


**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. 20, 2018 - 24th September — 7th October 2018


NATIONAL SUMMARY

 Influenza-like-illness levels are decreasing

30 Case of influenza have been detected in this reporting period
28 x Influenza A
2 x Influenza B

29% Influenza positivity during the reporting period.

194 Cases of influenza have been detected this year:
158 x Influenza A
36 x Influenza B

 Gastroenteritis levels remain steady at baseline levels

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE
REPORTING**

Reports were received from 328 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 39 and 40 reporters saw a total of 39,824 patients.

INFLUENZA-LIKE-ILLNESS (ILI)

Nationally, ILI notifications decreased during the period with 207 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. This was lower than the previous fortnight where rates were 7 and 6 cases per 1000 consultations. For the same reporting period in 2017, ILI rates were higher at 14 and 10 cases per 1000 consultations for weeks 39 and 40 respectively (see Fig. 5).

GASTROENTERITIS

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications decreased over the period with 79 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period remained steady at 3 cases per 1000 consultations in both weeks 39 and 40, compared to 3 and 4 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.

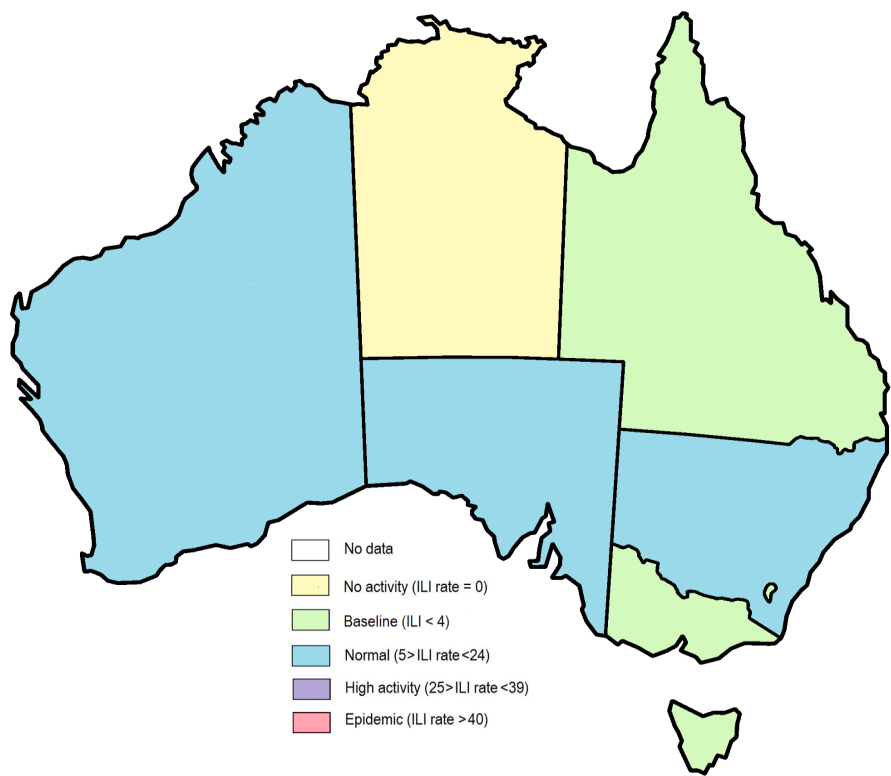


Figure 1. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, weeks 39 - 40, 2018.

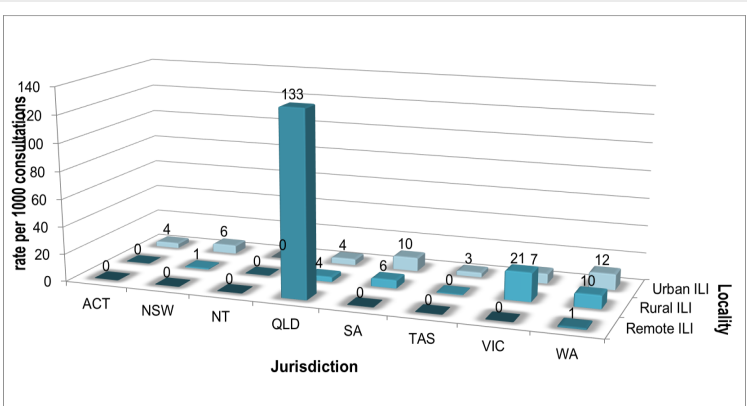


Figure 2. ASPREN + VicSPIN rate of ILI by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 39 - 40, 2018.

