During week 5, 15.0% of visits to Riverside County emergency departments were related to influenza-like illnesses. Compared to historical data, this is significantly above normal limits.

During week 5, 5.0% of visits to physician sentinel sites were related to influenza-like illnesses. Compared to historical data, this is within normal limits.

Deaths due to Pneumonia and Influenza: During week 5, 9.9% of deaths were due, in part, to pneumonia or influenza. Compared to historical data, this is above limits.

School Absenteeism: During week 5, 16.1% of students at sentinel school sites were absent due to illness. Compared to historical data, this is significantly above limits.

State Influenza Activity: During week 4*, overall influenza activity was "widespread" in California. Based on available data from 107 enrolled sentinel providers, the percentage of visits for ILI in week 4* (4.3%) exceeds the epidemic threshold (3.8%) for this time of year. Nine influenza-associated deaths in adults less than 65 years of age were reported during Week 4*. Twenty-four laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks were reported.

National Influenza Activity: During week 4*, influenza activity continued at elevated levels in the United States. The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 4*.1%, which is above the national baseline of 2.0%. All 10 regions reported ILI at or above region-specific baseline levels. Puerto Rico and 26 states experienced high ILI activity; New York City and eight states experienced moderate ILI activity; six states experienced low ILI activity; 10 states experienced minimal ILI activity; and the District of Columbia had insufficient data. The geographic spread of influenza in 40 states was reported as widespread; Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and nine states reported regional activity; and the District of Columbia and one state reported local activity. During week 4*, 8.5% of all deaths reported through the 122 Cities Mortality Reporting System were due to P&I. This percentage was above the epidemic threshold of 7.2% for week 4*. Eight influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.

* Reporting delayed one week

Additional Resources
Riverside County Influenza Information: http://www.rivco-diseasecontrol.org/Services/Influenzainformation.aspx
State of California Influenza Information: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Pages/Influenza(Flu).aspx
United States Influenza Information: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/weekly.htm

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