

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

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

No. 01, 2024 - 1st January — 14th January 2024

**NATIONAL SUMMARY**



Influenza-like-illness levels are increasing

**3**

Case of influenza have been detected in this reporting period  
3 x Influenza A  
0 x Influenza B

**10%**

Influenza positivity during the reporting period.

**3**

Cases of influenza have been detected this year:  
3 x Influenza A  
0 x Influenza B



Gastroenteritis levels remain steady below baseline levels

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE  
REPORTING**

Reports were received from 249 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 1 and 2 reporters saw a total of 32,679 patients.

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

Nationally, ILI notifications increased during the period with 111 notifications being reported in weeks 1—2. ILI rates reported in this period were 5 and 4 cases per 1000 consultations (weighted). This was slightly higher than the previous fortnight where rates were 3 and 4 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 51 and 52 respectively. For the same reporting period in 2023, ILI rates were lower at 2 and 1 cases per 1000 consultations for weeks 1 and 2 respectively (see Fig. 5).

**GASTROENTERITIS**

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications significantly increased to 79 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period increased to 3 and 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 1 and 2 respectively, compared to 1 and 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 51 and 52 respectively (see Fig. 5).

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

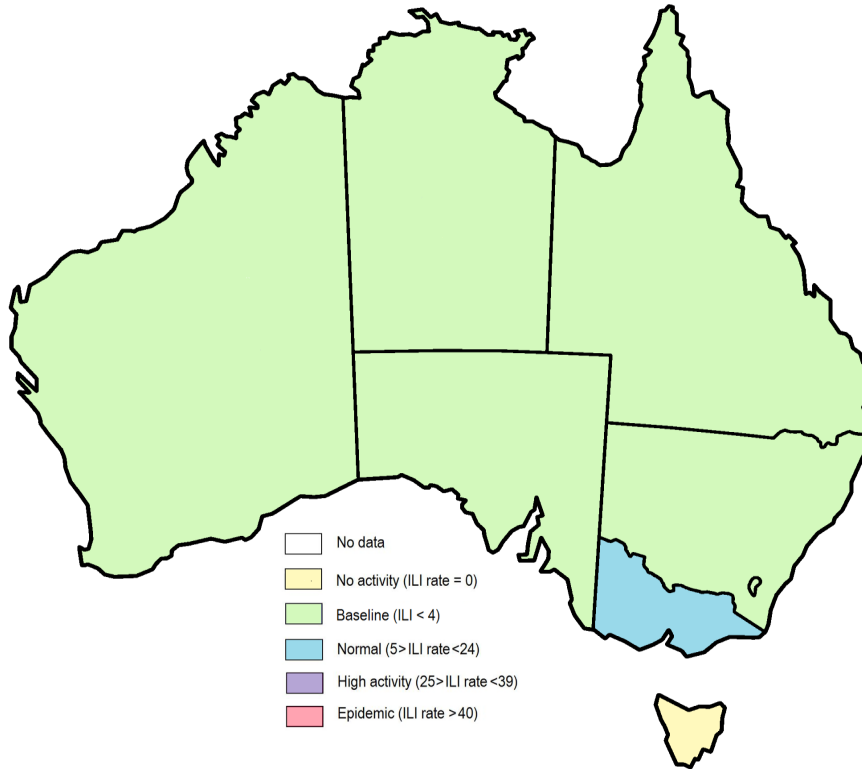


Figure 1. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, weeks 01 - 02, 2024.

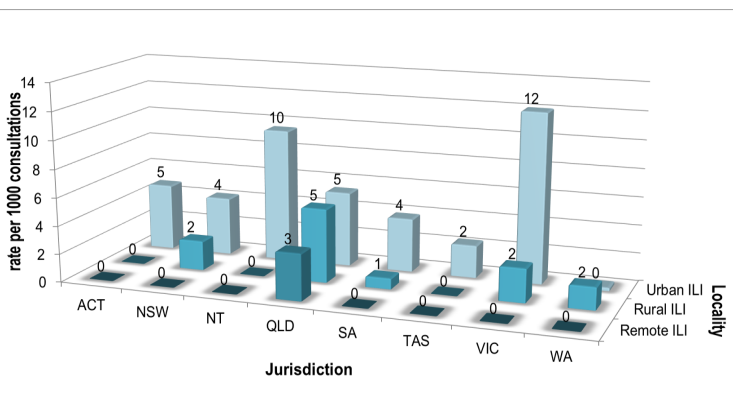


Figure 2. ASPREN rate of ILI by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 01 - 02, 2024.

