


**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. 19, 2019 - 23rd September — 6th October 2019


NATIONAL SUMMARY

 Influenza-like-illness levels are decreasing

18 Case of influenza have been detected in this reporting period
11 x Influenza A
7 x Influenza B

20% Influenza positivity during the reporting period.

1197 Cases of influenza have been detected this year:
961 x Influenza A
236 x Influenza B

 Gastroenteritis levels remain steady at baseline levels

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE
REPORTING**

Reports were received from 360 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 39 and 40 reporters saw a total of 50,281 patients.

INFLUENZA-LIKE-ILLNESS (ILI)

Nationally, ILI notifications greatly decreased during the period with 217 notifications being reported in weeks 39—40. ILI rates reported in this period decreased to 5 cases per 1000 consultations (weighted) in weeks 39 and 40 respectively. This was lower than the previous fortnight where rates were 7 and 8 cases per 1000 consultations. For the same reporting period in 2018, ILI rates were lower at 4 cases per 1000 consultations for weeks 39 and 40 (see Fig. 5).

GASTROENTERITIS

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications decreased over the period with 117 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period remained steady at 3 cases per 1000 consultations in both weeks 39 and 40, compared to 4 and 3 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 37 and 38 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.

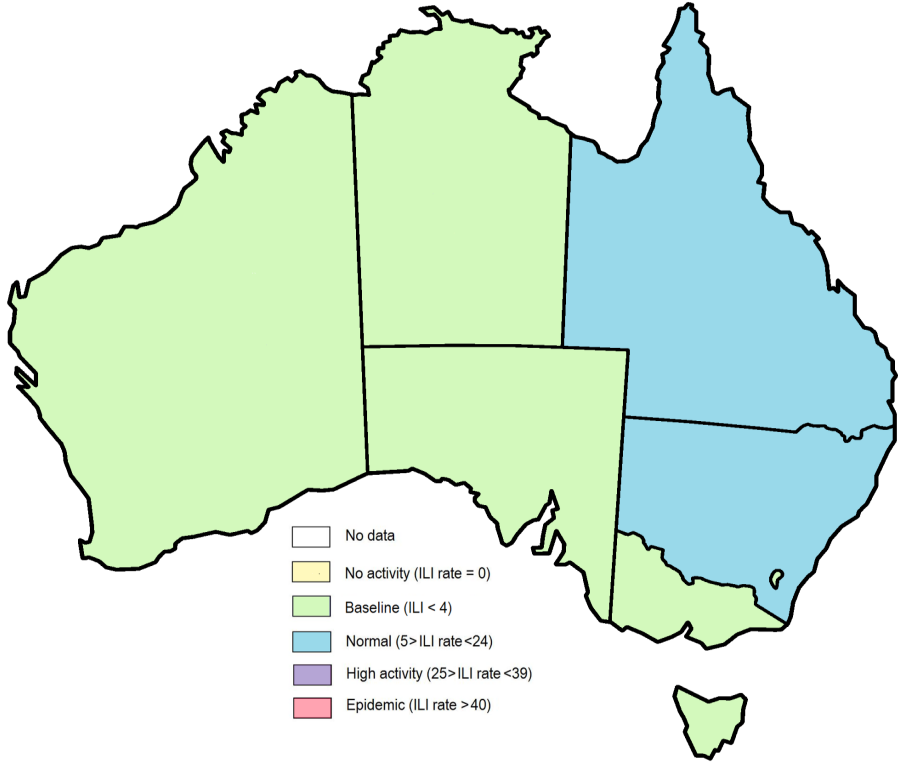


Figure 1. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, weeks 39 - 40, 2019.

