

2018-19 Season Highlights:

- The 2018-19 influenza season was uncharacteristically long compared to previous seasons, with overall moderate severity.
- There were two waves of influenza A – influenza A(H1N1)pdm2009 predominated October 2018 to February 2019, and A(H3N2) from March to May 2019. Very little influenza B activity was detected.
- One pediatric influenza-associated death was reported. The case did not receive the 2018-19 influenza vaccine. Fifteen adults under the age of 65 years also died with influenza infection.

Each influenza season, Orange County Health Care Agency partners with local hospitals, primary care providers, universities, and colleges to conduct influenza surveillance. Influenza is voluntarily reported in Orange County except for laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated deaths among cases under 18 years, which are mandated to be reported under the California Code of Regulations. However, reporting of severe cases (intensive care hospitalizations or deaths) in people under the age of 65 years is encouraged. In addition, hospitals participating in local surveillance efforts should report influenza cases of any age and outpatient sentinel providers are asked to report influenza-like illness, in order to provide a timely and comprehensive picture of influenza activity in our County. While the statistics and trends presented in this summary illustrate seasonal activity, this data is not representative of all influenza cases and should not be considered population-based surveillance.

2018-19 Surveillance Totals

6,050	Total Reported Cases
35 children 46 adults	ICU Cases (0-64 yrs)
1 child 15 adults	Deaths (0-64 yrs)
17 LTCFs 10 Schools	Respiratory Outbreaks

LTCF = Long Term Care Facility

Specimen Testing Results from Orange County Public Health Laboratory (n=731)

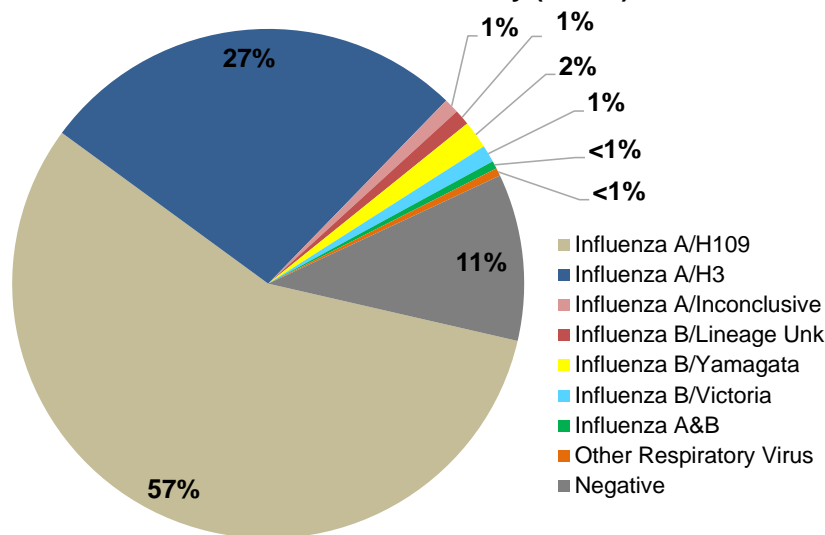


Table 1. Primary Influenza Surveillance Indicators.

Surveillance Indicator	2018-19	2017-18	5YR ² AVG
All influenza detections reported (rapid or PCR) ¹	6,050	8,276	3,356
Total severe cases < 65 years (ICU and/or death)	97	104	57
Children (0-17 years)	36	35	14
Adults (18-64 years)	61	69	43
Influenza-associated deaths < 65 years	16	24	15
Children (0-17 years)	1	3	1
Adults (18-64 years)	15	21	14

¹ Only laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated deaths <18 years are required to be reported in California.

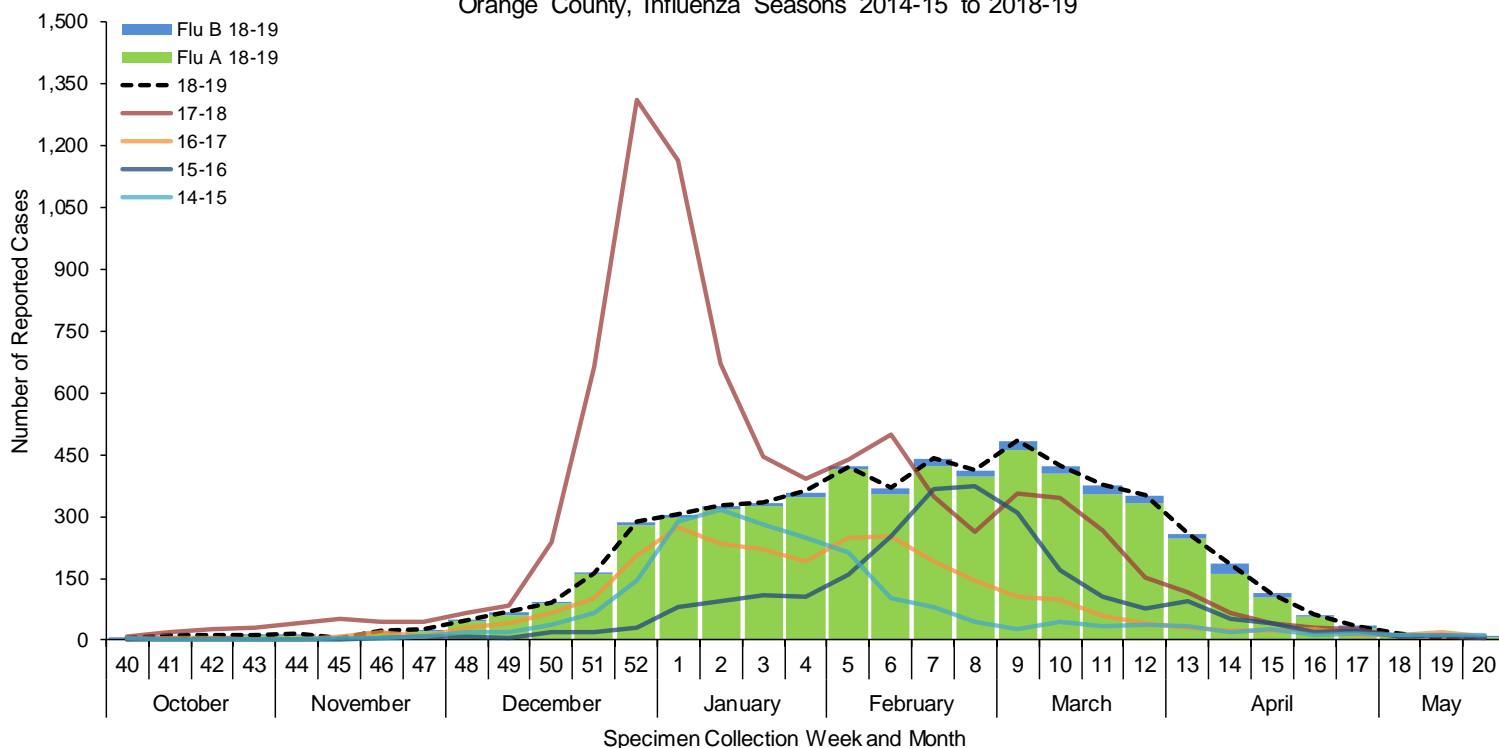
² Five year average includes data from 2013-14 to 2017-18 influenza seasons.

