

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

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

No. 20, 2023 - 25th September — 8th October 2023

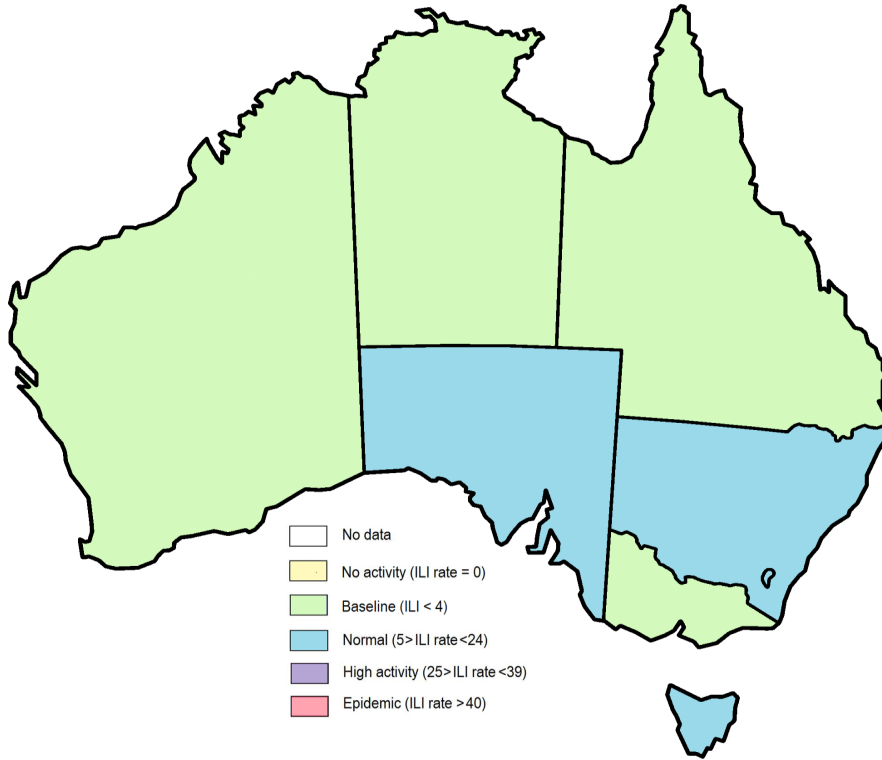


Figure 1. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, weeks 39 - 40, 2023.

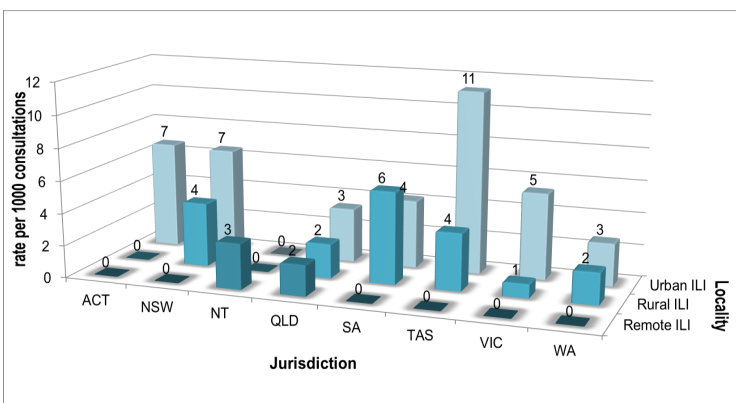


Figure 2. ASPREN rate of ILI by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 39 - 40, 2023.

