

# City of Long Beach

## Influenza 2018-2019 Season Report

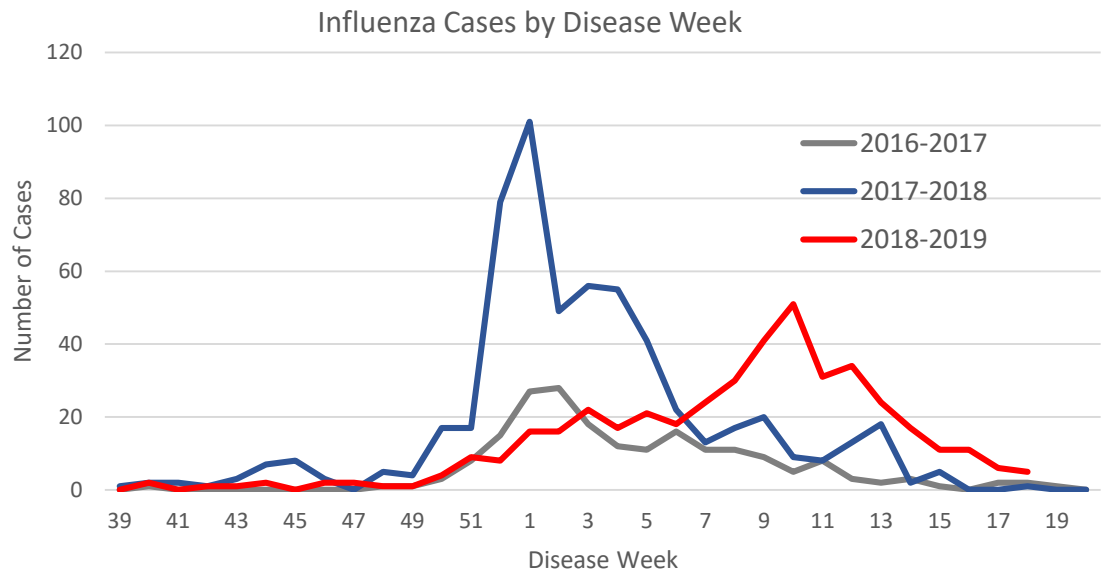


The influenza season is monitored from October 1 to April 30 of each year in Long Beach. Although the 2018-2019 influenza season was not as severe as the previous, it was the longest recorded in U.S. history with 21 weeks of elevated activity according to the CDC<sup>1</sup>. Typically in Long Beach the influenza season peaks in January, however this season the peak did not occur until early March. The median age of reported cases was also younger this season compared to the 2017-2018 season. This season, the median age of reported cases was 32 years, compared to 56 years in 2017-2018. All deaths reported this season were over 18 years of age. The following charts are a summary of demographics and trends observed during the 2018-2019 season.

**Total Cases<sup>2</sup>**  
**428**

**Deaths<sup>3</sup>**  
**9**

**Outbreaks**  
**1**



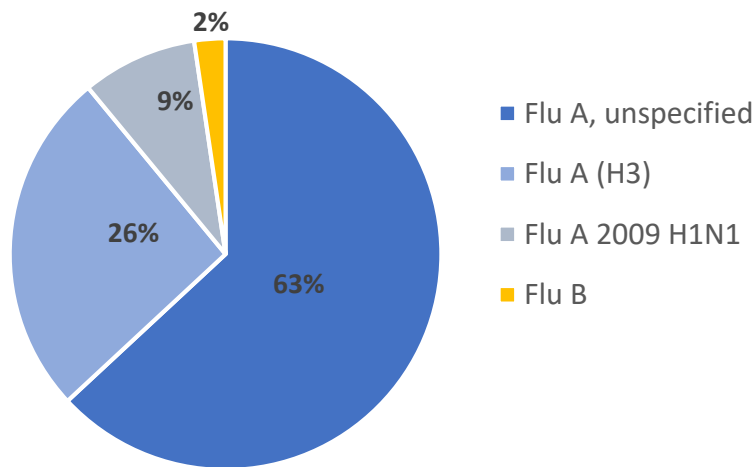
Demographics	2017-2018 (N=627)	2018-2019 (N=428)
<b>Age Groups</b>	%	%
0 to 4	7.5	17.5
5 to 17	9.7	19.2
18 to 34	12.4	15
35 to 49	11	12.1
50 to 64	19.1	15.7
65 +	39.7	20.6
<b>Gender (% Female)</b>	44.1	45
<b>Race and Ethnicity</b>		
White, Non-Hispanic	20.9	19.2
Hispanic/Latino	20.1	33.4
Black/African American	16.6	15.4
Asian	6.2	7.7
American Indian/Pacific Islander	2.1	2.3
Other/Unknown	34.1	22

