



INFLUENZA WATCH

Final Report

2018-19 Season Summary
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

The purpose of the *Influenza Watch* is to summarize influenza surveillance in San Diego County. This summary report reflects the 2018-19 season.

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Season Highlights

- The season was uncharacteristically long compared to previous seasons, with overall moderate severity.
- Influenza cases peaked in week 12 (March 17-23, 2019).
- This was largely an influenza A season with A/H1-pdm09 predominant and a late showing of A/H3N2 during weeks 9 to 13 (February 24-March 30, 2019).
- Influenza B activity was very low, but consistent throughout the season.
- Three pediatric influenza-associated deaths were reported. None had received the 2018-19 influenza vaccine. Thirty-five adults under the age of 65 years also died with influenza infection.

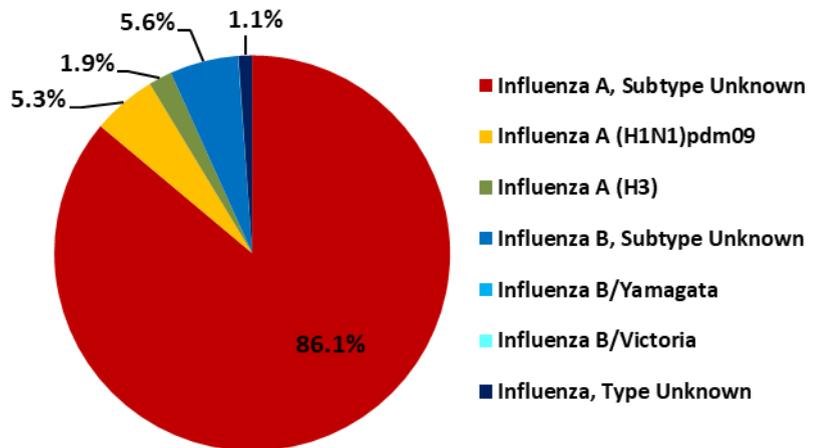
2018-19
Season Summary

9,655
Total Cases

77
Deaths[†]

25
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 two or more cases of influenza like illness (ILI) within a 72-hour period.

Table 1. Influenza Surveillance Indicators

Surveillance Indicator	2018-19 Season	2017-18 Season	Prior 3-Season Average*
All influenza cases reported (rapid or PCR test)	9,655	20,854	11,313
Number of influenza-related outbreaks reported	25	119	56
Number of influenza-related deaths reported	77	343	166

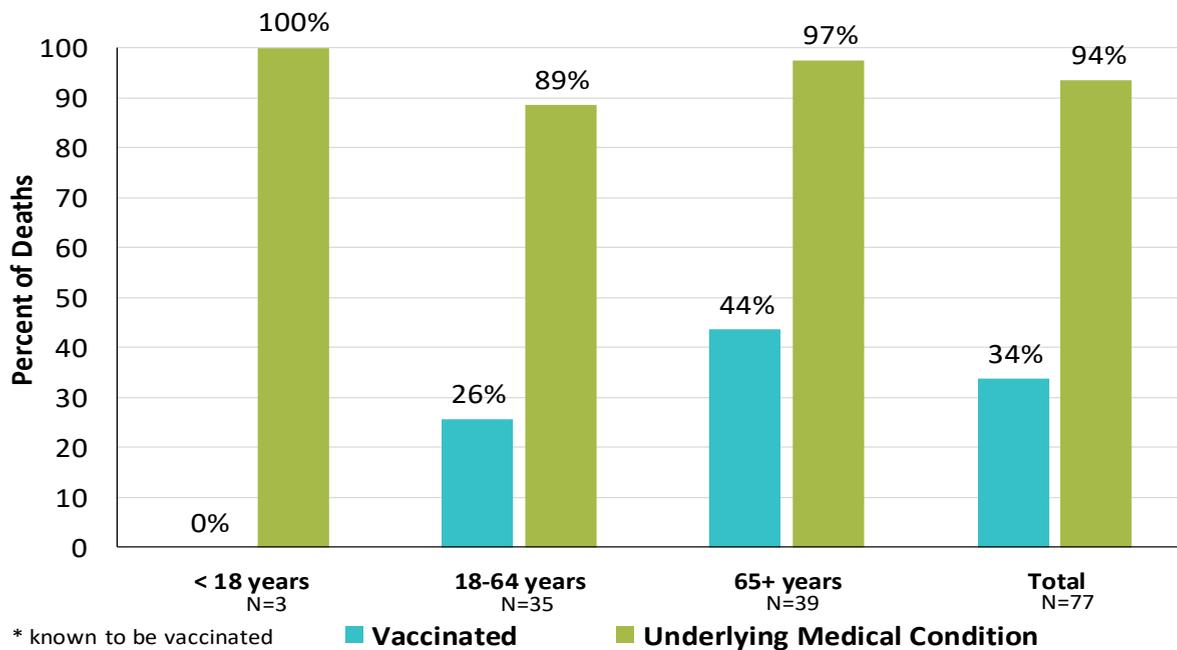
Influenza season is July 1 - June 30, Weeks 27-26. Total deaths reported in prior seasons: 343 in 2017-18, 87 in 2016-17, and 68 in 21

* Includes FYs 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18.

