



INFLUENZA WATCH

The purpose of the weekly *Influenza Watch* is to summarize current influenza surveillance in San Diego County. **Please note that reported weekly data are preliminary and may change due to delayed submissions and additional laboratory results.**

Contents	
Page 1:	Current Season Summary
Page 2:	Communiqué
Page 3:	Activity Level Indicator
Pages 4-9:	Trend Graphs
Page 9:	Reporting Information

Current Week

Current Week 41 (ending 10/13/2018)

- 13 new influenza detections reported: *Expected level*
- 2% influenza-like-illness (ILI) among emergency department visits: *Expected level*
- No influenza-related deaths reported this week
- 6% of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza: *Expected level*

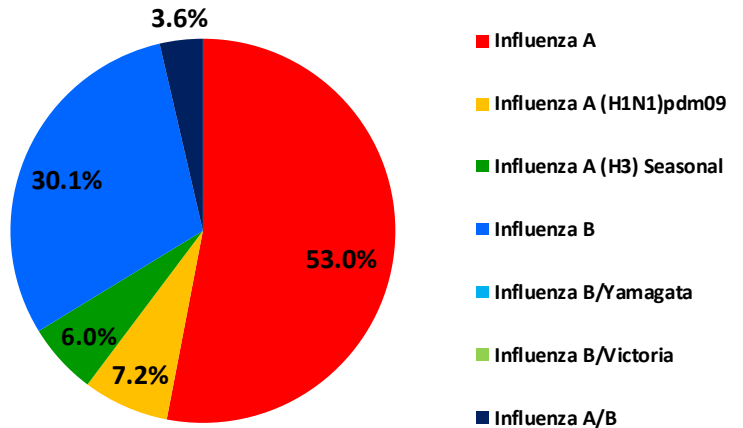
Current Season Summary

83
Total Cases

0
Deaths[†]

0
Outbreaks*

Virus Characteristics



† Flu deaths less than 18 years of age are reportable to CDPH.
* At least one case of laboratory-confirmed influenza in a setting experiencing ≥2 cases of influenza like illness (ILI) within a 72-hour period.

Table 1. Influenza Surveillance Indicators

Indicator	2018-19 Season			2017-18 Season		Prior 3-Year Average**	
	Week 41	Week 40	Total To Date	Week 41	Total To Date	Week 41	Total To Date
All influenza detections reported (rapid or PCR)	13	8	83	37	259	21	140
Percent of emergency department visits for ILI	2%	2%		2%		2%	
Percent of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza	6%	4%		4%		5%	
Number of influenza-related deaths reported [^]	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

Influenza season is July 1 - June 30, Weeks 27-26. Total deaths reported in prior seasons: 342 in 2017-18, 87 in 2016-17, and 68 in 2015-16.
* Previous weeks case counts or percentages may change due to delayed processing or reporting.
** Includes FYs 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18.
[^] Current FY deaths are shown by week of report; by week of death for prior FYs.

2017-18 Influenza Season Summary

The 2017-18 influenza season was an earlier season with record high volume of influenza detections reported (N=20,833). There were 342 influenza-associated deaths, including two pediatric deaths. The predominant subtype circulating was influenza A/H3. The majority of deaths were 65 years of age or older (87%), had underlying conditions (96%), and were not known to be vaccinated (67%). The San Diego 2017-18 influenza season summary report can be found [here](#).

Reporting Influenza in 2018-19

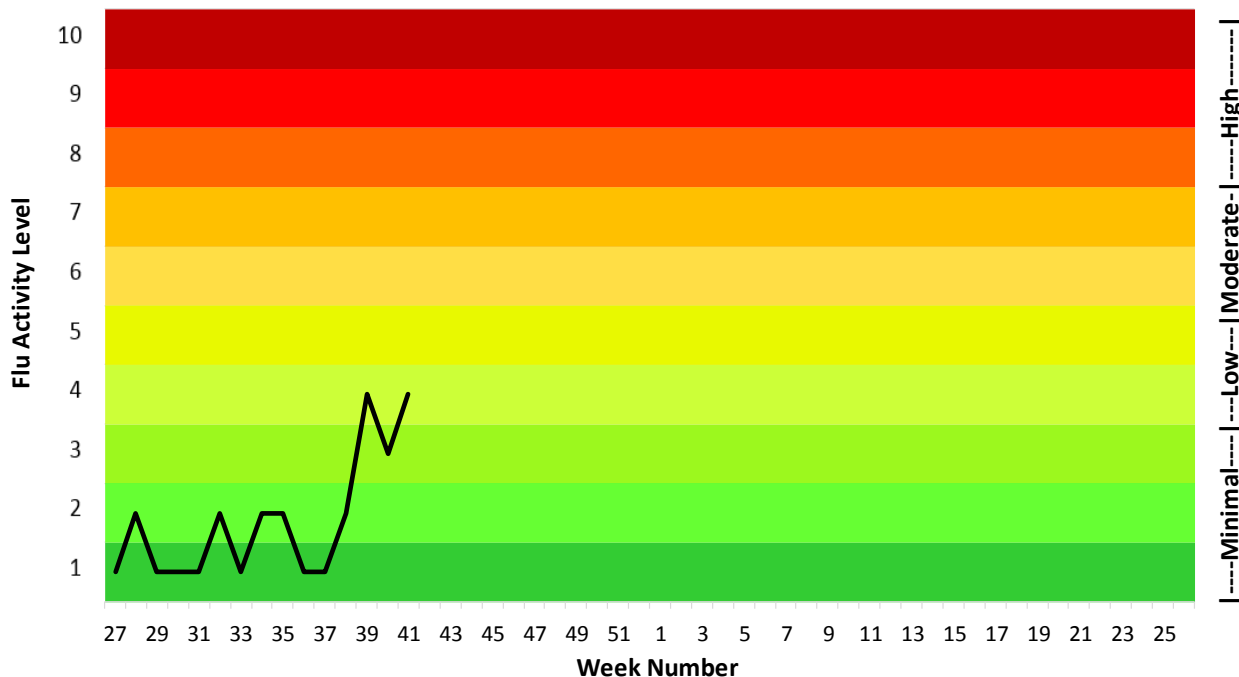
Physicians and laboratories are encouraged to report any laboratory-confirmed influenza (including rapid tests) to the San Diego County Epidemiology Program by faxing the laboratory results and/or a [Confidential Morbidity Report Form](#) to Fax (858) 715-6458. In addition, please report any known influenza-related ICU cases, deaths, and/or outbreaks in residential care facilities. The Public Health Laboratory requests specimens from laboratory-confirmed influenza cases that have expired or required care in the ICU for severe influenza to be submitted for PCR confirmation and subtyping. Contact PHL for more information at (619) 692-8500. The Test [Requisition Form](#) must be used to submit influenza specimens to PHL.

