

**California Influenza and Other Respiratory Disease Surveillance for Week 15**  
**(April 8-14, 2012)**

Note: This report includes data from many different sources of influenza surveillance, including syndromic surveillance, laboratory surveillance, and mandatory reporting of influenza deaths for cases ages 0-64 years. The information contained in this report should be viewed as a “snapshot” of influenza activity for each surveillance week, and should not be considered as population-based data or representative of all California public health jurisdictions.

**In week 15, the geographic distribution of influenza in California was downgraded to “regional\*.”**

### **Influenza Report Highlights**

- Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI) decreased 1.0% in week 15 (2.1%) compared to week 14 (3.1%).
- Of 1615 specimens tested during week 15,
  - 365 (22.6%) were positive for influenza; of these
    - 124 (34.0%) were influenza B and
    - 241 (66.0%) were influenza A.
      - 13 (5.4%) were subtyped as 2009 A (H1),
      - 55 (22.8%) were subtyped as seasonal A (H3), and
      - 173 (71.8%) were not subtyped.
- Of the 113 influenza isolates tested during the 2011-12 influenza season, one was resistant to neuraminidase inhibitors.
- Eighty-two specimens from California residents have been strain-typed this season; all but eight influenza B strains match the 2011-12 influenza vaccine.
- Six laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated deaths among persons less than 65 years were reported in week 15.
- No suspected or confirmed influenza A (H3N2)v [variant influenza A (H3N2), formerly called swine-origin triple reassortant A (H3N2)] has been detected in California.

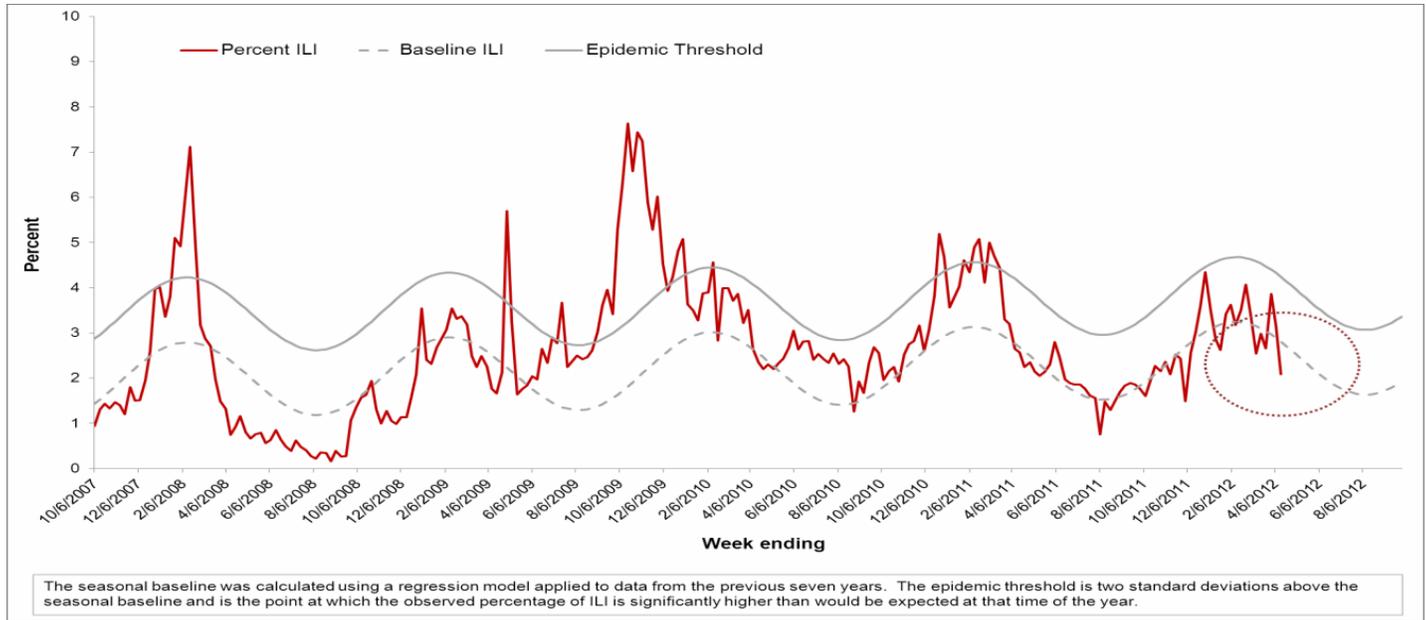
\*For the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) definitions of influenza geographic distribution, please go to the [CDC Influenza page](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm) (<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm>).

