

ACT Influenza Surveillance Report – No. 10, 2018

Summary: Influenza notifications have been just above background levels in recent weeks, however, they have increased in the last week. This indicates that the 2018 influenza season has commenced, however notifications continue to be reported to ACT Health in low numbers. The majority of notifications received in 2018 have been influenza A/H1.

Influenza notifications

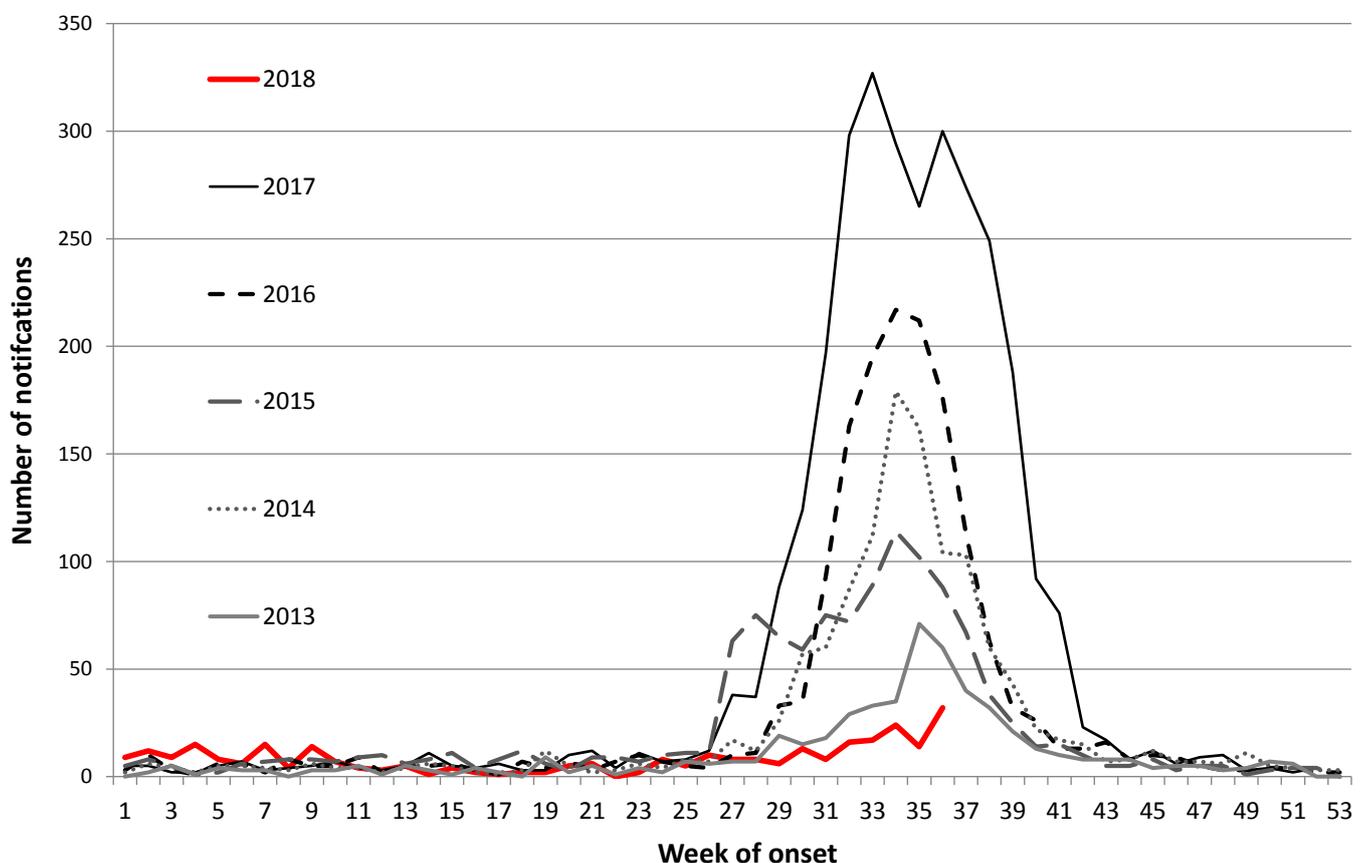
Reporting Period: 1 January to 9 September 2018, Weeks 1-36

Between 1 January and 9 September 2018, there were 305 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health, of which 46 occurred in the last fortnight (Figure). In comparison, there were 2,121 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health during the same time period in 2017. Influenza notifications have been above background levels in recent weeks, indicating that the 2018 influenza season has commenced, however notifications remain low.

Year to date, 70.5% of notifications (n=215) were influenza A and 29.0% of notifications (n=88) were influenza B. There have been 2 notifications of cases co-infected with influenza A and B. Of the 81 influenza A notifications with subtype information available, 62 (76.5%) were H1N1 and 19 (23.5%) were H3 (presumed H3N2).

Overall, notifications have been highest among adults aged 30-39 years (17%, n=52), followed by children aged 0-4 years (13%, n=41), children aged 5-9 years (12%, n=36) and adults aged 40-49 years (12%, n=36).

Figure. Number of influenza notifications, by week* and year of onset, 1 January 2013 to 9 September 2018, ACT.



**Data provided for the current and most recent weeks may be incomplete. All data are preliminary and subject to change as updates are received. Notification data include 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 11 September 2018 for the period 1 January 2013 to 9 September 2018, by onset date.

Source: Notifiable Diseases Database, ACT, Communicable Disease Control Section, ACT Health.