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 52 (ending 12/30/2017)**

- 3,334 new influenza detections reported: *Elevated level*
- 13% influenza-like-illness (ILI) among emergency department visits: *Elevated level*
- 33 new influenza-related deaths reported this week
- 61 new ICU cases reported this week
- 8% of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza: *Expected level*

### Virus Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Virus Type</th>
<th>FY 2017-18 (%)</th>
<th>FY 2016-17 (%)</th>
<th>Prior 3-Year Average (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A</td>
<td>80.0%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A (H3) Seasonal</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B/Yamagata</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B/Victoria</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A/B</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Current Season Summary

- **7,314** Total Cases
- **98** ICU Cases
- **44** Deaths
- **55** Outbreaks*

* At least one case of laboratory-confirmed influenza in a setting experiencing ≥2 cases of influenza like illness (ILI) within a 72-hour period.

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San Diego Influenza Cases Spike

A record number of influenza reports were received last week in San Diego, reflecting better testing and surveillance systems in the region and an influenza season that is more severe than in recent years. The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency is closely monitoring the impact of influenza on local healthcare capacity and utilization. Local healthcare systems are currently effectively managing the increased workload.

Three important actions to reduce the local impact of influenza are:

• Vaccinate everyone over six months of age who has not yet received the annual influenza shot. It’s not too late to be vaccinated!

• Practice everyday preventive steps to stop the spread of influenza. Avoid close contact with anyone who is ill and remain at home when sick for at least 24 hours after fever is gone. See everyday preventive actions and non-pharmaceutical interventions for more information about actions individuals and communities can take to stop the spread of influenza.

• Use antiviral medications for influenza using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. Patients should check with local pharmacies about the availability of influenza antiviral medications. Although the supply of these medications are adequate overall, individual pharmacies may not have supply due to increased demand. Providers who have supply issues should inform the County Epidemiology Program during normal working hours at 619-692-8499.

Table 2. Influenza Detections Reported, FY 2017-18*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive Test Type/Subtype</th>
<th>Week 52</th>
<th>Total FY-To-Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A†</td>
<td>2,810</td>
<td>5,852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A(H1N1) Pandemic 2009</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A (H3) Seasonal</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B†</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>1,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B/Victoria</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B/Yamagata</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A/B†</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,334</td>
<td>7,314</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, 2017-18 FYTD (N=7,314)
Figure 3. Percent of Reported Influenza Cases by Age Group and Season, 2011-12 to 2017-18 FYTD

Figure 4. Cumulative Influenza Case Reports by Episode Week & Season 2017-18 FYTD
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

- Both Influenza A and Influenza B
- 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+
- 65+
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