Table 2. Influenza Detections Reported, FY 2018-19*

Positive Test Type/Subtype	Count	Percent
Influenza A	44	53.0%
Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09	6	7.2%
Influenza A (H3) Seasonal	5	6.0%
Influenza B	25	30.1%
Influenza B/Yamagata	0	0.0%
Influenza B/Victoria	0	0.0%
Influenza A/B	3	3.6%
Total	83	100%

** Season is July 1 - June 30

Figure 1. Influenza Activity Level: Number of Influenza Cases Reported.



Legend	Minimal			Low		Moderate		High		
	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5	LEVEL 6	LEVEL 7	LEVEL 8	LEVEL 9	LEVEL 10
	< mean	≥ mean and <1 standard deviation above mean	≥1 and <2 standard deviations above mean	≥2 and <3 standard deviations above mean	≥3 and <4 standard deviations above mean	≥4 and <5 standard deviations above mean	≥5 and <6 standard deviations above mean	≥6 and <7 standard deviations above mean	≥7 and <8 standard deviations above mean	≥8 standard deviations above mean

Influenza Activity Indicator:

The activity levels compare the number of reported influenza cases for the current week to the mean (and number of standard deviations above of the mean) of the reported influenza cases during non-influenza season weeks (CDC disease weeks 27-39). There are 10 activity levels, classified as: minimal (levels 1-3), low (levels 4-5), moderate (levels 6-7), and high (levels 8-10). An activity level of 1 corresponds to a week having a number of reported influenza cases that is below the mean; level 2 corresponds to the number of reported influenza cases as less than 1 standard deviation above the mean; level 3 corresponds to the number of reported influenza cases as more than 1 but less than 2 standard deviations above the mean, and so on, with an activity level of 10 corresponding to the number of reported influenza cases at 8 or more standard deviations above the mean.

INFLUENZA WATCH

Figure 2. Percent of Emergency Department Visits for ILI Chief Complaint by Week and Season.

