

Influenza

SURVEILLANCE REPORT

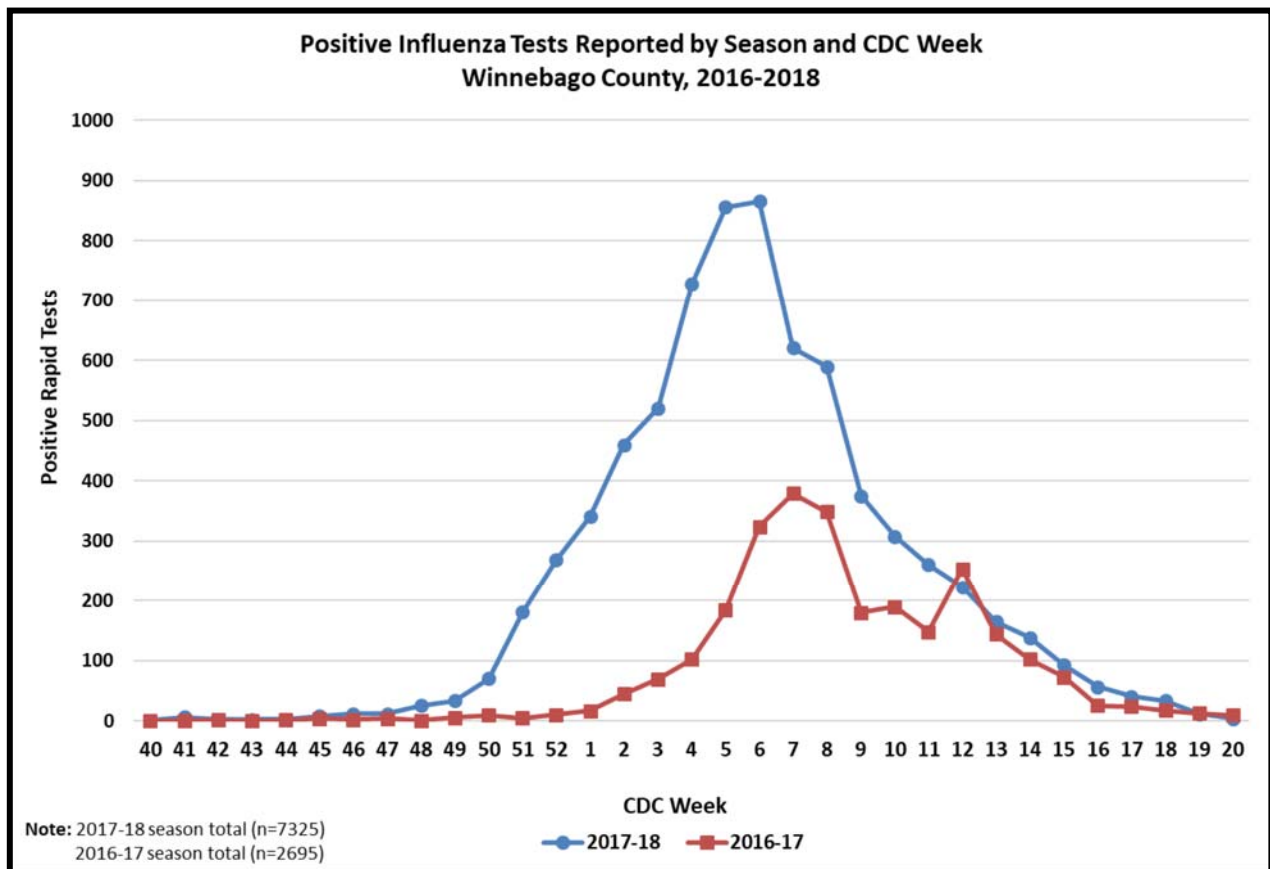
2017 - 2018 Influenza Season Surveillance Summary Report

The Health Department has concluded its annual influenza surveillance for Winnebago County. This year end report indicates what the community experienced during the season.

The Health Department extends its gratitude to its Community Partners who provided the weekly collection of data from hospitals, physicians, and laboratories. Without this effort, the Health Department would be unable to provide this important information to the community.

