



# INFLUENZA WATCH

Week 48  
Ending 12/2/2017

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.**

**Report Contents**

Page 1: Overview & Indicators  
Page 2: Virus Characteristics  
Pages 3-7: Trend graphs  
Page 7: Reporting Information

**Current  
Week****Current Week 48 (ending 12/2/2017)**

- 182 new influenza detections reported: *Elevated level*
- 2% influenza-like-illness (ILI) among emergency department visits: *Expected level*
- No new influenza-related deaths reported this week
- 1 new ICU case reported this week
- 7% of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza: *Expected level*

**Current  
Season Summary****859**

Total Cases

**6**

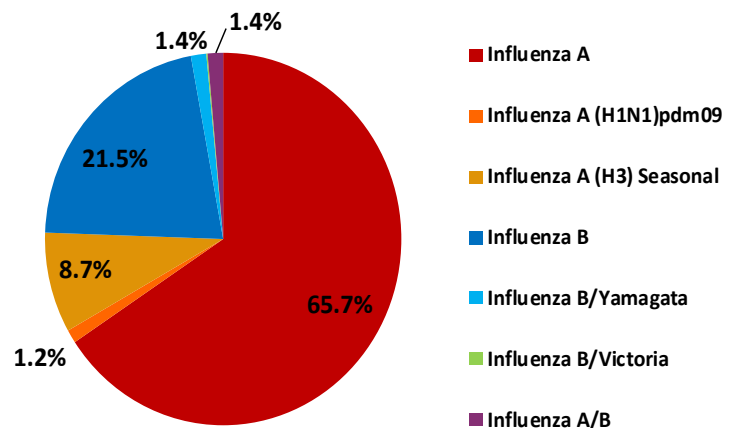
ICU Cases

**4**

Deaths

**4**

Outbreaks\*

**Virus Characteristics**

\* At least one case of laboratory-confirmed influenza in a setting experiencing  $\geq 2$  cases of influenza like illness (ILI) within a 72-hour period.

**Table 1. Influenza Surveillance Indicators**

Indicator	FY 2017-18*			FY 2016-17		Prior 3-Year Average**	
	Week 48	Week 47	FYTD#	Week 48	FYTD#	Week 48	FYTD#
All influenza detections reported (rapid or PCR)	182	104	859	40	242	23	172
Percent of emergency department visits for ILI	2%	3%		3%		3%	
Percent of deaths registered with pneumonia and/or influenza	7%	9%		7%		6%	
Number of influenza-related deaths reported^	0	0	4	0	3	0	1

\* FYTD=Fiscal Year To Date (FY is July 1- June 30, Weeks 27-26). Total deaths reported in prior years: 87 in 2016-17, 68 in 2015-16, and 97 in 2014-15.

\* Previous weeks case counts or percentages may change due to delayed processing or reporting.

\*\* Includes FYs 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17.

^ Current FY deaths are shown by week of report; by week of death for prior FYs.

**Oseltamivir is Safe and Effective in Children with Influenza**

Oseltamivir, an antiviral medication, has been used to treat children with influenza for almost twenty years, with treatment [currently approved](#) for infants two weeks of age or older. A new meta-analysis published last month in Clinical Infectious Diseases found that treatment of children with oseltamivir significantly reduced the duration of illness in those with influenza and lowered the risk of developing otitis media. Vomiting was the only adverse event with a significantly higher risk amongst treated children.

In order to investigate the safety and efficacy of oseltamivir, the study researchers conducted a systematic review to identify randomized controlled trials of oseltamivir therapy in children. They obtained individual patient data, examined protocol-defined outcomes, and subsequently conducted a two-stage, random effects meta-analysis to determine the efficacy of treatment in reducing the duration of illness. They also examined complications and safety.

Five trials were identified including 2561 patients in the intent to treat (ITT) and 1598 in the intent to treat infected (ITTI) population. Overall, oseltamivir treatment significantly reduced the duration of illness in the ITTI population. Risk of otitis media was 34% lower in the ITTI population. When side effects were examined, vomiting was the only significant increased relative risk (RR) found in the treatment groups compared to placebo (RR = 1.63, 95% confidence interval 1.30 – 2.04).