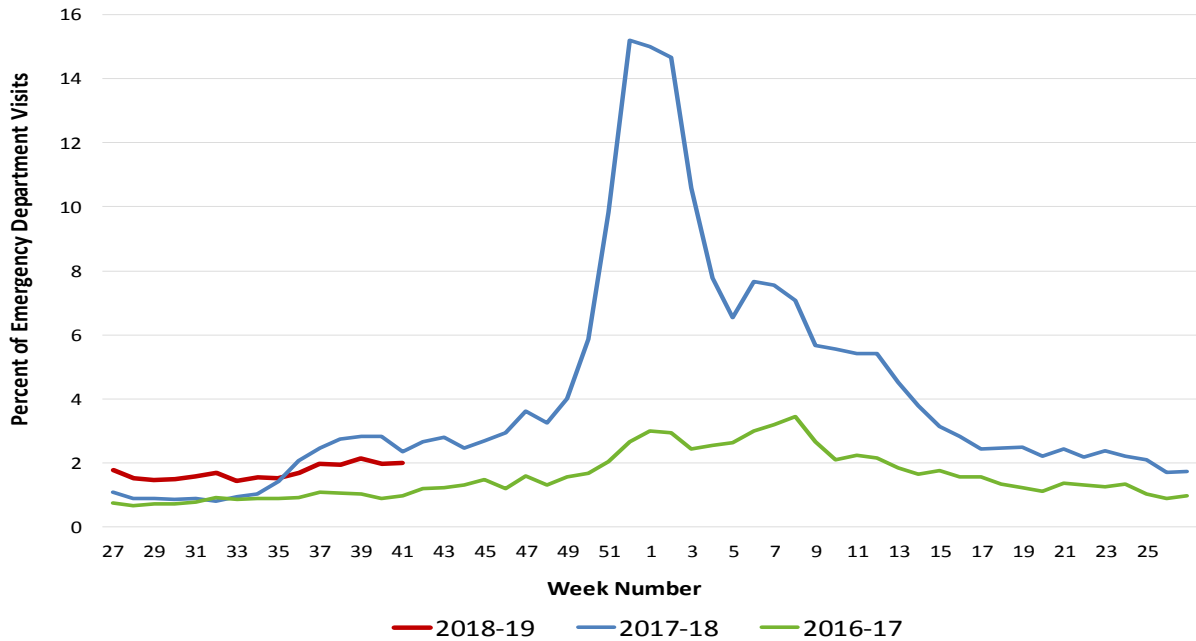


Figure 3. San Diego County Influenza Detections by Type and Week of Report, 2018-19 FYTD (N=83).

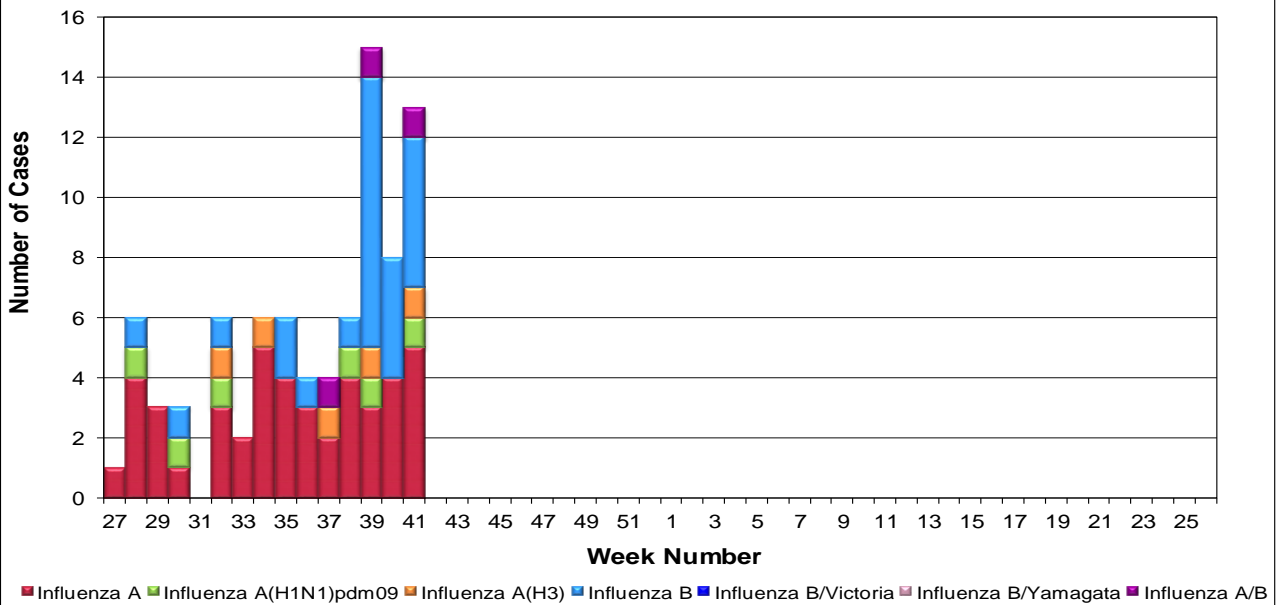


Figure 4. Proportion of Influenza Detections by Age and Season, 2014-15 to 2018-19.

