Influenza Season 2014/2015 – Riverside County, California
Influenza Surveillance Weekly Update
Week ending February 28, 2015

Deaths due to Pneumonia and Influenza: During week 8, 10.4% of deaths were due, in part, to pneumonia or influenza. Compared to historical data, this is within normal limits.

School Absenteeism: During week 8, 13.4% of students at sentinel school sites were absent due to illness. Compared to historical data, this is slightly above normal limits.

State Influenza Activity: During week 7*, overall influenza activity was “widespread” in California. Based on available data from 118 enrolled sentinel providers, the percentage of visits for ILL in week 7* (3.7%) does not exceed the epidemic threshold for this time of year. Nine influenza-associated deaths in adults less than 65 years of age were reported during Week 7*. Twenty laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks were reported.

National Influenza Activity: During week 7*, influenza activity decreased, but remained elevated in the United States. The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 3.0%, which is above the national baseline of 2.0%. All 10 regions reported ILL at or above region-specific baseline levels. Puerto Rico and 11 states experienced high ILL activity; three states experienced moderate ILL activity; 16 states experienced low ILL activity; New York City and 20 states experienced minimal ILL activity; and the District of Columbia had insufficient data. The geographic spread of influenza in Guam and 20 states was reported as widespread; Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and 25 states reported regional activity; and the District of Columbia and five states reported local activity. During week 7*, 7.4% 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 7*. Six influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.

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