The study may be found here: [Efficacy and Safety of Oseltamivir in Children: Systematic Review and Individual Patient Data Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials](#).

Information about the use of antivirals may be found at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention webpage here: [Influenza Antiviral Medications: Summary for Clinicians](#).

**Everyone six months and older should receive the annual influenza vaccination!**

**Table 2. Influenza Detections Reported, FY 2017-18\***

Positive Test Type/Subtype	Week 48	Total FY-To-Date
Influenza A <sup>†</sup>	144	564
Influenza A(H1N1) Pandemic 2009	0	10
Influenza A (H3) Seasonal	7	75
Influenza B <sup>†</sup>	27	185
Influenza B/Victoria	0	1
Influenza B/Yamagata	0	12
Influenza A/B <sup>†</sup>	4	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>859</b>

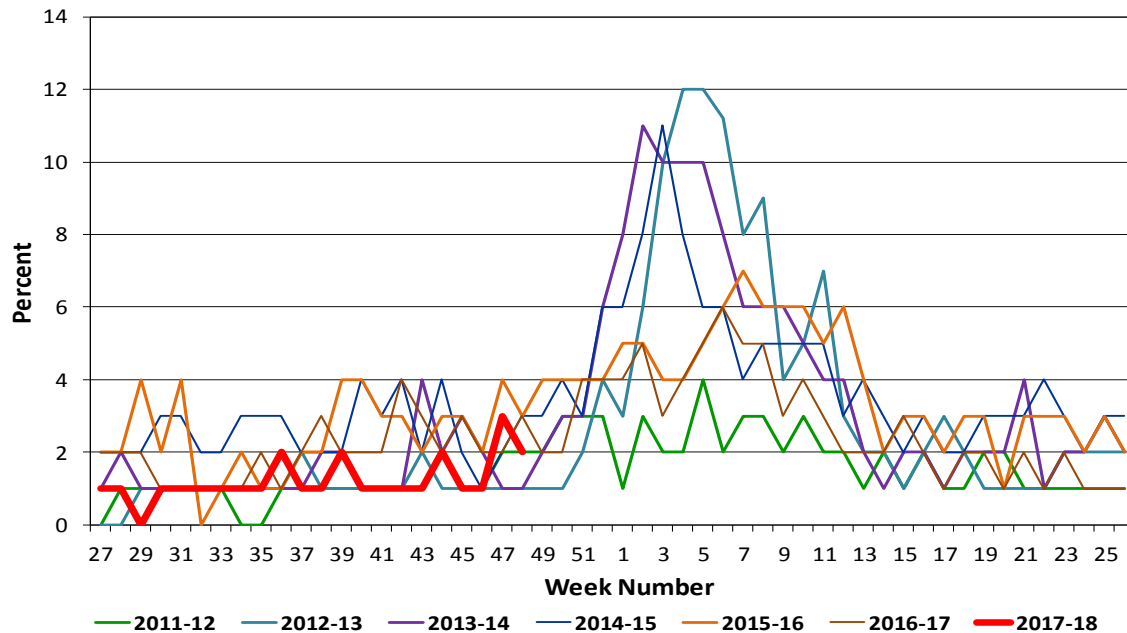
\* FY is July 1- June 30.

† No further characterization performed, or results were not yet available at time of publication.

