

ACT Influenza Surveillance Report – No. 5, 2019

Summary: Influenza notifications remained high in this reporting week. Although influenza A has resulted in the majority (86%) of notifications so far in 2019, an increase in the proportion of influenza B notifications has been observed over the last four weeks, with 22% of notifications caused by influenza B in week 24.

Influenza notifications

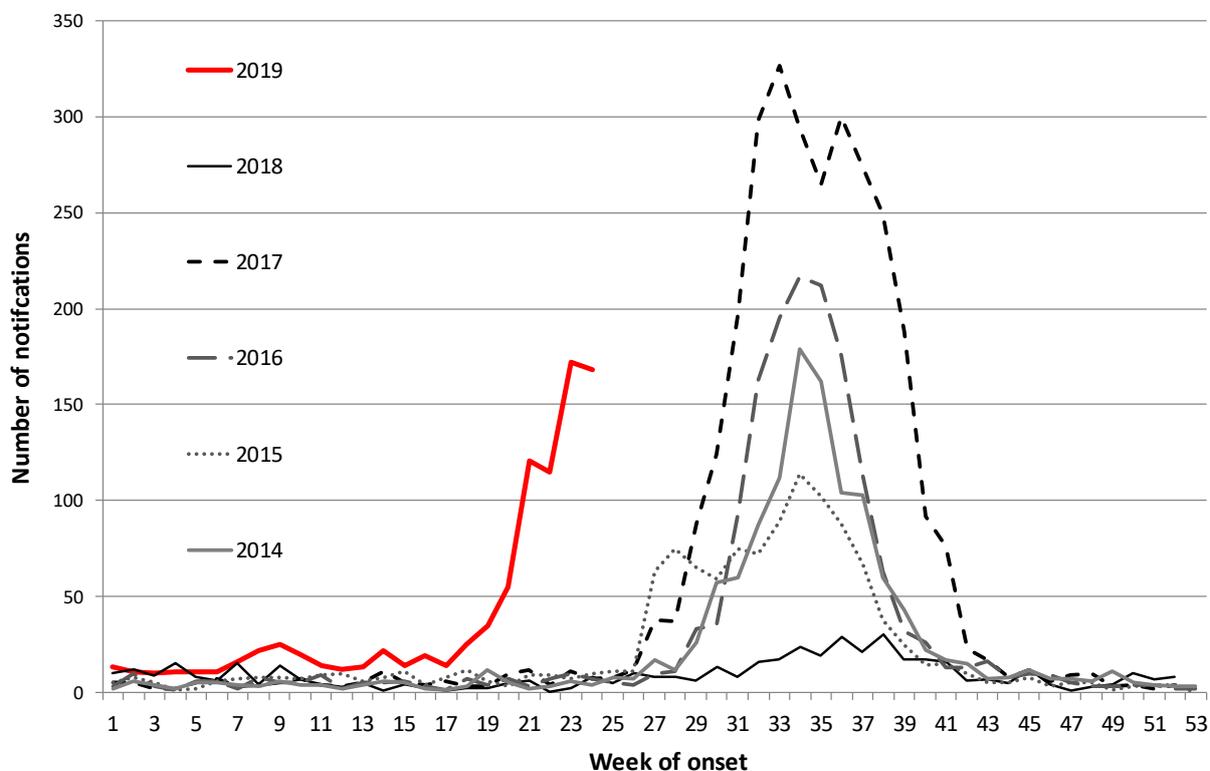
Reporting Period: 1 January to 16 June 2019, Weeks 1-24

Influenza notifications stabilised but remained high in the last week (Figure). Between 1 January and 16 June 2019, there were 949 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health, with 340 (36%) of these notifications occurring in the last fortnight (Figure). In comparison, there were 145 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health during the same time period in 2018.

The increase in the proportion of influenza B notifications has continued, with 22% of notifications in week 24 recorded as influenza B. Year to date, 86% (n=816) of notifications were influenza A and 13% (n=121) were influenza B. There have been 12 notifications (1%) of cases co-infected with influenza A and B. Of the 181 influenza A notifications with subtype information available, 93 (51%) were A/H1 and 88 (49%) were A/H3.

Overall, notifications have been highest among adults aged 20-64 years (55%, n=524). Of notifications received in 2019, 11% (n=106) have been in children aged 0-4 years and 13% (n=121) have been in adults 65 years and over.

Figure. Number of influenza notifications, by week and year of onset, 1 January 2014 to 16 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 18 June 2019 for the period 1 January 2014 to 16 June 2019, by onset date.

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