

ACT Influenza Report – No. 9, 2016

Summary: The number of influenza cases being reported to ACT Health has largely returned to background levels. Of the 1,554 cases notified year to date, only 1.8% (n=28) occurred in the last fortnight. The majority of notifications during 2016 were influenza A (90.3%). Notifications have been highest in adults aged 30-49 years and children aged 0-9 years old. This is the final report for 2016.

Influenza notifications

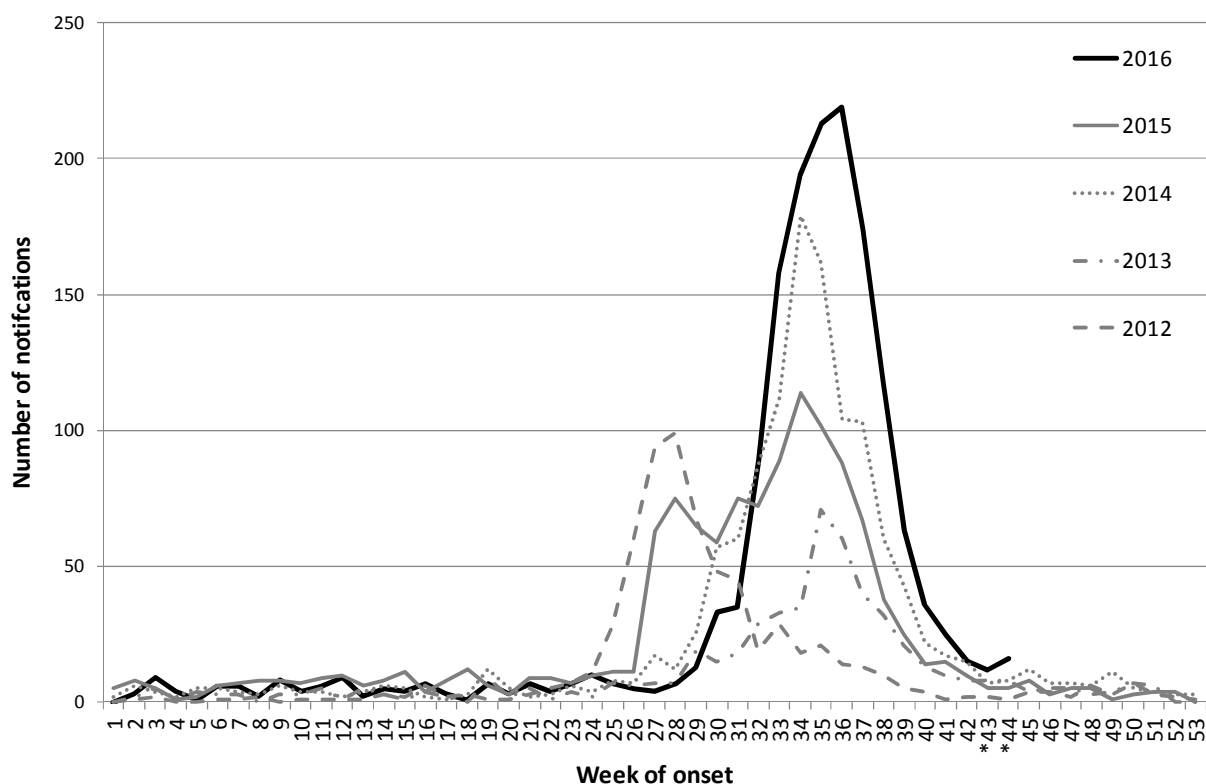
Reporting Period: 1 January to 29 October 2016, Weeks 1-44

There continues to be low-level influenza activity in the ACT, however notifications have largely returned to background (inter-seasonal) levels during the last fortnight (Figure 1). Between 1 January and 29 October 2016, there were 1,554 notifications of influenza reported. In the previous 5 years, the average number of cases reported in the same period was 754. Of all cases notified year to date, only 1.8% (n=28) occurred during the last fortnight (16 October to 29 October 2016) compared with 2.6% (n=40) in the previous fortnight and 6.3% (n=98) in the fortnight before that.

Year to date, 90.3% (n=1,403) of notifications were influenza A and 8.8% (n=136) were influenza B (Table 1). There have also been 15 notifications of cases co-infected with influenza A and B. Of the 341 influenza A notifications with subtype information available, 65 (19.1%) were H1N1 and 276 (80.9%) were H3 (presumed H3N2).

Among the 1,554 notifications received year to date, 54.3% (n=844) were in females. Notifications have been highest in adults aged 30-39 years (14.3%, n=222) and 40-49 years (13.3%, n=207), as well as in children aged 0-9 years (13.2%, n=205) (Figure 2).

Figure 1. Number of influenza notifications, by week and year of onset, 1 January 2012 to 29 October 2016, Australian Capital Territory.



