



## Synopsis

**Influenza virus activity and the number of newly confirmed influenza cases with severe complications are increasing.**

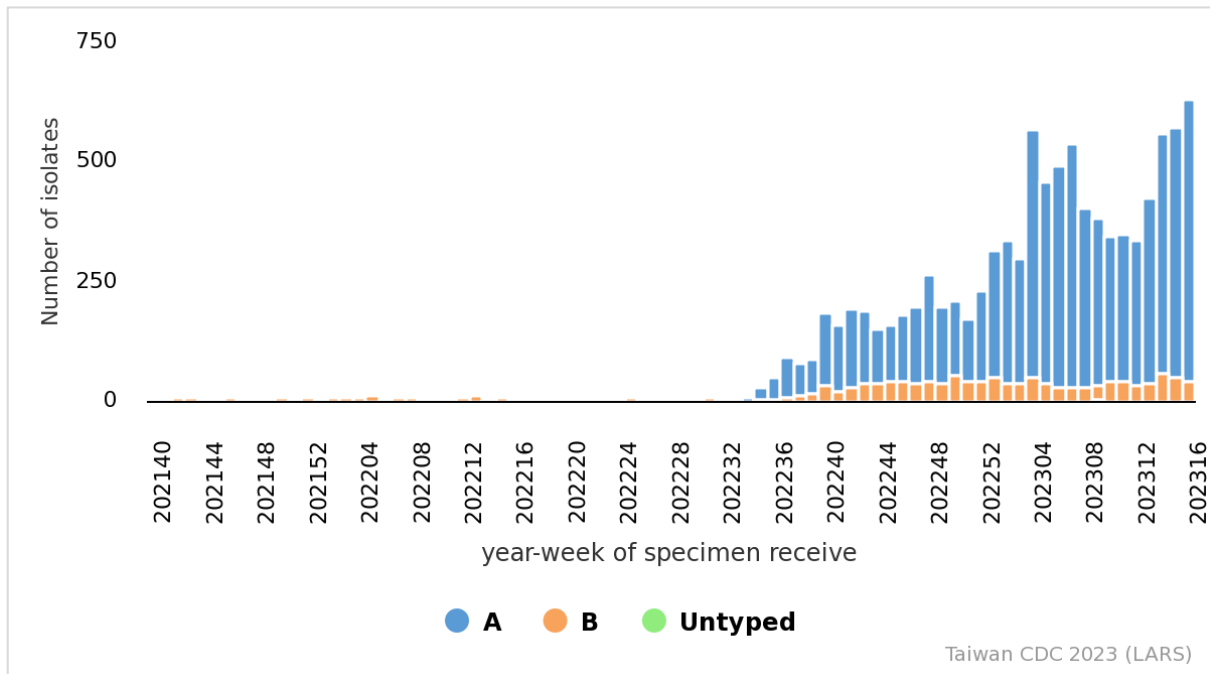
- Influenza virus activity is increasing in community. During the last four weeks, A/H3N2 was the predominant type among influenza virus, while A/H1N1 has slightly increased.
- The number of medical visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) increased during week 16 and was still higher than the same periods of the previous three flu seasons.
- There have been 114 influenza cases with severe complications (83 H3N2, 24 H1N1, 3 untyped influenza A, and 4 influenza B) since October 1, 2022, and 20 of them were fatal.

## Laboratory Surveillance<sup>1</sup>

### 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 91%.

**Trend of influenza-positive specimens according to LARS**



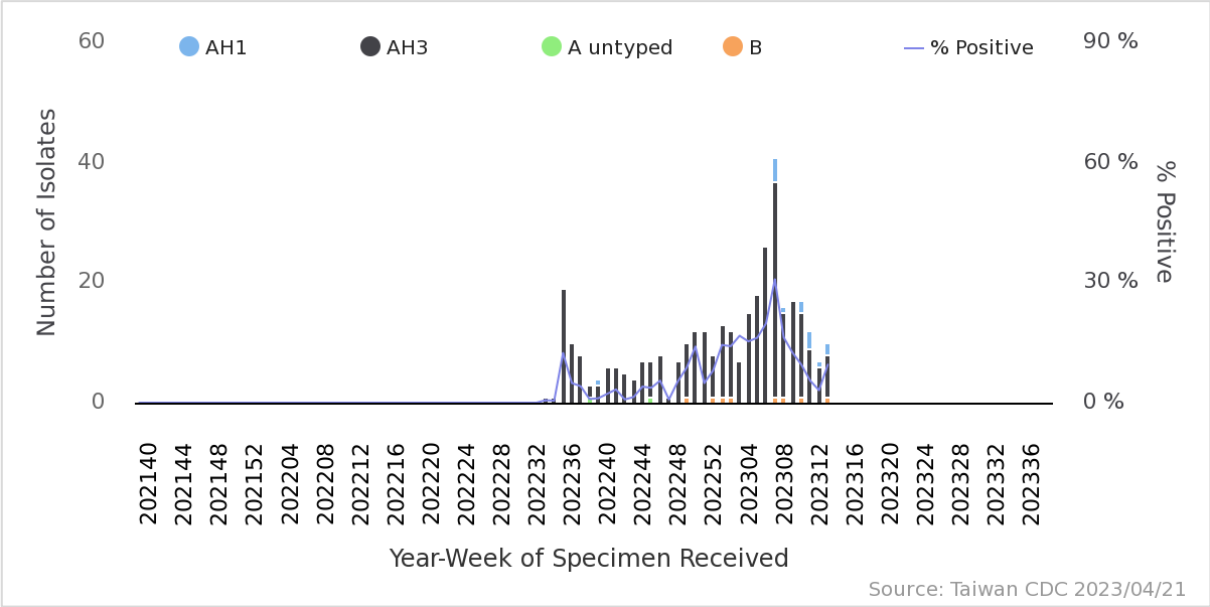
## Contracted Virology Laboratories Surveillance

