

**NATIONAL PRIMARY CARE INFECTIOUS DISEASES
SENTINEL SURVEILLANCE FORTNIGHTLY REPORT**

Combining data from The Australian Sentinel Practices Research Network (ASPREN)*
and the Victorian Sentinel Practitioners Influenza Network (VicSPIN)*

No. 18, 2020 - 24th August — 6th September 2020

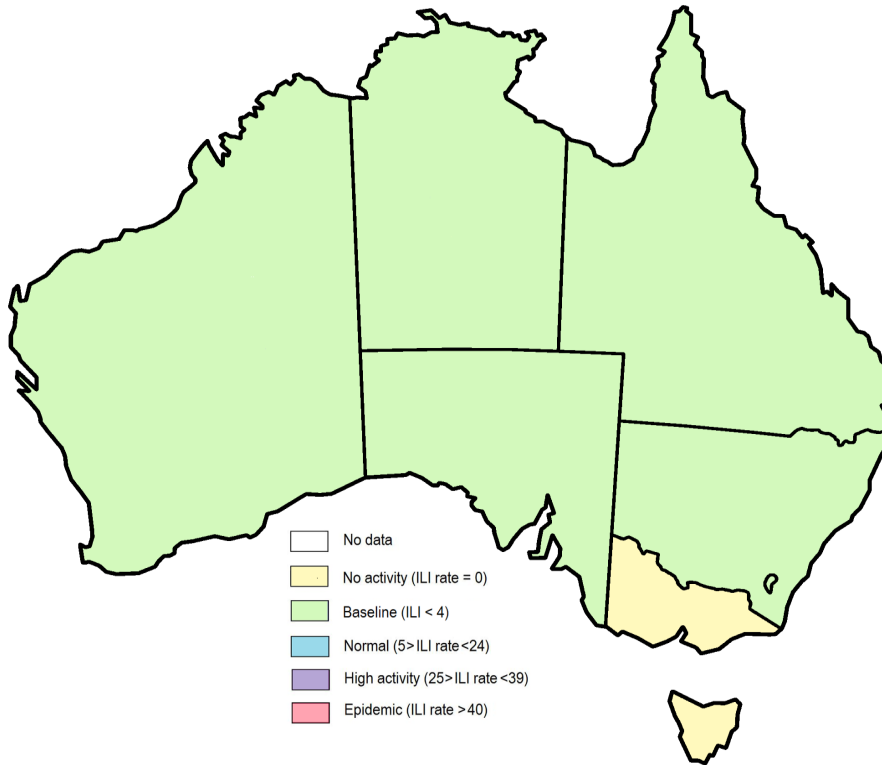


Figure 1. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, weeks 35 - 36, 2020.

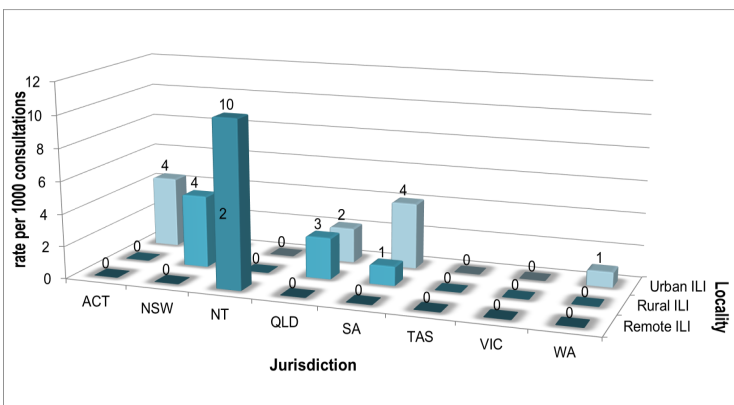


Figure 2. ASPREN + VicSPIN rate of ILI by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 35 - 36, 2020.

