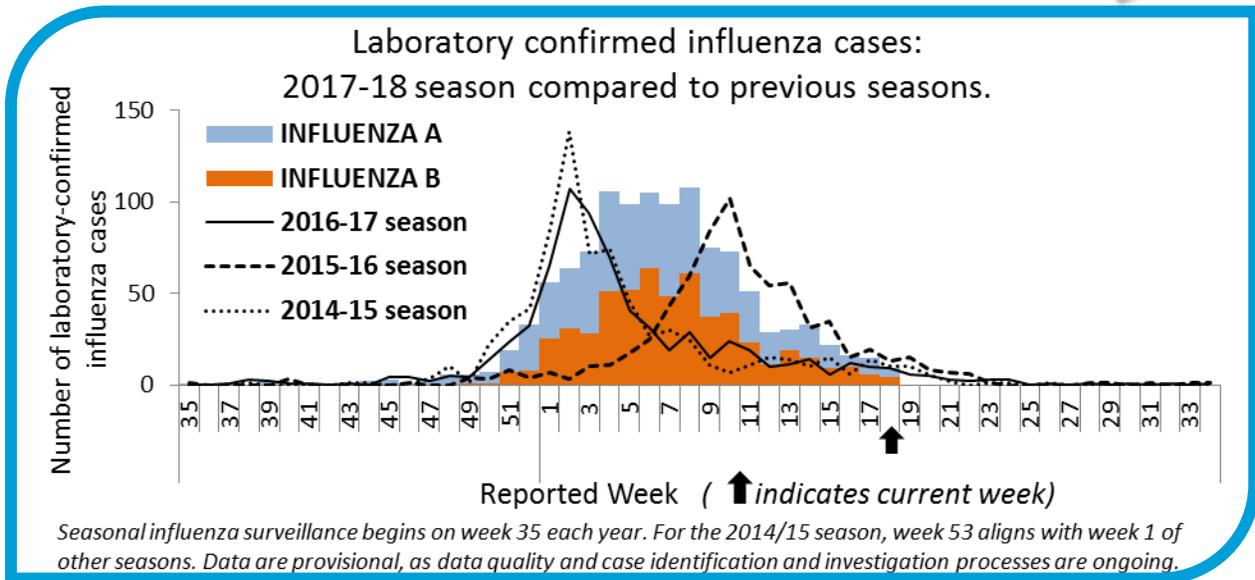
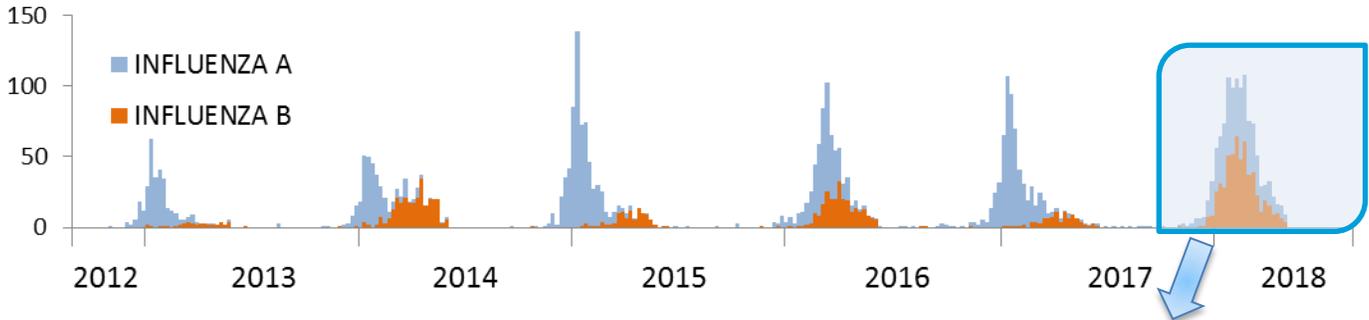


# 2017/18 Influenza Season Weekly Update

Week ending May 5, 2018

Weekly laboratory confirmed influenza cases, York Region, seasons 2012-13 to 2017-18.



**Data source<sup>1</sup>:** Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, integrated Public Health Information System database, extracted by York Region Public Health on May 8, 2018.

Total laboratory confirmed influenza cases this season: **1149**

Laboratory confirmed cases reported this week: **9**

Trend in influenza A: **↓** Trend in influenza B: **↓**

Flu activity level<sup>2</sup>: **localized**

**This season's peak was spread over 5 weeks, compared to the expected 1 to 2 weeks.**

- **Rate highest among seniors, followed by children under 5.**
- **Nearly 100% of tested isolates sensitive to oseltamivir and zanamivir.<sup>3</sup>**
- **Primary influenza A circulating strain nationally: A(H3N2) A/Hong Kong/4801/2014-like.<sup>3</sup>**
- **Primary influenza B circulating strain nationally: B/Phuket/3073/13-like.<sup>3</sup>**

**Date released:** May 9, 2018

Technical notes are on reverse.

Media inquiries can be directed to 1-877-464-9675, ext. 74856 or [chs\\_media@york.ca](mailto:chs_media@york.ca)



# Technical Notes

## Introduction

This section details the process conducted to create York Region Public Health's Influenza Season Weekly Update. Any questions, suggestions, requests for further information or accessibility requests pertaining to this document may be directed to:

Manager, Surveillance, Education and CQI Unit  
Infectious Diseases Control Division  
9060 Jane Street, Vaughan, ON L4K 0G5  
Tel: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74856

As a result of case identification and investigation procedures, as well as ongoing data cleaning efforts, case counts presented in this update may differ from previous reports. These changes, unless otherwise stated, do not reflect an actual change in disease incidence within the population during this time period. The current report statistics represent the most current disease counts in York Region and supersede all previously reported statistics.

## Data Sources and Definitions

### 1. Integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS)

Influenza case data are obtained from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, extracted by York Region Public Health.

### 2. Influenza Activity Level Definitions

Influenza activity levels are reported by public health units to Public Health Ontario (PHO) on a weekly basis. The descriptions of the activity levels used and listed here represent an Ontario specific operationalization of the Public Health Agency of Canada's (PHAC) *FluWatch* report activity level definitions:

- **No activity** – no laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza reported and no ongoing laboratory confirmed institutional influenza outbreaks
- **Sporadic** – at least one laboratory-confirmed case of influenza with no ongoing laboratory-confirmed institutional influenza outbreaks
- **Localized** – at least one ongoing laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreak in an institution
- **Widespread** – multiple ongoing laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks in institutions separated by some geographic distance, in other words, non-adjacent areas

### 3. Public Health Agency of Canada *FluWatch* report

Information regarding national influenza disease occurrence is obtained from PHAC's *FluWatch* report. Complete reports are accessible online, from:

<http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/diseases-conditions-maladies-affections/disease-maladie/flu-grippe/surveillance/fluwatch-reports-rapports-surveillance-influenza-eng.php>

## Data Extraction and Presentation

Case data are extracted based on the date on which the case was reported and are grouped into the provincial surveillance weeks. Influenza case counts for the five previous influenza seasons are included in the report for comparison.

The data presented include cases who resided in York Region during the time of their diagnosis, and exclude records identified as duplicates or entered in error.



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York Region Health Connection

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