

IN SUMMARY...

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| Activity levels** |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central, Northern and Western Zones have localized activity. Eastern Zone is reporting sporadic activity. There are 6 influenza outbreaks being reported this week, and three schools reported an increased absenteeism rate. |
| Laboratory-confirmed cases*** |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were 59 influenza A and 1 influenza B cases reported this week. There have been 462 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A and 7 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza B reported during the 2018-2019 influenza season. Positive test results were received for coronavirus and RSV. |
| Severity |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been 46 ICU admissions in adults and 2[†] ICU admission in children (age group 0-19 years). There have been 23 deaths*** of laboratory confirmed influenza during the 2018-2019 influenza season. All deaths have been in adults. |
| Syndromic surveillance |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The average ILI rate for Nova Scotia during this reporting period was 1.4. 100% of emergency rooms reported ILI data during this reporting period. |

Notes: *Reporting weeks run from Sunday to Saturday. The 2018-2019 influenza season is defined using PHAC's influenza surveillance weeks. This year runs from August 26, 2018 (Week 35) to August 28, 2019 (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.

†The decrease in number of ICU admissions in children from the previous week's report is due to the correction of a misclassified age.

LABORATORY-CONFIRMED INFLUENZA CASES

Figure 1: Number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases by report week, 2018-2019 season, with trend-line comparison to 2017-2018 season, Nova Scotia

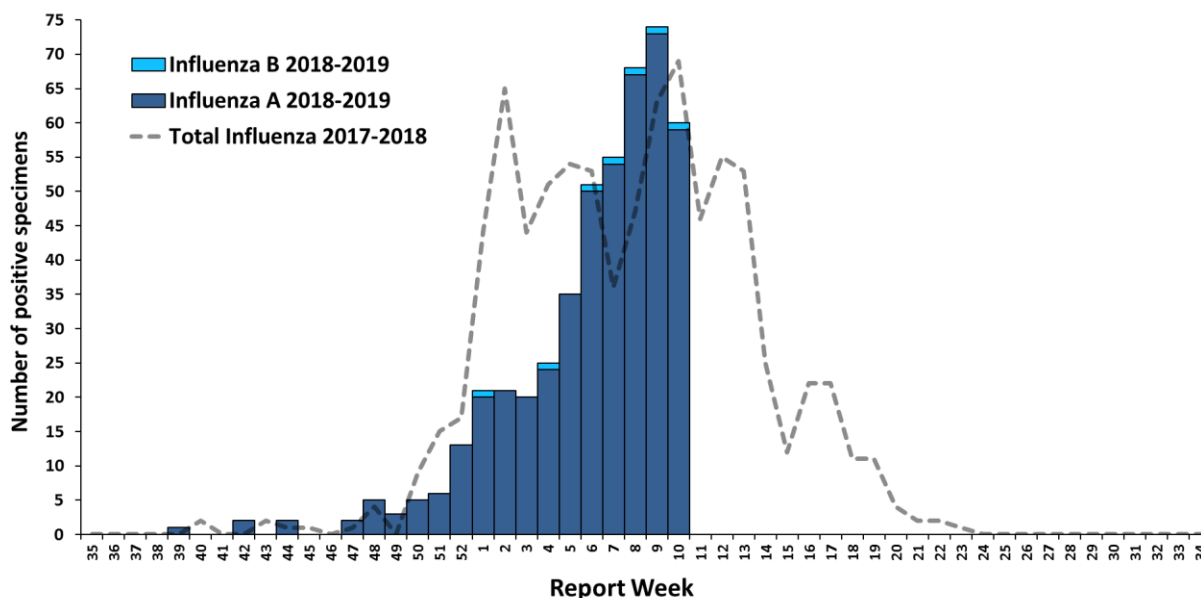


Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by zone, current week and cumulative 2018-2019 season in Nova Scotia

| ZONE | CURRENT WEEK | | | CUMULATIVE 2018-2019 | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B |
| Western | 13 | 13 | 0 | 86 | 86 | 0 |
| Northern | 16 | 16 | 0 | 80 | 80 | 0 |
| Eastern | 9 | 9 | 0 | 82 | 81 | 1 |
| Central | 22 | 21 | 1 | 221 | 215 | 6 |
| Nova Scotia Total | 60 | 59 | 1 | 469 | 462 | 7 |

