

IN SUMMARY...

Activity levels**
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central and Eastern Zones are reporting sporadic activity. There is no activity in Northern and Western Zones. There are no new influenza outbreaks.
Laboratory-confirmed cases***
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was 1 influenza A case and 1 influenza B case reported this week. There have been 544 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A and 297 laboratory confirmed cases of influenza B reported during the 2017-2018 influenza season. Positive test results were received for RSV.
Severity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been 53 ICU admissions and 61 influenza deaths*** of laboratory confirmed influenza during the 2017-2018 influenza season.
Syndromic surveillance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The average ILI rate for Nova Scotia during this reporting period was 0.6. 97.5% of emergency rooms reported ILI data during this reporting period. Buchanan Memorial Health Centre did not report this week.

Notes: *Reporting weeks run from Sunday to Saturday. The 2017-2018 influenza season is defined using PHAC's influenza surveillance weeks. This year runs from August 27, 2017 (Week 35) to August 25, 2018 (Week 34);

**Activity level data is obtained from CNPHI, see appendix for definitions;

***Deaths include individuals with a positive influenza test result, influenza may not have been the major contributing cause of death or hospitalization.

LABORATORY-CONFIRMED INFLUENZA CASES

Figure 1: Number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases by report week, 2017-2018 season, with trend-line comparison to 2016-2017 season, Nova Scotia

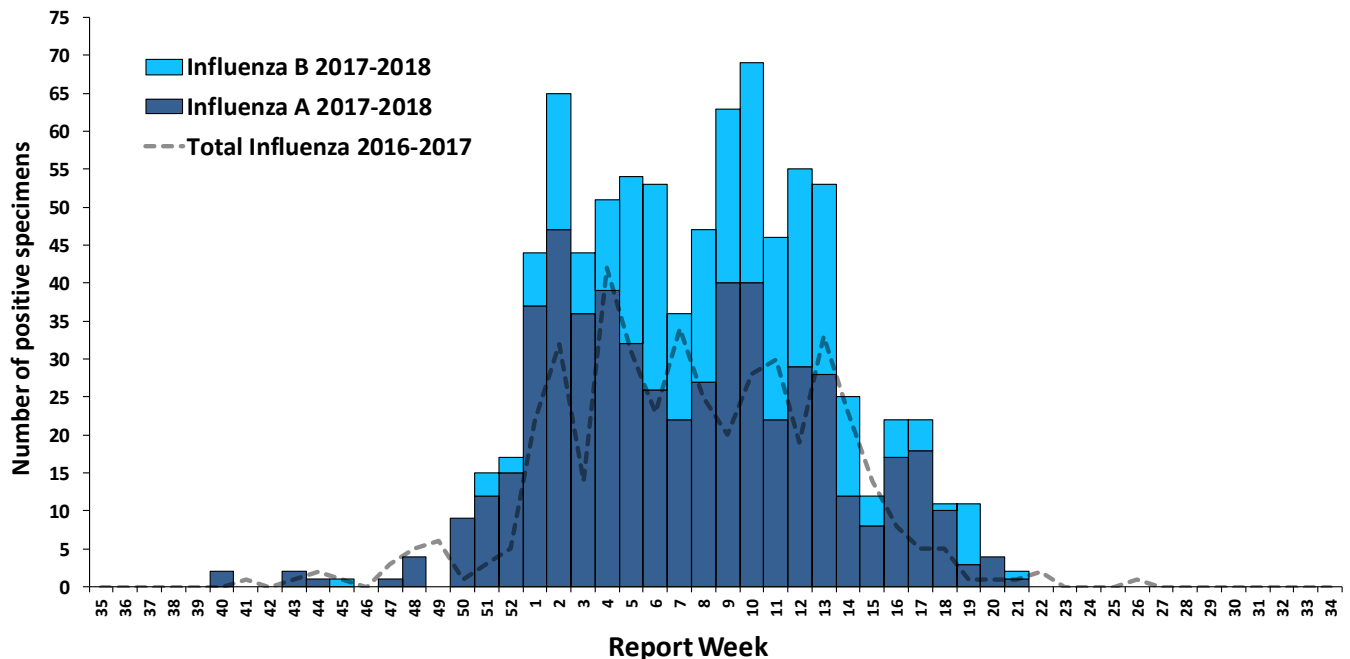


Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by zone, current week and cumulative 2017-2018 season in Nova Scotia