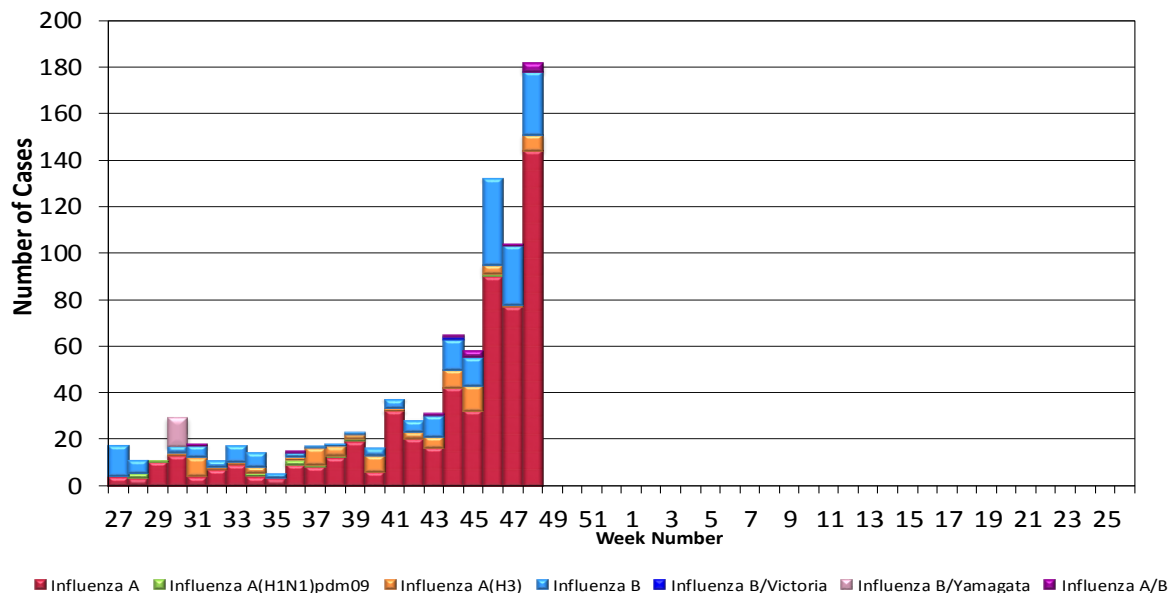
Note: Totals may change due to further laboratory findings.

# Influenza Watch

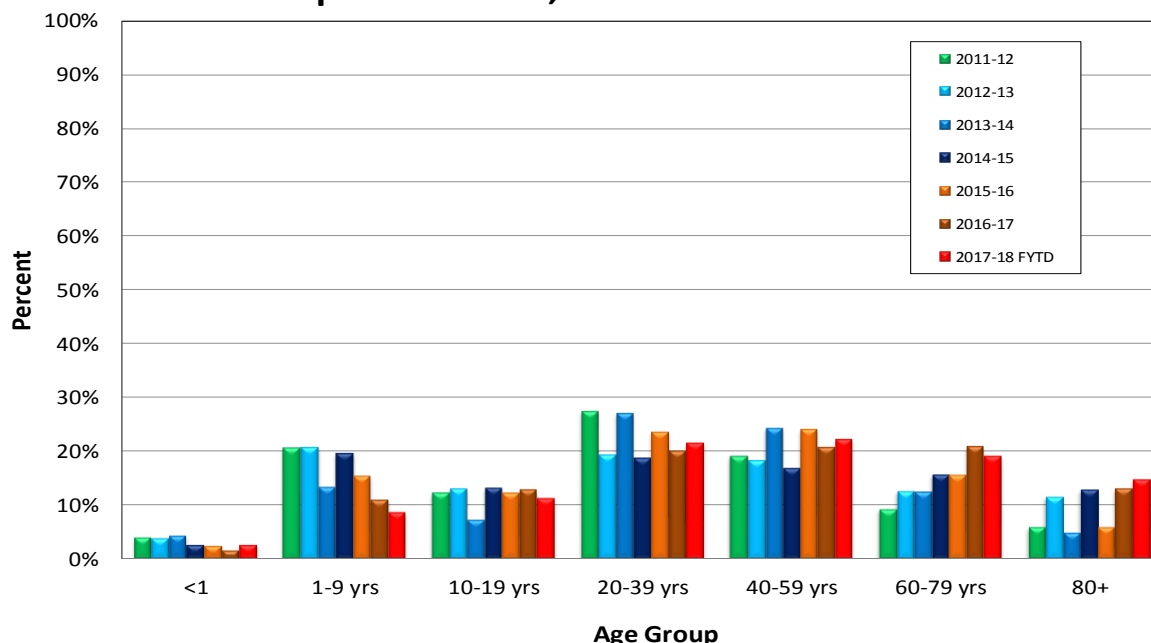
**Figure 1. Percent of Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-like Illness by Week and FY**



