

Influenza Surveillance Report 2019–2020

Week 8 (Feb. 16–22, 2020)

Data extracted Feb.28, 2020 at 11:00 am

Next report date: Mar. 6, 2020

Provincial Update: Influenza activity in Manitoba has decreased from the peak. Though all syndromic indicators suggest a decreasing activity, influenza A viruses continue to circulate at a higher level provincially, resulting in outbreaks. In Week 8, the proportion of patients who tested positive for influenza among all tested respiratory patients was 37%. Influenza A detections increased from the previous week while influenza B detections continued to decrease. Activity level in syndromic indicators continued to decrease. 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: As of Week 7, influenza activity remained high with the majority of indicators remained similar or decreased slightly from the previous week. Influenza A(H1N1) was dominating and represented 83% of subtyped influenza A specimens in this week. The highest cumulative hospitalization rates are among children under 5 years of age and adults 65 years and older. Based on evaluation by the Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network (SPSN), the 2019/2020 influenza vaccine provided substantial protection in the early season in Canada.

International Update: In Week 7, influenza activity remained high but decreased slightly. Severity levels (hospitalizations and deaths) are not high at this point of a year. During recent weeks, influenza A(H1N1) detections continued to increase. Overall, numbers of influenza A(H1N1) viruses and influenza B/Victoria viruses reported are approximately equal.

Laboratory**	This Week
Laboratory-confirmed influenza cases:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza A: 90 Influenza B: 15 	
From Sept.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza A: 767 Influenza B: 658 	

Severity	Week 7
Severe outcomes associated with influenza:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitalizations: 0 ICU* admissions: 0 Deaths: 0 	
From Sept.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitalizations: 328 ICU* admissions: 35 Deaths: 24 	

Outbreaks	This Week
Laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza A: 2 Influenza B: 0 Influenza A & B: 0 	
From Sept.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza A: 23 Influenza B: 6 Influenza A & B: 1 	

Calls	This Week
Calls to Influenza Service at Health Links–Info Santé: 25	

Physician Visits	This Week
Visits to sentinel physicians due to ILI: 0%	

Vaccine	As of Feb. 28
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of Manitoba residents immunized with the seasonal influenza vaccine: 26.0% 	

Antiviral	This Week
Units of antiviral dispensed from pharmacies: 105	

ER Visits	This Week
Respiratory visits to Emergency Department (ED): 165/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.

Influenza Surveillance Report 2019–2020

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

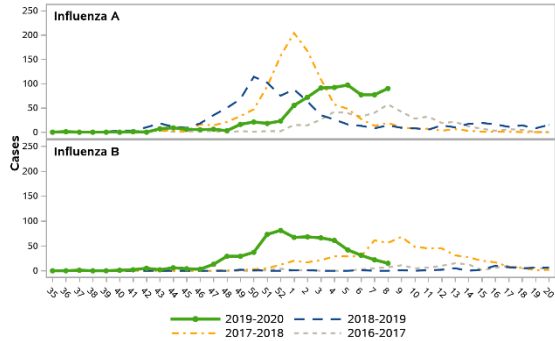


Figure 2. Weekly Influenza and ILI Outbreaks, Manitoba

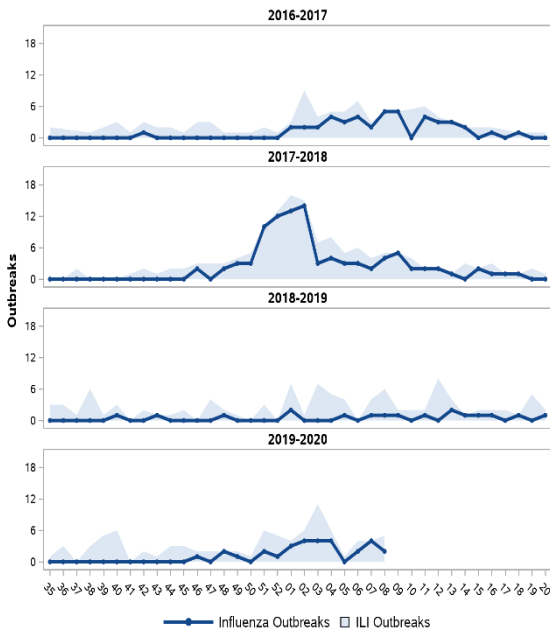


Figure 3. Average Daily Respiratory Visits to Emergency Department and % of Total Visits, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba

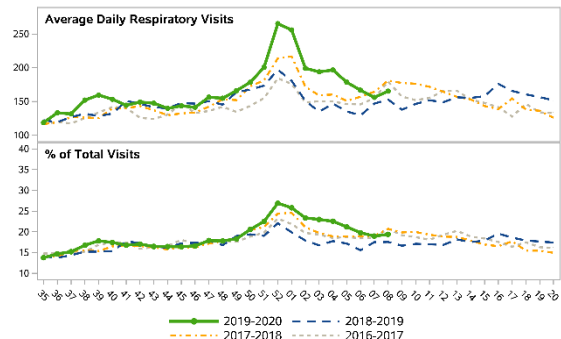


Table 1. Antiviral Resistance of Isolates by Influenza Type and Subtype since September 1, 2019

		Oseltamivir		Zanamivir	
		R*	S**	R*	S**
Canada	A(H3N2)	0	148	0	147
	A(H1N1)	1	191	0	192
	B	0	214	0	214
Manitoba	A(H3N2)	0	6	0	6
	A(H1N1)	0	9	0	9
	B	0	29	0	29

* 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	55	1
Influenza A (H1N1) A/Brisbane/02/2018-like	406	23
Influenza B B/Colorado/06/2017-like	180	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.