



INFLUENZA WATCH

The purpose of the weekly *Influenza Watch* is to summarize current influenza surveillance in San Diego County. *Please note that reported weekly data are preliminary and may change due to delayed submissions and additional laboratory results.*

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Current Week

Current Week 46 (ending 11/15/2014)

- 15 new influenza detections reported: *Expected level*
- 1% influenza-like-illness (ILI) among emergency department visits: *Expected level*
- 0 influenza-related death reported this week
- 6% of deaths registered with Pneumonia & Influenza: *Expected level*

Current Season Summary

97
Total Cases

3
ICU Cases

0
Deaths

Virus Characteristics

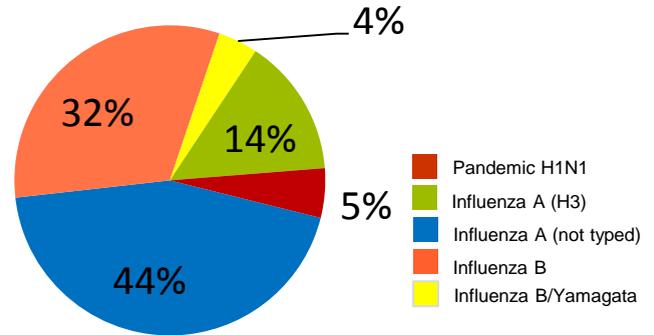


Table 1. Influenza Surveillance Indicators

Indicator	FY 2014-15			FY 2013-14		Prior 3-Year Average**	
	Week 46	Week 45	FYTD [#]	Week 46	FYTD [#]	Week 46	FYTD [#]
All influenza detections reported (rapid or PCR)	15	13	97	13	40	7	36
Percent of emergency department visits for ILI*	1%	2%		2%		1%	
Percent of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza	6%	5%		5%		7%	
Number of influenza-related deaths reported [^]	0	0	0	0	0	0.3	0.3

[#] FYTD=Fiscal year to date; FY is July 1-June 30 (Week 27-26). Total deaths reported in prior years: 70 in 2013-14, 65 in 2012-13, 14 in 2011-12.

* Previous weeks percentages may change due to delayed reporting.

** Includes FYs 2013-14, 2012-13, and 2011-12.

[^] Current FY deaths are shown by week of report; by week of death for prior FYs.

LAIV Effectiveness and Vaccination of Children

[New observational data](#) from the U.S. Flu Vaccine Effectiveness Network and two additional studies conducted during the 2013-2014 influenza season have unexpectedly shown that the live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) was not effective against the influenza A H1N1 pandemic strain (H1N1 pdm09) virus when compared with inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV) in children 2 through 8 years of age. Specifically, children 2 through 8 years immunized with LAIV were not protected against H1N1 pdm09. This finding was unexpected because [previous studies](#) had suggested that LAIV worked especially well in this age group.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have **not changed** [current flu vaccination recommendations](#) in the face of the new LAIV findings. CDC cites four reasons for continuing current vaccine guidance: "surveillance shows that there is substantially more circulation of influenza A (H3N2) and B viruses and very little circulating H1N1 so far; LAIV has been shown to offer good protection against influenza A (H3N2) and influenza B viruses in the past; LAIV may offer better protection than IIV against antigenically drifted viruses that may circulate this season; and vaccine providers have received their vaccine for the 2014-2015 season and have likely administered a good proportion of it."

More information may be found in the November 6, 2014 [CDC statement on LAIV effectiveness in children](#). The American Academy of Pediatrics has also issued [interim guidance on influenza vaccination for the 2014-2015 season](#) based on the recent LAIV findings.

Table 2. Influenza Detections Reported, FY 2014-15*

Positive Test Type/Subtype	Week 46	Total To-Date
Influenza A†	5	43
Influenza A(H1N1) Pandemic 2009	0	4
Influenza A (H3) Seasonal	3	14
Influenza B†	6	31
Influenza B/Yamagata	1	5
Influenza A/B†	0	0
Total	15	97

* FY is July 1- June 30, or Week 27 - 26.

