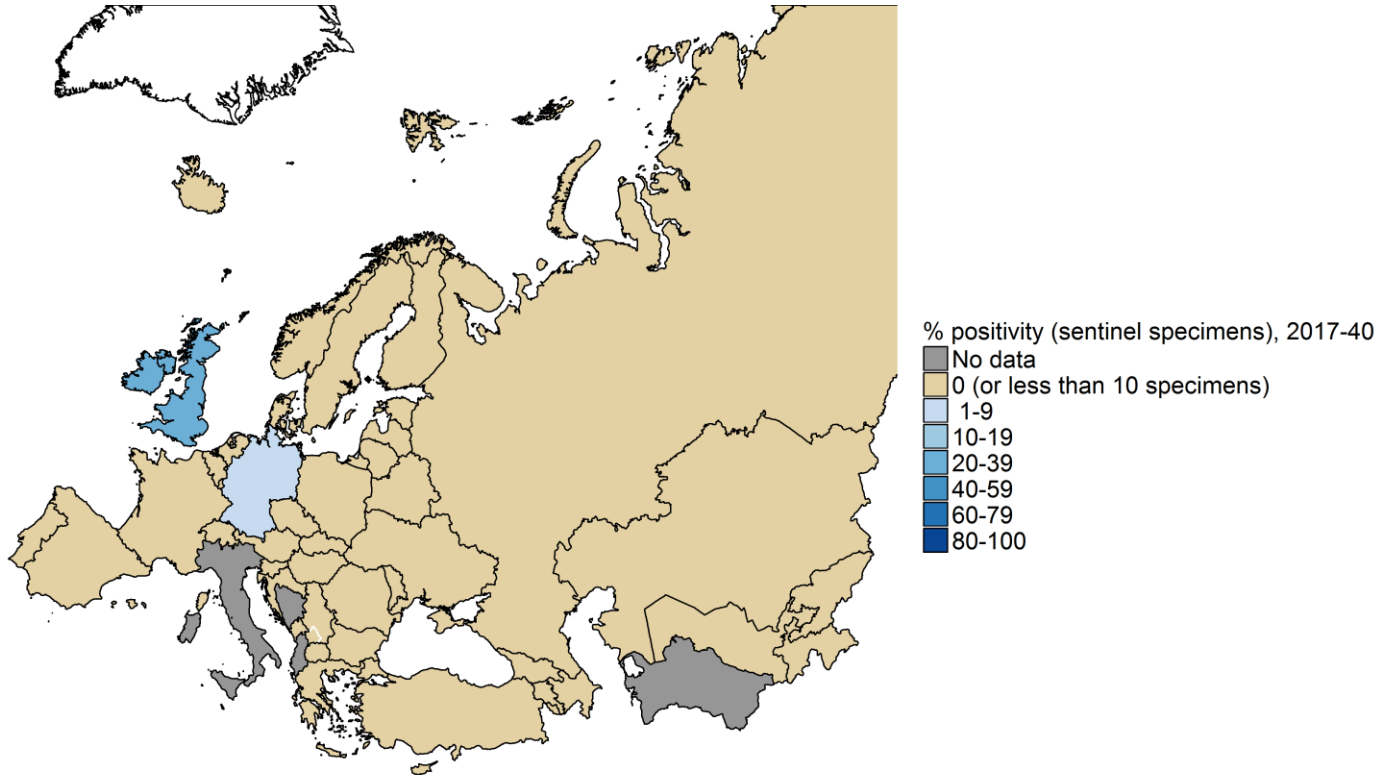




Overview of the 2017– 2018 influenza season

Influenza surveillance teams of WHO
Regional Office for Europe and ECDC

