

Victorian Weekly Influenza Report

Health Protection Branch

Report: 14/2019 Issue date: 2 August 2019

This report comprises data as at: week ending 27 July 2019

Summary

- **Notified cases¹:**
 - Cases in **week ending 27 July** are **LOWER** when compared with cases for the week prior
 - Cases (since 1 January 2019) are tracking over twelve times **HIGHER THAN** cases for the same time in 2018, and are **ABOVE EXPECTED LEVELS** for this time of the year
 - Weekly notifications of influenza (since 1 April 2019) are: **PLATEAUING**
 - The predominant influenza type (and subtype) across the state is currently: **Type A**
 - National data indicate **A/H3N2 is predominating**
 - Geographical spread² is currently: **WIDESPREAD**
 - There were eight new respiratory outbreaks due to laboratory-confirmed influenza in Residential Aged Care Facilities reported in **week ending 27 July**
- **Vaccine distribution figures*:**
 - Influenza vaccines distributed state-wide: **2,109,700** doses (as at **31 July 2019**)
 - * includes vaccines distributed as part of Commonwealth and Victorian Immunisation Programs
 - * excludes vaccines purchased from the private market

Additional disease reports can be found at: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/state-wide-surveillance-report>

1. As of 1 September 2018, notification data includes only laboratory-confirmed influenza cases.

As clinical information is no longer collected in the notification dataset, and timely mortality data are not available, number of deaths among all notified cases is not reported

2. Geographic spread:

Sporadic – small numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases reported, not above expected background level

Localised – laboratory-confirmed influenza detections above background level in less than 50% of the state

Regional – significant numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases reported above background level in less than 50% of the state

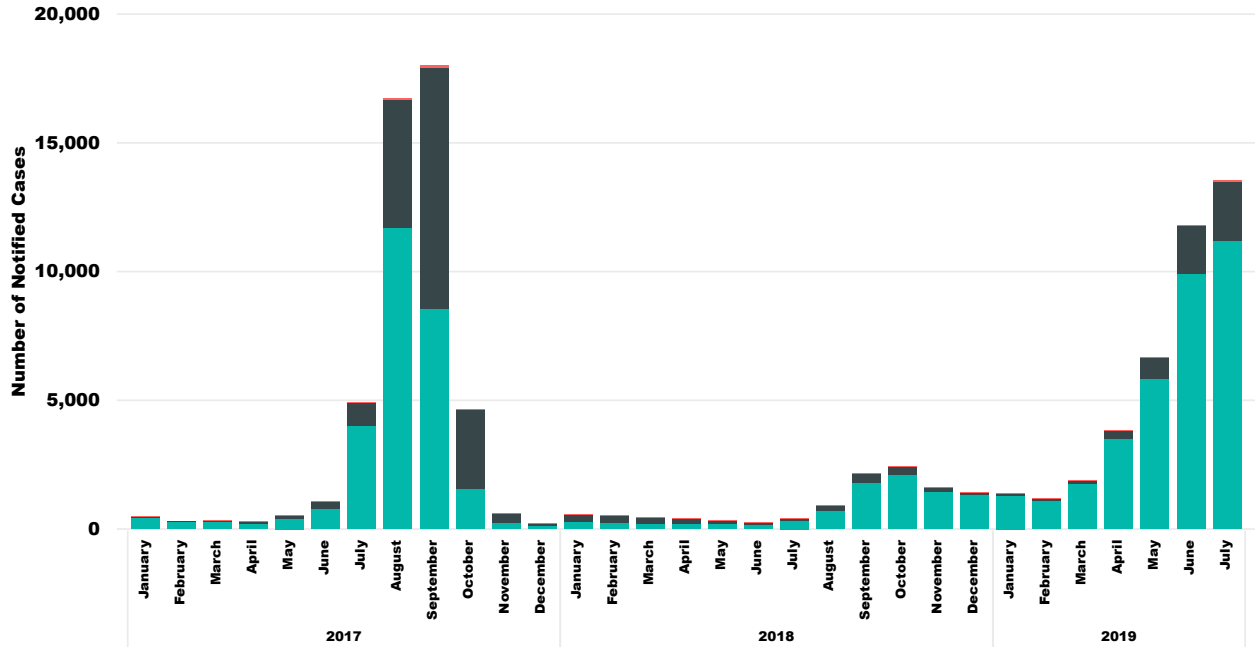
Widespread – significant numbers of laboratory confirmed influenza cases reported above background level in equal to or greater than 50% of the state