† No further characterization performed or results not available at time of publication.

Note: Totals may change due to further laboratory findings.

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Figure 1. Percent of Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-like-Illness by Week and FY

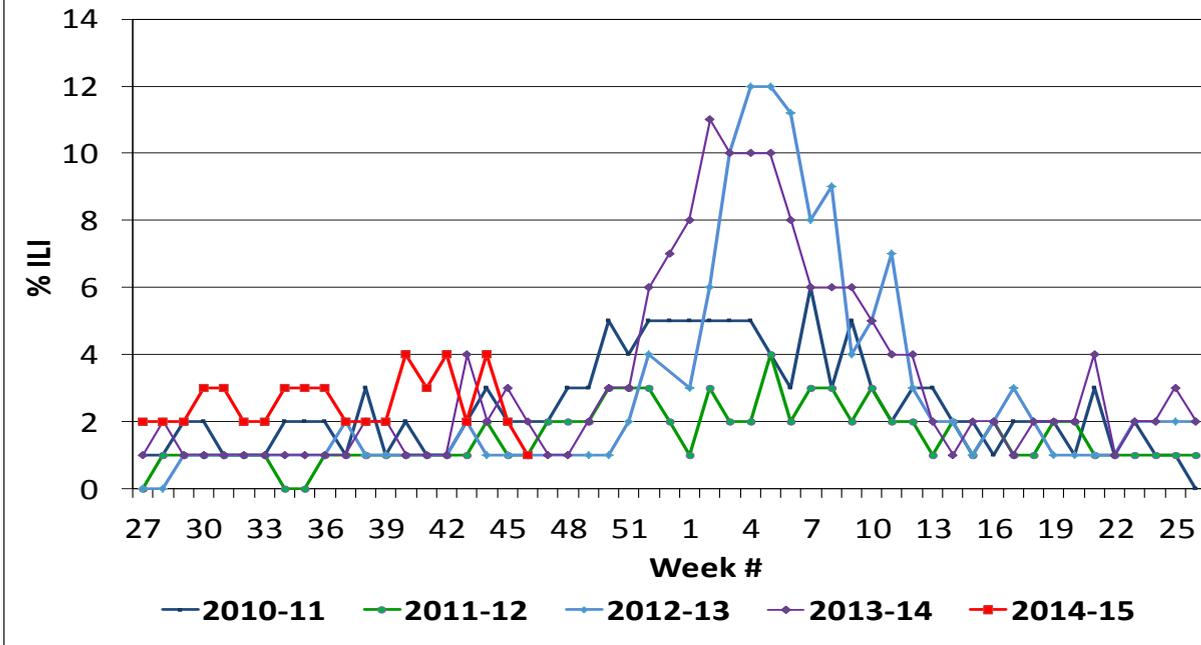
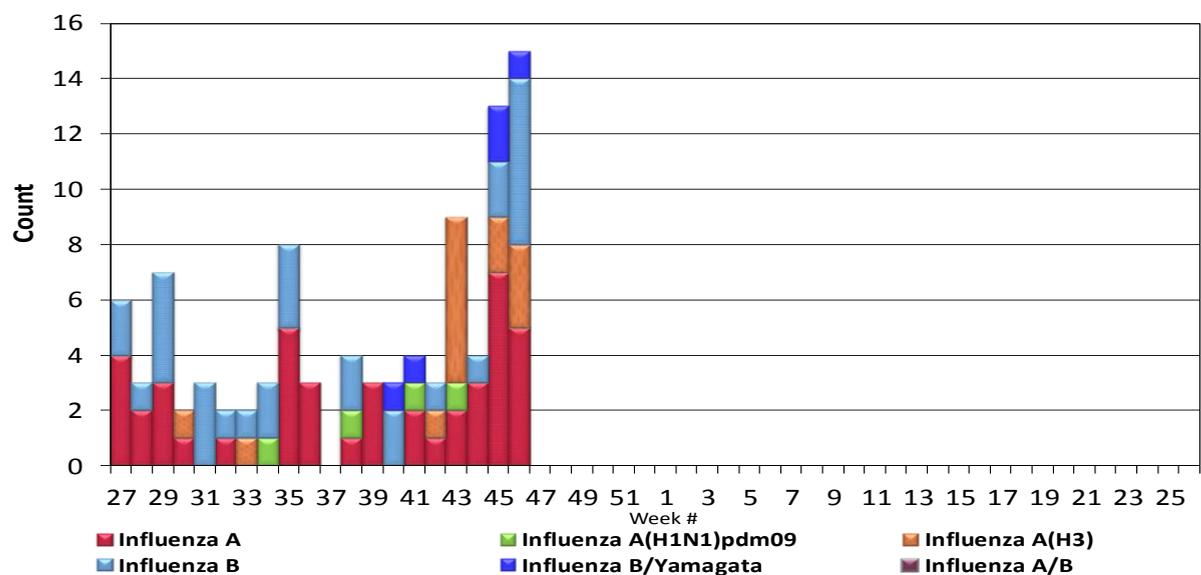


