

# Influenza Surveillance Activities as of 5/18/19

## Santa Barbara County Public Health Department



The 2018-2019 influenza surveillance season began on 9/30/18 (disease week 40) and concluded on May 18, 2019.

**Summary of recent influenza activity in Santa Barbara County and in the State the past week was “sporadic”\*.**

**Sentinel Data:** The seven reporting Sentinel Provider sites reported influenza-like illness (ILI) in 9 of the patients seen in week 20 (9/1735; 0.5%); please see Chart 1 below. In the past week, the Hospital Emergency Departments reported 4.4% were diagnosed with ILI and 2 were admitted. (Reddinet data was not available for the same time period in 2018).

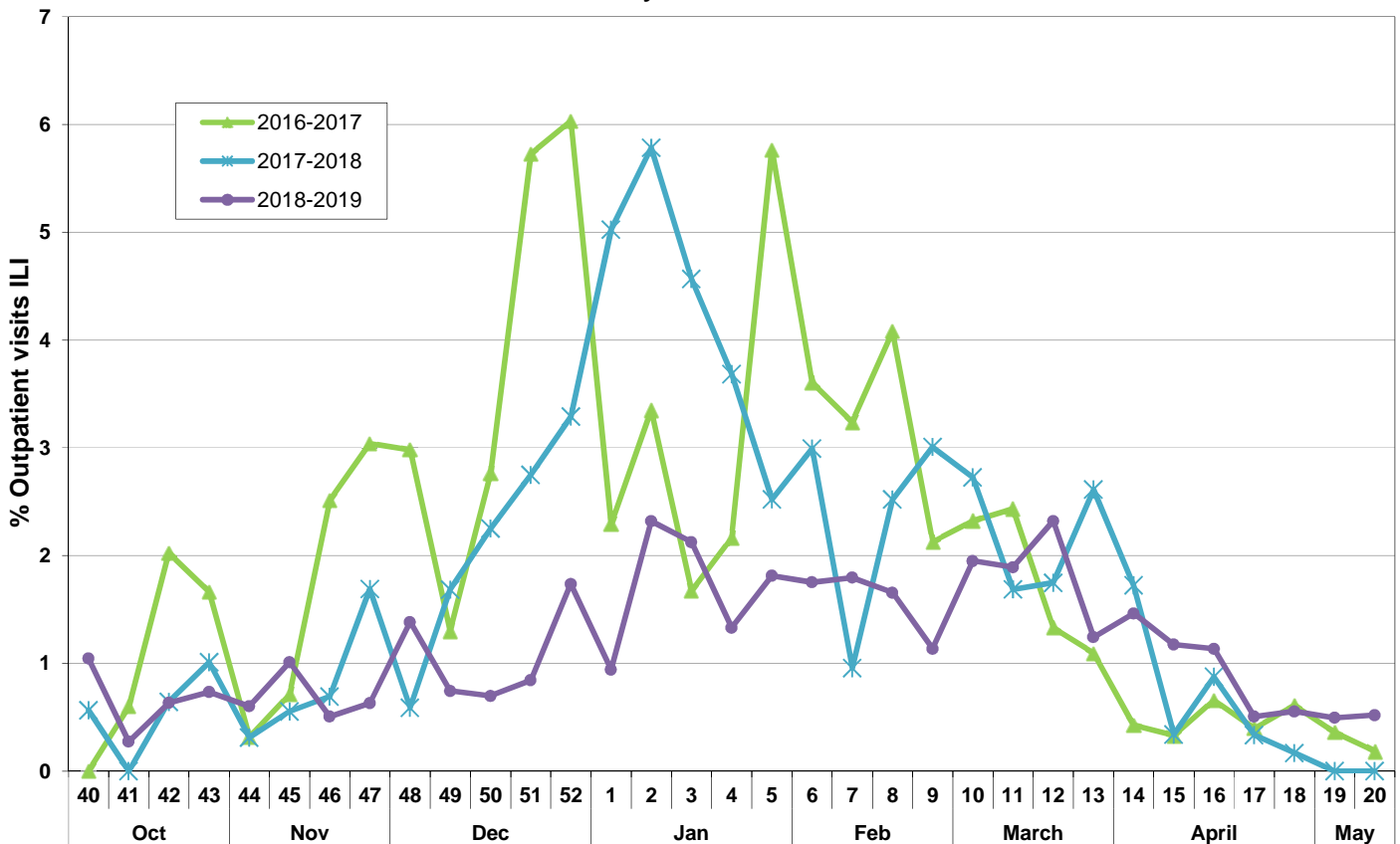
**Provider reports:** This season, Upper Respiratory Illness clusters have been reported in 2 school/daycare settings and 4 County Skilled Nursing or Long Term Care Facilities. There has been 1 ICU admission of a patient under the age of 65. There have been 4 known flu-related deaths in the County this season: 2 of persons over the age of 65, and 2 over the age of 18 with underlying conditions.

**Of note:** On April 29, 2018 the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department issued an [extension to the Health Officer Order](#) regarding mandated influenza vaccinations for **all Health Care Workers (HCWs)** by November 1, 2018. HCWs must either have documentation of a flu vaccine or wear a mask until **May 15, 2019**.