SEASON HIGHLIGHT:

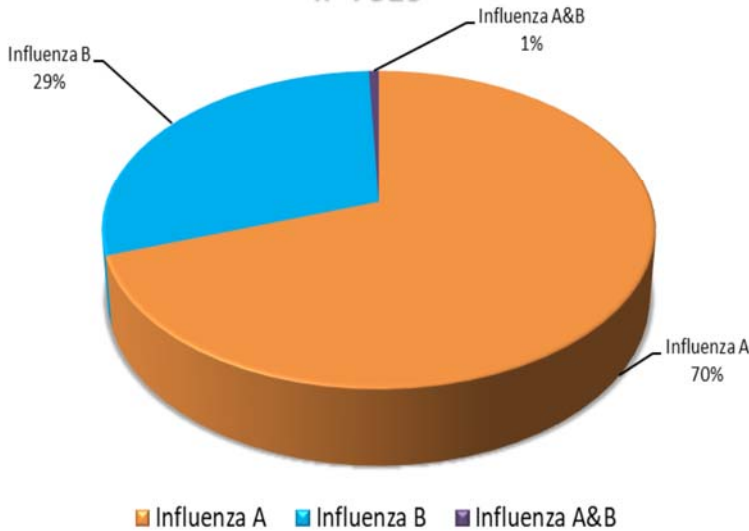
As the graph illustrates, the 2017-18 season saw high influenza activity compared to the 2016-17 season. The number of cases more than doubled to a total of 7,325 individuals testing positive for influenza.



Influenza Surveillance Season

2017-2018 Distribution and Demographics

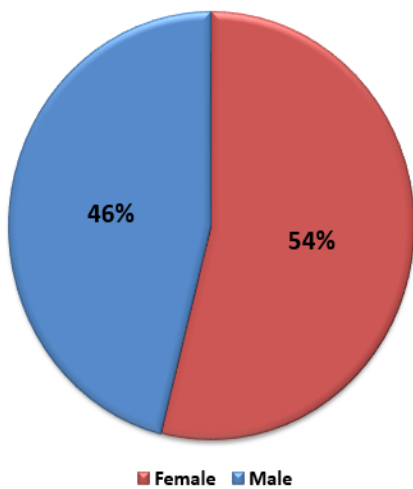
**Winnebago County
2017-2018 Influenza Season
CDC Weeks 41-20 2018
n=7325**



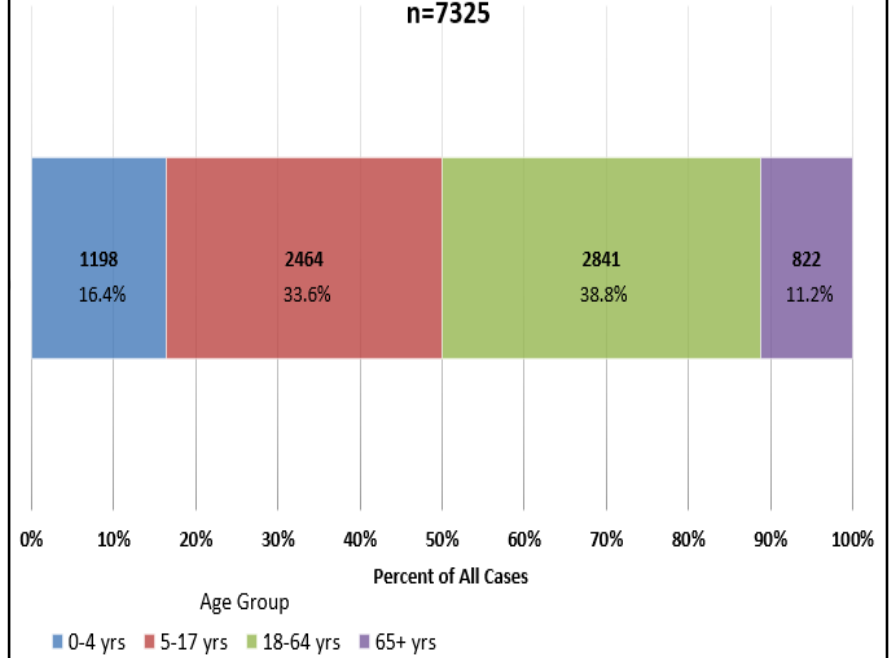
The pie chart on the left shows the total number of positive influenza tests reported to the Health Department during the 2017-2018 season. Influenza A was the predominant circulating virus, accounting for 70% of the positive tests during the season. This remained consistent with the distribution witnessed during the 2016-17 season wherein Influenza A accounted for 63% of the positive tests during the season.

The two figures below illustrate the demographic distribution of the positive influenza tests reported this season.