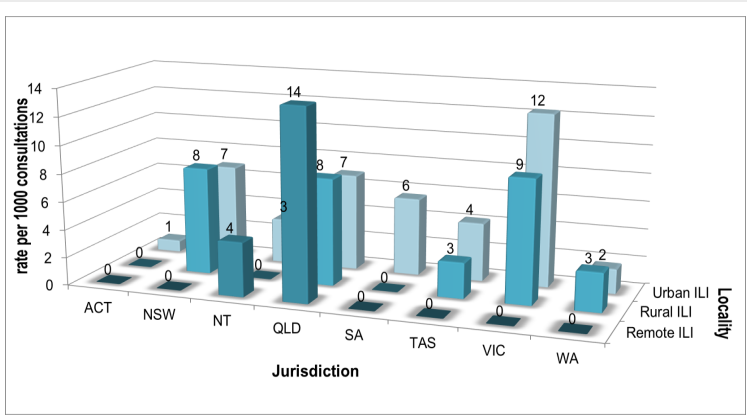


Figure 2. ASPREN + VicSPIN rate of ILI by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 39 - 40, 2019.

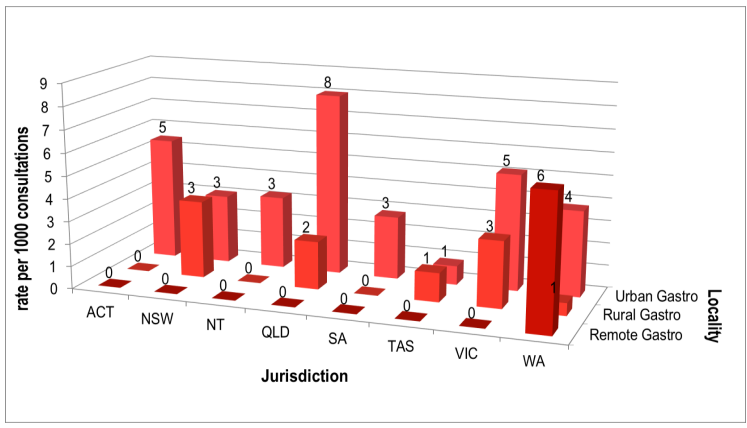


Figure 3. ASPREN rate of gastroenteritis by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 39 - 40, 2019.

