

## **2016-2017 Community Influenza Surveillance Report Update of Current Status May 9, 2017**

### **Final Report of the Season**

This will be the final Community Influenza Surveillance Report of the 2016-2017 influenza season. As has been the case across the province, influenza activity in Middlesex-London has declined such that there were few laboratory-confirmed influenza cases and hospitalizations, no deaths, or flu outbreaks reported in the past week. Influenza reporting will resume with local surveillance in the fall of 2017.

We wish to thank all those who provided data for this report, which gave us a comprehensive picture of local influenza activity each week. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. As well, we wish our readers a happy and safe summer.

### **Overall assessment**

Influenza activity in Middlesex-London is low, with most indicators lower compared to the previous week.

### **Current Local Activity**

Between April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 6<sup>th</sup>, there were three cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza B reported to the Middlesex-London Health Unit, as well as two hospitalizations.

Since September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, 476 laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza have been reported. To date, 44 cases have been identified as influenza B; all other cases have been identified as influenza A. Of the 113 influenza A cases that have been subtyped, 112 have been identified as influenza A(H3), and one has been identified as an influenza A(H3) and influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 co-infection. There have been 34 influenza A, four influenza B, and one influenza A and B outbreaks declared in facilities located in the Middlesex-London area, as well as 258 hospitalizations and 16 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 476 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 May 9, 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</i> <i>(from September 1, 2016)</i>	Recent Trends
<b>Laboratory-confirmed cases<sup>1</sup></b>	Apr. 30- May 6	Influenza A – 0 cases Influenza B – 3 cases	Influenza A – 432 cases Influenza B – 44 cases	<b>Lower</b> compared to the previous week (Apr. 23-29) when four 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>	Apr. 30- May 6	Influenza A(H3) – 0 case Influenza A(H3) & Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 – 0 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 0 cases	Influenza A(H3) – 112 cases Influenza A(H3) & Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 – 1 case Influenza A not subtyped – 319 cases	Influenza A strains subtyped to date have been influenza A(H3) and influenza A(H1N1)pdm09.
<b>Hospitalizations<sup>1</sup></b>	Apr. 30- May 6	2	258	<b>Lower</b> compared to the previous week (Apr. 23-29) when three hospitalizations were reported.
<b>Deaths<sup>1</sup></b>	Apr. 30- May 6	0	16	<b>Same</b> compared to the previous week (Apr. 23-29) when no deaths were reported.
<b>Influenza outbreaks in long-term care homes/retirement homes/acute care</b>	Apr. 30- May 6	0	39	<b>Lower</b> compared to the previous week (Apr. 23-29) when one influenza outbreak was declared.
<b>Percentage of samples that are positive for influenza (Ontario)<sup>2</sup></b>	Apr. 23-29	Influenza A – 2.8% positivity Influenza B – 7.6% positivity	N/A	Influenza A: <b>Lower</b> compared to 4.4% positivity reported in the previous week (Apr. 16-22).  Influenza B: <b>Lower</b> compared to 8.7% positivity reported in the previous week (Apr. 16-22).

