



Synopsis

Influenza virus activity is increasing, with A/H1N1 and A/H3N2 co-circulating.

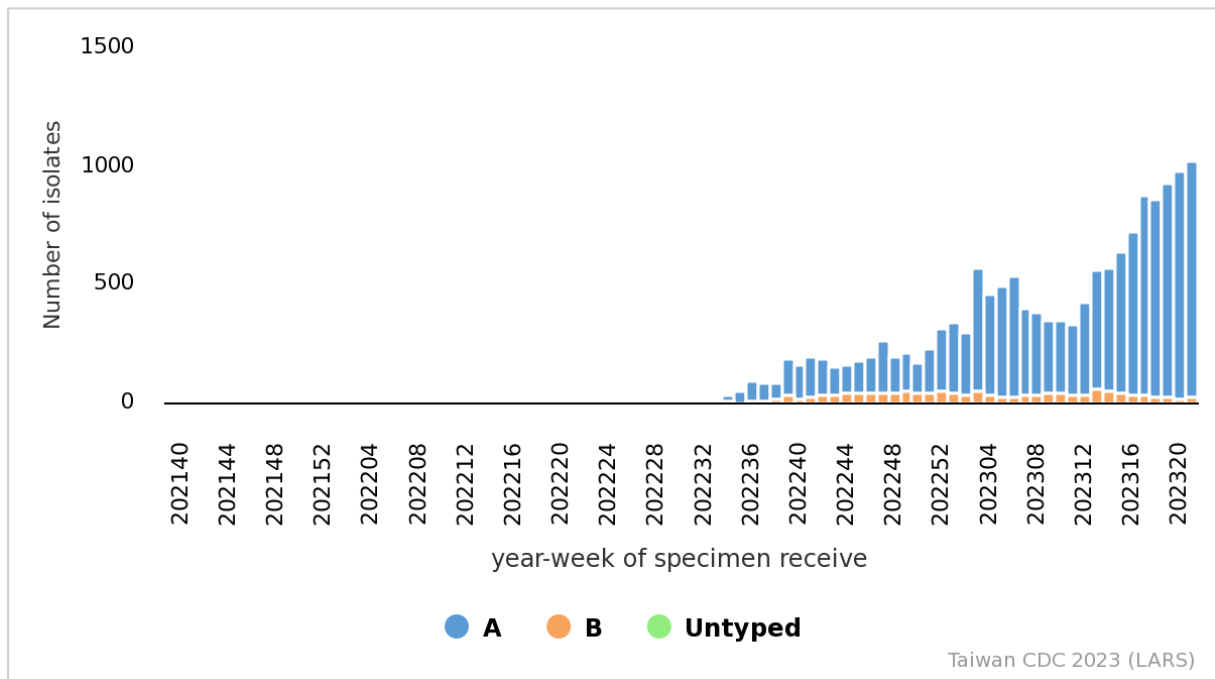
- Influenza A virus is circulating in community. During the last four weeks, H1N1 and H3N2 were co-circulating.
- During week 22, the number of medical visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was higher than the previous week and the trend was increasing.
- There have been 237 influenza cases with severe complications (112 H1N1, 117 H3N2, 3 untyped influenza A, and 5 influenza B) since October 1, 2022, and 37 of them were fatal.

Laboratory Surveillance¹

Laboratory Automated Reporting System (LARS)

During the last four weeks, the number of influenza-positive specimens was increasing and the proportion of influenza A positive specimens was 97%.

