

**Current Influenza Activity**

**San Joaquin County**

- Reported levels of influenza continue to be elevated above seasonal baseline and widespread in the community.
- As of 10/17/09, there were 136 hospitalized and 6 fatal cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza reported in SJC.

**California**

**\*\*Changes to influenza reporting\*\***

- In accordance with Title 17, CA code of regulations §2500 and §2502, **probable or confirmed\* hospitalized and fatal cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza** are now considered reportable as an occurrence of unusual disease.
- In order to monitor pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza activity in relation to seasonal influenza, the state requests that **all other lab-confirmed hospitalized and fatal cases of influenza** be reported as well. These include:
  - influenza A only by any laboratory method (e.g. rapid test, culture, PCR, etc.), with no further subtyping done
  - influenza A-positive specimens subtyped as human seasonal H1, H3 or pandemic (H1N1) 2009
  - influenza B-positive specimens

\*Individuals who are positive for influenza A by PCR and negative for human subtypes H1 and H3 are considered probable pandemic (H1N1) cases. Individuals who test positive by a pandemic (H1N1) influenza-specific PCR are considered confirmed cases.

**Table 1.** Respiratory Laboratory Network (RLN)\*\* Influenza PCR Surveillance Results, Week 40 (Oct. 4 – Oct. 10, 2009)

	Total Flu A Tested	Flu A (% of total)	Seasonal H1 (% of Flu A)	Seasonal H3 (% of Flu A)	Unsubtype-able** (% of Flu A)
All RLN	1102	545 (49%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	534 (98%)
Northern	253	106 (42%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	95 (90%)
Central	213	129 (61%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	129 (100%)
Southern	636	310 (49%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	310 (100%)

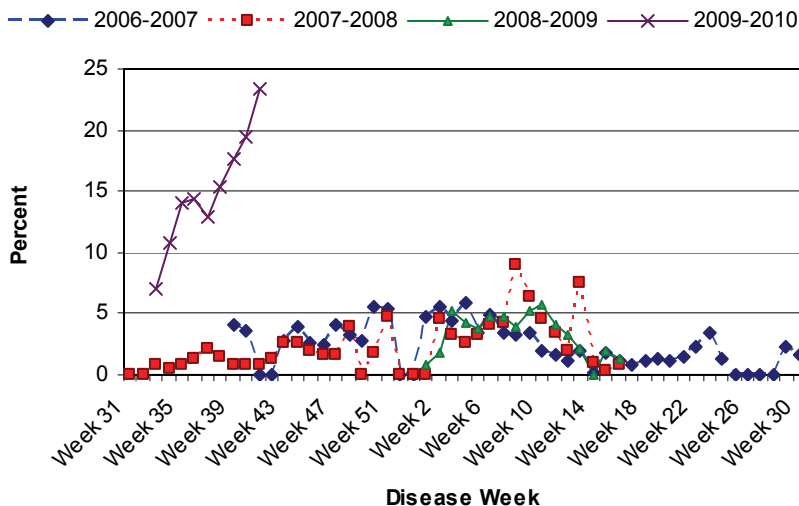
\*\*15 RLN Public Health Laboratories reporting

\*\*\*At this time, Unsubtypeable Flu A is presumed to be H1N1

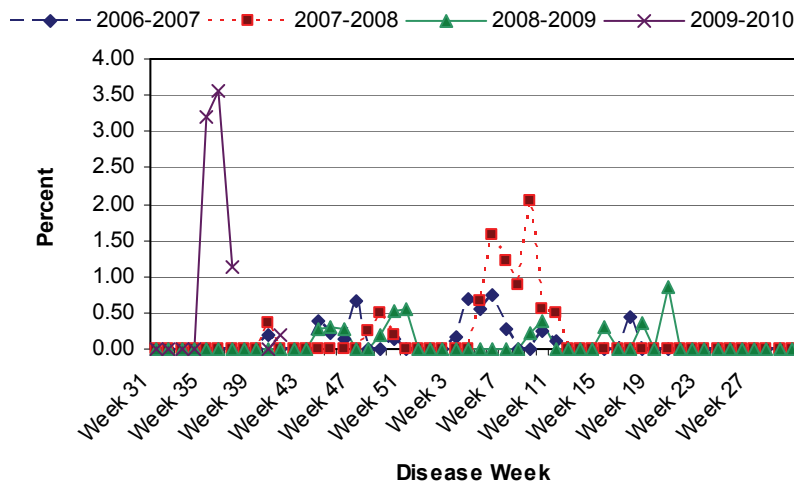
**In the News**

- A recent study published in the New England Journal of Medicine describes the clinical characteristics of 272 patients hospitalized with pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza. Forty-five percent of patients hospitalized in this study were children younger than 18 years, and 50% were adults aged 18-64 years. Only 5% of patients hospitalized in this study were 65 years and older. In comparison, this group makes up more than 60% of seasonal flu hospitalizations in the U.S. each year. A large proportion (73%) of patients in the study had one or more underlying conditions, including asthma, diabetes, heart, lung, or neurologic disease or pregnancy. Asthma was the most common underlying condition and found in 29% of children and 27% of adults. The study showed that further investigation is needed to determine a link between obesity and pandemic (H1N1) 2009 flu-related complications. For adults in the study, the prevalence of obesity was comparable to the estimated obesity prevalence in the adult population. Morbid obesity prevalence was higher in the study than is estimated in the U.S. population, 26% and 5% respectively. **Article:** <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/NEJMoa0906695?resourcetype=HWCIT>

**Figure 1.** Percent of school absences due to ILI by disease week, Manteca Unified School District, 2006-2009.



**Figure 2.** Percent of clinic visits due to ILI in Stockton Unified schools by disease week, 2006-2009.\*\*\*



\*\*\*Stockton Unified schools were on holiday break during Weeks 38 and 39 (9/28/09 - 10/9/09). ILI data was therefore 0% at this time. Data resumed in Week 40 (week beginning 10/11/09).