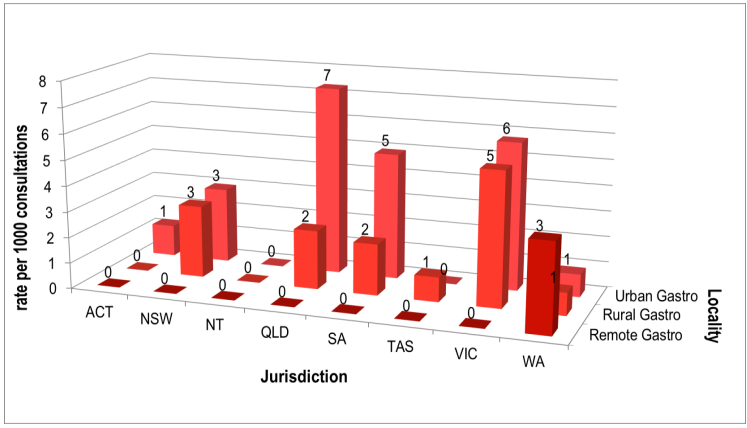


Figure 3. ASPREN rate of gastroenteritis by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 39 - 40, 2018.

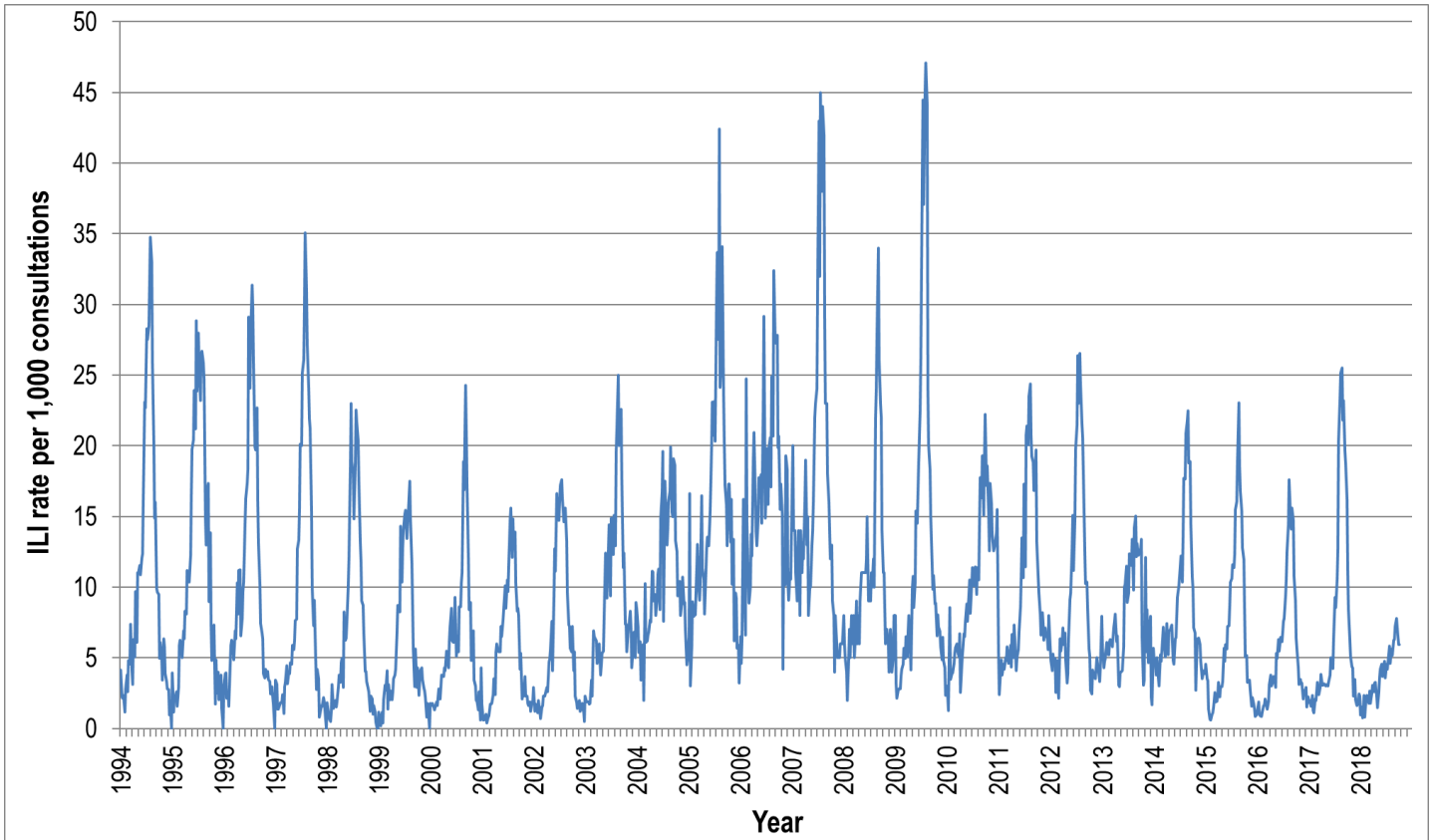


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2017.