**Chart 1: CDC Sentinel Provider Program in Santa Barbara County Influenza-like Illness (ILI)**

(In 2018-2019, Lompoc Health Care Center, Santa Barbara Health Care Center, Franklin Health Care Center, Carpinteria Health Care Center, Santa Maria Health Care Center, Santa Barbara City College, UCSB Student Health)

### Percent of Outpatient Visits Due to ILI Santa Barbara County Sentinel Providers 2016-2019



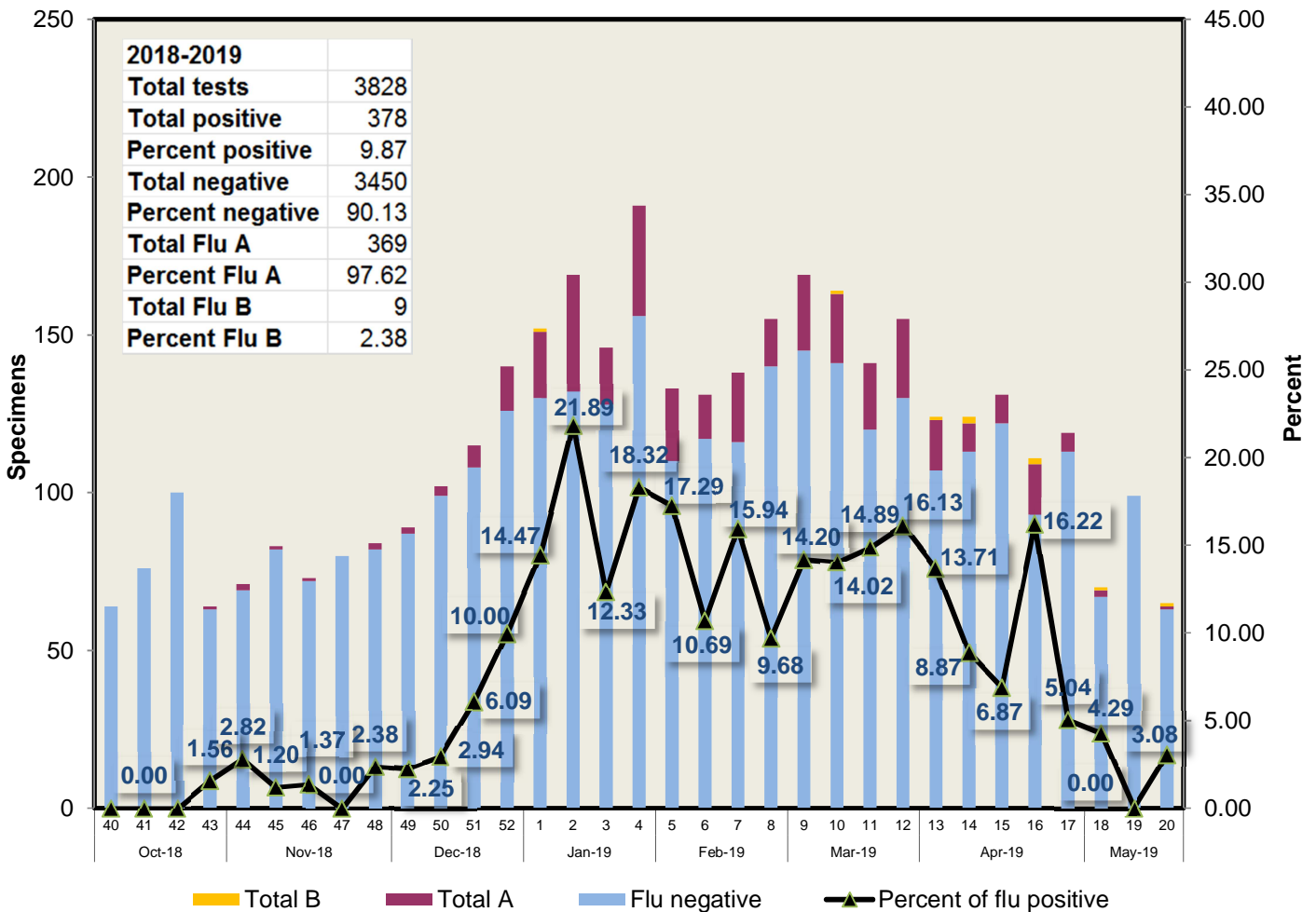
**Influenza-like illness (ILI):** Fever ( $\geq 100$  deg F [37.8 deg C] oral or equivalent in office or reported) **PLUS** cough and/or sore throat (in absence of other known cause). \*Sporadic: Small numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases or a single laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI.

**Laboratory Data:** In Disease Week 20, the local hospital labs have reported having tested **65 in-patients with PCR and rapid tests** with **2 testing positive (3.08%, 1 flu A, 1 flu B)** (please see chart 2 below). As of Disease Week 20, hospital laboratories have submitted specimens for PCR testing to the Public Health Laboratory (PHL) for **436 patients** this season, of which **128 have tested positive (29.4%, 121 flu A, 7 flu B)**. The most frequently identified influenza virus type reported by the PHL was influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus.

**Chart 2:** Influenza testing results collected from Marian Regional Medical Center, Lompoc Valley Medical Center and PDL (Cottage Health Systems contracted laboratory).

### Hospital Lab Rapid Flu Testing Results 2018-2019 Season

Santa Barbara Cottage, Santa Ynez, Marian, and Lompoc Hospital In-patients)



\*\* Of the 65 specimens tested in week 20, 2 were positive for influenza. In other words, 3.08% of the specimens tested in week 20 were positive for influenza.

**Chart 3:** Each week, using the Santa Barbara County Emergency Medical Services Agency (SBC EMSA) ImageTrend database capturing all pre-hospital transports, the percentage of 911-transports with a provider impression equal to cold/flu was calculated. Over the last month, the percentage of cold/flu related transports has averaged 1.1%.

