

Influenza Surveillance Report 2019–2020

Week 3 (Jan. 12–18, 2020)

Data extracted Jan.24, 2020 at 11:00 am

Next report date: Jan. 31, 2020

Provincial Update: In Week 3, the proportion of patients who tested positive for influenza among all tested respiratory patients was 33%. Influenza A detections continued to increase in the last three weeks. Influenza A(H3N2) and A(H1N1) have been co-circulating. Influenza B detections remained at a high level similar to previous weeks. Respiratory syncytial viruses (RSV) continued to co-circulate, but at a decreased level. The number of respiratory visits to the Emergency Department continued to decrease from Week 52. However, activity level in a few syndromic indicators continued to increase and was within expected levels at this time of a year. Overall younger populations have been affected more this season. Almost all influenza B cases and two thirds of influenza A cases are below the age of 65.

National Update: In Week 2, influenza activity decreased across multiple indicators. This suggests that Canada may have reached peak influenza activity at the national level. Elevated activity is expected to continue in the coming weeks. Influenza A remains the predominant circulating type with equal number of A(H1N1) and A(H3N2), and influenza B continues to circulate at higher levels. The highest cumulative hospitalization rates are among children under 5 years of age and adults 65 years of age and older.

International Update: In Week 2, flu activity declined slightly, but remained high. Severity level (hospitalizations and deaths) is not high so far this season. During recent weeks, approximately equal number of influenza B/Victoria and A(H1N1)pdm09 have been reported.



Laboratory** This Week

Laboratory-confirmed influenza cases:

- Influenza A: **91** ↑
- Influenza B: **66**

From Sept.

- Influenza A: **334**
- Influenza B: **487**

Severity Week 2

Severe outcomes associated with influenza:

- Hospitalizations: **11**
- ICU* admissions: **4**
- Deaths: **3**

From Sept.

- Hospitalizations: **123**
- ICU* admissions: **15**
- Deaths: **6**

Outbreaks This Week

Laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks:

- Influenza A: **1**
- Influenza B: **0**
- Influenza A & B: **1** ↑

From Sept.

- Influenza A: **12**
- Influenza B: **2**
- Influenza A & B: **1**

Calls This Week

Calls to Influenza Service at Health Links–Info Santé: **67** ↑

Physician Visits This Week

Visits to sentinel physicians due to ILI: **11.9%** ↑

Vaccine As of Jan. 24

- Percentage of Manitoba residents immunized with the seasonal influenza vaccine: **23.3%**

Antiviral This Week

Units of antiviral dispensed from pharmacies: **175** ↑

ER Visits This Week

Respiratory visits to Emergency Department (ED): **196/day**

Note. * ICU admissions were also included in hospitalizations.
 **Laboratory-confirmed influenza cases were reported from the provincial Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS).
 Numbers are subject to change. Missed events in the current report due to a delay of submission to MHSAL will be included in later reports when data become available.

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Figure 1. Weekly Cases of Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza, Manitoba

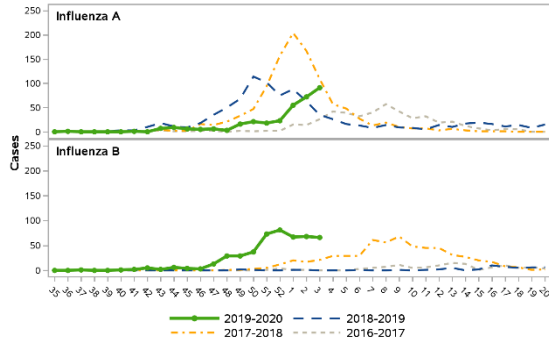


Figure 2. Weekly Influenza and ILI Outbreaks, Manitoba

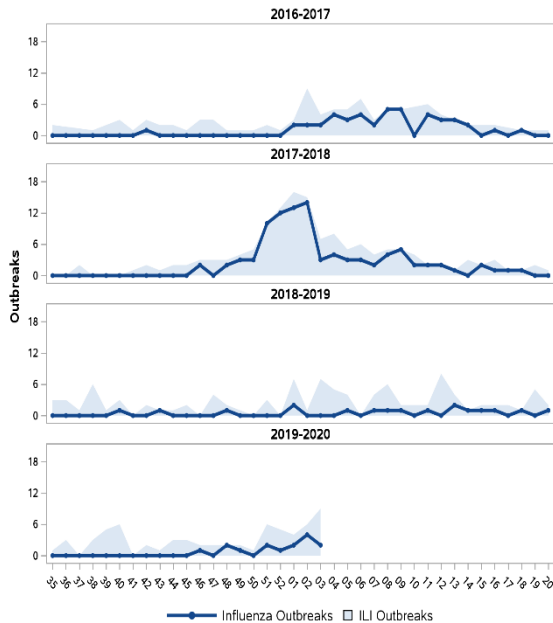


Figure 3. Average Daily Respiratory Visits to Emergency Department and % of Total Visits, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba

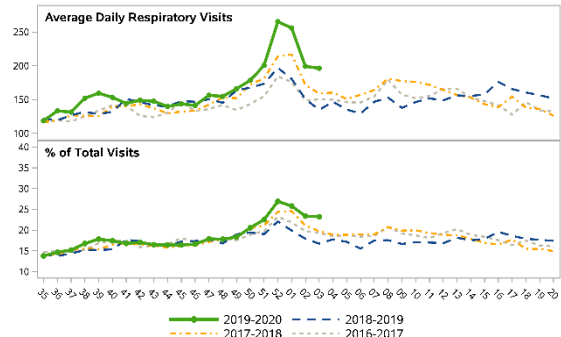


Table 1. Antiviral Resistance of Isolates by Influenza Type and Subtype since September 1, 2019

		Oseltamivir		Zanamivir	
		R*	S**	R*	S**
Canada	A(H3N2)	0	118	0	118
	A(H1N1)	0	71	0	72
	B	0	87	0	87
Manitoba	A(H3N2)	0	4	0	4
	A(H1N1)	0	3	0	3
	B	0	11	0	11

* Resistant ** Sensitive

Table 2. Influenza Strain Characterization reported by National Microbiology Laboratory since September 1, 2019

Strain	Number of viruses	
	Canada	Manitoba
Influenza A (H3N2) A/Kansas/14/2017-like	38	1
Influenza A (H1N1) A/Brisbane/02/2018-like	190	3
Influenza B B/Colorado/06/2017-like	122	11
Influenza B B/Phuket/3073/13-like	2	0

As per the World Health Organization (WHO), all seasonal quadrivalent influenza vaccines for 2019–2020 in the northern hemisphere contain those strains.