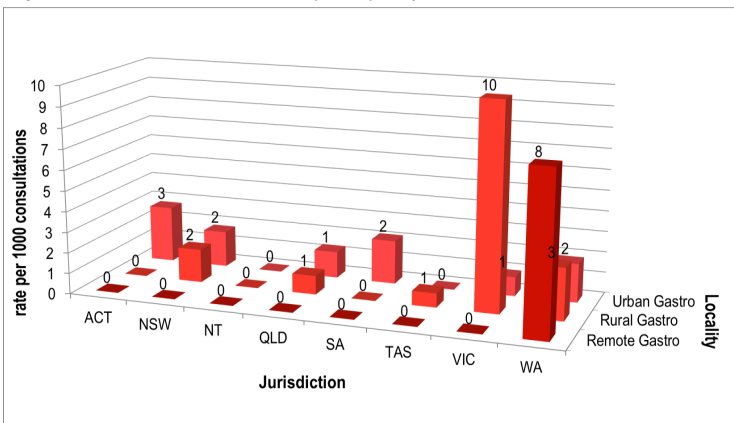


Figure 3. ASPREN rate of gastroenteritis by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 35 - 36, 2020.

NATIONAL SUMMARY

- Influenza-like-illness levels remain steady below baseline levels
- 1 Case of influenza have been detected in this reporting period
1 x Influenza A
0 x Influenza B
- 3% Influenza positivity during the reporting period.
- 22 Cases of influenza have been detected this year:
20 x Influenza A
2 x Influenza B
- Gastroenteritis levels remain steady below baseline levels

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE
REPORTING**

Reports were received from 287 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 35 and 36 reporters saw a total of 49,057 patients.

INFLUENZA-LIKE-ILLNESS (ILI)

Nationally, ILI notifications slightly decreased during the period with 85 notifications being reported in weeks 35—36. ILI rates reported in this period remained steady at 2 cases per 1000 consultations (weighted). This was similar to the previous fortnight where rates were 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 33 and 34. For the same reporting period in 2019, ILI rates were higher at 11 cases per 1000 consultations for weeks 35 and 36 (see Fig. 5).

GASTROENTERITIS

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications slightly increased over the period with 67 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period remained steady at 2 and 1 cases per 1000 consultations in both weeks 35 and 36 respectively, compared to 1 and 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 33 and 34 respectively (see Fig. 5).

* ASPREN is funded by the Commonwealth's Department of Health, Office of Health Protection, Vaccine Preventable Disease Surveillance Section.

* VicSPIN is funded by Melbourne Health and the Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory.