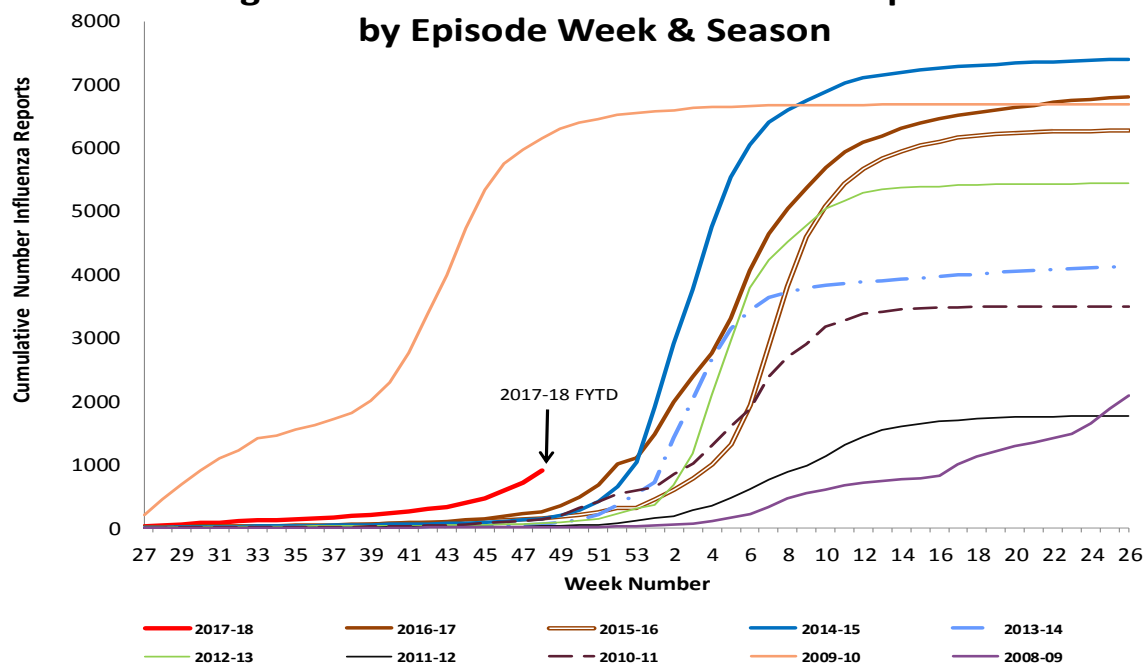
**Figure 2. San Diego County Influenza Detections by Type and Week of Report, 2017-18 FYTD (N=859)**



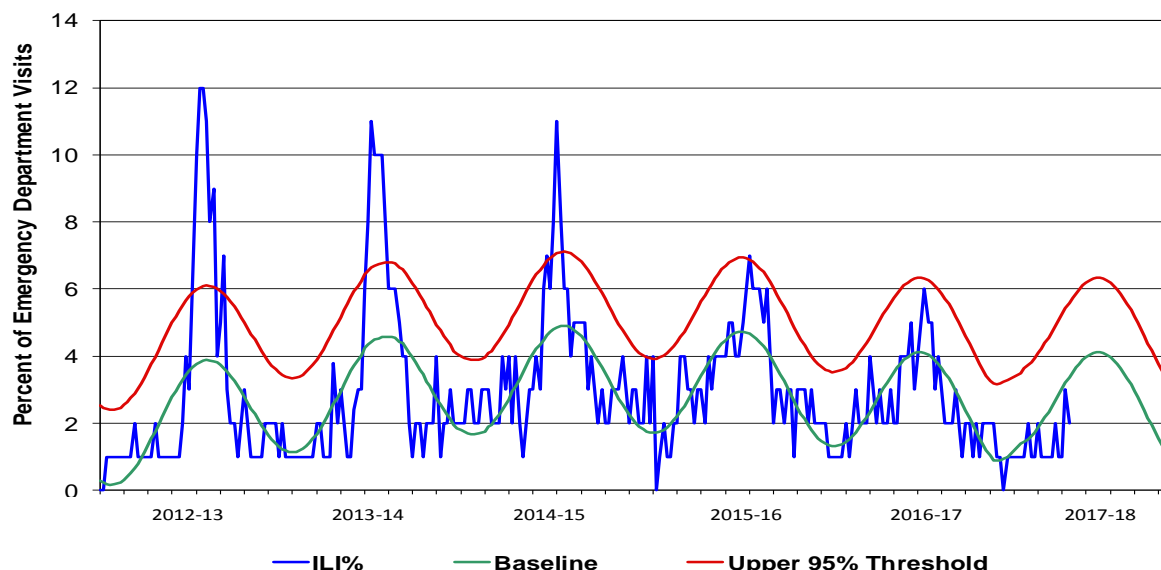
**Figure 3. Percent of Reported Influenza Cases by Age Group and Season, 2011-12 to 2017-18 FYTD**