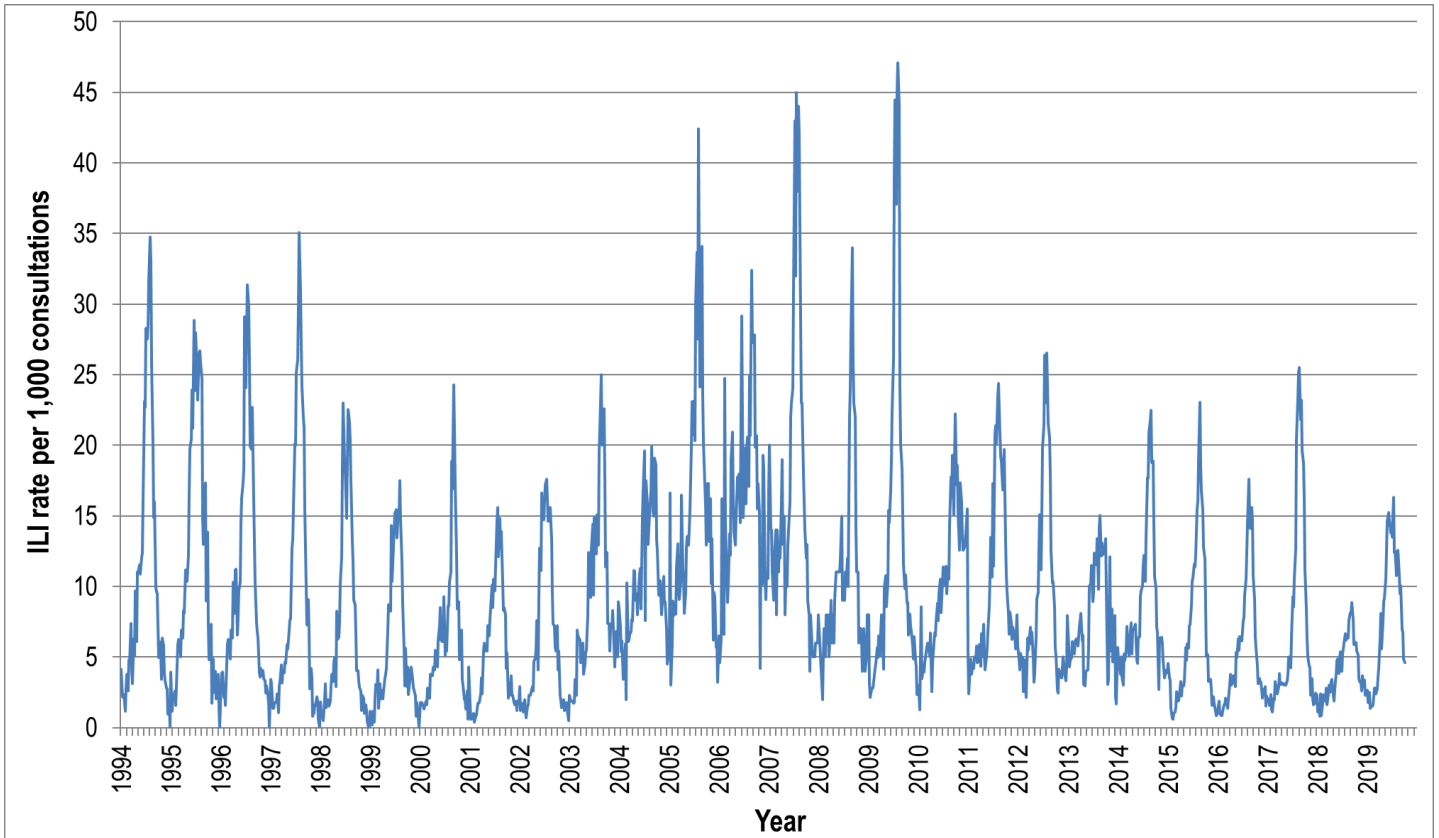


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2019.

