

IN SUMMARY...

Activity levels**
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zones 1, 3 & 4 are reporting localized activity. There is sporadic activity being reported in Zone 2. There have been 7 new influenza outbreaks reported for this week.
Laboratory-confirmed cases***
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were 29 influenza A cases and 15 influenza B cases reported this week. There have been 221 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A and 60 laboratory confirmed cases of influenza B reported during the 2017-2018 influenza season. Positive test results were received for coronavirus, metapneumovirus and RSV.
Severity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been 15 ICU admissions and 21 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 1.3. 97.5% of emergency rooms reported ILI data during this reporting period. Northside General Hospital 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

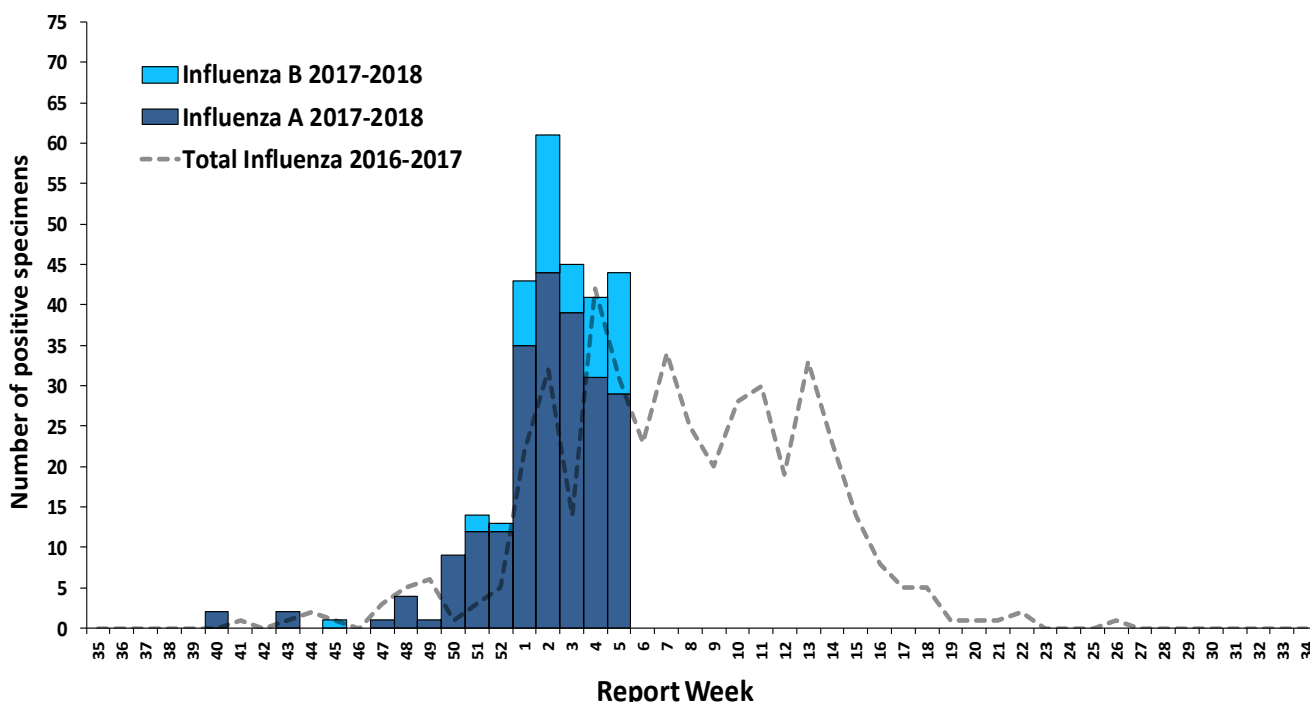


Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by zone, current week and cumulative 2017-2018 season in Nova Scotia

ZONE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2017-2018		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Western	2	1	1	73	68	5
Northern	2	1	1	8	4	4
Eastern	12	8	4	94	74	20
Central	28	19	9	106	75	31
Nova Scotia Total	44	29	15	281	221	60