**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**

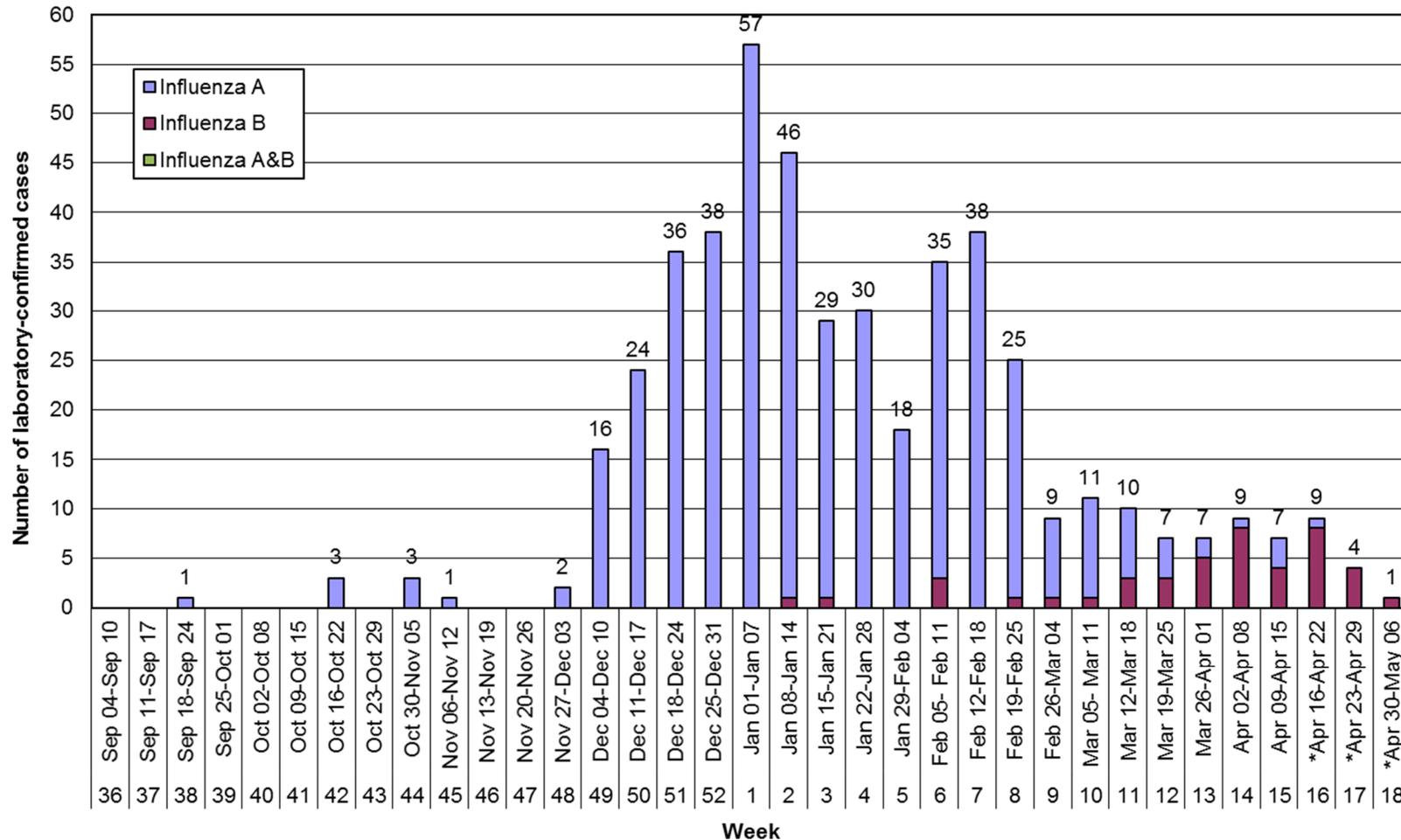
Indicator	Reporting Period	Number Reported: <i>Current Reporting Period</i>	Recent Trends
<b>Hospital emergency room reports regarding the percentage of patients with fever and respiratory illness</b>	Apr. 30- May 6	An average of 5.7% of patients presented with fever and respiratory symptoms.  The proportion was highest at the pediatric emergency department, where 14.4% of patients presented with a fever and respiratory symptoms.	<b>Same</b> compared to 5.8% reported in the previous week (Apr. 23-29).  <b>Same</b> compared to 14.0% reported in the previous week (Apr. 23-29).
<b>Absence reports from elementary schools (i.e., absenteeism &gt; 10%)</b>	May 1-5	Nineteen elementary schools from one school board reported average absenteeism (due to all causes) exceeding 10%.	<b>Higher</b> than the previous week (Apr. 24-28), when 12 schools reported increased absenteeism.
<b>Sentinel x-ray provider – newly identified bronchopneumonia cases</b>	May 1-6	Data not available.	Data not available.