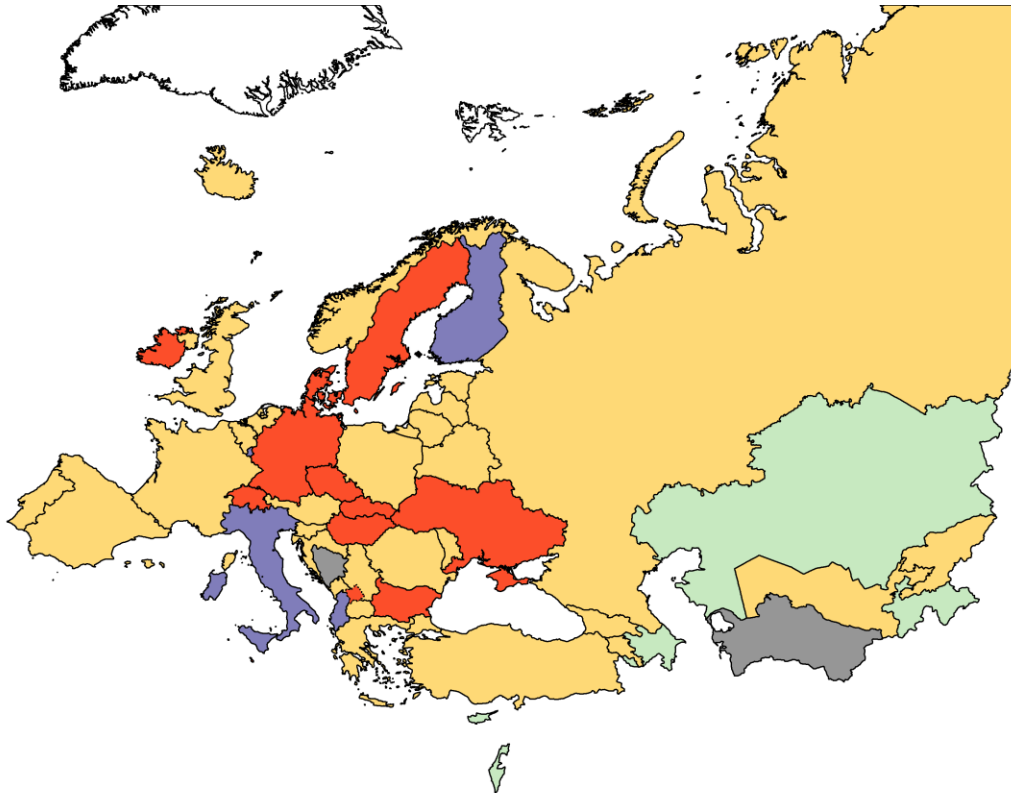
Percentage of sentinel specimens positive for influenza viruses, by week, 2017–2018 season