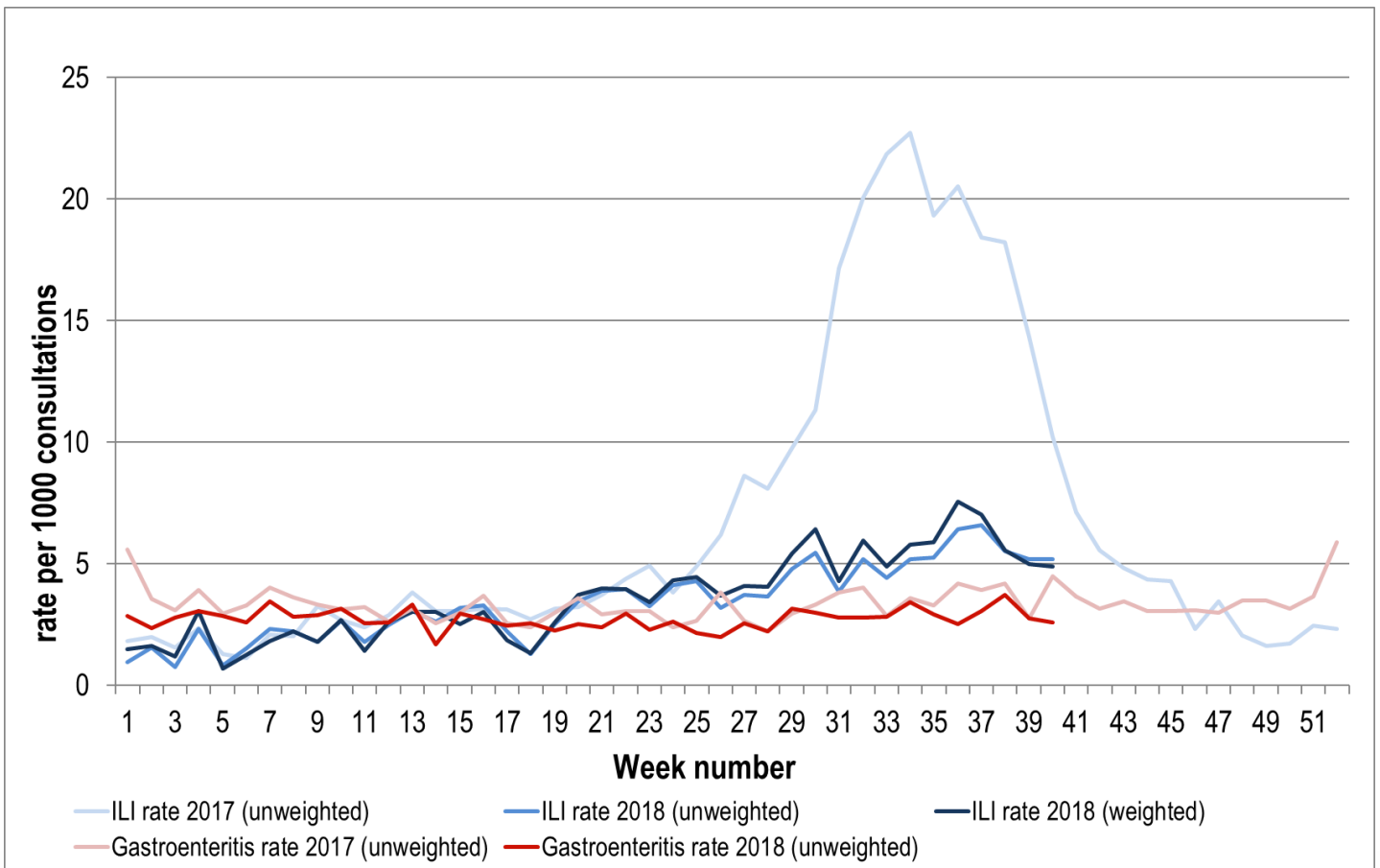


Figure 5. ASPREN + VicSPIN ILI and ASPREN gastroenteritis rates 2017-18.

VIROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE

51% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 41 - 42 (see Figure 6). 30 cases of Influenza were detected during this period. There were also 12 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, PathWest and VicSPIN laboratories.

