



# Seasonal Influenza Report 2015-16

San Mateo County Health System, Public Health Policy and Planning  
Weeks 14 & 15 (April 3 to April 17, 2016)

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## Current Influenza Activity

### San Mateo County

- During week 15 (ending 4/17/16), San Mateo County reported lower influenza activity than previous weeks.
- Week 15 of the current season has a higher number of influenza A and B detections than week 15 of the previous season (Figures 1 and 2).
- Within the County, based on reports from reporting county and hospital laboratories\*, a total of 4817 specimens have been tested for influenza since the beginning of influenza season, and 9 (0.2%) tested positive for influenza during week 15. A total of 838 specimens have been tested for RSV since the beginning of the influenza season with five (0.6%) testing positive during week 15 (Figures 1, 3, and 4).
- San Mateo County Public Health Laboratory (SMC PHL) has the ability to further subtype positive influenza A specimens. During week 15, two specimens in the SMC PHL tested positive for influenza A of which one (50.0%) was H3 and one (50.0%) was H1.
- Influenza-like illness (ILI) surveillance of chief complaint data from San Mateo Medical Center ED is slightly higher than the same period last season (Figure 5).

### California

- Influenza activity in California was reported as "widespread" during week 15.
- Of 2,113 specimens tested, 227 (10.7%) were positive for influenza. Of the positive specimens, 105 (46.3%) were influenza A, of which 16 (15.2%) were H1, 6 (5.7%) were H3, and 83 (79.0%) were not subtyped. The remaining 122 (53.7%) tested positive for influenza B.
- Outpatient visits for ILI in week 15 were 1.5% which was lower than 2.3% in week 14.
- There were five influenza-associated deaths in those less than 65 years of age reported during week 15.
- Hospital visits for Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) for week 15 were lower (3.9%) than week 14 (4.1%) and are within expected levels for this time of year.<sup>†</sup>

### United States

- During week 15, influenza activity saw a decrease in the United States.
- Of the 16,840 specimens tested by clinical laboratories, 2,258 (13.4%) were positive for influenza, of which 1,191 (52.7%) were influenza A and 1,067 (47.3%) were influenza B.
- Of the 893 specimens tested by public health laboratories, 337 (37.7%) were positive for influenza. Of the positive specimens, 189 (56.1%) were influenza A, of which 141 (74.6%) were H1 and 34 (18.0%) were H3, with 14 (7.4%) having no subtyping performed. The 148 (43.9%) remaining specimens were influenza B, of which 54 (36.5%) were of Yamagata lineage, 32 (21.6%) were of Victoria lineage, and 62 (41.9%) had no lineage performed.
- Six influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported during week 15.
- During week 15, 7.7% of all deaths reported through the 122-Cities Mortality Reporting System were due to P&I. This percentage was above the epidemic threshold of 7.0% for week 15.
- One state (NJ) experienced high ILI activity; one state (MN) experienced moderate activity; eleven states (AZ, AR, CT, GA, KY, MI, MS, NY, NC, PA, VA) experienced low ILI activity; the remaining 37 states experienced minimal ILI activity.

Figure 3 Percentage of Positive Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Specimens from Reporting Labs San Mateo County, 2014-16

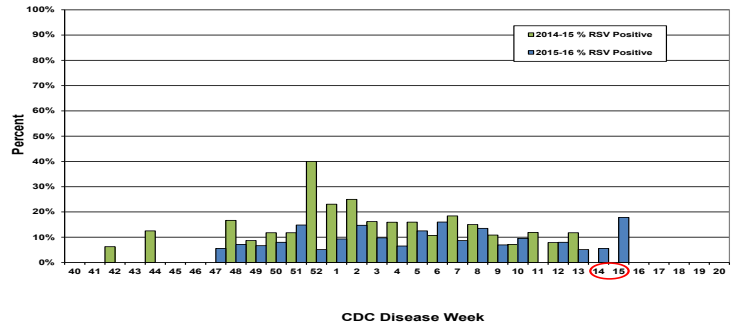


Figure 4 Percentage of Positive Influenza Specimens from Reporting Labs San Mateo County, 2014-16