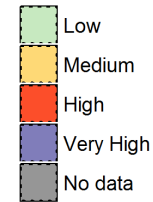
West to East spread

- linear regression; $P < 0.001$

Maximum reported intensity across the Region, 2017–2018 season*

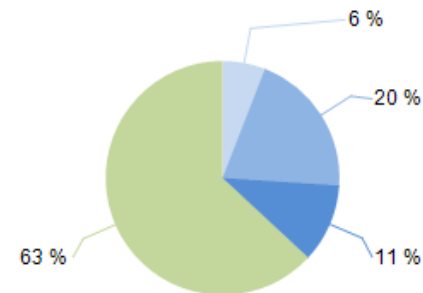
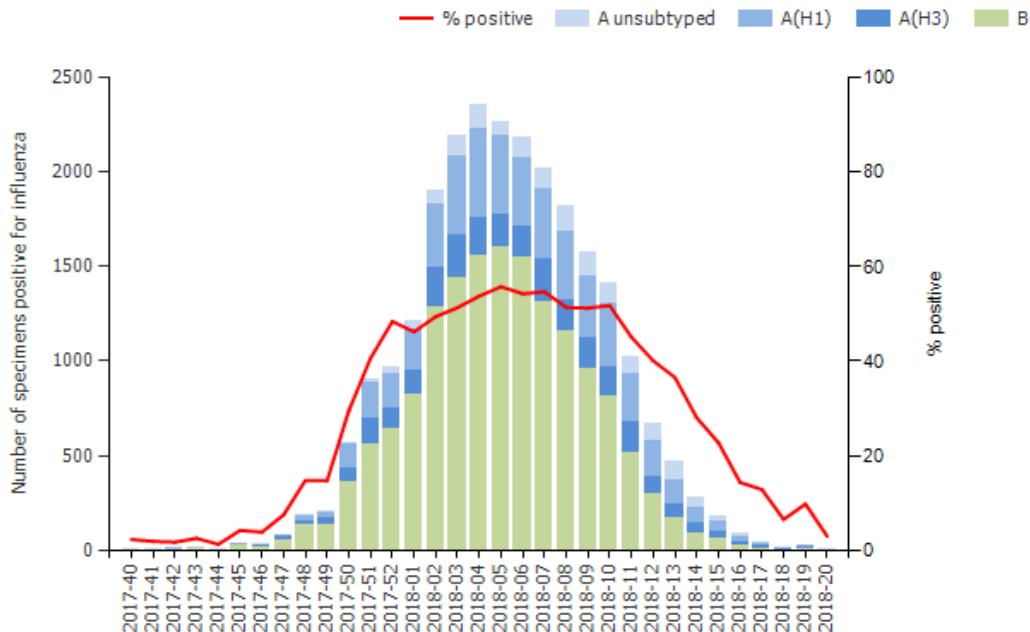


Maximum reported intensity level

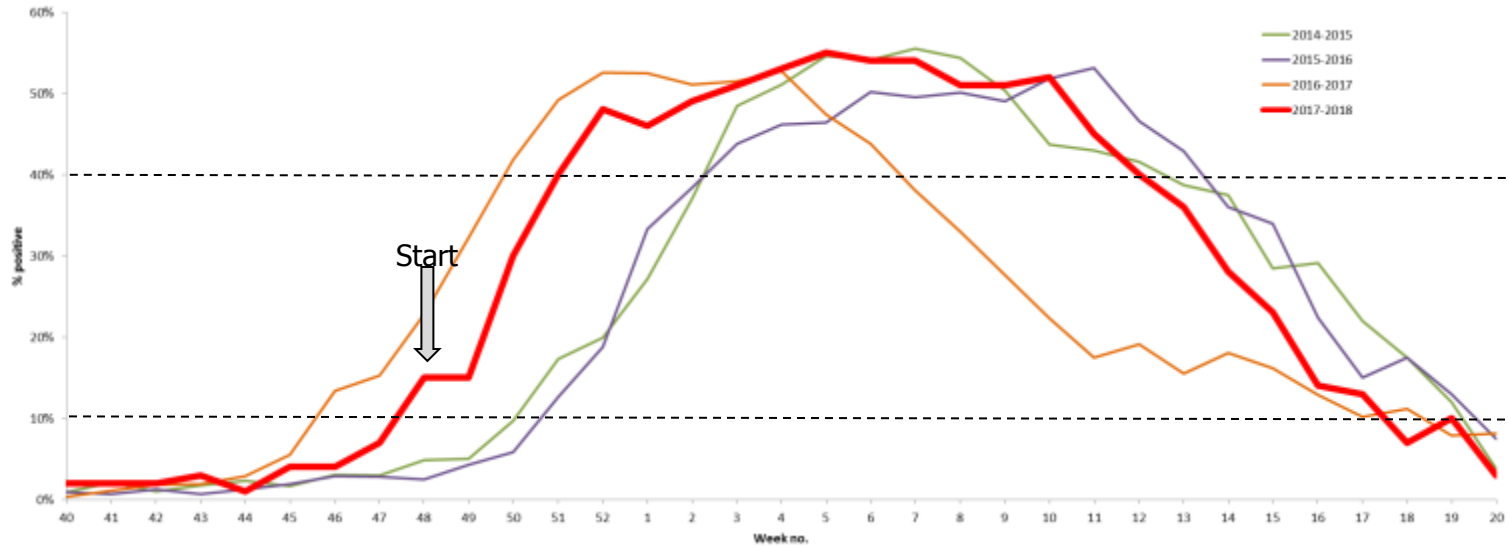


*Minimum of one week reported at this level over the season

Weekly influenza virus detections by (sub)type and positivity, weeks 40/2017–20/2018