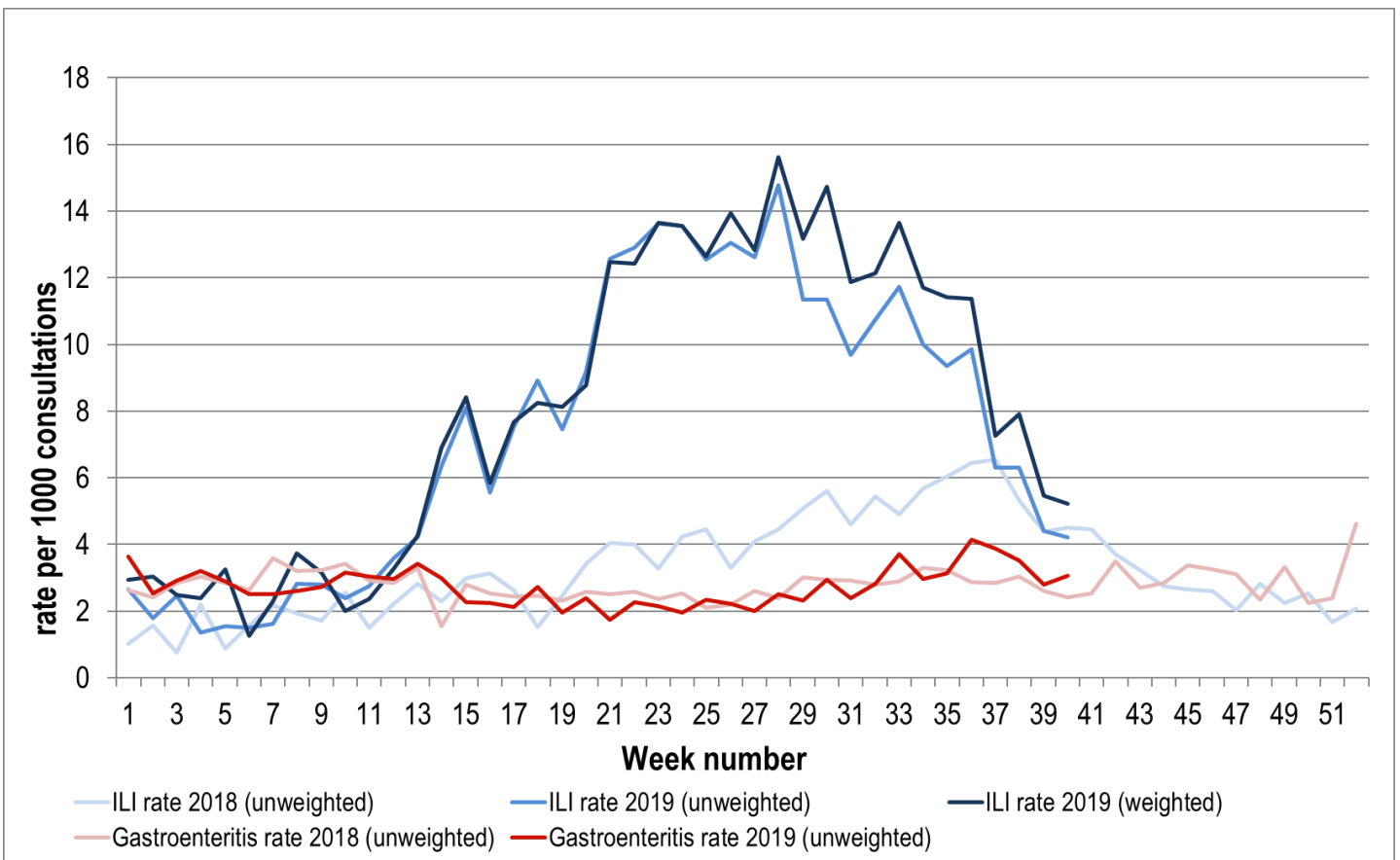


Figure 5. ASPREN + VicSPIN ILI and ASPREN gastroenteritis rates 2018-19. Weighted rates are weighted to account for population size differences between jurisdictions, using population estimates from the 2011 Australian Census.

VIROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE

42% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 39 - 40 (see Figure 6).

18 cases of Influenza were detected during this period. There were also 14 cases of Rhinovirus detected making it the second 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 23 Sept - 6 Oct 2019	YTD 1 Jan - 6 Oct 2019
Total number of ILI notifications	217	7213
Number of swab tests performed	92	3652
% ILI patients tested	42%	51%
% of swab tests positive for influenza	20%	33%

Figure 6. ASPREN + VicSPIN virological surveillance results overview for 2019 #

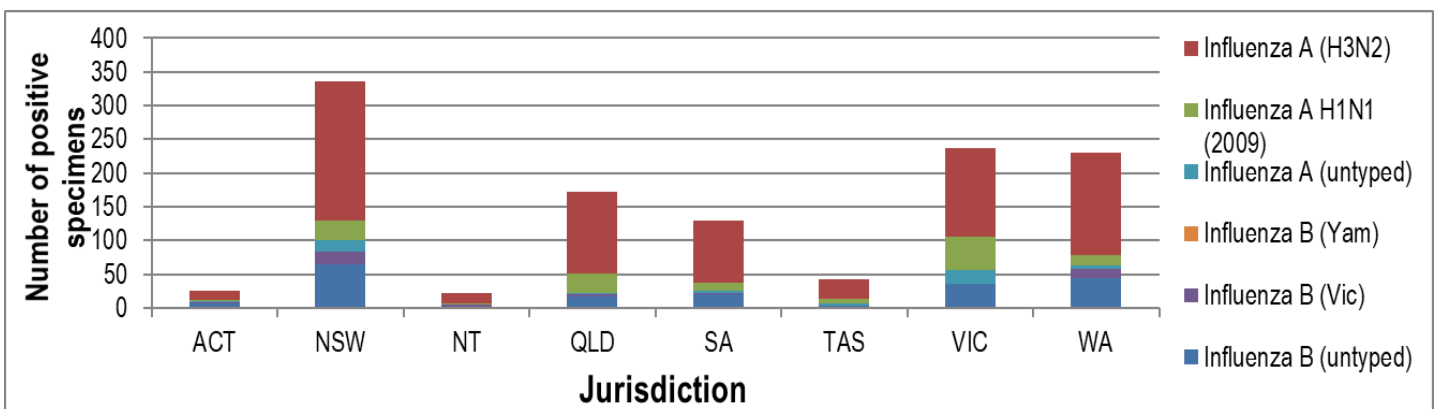


Figure 7. ASPREN + VicSPIN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2019 #