Victorian Influenza Snapshot

Report issued: 02/08/2019

Notified cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza at week ending: 27/07/2019

Influenza Type ● Influenza A ● Influenza B ● Other/not typed



Notified cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza as at week ending: 27/07/2019

Age group (years)	Week ending 27/07/2019	Week ending 21/06/2019	Trend	% change	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	5 yr avg YTD (2014-18)	Trend 5 yr avg to 2019 YTD	% change (5 yr avg to 2019 YTD)
00 to 04	314	372	▼	-16%	4401	254	318	▲	1284 %
05 to 14	430	354	▲	21%	7163	297	393.2	▲	1722 %
15 to 64	1660	1934	▼	-14%	22364	1813	2325.4	▲	862 %
65+	409	605	▼	-32%	6356	589	802.8	▲	692 %
Total	2813	3265	▼	-14%	40284	2953	3839.4	▲	949 %

Respiratory outbreaks due to influenza in Residential Aged Care Facilities year-to-date as at: 27/07/2019

Year-to-date	Outbreaks	Resident cases	Hospitalisations	Deaths **
2019	151	1999	196	66
2018	8	103	6	0
2017	47	786	78	31

** Refer to last page of report for an explanation of the aged care respiratory outbreak dataset. Reported deaths are not necessarily due to laboratory-confirmed influenza.



Data are subject to revision. Release dates vary by dataset.