<sup>1</sup> 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.



The proportion of influenza-positive specimens of week 14 was 9.5%. During the last four weeks (week 11 to week 14, 2023), A/H3N2 was the predominant type among influenza virus, while A/H1N1 has slightly increased. Weekly virus data are available at <https://nidss.cdc.gov.tw/>.

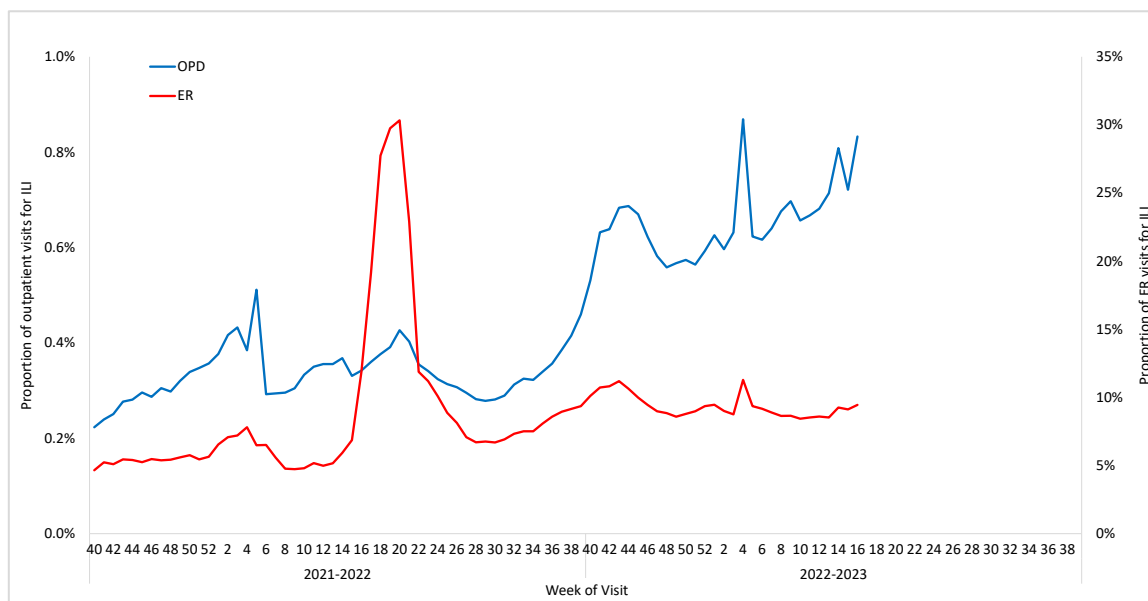
**Influenza isolates according to Contracted Virology Laboratories**



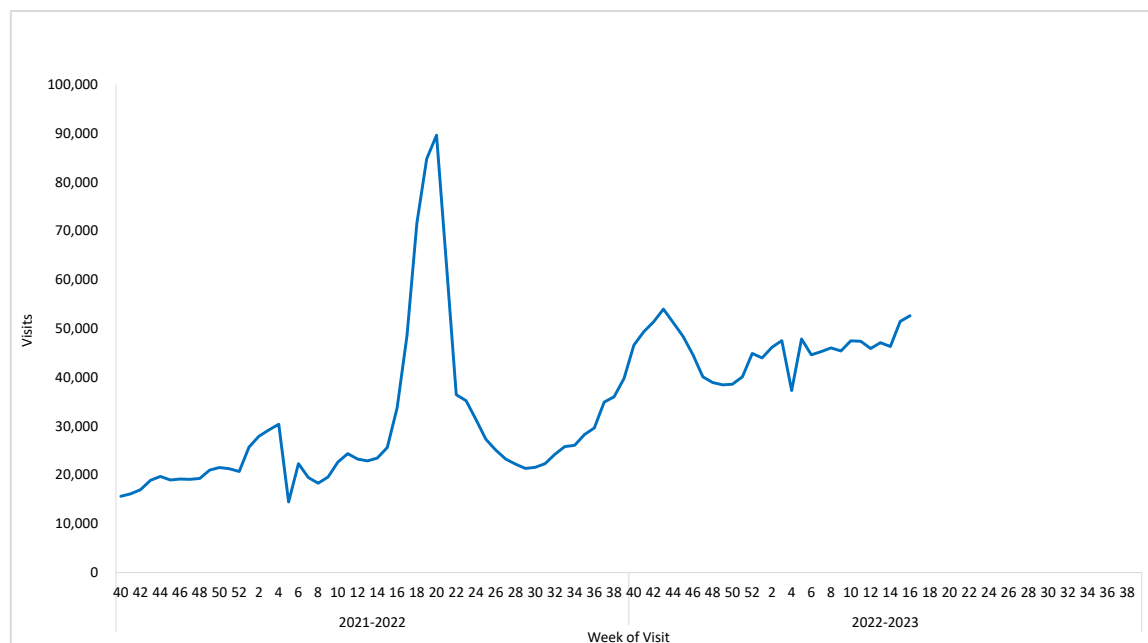
### Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Surveillance

