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## 2016-2017 Community Influenza Surveillance Report Update of Current Status February 14, 2017

### Overall assessment

The current level of influenza activity in Middlesex-London is lower than in the previous week.

### Current Local Activity

Between February 5<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, there were 25 cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza A reported to the Middlesex-London Health Unit, of whom 12 were hospitalized. In addition, two influenza outbreaks were declared in facilities and one death was reported.

Since September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, 323 laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza have been reported. To date, two cases have been identified as influenza B; all other cases have been identified as influenza A. Of the influenza A cases that have been subtyped, 91 have been identified as influenza A(H3), and one has been identified as influenza A(H3) and influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 co-infection. There have been 26 influenza A outbreaks declared in facilities located in the Middlesex-London area as well as 173 hospitalizations and 12 deaths.

Appendix A provides more details about laboratory-based influenza activity indicators, as well as other local indicators of respiratory illness. A graph showing all 323 laboratory-confirmed cases by week is provided at the end of this report in Appendix B. Appendix C provides a graph showing all institutional influenza outbreaks by week and institution type.

### Useful Websites

- The latest Ontario Respiratory Virus Bulletin, 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://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>.
- 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 February 14, 2017

**Table 1: Summary of laboratory-based influenza activity indicators, Middlesex-London and Ontario, 2016-2017 influenza surveillance season**

Indicator	Reporting Period	Number Reported: <i>Current Reporting Period</i>	Number Reported: <i>Year to Date (from September 1, 2016)</i>	Recent Trends
<b>Laboratory-confirmed cases<sup>1</sup></b>	Feb. 5-11	Influenza A – 25 cases Influenza B – 0 cases	Influenza A – 321 cases Influenza B – 2 cases	<b>Lower</b> compared to the previous week (Jan. 29-Feb. 4) when 27 influenza cases were reported.  <b>Please note that the week in which cases are reported does not necessarily reflect the date of onset of illness.</b>
<b>Influenza sub-types<sup>1</sup></b>	Feb. 5-11	Influenza A(H3) – 3 cases Influenza A(H3) & Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 – 1 case Influenza A not subtyped – 21 cases	Influenza A(H3) – 91 cases Influenza A(H3) & Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 – 1 case Influenza A not subtyped – 229 cases	Influenza A strains subtyped to date have been influenza A(H3) and influenza A(H1N1)pdm09.
<b>Hospitalizations<sup>1</sup></b>	Feb. 5-11	12	173	<b>Lower</b> compared to the previous week (Jan. 29-Feb. 4) when 14 hospitalizations were reported.
<b>Deaths<sup>1</sup></b>	Feb. 5-11	0	12	<b>Same</b> compared to the previous week (Jan. 29-Feb. 4) when no deaths were reported.  Note: One death was communicated to the health unit this week but occurred outside of the reporting period.
<b>Influenza outbreaks in long-term care homes/retirement homes/acute care</b>	Feb. 5-11	2	26	<b>Higher</b> compared to the previous week (Jan. 29-Feb. 4) when no influenza outbreaks were declared.
<b>Percentage of samples that are positive for influenza (Ontario)<sup>2</sup></b>	Jan. 29- Feb. 4	Influenza A – 24.0% positivity Influenza B – 0.3% positivity	N/A	Influenza A: <b>Lower</b> compared to 24.6% positivity reported in the previous week (Jan. 22-28).  Influenza B: <b>Same</b> compared to 0.2% positivity reported in the previous week (Jan. 22-28).

**Notes:**

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

2 Public Health Ontario, Ontario Respiratory Virus Bulletin 2016-2017

**Table 2: Summary of community-based respiratory illness indicators, Middlesex-London, 2016-2017 influenza surveillance season**