SIZE

SIZE / SEVERITY / SPREAD

SPREAD/ SEVERITY

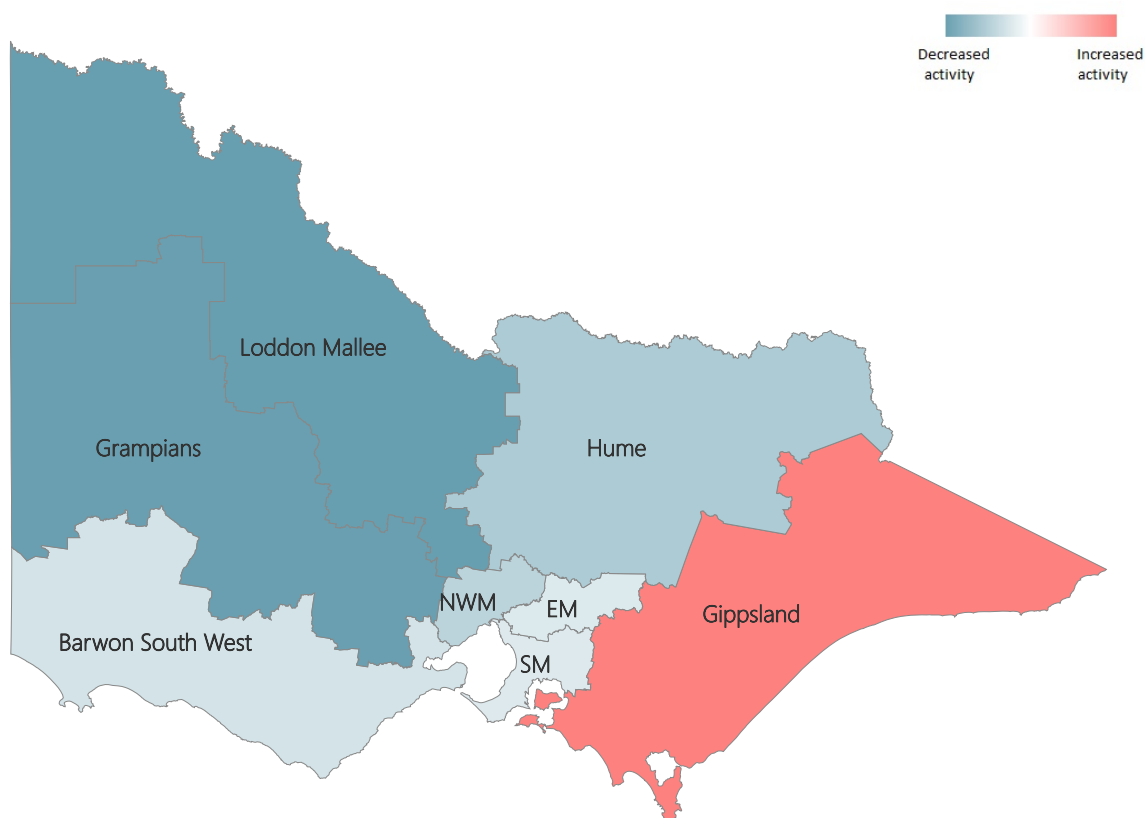
Influenza Snapshot by region

Report issued: 02/08/2019

Region #	Week ending 27/07/2019	Week ending 20/07/2019	Trend	% change	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	5 yr avg YTD (2014-18)	Trend (5 yr avg to 2019 YTD)	% change (5 yr avg to 2019 YTD)
SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN	846	939	▼	-10%	10968	858	1196.4	▲	817 %
NORTHERN AND WESTERN METROPOLITAN	832	1035	▼	-20%	13494	879	1155.2	▲	1068 %
EASTERN METROPOLITAN	517	575	▼	-10%	7318	666	766	▲	855 %
GIPPSLAND	179	169	▲	6%	1563	95	175.4	▲	791 %
HUME	147	193	▼	-24%	1746	102	114	▲	1432 %
BARWON SOUTH WEST	144	165	▼	-13%	2423	150	211.8	▲	1044 %
LODDON MALLEE	63	112	▼	-44%	1412	86	106	▲	1232 %
GRAMPIANS	35	62	▼	-44%	1062	88	83	▲	1180 %

Data from some laboratories incomplete

% Week on week change by region



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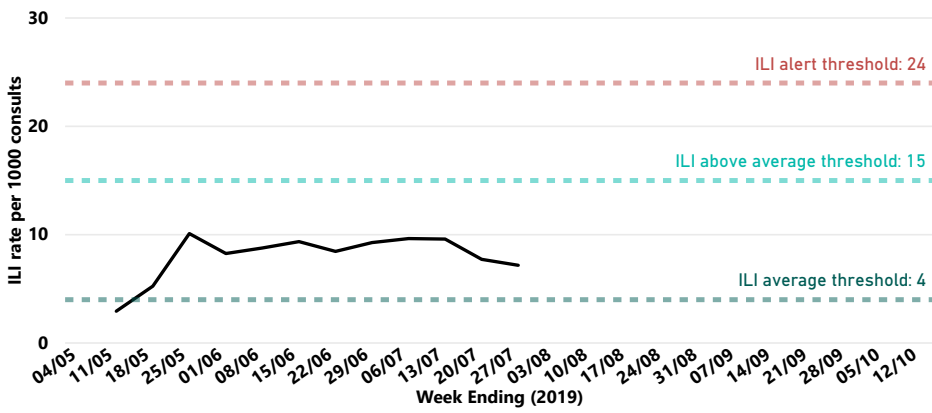


