

# INFLUENZA WATCH

April 20, 2012  
Surveillance Week 15  
Volume 6, Issue 13

## Flu Surveillance and Related Disease Updates for Los Angeles County

### Flu Activity Continues Its Decline

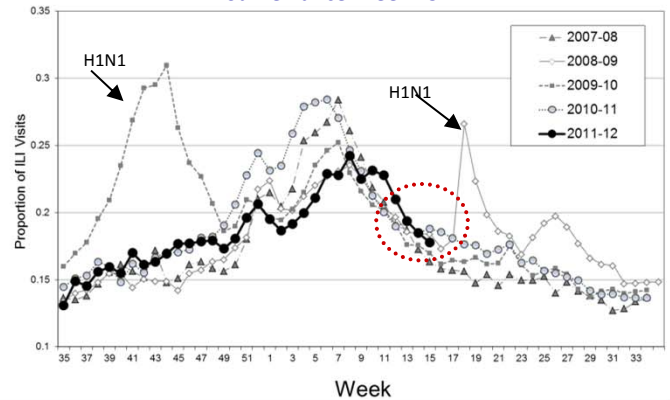
Sustained decreases in local influenza activity were observed in Week 15 (April 8-14), indicating that the 2011-2012 flu season is winding down. In Week 15, flu prevalence in Los Angeles County (8.0%, Table 1 and Figure 2) was at its lowest level in nine weeks, with ILI activity at its lowest since the beginning of the year (Figure 1). Compared to that of Week 13, activity of other respiratory viruses was also decreasing: rhinovirus (10.7%, down from 13.0%). RSV (10.6%, down from 15.0%), and hMPV (2.2%, down from 5.6%) (Figure 2). Three additional deaths in which influenza was a contributing cause were confirmed. One case of oseltamivir resistant flu was identified locally.

**Table 1. LA County Surveillance Summary (2011-2012)  
Surveillance Week 15**

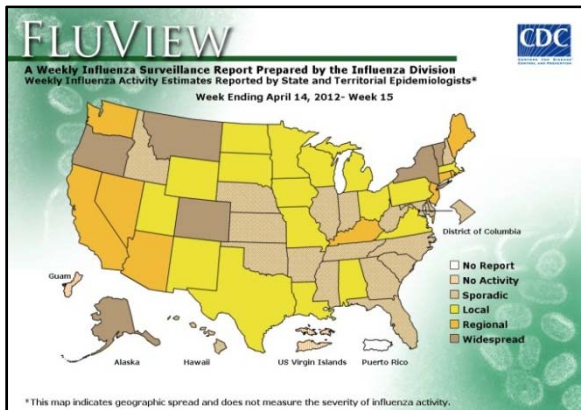
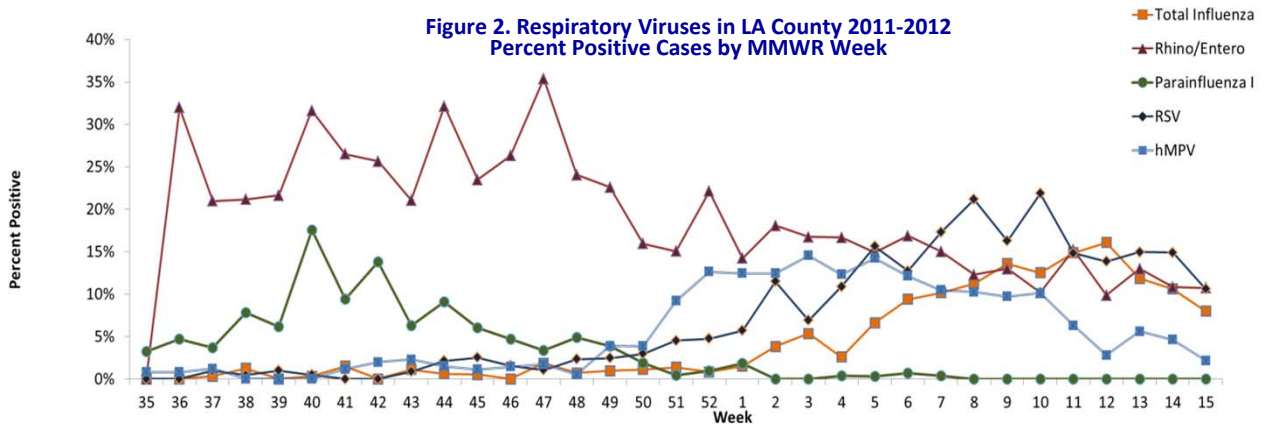
LA County Surveillance Summary	Week 15	2011-2012 Season YTD
Positive Flu Tests / Total Tests (Percent Positive Flu Tests)	44 / 550 (8.0%)	1,075 / 16,888 (6.4%)
Percent Flu A / B	90 / 10	90 / 10
Positive RSV Tests / Total Tests (Percent Positive RSV Tests)	43 / 406 (10.6%)	1,080 / 11,759 (8.9%)
Community Respiratory Outbreaks	0	21
Flu Deaths, Confirmed (Pediatric Deaths, Confirmed)	-----*	13 (2)

\* Due to the lag time in reporting and confirmation of cause, weekly flu death data is delayed.

**Figure 1. Influenza-like Illness ED Visits in LA County (2007-2012)  
Surveillance Week 15**



**Figure 2. Respiratory Viruses in LA County 2011-2012  
Percent Positive Cases by MMWR Week**



During Week 15, influenza activity continue to decline throughout the nation: widespread activity was reported in nearly half as many states as Week 13 (6 states); regional activity in 9 states (versus 19 in Week 13), and local activity in 17 states. Influenza activity in California was downgraded to regional.

*\*Note: this will be our final regular issue of Influenza Watch for this season. Look out for our upcoming special issue providing a review and synopsis of 2011-12 data.*