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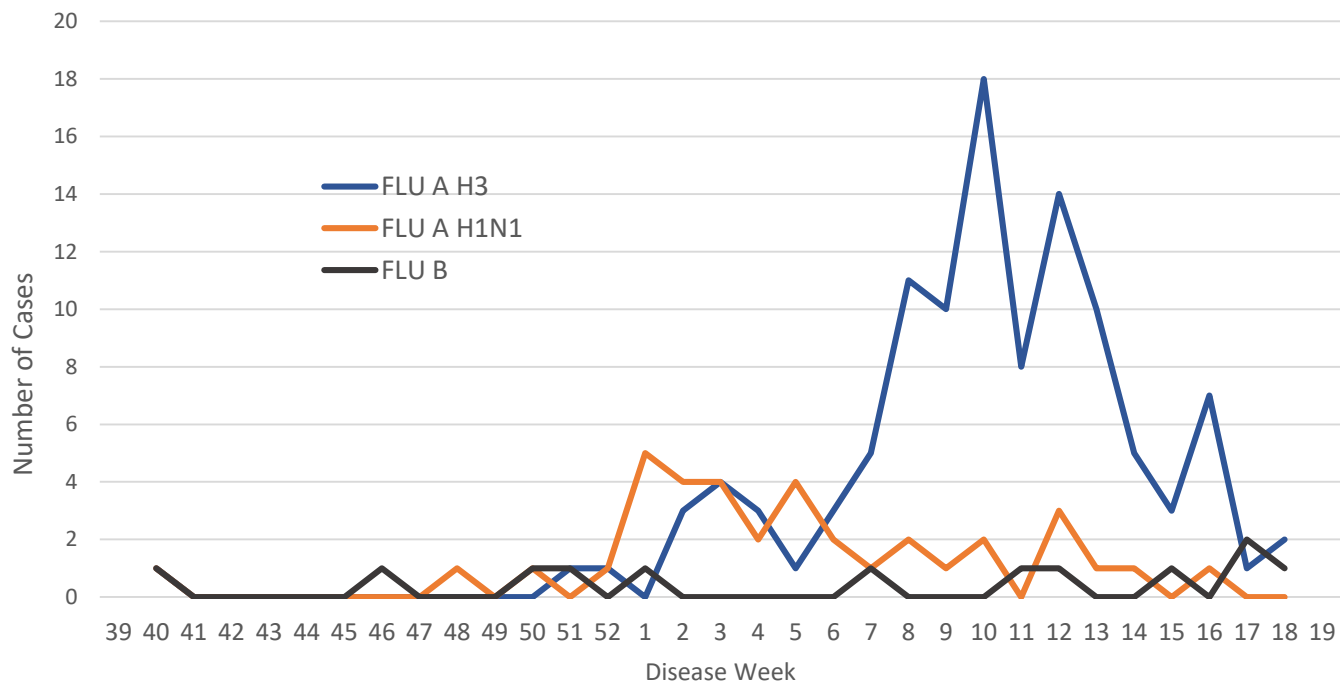


The predominant strain nationally during the 2018-2019 season was influenza A (H3N2), which tends to be more severe and result in more hospitalizations. However, early in the season, Influenza A (H1N1) was the most commonly identified strain. In Long Beach, there was a switch from influenza A (H1N1) to influenza A (H3)\* around Week 6 (February 3 - 9), which may have been the cause of the extended season. There was minimal influenza B circulating in Long Beach and nationwide this season as well.

Virus Characteristics among Long Beach Reports, 2018-2019



2018-2019 Influenza Subtypes by Disease Week in Long Beach, CA



Note: Only includes cases that had influenza subtype information

1. Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report. CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm>  
 2. Influenza is voluntarily reported to the health department. The total number of cases may not reflect the true number of influenza cases in Long Beach  
 3. 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.  
 \*Laboratory results reported to the Long Beach Health Department are only typed to the hemagglutinin and are therefore reported as Influenza A (H3)