23)*, Indonesia (81), Iraq (3), Lao PDR (1)*, Nigeria (1), Thailand (25), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (93), and have resulted in 167 (60%) deaths. H5N1-infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa, and Europe. For a list of H5N1-affected countries, see

<http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>

**New reported case(s) since February 23rd.*

California and USA

- Influenza activity remains regional in CA.
- Nationally, 84% of laboratory confirmed flu viruses were A and 16% were B.
- Of the subtyped flu A viruses nationally, 85% were H1 and 15% were H3. 95% of the flu A/H1 viruses characterized were similar to the flu A/H1 component of the 2006-07 flu vaccine.

Recommended Resources

General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>; OC: <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/flu/surveillance.htm>; CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>; CA: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm>; HHS: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>

If you have any comments about the flyer, contact Alina Burgi or Pamela Roa Hipp at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.