

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

From The Australian Sentinel Practices Research Network (ASPREN) \*

No. 05, 2023 - 27th Feb — 12th March 2023

**NATIONAL SUMMARY**



Influenza-like-illness levels are increasing

**7**

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

**15%**

Influenza positivity during the reporting period.

**17**

Cases of influenza have been detected this year:  
10 x Influenza A  
7 x Influenza B



Gastroenteritis levels are increasing

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE  
REPORTING**

Reports were received from 198 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 9 and 10 reporters saw a total of 31,357 patients.

**INFLUENZA-LIKE-ILLNESS (ILI)**

Nationally, ILI notifications significantly increased during the period with 79 notifications being reported in weeks 9—10. ILI rates reported in this period were 2 and 3 cases per 1000 consultations (weighted). This was higher than the previous fortnight where rates were 1 and 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 7 and 8 respectively. For the same reporting period in 2022, ILI rates were lower at 2 and 1 case per 1000 consultations for weeks 9 and 10 respectively (see Fig. 5).

**GASTROENTERITIS**

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications increased to 75 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period were slightly higher at 2 and 3 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 9 and 10 respectively, compared to 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 7 and 8 (see Fig. 5).

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

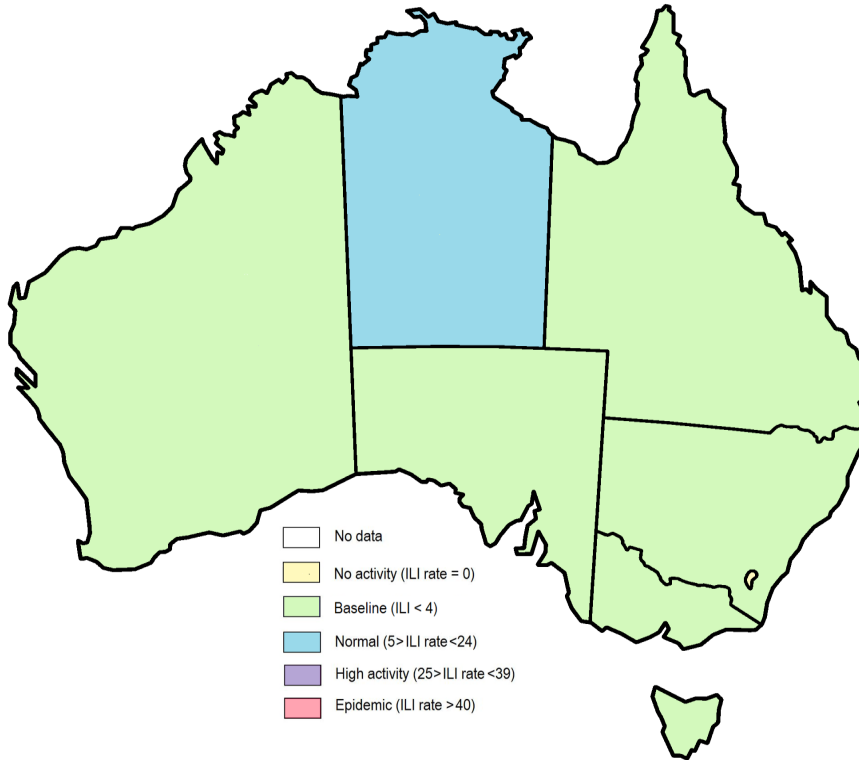


Figure 1. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, weeks 09 - 10, 2023.

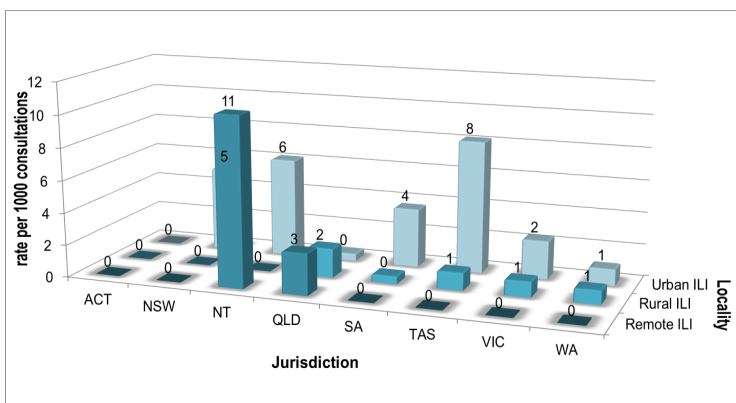


Figure 2. ASPREN rate of ILI by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 09 - 10, 2023.