### **A. Syndromic Surveillance Update**

#### **1. CDC Influenza Sentinel Providers**

A total of 84 (42.6%) out of 197 enrolled sentinel providers have reported data for week 15. Based on available data, the percentage of ILI visits for week 15 (2.1%) was below baseline (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. Percentage of Influenza-like Illness Visits Among Patients Seen by California Sentinel Providers, 2007– 2012**



**2. Kaiser Permanente Hospitalization Data (“Flu Admissions”)**

The percentage of Kaiser Permanente hospitalizations for pneumonia and influenza in Northern California decreased in week 15 (5.4%) compared to week 14 (6.2%).

**B. Laboratory Update**

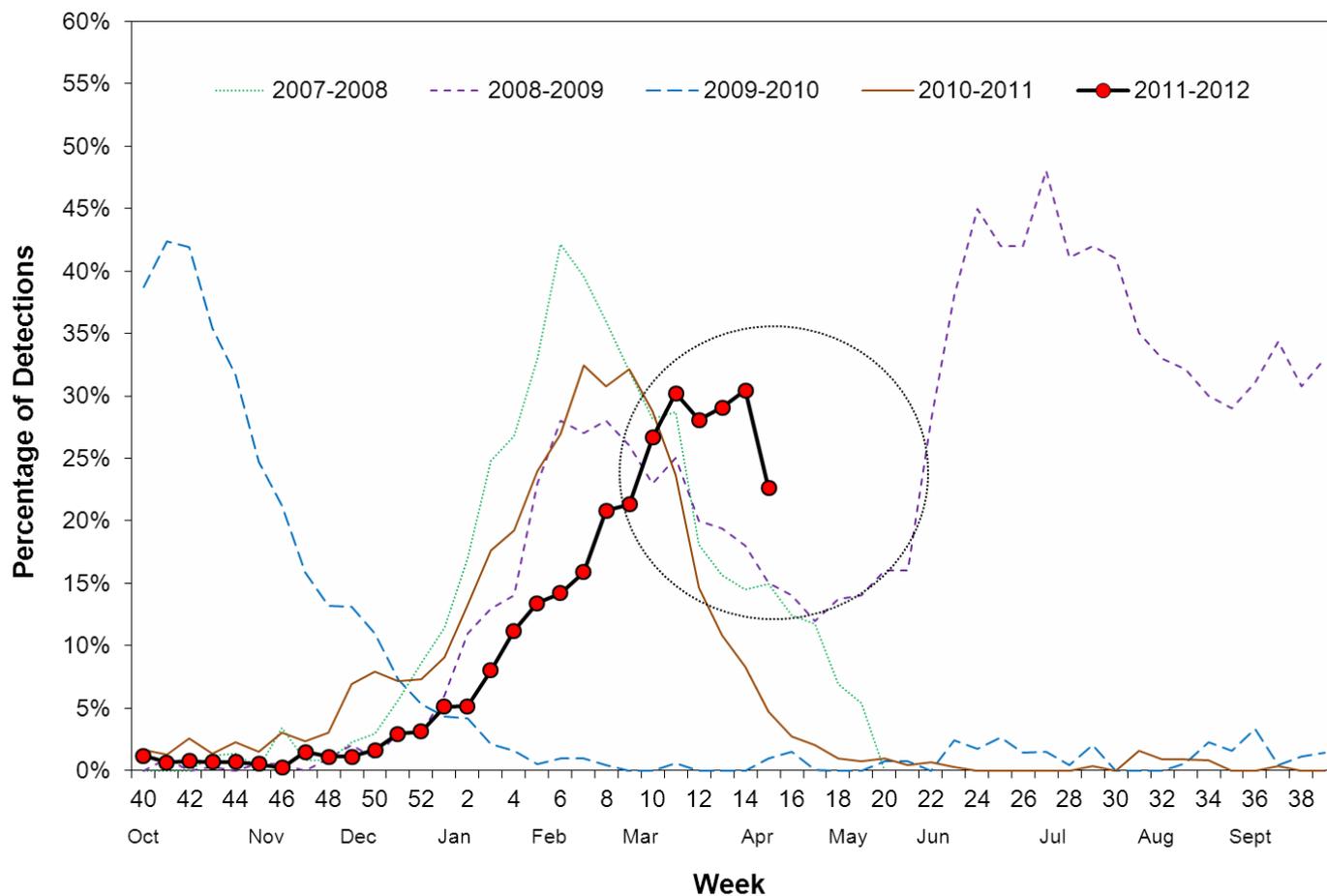
**1. Respiratory Laboratory Network (RLN) and Sentinel Laboratory Surveillance Results**