During week 16, the proportions of ILI visits were 0.8% and 9.4% for the outpatient and ER visits respectively. The total number of visits for ILI in outpatient and ER was 52,648, and the trend slightly increased and was still higher than the same periods of the previous three flu 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 24 newly confirmed influenza cases with severe complications (13 H3N2, 9 H1N1, 2 untyped influenza A) and three fatal cases. A total of 114 influenza cases with severe complications (83 H3N2, 24 H1N1, 3 untyped influenza A, and 4 influenza B) have been confirmed since October 1, 2022, and 20 of them (17 H3N2, 2 H1N1 and 1 influenza B) were fatal.

### Incidence of influenza cases with severe complications and mortality rate October 1, 2022, to April 24, 2023

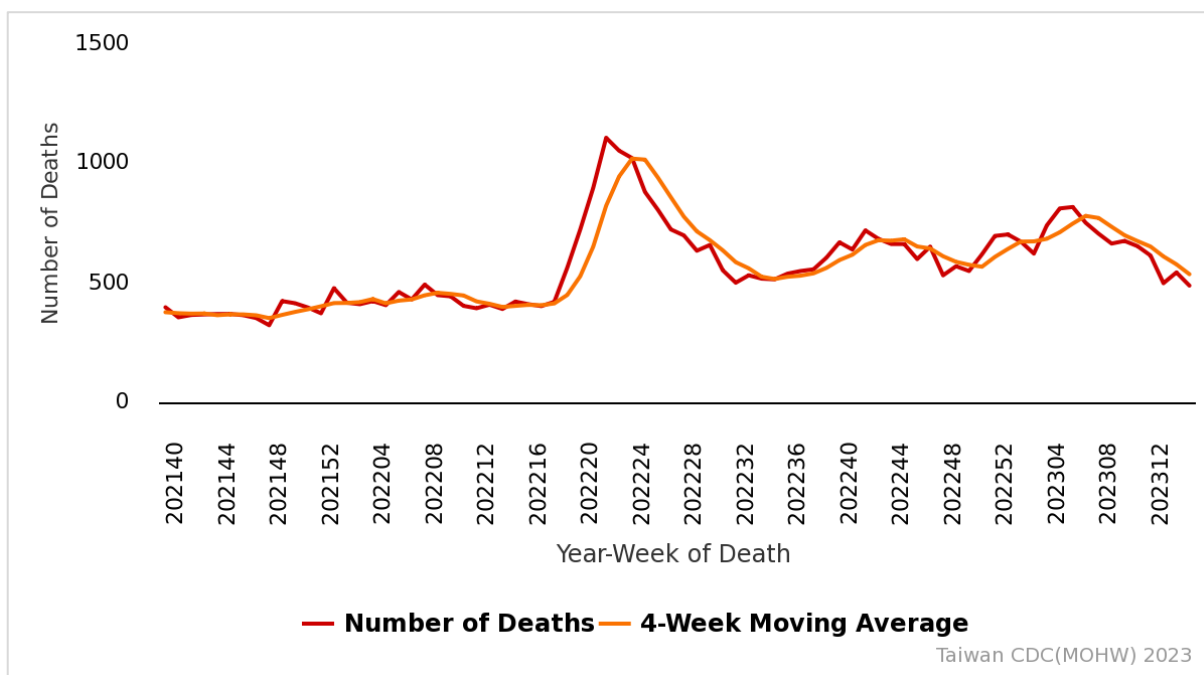
Age Group	Cases	Deaths	Cumulative incidence per 100,000 population	Cumulative mortality per 100,000 population
< 3 y	1	0	0.21	0
3-6 y	2	0	0.26	0
7-18 y	12	0	0.49	0
19-24 y	1	0	0.06	0
25-49 y	21	1	0.24	0.01
50-64 y	24	5	0.46	0.10
65 +	53	14	1.33	0.35
Total	114	20	0.49	0.09



## Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality Surveillance

Based on the Internet System for Death Reporting (ISDR)<sup>2</sup> data, the number of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) during week 15 was lower than the previous week, and the trend was decreasing during recent weeks. 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



<sup>2</sup> 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.

