
2015-2016 Community Influenza Surveillance Report

Update of Current Status

May 3, 2016

Overall assessment

Influenza activity in Middlesex-London is lower compared to the previous week.

Current Local Activity

From April 24th to 30th, 2016, there were 8 laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza (4 influenza A and 4 influenza B) reported to the Middlesex-London Health Unit, of whom 4 were hospitalized. Since September 1st, 2015, there has been a total of 464 laboratory-confirmed influenza cases (321 influenza A, 142 influenza B, one influenza A & B co-infection) reported in London and Middlesex County. No influenza outbreaks or deaths in people with laboratory confirmed influenza were reported this past reporting week.

Appendix A provides more details about laboratory-based influenza activity indicators, as well as other local indicators of respiratory illness. A graph showing all 464 laboratory-confirmed cases by week is provided in Appendix B, at the end of this report.

Useful Websites

- The latest Ontario Respiratory Pathogen Bulletin (ORPB), issued by Public Health Ontario (PHO), is available at <http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/ServicesAndTools/SurveillanceServices/Pages/Ontario-Respiratory-Virus-Bulletin.aspx>
- The latest FluWatch report, issued by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), is available at: <http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/diseases-conditions-maladies-affections/disease-maladie/flu-grippe/surveillance/fluwatch-reports-rapports-surveillance-influenza-eng.php>
- To find a free flu shot clinic near you, visit the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's "Find a Flu Shot Clinic" web page at <http://www.ontario.ca/page/get-flu-shot/>.

Appendix A

Summary of Community Influenza Surveillance Indicators for Middlesex-London May 3, 2016

Table 1: Summary of laboratory-based influenza activity indicators, Middlesex-London and Ontario, 2015-2016 influenza surveillance season

Indicator	Reporting Period	Number Reported: <i>Current Reporting Period</i>	Number Reported: <i>Year to Date (from September 1, 2015)</i>	Recent Trends
Laboratory-confirmed cases¹	Apr. 24-30	Influenza A – 4 case Influenza B – 4 cases Influenza A&B – 0 cases	Influenza A – 321 cases Influenza B – 142 cases Influenza A&B – 1 case	Lower compared to the previous week (Apr. 17-23) when 11 cases of influenza were reported.
Influenza sub-types¹	Apr. 24-30	Subtyping Influenza A(H3) – 0 cases Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09–0 cases Influenza A not subtyped–5 cases	Influenza A(H3)– 4 cases Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09– 75 cases Influenza A not subtyped– 241 cases Influenza A(H3) & A(H1N1)pdm09 co-infection– 1 case Strain typing A/California/07/09-like– 4 cases Influenza B/Brisbane60/2008-like- 1 case	
Hospitalizations¹	Apr. 24-30	4	178	Lower compared to the previous week (Apr. 17-23) when 6 hospitalizations were reported.
Deaths¹	Apr. 24-30	0	18	Same compared to the previous week (Apr. 17-23) when no deaths in people with laboratory-confirmed influenza were reported.
Influenza outbreaks in long-term care homes/retirement homes/acute care	Apr. 24-30	Influenza A – 0 outbreaks Influenza B – 0 outbreaks	Influenza A – 7 outbreaks Influenza B – 3 outbreaks	Same compared to the previous week (Apr. 17-23) when no influenza outbreaks were declared.
Percentage of samples that are positive for influenza (Ontario)²	Apr. 17-23	Influenza A – 6.5% positivity Influenza B – 10.7% positivity	N/A	Influenza A: Lower compared to 7.3% positivity reported the previous week (Apr. 10-16). Influenza B: Similar compared to 11.1% positivity reported the previous week (April 10-16).

Notes:

1 Numbers are subject to change week by week due to the retrospective nature of reporting.

2 Public Health Ontario, Ontario Respiratory Pathogen Bulletin 2015-2016

Table 2: Summary of community-based respiratory illness indicators, Middlesex-London, 2015-2016 influenza surveillance season