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=476)



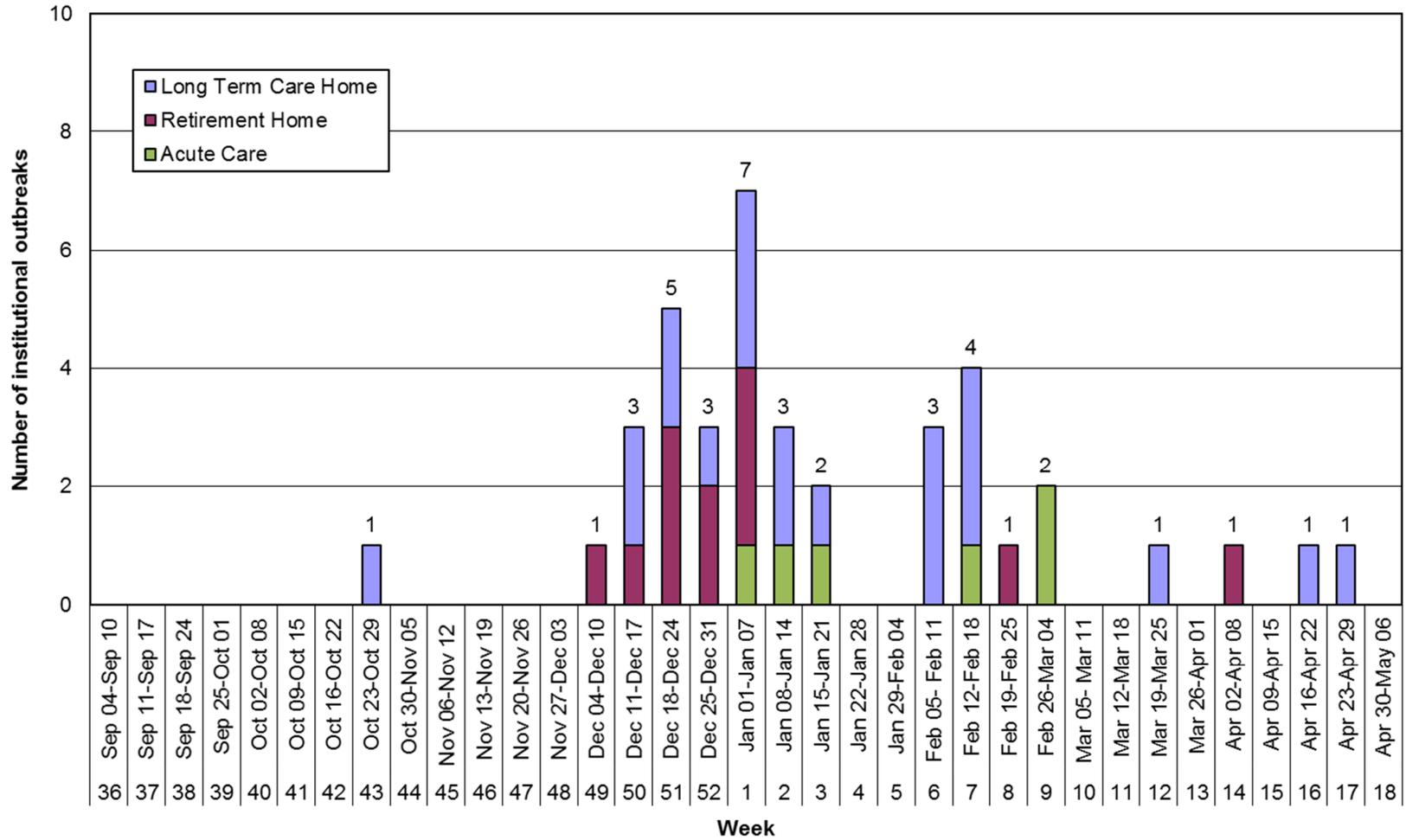
Source: Middlesex-London Health Unit internal influenza tracking database, extracted May 9, 2017.

† '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=39)**



Source: Middlesex-London Health Unit internal influenza tracking database, extracted May 9, 2017.

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