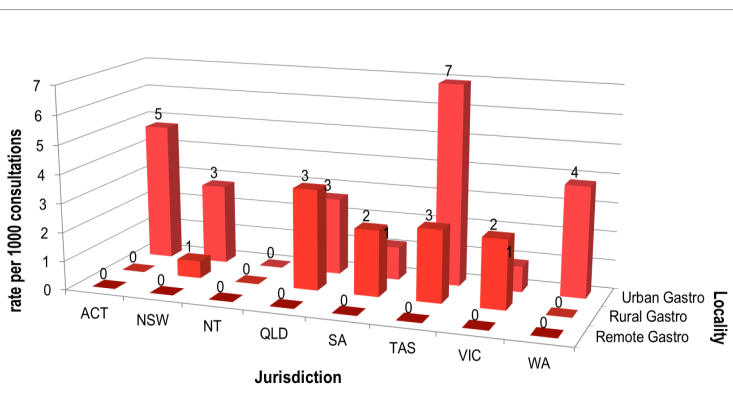


Figure 3. ASPREN rate of gastroenteritis by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 01 - 02, 2024.

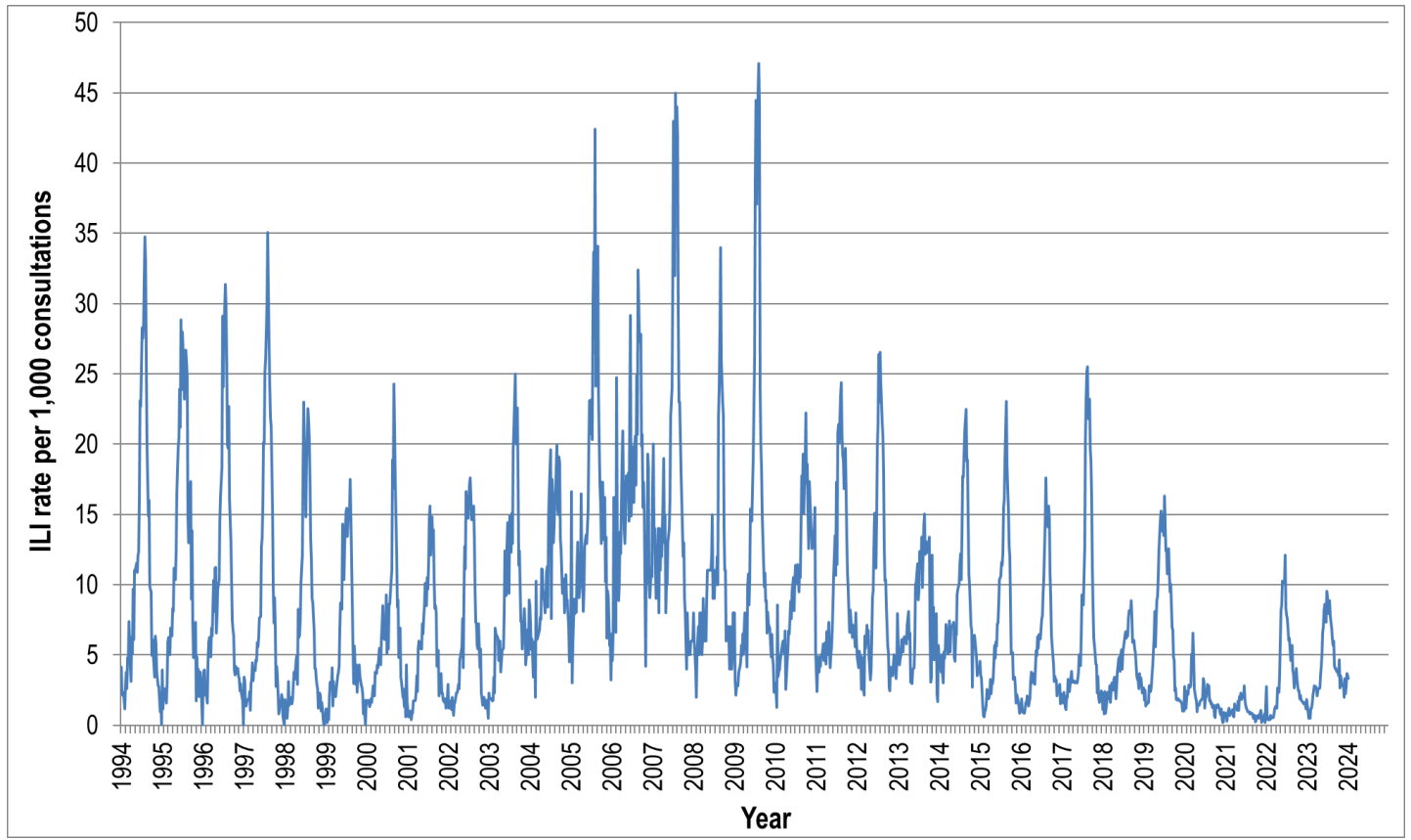


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2024.