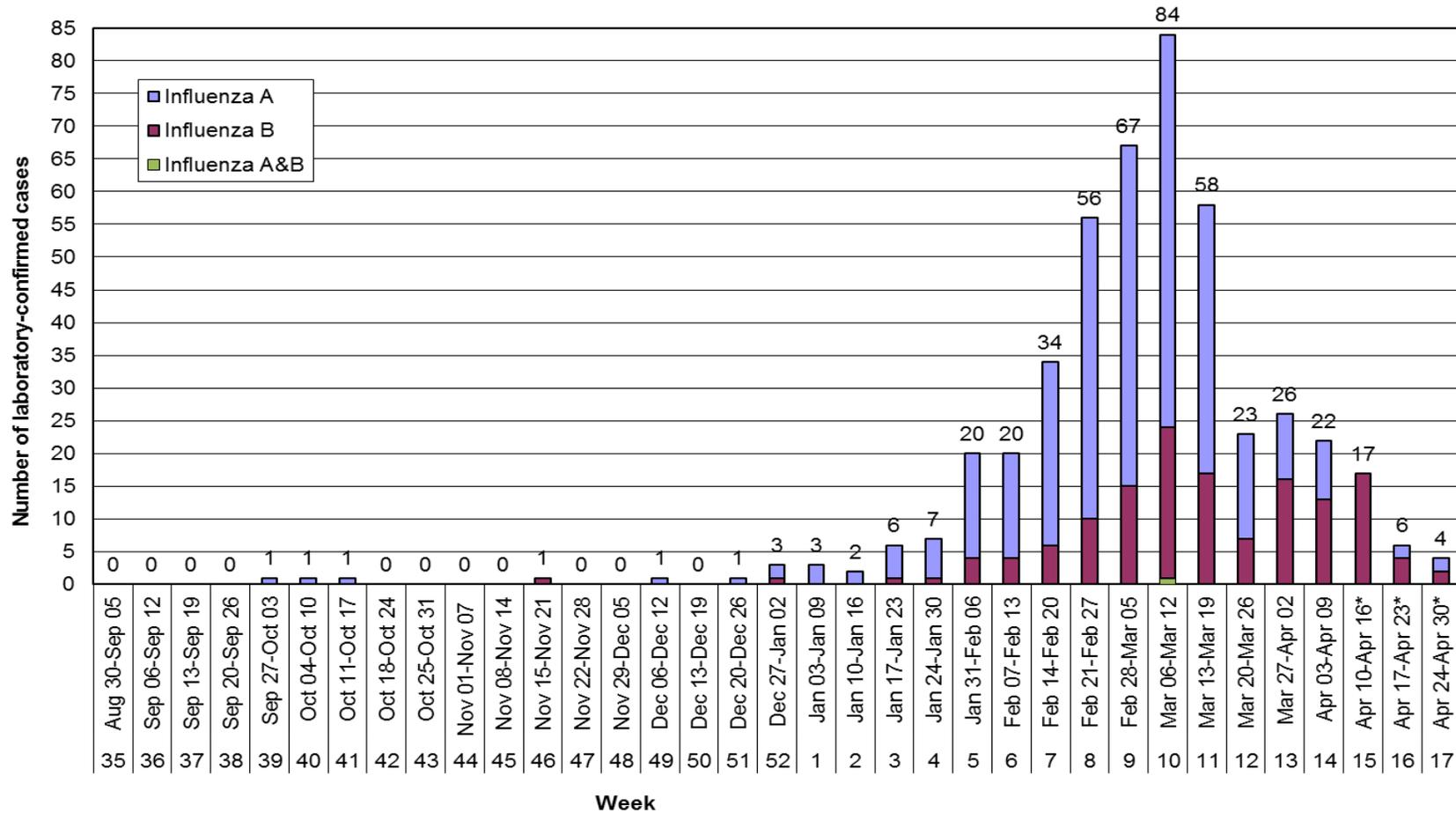
Indicator	Reporting Period	Number Reported: <i>Current Reporting Period</i>	Recent Trends
Hospital emergency department and urgent care centre reports regarding the percentage of patients with fever and respiratory illness	Apr. 24-30	An average of 7.8% of patients presented with fever and respiratory symptoms. The proportion was highest at the paediatric emergency department, where an average of 19.4% of patients presented with a fever and respiratory symptoms.	Similar to the 8.1% reported the previous week (Apr. 17-23). Higher than 18.5% reported the previous week (Apr. 17-23).
Absence reports from elementary schools (i.e., absenteeism > 10%)	Apr. 25-29	8 elementary schools from one school board reported average absenteeism due to all causes exceeding 10%.	Same as the previous week (Apr. 18-22), when 8 schools reported increased absenteeism.
Sentinel x-ray provider – newly identified bronchopneumonia cases	Apr. 25-30	An average of 3.3% of chest x-rays performed were newly diagnosed bronchopneumonia cases.	Similar compared to 2.9% reported the previous week (Apr. 18-23).

The Middlesex-London Health Unit gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following community partners who provide data for this report:

- London Health Sciences Centre
- London X-Ray Associates
- St. Joseph's Health Care London
- Thames Valley District School Board

Appendix B

Laboratory-confirmed influenza cases, by influenza date†
Middlesex-London 2015-2016 influenza season (N=464)



Source: Middlesex-London Health Unit internal influenza tracking database, extracted May 2, 2016.

† 'Influenza date' is the earliest of: symptom onset date, specimen collection date, and reported date. As a result, the weekly counts shown in this section differ from those provided in other sections of this report.

* Counts may be incomplete and are subject to change, due to the retrospective nature of reporting.