The percentage of influenza detections in the RLN and sentinel laboratories decreased in week 15 (22.6%) compared to week 14 (30.5%), (Figure 2). Of 1615 specimens tested by the RLN and sentinel laboratories, 124 (7.7%) were positive for influenza B and 241 (14.9%) were positive for influenza A (Figure 3). Of the 241 specimens that tested positive for influenza A, 13 (5.4%) were subtyped as 2009 A (H1), 55 (22.8%) were subtyped as seasonal A (H3), and 173 (71.8%) had no further subtyping performed. The influenza-positive specimens were reported statewide.

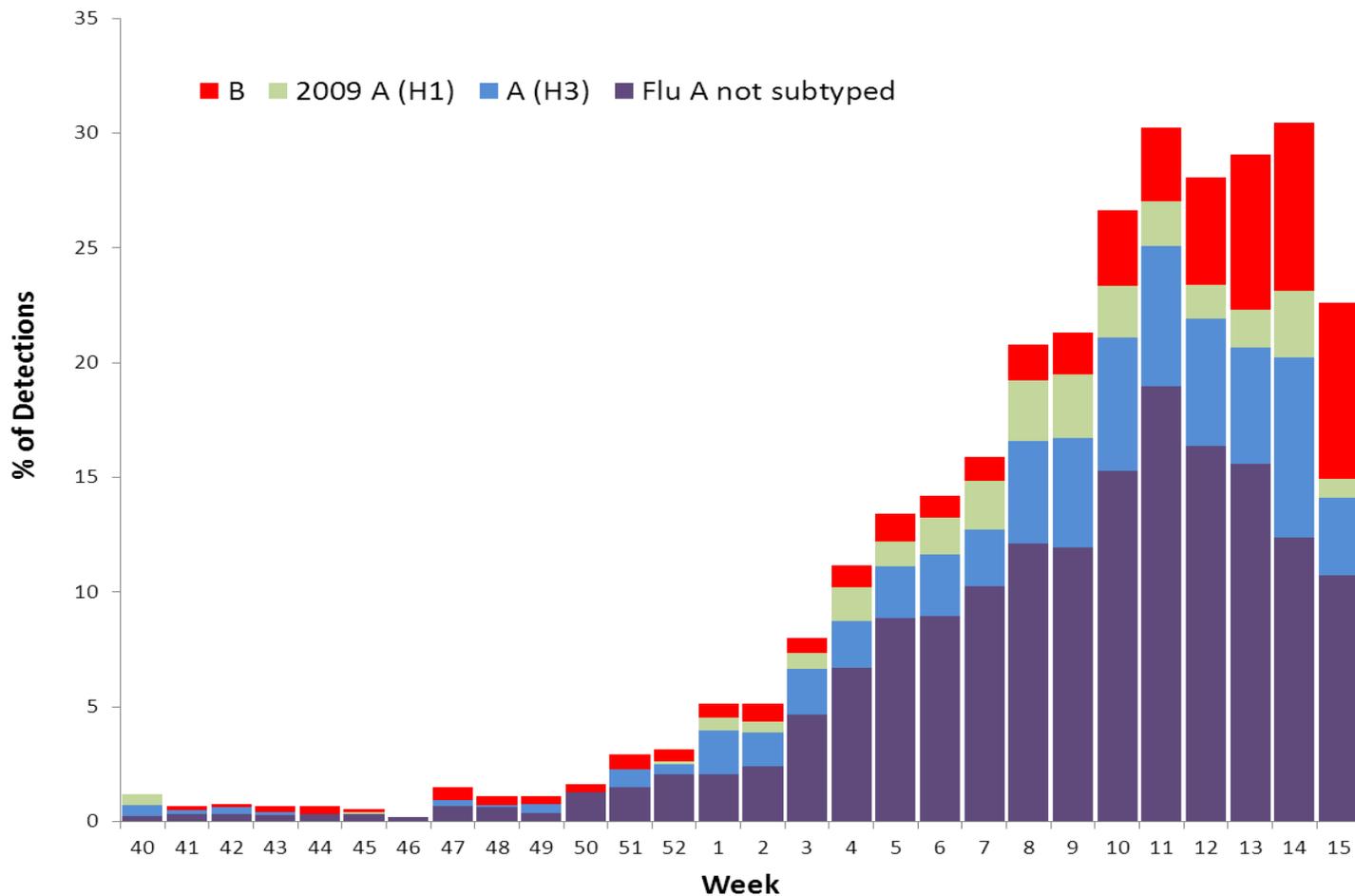
To date for the 2011-2012 season, of 43,794 specimens tested, 6380 (14.6%) were positive for influenza; of these, 935 (14.7%) were influenza B and 5445 (85.3%) were influenza A. Of the 5445 specimens that tested positive for influenza A, 550 (10.1%) were subtyped as 2009 A (H1), 1298 (23.8%) were subtyped as seasonal A (H3), and 3597 (66.1%) had no further subtyping performed.