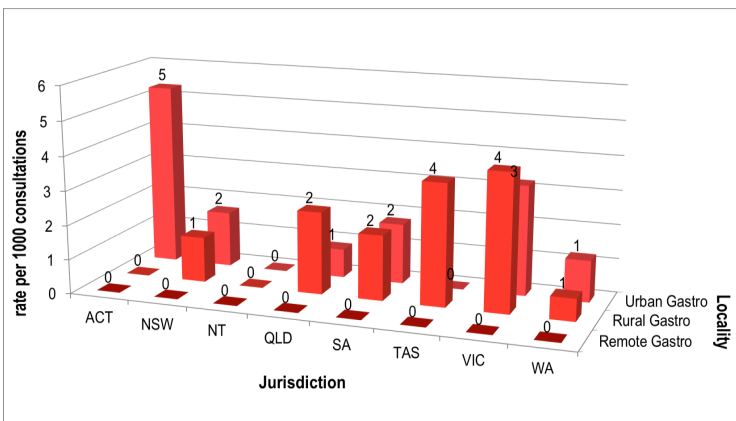


Figure 3. ASPREN rate of gastroenteritis by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 39 - 40, 2023.

**NATIONAL SUMMARY**

**13** Case of influenza have been detected in this reporting period  
11 x Influenza A  
2 x Influenza B

**9%** Influenza positivity during the reporting period.

**289** Cases of influenza have been detected this year:  
170 x Influenza A  
119 x Influenza B

Influenza-like-illness levels remain steady at baseline levels

Gastroenteritis levels remain steady below baseline levels

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE REPORTING**

Reports were received from 272 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 39 and 40 reporters saw a total of 38,444 patients.

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

Nationally, ILI notifications decreased during the period with 148 notifications being reported in weeks 39—40. ILI rates reported in this period were 4 cases per 1000 consultations (weighted). This was similar to the previous fortnight where rates were 4 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 37 and 38 respectively. For the same reporting period in 2022, ILI rates were lower at 4 and 3 cases per 1000 consultations for weeks 37 and 38 respectively (see Fig. 5).

**GASTROENTERITIS**

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications remained steady at 76 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period remained steady at 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 39 and 40, compared to 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 37 and 38 (see Fig. 5).

