



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.**

Report Contents

- Page 1: Overview & Indicators
- Page 2: Virus Characteristics
- Pages 3-7: Trend graphs
- Page 7: Reporting Information

Current Week

Current Week 16 (ending 4/23/2016)

- 135 new influenza detections reported (*note that 60 cases were from a batch of delayed case reports*): *Expected level*
- 3% influenza-like-illness (ILI) among emergency department visits: *Expected level*
- 0 influenza-related deaths reported this week
- 5% of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza: *Expected level*

Current Season Summary

6,079
Total Cases

114
ICU Cases

63
Deaths

15
Outbreaks

Virus Characteristics

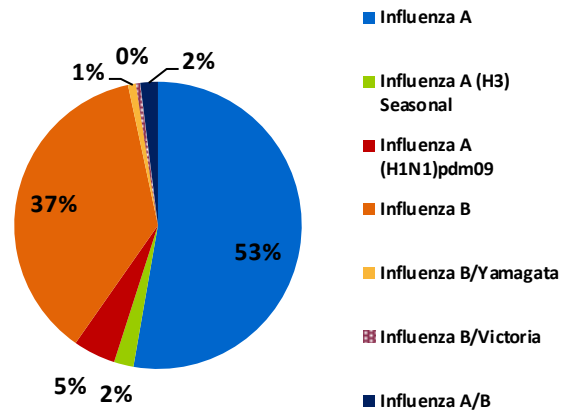


Table 1. Influenza Surveillance Indicators

| Indicator | FY 2015-16* | | | FY 2014-15 | | Prior 3-Year Average** | |
|--|--|---------|-------|------------|-------|------------------------|-------|
| | Week 16 | Week 15 | FYTD# | Week 16 | FYTD# | Week 16 | FYTD# |
| | All influenza detections reported (rapid or PCR) | 135 | 85 | 6,079 | 22 | 6,777 | 20 |
| Percent of emergency department visits for ILI | 3% | 3% | | 3% | | 2% | |
| Percent of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza | 5% | 8% | | 7% | | 6% | |
| Number of influenza-related deaths reported^ | 0 | 3 | 63 | 0 | 96 | 0 | 76 |

FYTD=Fiscal Year To Date (FY is July 1- June 30, Weeks 27-26). Total deaths reported in prior years: 97 in 2014-15, 70 in 2013-14, 65 in 2012-13.

* Previous weeks case counts or percentages may change due to delayed processing or reporting.

** Includes FYs 2014-15, 2013-14, and 2012-13.

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

Get your flu shot in the morning?

Flu vaccine might produce a stronger immune response in older adults when administered in the morning versus the afternoon, according to a study published this week in *Vaccine*.

Researchers from the United Kingdom studied 276 adults 65 or older who were vaccinated from 2011 to 2013 in either the morning (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.) or afternoon (3:00 to 5:00 p.m.). The mean difference in antibody levels, as measured by antibody titer, was statistically significantly greater among those vaccinated in the morning than the afternoon group for the H1N1 and B strains but not for H3N2, with the mean difference for the H1N1 strain particularly pronounced.

The investigators wrote that earlier, smaller studies provided mixed evidence for time-of-day immune response. Although this study was the first large, randomized trial of its kind, they did not achieve their target study population of 400 people, which would have given greater power to their findings. The study also did not determine vaccine effectiveness. Learn more about the study here:

[Morning vaccination enhances antibody response over afternoon vaccination: a cluster-randomised trial](#)

Table 2. Influenza Detections Reported, FY 2015-16*

| Positive Test Type/Subtype | Week 16 | Total To-Date |
|---------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Influenza A† | 35 | 3,206 |
| Influenza A(H1N1) Pandemic 2009 | 30 | 290 |
| Influenza A (H3) Seasonal | 8 | 134 |
| Influenza B† | 57 | 2,245 |
| Influenza B/Victoria | 0 | 29 |
| Influenza B/Yamagata | 0 | 55 |
| Influenza A/B† | 5 | 120 |
| Total | 135 | 6,079 |

* 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.

