

In Summary...

<p>Activity levels**</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central, Northern and Western Zones are reporting localized activity during this reporting period. Eastern is reporting sporadic activity. • There was one new influenza outbreak reported during this week and schools in 3 Zones have reported increased absenteeism rates of more than 10%.
<p>Laboratory-confirmed cases*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been 14 influenza A and 18 influenza B cases reported during this report week. There have been 93 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A and 151 laboratory confirmed case of Influenza B reported during the 2019-2020 influenza season. • Positive results were received for Coronavirus (EXCLUDES novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV), Pertussis, and RSV.
<p>Severity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been 10 ICU admissions in adults and 4 ICU admissions in children (age group 0-19 years). • There have been 5 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).
<p>Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) ****</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been no cases of COVID-19 reported during this report week. In total, there have been 20 negative and 0 positive lab results.
<p>Syndromic surveillance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ILI rate for Nova Scotia for the current week is 2.2 • 95% of emergency rooms reported ILI data during this reporting period. Northside General Hospital and St. Anne's Hospital did not report this week.

*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.*

***** Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) case definitions, see appendix.*

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

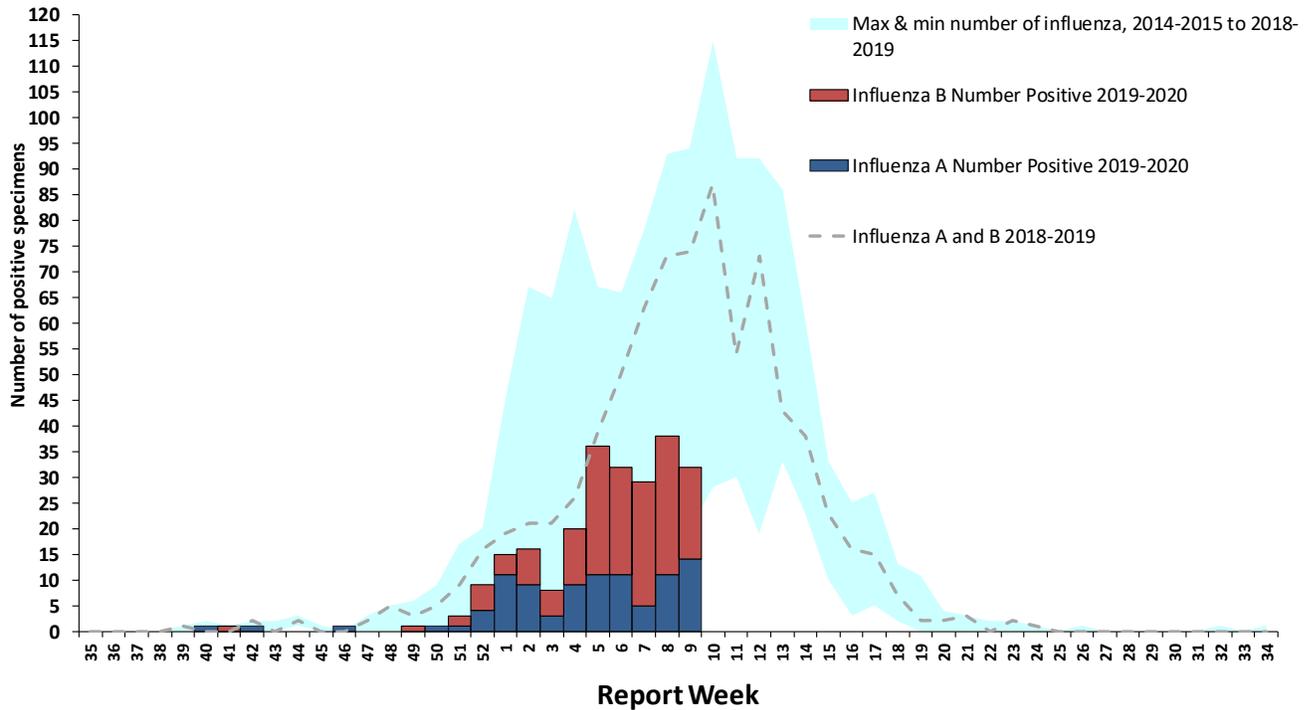


Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by zone, current week and cumulative 2019-2020 season in Nova Scotia

ZONE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2019-2020		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Western	10	7	3	41	26	15
Northern	2	0	2	50	13	37
Eastern	2	1	1	18	4	14
Central	18	6	12	135	50	85
Nova Scotia Total	32	14	18	244	93	151

Table 2: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by age group, current week and cumulative 2019-2020 season in Nova Scotia

AGE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2019-2020		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
0-4	7	1	6	55	12	43
5-19	6	1	5	65	8	57
20-44	2	0	2	40	9	31
45-64	8	3	5	30	21	9
65+	9	9	0	54	43	11
Nova Scotia Total	32	14	18	244	93	151