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

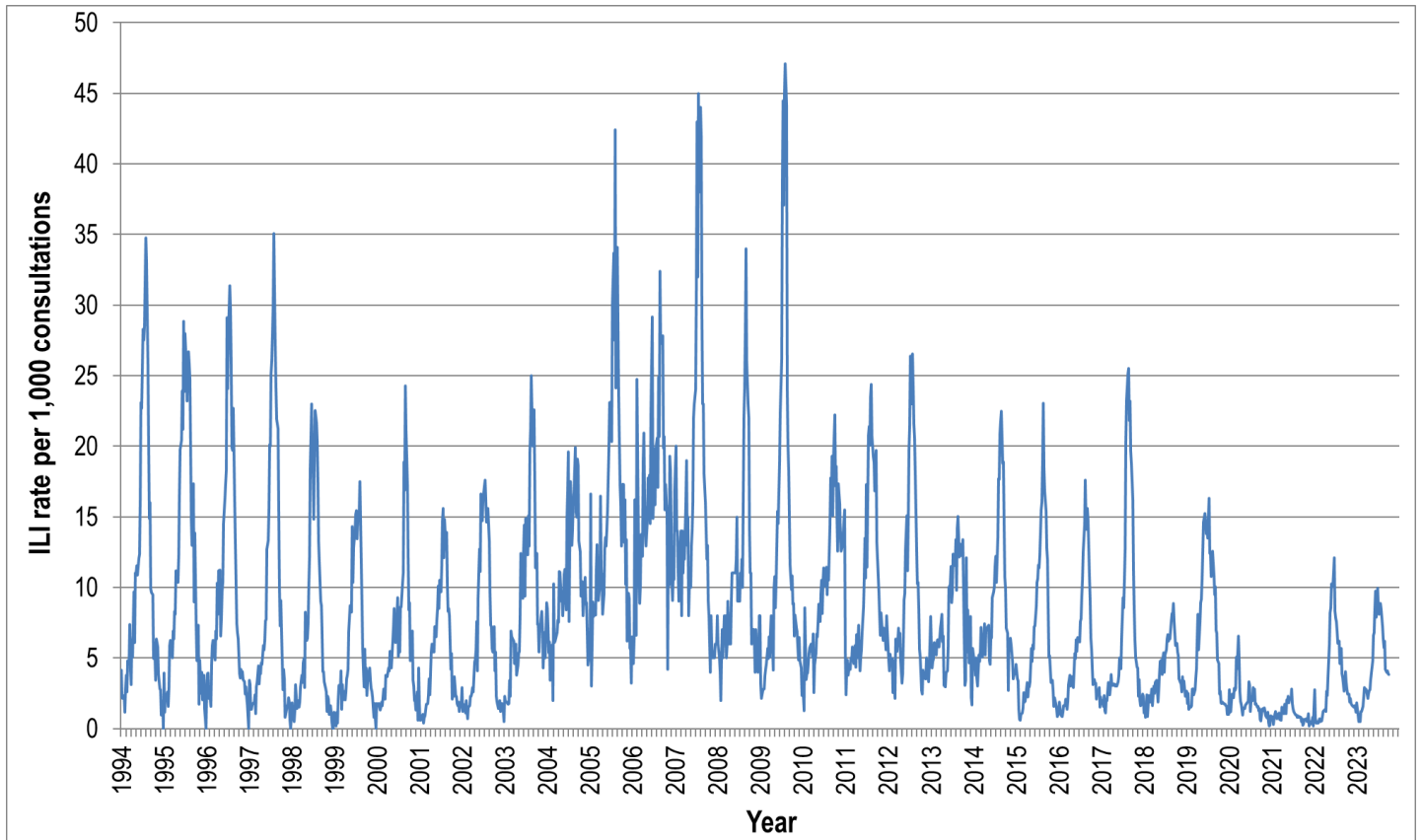


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2023.