Table 2: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by age group, current week and cumulative 2018-2019 season in Nova Scotia

| AGE | CURRENT WEEK | | | CUMULATIVE 2018-2019 | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B |
| 0-4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 44 | 44 | 0 |
| 5-19 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 44 | 44 | 0 |
| 20-44 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 73 | 71 | 2 |
| 45-64 | 17 | 17 | 0 | 129 | 128 | 1 |
| 65+ | 25 | 25 | 0 | 179 | 175 | 4 |
| Nova Scotia Total | 60 | 59 | 1 | 469 | 462 | 7 |

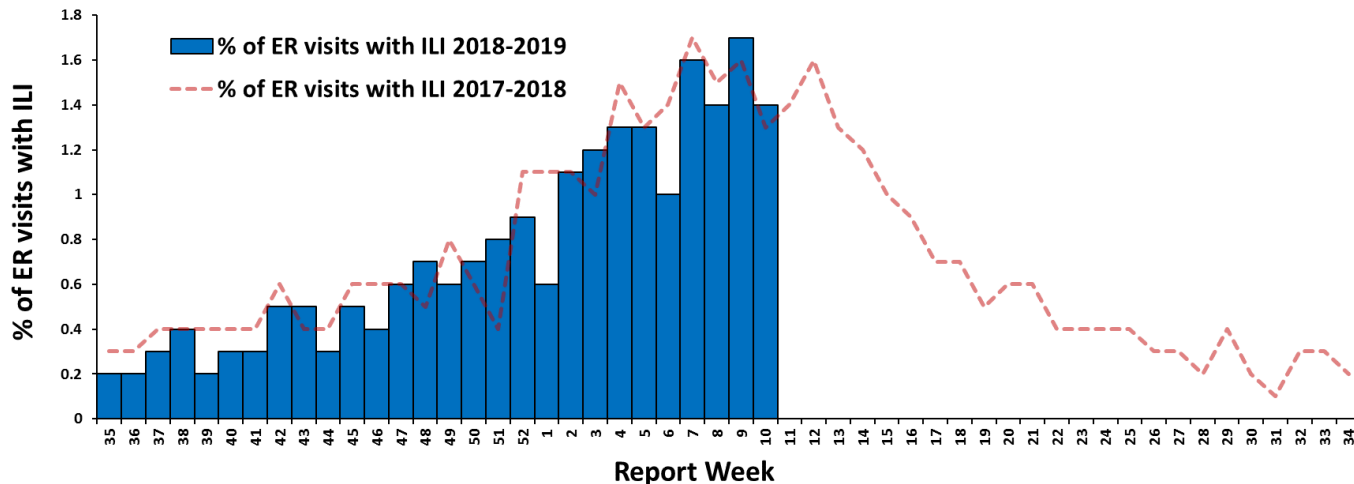
Table 3: Hospitalizations, ICU admissions and deaths for influenza positive patients, current week and cumulative, 2018-2019 season, Nova Scotia

| | CURRENT WEEK | | | CUMULATIVE 2018-2019 | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B |
| Hospitalized | 26 | 26 | 0 | 229 | 226 | 3 |
| Hospitalized - ICU | 7 | 7 | 0 | 48 | 48 | 0 |
| Deceased* | 2 | 2 | 0 | 23 | 22 | 1 |
| Nova Scotia Total | 35 | 35 | 0 | 300 | 296 | 4 |