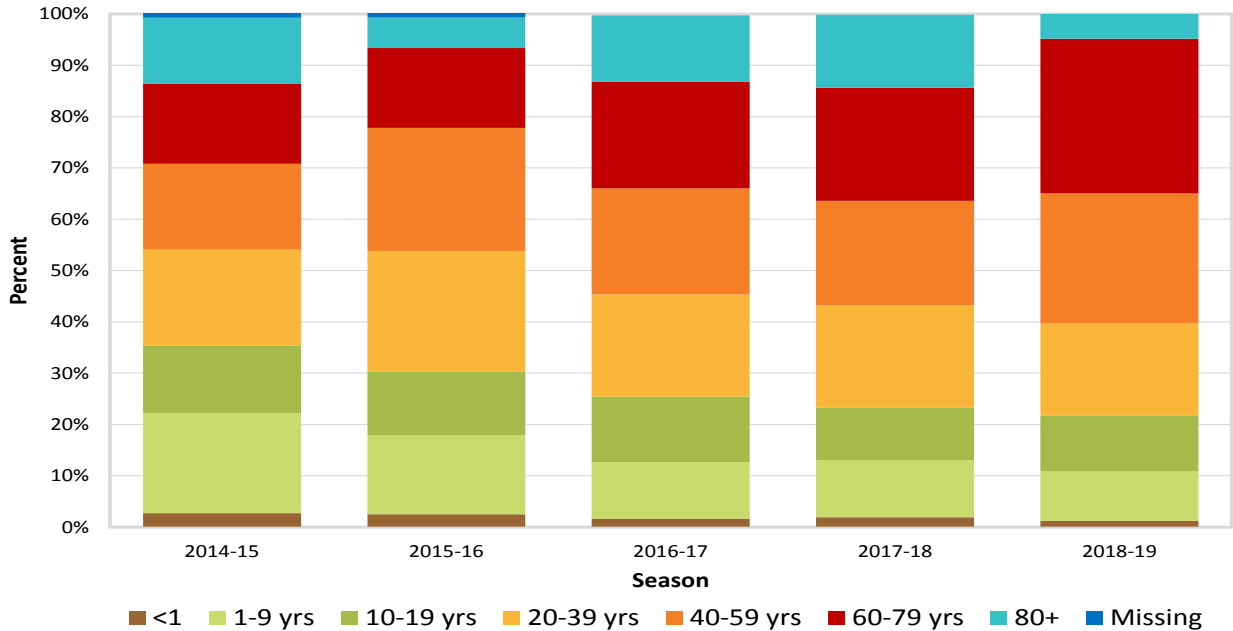
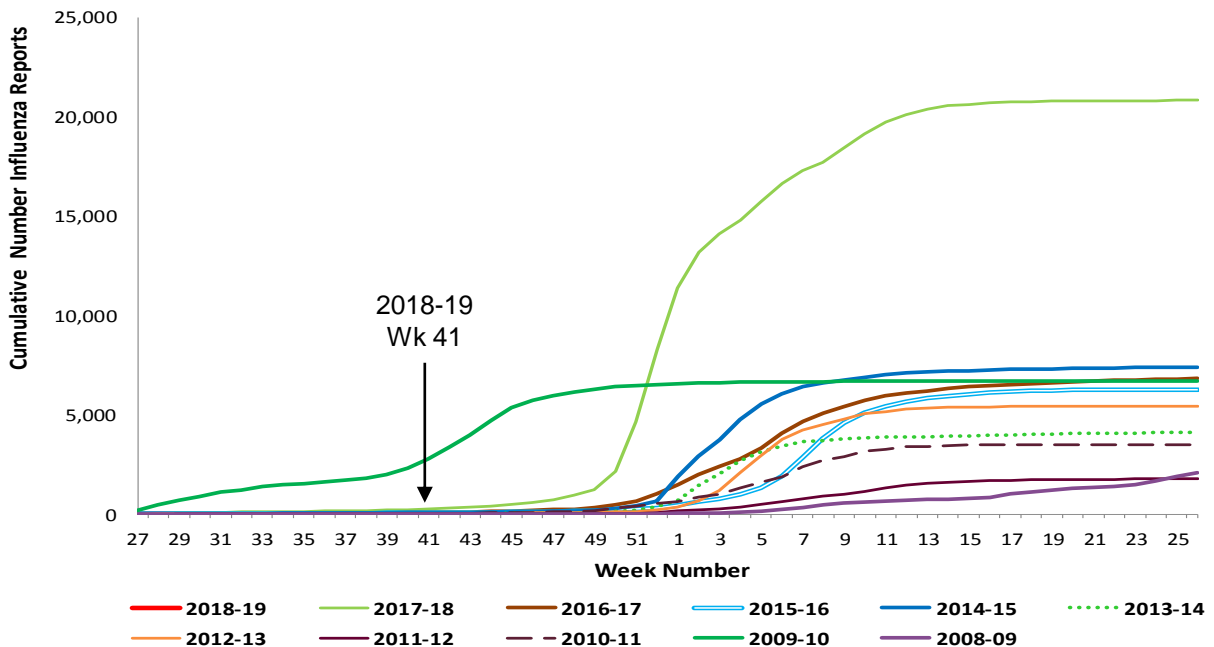


Figure 5. Cumulative Influenza Case Reports by Episode Week & Season.



INFLUENZA WATCH

Figure 6. Percent of San Diego County Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-like Illness by Week and Season Compared to 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold Values (Serfling Method).

