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.

Current Week 51 (ending 12/24/2016)

- 149 new influenza detections reported: Expected level
- 4% influenza-like-illness (ILI) among emergency department visits: Expected level
- 1 influenza-related death reported this week
- 10% of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza: Expected level

**Table 1. Influenza Surveillance Indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>FY 2016-17*</th>
<th>FY 2015-16</th>
<th>Prior 3-Year Average**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week 51</td>
<td>Week 50</td>
<td>FYTD*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All influenza detections reported (rapid or PCR)</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of emergency department visits for ILI</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of influenza-related deaths reported^</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* FYTD=Fiscal Year To Date (FY is July 1-June 30, Weeks 27-26). Total deaths reported in prior years: 68 in 2015-16, 97 in 2014-15, and 70 in 2013-14.
* Previous weeks case counts or percentages may change due to delayed processing or reporting.
* Current FY deaths are shown by week of report; by week of death for prior FYs.
National Influenza Activity Increasing

The national weekly influenza surveillance report produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) noted that for the week ending December 17, 2016 (week 50, the latest data available), flu activity increased in the United States, and for the first time this season, the proportion of people seeing their health care provider for influenza-like-illness (ILI) was above the national baseline.

Influenza A (H3) viruses were most commonly reported during week 50 and have been the predominant virus so far this season across the nation. Since October 1, 2016, antigenic and/or genetic characterization shows that the majority of influenza viruses tested by CDC are similar to the components of the available influenza vaccines. No viruses tested by CDC so far this season have been found to be resistant to oseltamivir, zanamivir, or peramivir.

While the timing of influenza activity varies and is unpredictable, flu activity is expected to increase further in the coming weeks. CDC recommends annual flu vaccination for everyone 6 months of age and older. Anyone who has not been vaccinated yet this season should get vaccinated now.

National influenza surveillance is updated online every Friday by the CDC at Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report.

### Table 2. Influenza Detections Reported, FY 2016-17*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive Test Type/Subtype</th>
<th>Week 51</th>
<th>Total To-Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A†</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A(H1N1) Pandemic 2009</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A (H3) Seasonal</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B†</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B/Victoria</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B/Yamagata</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A/B†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>149</strong></td>
<td><strong>589</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* FY is July 1–June 30.
† No further characterization performed, or results were not yet available at time of publication.

Note: Totals may change due to further laboratory findings.
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, 2016-17 (N=589)
Figure 3. Percent of Reported Influenza Cases by Age Group and Season, 2011-12 to 2016-17 YTD

Figure 4. Cumulative Influenza Case Reports by Week & Season (Excluding 2009-10)
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 San Diego County Deaths Registered with Pneumonia and/or Influenza by Week and FY Compared to Prior 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold Values (Serfling Method)
Figure 7. Influenza Deaths by Type, and Season

- Influenza A/B, Type Unknown
- Influenza B
- Pandemic H1N1
- Influenza A/H3
- Influenza A, No Subtype

Figure 8. Influenza Deaths by Age and Season

- <1 yr
- 1-17
- 18-34
- 35-64
- 65+

County of San Diego
Influenza Watch

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Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch
(619) 692-8499  EpiDiv.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov
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Figure 9. Number of Influenza Cases Requiring ICU Care by Episode Week and Type of Influenza, 2016-17 YTD (N=14)

Episode week is the week of symptom onset, or earliest available date in which the case is identified.

Influenza Reporting in San Diego County

Local providers are encouraged to report laboratory positive influenza detections to the County Epidemiology Program by FAX (858) 715-6458. Please fax a Case Report Form and/or a printed laboratory result, and indicate if the patient was admitted to ICU or died, and/or is a resident of a congregate living facility.

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 the Epidemiology Program with any questions at (619) 692-8499 or by email to: EpiDiv.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Resources
San Diego County Influenza Surveillance Weekly Slide Deck - presentation version of this report
County of San Diego Immunization Program www.sdiz.org
California Department of Public Health Influenza
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Influenza Surveillance Weekly Report