Figure 2. San Diego County Influenza Detections by Type and Week of Report, 2014-15 FYTD (N=97)



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Figure 3. Percent of Reported Influenza Cases by Age Group and Season, 2009-10 to 2014-15 FYTD

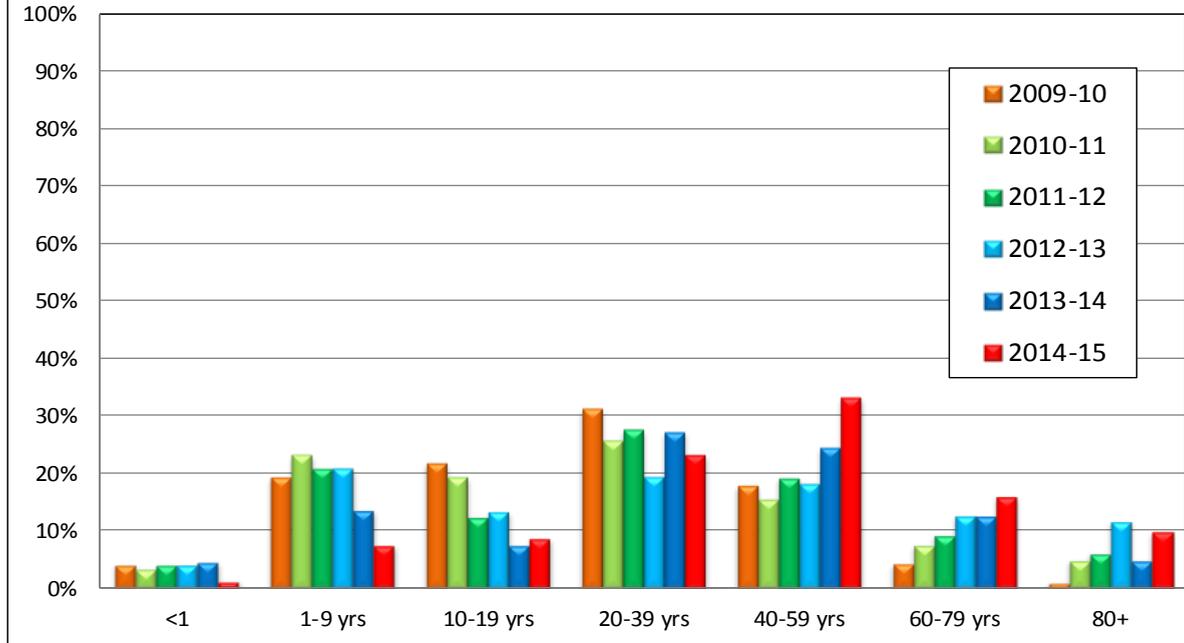


Figure 4. Cumulative Influenza Case Reports by Week & Season

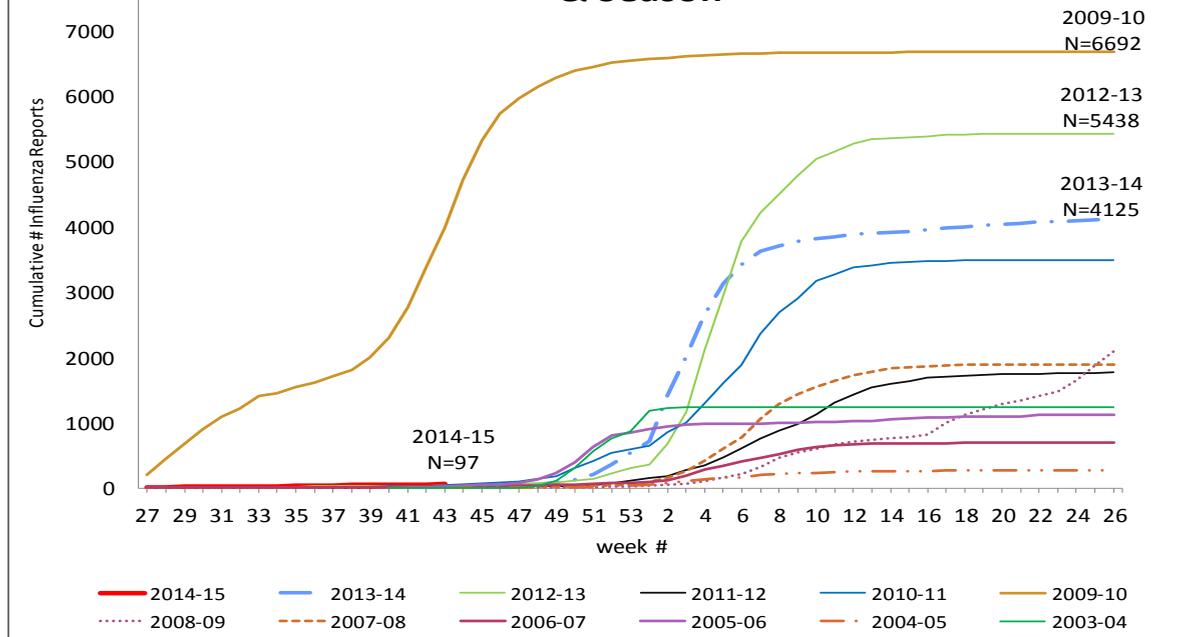


Figure 5. Percent of San Diego County Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-like-Illness by Week and FY Compared to 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold Values (Serfling Method)