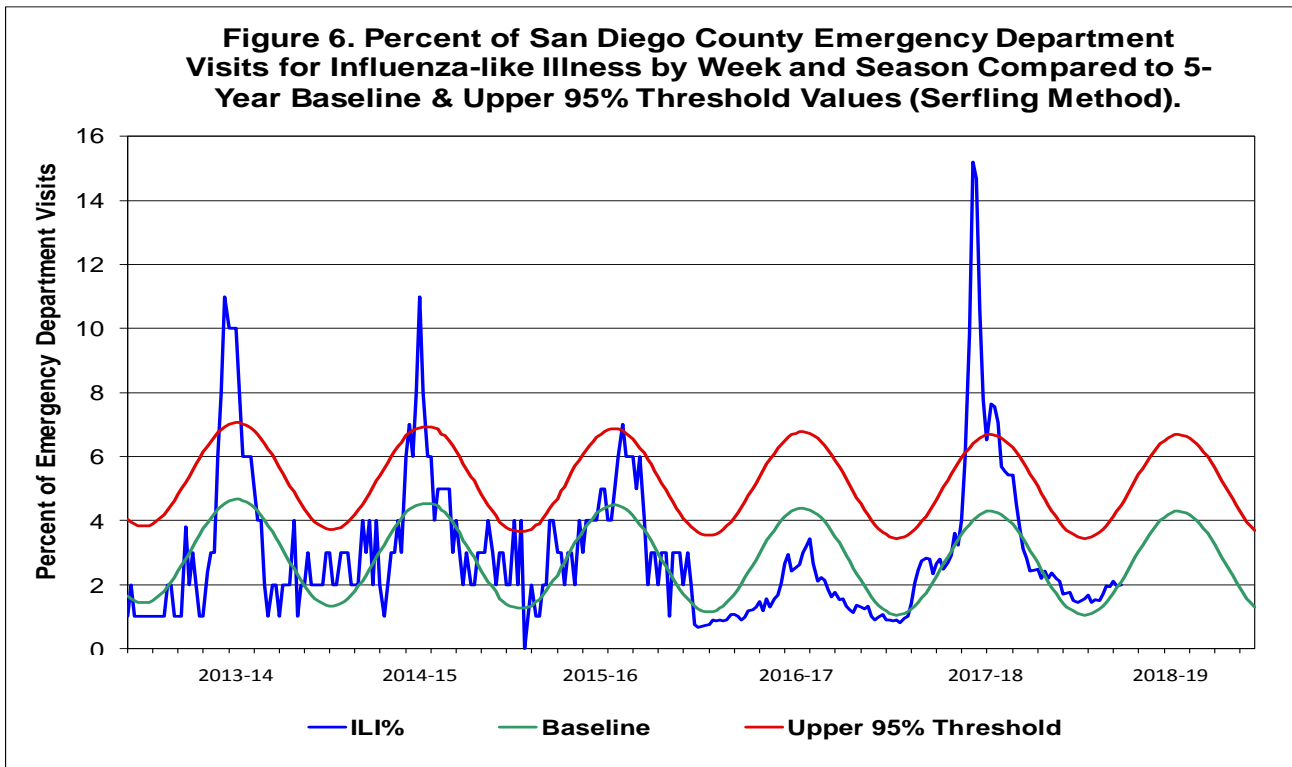


Figure 7. Percent of San Diego County Deaths Registered with Pneumonia and/or Influenza by Week and Season Compared to Prior 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold Values (Serfling Method).

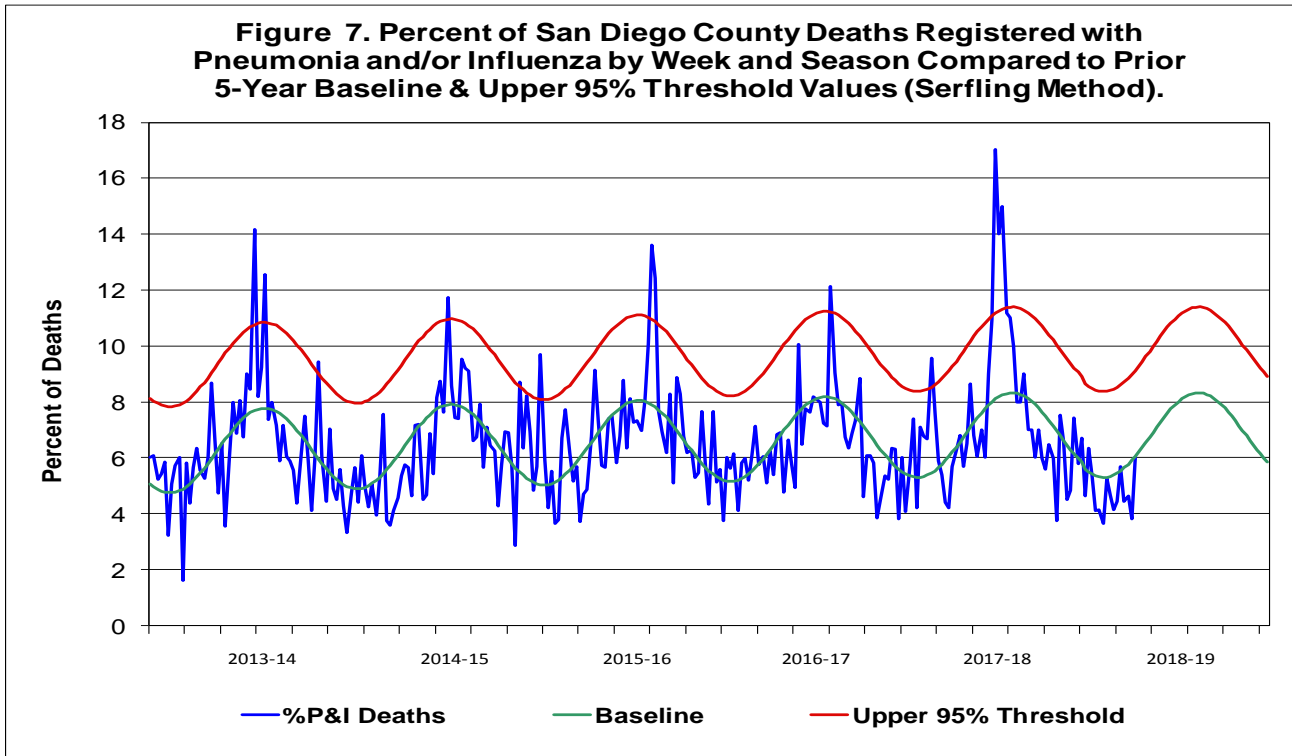


Figure 8. Influenza Deaths by Type and Season.