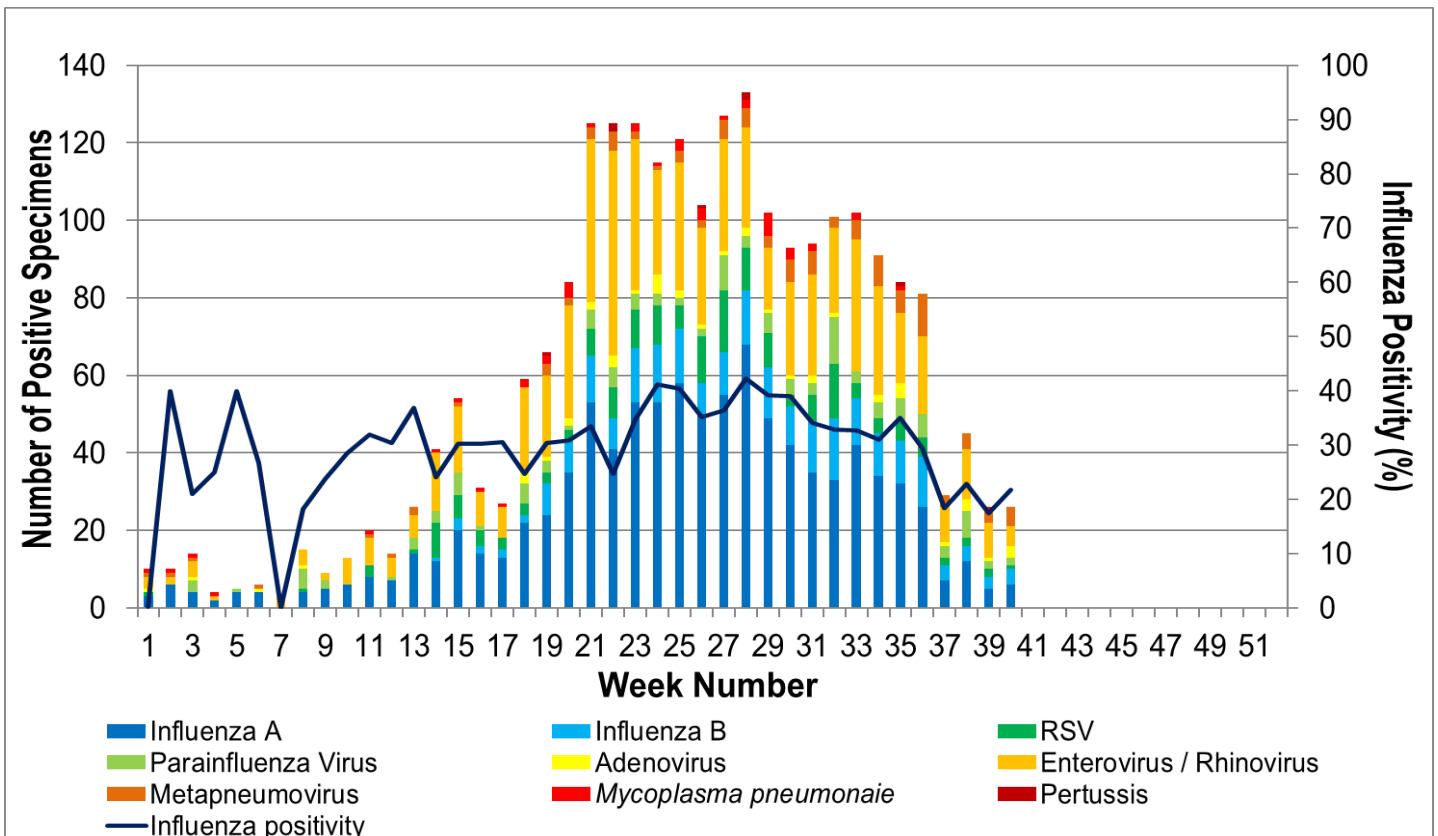


Figure 8. ASPREN, VicSPIN laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2019 #

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 October 2019. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.