	Reporting Period 24 Sept - 07 Oct 2018	YTD 1 Jan - 07 Oct 2018
Total number of ILI notifications	207	2965
Number of swab tests performed	105	1897
% ILI patients tested	51%	64%
% of swab tests positive for influenza	29%	10%

Figure 6. ASPREN + VicSPIN virological surveillance results overview for 2018 #

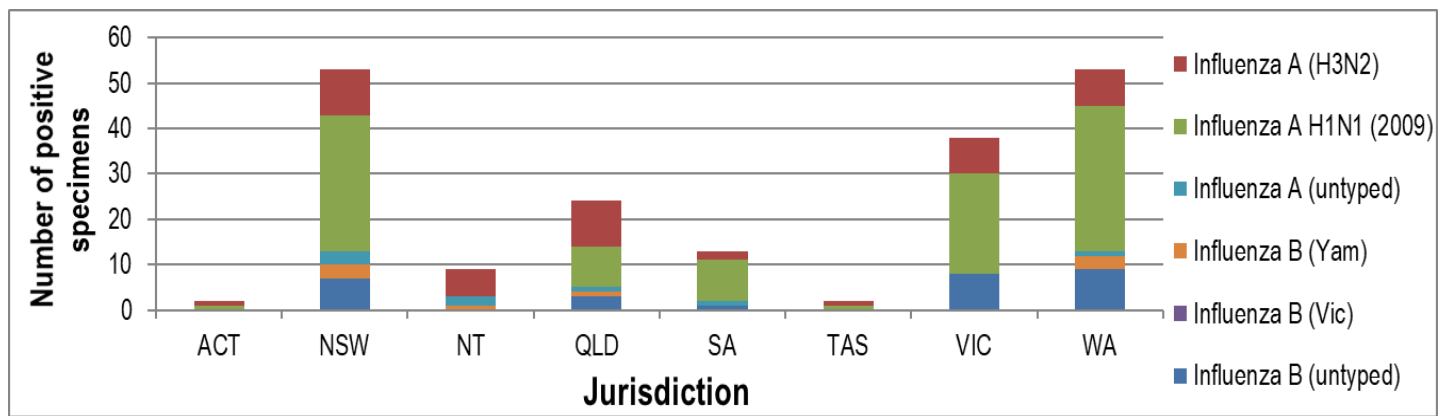


Figure 7. ASPREN + VicSPIN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2018 #

