

ACT Influenza Surveillance Report – No. 11, 2018

Summary: Influenza notifications continue to be reported to ACT Health in low numbers. Although still just above background levels, influenza notifications have decreased slightly in the last week. The majority of notifications received in 2018 have been influenza A/H1.

Influenza notifications

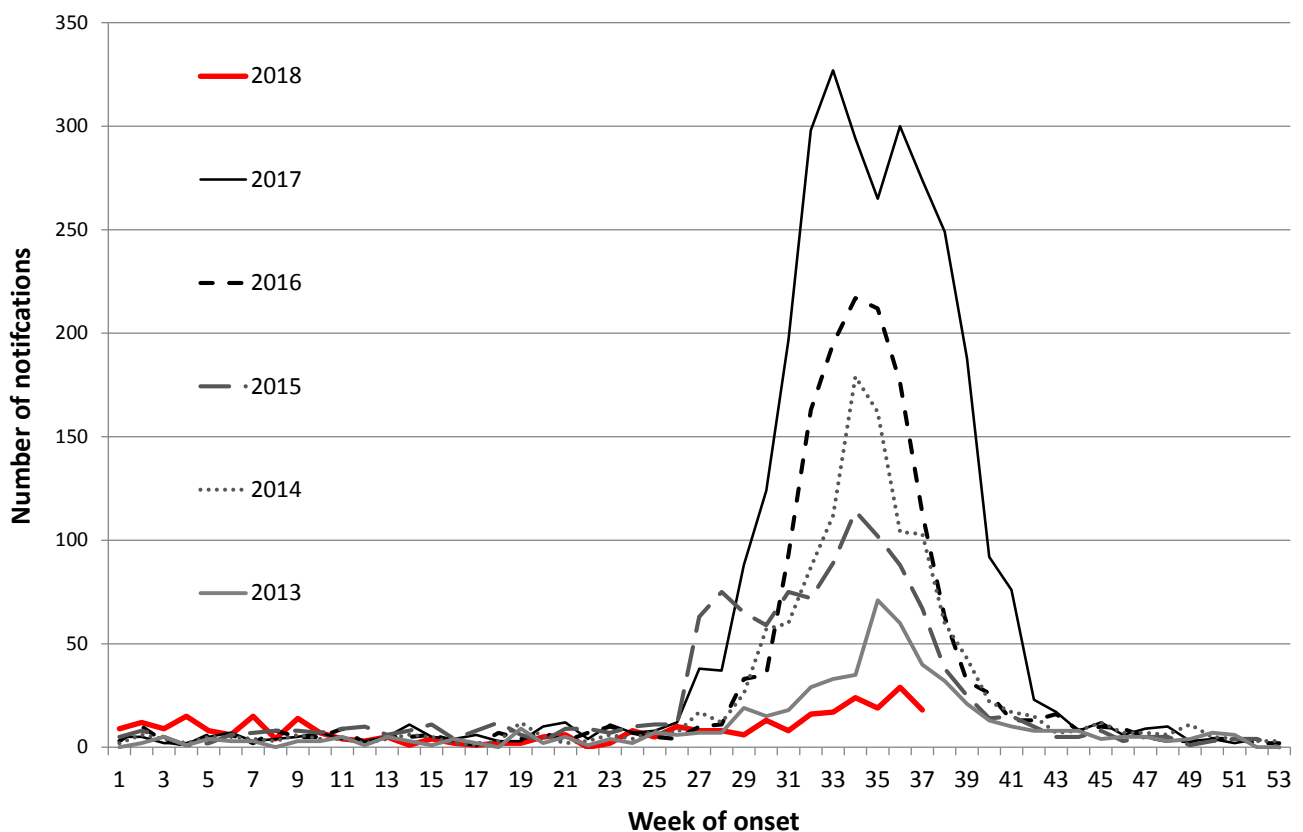
Reporting Period: 1 January to 16 September 2018, Weeks 1-37

Between 1 January and 16 September 2018, there were 325 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health, of which 47 occurred in the last fortnight (Figure). In comparison, there were 2,395 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. The number of influenza notifications decreased in the last week compared to the previous week.

Year to date, 72.0% of notifications (n=234) were influenza A and 27.4% of notifications (n=89) were influenza B. There have been 2 notifications of cases co-infected with influenza A and B (0.6%). Of the 88 influenza A notifications with subtype information available, 69 (78.0%) were H1N1 and 19 (22.0%) were H3 (presumed H3N2).

Overall, notifications have been highest among adults aged 30-39 years (17%, n=54), followed by children aged 0-4 years (14%, n=46).

Figure. Number of influenza notifications, by week* and year of onset, 1 January 2013 to 16 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 18 September 2018 for the period 1 January 2013 to 16 September 2018, by onset date.

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