

ACT Influenza Surveillance Report – No. 13, 2018

Summary: The number of influenza notifications received by ACT Health decreased in the last week, but remain just above background (inter-seasonal) levels. Influenza notifications have been lower in 2018 compared to notifications received during the same period in any of the last five years.

Influenza notifications

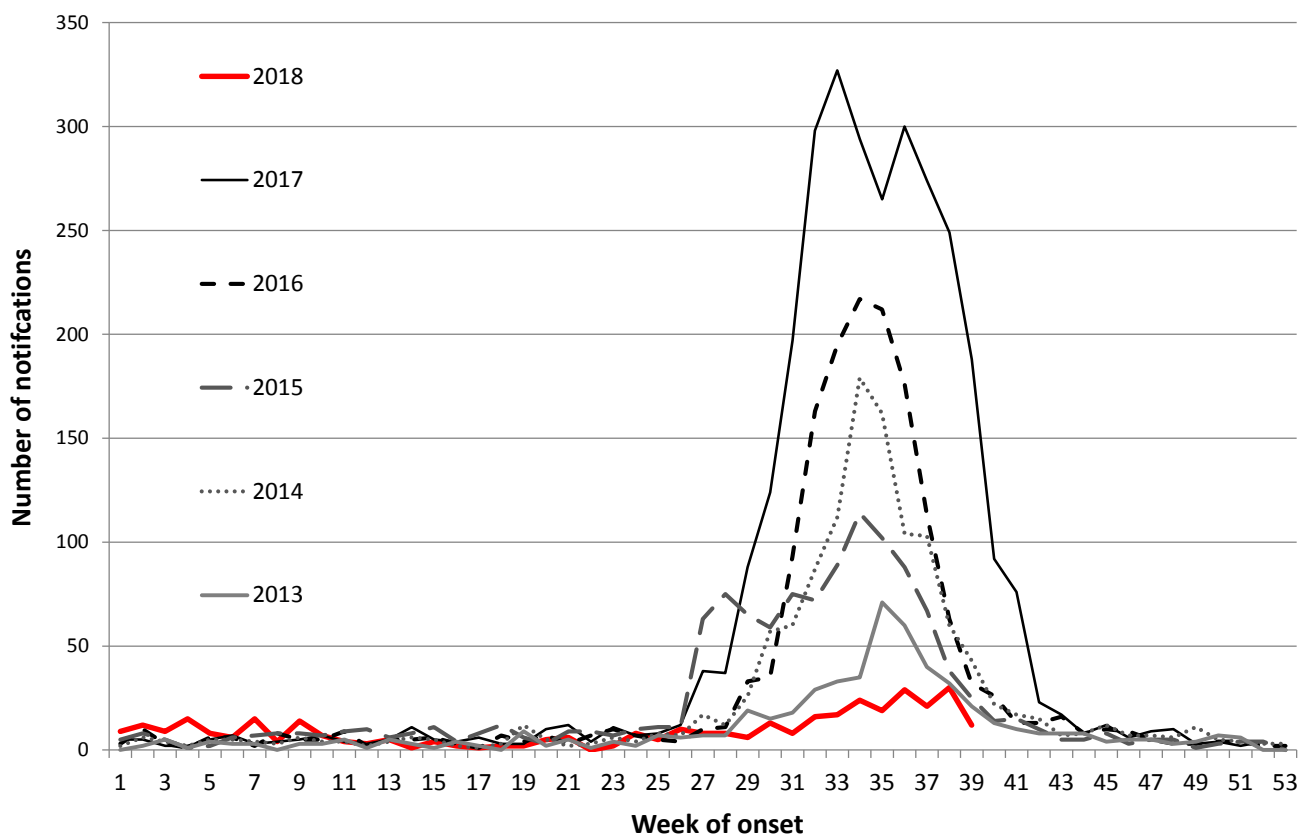
Reporting Period: 1 January to 30 September 2018, Weeks 1-39

Between 1 January and 30 September 2018, there were 370 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health, of which 42 occurred in the last fortnight. In comparison, there were 2,832 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health during the same time period in 2017. The 2018 influenza season has commenced, however influenza notifications being received by ACT Health remain low and decreased in the last week (Figure).

Year to date, 74.3% of notifications (n=275) were influenza A and 25.4% of notifications (n=94) were influenza B. There has been one notification of a case co-infected with influenza A and B (0.3%). Of the 98 influenza A notifications with subtype information available, 77 (79.0%) were H1N1 and 21 (21.0%) were H3 (presumed H3N2).

Overall, notifications have been highest among adults aged 30-39 years (15.7%, n=58), followed by children aged 0-4 years (13.2%, n=49) and children aged 5-9 years (13.2%, n=49).

Figure. Number of influenza notifications, by week* and year of onset, 1 January 2013 to 30 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 02 October 2018 for the period 1 January 2013 to 30 September 2018, by onset date.

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