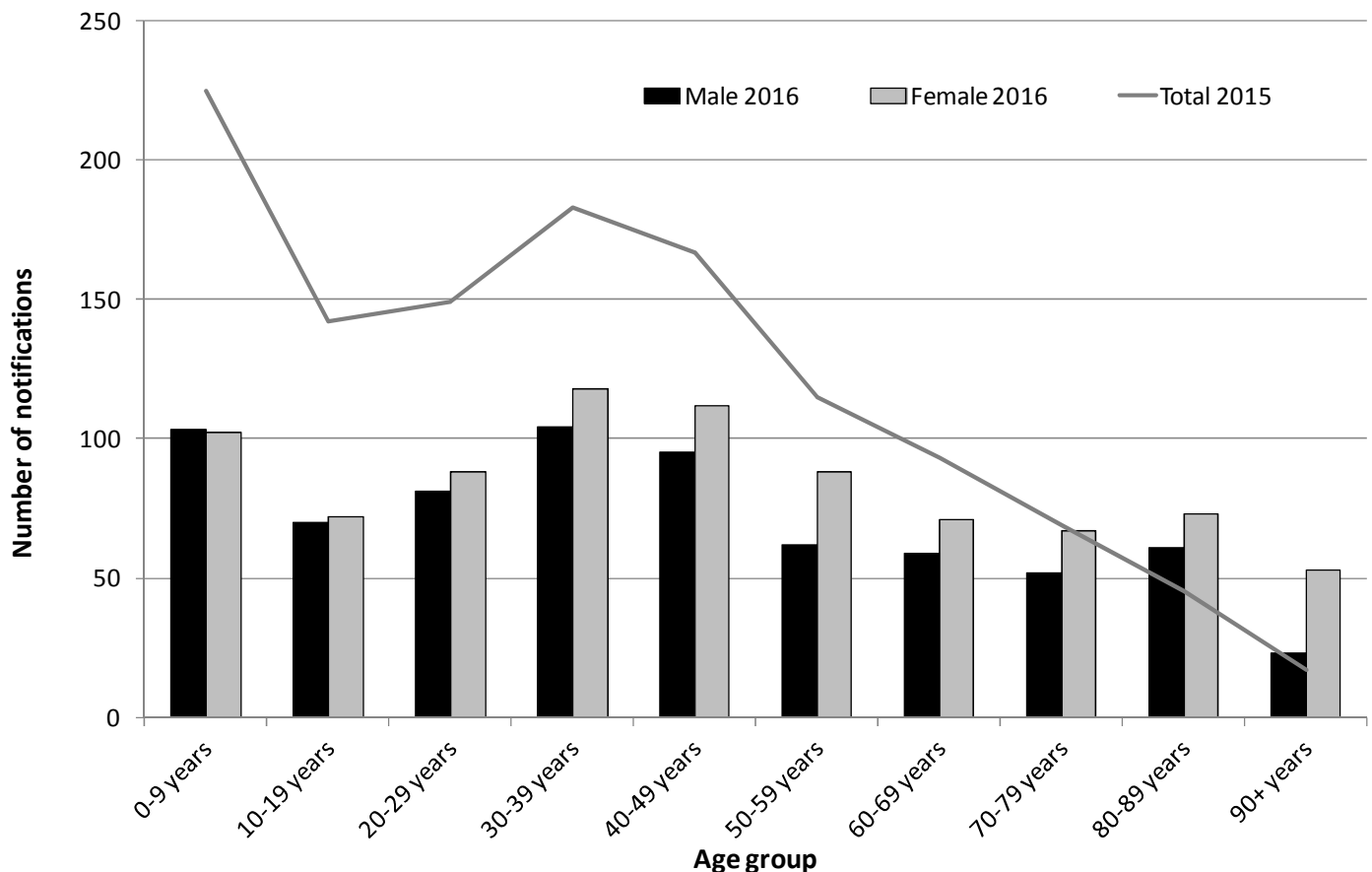
**Data provided for the current and most recent month may be incomplete.*

Table 1. Number of influenza A and influenza B notifications[^], by month* and year of onset, 1 January 2012 to 29 October 2016, Australian Capital Territory.

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep*	Oct*	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
INFLUENZA A	2012	2	3	3	11	4	90	302	68	18	7	11	13	532
	2013	11	6	14	9	12	12	31	102	79	30	15	14	335
	2014	17	15	14	15	22	26	150	536	288	49	17	18	1167
	2015	20	24	28	26	24	36	132	106	76	20	15	9	516
	2016	17	20	17	12	17	24	77	714	440	65	-	-	1403
INFLUENZA B	2012	1	1	1	4	5	18	31	38	25	3	4	4	135
	2013	0	3	1	1	5	8	24	76	76	14	3	3	214
	2014	2	2	2	0	1	3	5	25	23	11	15	8	97
	2015	1	5	7	10	7	25	174	298	134	19	6	3	689
	2016	0	2	3	6	5	6	11	69	28	6	-	-	136

[^] Cases co-infected with influenza A and B are excluded from this table. * Data provided for the current and most recent month may be incomplete.

Figure 2. Age and sex of influenza notifications, 1 January to 29 October 2016, and age of influenza notifications, 1 January to 31 December 2015, Australian Capital Territory.



All data are preliminary and subject to change as updates are received. Notification data includes all cases diagnosed in the ACT in residents of the ACT. Generally, notified cases represent only a small proportion of cases of influenza occurring in the community.

Notification data were exported on 2 November 2016 for the period 1 January 2011 to 29 October 2016, by onset date.
 Source: Notifiable Diseases Database, ACT, Communicable Disease Control Section, ACT Health.