**Distribution of Positive Influenza Tests by Gender
Winnebago County, 2017-2018
n=7325**

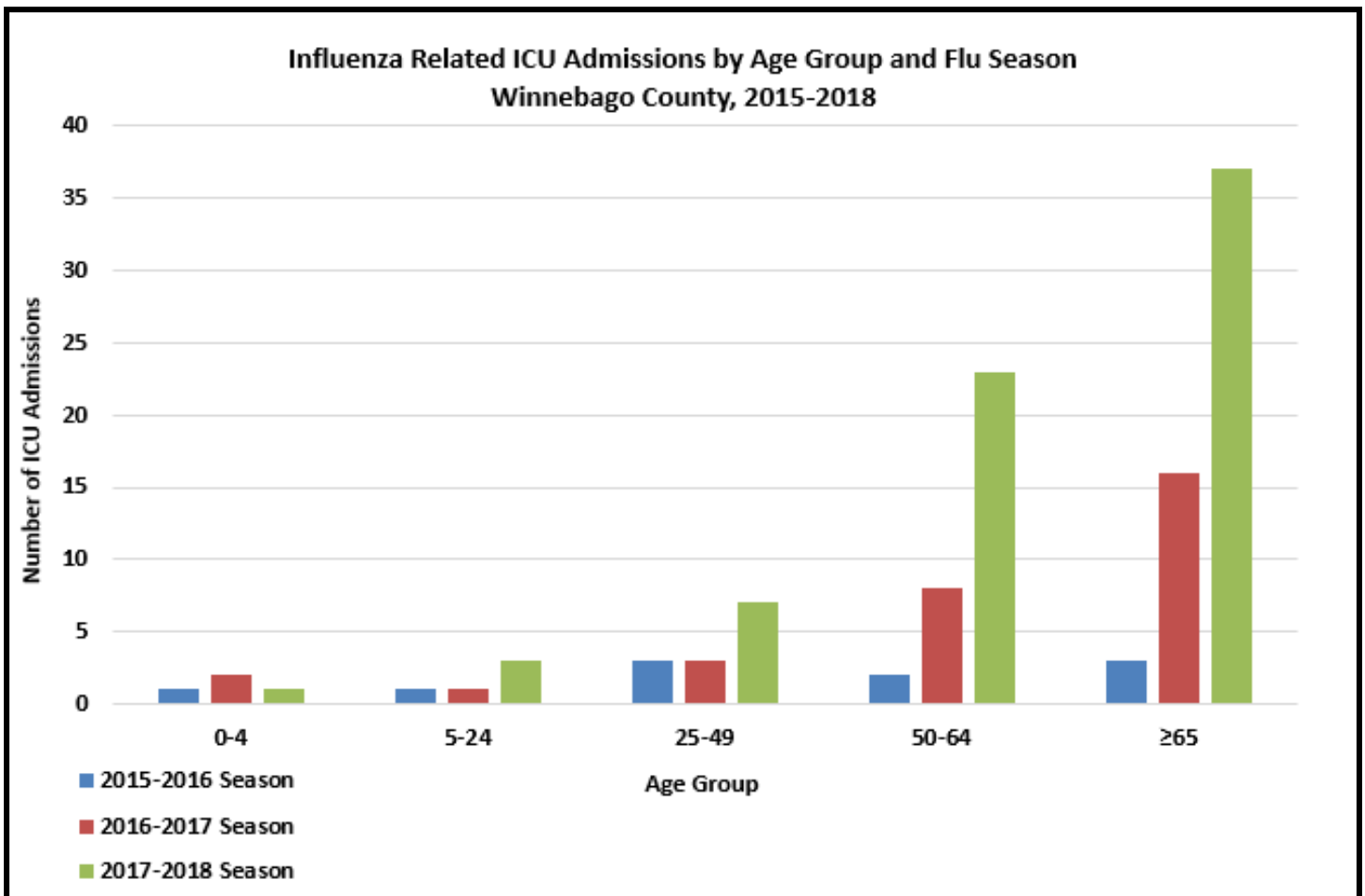


**Positive Influenza Tests Reported by Age Group
Winnebago County, 2017-2018
n=7325**



Influenza Surveillance Season Influenza Related ICU Admissions

As the figure below demonstrates, the increase in influenza activity during the 2017-18 season was paralleled in the number of intensive care unit (ICU) admissions that occurred. ICU admissions in the 2017-18 season (n=71) more than doubled in comparison to the 2016-17 season (n=30), with a majority of admissions occurring among individuals aged 50 years and older. This was a pattern that was consistently observed in the previous two influenza seasons.



Influenza Surveillance Season Outbreak Surveillance

There were a total of 10 influenza outbreaks during the 2017-18 influenza season.

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), an influenza outbreak occurs when there are two/more cases of influenza-like illness (ILI) occurring within 72 hours among residents in a unit of a facility (congregate settings such as: long-term care facilities, correctional facilities, group homes) with at least one ill resident having lab-confirmed influenza.

Influenza Surveillance Season

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)

Throughout the influenza season, the Health Department also monitored emergency department visits presenting with influenza-like illness (ILI). As the figure below depicts, compared to the previous season, there were a greater number of weeks this season where the ILI went above the baseline. This resulted in health department recommendations for visitor restrictions and vaccination/masking protocols being implemented in healthcare settings for a longer period of time.