Influenza Watch

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

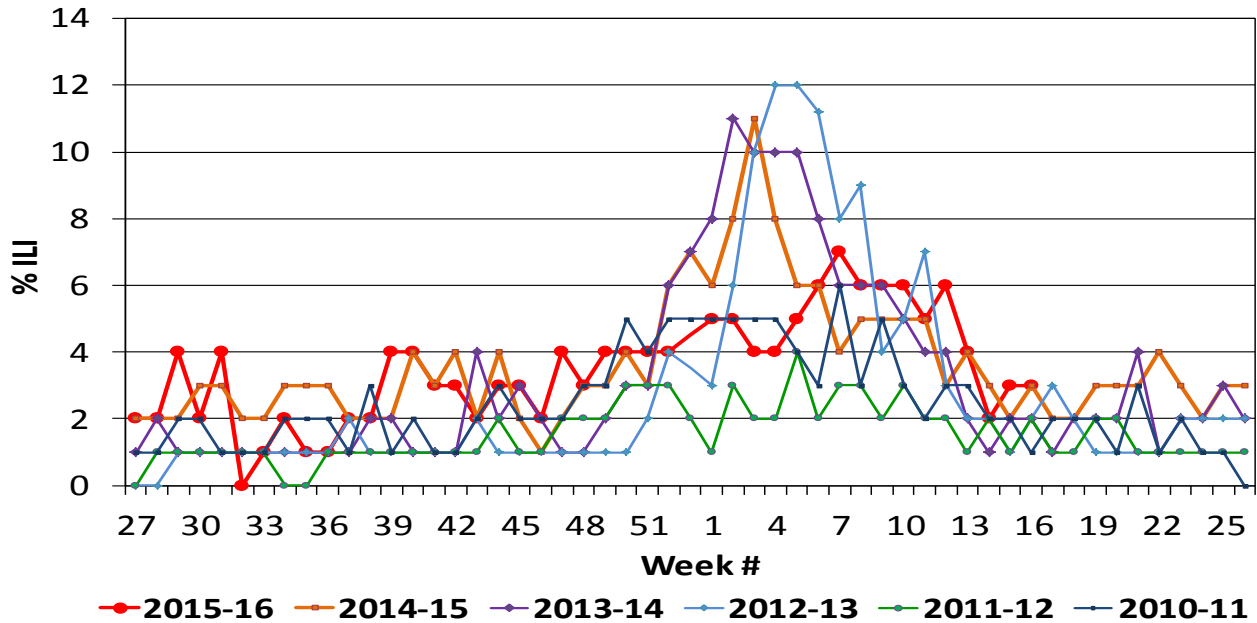
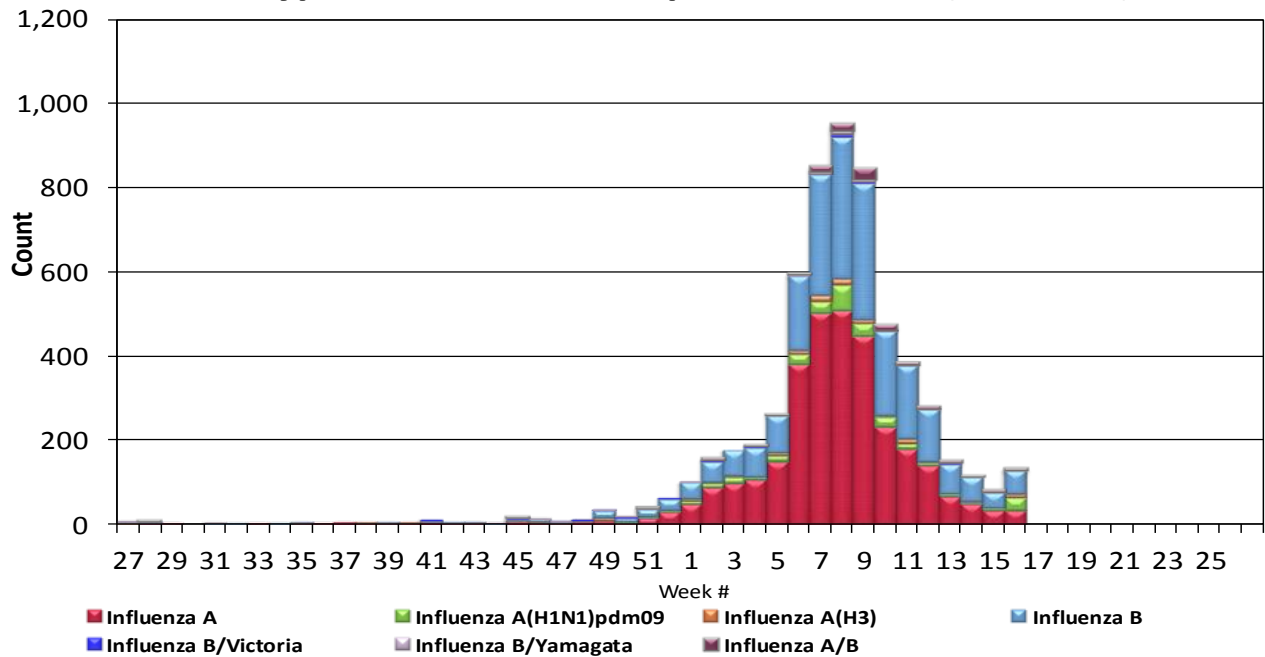