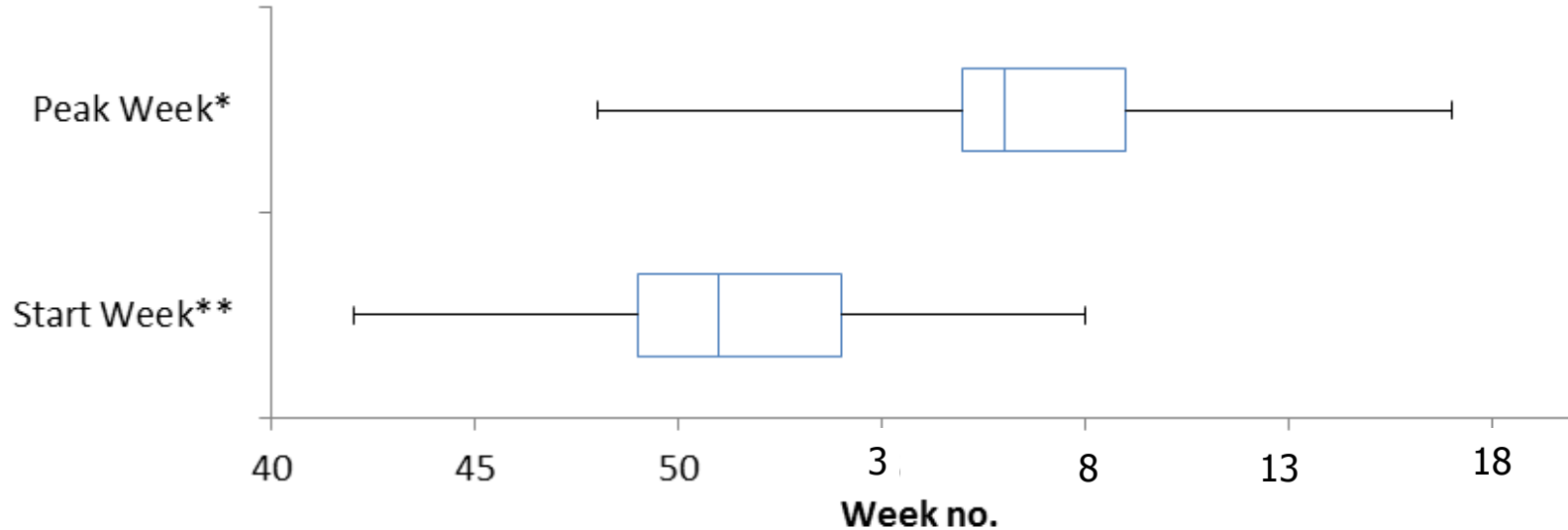


Comparison with recent seasons based on % of sentinel specimens positive for influenza virus



	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16	2014/15
Start of season	Week 48	Week 46	Week 51	Week 51
Duration of virus circulation >40%	14 Weeks	9 weeks	11 weeks	11 weeks