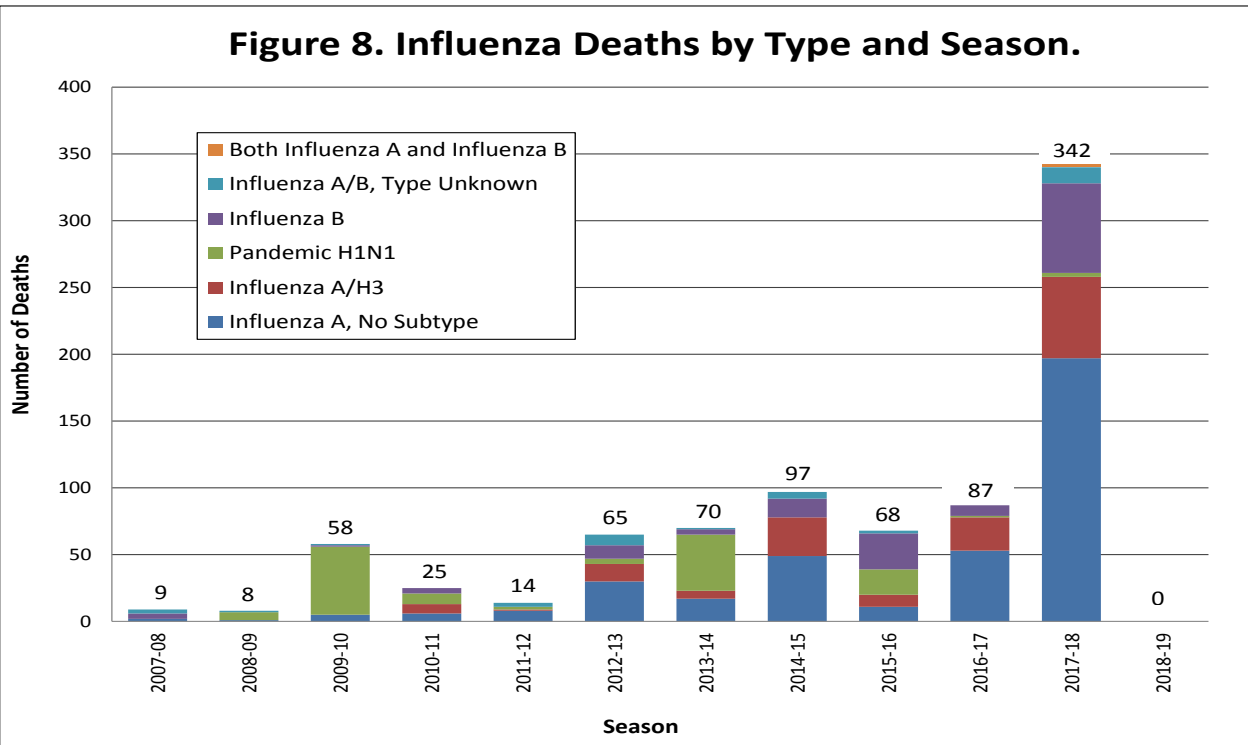


Figure 9. Influenza Deaths by Age and Season.