ZONE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2017-2018		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Western	0	0	0	160	109	51
Northern	0	0	0	71	24	47
Eastern	1	1	0	249	167	82
Central	1	0	1	361	244	117
Nova Scotia Total	2	1	1	841	544	297

Table 2: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by age group, current week and cumulative 2017-2018 season in Nova Scotia

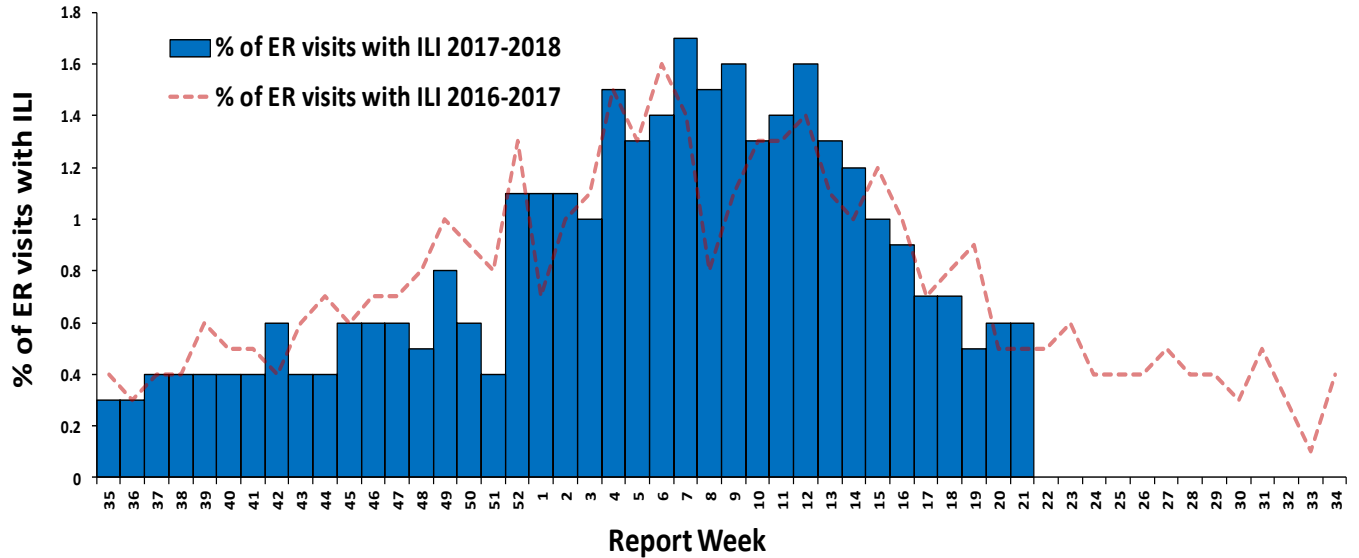
AGE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2017-2018		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
0-4	0	0	0	37	28	26
5-19	0	0	0	49	27	36
20-44	0	0	0	38	30	20
45-64	1	1	0	92	77	39
65+	1	0	1	442	382	176
Nova Scotia Total	2	1	1	841	544	297

Table 3: Hospitalizations, ICU admissions and deaths for influenza positive patients, current week and cumulative, 2017-2018 season, Nova Scotia

	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2017-2018		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Hospitalized	2	1	1	488	327	161
Hospitalized - ICU	0	0	0	53	36	17
Deceased*	0	0	0	61	42	19
Nova Scotia Total	2	1	1	602	405	197

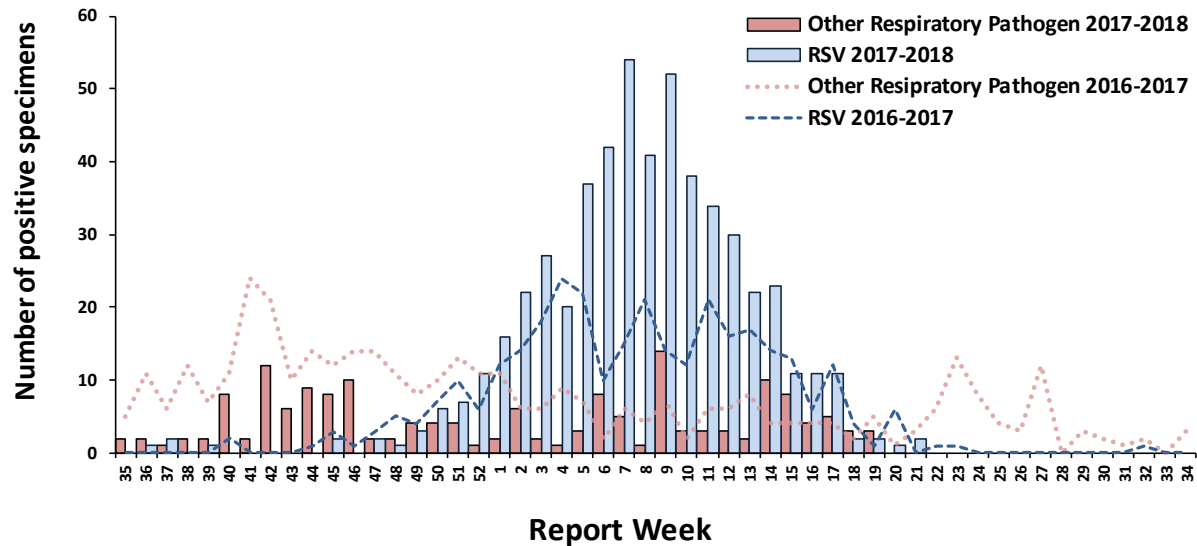
SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

Figure 2: Percentage of emergency room visits due to ILI by report week, 2017-2018 season, with trend-line comparison to 2016-2017 season, Nova Scotia



OTHER RESPIRATORY PATHOGENS

Figure 3: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens* and RSV by report week, 2017-2018 season, with trend-line comparison to 2016-2017 season, Nova Scotia



* Other respiratory pathogen includes Adenovirus, Bocavirus, Chlamydomphila pneumonia, Coronavirus, Enterovirus, Metapneumovirus, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Parainfluenza, Pertussis, Rhinovirus.
Note that data for this figure is obtained from provincial laboratories.

Table 4: Number of positive RSV specimens by age group, 2017-2018 season, Nova Scotia

AGE GROUP	2017-2018
0-5 months	135
6-11 months	32
12-23 months	53
2-5 years	38
6-15 years	8
16-65 years	67
65+ years	201
Nova Scotia Total	534

Table 5: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens, current report week and cumulative season, Nova Scotia, 2017–2018

Adenovirus	CURRENT WEEK (n positive)	CUMULATIVE 2017-2018
Adenovirus	0	7
Bocavirus	0	6
Chlamydomphila pneumoniae	0	4
Coronavirus	0	16
Enterovirus	0	2
Metapneumovirus	0	29
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	0	20
Parainfluenza	0	10
Pertussis	0	1
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	2	534
Rhinovirus	0	72

APPENDIX: DEFINITIONS USED IN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE, AND USEFUL LINKS, 2017-2018

ACRONYM LIST

- CNPHI** Canadian Network for Public Health Intelligence
ICU Intensive care unit
ILI Influenza-like illness
RSV Respiratory syncytial virus

MANAGEMENT ZONES

- Zone 1** – Western
Zone 2 – Northern
Zone 3 – Eastern
Zone 4 – Central

ILI CASE DEFINITION

Acute onset of respiratory illness with fever and cough and with one or more of the following – sore throat, arthralgia, myalgia or prostration which is likely due to influenza. In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present. In patients under 5 or 65 and older, fever may not be prominent.

NATIONAL FLUWATCH DEFINITIONS FOR INFLUENZA ACTIVITY LEVELS

No activity	No laboratory-confirmed influenza detections in the reporting week, however, sporadically occurring ILI* may be reported
Sporadic	Sporadically occurring ILI* and lab confirmed influenza detection(s) with no outbreaks detected within the influenza surveillance region
Localized	(1) Evidence of increased ILI* and (2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with (3) outbreaks occurring in schools, hospitals, residential institutions and/or other types of facilities occurring in less than 50% of the influenza surveillance region
Widespread	(1) Evidence of increased ILI* and (2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with (3) outbreaks occurring in schools, hospitals, residential institutions and/or other types of facilities occurring in greater than or equal to 50% of the influenza surveillance region

LINKS TO OTHER WEEKLY INFLUENZA REPORTING BODIES

Canada: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>
 World: https://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/en/index.html
 US: www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly