

2019-2020 HIGHLIGHTS

The first influenza associated death was confirmed in a person less than 50 years of age this week in Long Beach. This is a reminder that everyone 6 months and older needs a flu shot each year to protect themselves and others.

Influenza activity is widespread in California with elevated activity in Long Beach compared to previous years. During week 1 (12/29-1/4), 26.9% of specimens in CA¹ tested for influenza tested positive. While Influenza B/Victoria viruses continue to be the predominant strain, Influenza A H1N1 viruses are also circulating.¹ Although both strains can be severe, Influenza B has generally been found to cause more pediatric hospitalizations and deaths. In Long Beach, 43% of reports have been for persons less than 18 years of age.

On October 1, 2019, laboratories were mandated to report all cases of influenza for the first time. Although, this may lead to an increase in the number of cases reported this season compared to past season.

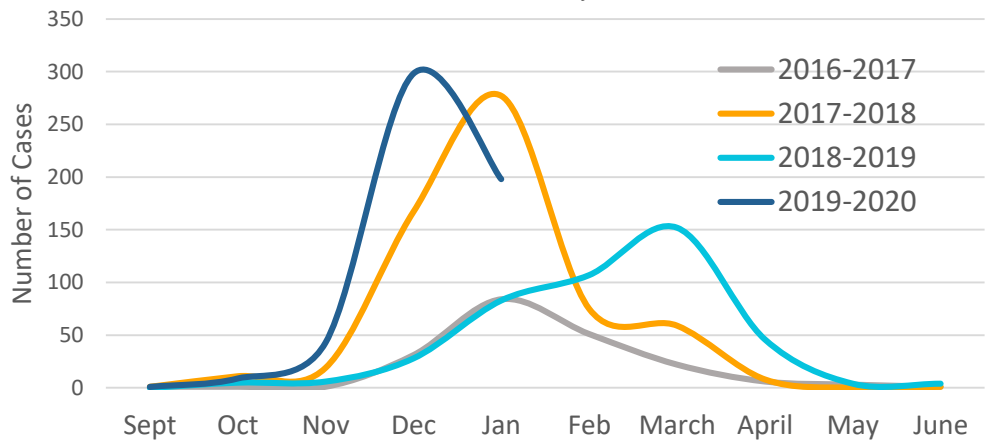
LONG BEACH SEASON SUMMARY

Total Cases³
550

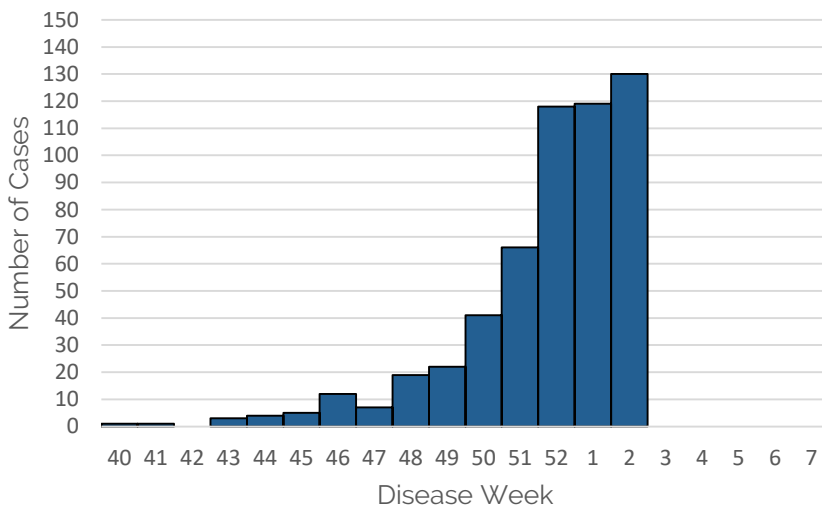
Deaths⁴
1

Outbreaks
0

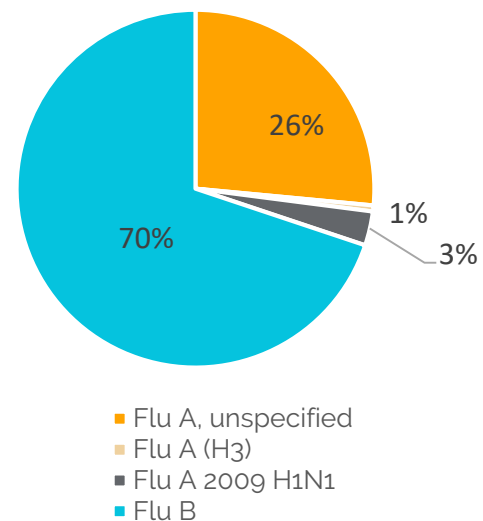
Influenza Trends by Season



Influenza Laboratory Detection by Week 2019-2020



Virus Characteristics 2019-2020



1. Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses Weekly Report. California Influenza Surveillance Program, CDPH, Week 1.
2. *Elevated Influenza Activity: Influenza B/Victoria and A(H1N1)pdm09 Viruses are the Predominate Viruses.* CDC Health Advisory, January 19, 2020.
3. Total case counts are based on those reported to public health by laboratories, the true number of influenza cases may be under-reported. Due to lag in reporting, number of cases may change in the following weeks.
4. Number of deaths is based on influenza-coded deaths from death certificates. They are not necessarily laboratory-confirmed and may be an underestimate of all influenza-associated deaths.