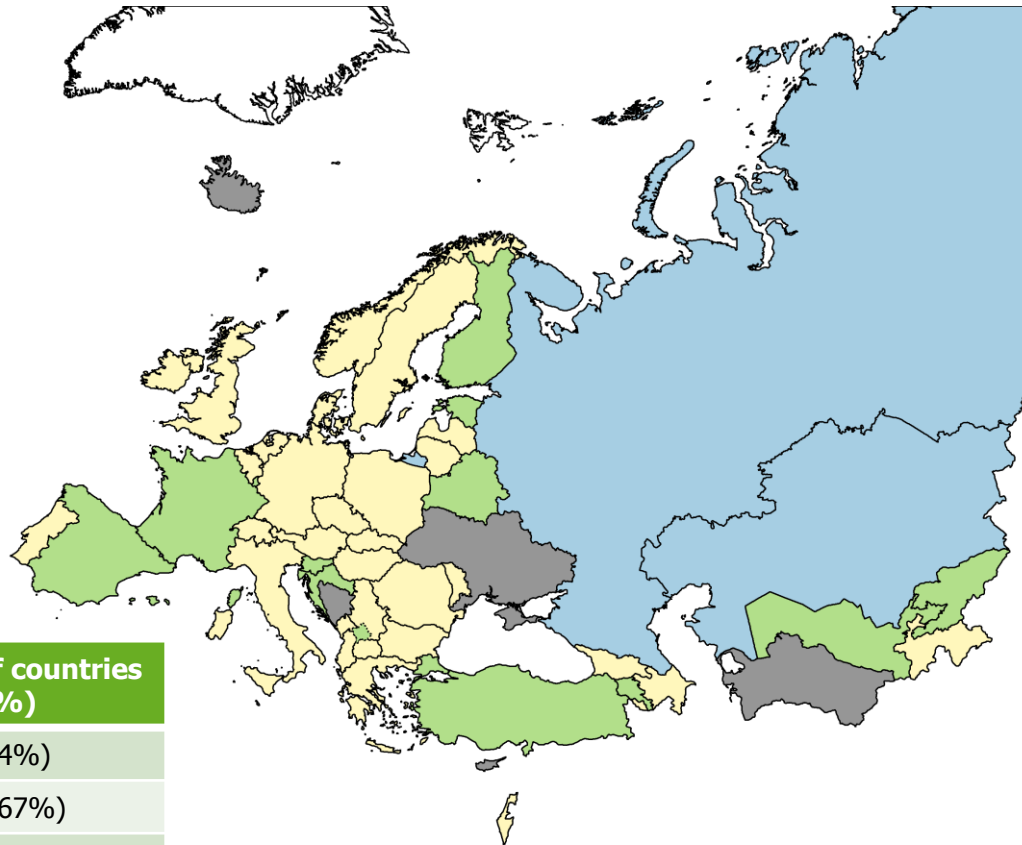
Distribution of start and peak weeks based on sentinel specimens positive for influenza viruses, 2017-2018 season



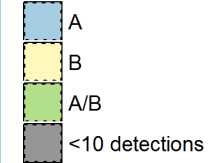
*highest % positivity after a start week & minimum of 10 specimens