Table 2. Influenza Cases Reported, 2018-19 Season

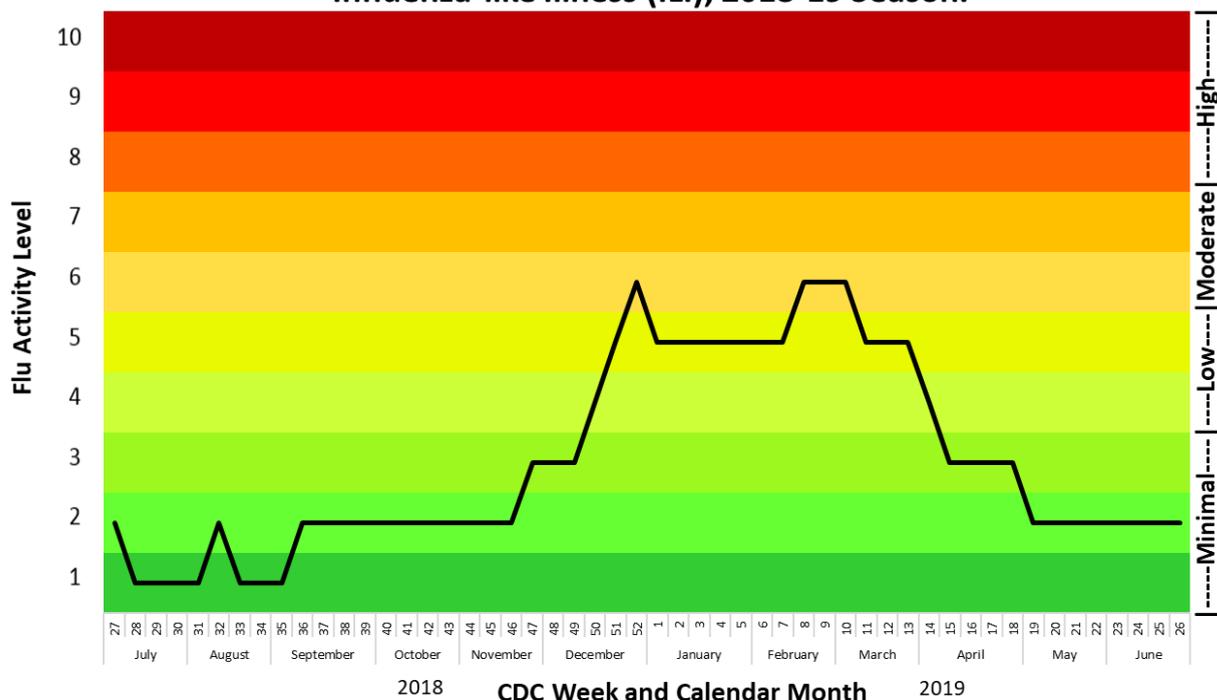
Positive Test Type/Subtype	Count	Percent
Influenza A, subtype unknown	8,313	86.1%
Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09	507	5.3%
Influenza A (H3)	184	1.9%
Influenza B, subtype unknown	540	5.6%
Influenza B/Yamagata	3	0.0%
Influenza B/Victoria	1	0.0%
Influenza, type unknown	107	1.1%
Total	9,655	100%

Figure 1. Percent of Influenza Deaths by Age Group, Vaccination Status, and Underlying Medical Condition, 2018-19 Season.



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Figure 2. Influenza Activity Level for Emergency Department Influenza-like Illness (ILI), 2018-19 Season.