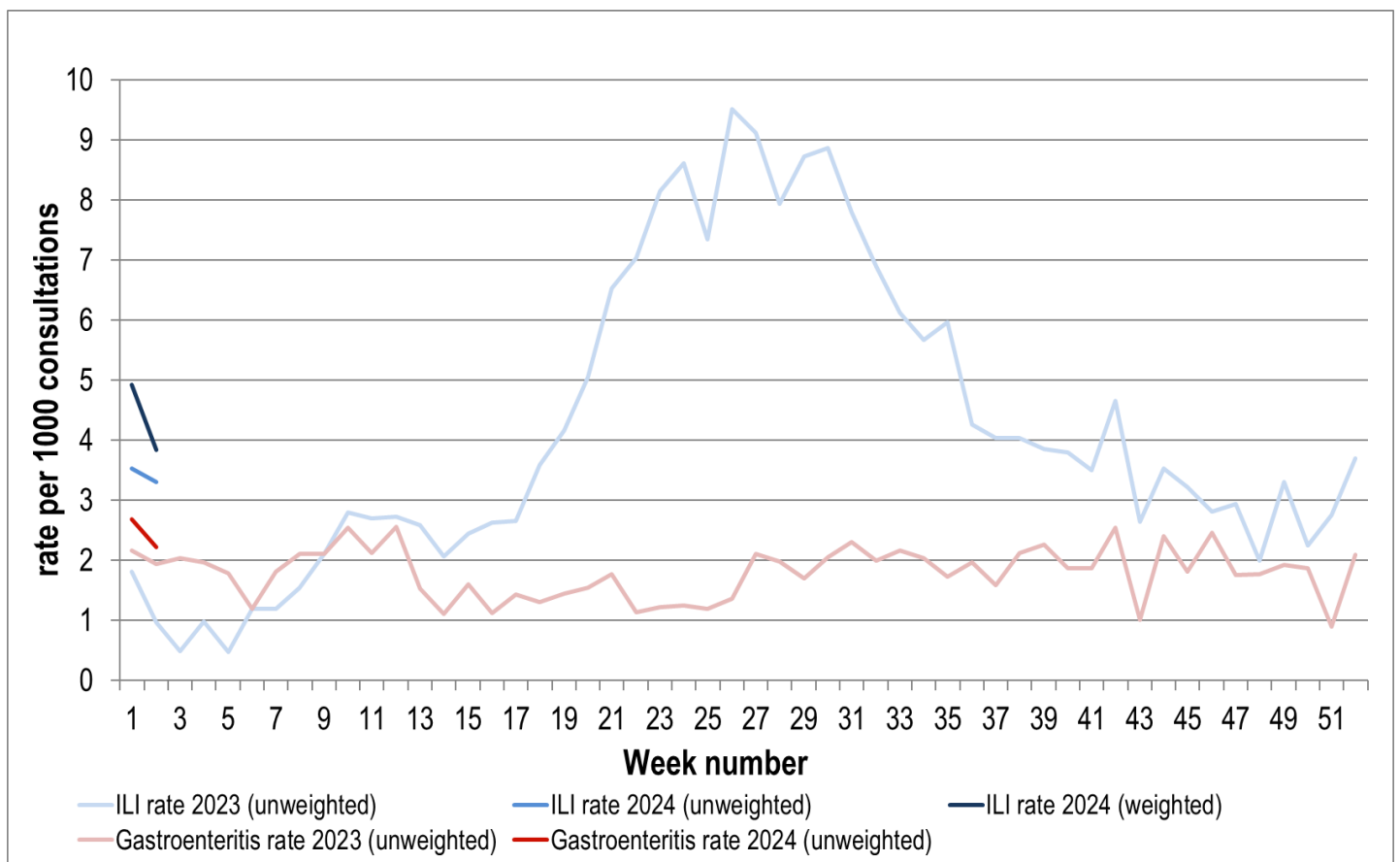


Figure 5. ASPREN ILI and gastroenteritis rates 2023-24. Weighted rates are weighted to account for population size differences between jurisdictions, using population estimates from the 2011 Australian Census.

**VIROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE**

26% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 1 and 2 (see Figure 6).

3 cases of Influenza A and 2 cases of SARS-CoV-2 were detected during this period. There were 5 cases of Metapneumovirus 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 1 Jan - 14 Jan 2024	YTD 1 Jan - 14 Jan 2024
Total number of ILI notifications	111	111
Number of swab tests performed	29	29
% ILI patients tested	26%	26%
% of swab tests positive for influenza	10%	10%

