Influenza Season 2012/2013 – Riverside County, California
Influenza Surveillance Weekly Update
Week ending January 12, 2013

During week 2, 9.9% of visits to Riverside County emergency departments were related to influenza-like illnesses. Compared to historical data, this is within normal limits. Activity has increased over the past several weeks to just within the upper expected limit.

Deaths due to Pneumonia and Influenza: During week 1*, 7.5% of deaths were due, in part, to pneumonia or influenza. Compared to historical data, this is within normal limits. * Data not yet available.

School Absenteeism: During week 51**, 12.9% (only 50% of schools reporting) of students at sentinel school sites were absent due to illness. Compared to historical data, this is above normal limits. * Data not available for weeks 52, 1 and 2 due to holiday closures.

State Influenza Activity: During week 1***, overall influenza activity in California remained “regional”. Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI) increased 0.5% in Week 1 (5.4%) compared to Week 52 (4.9%). The California Department of Public Health received two reports of laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated deaths in patients under 65 years of age. No novel influenza cases have been detected in California to date. *** Data reporting delayed one week.

National Influenza Activity: During week 1****, influenza activity remained elevated in the United States, but may be decreasing in some areas. The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 4.3%; above the national baseline of 2.2%. Nine of 10 regions reported ILI above region-specific baseline levels. Forty-seven states reported widespread geographic influenza activity; 2 states reported regional activity; the District of Columbia reported local activity; 1 state reported sporadic activity; Guam reported no influenza activity, and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands did not report. During week 1, 7.3% of all deaths reported through the 122 Cities Mortality Reporting System were due to P&I. This percentage was slightly above the epidemic threshold of 7.2% for week 1. Two influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported. One was associated with an influenza A (H3) virus and one was associated with an influenza A virus for which the subtype was not determined. **** Data reporting delayed one week.

Additional Resources
Riverside County Influenza Information: http://www.rivco-diseasecontrol.org/SeasonalInfluenza/
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

Epidemiology and Program Evaluation
County of Riverside Department of Public Health
http://www.rivcohealthdata.org
(951) 358-5557