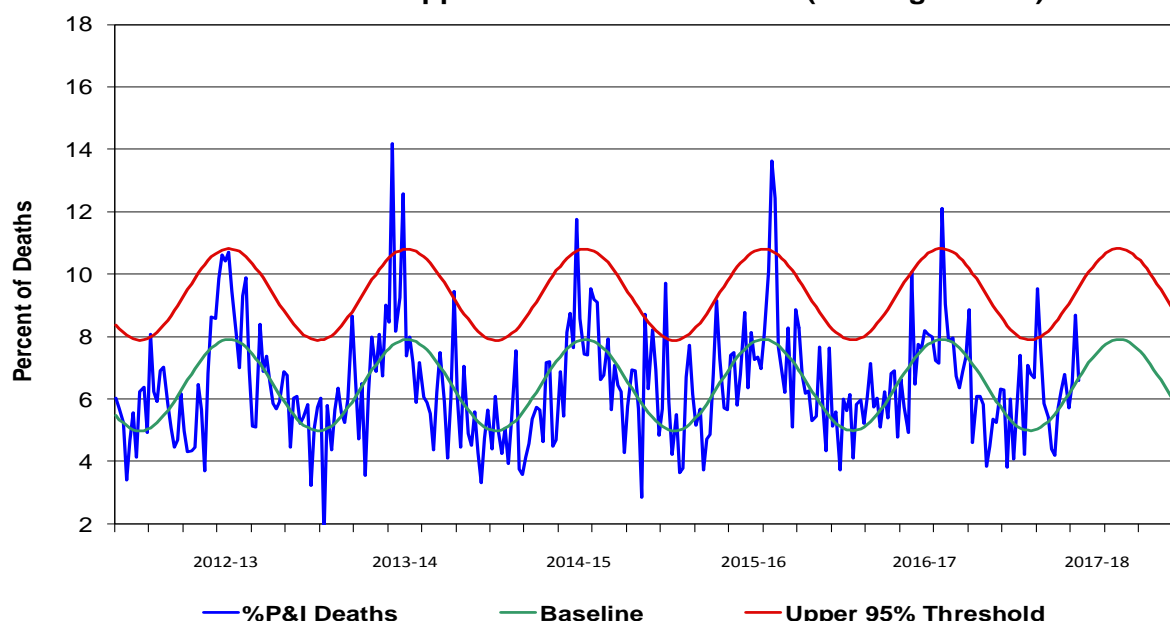
**Figure 4. Cumulative Influenza Case Reports by Episode Week & Season**



