Influenza Season 2014/2015 – Riverside County, California
Influenza Surveillance Weekly Update
Week ending December 13, 2014

Deaths due to Pneumonia and Influenza: During week 50, 5.7% of deaths were due, in part, to pneumonia or influenza. Compared to historical data, this is below normal limits.

School Absenteeism: No data reported.

State Influenza Activity: During week 49*, overall influenza activity was “sporadic” in California. Based on available data from 102 enrolled sentinel providers, the percentage of visits for ILI in week 49* (1.9%) was within expected baseline levels for this time of year. No influenza-associated deaths in adults less than 65 years of age were reported during Week 49*. One laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreak was reported.

National Influenza Activity: During week 49*, influenza activity increased in the United States. The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 2.5%, which is above the national baseline of 2.0%. Eight of 10 regions reported ILI at or above region-specific baseline levels. Puerto Rico and six states experienced high ILI activity; two state experienced moderate ILI activity; seven states experienced low ILI activity; New York City and 35 states experienced minimal ILI activity; and the District of Columbia had insufficient data. The geographic spread of influenza in 14 states was reported as widespread; Guam, Puerto Rico and 25 states reported regional activity; the U.S. Virgin Islands and seven states reported local activity; and the District of Columbia and four states reported sporadic activity. During week 49*, 6.0% of all deaths reported through the 122-Cities Mortality Reporting System were due to P&I. This percentage was below the epidemic threshold of 6.6% for week 49*. Two influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.

* Data reporting delayed one week
** Data reporting delayed two weeks

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