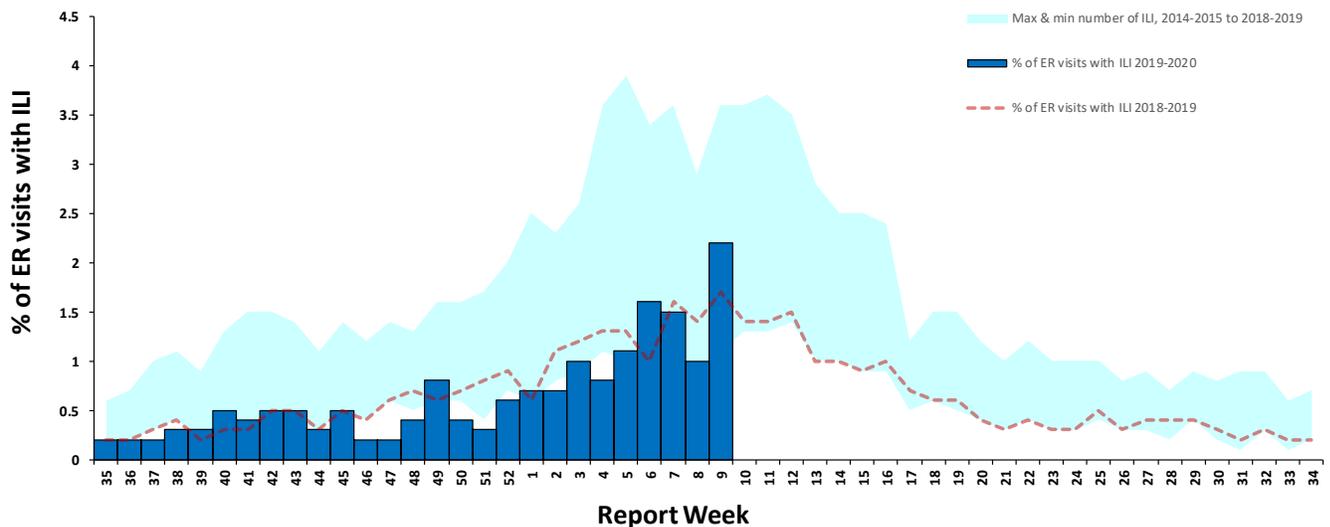
Table 3: Hospitalizations, ICU admissions and deaths for influenza positive patients, current week and cumulative, 2019-2020 season, Nova Scotia

	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2019-2020		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Hospitalized	9	5	4	73	41	32
Hospitalized - ICU	3	2	1	14	9	5
Deceased*	0	0	0	5	5	0
Nova Scotia Total	12	7	5	92	55	37

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

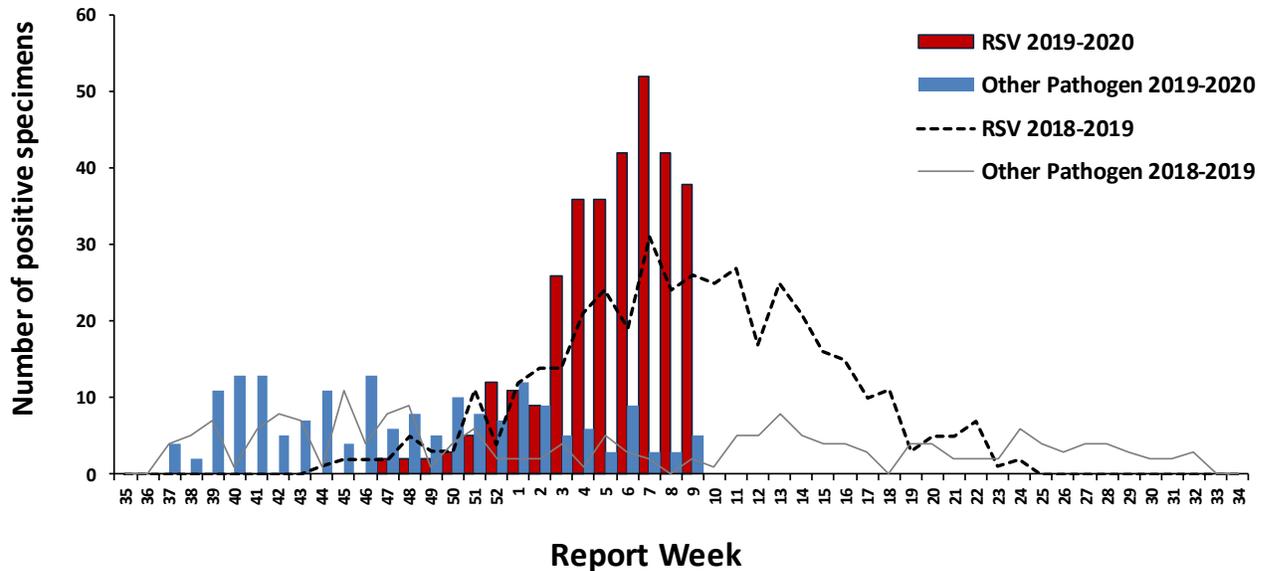
SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

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



OTHER RESPIRATORY PATHOGENS

Figure 3: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens* and RSV by report week, 2019-2020 season, with trend-line comparison to 2018-2019 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, 2019-2020 season, Nova Scotia

AGE GROUP	2019-2020
0-5 months	76
6-11 months	44
12-23 months	73
2-5 years	63
6-15 years	5
16-65 years	13
65+ years	44
Nova Scotia Total	318

Table 5: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens, current report week and cumulative season, Nova Scotia, 2019–2020

Pathogen	CURRENT WEEK (n positive)	CUMULATIVE 2019-2020
Adenovirus	0	8
Bocavirus	0	1
Chlamydophila pneumoniae	0	0
Coronavirus*	4	11
Enterovirus/Rhinovirus	0	76
Metapneumovirus	0	9
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	0	43
Parainfluenza	0	21
Pertussis	1	13
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	38	318

*EXCLUDES novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV

Table 6: Number of specimens tested for novel coronavirus (COVID-19), cumulative season, Nova Scotia, 2019–2020

Case			
	Negative	Positive	Total
Number of lab tests	20	0	20

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.

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) CASE DEFINITION

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/national-case-definition.html>

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