Eye on Influenza

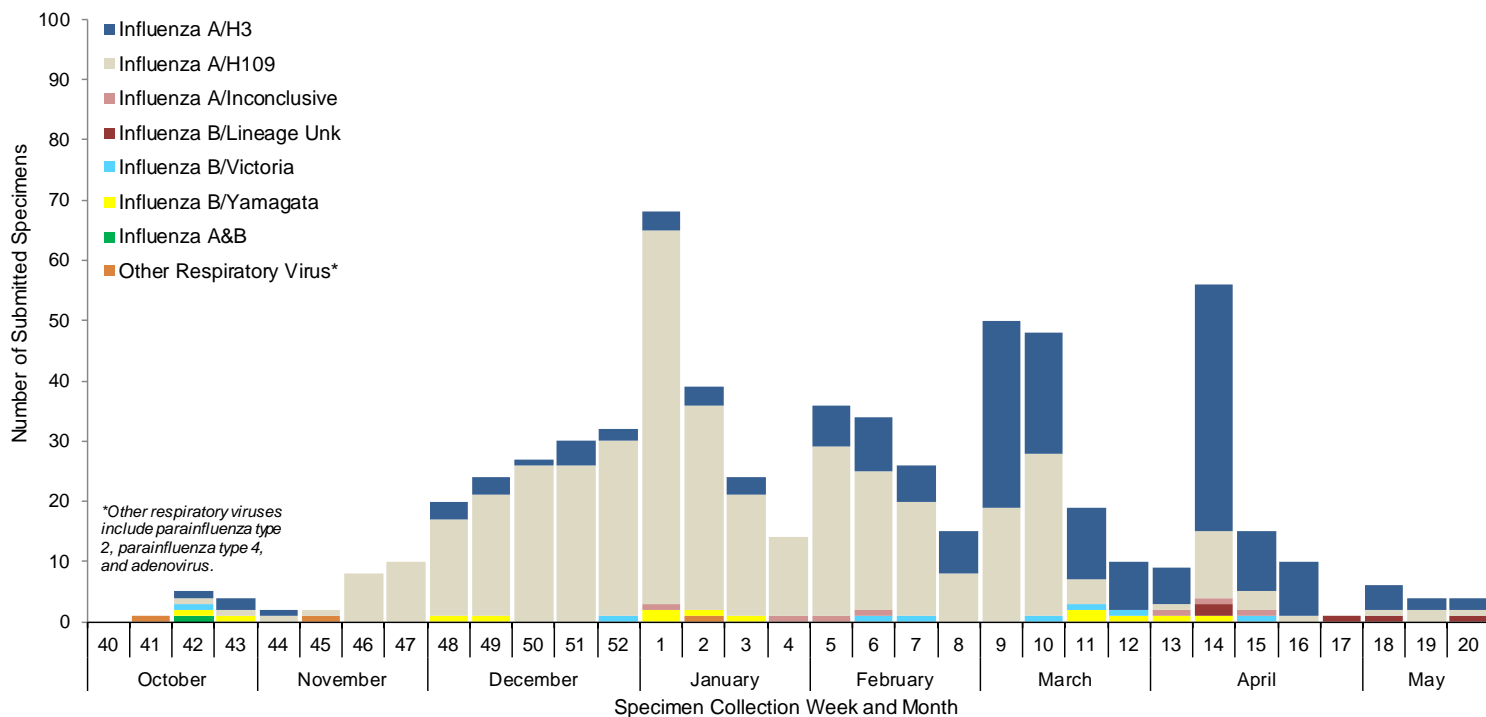
Updates on Influenza in Orange County

2018-19 Influenza Season Summary

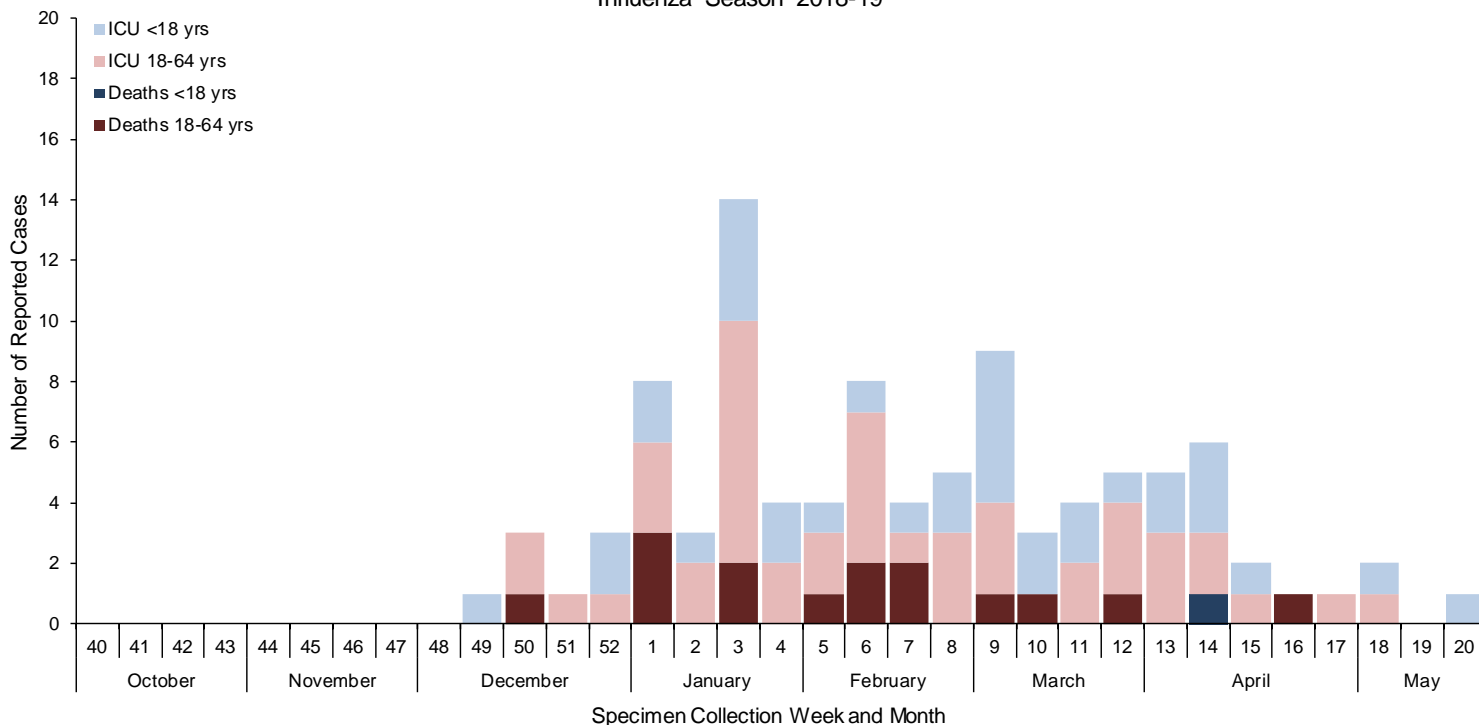
Reported Influenza Cases by Disease Week and Season, Orange County, Influenza Seasons 2014-15 to 2018-19



Specimen Results from Orange County Public Health Laboratory, Influenza Season 2018-19



Severe Influenza Cases (Under 65 years) by Age Group, Influenza Season 2018-19



Percent of Outpatient Visits for Influenza-like Illness (ILI), Orange County, Influenza Season 2014-15 to 2018-19