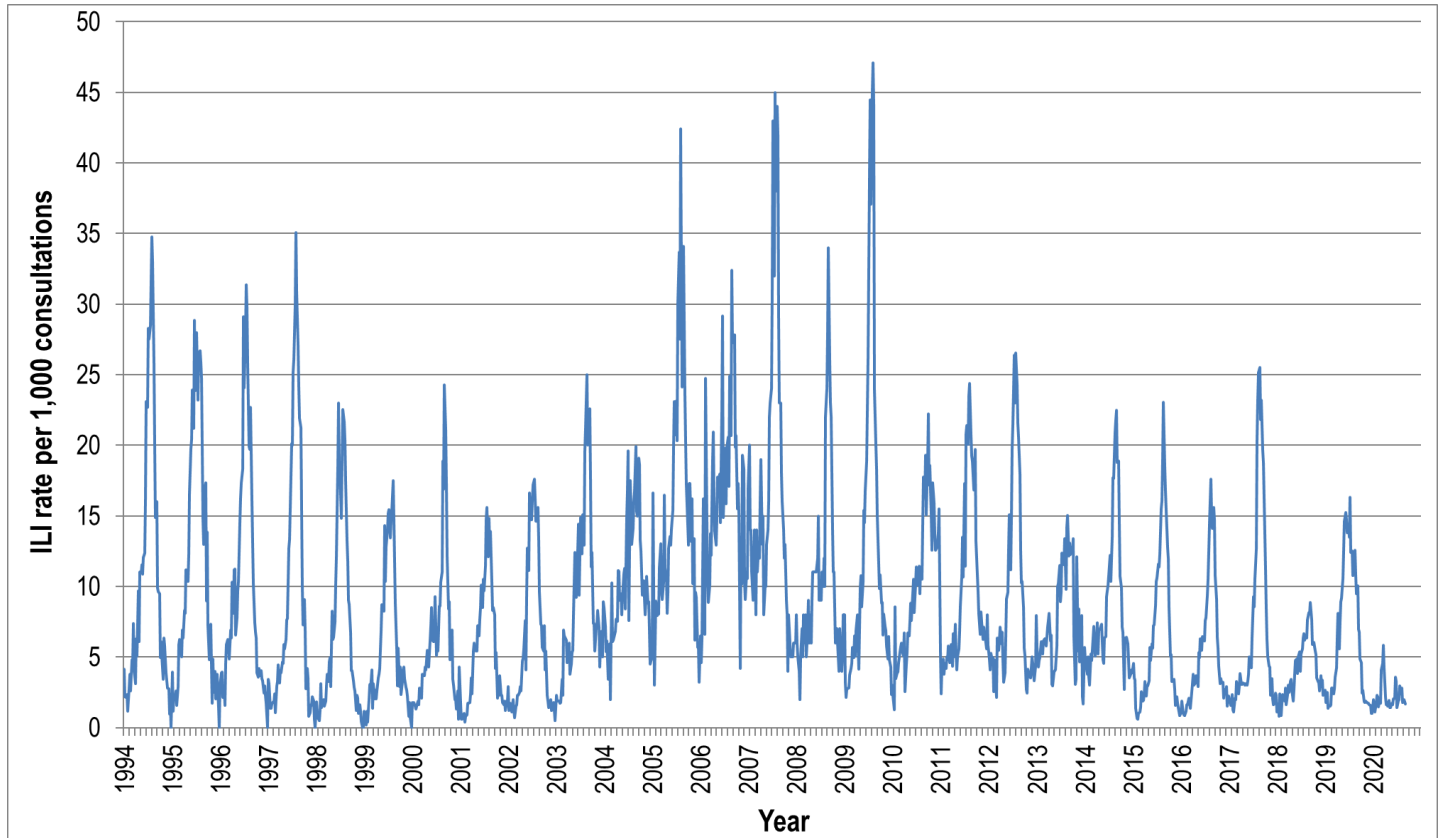


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2020.

