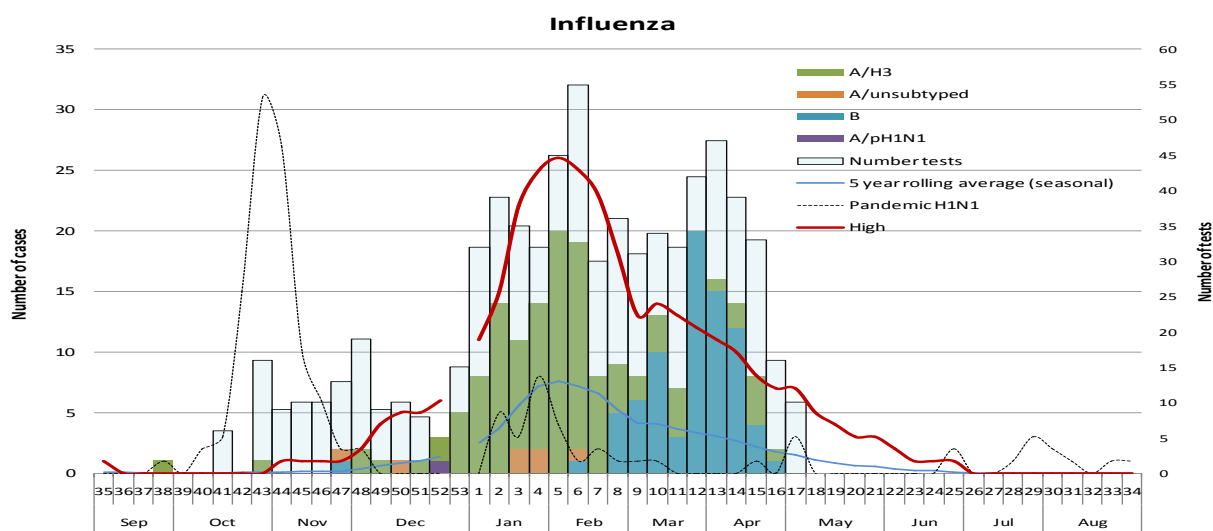


## PEI Influenza Summary – 2014-2015 Season

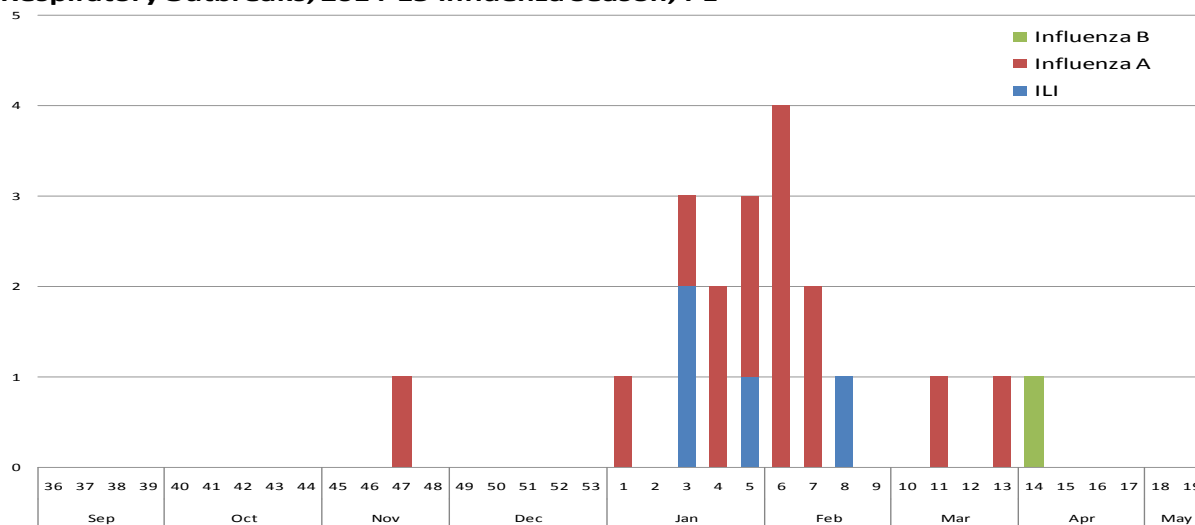
- Influenza A accounted for 62% of all lab-confirmed cases in PEI in 2014-15, with A/H3 being the most predominant strain. Influenza B was also present and accounted for 38% of cases.
- The median age of lab-confirmed cases was 74 years (Flu A) and 56 years (Flu B).
- In total there were 98 hospitalizations including 11 ICU patients.

The influenza season in PEI began in late December 2014 although there were a few sporadic cases confirmed prior to that date. Influenza A predominated the season accounting for 62% of all lab-confirmed cases in PEI, with most of these being A/H3. The Flu A activity peaked in early February, while the Flu B activity peaked at the end of March. The circulation of both strains within one influenza season extended the length of the season. Flu activity ended in May, but sporadic cases of influenza can occur at anytime during the year. Lab-confirmed cases are just an indicator of flu activity. The majority of influenza cases do not seek health care and are not tested.



There were several respiratory outbreaks reported (n=20) to the Chief Public Health Office. The majority of the outbreaks occurred in late January to early February. Most outbreaks were caused by Influenza A/H3.

### Respiratory Outbreaks, 2014-15 Influenza Season, PE



The 2014-15 influenza season statistics are presented below:

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Lab-confirmed Cases</b>          | <b>209</b>   |
| Influenza A                         | 130          |
| pH <sub>1</sub> N <sub>1</sub>      | 1            |
| H <sub>3</sub>                      | 122          |
| Influenza B                         | 79           |
| Median Age (Flu A)                  | 74 years     |
| Median Age (Flu B)                  | 56 years     |
| Sex                                 | 56%F    44%M |
| <b>Hospitalizations (incl. ICU)</b> | <b>98</b>    |
| ICU                                 | 11           |
| Ventilated                          | 2            |
| Median Age                          | 75 years     |
| Sex                                 | 52%F    48%M |
| <b>Deaths</b>                       | <b>9</b>     |
| <b>Outbreaks</b>                    | <b>20</b>    |

#### 2014-15 Hospitalization Data:

- 714 inpatient days (from 89 patients where data was recorded)
- Median length of stay: 5 days (mean 8, range 1-40 days)
- Length of stay was slightly longer for those with Flu B compared with Flu A
- 74% of inpatients had co-morbid chronic conditions, most commonly diabetes and COPD

Historically the predominant strain of circulating influenza changes year-to-year. The strain of influenza can impact the severity of disease, the age group(s) of greatest impact, and the number of individuals presenting themselves to the health system for care. In addition the requests for influenza testing vary season-to-season.

| Influenza Season          | Predominant Strain | All Cases* | Hospitalized** | ICU |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------------|----------------|-----|
| <b>2009-10 (pandemic)</b> | A/pH1N1            | 114        | 50             | 9   |
| <b>2010-11</b>            | A/H3               | 110        | 53             | 6   |
| <b>2011-12</b>            | B                  | 53         | 11             | 0   |
| <b>2012-13</b>            | A/H3               | 124        | 54             | 6   |
| <b>2013-14</b>            | A/pH1N1            | 119        | 62             | 13  |
| <b>2014-15</b>            | A/H3 (B)           | 209        | 98             | 11  |

\*Laboratory confirmed cases, note that clinical diagnosis of influenza takes place frequently in the community during peak season and is not confirmed with laboratory testing.

\*\*Hospitalized counts include those admitted to ICU.

Summary reports of national weekly influenza activity are available online at: [Public Health Agency of Canada - Fluwatch](http://publichealth.gc.ca/fluwatch).