Trend of influenza-positive specimens according to LARS



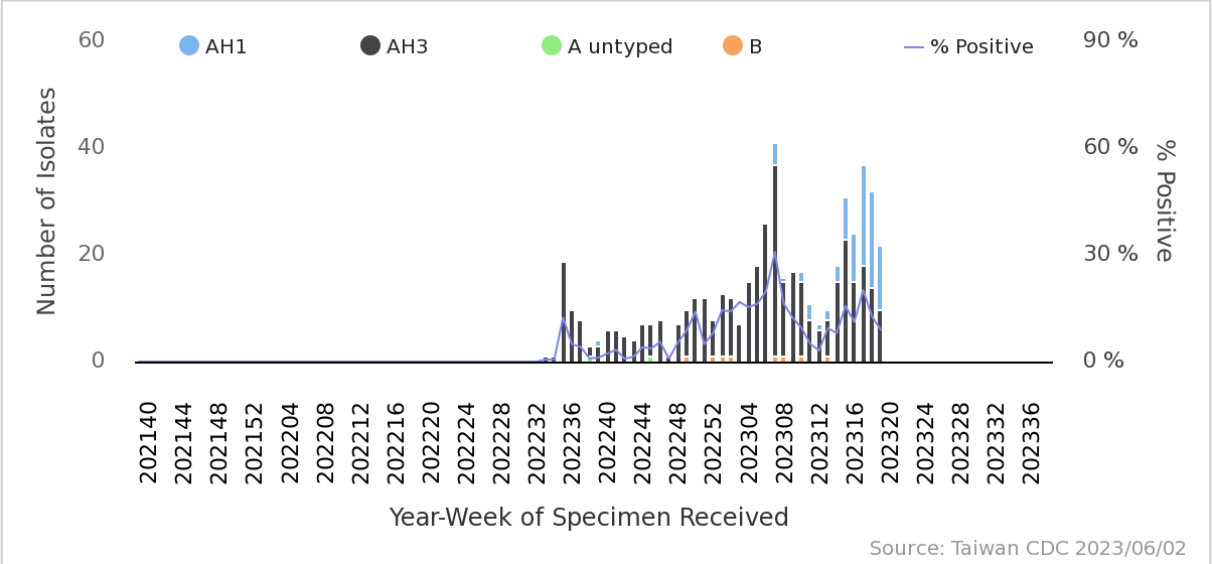
¹ In terms of the surveillance systems in Taiwan, please see: Jian, S. W., Chen, C. M., Lee, C. Y., & Liu, D. P. (2017). Real-Time Surveillance of Infectious Diseases: Taiwan's Experience. Health security, 15(2), 144-153.



Contracted Virology Laboratories Surveillance

The proportion of influenza-positive specimens of week 20 was 8.9%. During the last four weeks (week 17 to week 20, 2023), influenza A was the predominant virus type. The proportion of A/H1N1 and A/H3N2 were 50.4% and 49.6% respectively, H1N1 and H3N2 were co-circulating in community. Weekly virus data are available at <https://nidss.cdc.gov.tw/>.

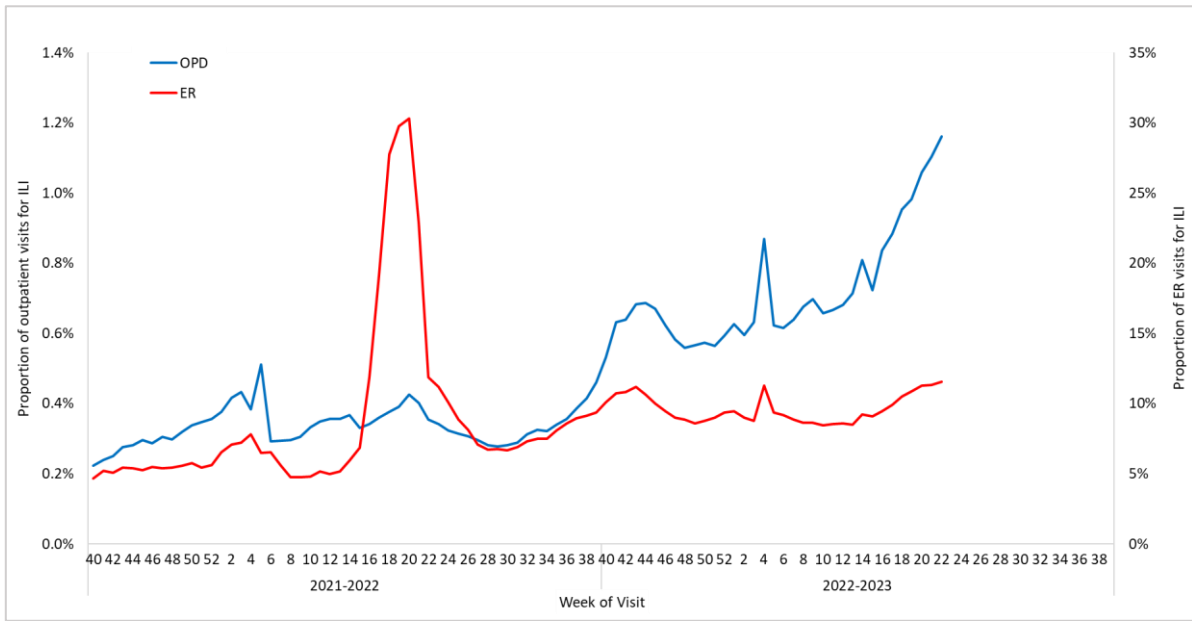
Influenza isolates according to Contracted Virology Laboratories