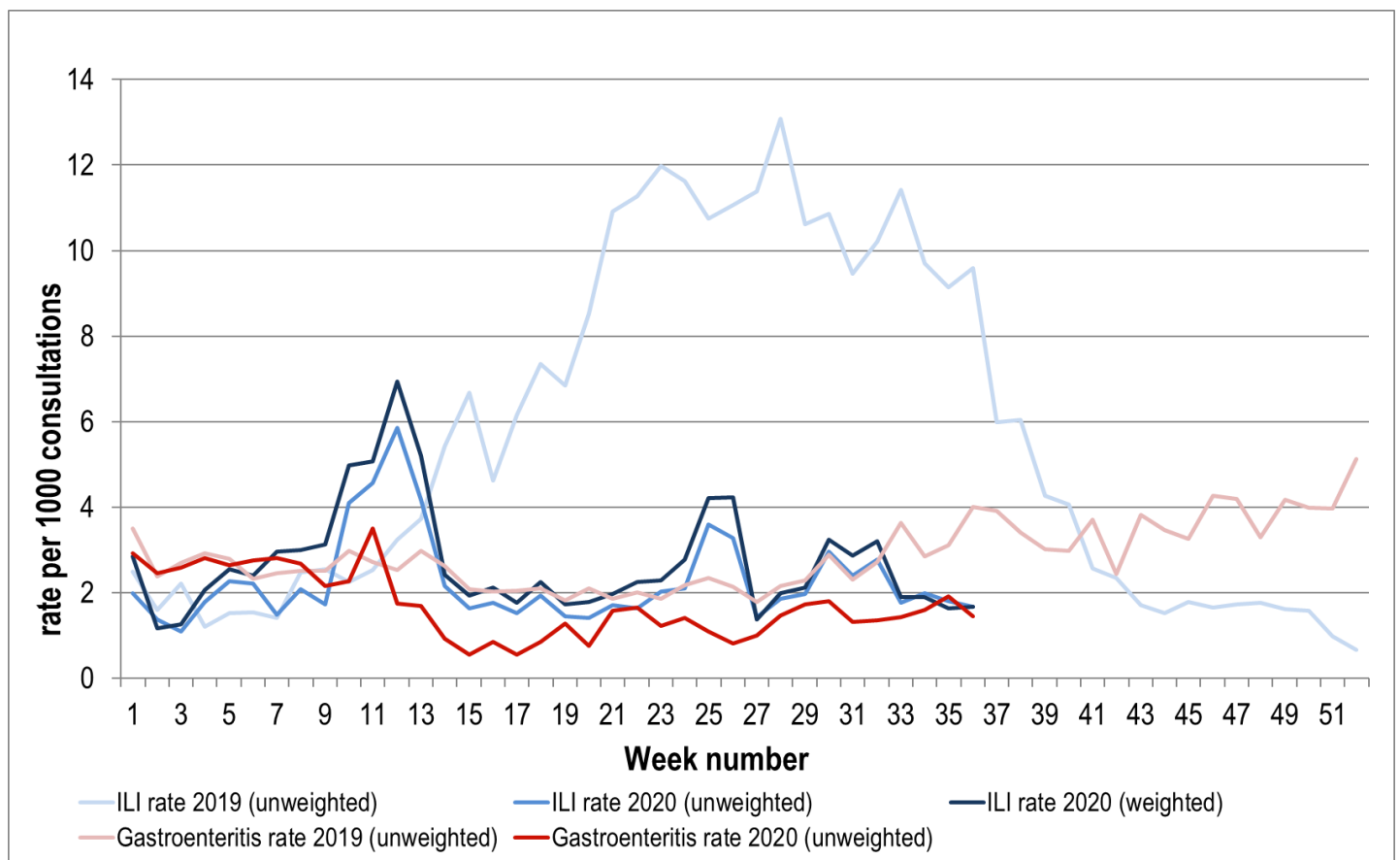


Figure 5. ASPREN + VicSPIN ILI and ASPREN gastroenteritis rates 2019-20. Weighted rates are weighted to account for population size differences between jurisdictions, using population estimates from the 2011 Australian Census.

VIROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE

39% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 35 and 36 (see Figure 6).

1 case of Influenza A was detected during this period. There were 12 cases of Rhinovirus detected making it the most common respiratory virus circulating the nation at present (see figure 8).

Viral laboratory data are provided by SA Pathology and VicSPIN laboratories.

	Reporting Period	YTD
	24 August - 6 Sept 2020	1 Jan - 6 Sept 2020
Total number of ILI notifications	85	1713
Number of swab tests performed	33	839
% ILI patients tested	39%	49%
% of swab tests positive for influenza	3%	3%

Figure 6. ASPREN + VicSPIN virological surveillance results overview for 2020 #

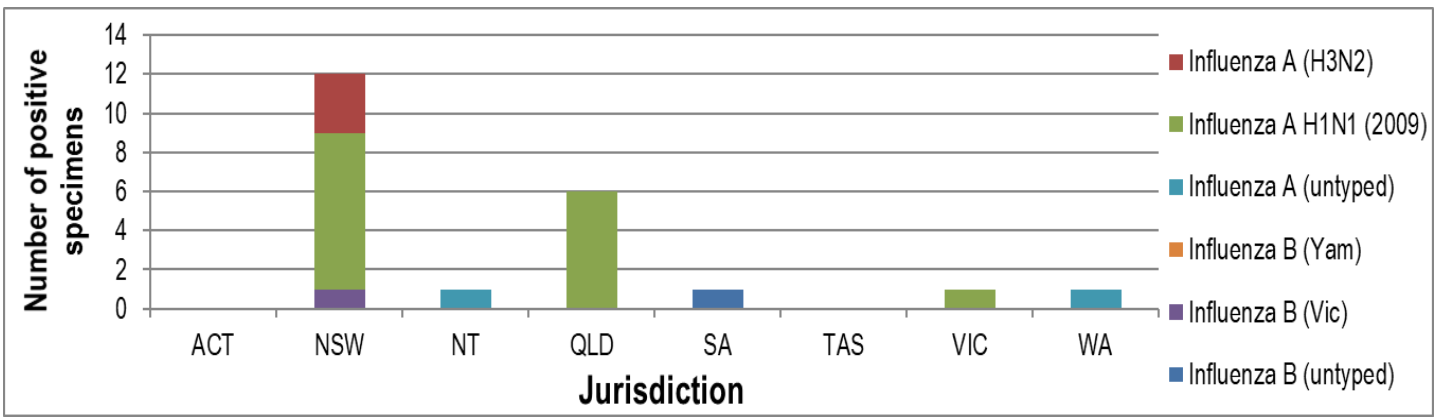


Figure 7. ASPREN + VicSPIN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2020 #

