

Influenza Surveillance Report 2019–2020

Week 5 (Jan. 26 – Feb. 1, 2020)

Data extracted Feb.7, 2020 at 11:00 am

Next report date: Feb. 14, 2020

Provincial Update: In Week 5, influenza activity was high. The proportion of patients who tested positive for influenza among all tested respiratory patients was 32%. Influenza A detections increased slightly from the previous week while influenza B detections has decreased. Respiratory syncytial viruses (RSV) continued to co-circulate at a level higher than expected for this time of a year. Activity level in all syndromic indicators decreased from the previous week. The number of respiratory visits to the Emergency Department continued to decrease from Week 52, but the activity level was still high compared to previous seasons. Overall, younger populations have been affected more in this season. Almost all influenza B cases and three quarters of influenza A cases are below the age of 65.

National Update: In Week 4, influenza activity remained high, with many indicators similar to or slightly higher than the previous week. Influenza A and B continued to co-circulate. The proportion of laboratory tests positive for influenza A has been stable in recent weeks, while the proportion of tests positive for influenza B has increased over the past two weeks. Influenza A(H1N1) represented 75% of subtyped influenza A specimens in week 4. The highest cumulative hospitalization rates are among children under 5 years of age and adults 65 years of age and older.

International Update: As of Week 4, influenza activity increased over the last two weeks after two weeks of declining activity at the beginning of this year. Severity levels (hospitalizations and deaths) are not high so far this season. During recent weeks, influenza A(H1N1) have been reported slightly more than influenza B/Victoria reported.



Laboratory**	This Week
Laboratory-confirmed influenza cases:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza A: 96 Influenza B: 42 	
From Sept.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza A: 522 Influenza B: 590 	

Severity	Week 4
Severe outcomes associated with influenza:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitalizations: 2 ICU* admissions: 0 Deaths: 0 	
From Sept.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitalizations: 213 ICU* admissions: 21 Deaths: 15 	

Outbreaks	This Week
Laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza A: 0 Influenza B: 0 Influenza A & B: 0 	
From Sept.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza A: 13 Influenza B: 6 Influenza A & B: 1 	

Calls	This Week
Calls to Influenza Service at Health Links–Info Santé: 29	

Physician Visits	This Week
Visits to sentinel physicians due to ILI: 2.5%	

Vaccine	As of Feb. 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of Manitoba residents immunized with the seasonal influenza vaccine: 24.8% 	

Antiviral	This Week
Units of antiviral dispensed from pharmacies: 169	

ER Visits	This Week
Respiratory visits to Emergency Department (ED): 181/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

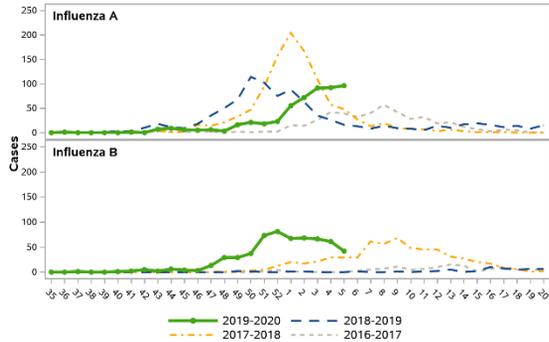


Figure 2. Weekly Influenza and ILI Outbreaks, Manitoba

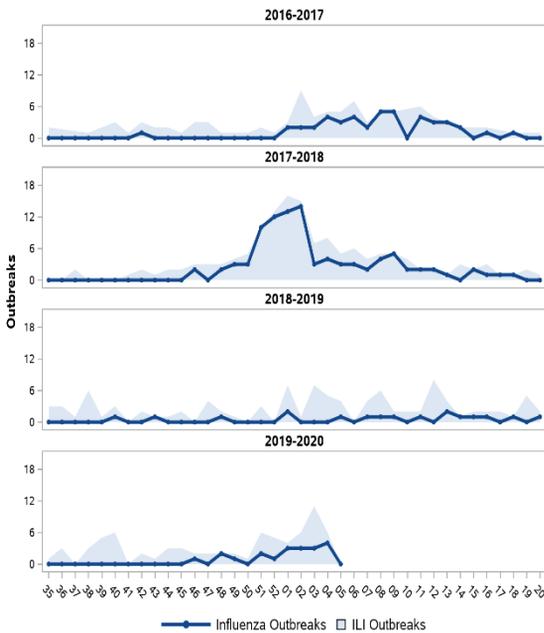


Figure 3. Average Daily Respiratory Visits to Emergency Department and % of Total Visits, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba

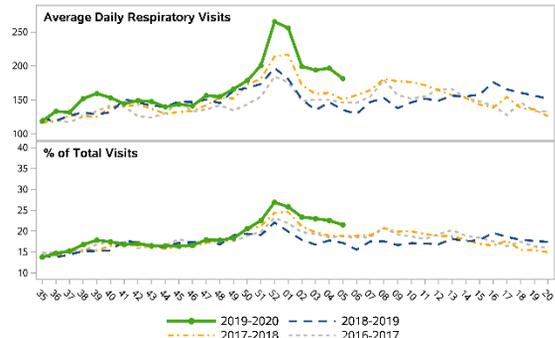


Table 1. Antiviral Resistance of Isolates by Influenza Type and Subtype since September 1, 2019

		Oseltamivir		Zanamivir	
		R*	S**	R*	S**
Canada	A(H3N2)	0	132	0	132
	A(H1N1)	1	116	0	117
	B	0	122	0	122
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	41	1
Influenza A (H1N1) A/Brisbane/02/2018-like	235	6
Influenza B B/Colorado/06/2017-like	173	17
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.