Figure 2. San Diego County Influenza Detections by Type and Week of Report, 2015-16 (N=6,079)



Influenza Watch

Figure 3. Percent of Reported Influenza Cases by Age Group and Season, 2009-10 to 2015-16 YTD

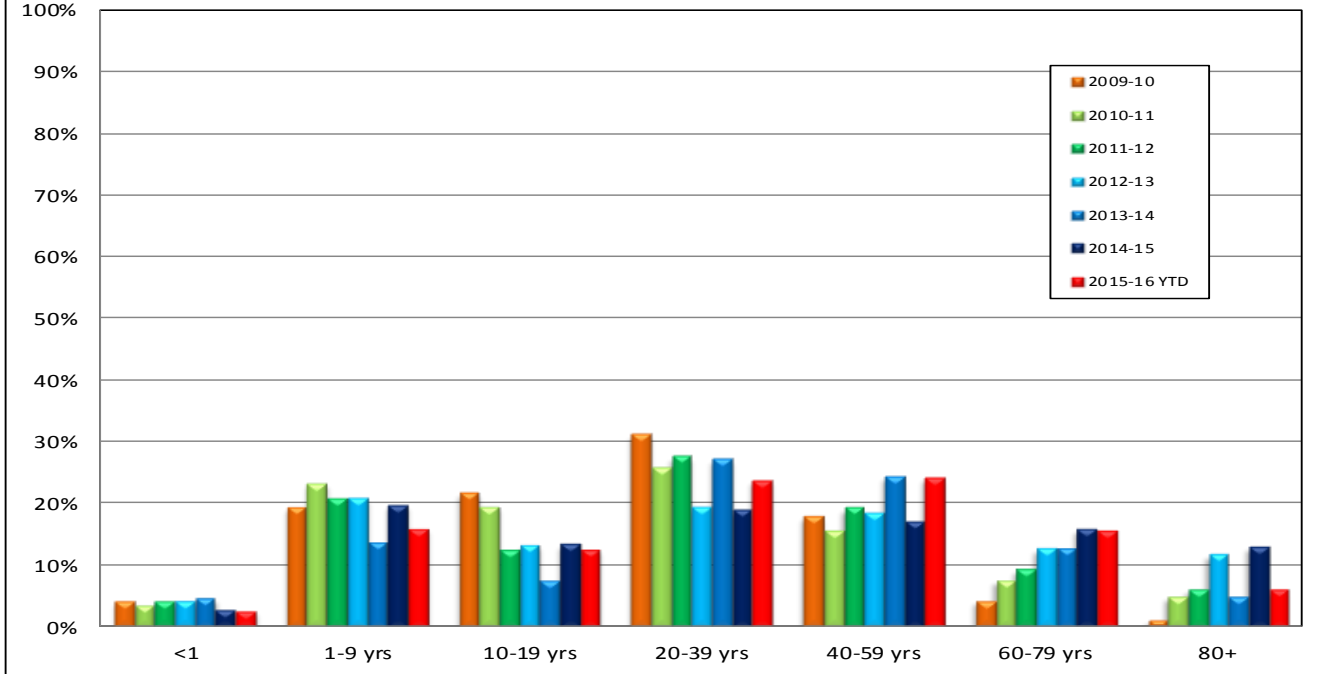
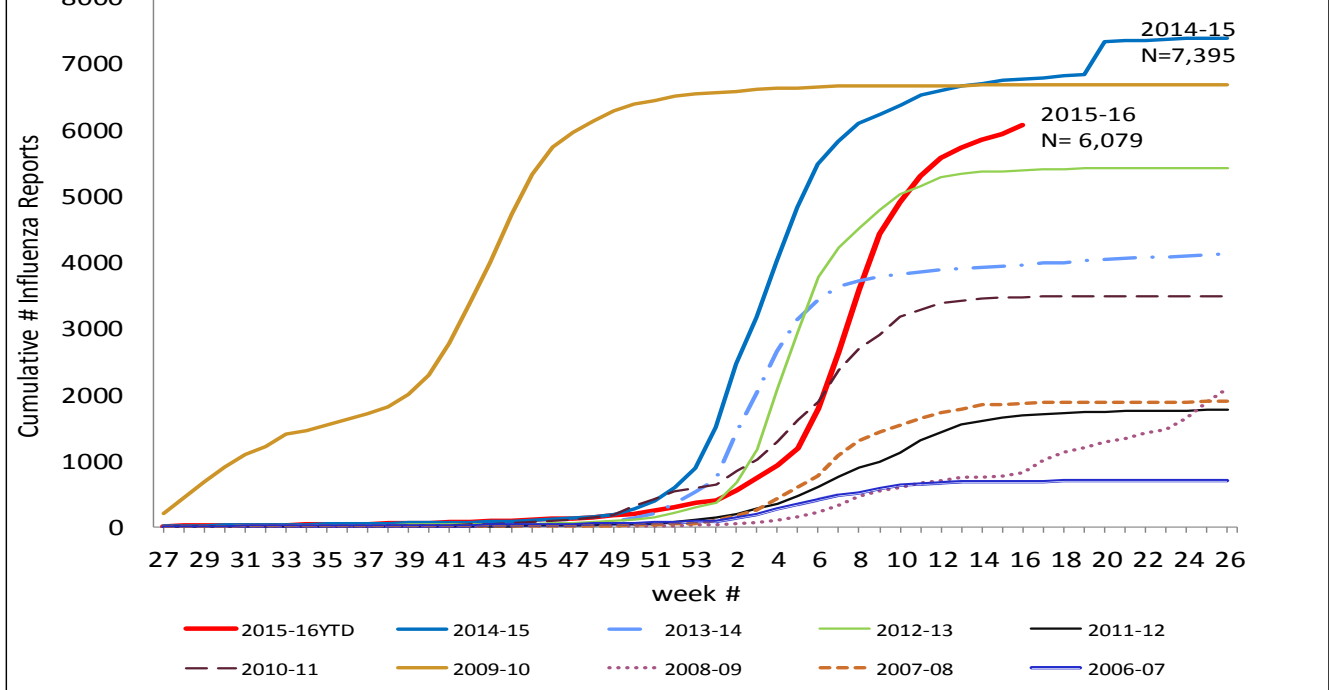


