

## IN SUMMARY...

<b>Activity levels**</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eastern Zone has localized activity and Central Zone has sporadic activity. Northern and Western Zones have no activity.</li> <li>• There is 1 influenza outbreak being reported this week and no schools have reported an increased absenteeism rate.</li> </ul>
<b>Laboratory-confirmed cases***</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were 8 influenza A and 1 influenza B cases reported this week. There have been 745 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A and 17 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza B reported during the 2018-2019 influenza season.</li> <li>• Positive test results were received for RSV.</li> </ul>
<b>Severity</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There have been 69 ICU admissions in adults and 5 ICU admission in children (age group 0-19 years). There have been 53 deaths*** of laboratory confirmed influenza during the 2018-2019 influenza season. All deaths have been in adults.</li> </ul>
<b>Syndromic surveillance</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The average ILI rate for Nova Scotia during this reporting period was 0.6.</li> <li>• <b>95%</b> of emergency rooms reported ILI data during this reporting period. Buchanan Memorial Community Health Center and Cape Breton Regional Hospital did not report this week.</li> </ul>

*Notes: \*Reporting weeks run from Sunday to Saturday. The 2018-2019 influenza season is defined using PHAC's influenza surveillance weeks. This year runs from August 26, 2018 (Week 35) to August 28, 2019 (Week 34);*

*\*\*Activity level data is obtained from CNPHI, see appendix for definitions;*

*\*\*\*Deaths include individuals with a positive influenza test result, influenza may not have been the major contributing cause of death or hospitalization.*

## LABORATORY-CONFIRMED INFLUENZA CASES

**Figure 1: Number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases by report week, 2018-2019 season, with trend-line comparison to 2017-2018 season, Nova Scotia**

Respiratory Watch – Week 18 (April 28, 2019 to May 4, 2019)

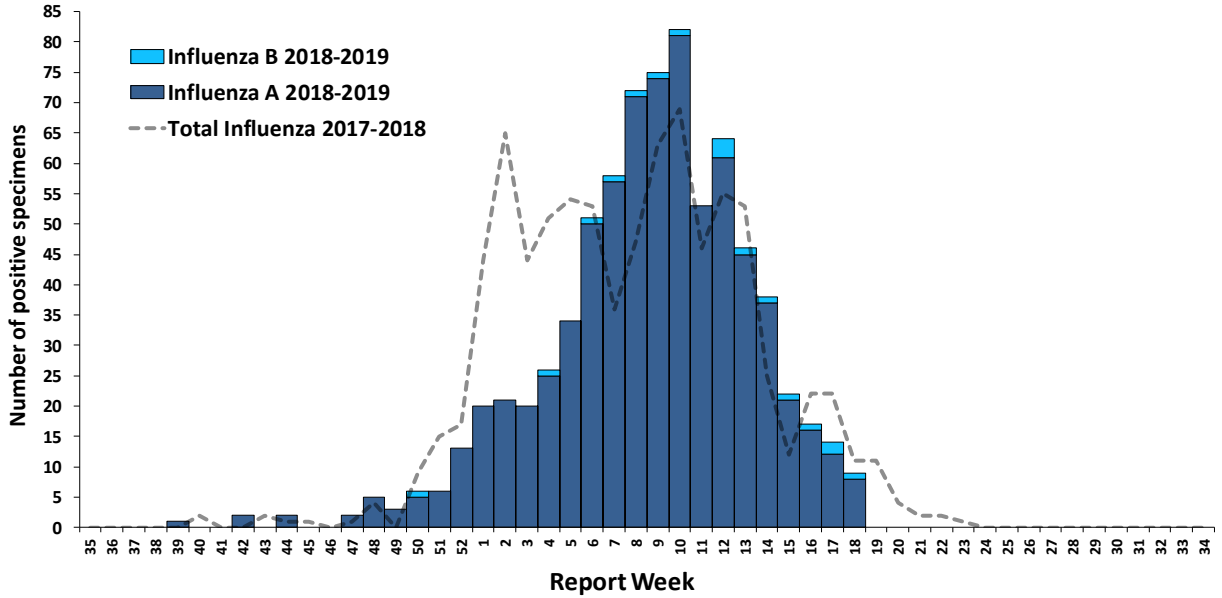


Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by zone, current week and cumulative 2018-2019 season in Nova Scotia

ZONE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2018-2019		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Western	0	0	0	136	136	0
Northern	0	0	0	120	118	2
Eastern	5	5	0	144	143	1
Central	4	3	1	362	348	14
<b>Nova Scotia Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>17</b>

