Deaths due to Pneumonia and Influenza: During week 4, 14.0% of deaths were due, in part, to pneumonia or influenza. Compared to historical data, this is above normal limits.

School Absenteeism: During week 4, 14.3% of students at sentinel school sites were absent due to illness. Compared to historical data, this is above normal limits.

State Influenza Activity: During week 3*, overall influenza activity in California remained "widespread". Increases in influenza-like illness, laboratory detections of influenza, and influenza-associated outbreaks were reported in multiple regions statewide. Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI) increased 0.1% in Week 3 (4.9%) compared to Week 2 (4.8%). Five influenza-associated deaths in adults less than 65 years of age were reported from the Inland Empire during Week 3. No pediatric deaths have been reported for the 2012–2013 season and no novel influenza cases have been detected in California to date.

National Influenza Activity: During week 3*, influenza activity remained elevated in the United States, but decreased in some areas. The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 4.3%; this is above the national baseline of 2.2%. All 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 and one state reported local activity; Guam reported sporadic influenza activity, and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands did not report. A cumulative rate for the season of 22.2 laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations per 100,000 population was reported. Of all hospitalizations, 50% were among adults 65 years and older. During week 3, 9.8% of all deaths reported through the 122 Cities Mortality Reporting System were due to P&I. This percentage was above the epidemic threshold of 7.3% for week 3. Eight influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported. * 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

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