

In Summary...

<p>Activity levels**</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central, Northern and Western Zones are reporting localized activity during this reporting period. Eastern is reporting sporadic activity. There were 3 new influenza outbreak reported during this week and schools in 3 Zones have reported increased absenteeism rates of more than 10%.
<p>Laboratory-confirmed cases*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been 24 influenza A and 21 influenza B cases reported during this report week. There have been 119 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A and 174 laboratory confirmed case of Influenza B reported during the 2019-2020 influenza season. Positive results were received for Parainfluenza virus, Adenovirus, Metapneumovirus, Enterovirus/Rhinovirus, Coronavirus (EXCLUDES novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV) and RSV.
<p>Severity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been 10 ICU admissions in adults and 4 ICU admissions in children (age group 0-19 years). There have been 5 deaths*** of laboratory confirmed influenza during the 2019-2020 influenza season in adults. There have been 0 deaths*** of laboratory confirmed influenza in children (age group 0-19 years).
<p>Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) ****</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been no cases of COVID-19 reported during this report week. In total, there have been 47 negative and 0 positive test results.
<p>Syndromic surveillance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ILI rate for Nova Scotia for the current week is 1.5 100% of emergency rooms reported ILI data during this reporting period.

Notes: *Reporting weeks run from Sunday to Saturday. The 2019-2020 influenza season is defined using PHAC's influenza surveillance weeks. This year runs from August 25, 2019 (Week 35) to August 22, 2020 (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.

**** Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) case definitions, see appendix.

LABORATORY-CONFIRMED INFLUENZA CASES

Figure 1: Number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases by report week, 2019-2020 season, with trend-line comparison to 2018-2019 season, Nova Scotia