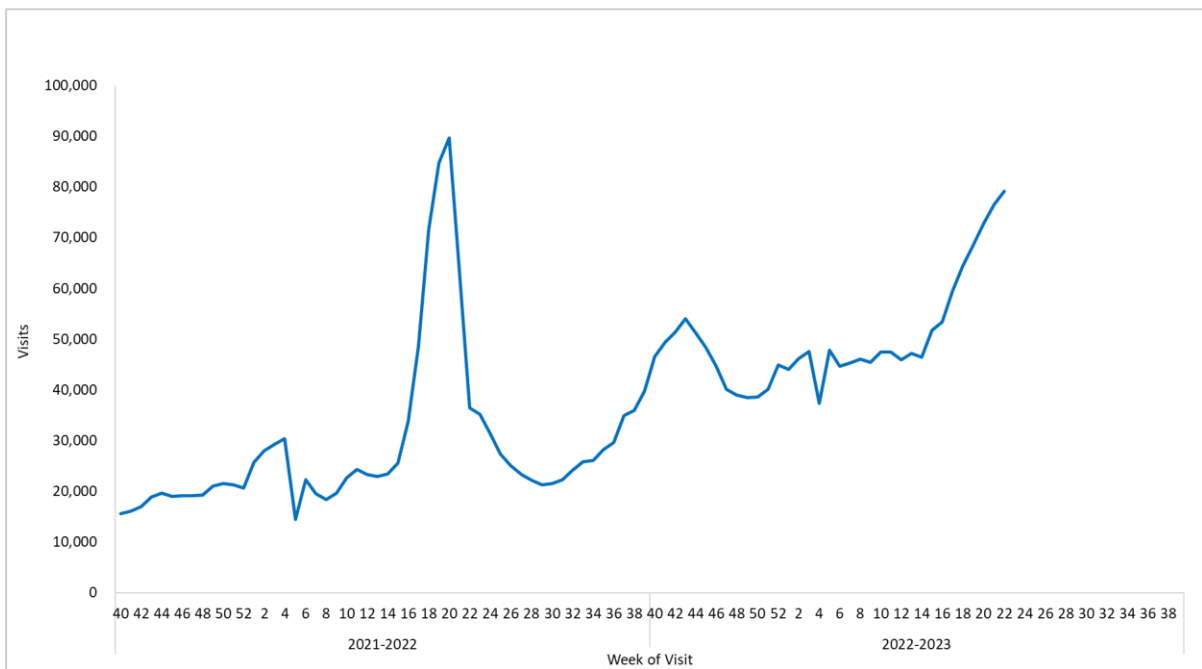
Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Surveillance

During week 22, the proportions of ILI visits were 1.2% and 11.5% for the outpatient and ER visits respectively. The total number of visits for ILI in outpatient and ER increased to 79,205, and the trend was increasing and higher than the same periods of the previous three influenza seasons.

Percentages of outpatient and ER visits for ILI



Total number of outpatient and ER visits for ILI



Influenza Case with Severe Complications

There were 18 newly confirmed influenza cases with severe complications (15 H1N1, 3 H3N2) and four fatal cases (all were H1N1). A total of 237 influenza cases with severe complications (112 H1N1, 117 H3N2, 3 untyped influenza A, and 5 influenza B) have been confirmed since October 1, 2022, and 37 of them (17 H1N1, 19 H3N2 and 1 influenza B) were fatal.