** first of two successive weeks with at least 10% positivity and 10 specimens

Dominant influenza virus type from sentinel specimens, 2017–2018 season

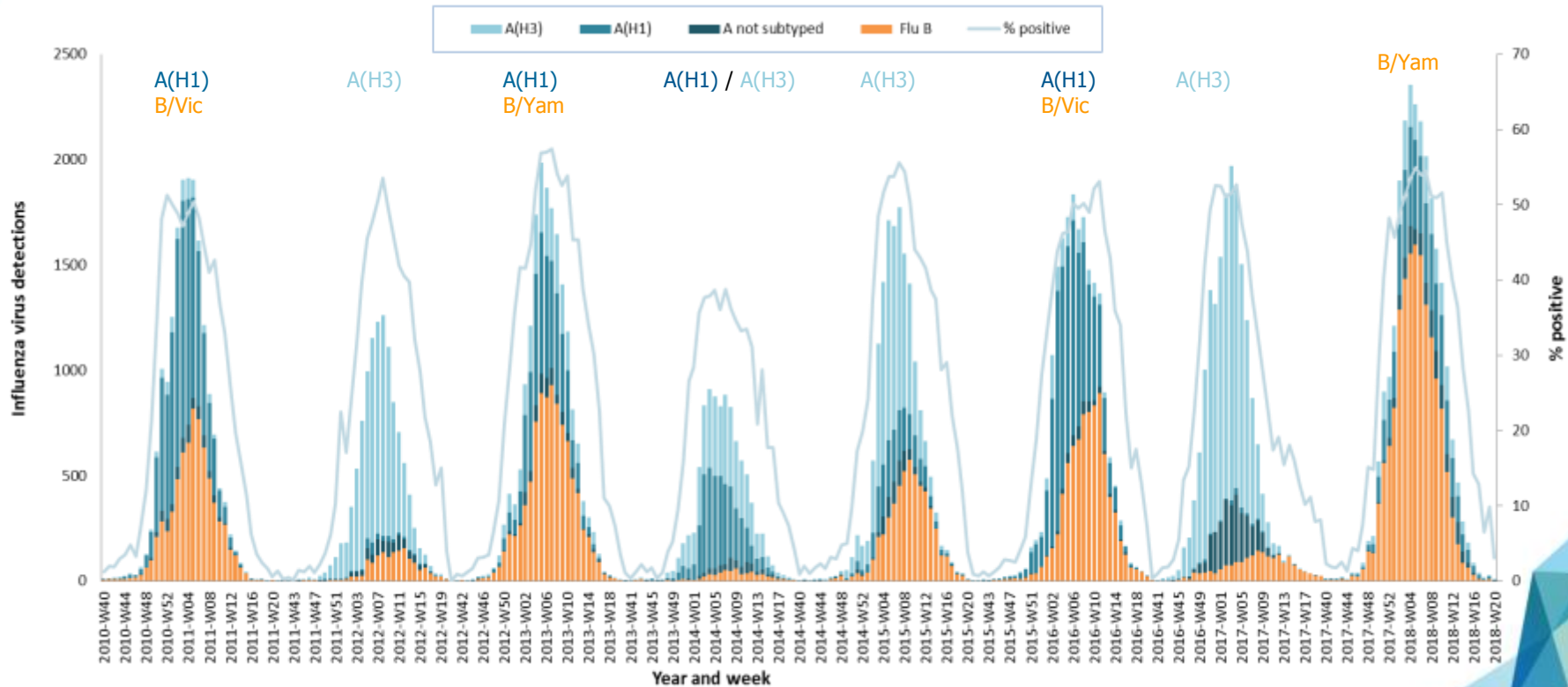


Dominant virus type (sentinel detections)



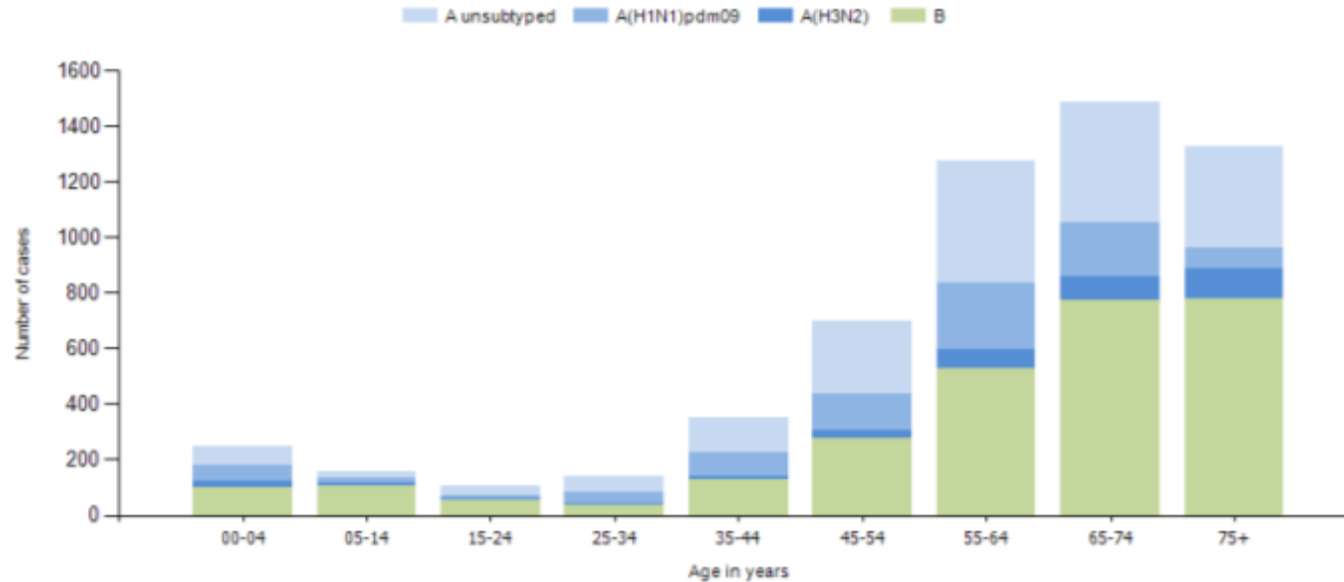
Dominant Type	Number of countries (%)
A	2 (4%)
B	30 (67%)
A/B	13 (29%)