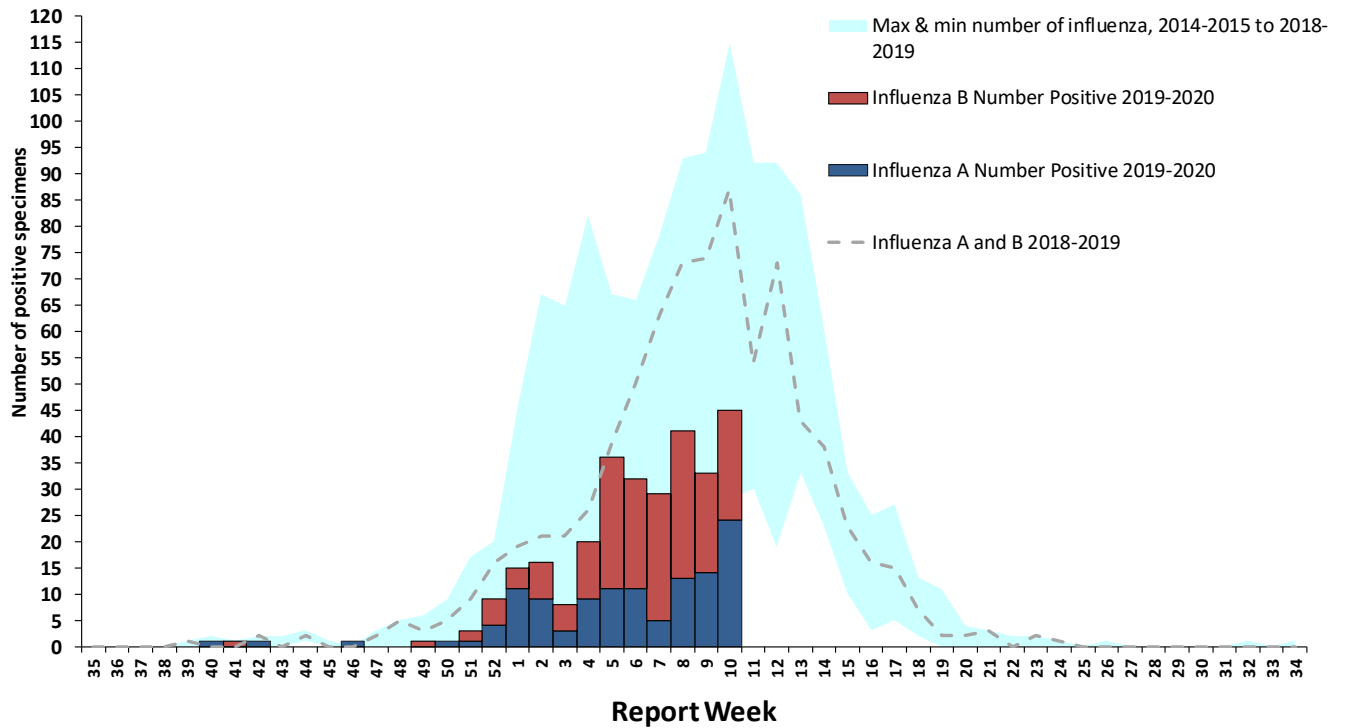


Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by zone, current week and cumulative 2019-2020 season in Nova Scotia

ZONE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2019-2020		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Western	7	4	3	49	31	18
Northern	7	4	3	57	17	40
Eastern	9	8	1	27	12	15
Central	22	8	14	160	59	101
Nova Scotia Total	45	24	21	293	119	174

Table 2: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by age group, current week and cumulative 2019-2020 season in Nova Scotia

AGE	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2019-2020		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
0-4	9	4	5	64	16	48
5-19	6	1	5	71	9	62
20-44	12	4	8	53	13	40
45-64	3	3	0	34	25	9
65+	15	12	3	71	56	15
Nova Scotia Total	45	24	21	293	119	174

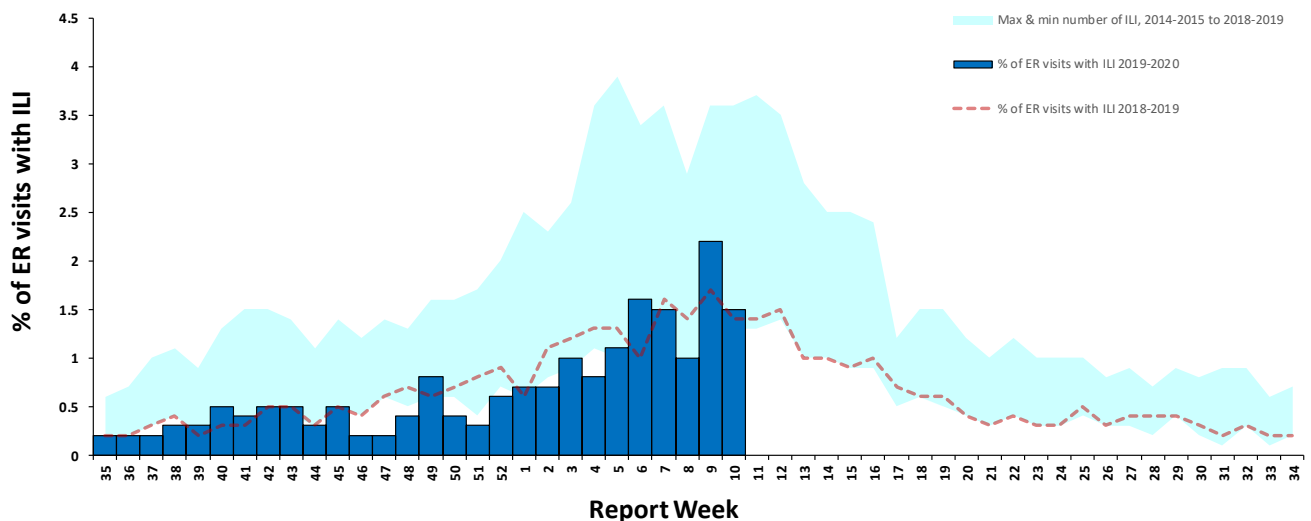
Table 3: Hospitalizations, ICU admissions and deaths for influenza positive patients, current week and cumulative, 2019-2020 season, Nova Scotia

	CURRENT WEEK			CUMULATIVE 2019-2020		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Hospitalized	13	8	5	89	52	37
Hospitalized - ICU	0	0	0	14	9	5
Deceased*	0	0	0	5	5	0
Nova Scotia Total	13	8	5	108	66	42