Legend

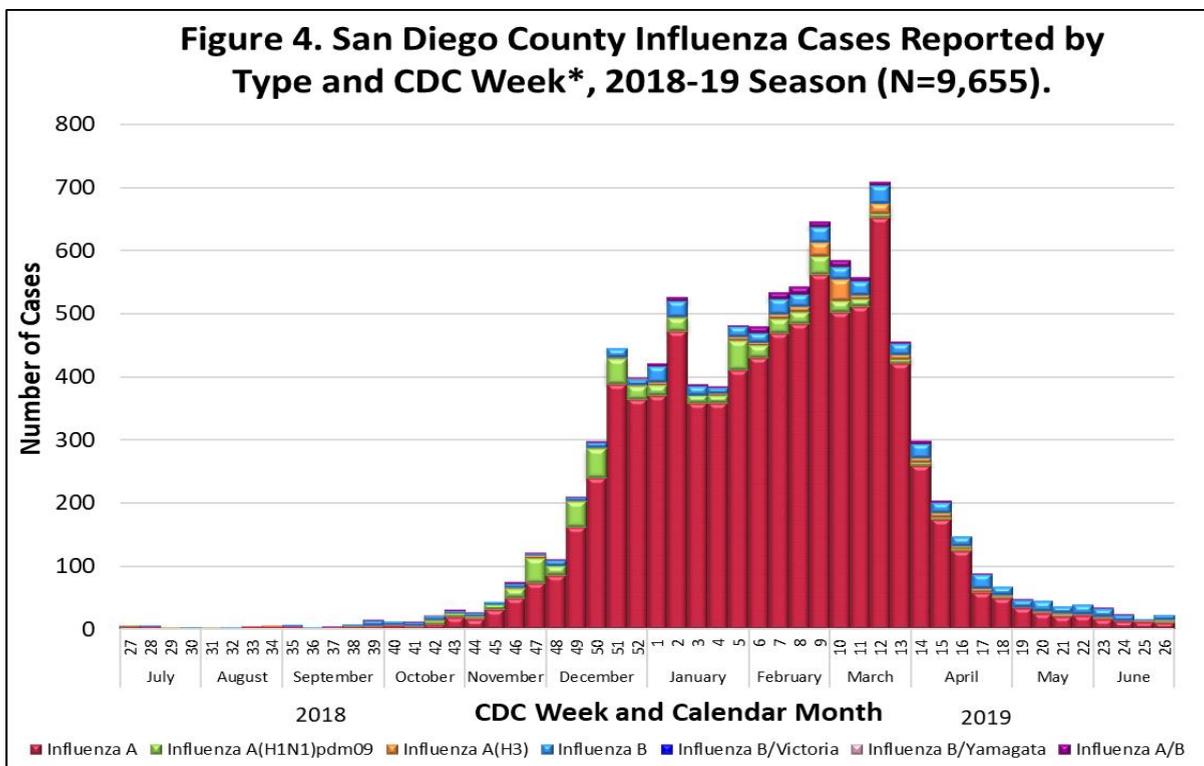
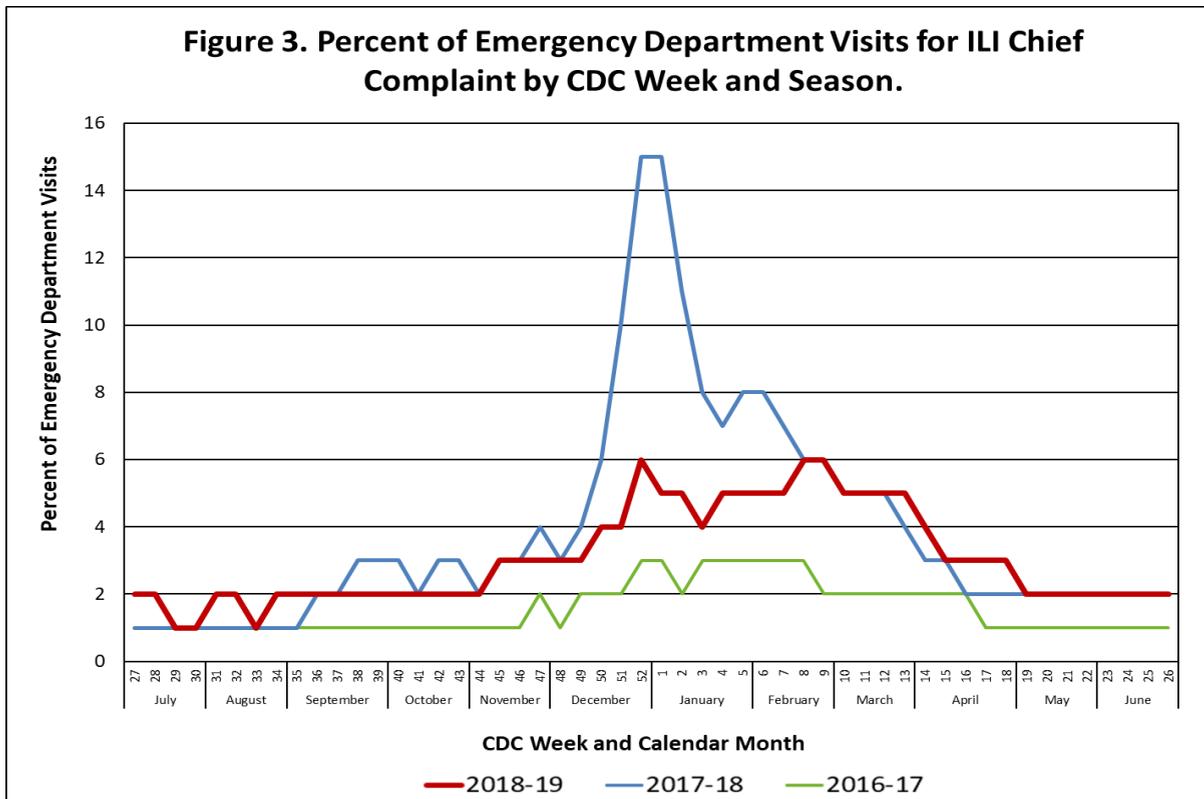
	Minimal			Low		Moderate		High		
	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5	LEVEL 6	LEVEL 7	LEVEL 8	LEVEL 9	LEVEL 10
	< mean	≥ mean and <1 standard deviation above mean	≥1 and <2 standard deviations above mean	≥2 and <3 standard deviations above mean	≥3 and <4 standard deviations above mean	≥4 and <5 standard 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 show how the emergency department visits for influenza-like illness as a percent of all visits (ED ILI%) compares to the mean of the ED ILI% from the pre-influenza season weeks (i.e., CDC disease weeks 27-39) observed from the prior five seasons.