Victorian Influenza Snapshot

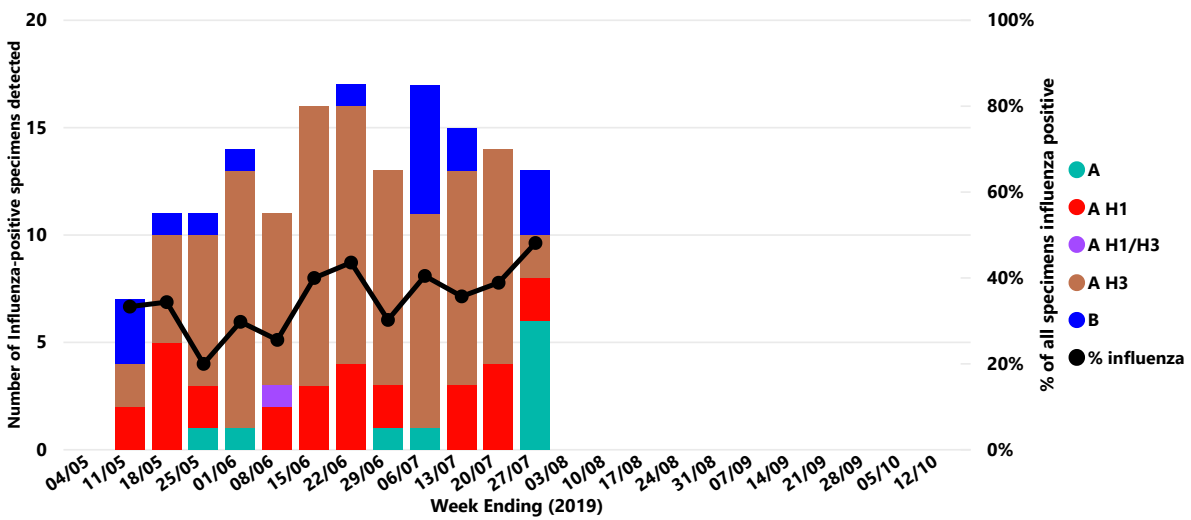
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SIZE / SEVERITY / SPREAD

VicSPIN Consultations rate for ILI (per 1,000 patients) as at : 27/07/2019



VicSPIN influenza types as at : 27/07/2019



SEVERITY

FluCAN sentinel hospital admissions for laboratory-confirmed influenza as at : 27/07/2019

	Laboratory-confirmed influenza admissions from 1 April					
	2019		2018		2017	
	year-to-date	ICU %	year-to-date	ICU %	year-to-date	ICU %
Adult #	553	5.1	27	3.7	199	9.6
Paediatric #	415	7.2	16	18.8	--	--

Data from some sites incomplete



All data are subject to revision.

Weekly Influenza Report - Data sources

<p>Notified cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza</p>	<p>It is a Victorian statutory requirement that pathology services notify the Department of Health and Human Services (the department) of a case of laboratory-confirmed influenza within five days of confirmation. These data are stored in the department's notifiable diseases database, the Public Health Event Surveillance System (PHESS). During influenza season, data on notified cases are reported weekly (a week is defined as Sunday to Saturday). Laboratory reporting is increasing due to the widespread availability of influenza testing. As of 1 September 2018, medical practitioners were no longer required to report influenza.</p>
<p>Respiratory outbreaks reported to the Health Protection Branch</p>	<p>Reporting of respiratory outbreaks in aged care facilities to the department is not legislated, but is encouraged. Samples are not collected and tested for all residents during outbreaks, but if any case tests positive for influenza, the outbreak is deemed to be due to influenza. The cases included in this report are residents who experienced an influenza-like illness during the course of the outbreak, but not all cases, hospitalisations and deaths are necessarily due to laboratory-confirmed influenza.</p>
<p>VicSPIN</p>	<p>The Victorian Sentinel Practice Influenza Network (VicSPIN) is a sentinel general practitioner (GP) surveillance program funded by the department, and coordinated by the Epidemiology Unit of the Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory (VIDRL) based at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity. VIDRL is one of the department's two public health reference laboratories. Approximately 90 GPs submit weekly reports from May to October detailing the proportion of their consultations that were for patients with influenza-like illness and the proportion that were swabbed for virological testing. Refer to https://www.vidrl.org.au/surveillance/influenza-surveillance/ for full weekly reports.</p>
<p>FluCAN</p>	<p>The Influenza Complications Alert Network (FluCAN) is a rapid alert system for severe respiratory illness. The sentinel surveillance system is a national system (across major hospitals throughout Australia) providing both clinical and laboratory information for reported cases. The following six Victorian hospitals are participating: The Alfred Hospital, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Monash Medical Centre, University Hospital Geelong, Royal Children's Hospital and Monash Children's Hospital</p>