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

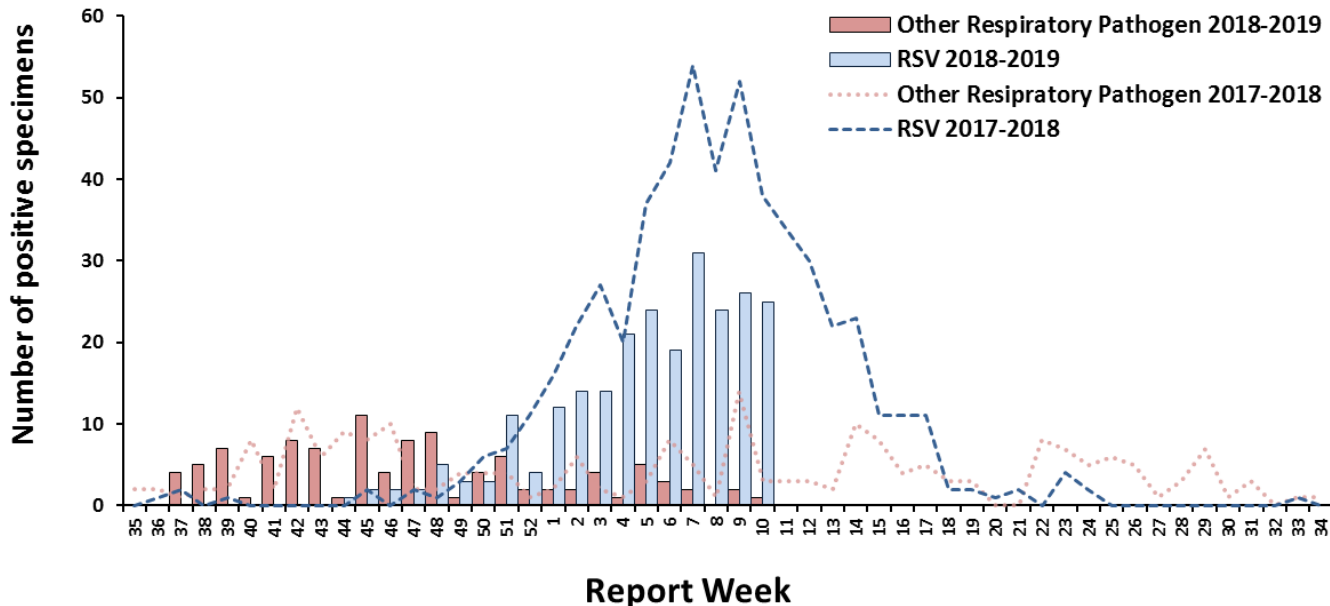
SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

Figure 2: Percentage of emergency room visits due to ILI by report week, 2018-2019 season, with trend-line comparison to 2017-2018 season, Nova Scotia



OTHER RESPIRATORY PATHOGENS

Figure 3: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens* and RSV by report week, 2018-2019 season, with trend-line comparison to 2017-2018 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, 2018-2019 season, Nova Scotia

| AGE GROUP | 2018-2019 |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 0-5 months | 68 |
| 6-11 months | 20 |
| 12-23 months | 31 |
| 2-5 years | 39 |
| 6-15 years | 9 |
| 16-65 years | 23 |
| 65+ years | 53 |
| Nova Scotia Total | 243 |

Table 5: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens, current report week and cumulative season, Nova Scotia, 2018–2019

| Pathogen | CURRENT WEEK (n positive) | CUMULATIVE 2018-2019 |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Adenovirus | 0 | 0 |
| Bocavirus | 0 | 0 |
| Chlamydomphila pneumoniae | 0 | 3 |
| Coronavirus | 1 | 6 |
| Enterovirus | 0 | 0 |
| Metapneumovirus | 0 | 4 |
| Mycoplasma pneumoniae | 0 | 16 |
| Parainfluenza | 0 | 16 |
| Pertussis | 0 | 3 |
| Respiratory Syncytial Virus | 25 | 243 |
| Rhinovirus | 0 | 58 |

APPENDIX: DEFINITIONS USED IN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE, AND USEFUL LINKS, 2018-2019

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

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 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