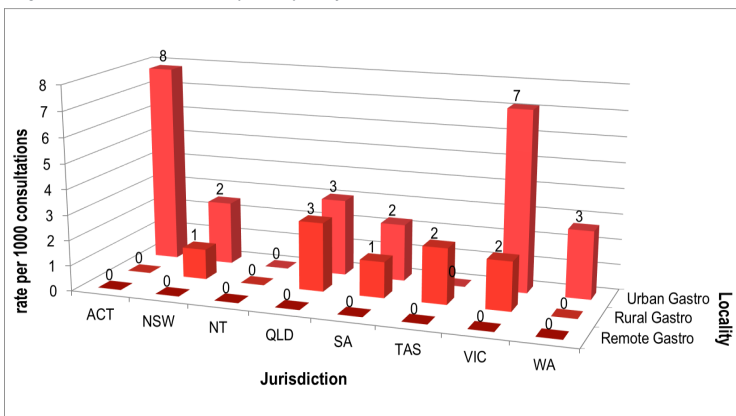


Figure 3. ASPREN rate of gastroenteritis by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 09 - 10, 2023.

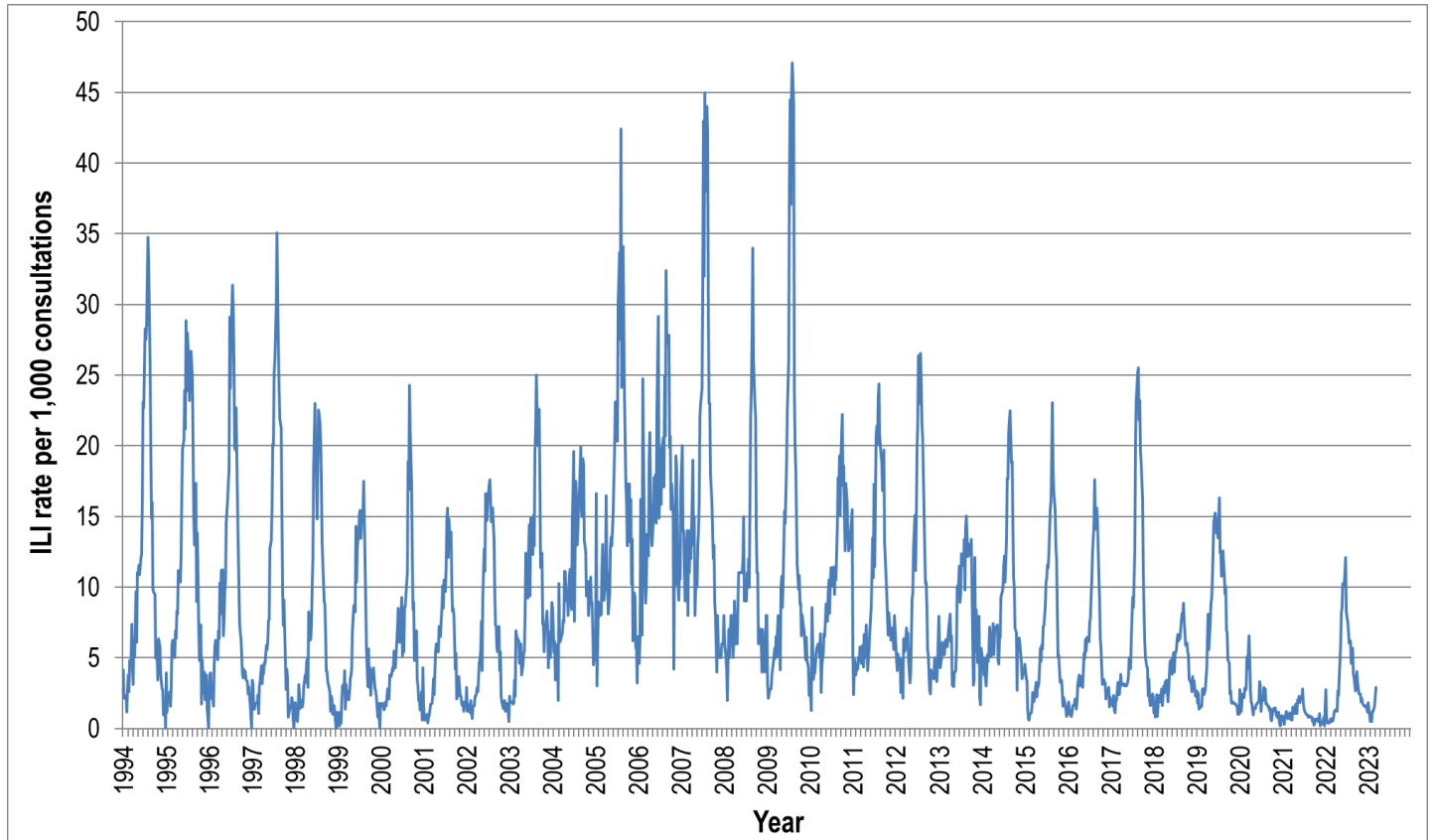


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2023.