Weekly influenza virus detections from sentinel specimens by (sub)type and season, 2010/11–2017/18*



*Only weeks 40–20 displayed

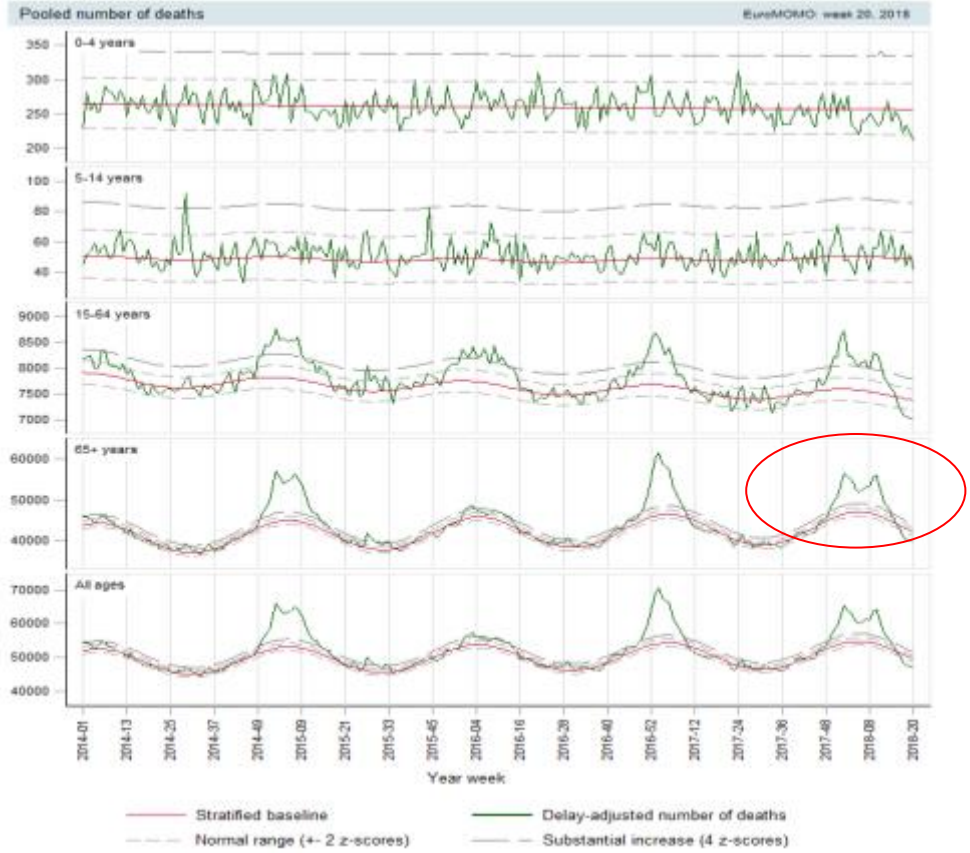
Distribution of virus (sub)type by age group in laboratory-confirmed cases in ICU, 2017–2018*