Figure 4. Cumulative Influenza Case Reports by Week & Season



Influenza Watch

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)

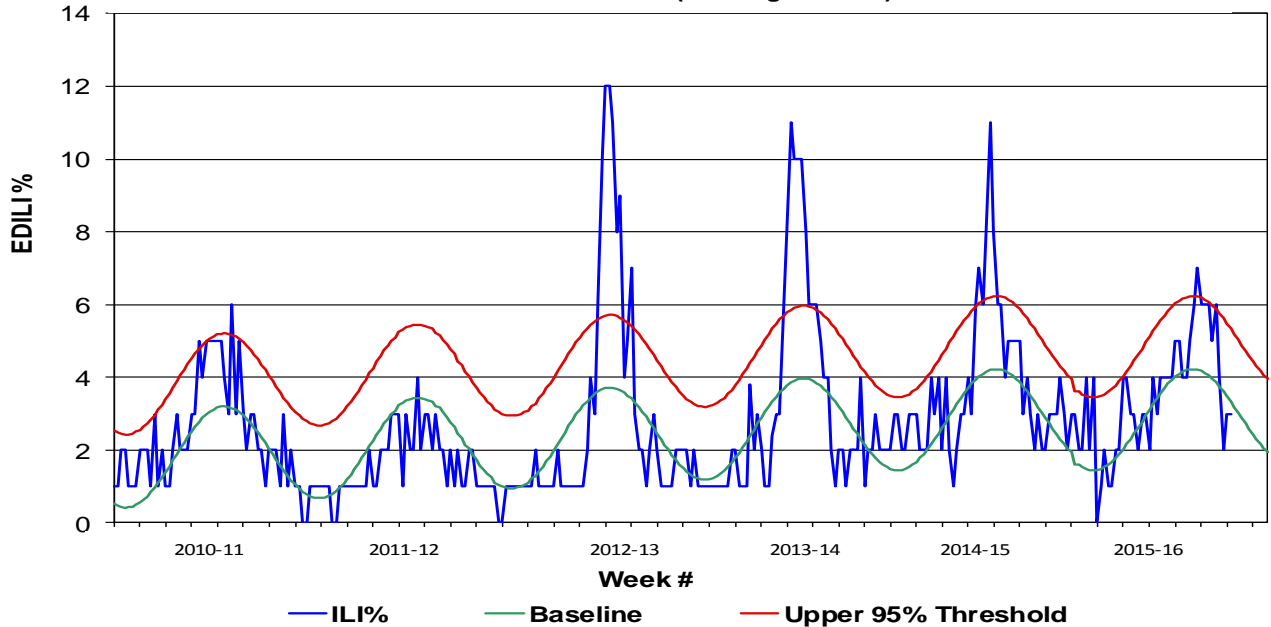
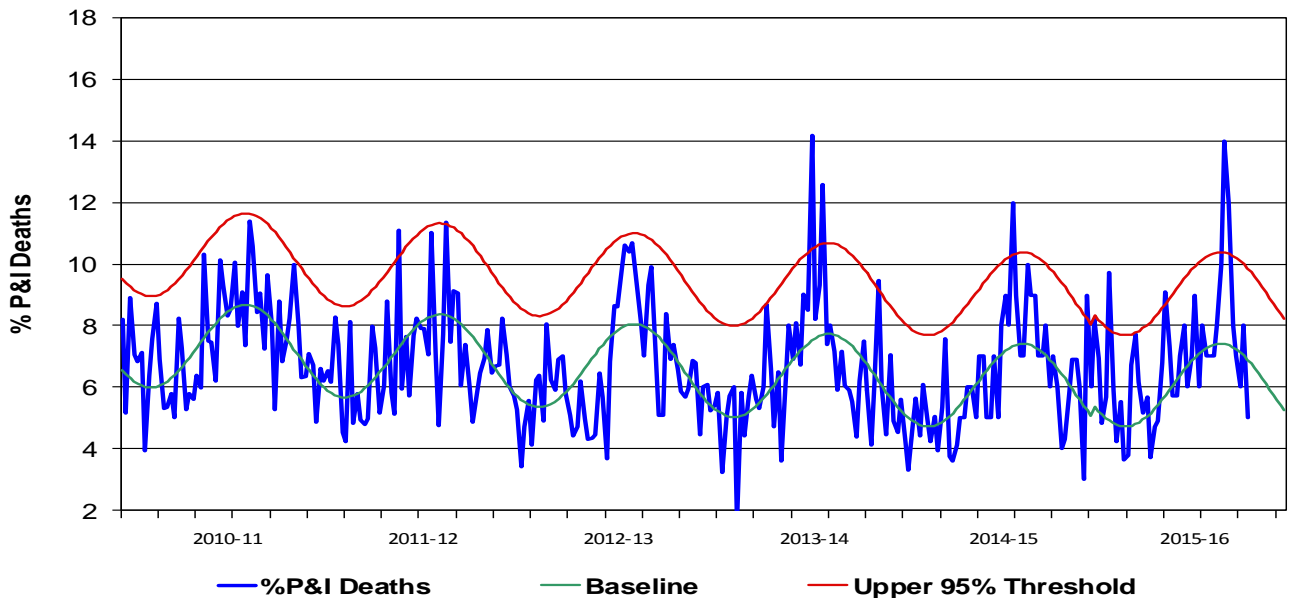


Figure 6. Percent of All San Diego County Deaths Registered with Pneumonia and/or Influenza by Week and FY Compared to Prior 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold (Serfling Method)



