

ACT Influenza Surveillance Report – No. 14, 2018

Summary: Influenza notifications being received by ACT Health remain low, but just above background levels, and continued to decrease in the last week. Influenza notifications have been lower in 2018 compared to notifications received during the same period in any of the previous five years.

Influenza notifications

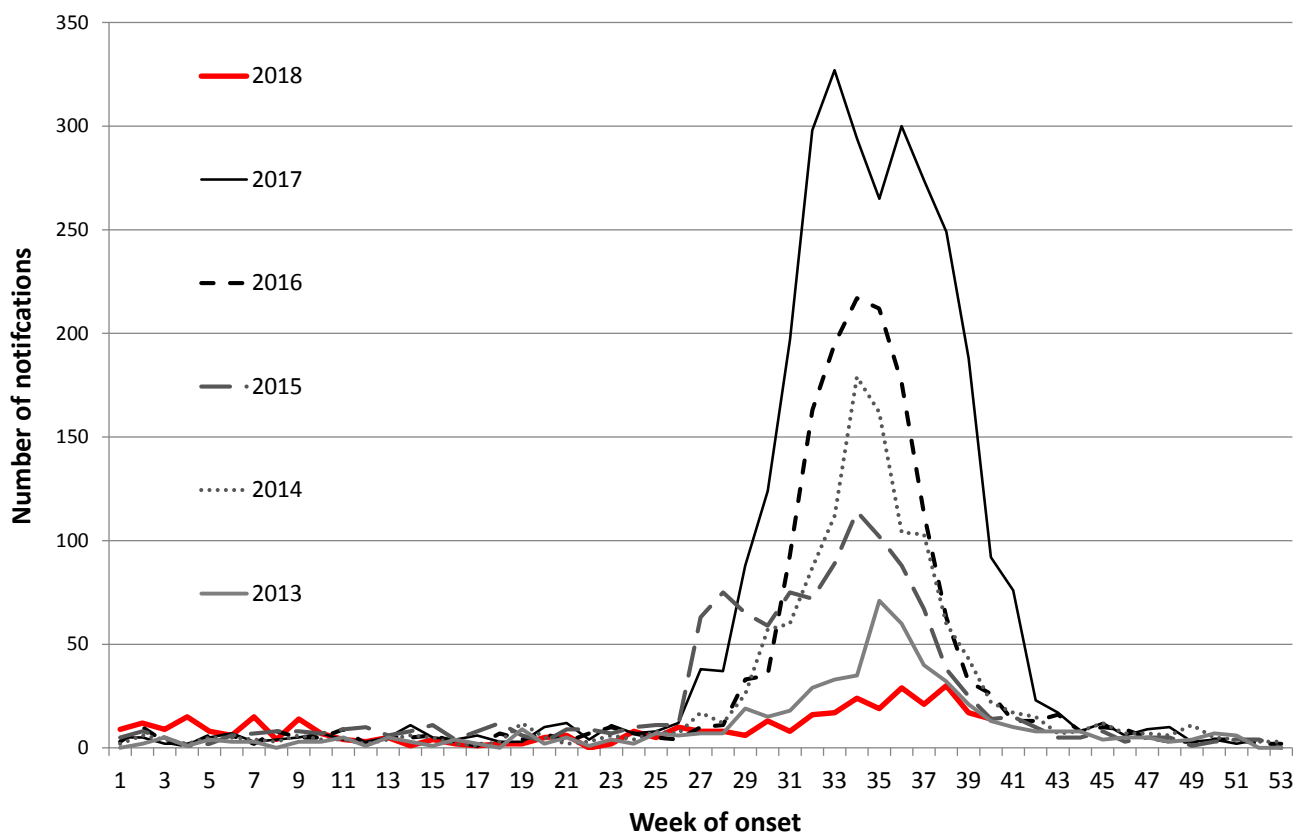
Reporting Period: 1 January to 7 October 2018, Weeks 1-40

Between 1 January and 7 October 2018, there were 389 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health, of which 31 occurred in the last fortnight. In comparison, there were 2,924 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health during the same time period in 2017. Influenza notifications being received by ACT Health remain low, but just above background levels, and continued to decrease in the last week (Figure).

Year to date, 74.8% of notifications (n=291) were influenza A and 24.9% of notifications (n=97) were influenza B. There has been one notification of a case co-infected with influenza A and B (0.3%). Of the 104 influenza A notifications with subtype information available, 83 (80.0%) were H1N1 and 21 (20.0%) were H3 (presumed H3N2).

Overall, notifications have been highest among adults aged 30-39 years (15.9%, n=62), followed by children aged 5-9 years (13.4%, n=52) and children aged 0-4 years (12.9%, n=50).

Figure. Number of influenza notifications, by week* and year of onset, 1 January 2013 to 7 October 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 9 October 2018 for the period 1 January 2013 to 7 October 2018, by onset date.

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