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 when the ED ILI% is below the mean; level 2 corresponds to when the ED ILI% is less than 1 standard deviation above the mean; level 3 corresponds to when the ED ILI% is more than 1 but less than 2 standard deviations above the mean, and so on, with an activity level of 10 corresponding to when the ED ILI% is at 8 or more standard deviations above the mean.

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* Grouped by the earliest available of onset date, specimen collection date, diagnosis date, death date, or report date.

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Figure 5. Proportion of Influenza Cases by Age Group and Season.

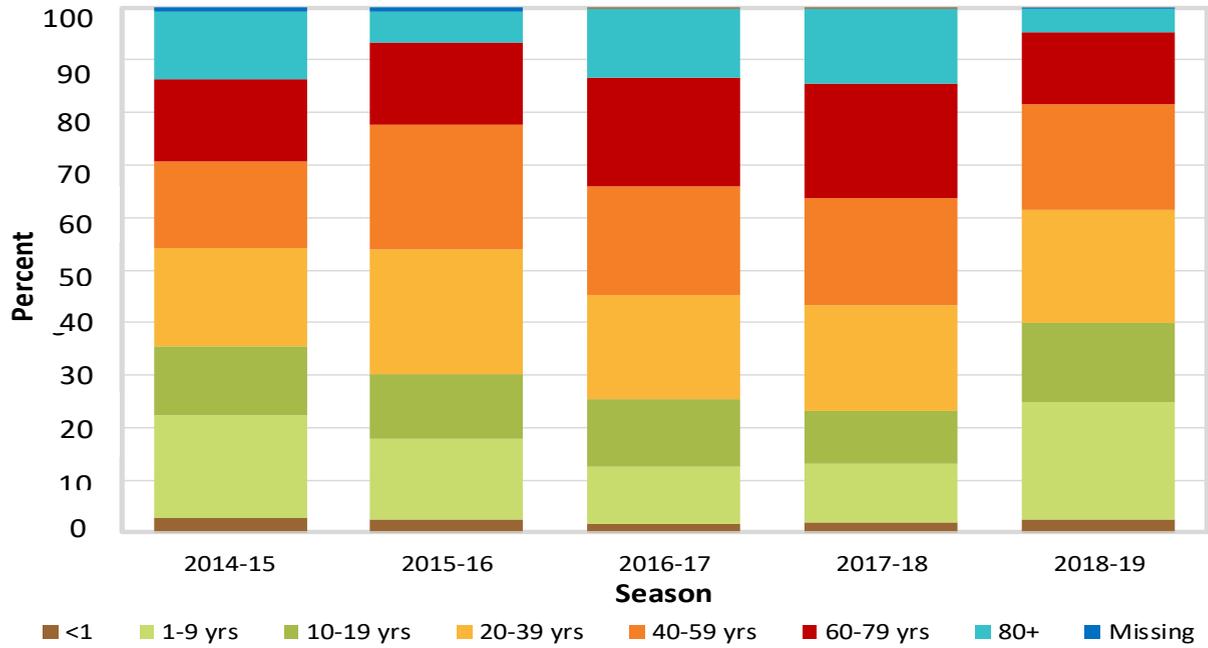
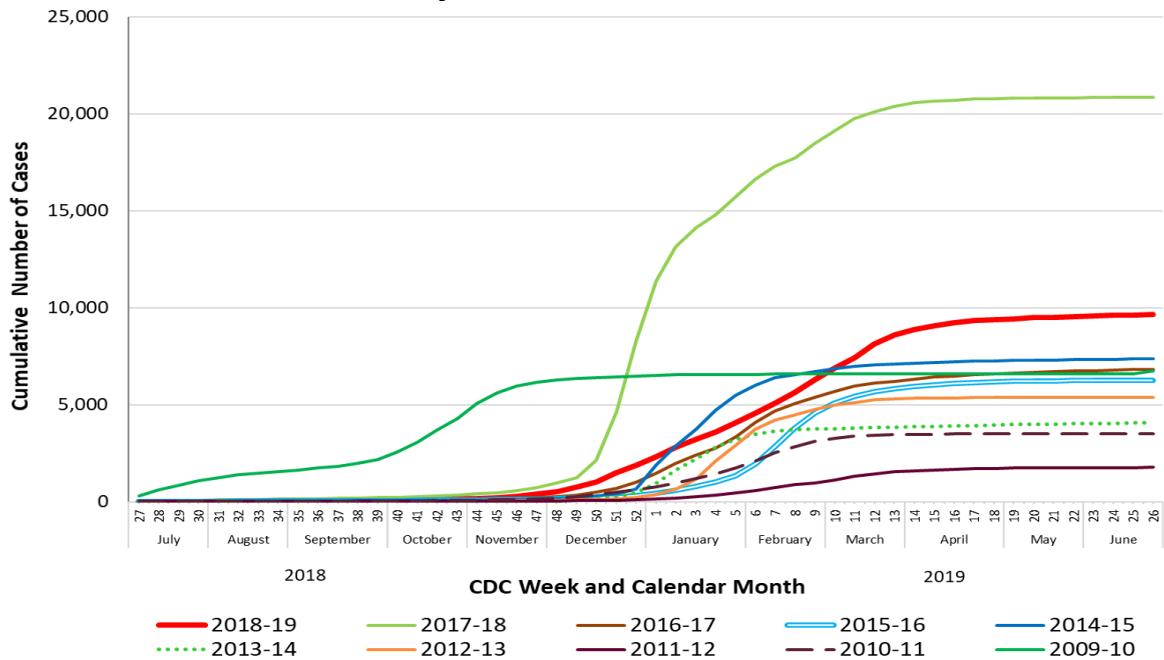