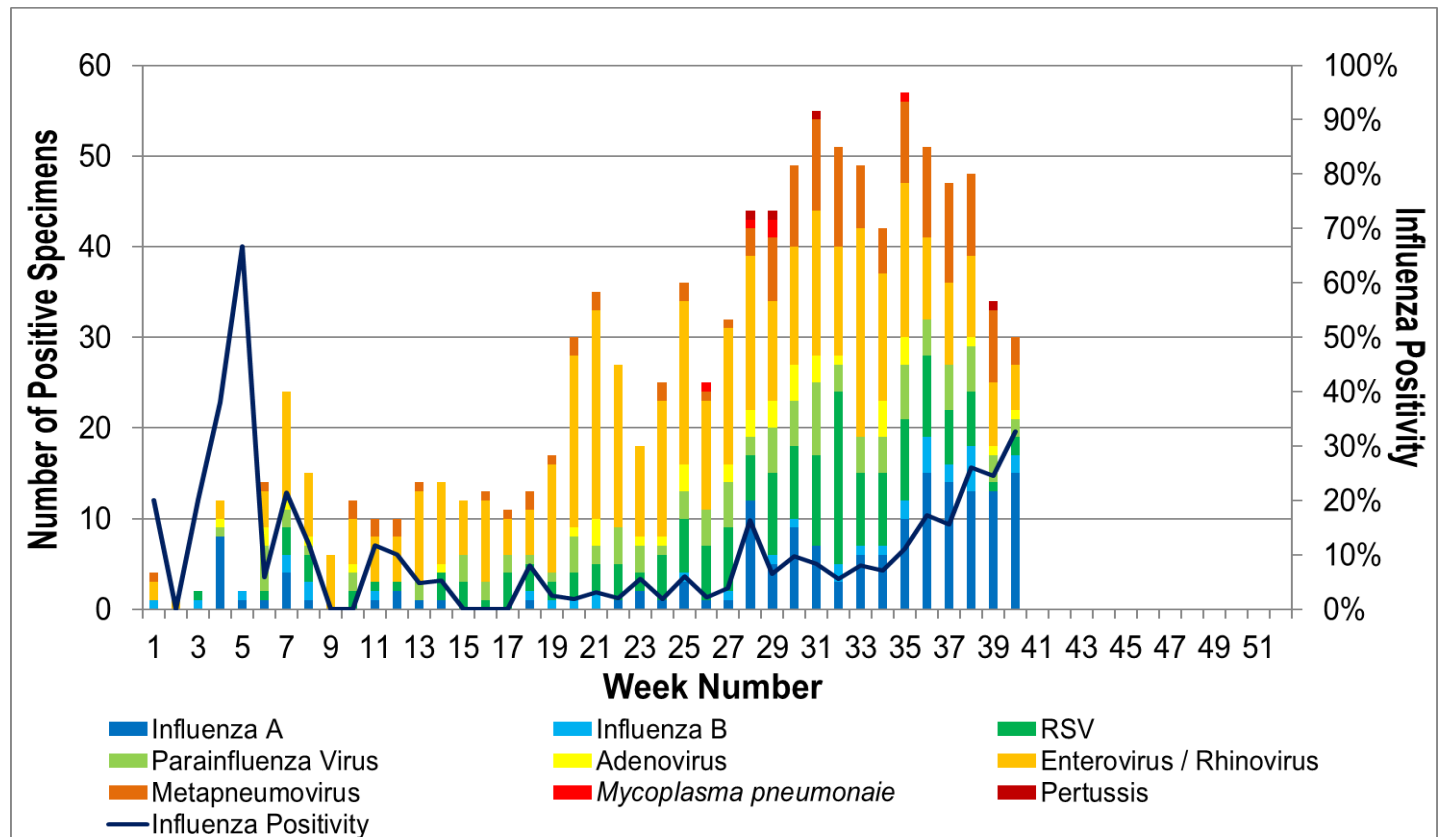


Figure 8. ASPREN, VicSPIN laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2018 #

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 20 October 2018. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.