Neither the RLN nor the California Department of Public Health Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (CDPH- VRDL) have identified any influenza viruses by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) typing or subtyping that are suggestive of the influenza A (H3N2)v infection.

**Figure 2. Percentage of Influenza Detections in Respiratory Laboratory Network and Sentinel Laboratories, 2007– 2012**

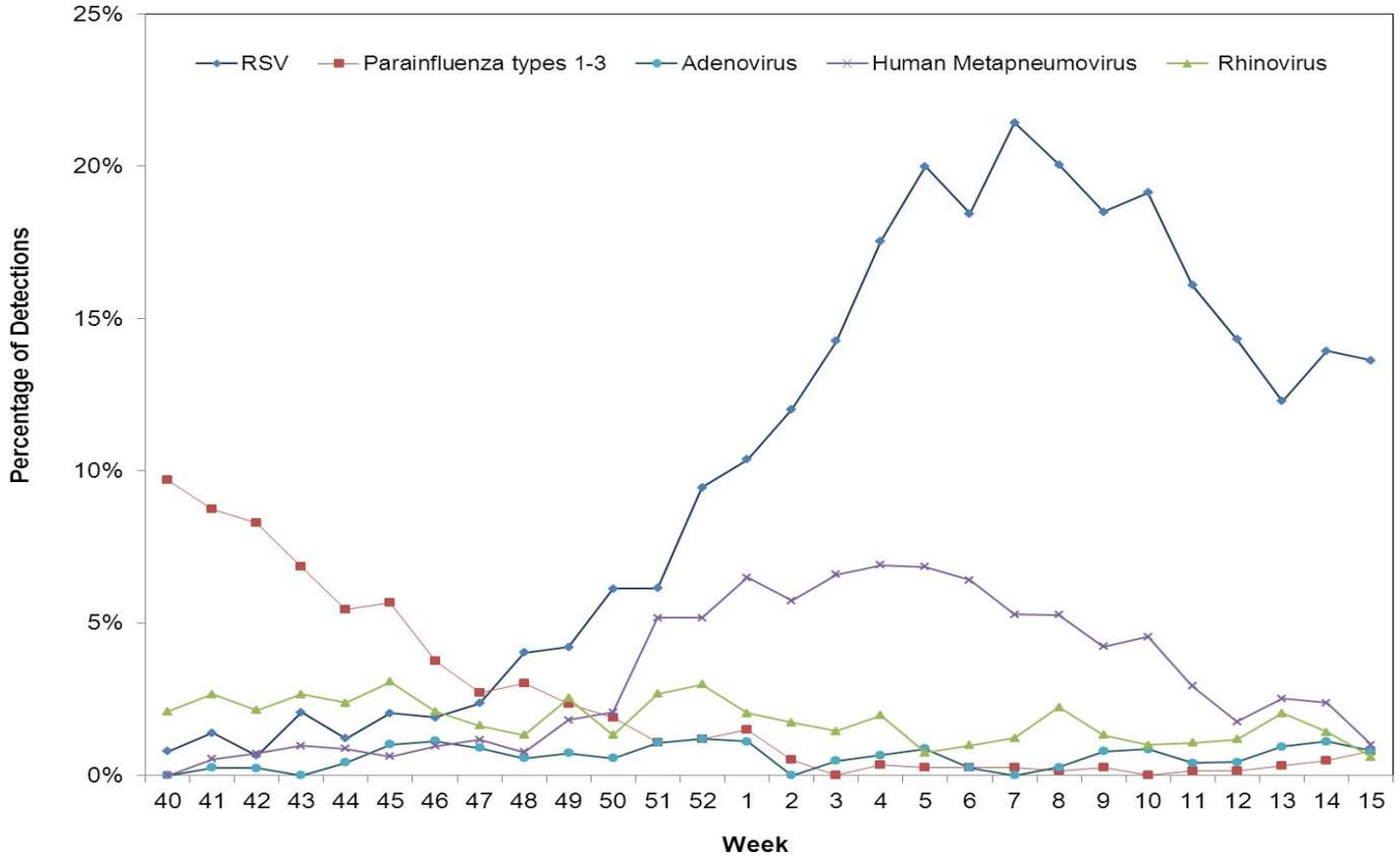


**Figure 3. Percentage of Influenza Types and Subtypes in Respiratory Laboratory Network and Sentinel Laboratories, 2011–2012**



The proportion of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) detections decreased slightly in week 15 (13.6%, compared to 13.9% in week 14), (Figure 4).

**Figure 4. Other Respiratory Pathogen Detections in Respiratory Laboratory Network and Sentinel Laboratories, Weeks 40-15 (October 2, 2011 – April 14, 2012)**



**2. Antiviral Resistance Testing (AVR)**

CDPH-VRDL has tested 113 influenza specimens for antiviral resistance to date during the 2011-2012 influenza season; all but one influenza A (2009 H1N1) have been sensitive to neuraminidase inhibitors (Table 1).

**Table 1. Number of Specimens Tested for Antiviral Resistance**

Influenza Strain	Neuraminidase Inhibitors Resistance
Influenza A (2009 H1N1)	1/34
Influenza A (H3N2)	0/79

**3. Influenza Virus Strain Characterization**

Eighty-two California specimens have been strain-typed to date during the 2011-2012 influenza season; all but eight matched with components of the 2011-2012 vaccine for the Northern Hemisphere (Table 2).

**Table 2. Influenza Virus Antigenic Characterization for the 2011-12 Season**

Influenza Strain	Total (N=82)
Influenza A	62
A/Perth/16/2009-like (H3N2)*	42
A/California/07/2009-like (H1N1)*	20
Influenza B	20
B/Brisbane/60/2008-like*	12
B/Wisconsin/01/2010-like	8

\*Matches components of the 2011-12 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccine

### **C. Laboratory-confirmed Fatal Case Reports**

CDPH received six reports of influenza-associated deaths among persons less than 65 years old in week 15 with dates of death ranging from January 29-March 5, 2012; one was in a child under 18 years and 5 were in adults aged 22-58 years. To date during the 2011-2012 influenza season, CDPH has received 26 reports of influenza-associated deaths among persons less than 65 years old; 5 were among children 0-17 years and 21 were among adults 18-64 years.

### **D. Influenza-associated Outbreaks**

CDPH received two reports of laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks in week 15; both were in congregate living facilities and were associated with influenza A (H3).

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For questions regarding influenza surveillance and reporting in California, please email [InfluenzaSurveillance@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:InfluenzaSurveillance@cdph.ca.gov). This account is monitored daily by several epidemiologists.

For more information regarding the different influenza surveillance data sources, please visit the [CDPH Influenza Surveillance Program](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Flu-Reports.aspx) at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Flu-Reports.aspx>

To obtain additional information regarding influenza, please visit the [CDPH influenza website](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Influenza.aspx) at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Influenza.aspx>.

A copy of the case report form for reporting any laboratory-confirmed influenza case that was either admitted to the ICU or died can be downloaded from the [Severe Influenza Case History Form Link](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/CDPH%20Document%20Library/ControlledForms/cdph9070.pdf) at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/CDPH%20Document%20Library/ControlledForms/cdph9070.pdf>.