Figure 6. Cumulative Influenza Cases Reported by CDC Week and Season.



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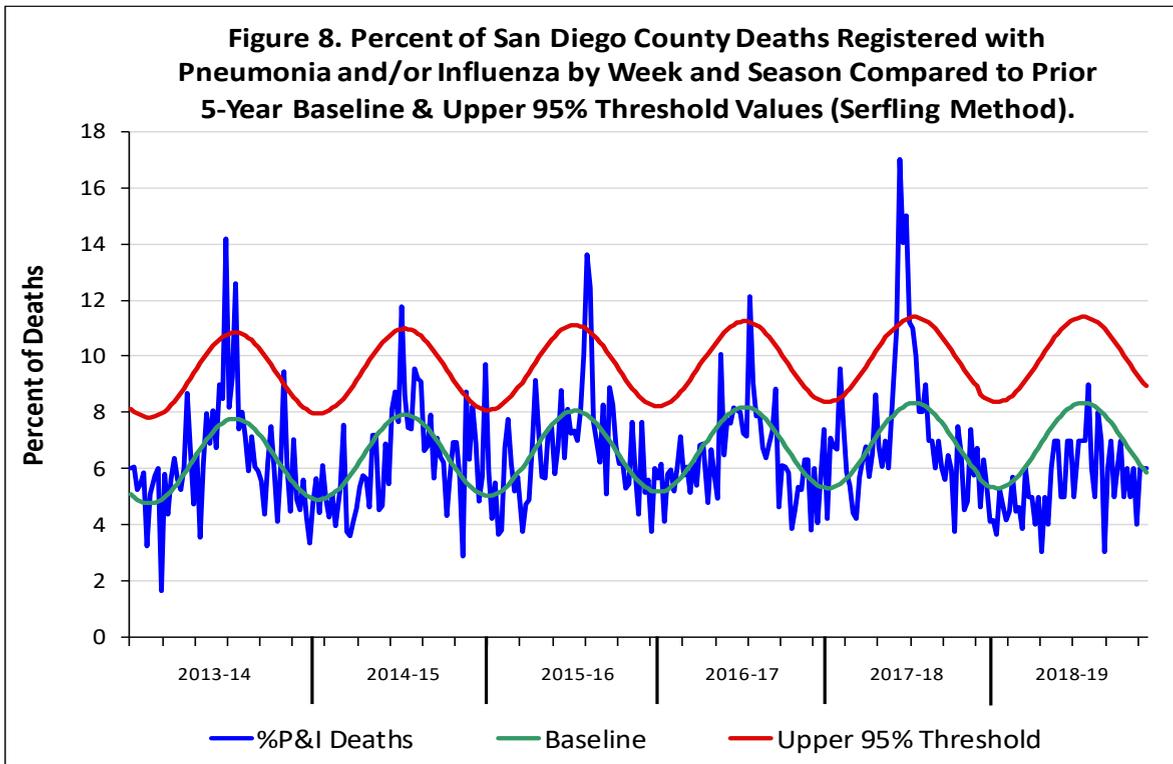
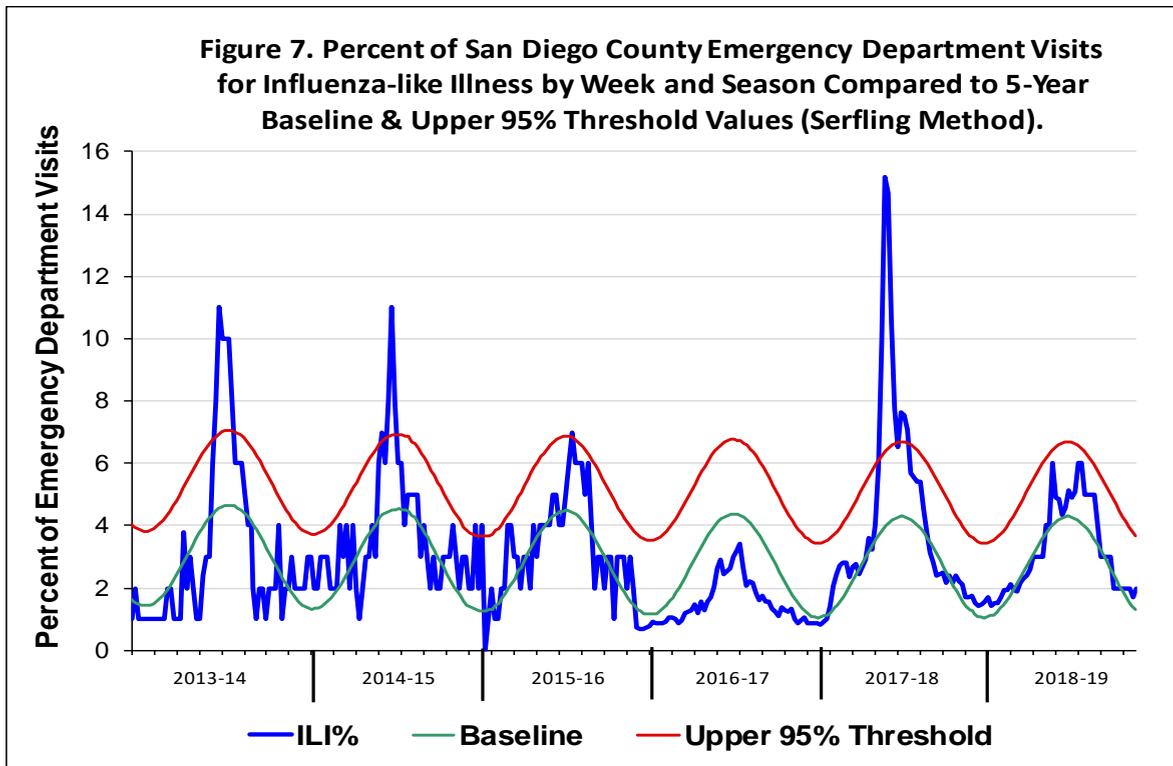