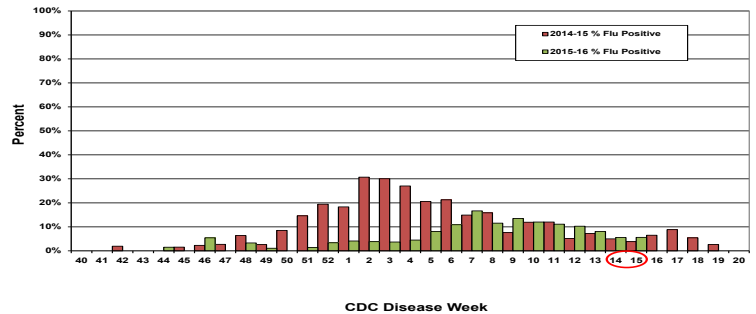


Figure 5 Proportion of Influenza-like Illness Visits (ILI): San Mateo County Medical Center ED, 2014-16 Influenza Seasons

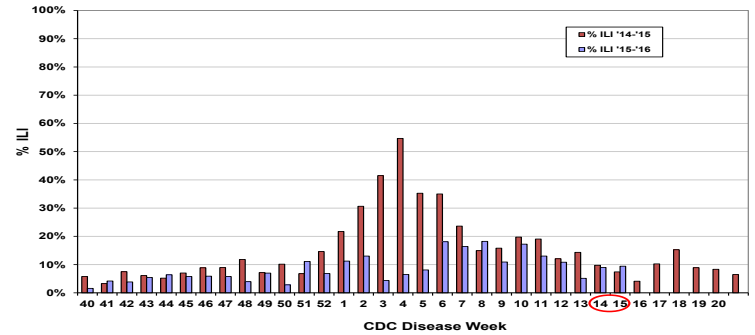


Figure 1 Number of Positive Influenza & RSV Tests by Week San Mateo County, 2013-16

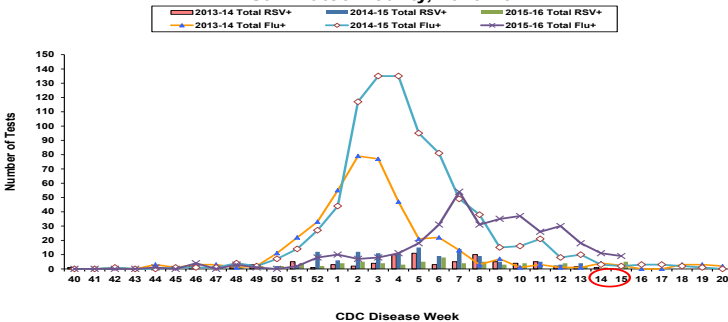
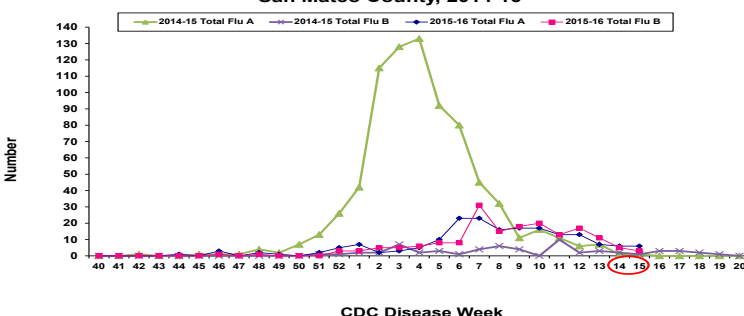


Figure 2 Number of Positive Influenza Tests by Type and Week, San Mateo County, 2014-16



### TEST OR TREAT?

Flu activity in San Mateo County has decreased.

- Test outpatients with suspected flu and high risk of complications, who are being considered for antiviral treatment. Consider empiric treatment in high-risk outpatients and those with progressive disease. Consider testing children <2 years of age to rule out RSV vs. influenza.
- Test hospitalized patients with suspected flu. Consider empiric treatment, especially in high-risk patients and those with progressive disease.
- Antivirals used for treatment: Oseltamivir or Zanamivir.

\*Our reported numbers do not represent all cases of influenza within SMC, but are intended to demonstrate trends in influenza activity. This issue does not represent data from Kaiser.  
Sources: SMC: San Mateo Medical Center, Sequoia Hospital, Mills-Peninsula Hospital, San Mateo County Public Health Lab; CA: California Influenza Surveillance Project: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/PROGRAMS/DCDC/Pages/CALiforniaInfluenzaSurveillanceProject.aspx>; US: CDC Flu Activity and Surveillance: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm>  
<sup>†</sup>This data reflects Kaiser hospitalizations only.