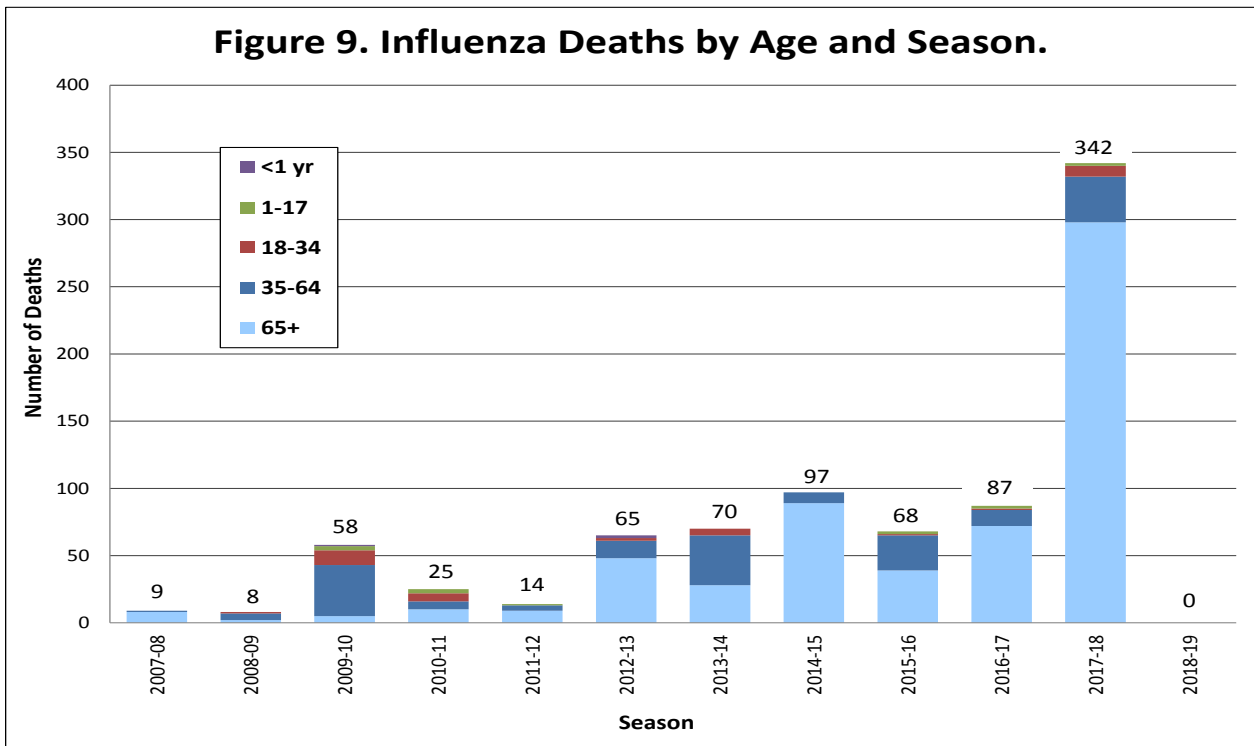


Figure 10. Number of Influenza Vaccinations Administered* by Week and Season.

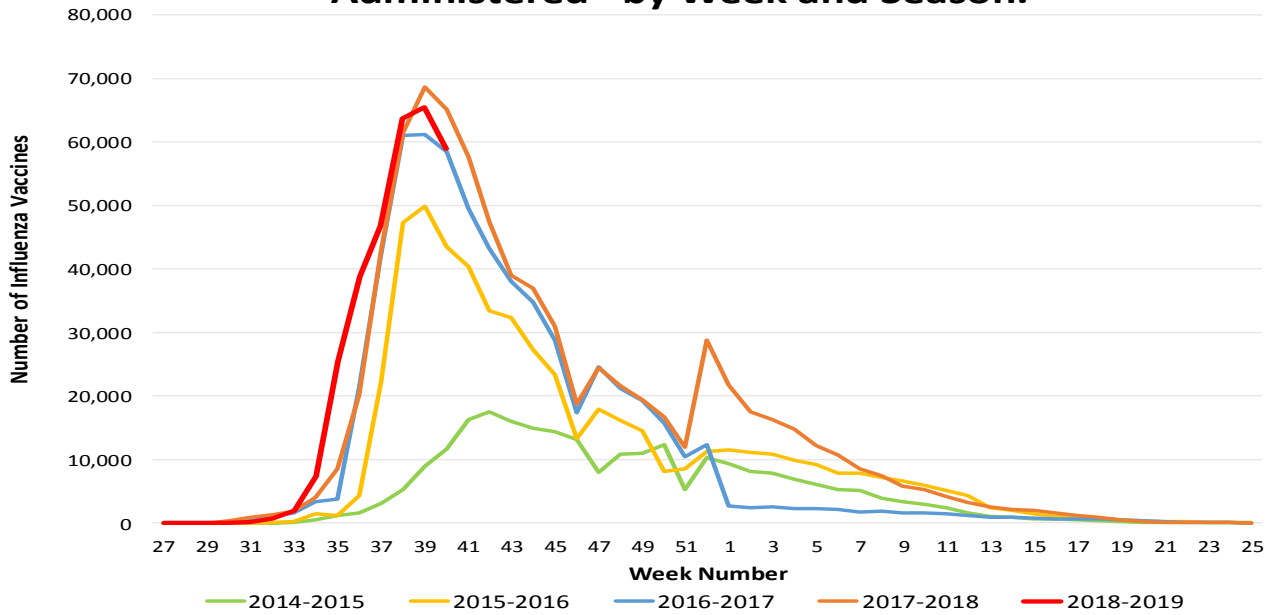
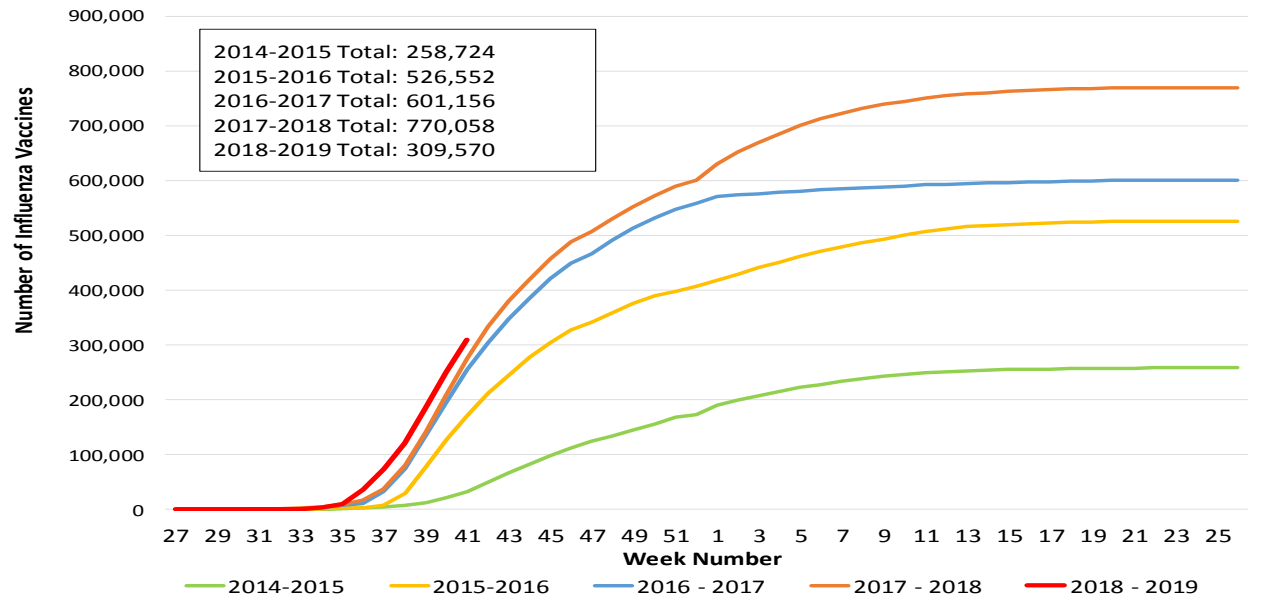
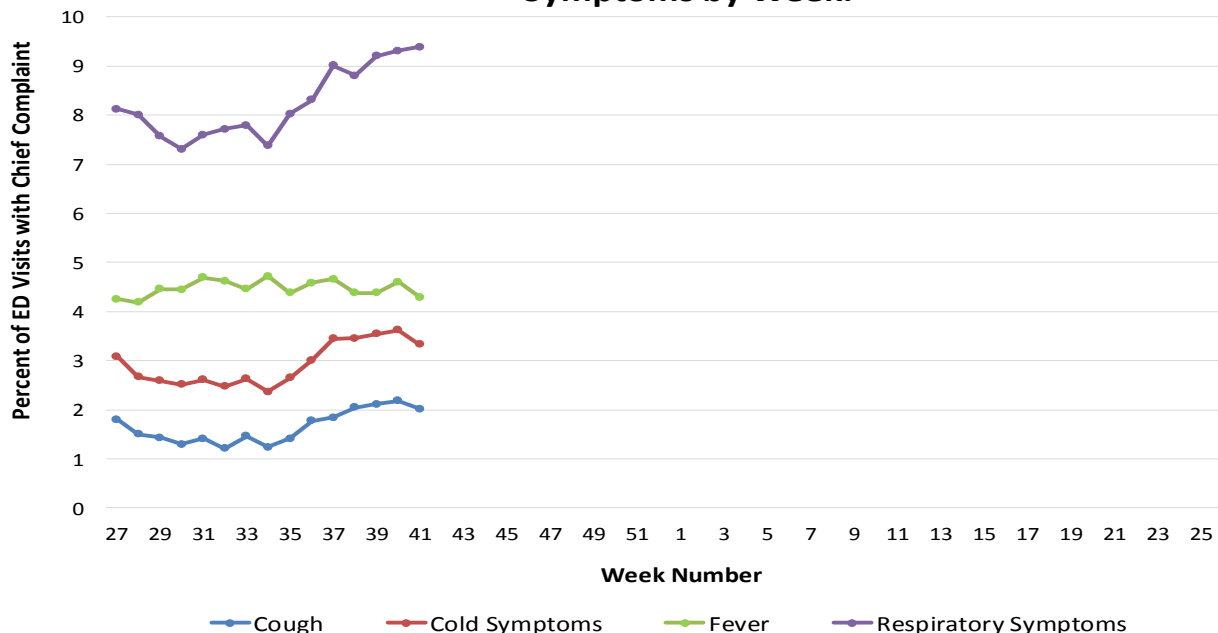