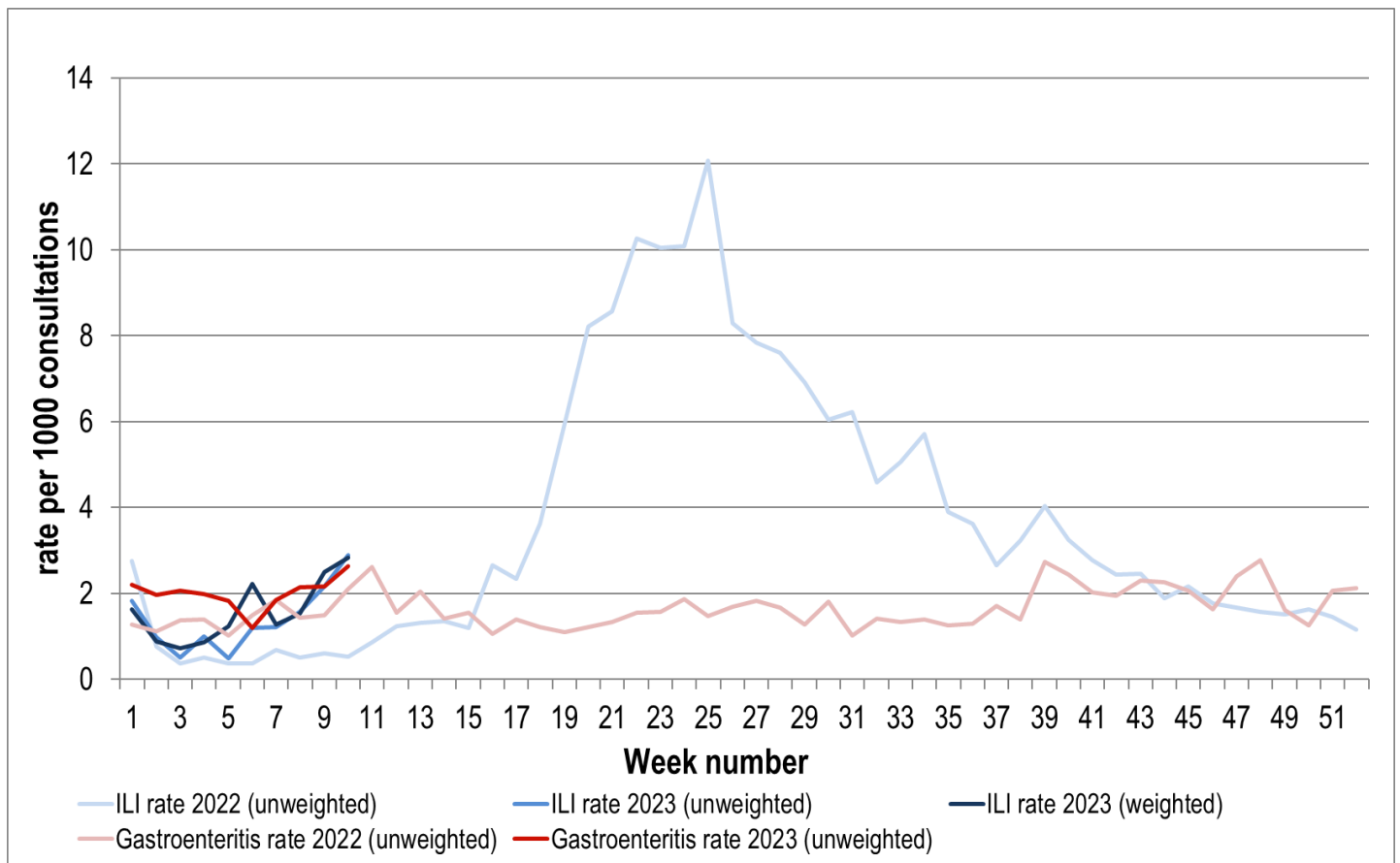


Figure 5. ASPREN ILI and gastroenteritis rates 2022-23.

Weighted rates are weighted to account for population size differences between jurisdictions, using population estimates from the 2011 Australian Census.

### VIROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE

59% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 9 and 10 (see Figure 6).

2 cases of Influenza A, 5 cases of Influenza B and 3 cases of SARS-CoV-2 were detected during this period. There were 13 cases of Rhinovirus detected making it the most common respiratory virus circulating the nation at present (see figure 8).

# Viral laboratory data is provided by SA Pathology laboratory.

	Reporting Period	YTD
	27 Feb - 12 March 2023	1 Jan - 12 March 2023
Total number of ILI notifications	79	204
Number of swab tests performed	47	104
% ILI patients tested	59%	51%
% of swab tests positive for influenza	15%	16%