Figure 9. Influenza Deaths by Type and Season.

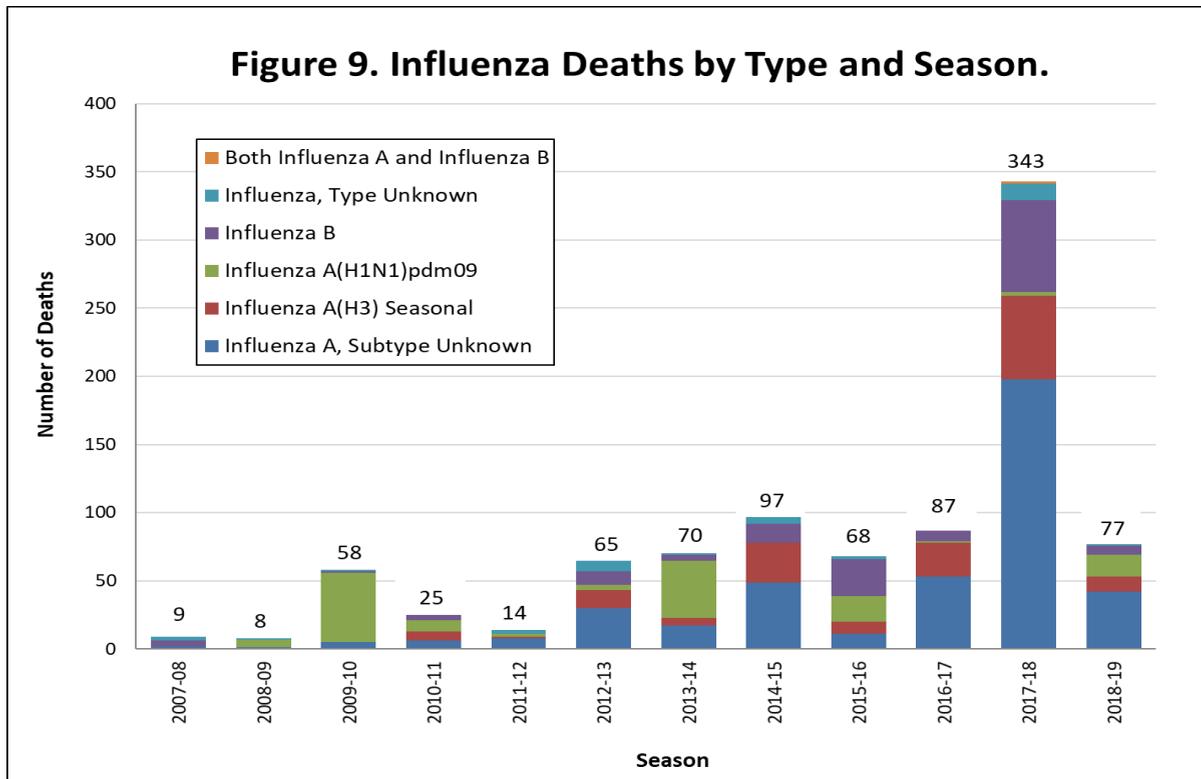
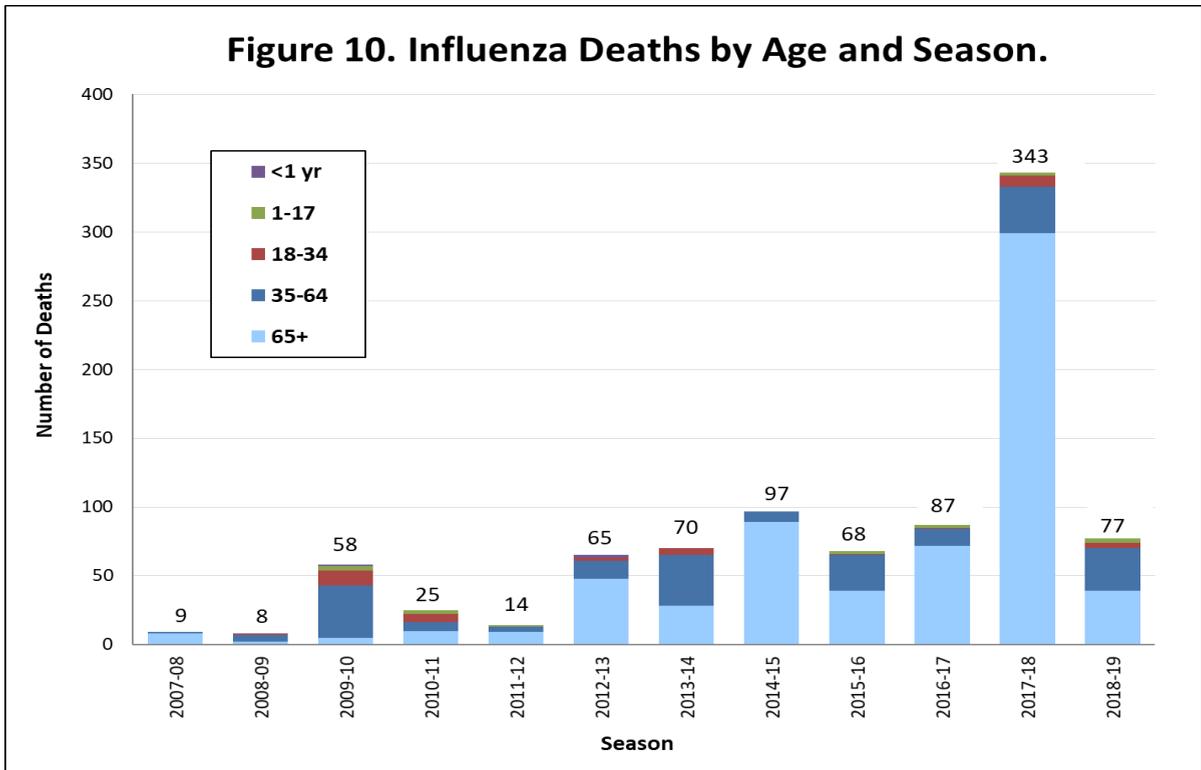
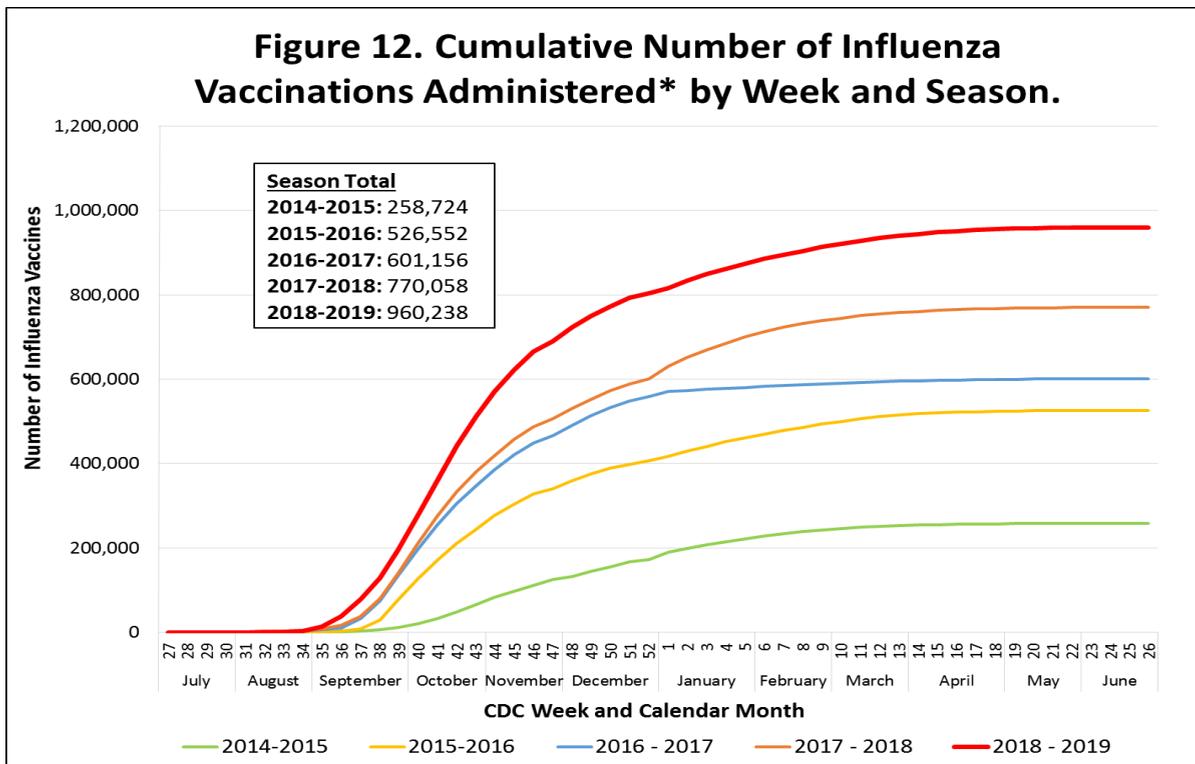