Influenza type B accounted for approximately half of the severe cases

*Reporting countries: Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom

All-cause excess mortality by age group, EuroMoMO, 2014–2018



Vaccine Effectiveness (VE)



- Interim all-age VE estimates results from 5 European studies*:
 - 25 to 52% against any influenza
 - 55 to 68% against influenza A(H1N1)pdm09
 - -47 to 7% against influenza A(H3N2)
 - 36 to 54% against influenza B



*Rondy, Kissling et al. *EuroSurv* 2018

Summary



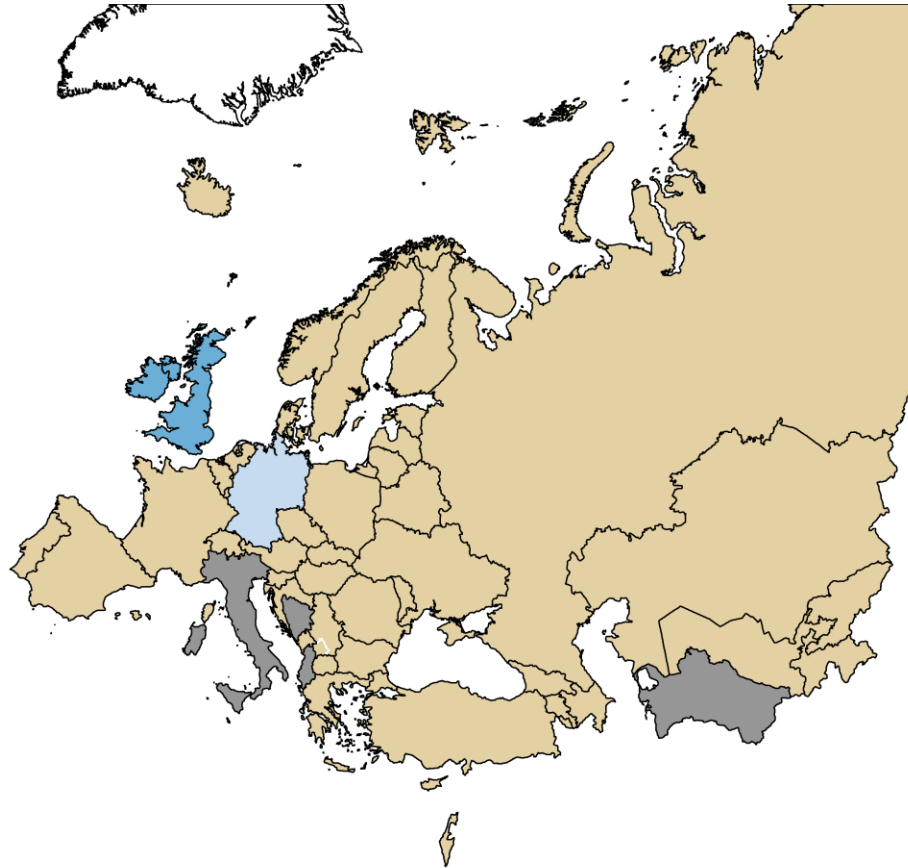
- Relatively early start and extended period of activity
- Dominance of influenza B viruses at regional level (different patterns at MS level; A/B or H1 or H3 dominant)
- Older adult hospitalisations (Type B viruses caused severe disease)
- Excess mortality from all causes especially in older people
- Emergence of variant influenza B/Victoria lineage
- Season vaccine effectiveness estimates: 25 to 52%
- <1% antiviral drug resistance (similar to 2016/17)

Acknowledgements



- The network of experts involved in national surveillance
- ECDC Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses team
- WHO European Region Office High Threat Pathogens team
- Consultant and temporary advisor

Thank you for your attention!



% positivity (sentinel specimens), 2017-40

- No data
- 0 (or less than 10 specimens)
- 1-9
- 10-19
- 20-39
- 40-59
- 60-79
- 80-100