Figure 11. Cumulative Number of Influenza Vaccinations Administered* by Week and Season.



* Influenza vaccinations administered and entered into the San Diego Immunization Registry ([SDIR](#))

Figure 12. Percent of Emergency Department Visit Chief Complaints for Cough, Cold, Fever, or Respiratory Symptoms by Week.



Influenza Reporting in San Diego County

Local providers are encouraged to report laboratory-positive influenza detections to the County Epidemiology Program by **FAX (858) 715-6458**. Please fax a [Confidential Morbidity Report Form](#), or an [Influenza Case Report Form](#), and/or a printed laboratory result. If known, please indicate if the patient was admitted to ICU and/or died, and/or is a resident of a congregate living facility.

Regarding sending influenza specimens to [Public Health Laboratory](#) (PHL) for confirmation, please use the updated PHL [Test Request Form](#) and contact PHL at **(619) 692-8500** with any questions. Contact the Epidemiology Program by telephone **(619) 692-8499** or email to EpiDiv.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov with questions regarding influenza data.

Resources

- County of San Diego Epidemiology Program website www.sdepi.org
- County of San Diego [2017-18 Influenza Season Summary](#)
- Current Week Influenza Watch [Slide Deck](#) – A slide presentation version of this report
- County of San Diego Immunization Program (SDIZ) www.sdiz.org

- California Department of Public Health (CDPH) [Influenza Update](#)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Influenza Surveillance](#)