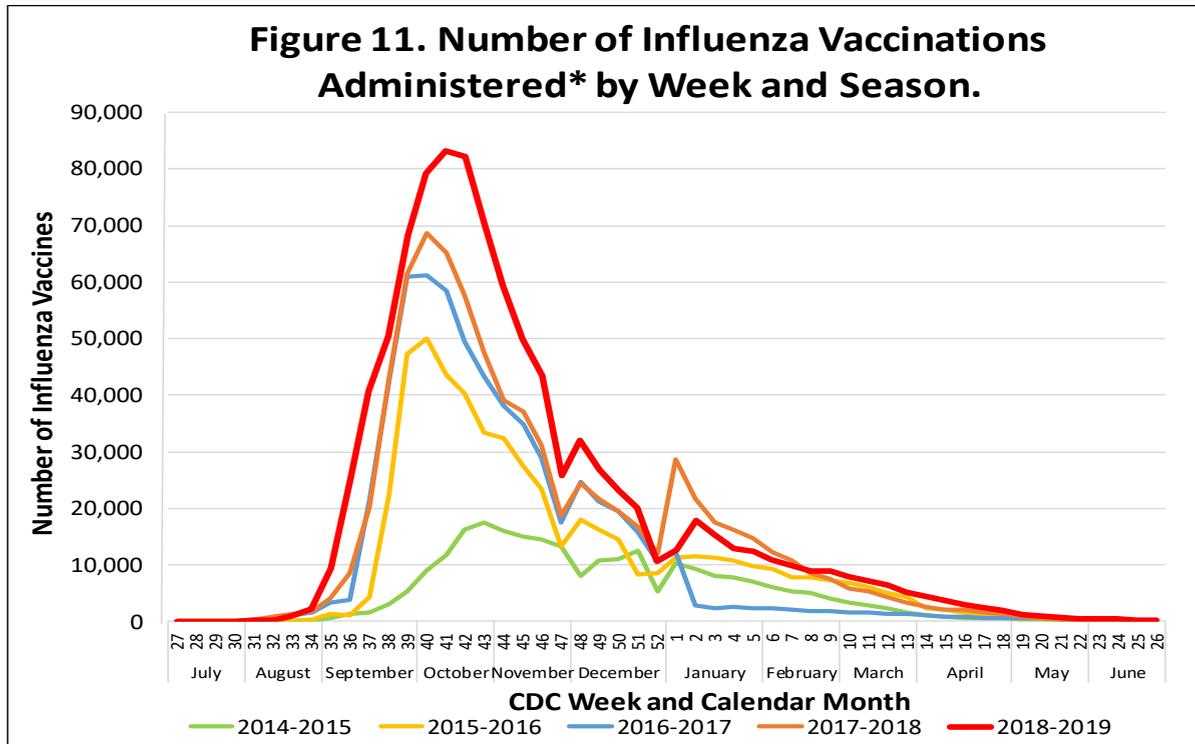


Figure 10. Influenza Deaths by Age and Season.





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

Figure 13. Percent of Emergency Department Visit Chief Complaints for Cough, Cold, Fever, or Respiratory Symptoms by Week, 2018-19 Season.