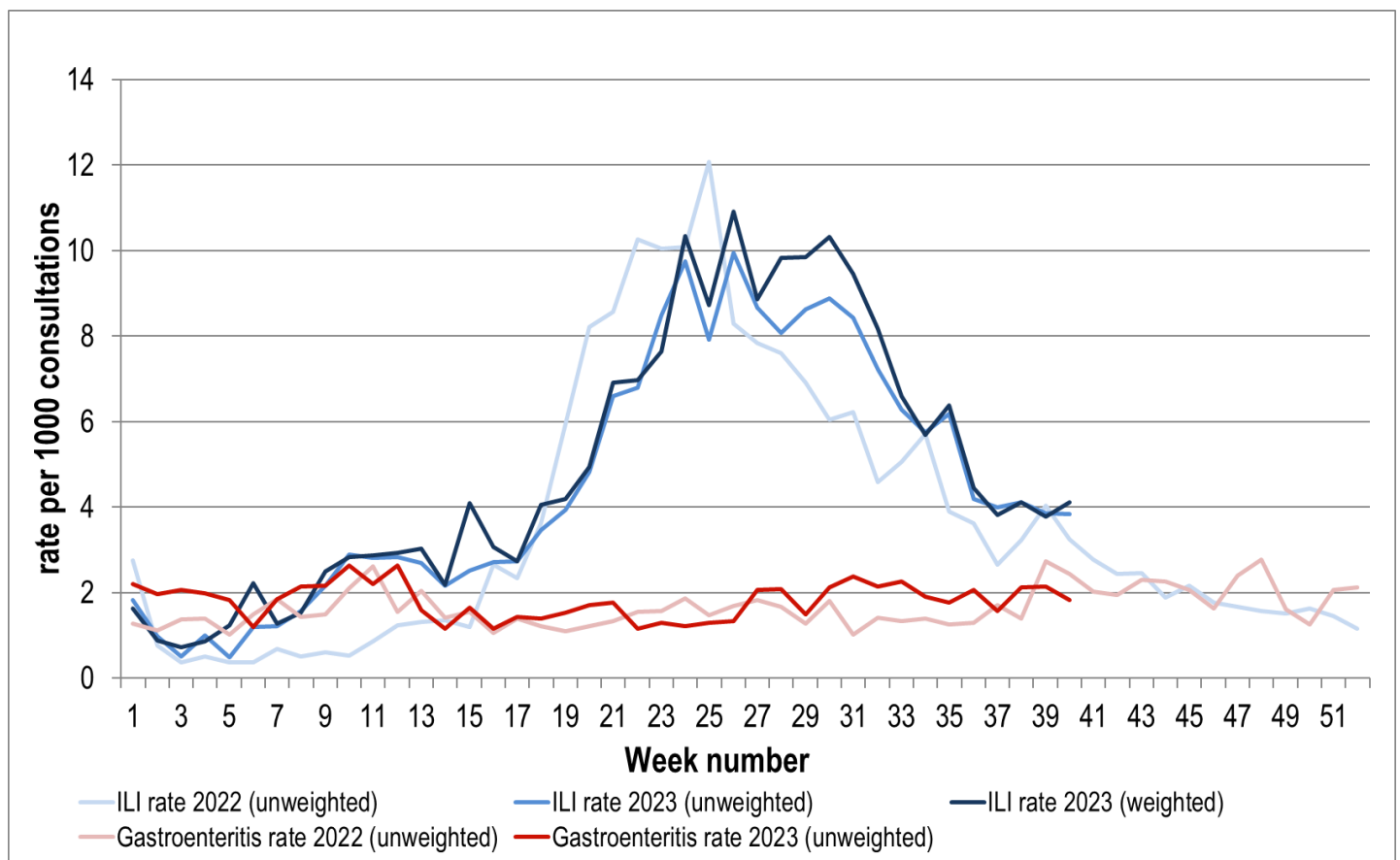


Figure 5. ASPREN ILI and gastroenteritis rates 2022-23. Weighted rates are weighted to account for population size differences between jurisdictions, using population estimates from the 2011 Australian Census.

**VIROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE**

68% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 39 and 40 (see Figure 6).

11 cases of Influenza A, 2 cases of Influenza B, and 2 cases of SARS-CoV-2 were detected during this period. There were 14 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 25 Sept - 8 Oct 2023	YTD 1 Jan - 8 Oct 2023
Total number of ILI notifications	148	3323
Number of swab tests performed	101	1393
% ILI patients tested	68%	42%
% of swab tests positive for influenza	9%	21%

