# ACT Influenza Surveillance Report – No. 9, 2019

**Summary: Influenza notifications remained high in week 28, with influenza B accounting for 25% of notifications in the last week. Although the 2019 influenza season began early, the increase in notifications is consistent with seasonal influenza activity seen in the past.**

## Influenza notifications

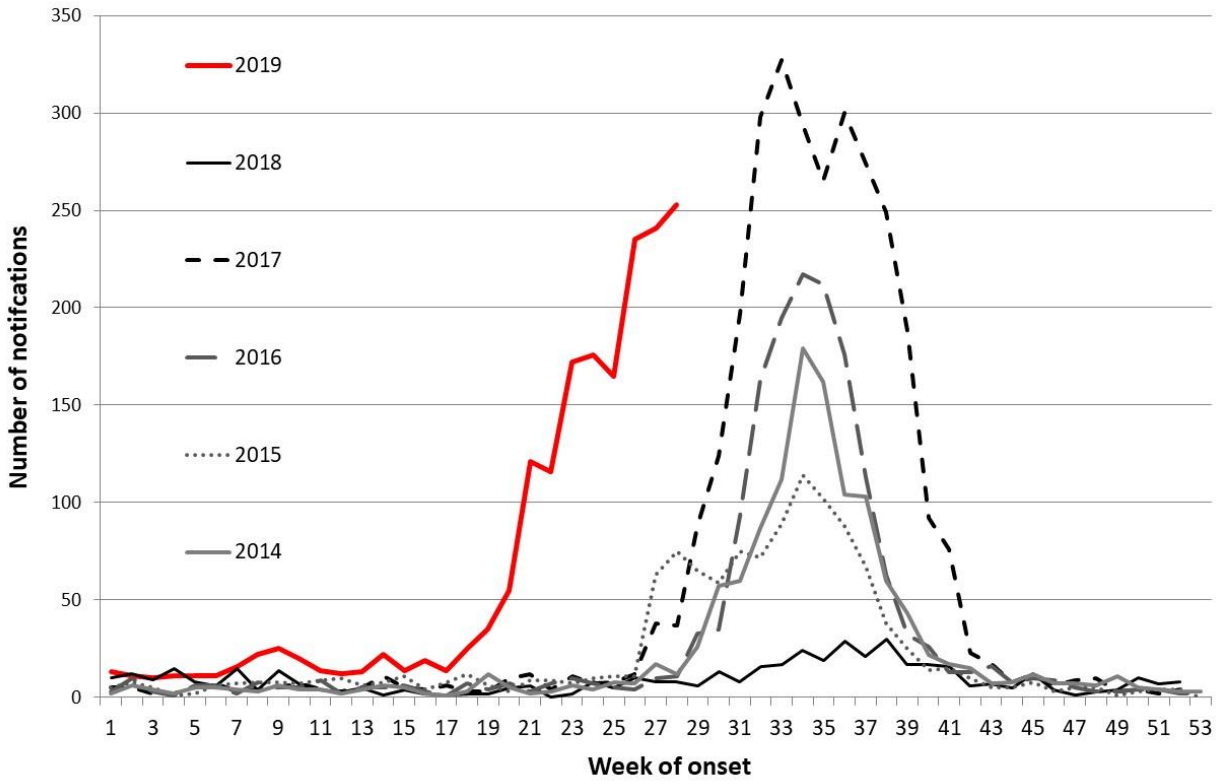
*Reporting Period: 1 January to 14 July 2019, Weeks 1-28*

Influenza notifications remained high in the last week (Figure). Between 1 January and 14 July 2019, there were 1,852 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health, with 253 (14%) of these notifications occurring in the last week (Figure). Although the 2019 influenza season began earlier than any season in the previous five years, the increase in notifications is consistent with seasonal influenza activity seen in the past. In 2017, there were a total of 3,098 influenza notifications reported, and activity peaked at 327 notifications in one week (reporting week 33).

The proportion of influenza B notifications has been increasing gradually over the last few weeks, with 25% of notifications in week 28 recorded as influenza B. Year to date, 81% (n=1,499) of notifications were influenza A and 18% (n=326) were influenza B. There have been 27 notifications (1%) of cases co-infected with influenza A and B. Of the 237 (16%) influenza A notifications with subtype information available, 99 (42%) were A/H1 and 138 (58%) were A/H3. In the last three weeks, A/H3 has been more commonly detected than A/H1.

In 2019, notification numbers overall have been highest among adults aged 20-64 years (51%, n=948), with only 11% (n=211) of notifications among children aged 0-4 years and 14% (n=252) among adults 65 years and over.

**Figure. Number of influenza notifications, by week and year of onset, 1 January 2014 to 14 July 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 16 July 2019 for the period 1 January 2014 to 14 July 2019, by onset date.**

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