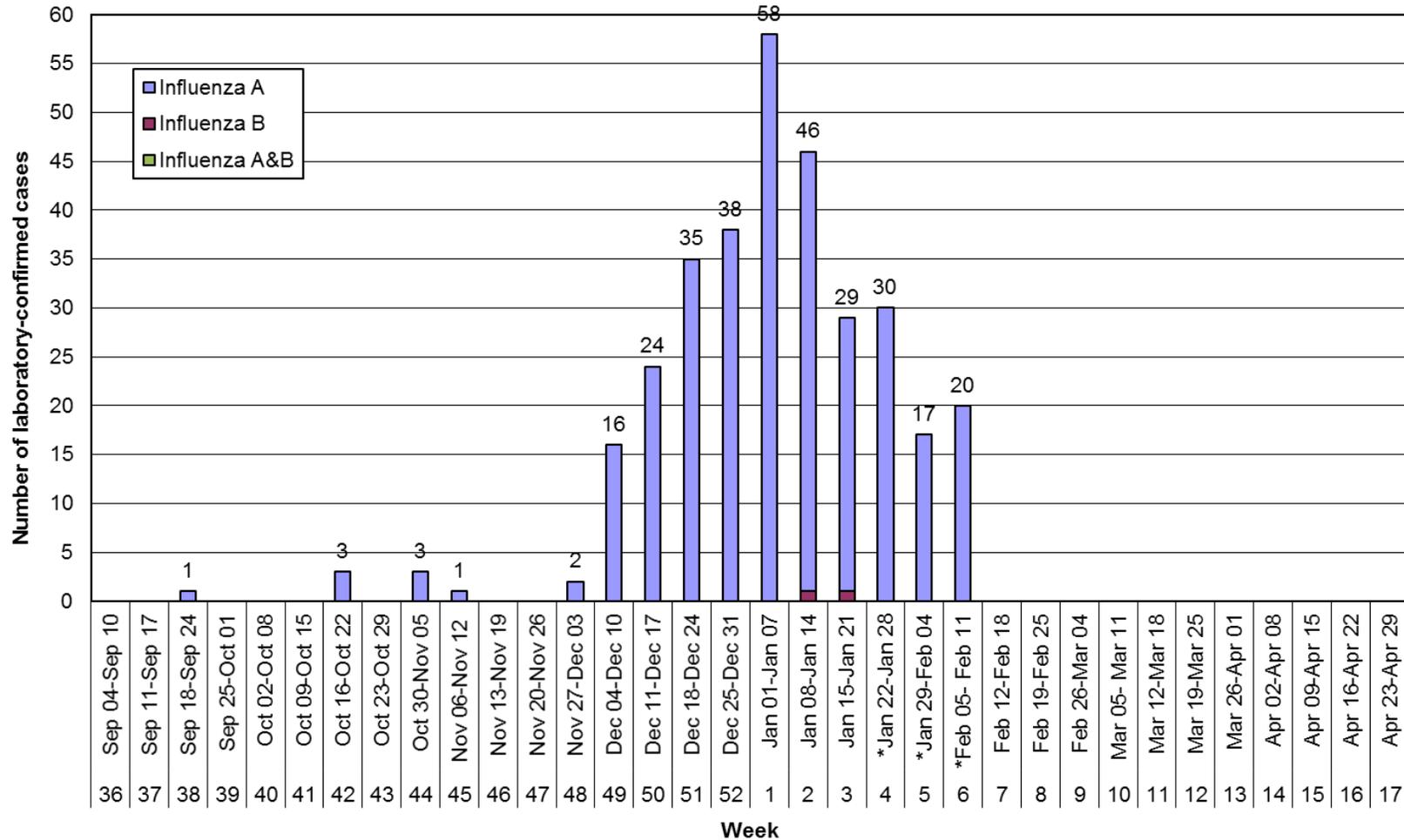
Indicator	Reporting Period	Number Reported: <i>Current Reporting Period</i>	Recent Trends
<b>Hospital emergency room reports regarding the percentage of patients with fever and respiratory illness</b>	Feb. 5-11	<p>An average of 8.8% of patients presented with fever and respiratory symptoms.</p> <p>The proportion was highest at the pediatric emergency department, where 24.3% of patients presented with a fever and respiratory symptoms.</p>	<p><b>Lower</b> compared to 9.4% reported in the previous week (Jan. 29- Feb. 4).</p> <p><b>Lower</b> compared to 25.7% reported in the previous week (Jan. 29- Feb. 4).</p>
<b>Absence reports from elementary schools (i.e., absenteeism &gt; 10%)</b>	Feb. 6-10	Thirty-six elementary schools from one school board reported average absenteeism (due to all causes) exceeding 10%.	<b>Lower</b> than the previous week (Jan. 30- Feb. 3), when 43 schools reported increased absenteeism.
<b>Sentinel x-ray provider – newly identified bronchopneumonia cases</b>	Feb. 6- 11	Of chest x-rays performed, 4.2% were newly diagnosed bronchopneumonia cases.	<b>Lower</b> compared to the previous week (Jan. 30- Feb. 4), when 5.6% of chest x-rays performed were newly diagnosed bronchopneumonia cases.

