

ACT Influenza Surveillance Report – No. 7, 2019

Summary: Influenza notifications increased significantly in week 26. Influenza B accounted for 23% of notifications in the last week. Notifications remain highest in adults aged 20-64 years.

Influenza notifications

Reporting Period: 1 January to 30 June 2019, Weeks 1-26

Influenza notifications increased significantly in the last week (Figure). Between 1 January and 30 June 2019, there were 1,347 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health, with 390 (29%) of these notifications occurring in the last fortnight (Figure). In comparison, there were 160 notifications of influenza reported to ACT Health during the same time period in 2018.

The increase in the proportion of influenza B notifications has remained reasonably stable, with 23% of notifications in week 26 recorded as influenza B. Year to date, 84% (n=1,129) of notifications were influenza A and 15% (n=204) were influenza B. There have been 14 notifications (1%) of cases co-infected with influenza A and B. Of the 198 (18%) influenza A notifications with subtype information available, 96 (48%) were A/H1 and 102 (52%) were A/H3.

Overall, notifications have been highest among adults aged 20-64 years (53%, n=715). Of notifications received in 2019, 11% (n=149) have been in children aged 0-4 years and 13% (n=174) have been in adults 65 years and over.

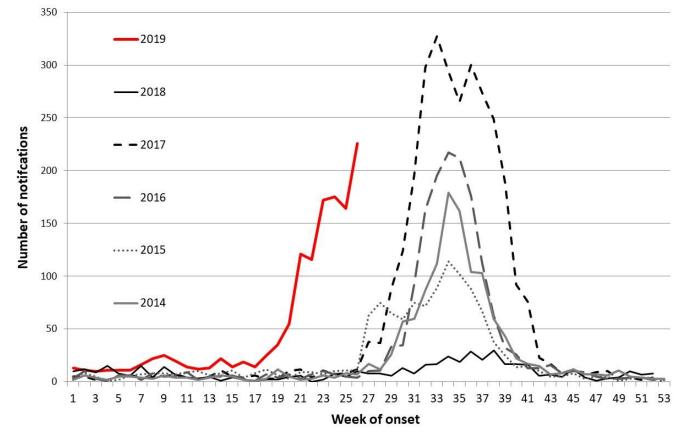


Figure. Number of influenza notifications, by week and year of onset, 1 January 2014 to 30 June 2019*, ACT.

*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 2 July 2019 for the period 1 January 2014 to 30 June 2019, by onset date. Source: Notifiable Diseases Database, ACT, Communicable Disease Control Section, ACT Health.