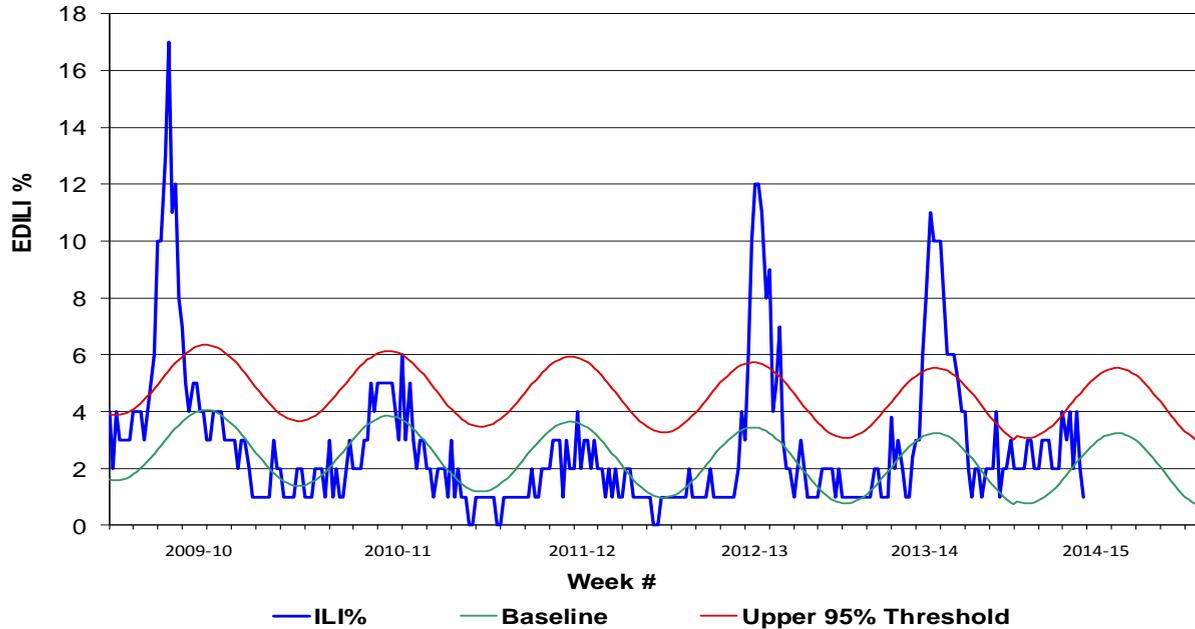


Figure 6. Percent of All San Diego County Deaths Registered with Pneumonia and/or Influenza by Week and FY Compared to Prior 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold (Serfling Method)