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

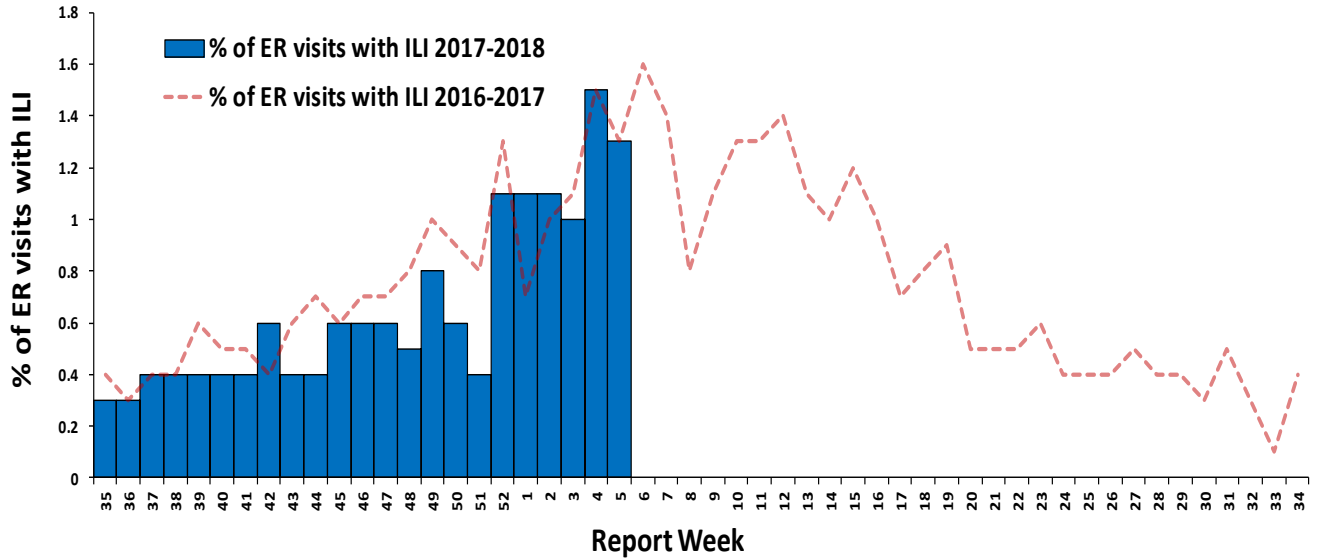
AGE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2017-2018		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
0-4	0	0	0	6	4	2
5-19	3	0	3	9	3	6
20-44	2	2	0	13	8	5
45-64	7	4	3	43	30	13
65+	32	23	9	210	176	34
Nova Scotia Total	44	29	15	281	221	60

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	22	16	6	155	127	28
Hospitalized - ICU	2	1	1	15	12	3
Deceased*	0	0	0	21	15	6
Nova Scotia Total	24	17	7	191	154	37

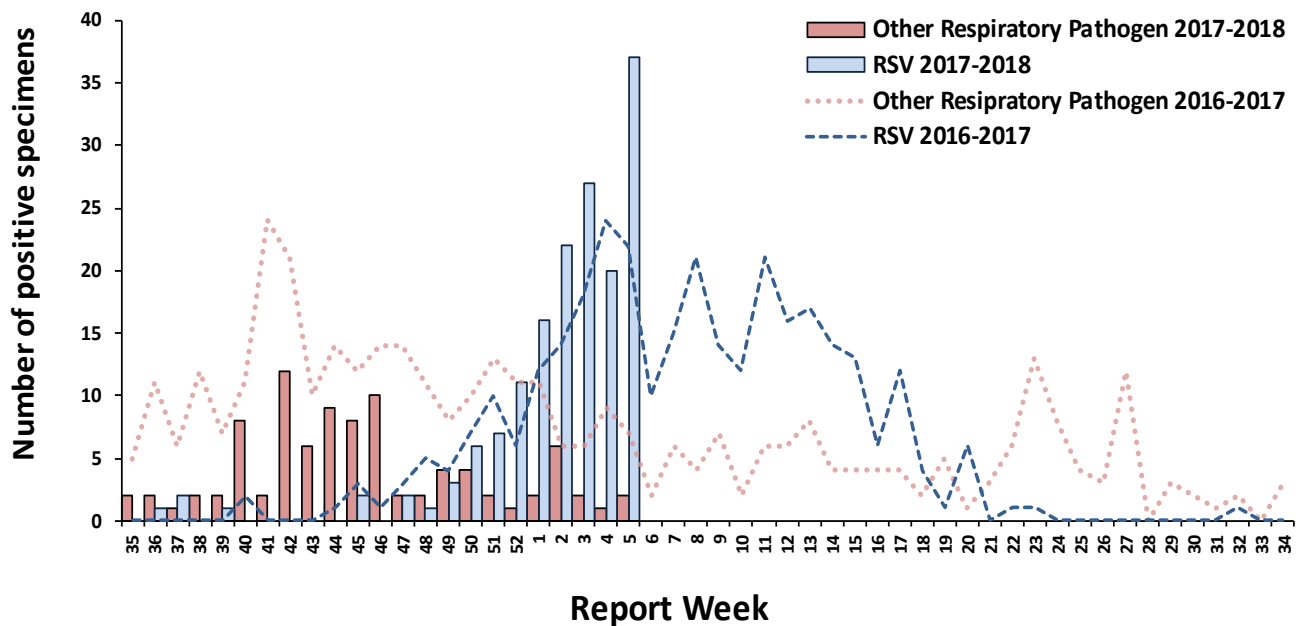
SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

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	45
6-11 months	8
12-23 months	20
2-5 years	17
6-15 years	3
16-65 years	14
65+ years	51
Nova Scotia Total	158

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

PATHOGEN	CURRENT WEEK (n positive)	CUMULATIVE 2017-2018
Adenovirus	0	4
Bocavirus	0	2
Chlamydomphila pneumoniae	0	2
Coronavirus	1	3
Enterovirus	0	1
Metapneumovirus	1	4
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	0	16
Parainfluenza	0	7
Pertussis	0	1
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	37	158
Rhinovirus	0	52

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