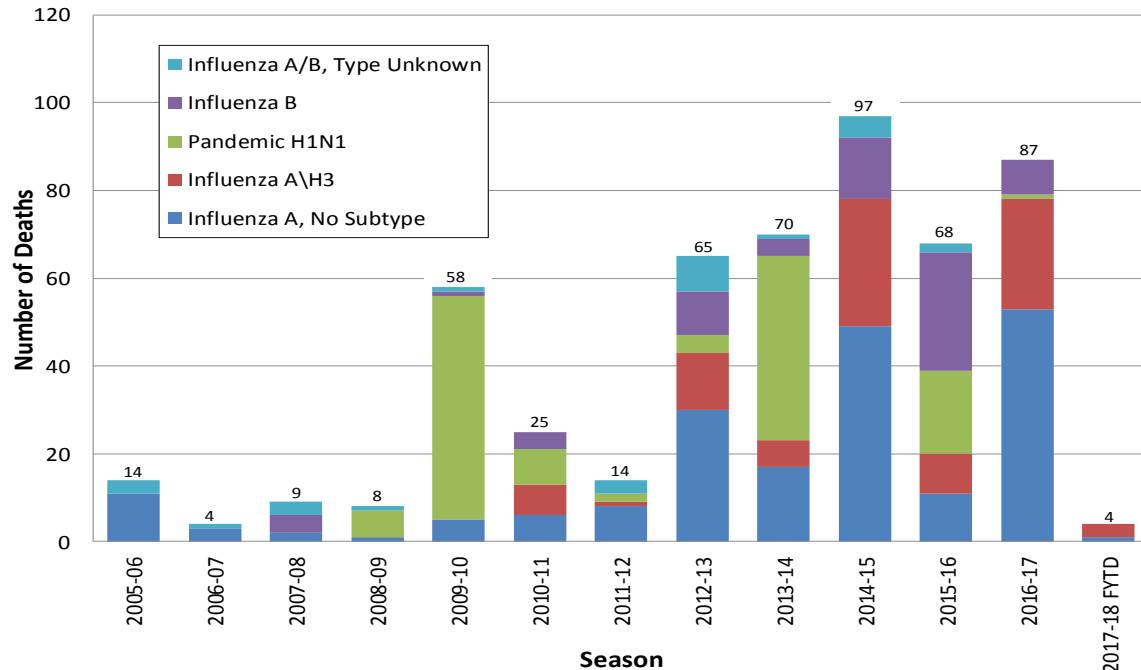
**Figure 5. Percent of San Diego County Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-like Illness by Week and FY Compared to 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold Values (Serfling Method)**



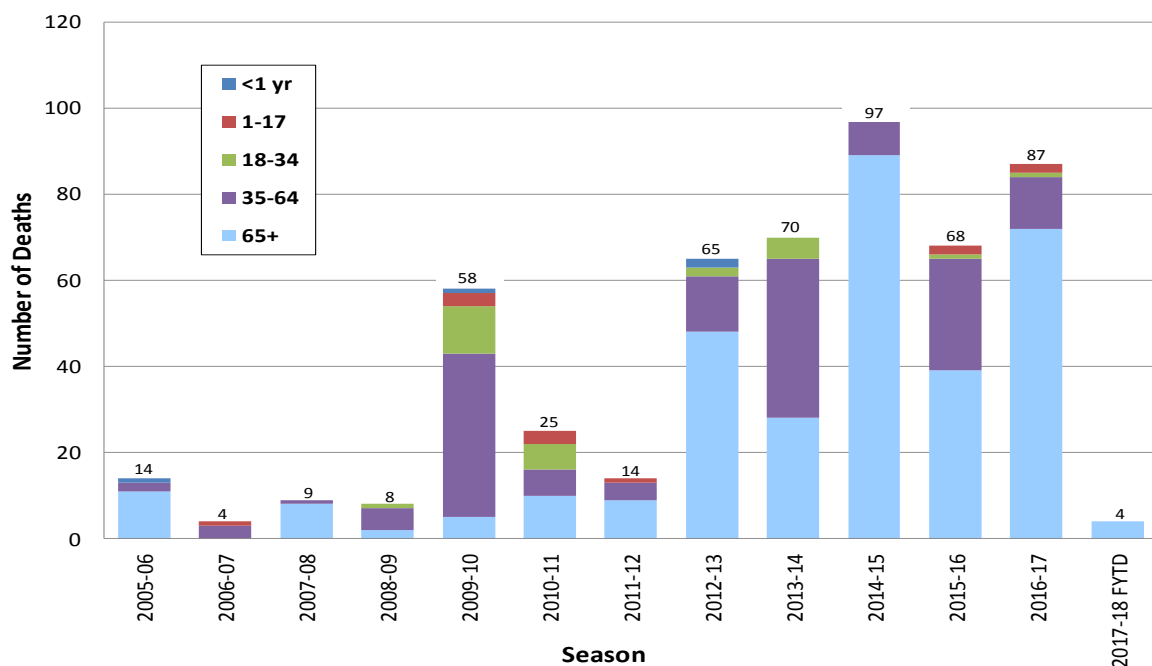
**Figure 6. Percent of San Diego County Deaths Registered with Pneumonia and/or Influenza by Week and FY Compared to Prior 5-Year Baseline & Upper 95% Threshold Values (Serfling Method)**



