

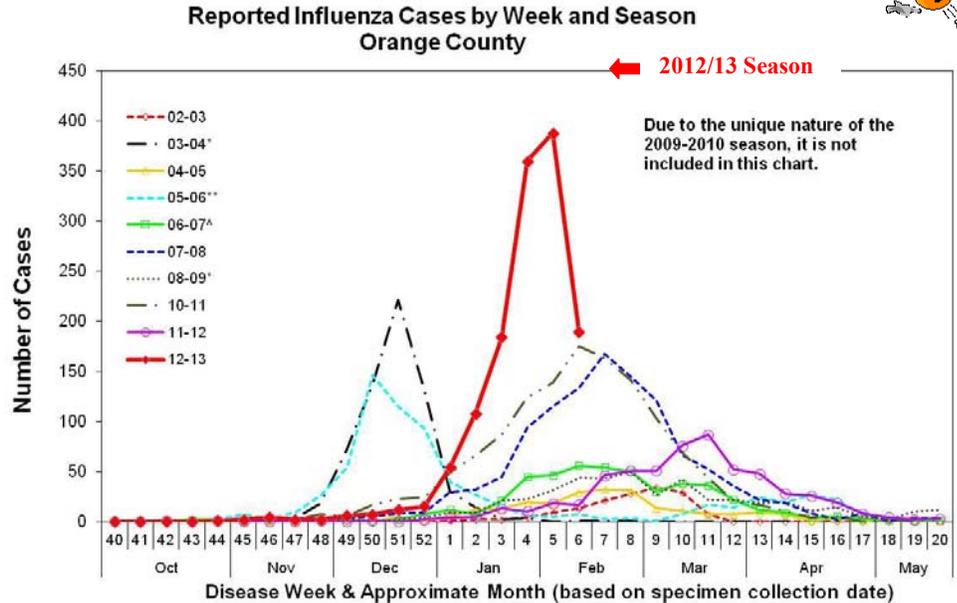


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**Influenza activity remains elevated in Orange County but overall is decreasing. Recent reports have shown an increase in the proportion of influenza B.** Influenza is expected to circulate for several more weeks to months; it's not still too late to vaccinate. Vaccination efforts should continue as long as influenza is circulating.



- In Orange County:** Influenza detections have decreased since peak activity in Week 5 (ending Feb 2). Respiratory outbreaks in schools continue to be reported. Most have been among younger children and of the ones with laboratory confirmation, most have been associated with influenza B. Orange County also continues to receive reports of severe influenza cases (ICU/deaths) in persons under 65 years of age. Recent cases have also been young children who have tested positive for influenza B.

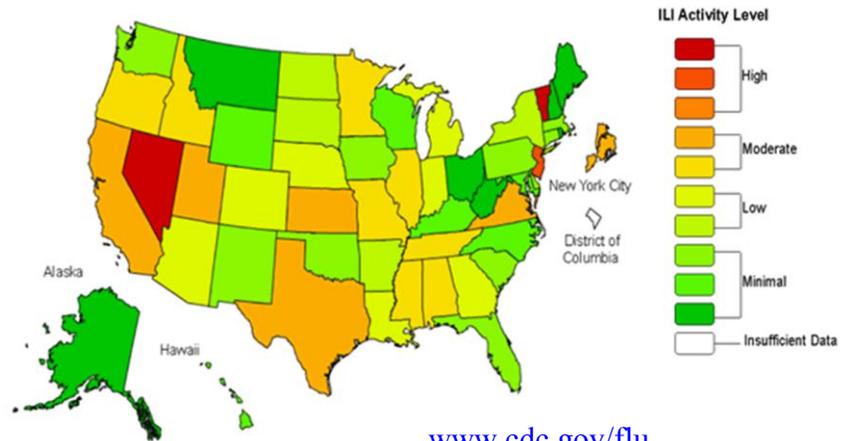


Updated through Week 6, ending Feb 9, 2013

**Note:** Except for deaths, influenza is voluntarily reported in Orange County and is not population-based. While the trends represented here are likely reflective of the seasonal activity, the numbers do not represent all cases that have occurred.

- In CA & the U.S.:** Influenza activity remained widespread in California and 22 other states during Week 7. Influenza activity remained elevated across the United States, but decreased in most areas. Influenza-like illness activity was moderate or less in most states (see map to right).

**Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet 2012-13 Influenza Season Week 7 ending Feb 16, 2013**



[www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

- Interim adjusted estimates of seasonal influenza vaccine effectiveness for the 2012-13 season** indicate that vaccination reduced the risk for outpatient medical visits resulting from influenza by approximately one half to two thirds for most persons, however lower estimates were noted among those adults over 65 years of age. Overall, the vaccine effectiveness was 56% (95% confidence interval: 47-63%), which is similar to what was reported earlier in the season. For details see the 2/22/2013 issue of the MMWR at [www.cdc.gov/mmwr](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr).

**For more information on vaccine effectiveness and other questions and answers about the 2012-2013 influenza season,** see <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2012-2013.htm>

*If you have any comments about this flyer, contact Sandra Okubo, MPH or Michele Cheung, MD at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at [epi@ochca.com](mailto:epi@ochca.com).*