Figure 6. ASPREN virological surveillance results overview for 2024 #

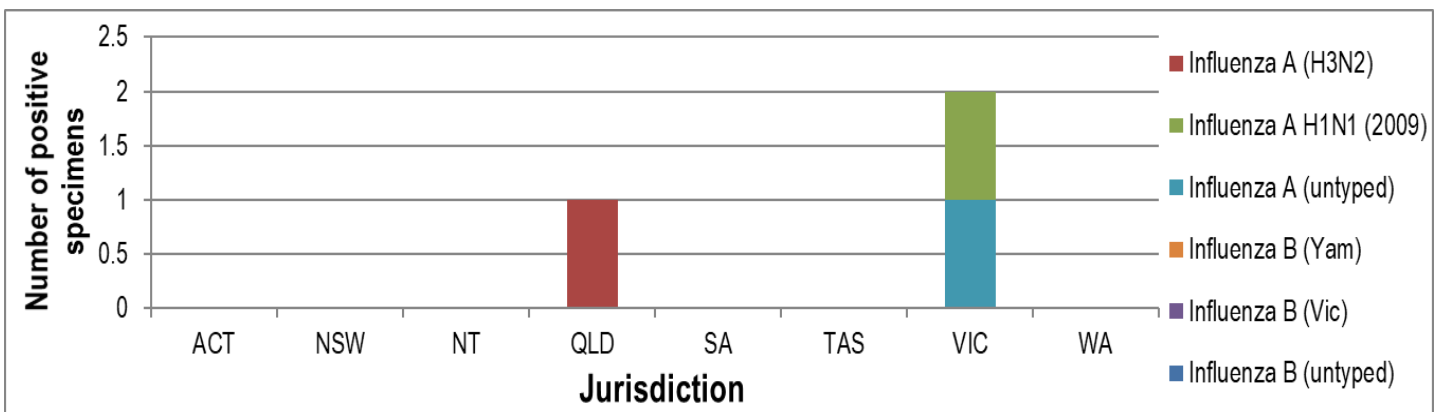


Figure 7. ASPREN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2024 #

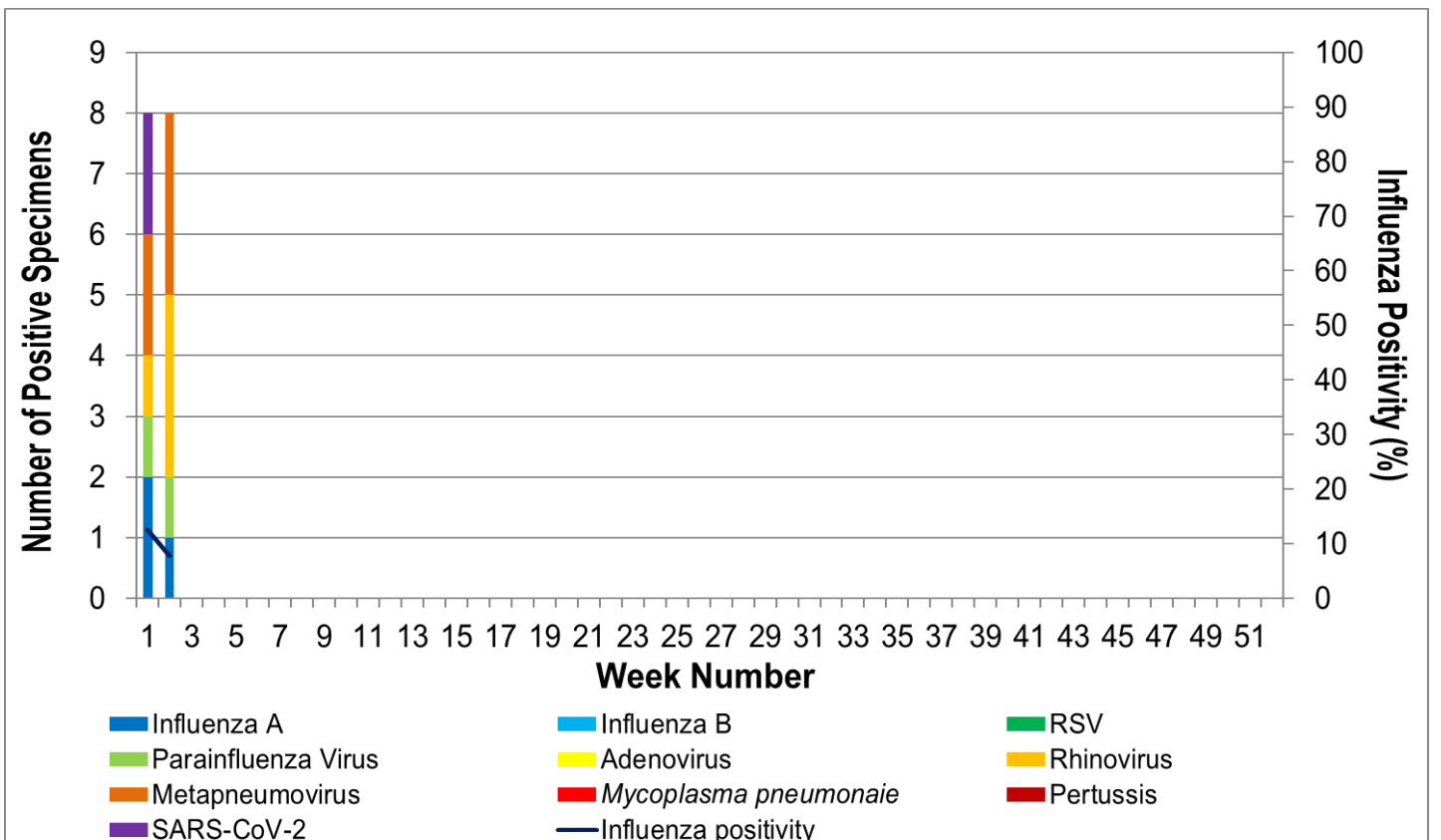


Figure 8. ASPREN, laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2024 #

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 18 January 2024. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.