Influenza Watch

Figure 7. Influenza Deaths by Type, and Season

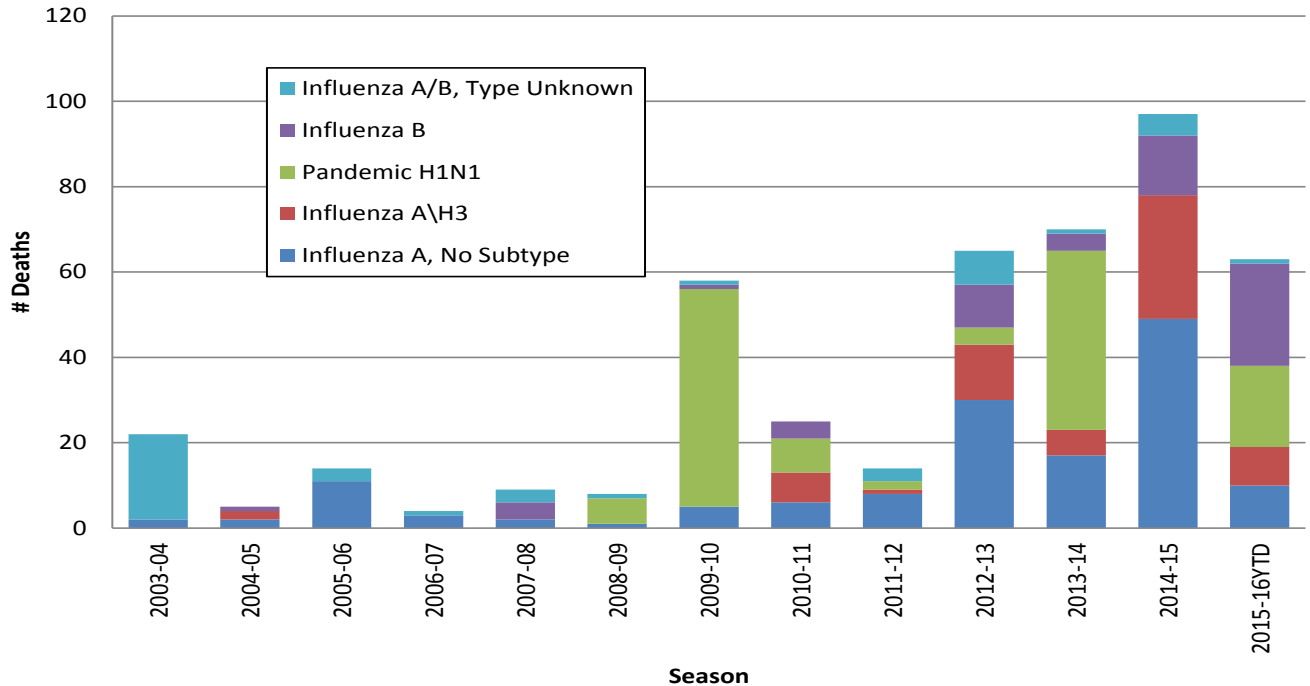
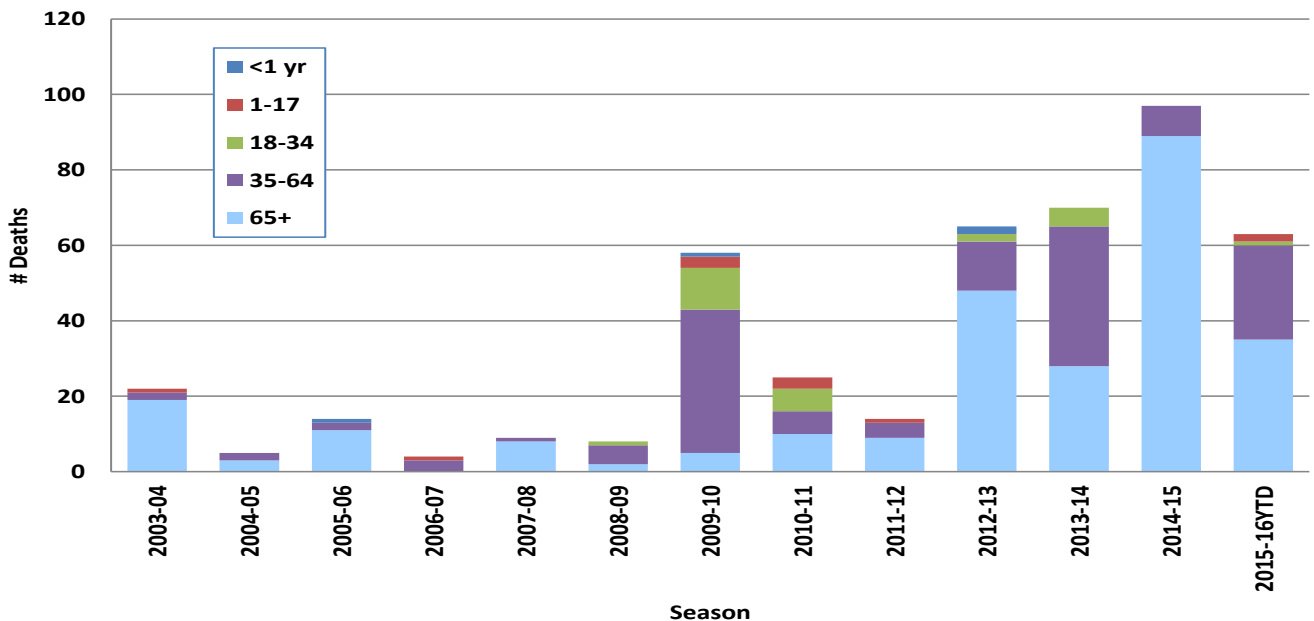
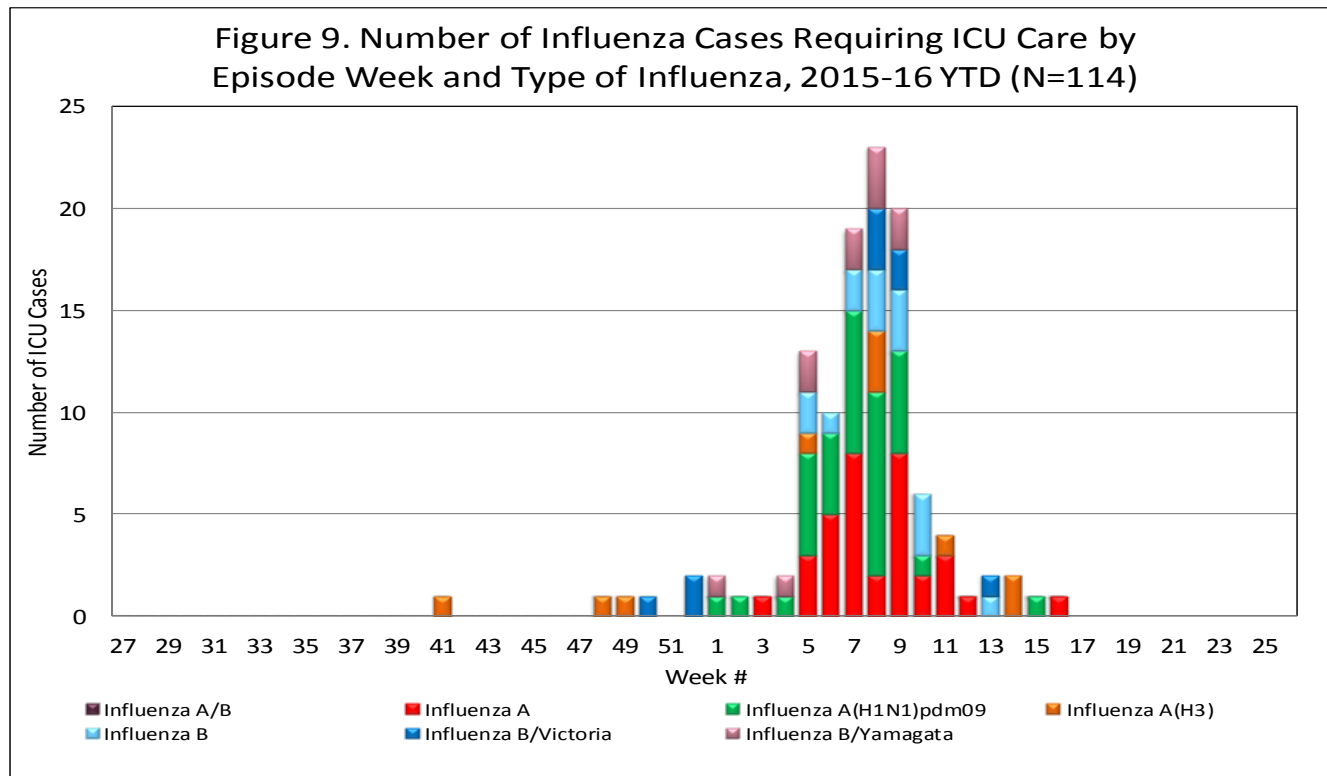


Figure 8. Influenza Deaths by Age and Season





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

Resources

County of San Diego Immunization Branch www.sdiz.org

California Department of Public Health [Influenza](#)

CDC Influenza Surveillance [Weekly Report](#)