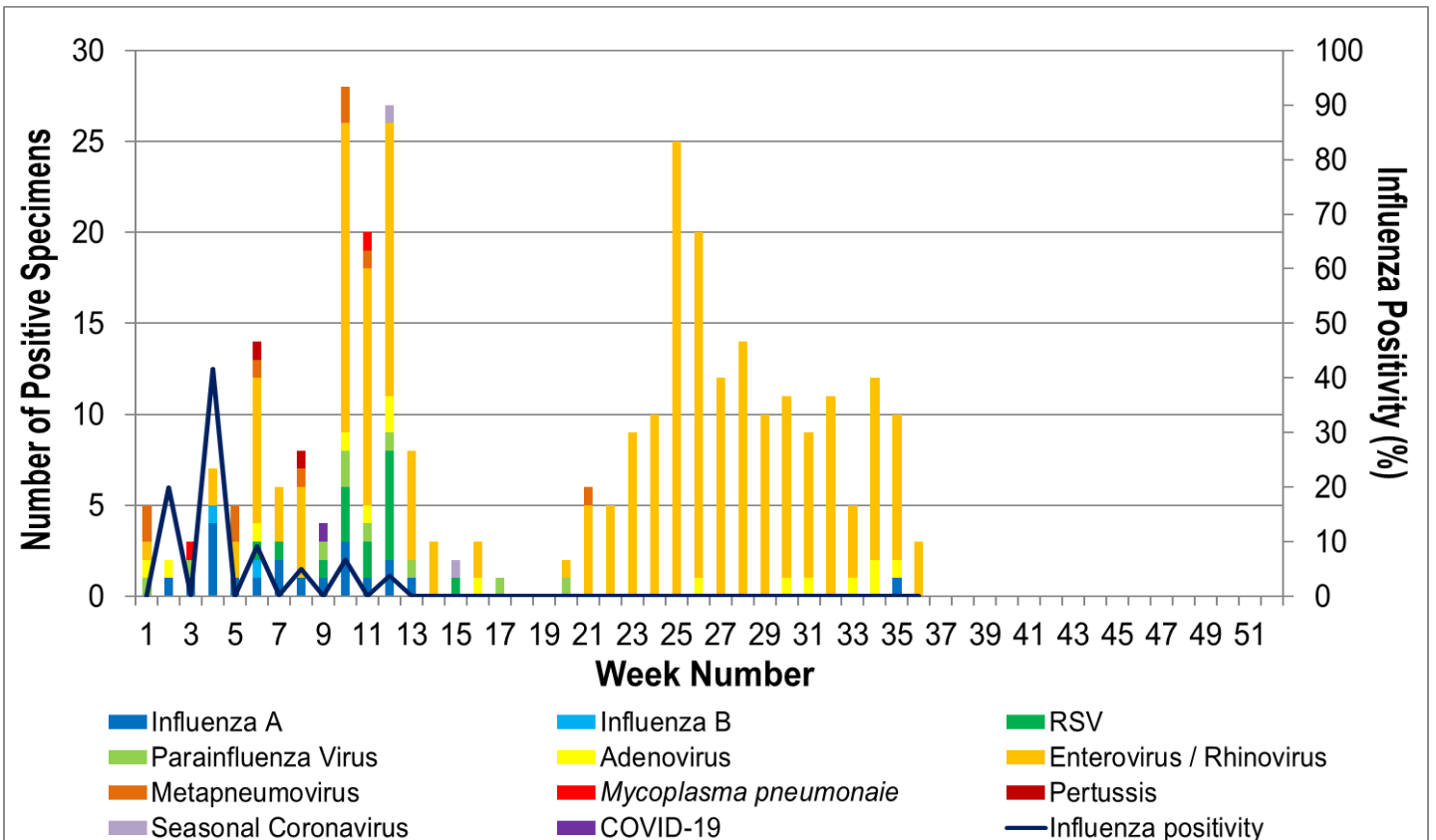


Figure 8. ASPREN, VicSPIN laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2020 #

The Australian Sentinel Practices Research Network is supported by the Australian Government Department of Health (the Department). The opinions expressed in this paper are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Department.

Please note: This report is based on data available as at 17 September 2020. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.