

While activity is declining, flu continues to circulate

- During surveillance week 10, ending on March 10th, 17.7% of respiratory specimens tested at our surveillance laboratories were positive for flu. Of the specimens testing positive for flu in week 10, 78% were positive for flu B.
- A Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) [Health Officer Order](#) requires health care workers at acute/subacute care facilities to either get vaccinated against influenza or wear a face mask while in patient care areas until March 31. LACDPH might extend the face mask requirement beyond March 31 if influenza activity remains elevated. Updates on this extension will be posted weekly on http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/influenza_providers.htm starting March 26th.

Figure 1. Respiratory Specimen Surveillance 2012- 2017

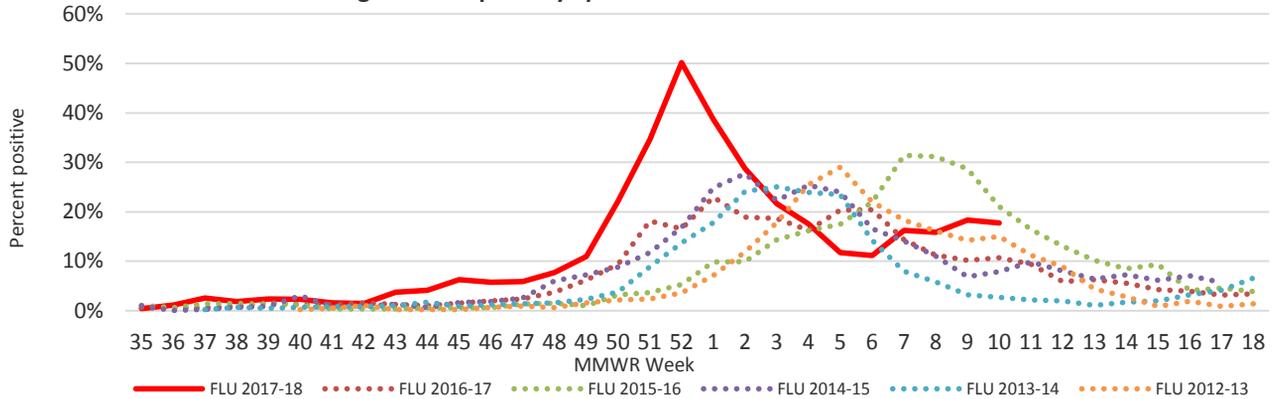
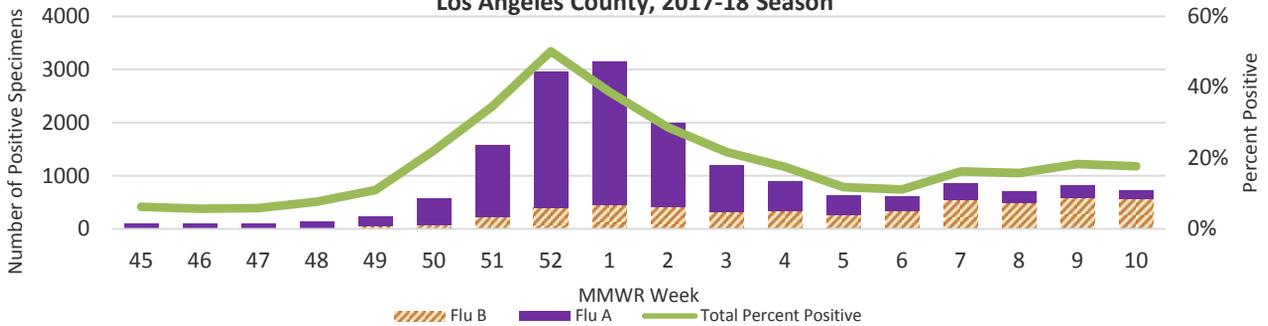


Figure 2. Influenza Positive Tests from Sentinel Laboratories Los Angeles County, 2017-18 Season



Proportion of ILI Emergency Department visits by week, LAC, 2013 to 2018

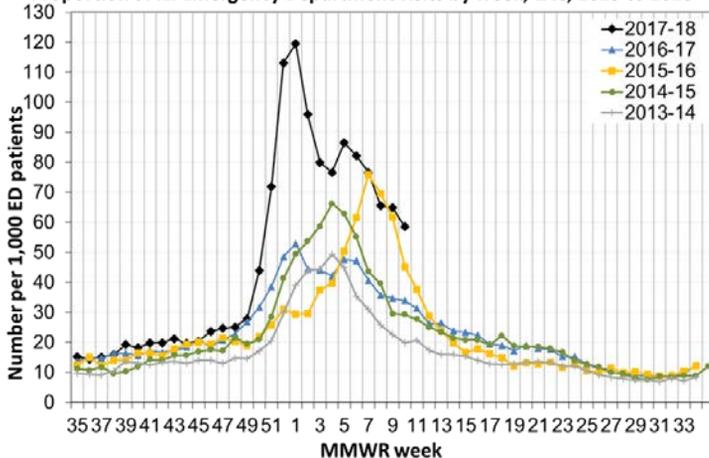


Table 1. Los Angeles County Influenza Surveillance Summary

	2017-2018		2016-2017	
	Week 10*	YTD†	Week 10	YTD
Percent Positive Flu Tests	17.70	20.5	10.7	26.4
Percent Flu A/B	22/78	75/25	89/11	97/3
Pediatric Flu Deaths‡		1		1
Adult Flu Deaths		219		71

*For the 2017-2018 season, week 10 starts 3/4/2018 and ends 3/10/2018.

†The influenza surveillance year started August 27, 2017.

‡Confirmed influenza death is defined by a positive lab test, ILI symptoms, and clear progression from illness to death.