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

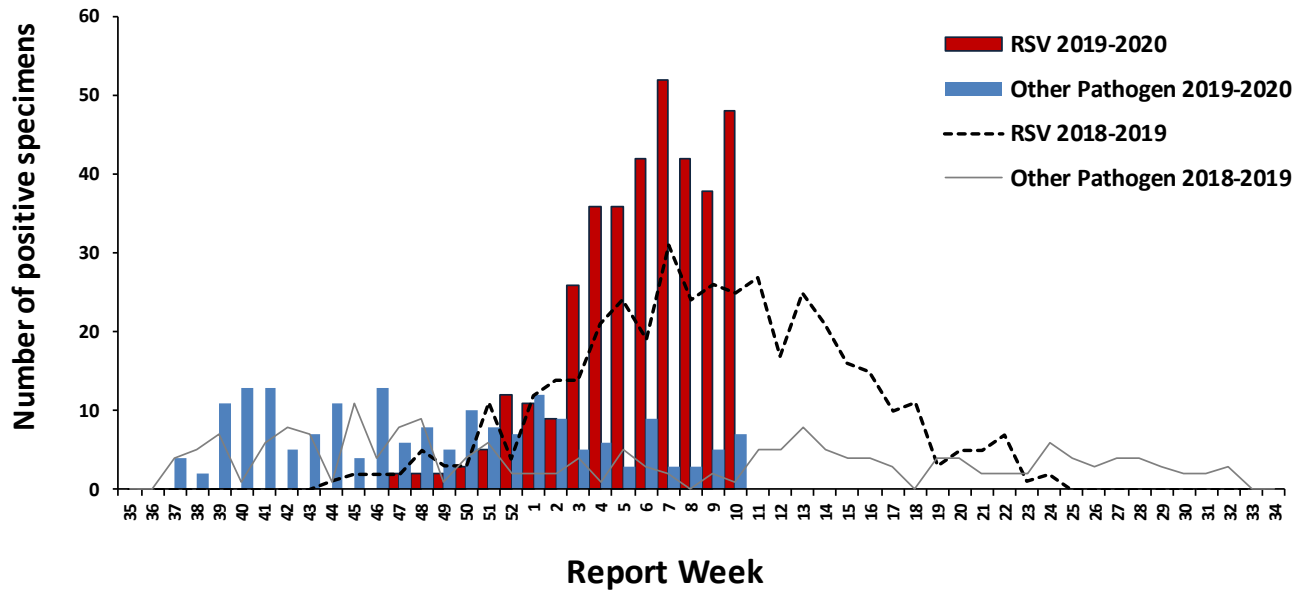
SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

Figure 2: Percentage of emergency room visits due to ILI by report week, 2019-2020 season, with trend-line comparison to 2018-2019 season, Nova Scotia



OTHER RESPIRATORY PATHOGENS

Figure 3: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens* and RSV by report week, 2019-2020 season, with trend-line comparison to 2018-2019 season, Nova Scotia



* Other respiratory pathogen includes Adenovirus, Bocavirus, Chlamydomphila 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, 2019-2020 season, Nova Scotia

AGE GROUP	2019-2020
0-5 months	87
6-11 months	48
12-23 months	76
2-5 years	68
6-15 years	5
16-65 years	17
65+ years	65
Nova Scotia Total	366

Table 5: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens, current report week and cumulative season, Nova Scotia, 2019–2020

Pathogen	CURRENT WEEK (n positive)	CUMULATIVE 2019-2020
Adenovirus	2	10
Bocavirus	0	1
Chlamydophila pneumoniae	0	0
Coronavirus*	1	12
Enterovirus/Rhinovirus	2	78
Metapneumovirus	1	10
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	0	43
Parainfluenza	1	22
Pertussis	0	13
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	48	366

**EXCLUDES novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV*

Table 6: Number of specimens tested for novel coronavirus (COVID-19), cumulative season, Nova Scotia, 2019–2020

Case			
	Negative	Positive	Total
Number of lab tests	47	0	47

APPENDIX: DEFINITIONS USED IN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE, AND USEFUL LINKS, 2019-2020

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.

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) CASE DEFINITION

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/national-case-definition.html>

NATIONAL FLUWATCH DEFINITIONS FOR INFLUENZA ACTIVITY LEVELS

No activity	No laboratory-confirmed influenza detections in the reporting week, however, sporadically occurring ILI* may be reported
Sporadic	Sporadically occurring ILI* and lab confirmed influenza detection(s) with no outbreaks detected within the influenza surveillance region
Localized	(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
Widespread	(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