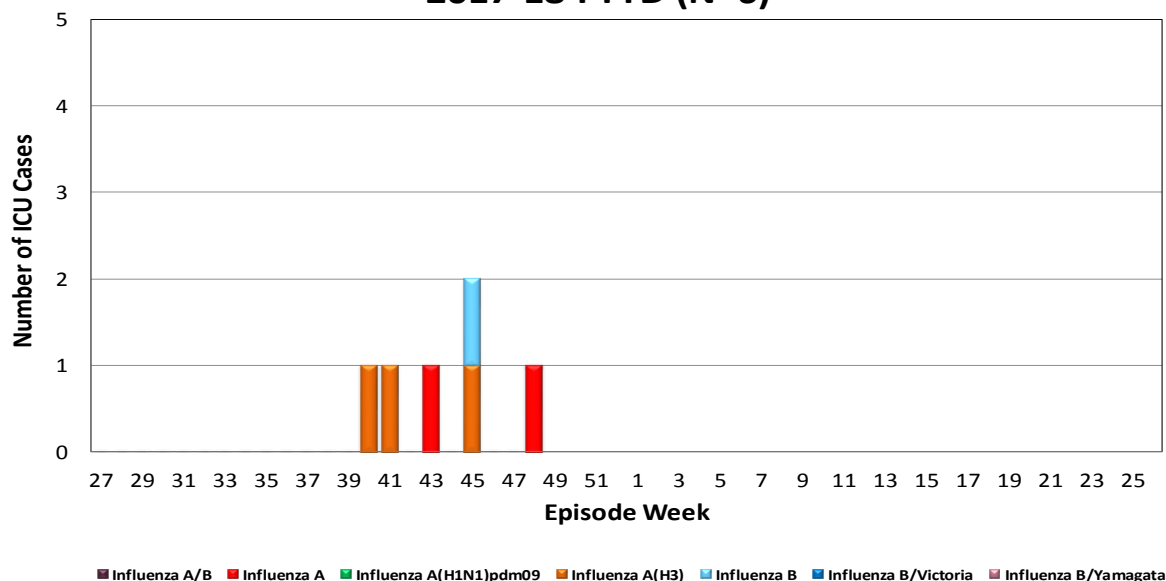
**Figure 7. Influenza Deaths by Type and Season**



**Figure 8. Influenza Deaths by Age and Season**



**Figure 9. Number of Influenza Cases Requiring ICU Care by Episode Week and Type of Influenza, 2017-18 FYTD (N=6)**



Episode week is the week of symptom onset, or earliest available date in which the case is identified.

## 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 [Case Report](#) Form and/or a printed laboratory result, and indicate if the patient was admitted to ICU or died, and/or is a resident of a congregate living facility.

For questions regarding sending specimens to Public Health Laboratory (PHL), call (619) 692-8500. Click here for the updated PHL [PCR Test Request Form](#). Contact the Epidemiology Program with any questions at **(619) 692-8499** or by email to: [EpiDiv.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:EpiDiv.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov).

### Resources

San Diego County Influenza Surveillance Weekly [Slide Deck](#) - presentation version of this report

County of San Diego Immunization Program [www.sdiz.org](http://www.sdiz.org)

California Department of Public Health [Influenza](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Influenza Surveillance [Weekly Report](#)