Incidence of influenza cases with severe complications and mortality rate October 1, 2022, to June 5, 2023

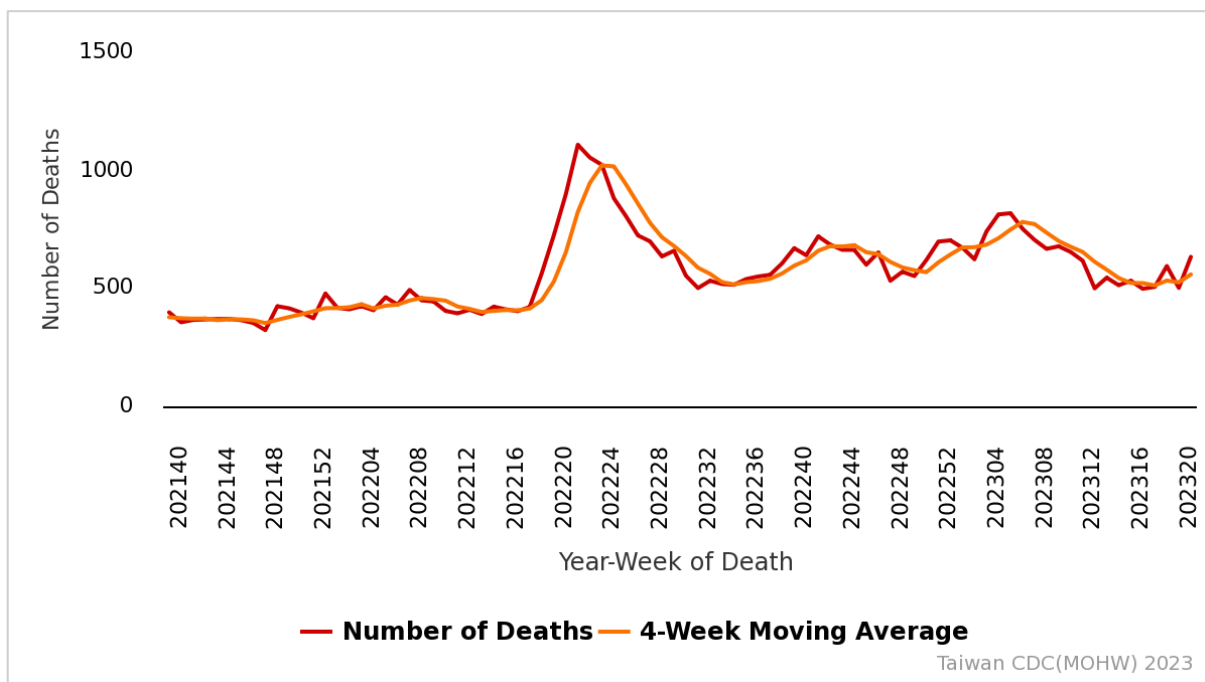
Age Group	Cases	Deaths	Cumulative incidence per 100,000 population	Cumulative mortality per 100,000 population
< 3 y	3	0	0.6	0
3-6 y	6	2	0.8	0.3
7-18 y	19	1	0.8	0.04
19-24 y	1	0	0.1	0
25-49 y	34	3	0.4	0.03
50-64 y	62	7	1.2	0.1
65 +	112	24	2.8	0.6
Total	237	37	1.0	0.2



Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality Surveillance

Based on the Internet System for Death Reporting (ISDR)² data, the number of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) during week 21 was higher than the previous week. The proportion of deaths attributed to P&I for adults aged 65 and older was the highest among the three age groups (0-49, 50-64, and 65+). Weekly P&I data are available at <https://nidss.cdc.gov.tw/>.

Weekly Number of Deaths due to Pneumonia and Influenza



² Medical institutions are required to report any mortality case to the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW) within 7 days after a death certificate is issued through the Internet System for Death Reporting (ISDR). Either the immediate cause of death or the underlying cause of death was used to identify P&I death cases. Only those with keyword texts containing 'pneumonia', 'influenza' or 'common cold' were counted as a P&I death.