Figure 6. ASPREN virological surveillance results overview for 2023 #

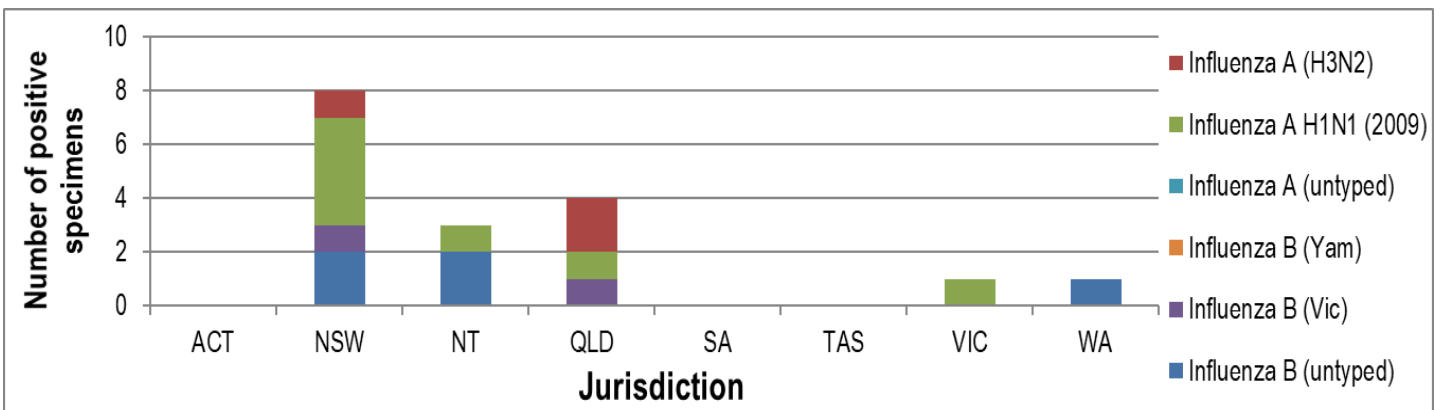


Figure 7. ASPREN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2023 #

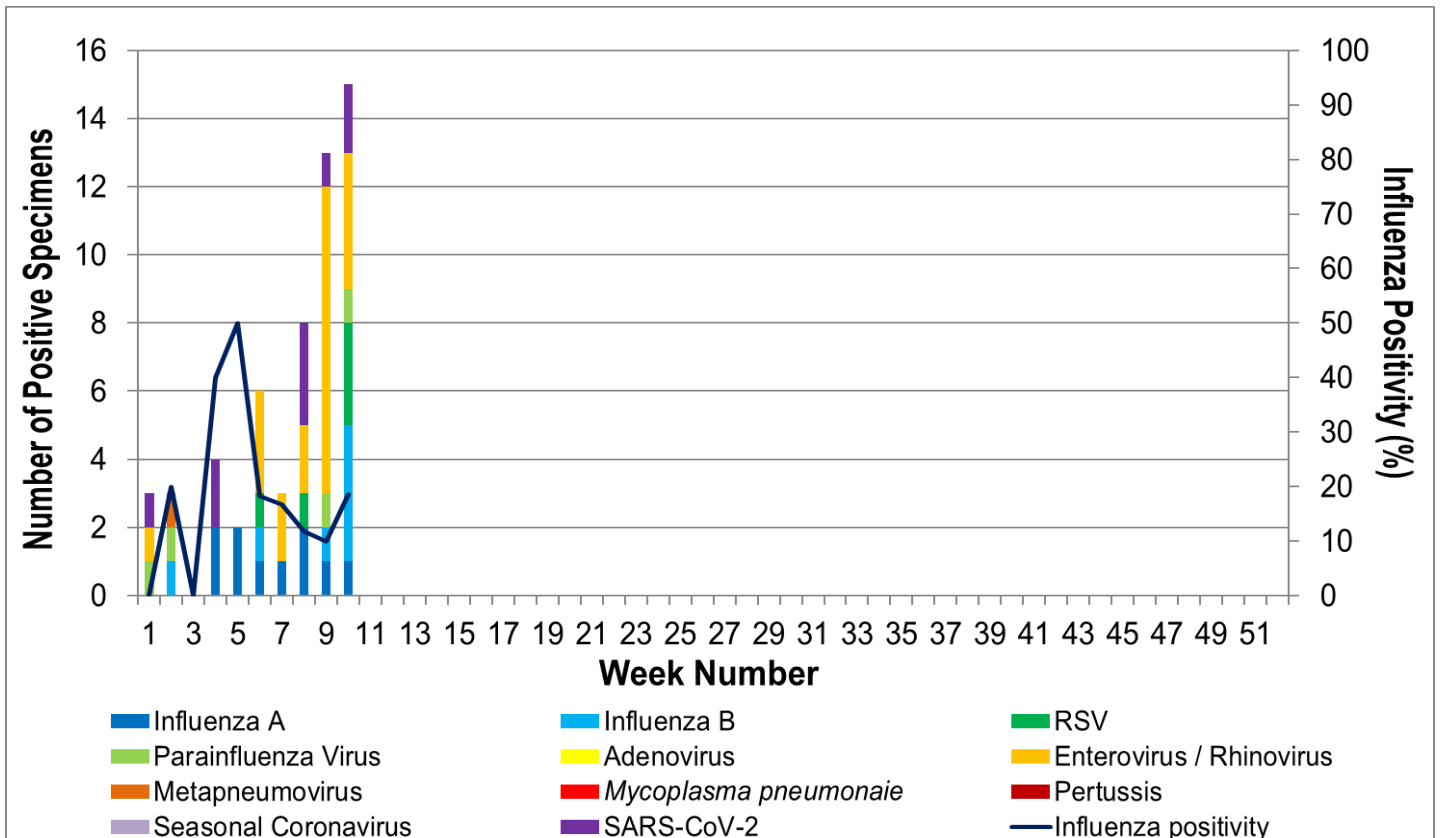


Figure 8. ASPREN, laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2023 #

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 16 March 2023. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.