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 2016-2017 influenza season (N=323)



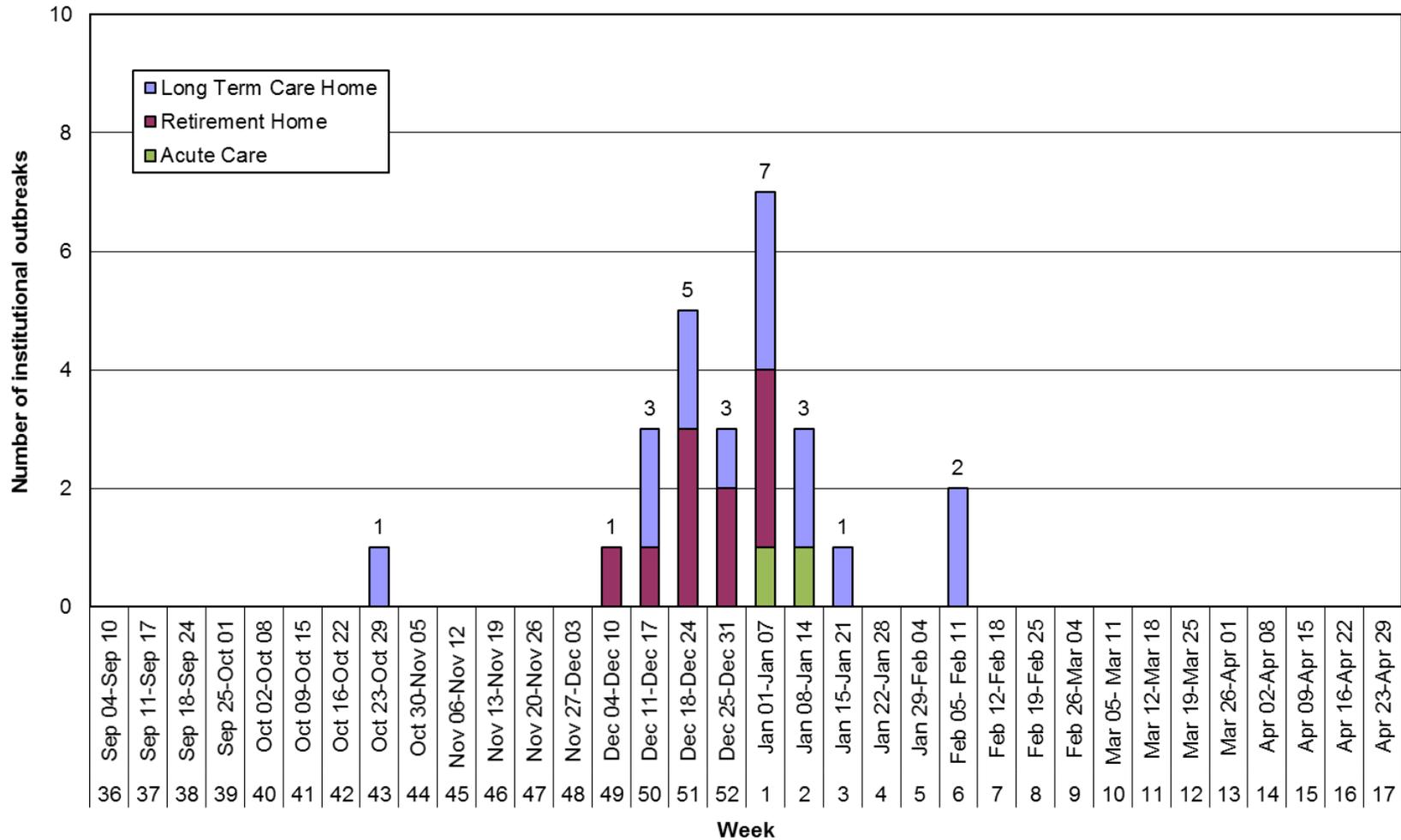
Source: Middlesex-London Health Unit internal influenza tracking database, extracted Feb. 14, 2017.

† '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.

## Appendix C

**Institutional influenza outbreaks, by institution type  
Middlesex-London 2016-2017 influenza season (N=26)**



Source: Middlesex-London Health Unit internal influenza tracking database, extracted Feb. 14, 2017.

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