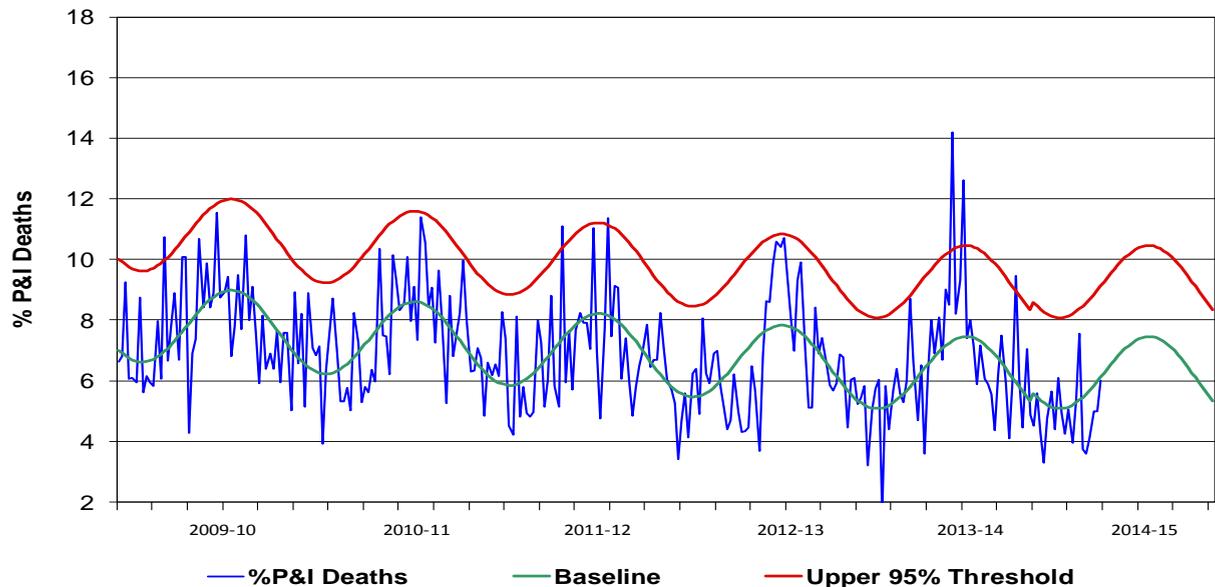


Figure 7. Influenza Deaths by Type and Season

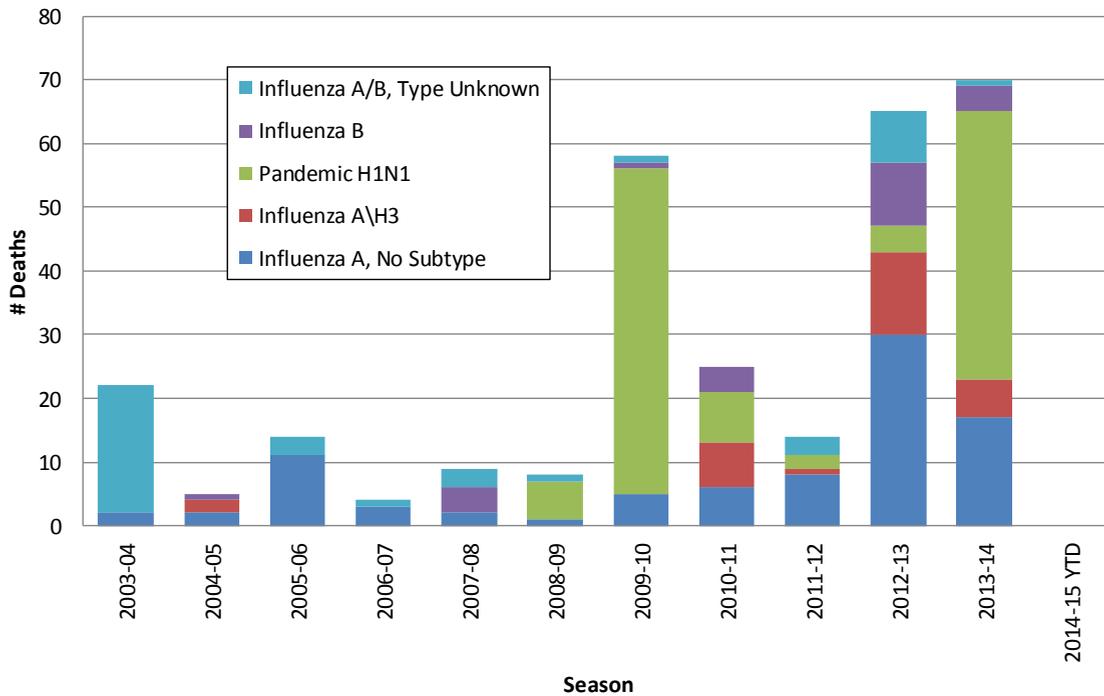


Figure 8. Influenza Deaths by Age, and Season

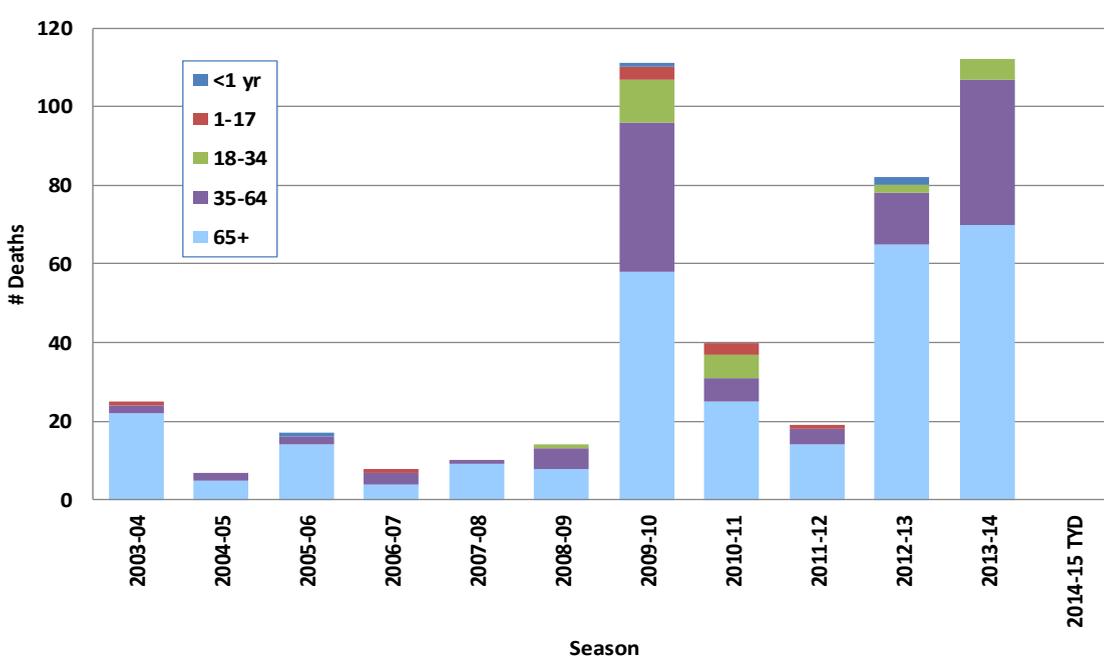
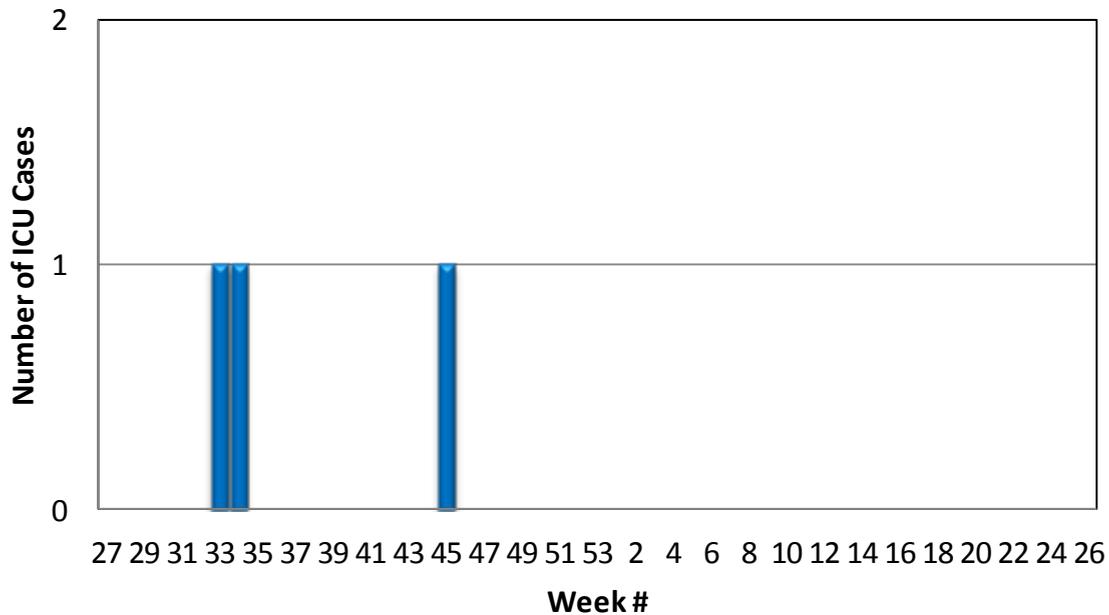


Figure 9. Number of Influenza Cases Requiring ICU Care by Week Reported, 2014-15



State and U.S. Status Reports

- CA Department of Public Health [Influenza](#)
- CDC Influenza Surveillance [Weekly Report](#)

Influenza Reporting Local providers are encouraged to report any laboratory positive influenza detections to the County’s Epidemiology Program by **FAX to (858) 715-6458**. Please fax a [Case Report Form](#) and/or a printed laboratory result. If known, please indicate if patient was admitted to ICU or died. For questions regarding sending specimens to Public Health Laboratory (PHL), call (619) 692-8500. Click here for the updated PHL [PCR Test Request Form](#). Contact Epidemiology with any questions at **(619) 692-8499** or EpiDiv.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Immunization Resources County of San Diego Immunization Branch www.sdiz.org