

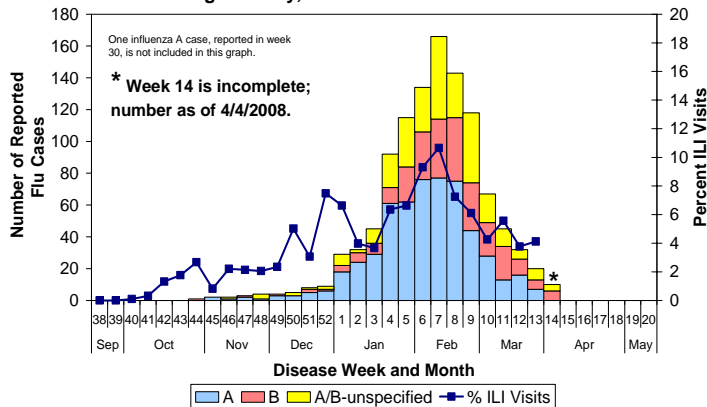


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Influenza activity continues to decrease in Orange County.

- **Study finds high concentrations of ducks, rice fields, and human populations to be predictors of H5N1 outbreaks.** Researchers affiliated with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) collected data from avian flu outbreaks in Vietnam and Thailand in 2004 and 2005, and then conducted statistical analyses to determine what factors (altitude, human population, chicken, ducks, and mean rice cropping intensity) most contributed to infection and spread of disease. Human population, duck numbers, and rice cropping intensity were significantly associated with virus presence in both countries. Interestingly, chicken numbers were not consistently statistically significant. According to the researchers, they now have more knowledge as to when and where outbreaks will occur, and this helps to target prevention and control. To read more, visit <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/mar2608h5n1study.html>.
- **American Academy of Pediatrics updates current recommendations for routine use of influenza vaccine in children** to highlight two main points; children younger than 9 years should receive two doses of vaccine in their second season of immunization if they only received one dose in the previous season, and additional detail on the recommended storage, dosage, and administration of live-attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV), including recent approval of LAIV use in children as young as 2 years. See *Pediatrics* 2008;121:e1016-e1031.
- **U.S. officials launch the first of three H5N1 supply stockpiles located in Asia:** <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/mar2508usaid-jw.html>.
- **National survey results regarding public's response to community mitigation measures for pandemic influenza:** <http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/14/5/pdfs/07-1437.pdf>.

Reported Influenza Cases by Type & Percent of Visits Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)
Orange County, 2007-2008 Influenza Season



Orange County, California, and U.S. **

- To date, there have been 1,087 total reported influenza cases in OC; 554 A, 256 B, & 277 A/B unspecified. Of the 554 influenza A, 180 have been subtyped: 64 A/H1 and 116 A/H3.
- To date, there have been 22 reported severe pediatric influenza cases in OC, including one death; 15 tested positive for flu A and 7 B.
- National influenza activity continues to decrease since week 8 (week ending 2/23/08). Widespread activity was reported by seven states, while regional activity was reported by 27 states, including CA.

**Note: The number of reported cases does NOT correspond to the total number of cases occurring in OC as not all labs participate, the surveillance programs are not population based, and testing may be influenced by many factors such as public interest. However, the trends in influenza activity are likely to be reflected accurately.

Avian Influenza Update (as of Apr. 3rd)

- 378 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (7), China (30), Djibouti (1), Egypt (47), Indonesia (132), Iraq (3), Lao People's Democratic Republic (2), Myanmar (1), Nigeria (1), Pakistan (3), Thailand (25), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (106), and have resulted in 238 (63%) deaths. Infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe.
- Report any suspect avian influenza cases to OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180.

Recommended Resources
 CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>;
 OC: <http://www.ochca.com/epi/flu/surveillance.htm>;
 CA: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcd/vrdl/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm>;
 HHS: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>; **General:** <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>



If you have any comments about this flyer, contact Alina Burgi or Pamela Hipp at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.