Table 2: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by age group, current week and cumulative 2018-2019 season in Nova Scotia

AGE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2018-2019		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
0-4	0	0	0	71	69	2
5-19	0	0	0	72	69	3
20-44	0	0	0	102	97	5
45-64	0	0	0	177	175	2
65+	9	8	1	340	335	5
<b>Nova Scotia Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>17</b>

Table 3: Hospitalizations, ICU admissions and deaths for influenza positive patients, current week and cumulative, 2018-2019 season, Nova Scotia

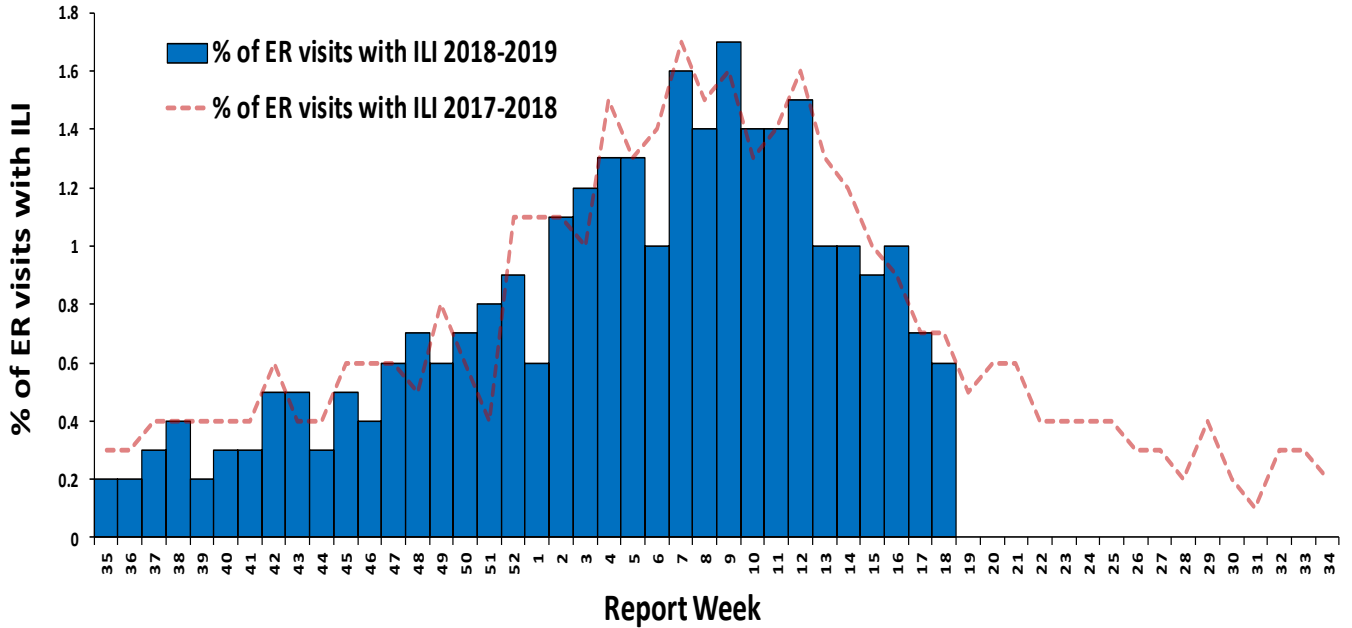
Respiratory Watch – Week 18 (April 28, 2019 to May 4, 2019)

	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2018-2019		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
<b>Hospitalized</b>	8	7	1	357	347	10
<b>Hospitalized - ICU</b>	0	0	0	74	74	0
<b>Deceased*</b>	0	0	0	53	52	1
<b>Nova Scotia Total</b>	8	7	1	484	473	11

*\*Deaths include individuals with a positive influenza test result, influenza may not have been the major contributing cause of death or hospitalization.*

