

## In Summary...

<b>Activity levels**</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northern Zone is reporting sporadic activity. No activity reported in Central, Eastern and Western Zones.</li> </ul>
<b>Laboratory-confirmed cases*</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There have been 1 influenza A and 0 influenza B cases reported during this reporting period. There have been 187 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A and 243 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza B reported during the 2019-2020 influenza season.</li> <li>Positive results were received for Pertussis and RSV.</li> </ul>
<b>Severity</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There have been 14 ICU admissions in adults and 4 ICU admissions in children (age group 0-19 years).</li> <li>There have been 7 deaths*** of laboratory confirmed influenza during the 2019-2020 influenza season in adults. There have been 0 deaths*** of laboratory confirmed influenza in children (age group 0-19 years).</li> </ul>
<b>Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For the most recent numbers for COVID-19 please refer to <a href="https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/#cases">https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/#cases</a></li> </ul>
<b>Syndromic surveillance</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The average ILI rate for Nova Scotia during this reporting period is 0.5. Please note, this is likely an underestimate because data for IWK was excluded for this reporting period.</li> </ul>

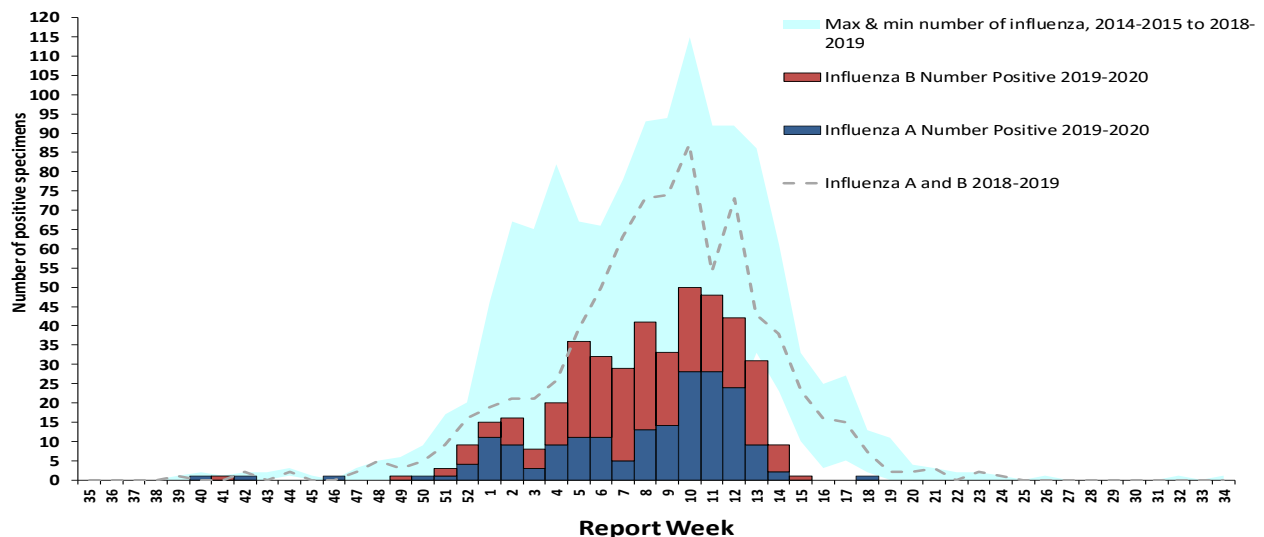
**Notes:** \*Reporting weeks run from Sunday to Saturday. The 2019-2020 influenza season is defined using PHAC's influenza surveillance weeks. This year runs from August 25, 2019 (Week 35) to August 22, 2020 (Week 34);

\*\*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.

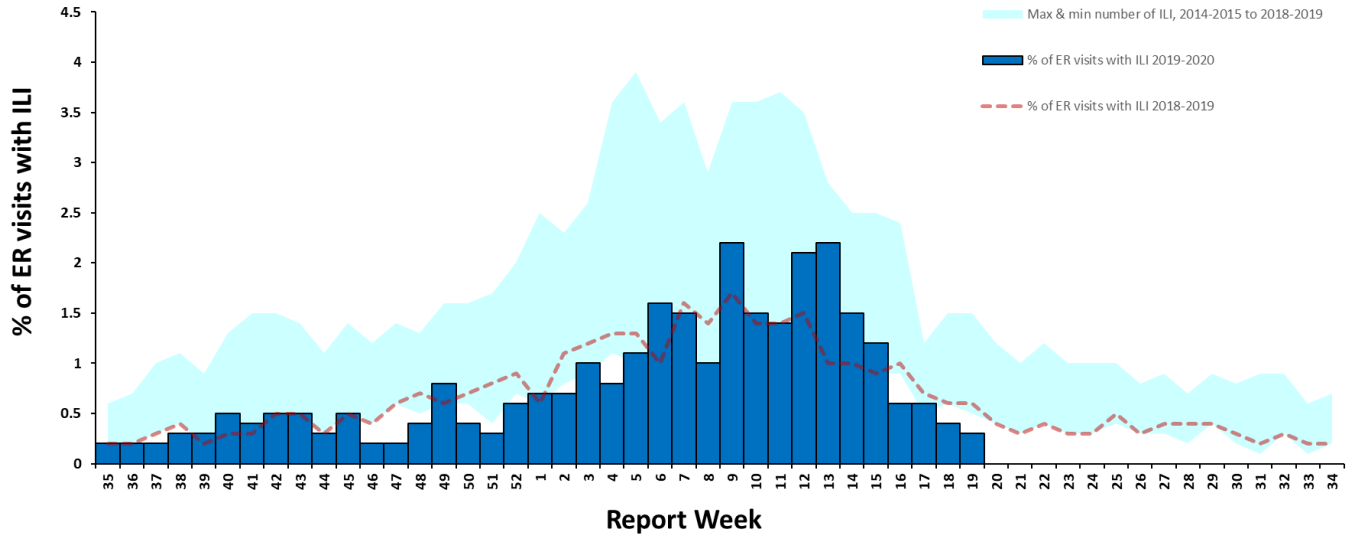
### LABORATORY-CONFIRMED INFLUENZA CASES

**Figure 1: Number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases by report week, 2019-2020 season, with trend-line comparison to 2018-2019 season, Nova Scotia**



SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

Figure 2: Percentage of emergency room visits due to ILI by report week, 2019-2020 season, with trend-line comparison to 2018-2019 season, Nova Scotia



**APPENDIX: DEFINITIONS USED IN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE, AND USEFUL LINKS, 2019-2020**

**ACRONYM LIST**

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

**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**

<b>No activity</b>	No laboratory-confirmed influenza detections in the reporting week, however, sporadically occurring ILI* may be reported
<b>Sporadic</b>	Sporadically occurring ILI* and lab confirmed influenza detection(s) with <b>no outbreaks</b> detected within the influenza surveillance region
<b>Localized</b>	(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
<b>Widespread</b>	(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](https://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/en/index.html)  
 US: [www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly)