

ACT Influenza Surveillance Report – No. 4, 2019

Summary: Influenza notifications continued to increase in this reporting week. Although the majority of notifications so far in 2019 have been influenza A (89%), an increase in the proportion of influenza B notifications has been observed over the last three weeks, with 17% of notifications caused by influenza B in week 23.

Influenza notifications

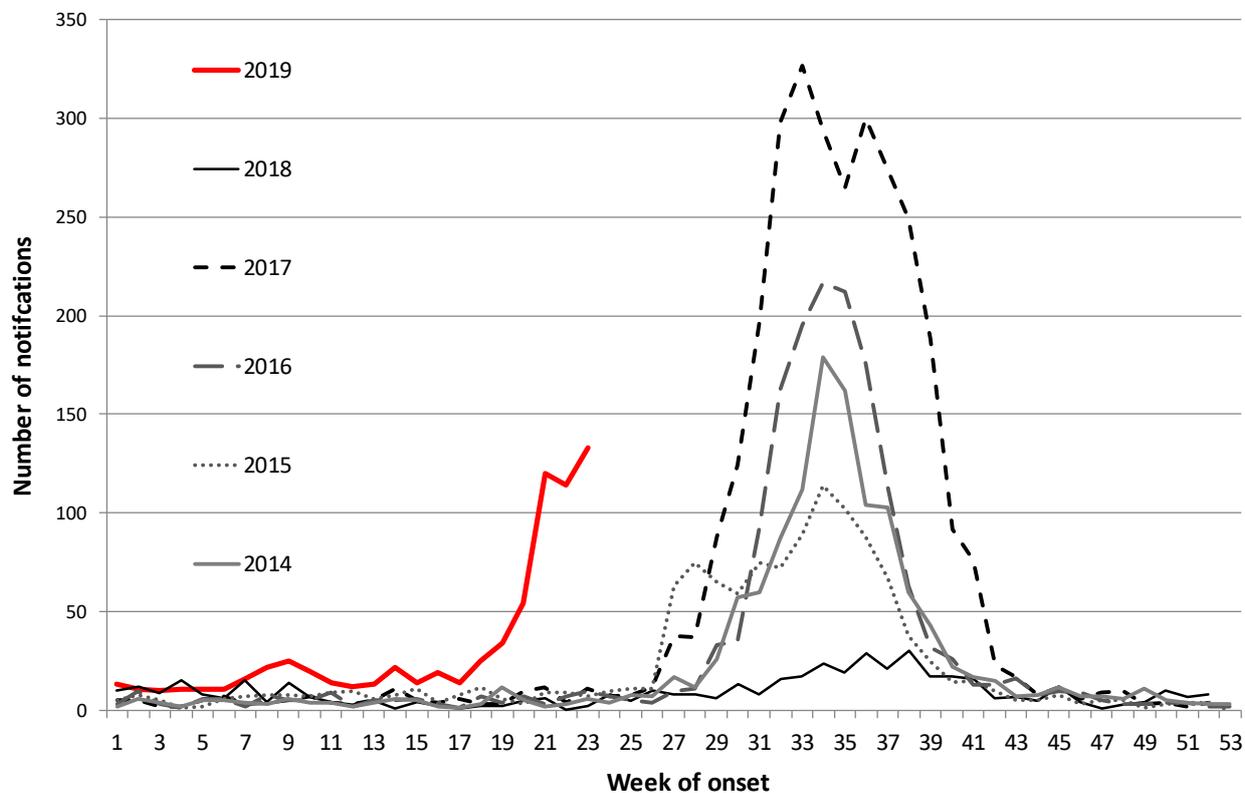
Reporting Period: 1 January to 9 June 2019, Weeks 1-23

Influenza notifications continued to increase in the last week (Figure). Between 1 January and 9 June 2019, there were 738 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health, with 247 of these notifications occurring in the last fortnight (Figure). In comparison, there were 137 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health during the same time period in 2018.

An increase in the proportion of influenza B notifications has been observed in the last three weeks, with 17% of notifications in week 23 recorded as influenza B. Year to date, 89% (n=660) of notifications were influenza A and 10% (n=72) were influenza B. There have been six notifications (1%) of cases co-infected with influenza A and B. Of the 167 influenza A notifications with subtype information available, 89 (53%) were H1N1 and 78 (47%) were H3 (presumed H3N2).

Overall, notifications have been highest among adults aged 20-64 years (56%, n=416). Of notifications received in 2019, 11% (n=84) have been in children aged 0-4 years and 13% (n=97) have been in adults aged 65 years and over.

Figure. Number of influenza notifications, by week and year of onset, 1 January 2014 to 9 June 2019*, 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 of influenza diagnosed by a laboratory among 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 June 2019 for the period 1 January 2014 to 9 June 2019, by onset date.

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