Figure 6. ASPREN virological surveillance results overview for 2023 #

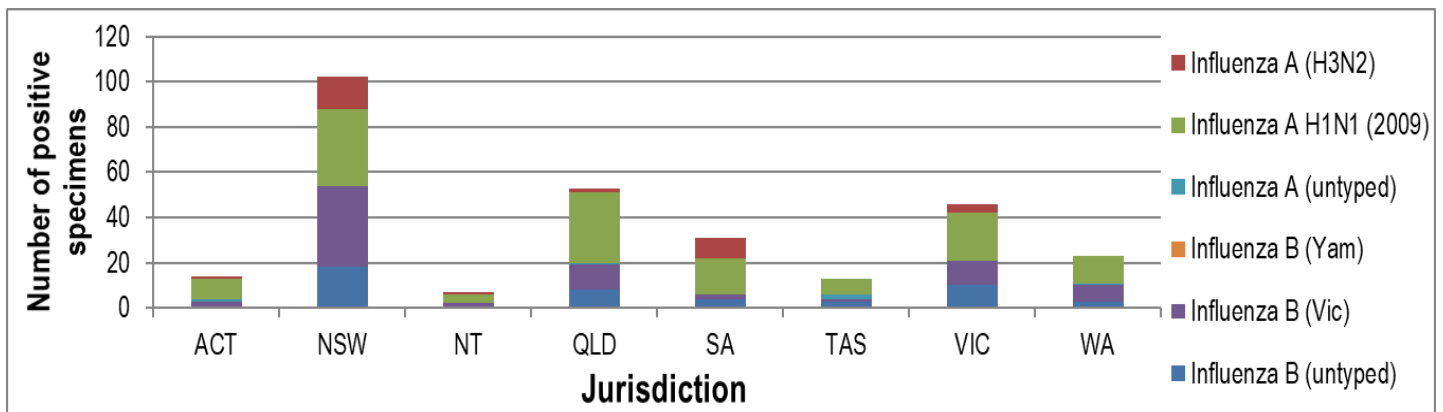


Figure 7. ASPREN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2023 #

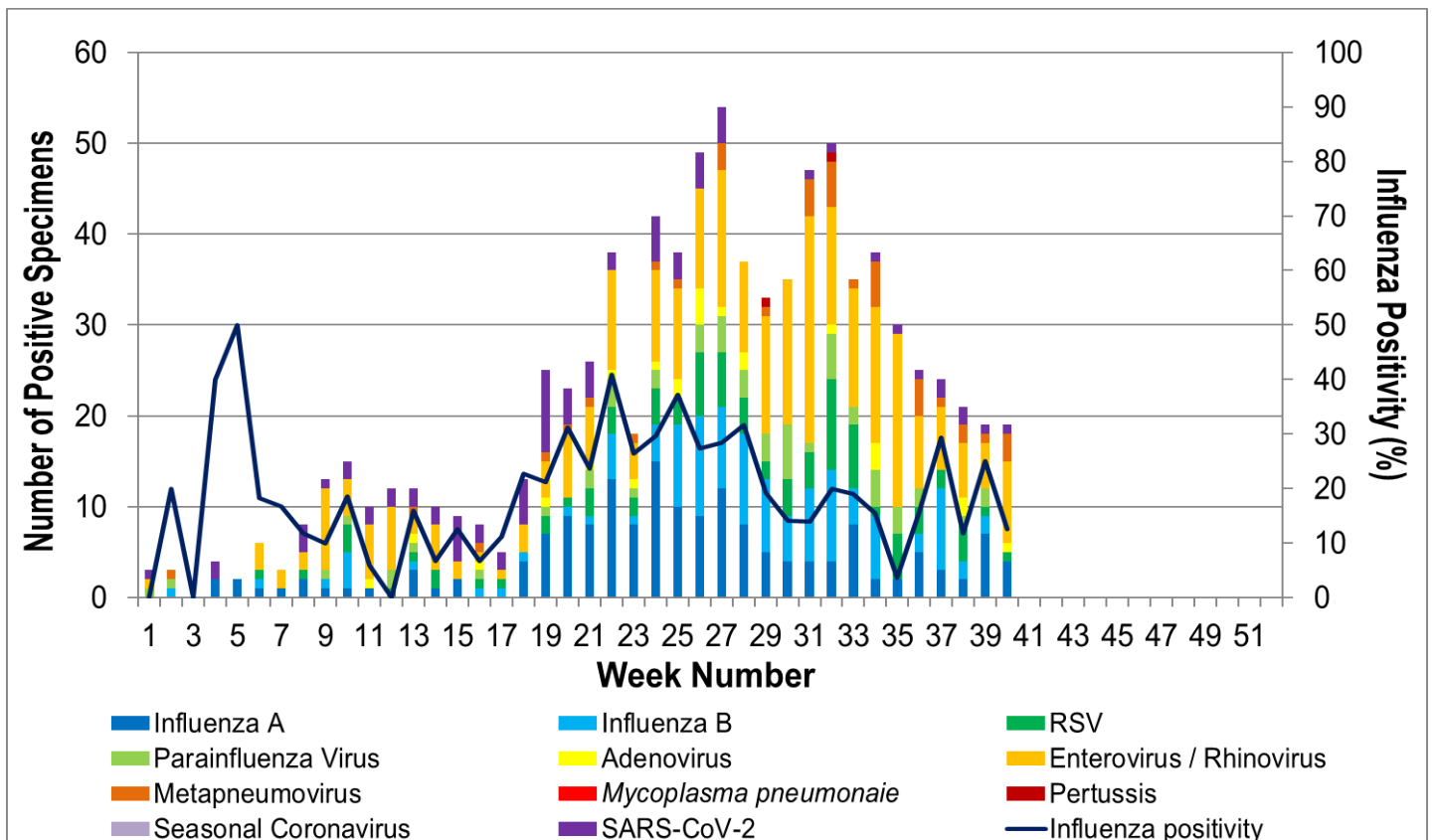


Figure 8. ASPREN, laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2023 #

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 12 October 2023. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.