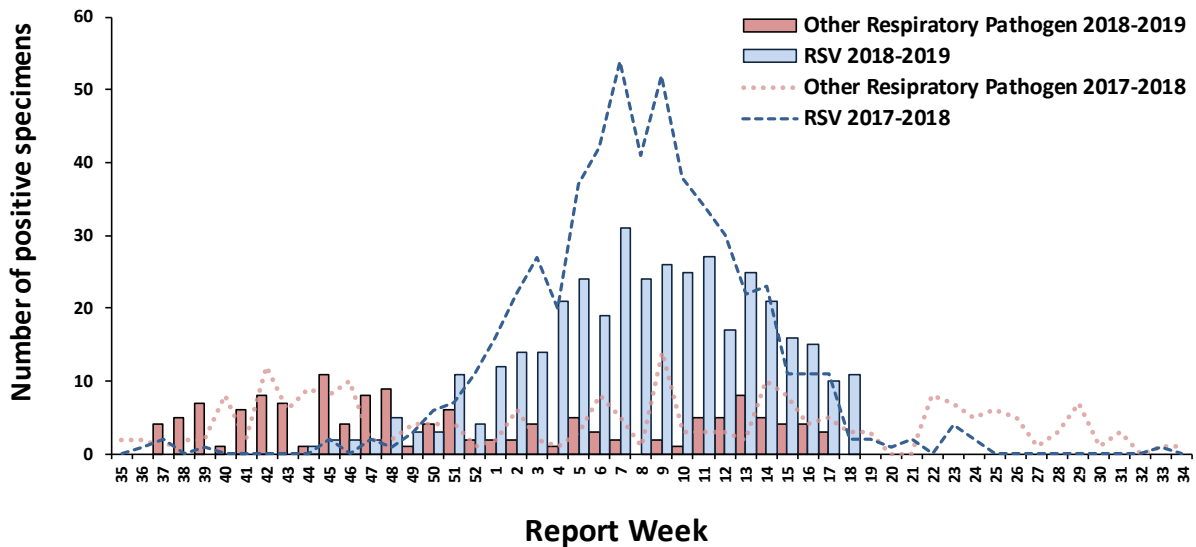
**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE**

**Figure 2: Percentage of emergency room visits due to ILI by report week, 2018-2019 season, with trend-line comparison to 2017-2018 season, Nova Scotia**



**OTHER RESPIRATORY PATHOGENS**

**Figure 3: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens\* and RSV by report week, 2018-2019 season, with trend-line comparison to 2017-2018 season, Nova Scotia**



\* Other respiratory pathogen includes Adenovirus, Bocavirus, Chlamydomydia pneumonia, Coronavirus, Enterovirus, Metapneumovirus, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Parainfluenza, Pertussis, Rhinovirus.  
Note that data for this figure is obtained from provincial laboratories.

**Table 4: Number of positive RSV specimens by age group, 2018-2019 season, Nova Scotia**

AGE GROUP	2018-2019
0-5 months	102
6-11 months	43
12-23 months	48
2-5 years	51
6-15 years	13
16-65 years	50
65+ years	78
<b>Nova Scotia Total</b>	<b>385</b>

**Table 5: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens, current report week and cumulative season, Nova Scotia, 2018–2019**

Pathogen	CURRENT WEEK (n positive)	CUMULATIVE 2018-2019
Adenovirus	0	0
Bocavirus	0	0
Chlamydomphila pneumoniae	0	4
Coronavirus	0	11
Enterovirus	0	1
Metapneumovirus	0	8
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	0	19
Parainfluenza	0	31
Pertussis	0	3
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	11	385
Rhinovirus	0	63

**APPENDIX: DEFINITIONS USED IN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE, AND USEFUL LINKS, 2018-2019**

**ACRONYM LIST**

- CNPHI** Canadian Network for Public Health Intelligence  
**ICU** Intensive care unit  
**ILI** Influenza-like illness  
**RSV** Respiratory syncytial virus

**ILI CASE DEFINITION**

Acute onset of respiratory illness with fever and cough and with one or more of the following – sore throat, arthralgia, myalgia or prostration which is likely due to influenza. In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present. In patients under 5 or 65 and older, fever may not be prominent.

**NATIONAL FLUWATCH DEFINITIONS FOR INFLUENZA ACTIVITY LEVELS**

<b>No activity</b>	No laboratory-confirmed influenza detections in the reporting week, however, sporadically occurring ILI* may be reported
<b>Sporadic</b>	Sporadically occurring ILI* and lab confirmed influenza detection(s) with <b>no outbreaks</b> detected within the influenza surveillance region
<b>Localized</b>	(1) Evidence of increased ILI* and (2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with (3) outbreaks occurring in schools, hospitals, residential institutions and/or other types of facilities occurring in less than 50% of the influenza surveillance region
<b>Widespread</b>	(1) Evidence of increased ILI* and (2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with (3) outbreaks occurring in schools, hospitals, residential institutions and/or other types of facilities occurring in greater than or equal to 50% of the influenza surveillance region

**LINKS TO OTHER WEEKLY INFLUENZA REPORTING BODIES**

Canada: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>  
 World: [https://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\\_monitoring/updates/latest\\_update\\_GIP\\_surveillance/en/index.html](https://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/en/index.html)  
 US: [www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly)