

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

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

No. 24, 2023 - 20th November — 3rd December 2023

**NATIONAL SUMMARY**



Influenza-like-illness levels are decreasing

**9**

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

**20%**

Influenza positivity during the reporting period.

**327**

Cases of influenza have been detected this year:  
201 x Influenza A  
126 x Influenza B



Gastroenteritis levels remain steady below baseline levels

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE  
REPORTING**

Reports were received from 260 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 47 and 48 reporters saw a total of 44,304 patients.

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

Nationally, ILI notifications decreased slightly during the period with 109 notifications being reported in weeks 47—48. ILI rates reported in this period were 3 and 2 cases per 1000 consultations (weighted). This was slightly lower than the previous fortnight where rates were 4 and 3 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 45 and 46 respectively. For the same reporting period in 2022, ILI rates were lower at 2 cases per 1000 consultations for weeks 47 and 48 respectively (see Fig. 5).

**GASTROENTERITIS**

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications decreased to 78 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period remained steady at 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 47 and 48, compared to 2 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 45 and 46 (see Fig. 5).

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

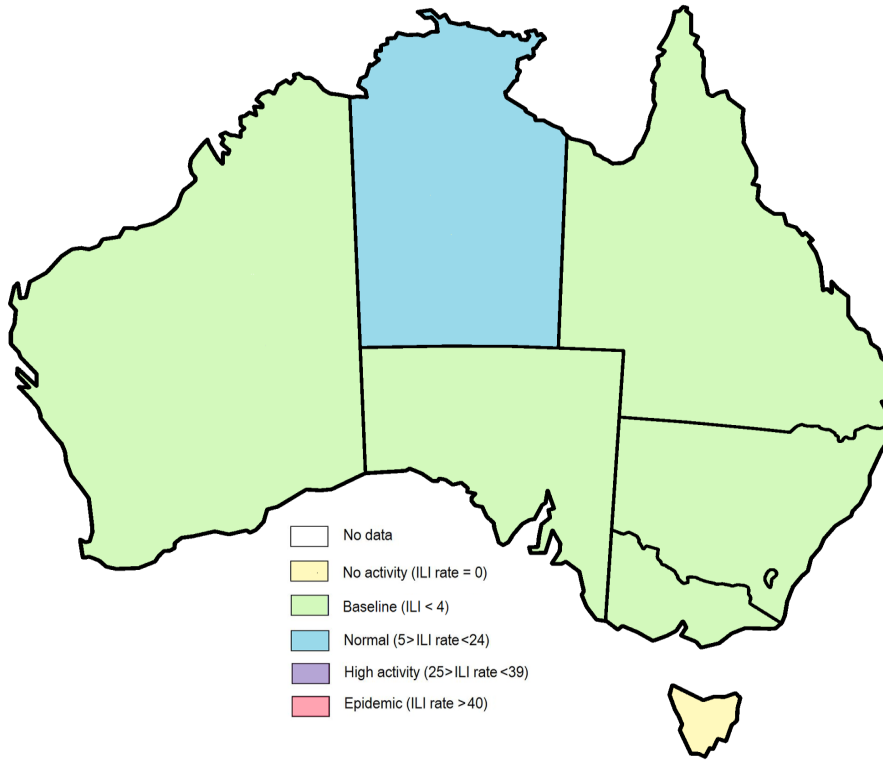


Figure 1. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, weeks 47 - 48, 2023.

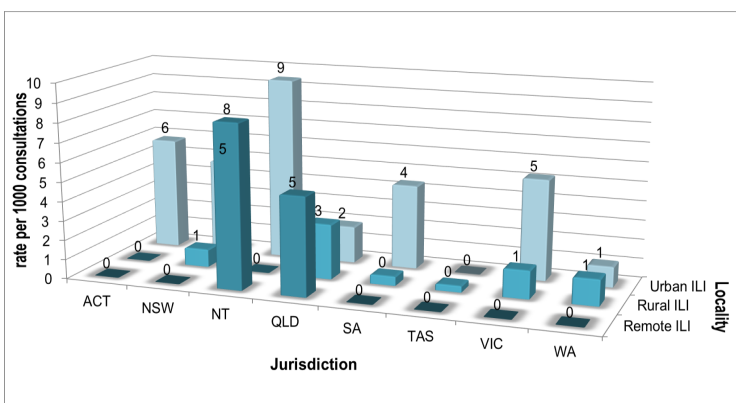


Figure 2. ASPREN rate of ILI by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 47 - 48, 2023.

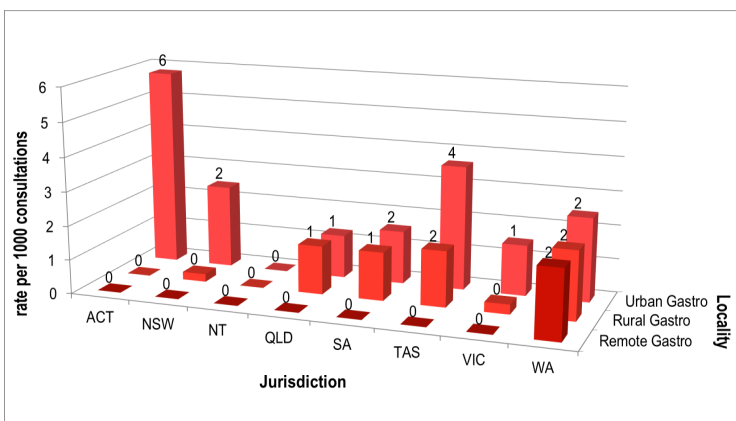


Figure 3. ASPREN rate of gastroenteritis by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 47 - 48, 2023.

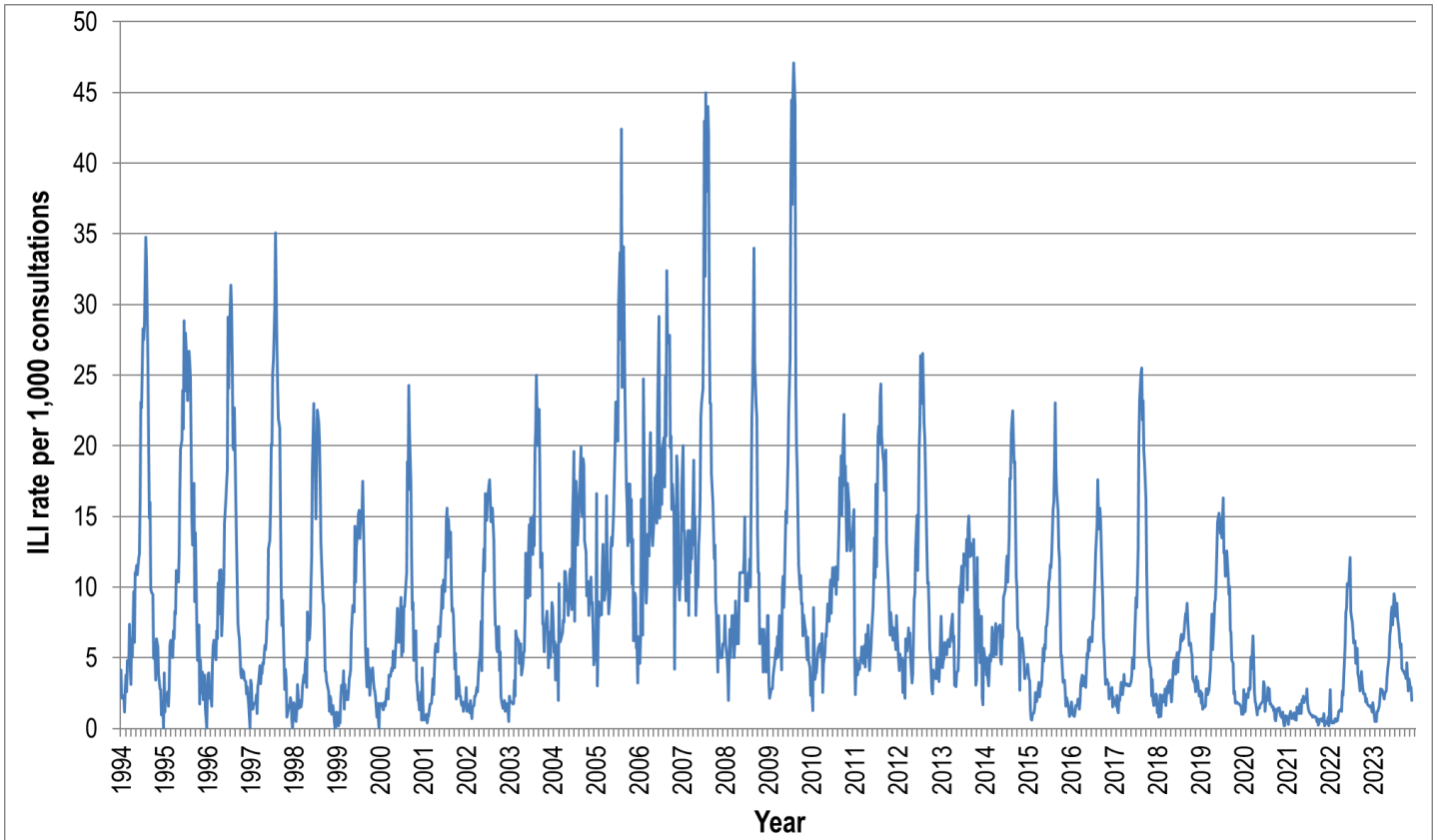


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2023.

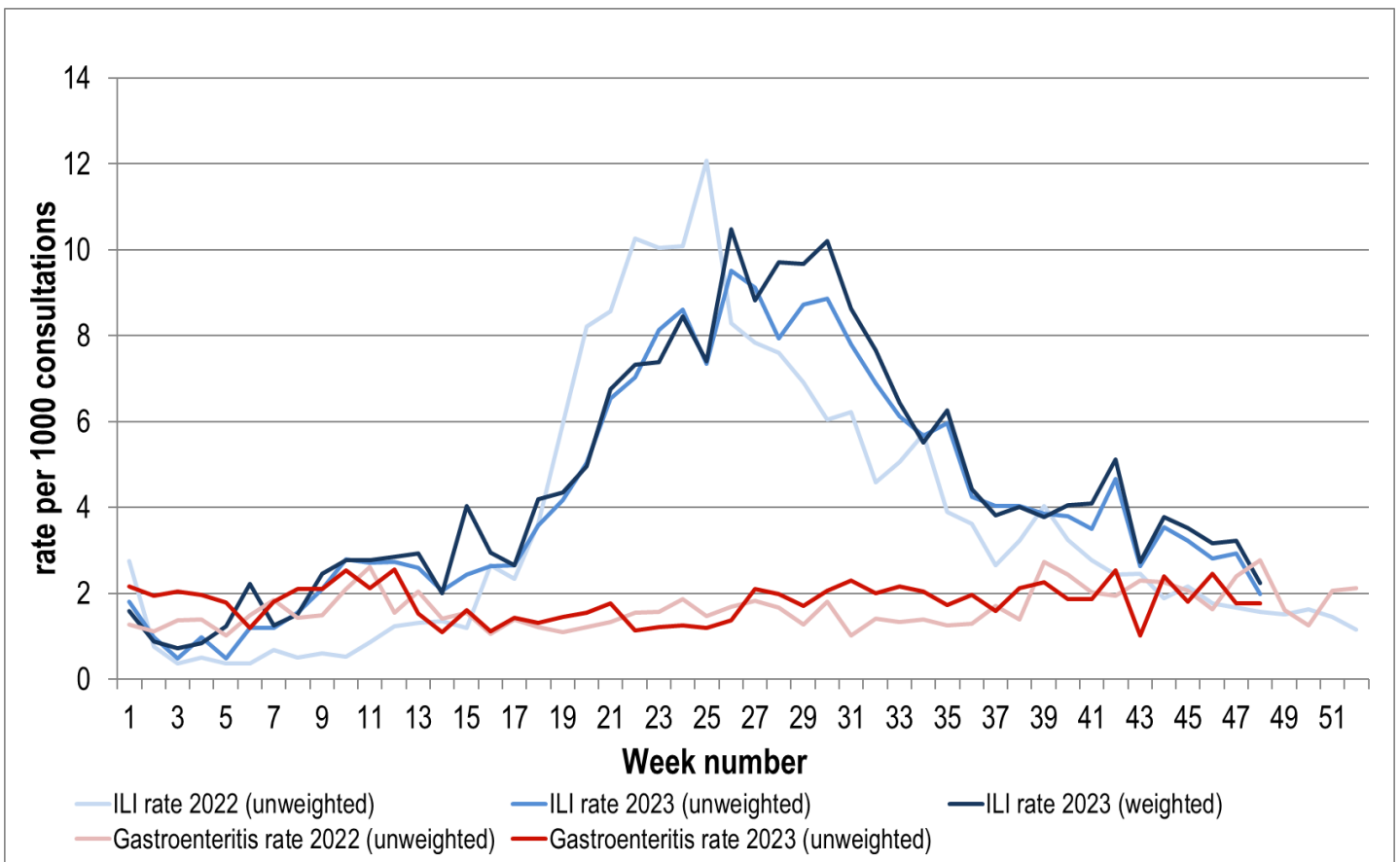


Figure 5. ASPREN ILI and gastroenteritis rates 2022-23. Weighted rates are weighted to account for population size differences between jurisdictions, using population estimates from the 2011 Australian Census.

**VIROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE**

41% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 47 and 48 (see Figure 6).

7 cases of Influenza A, 2 cases of Influenza B, and 2 cases of SARS-CoV-2 were detected during this period. There were 11 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
	20 Nov - 3 Dec 2023	1 Jan - 3 Dec 2023
Total number of ILI notifications	109	4190
Number of swab tests performed	45	1664
% ILI patients tested	41%	40%
% of swab tests positive for influenza	20%	20%

Figure 6. ASPREN virological surveillance results overview for 2023 #

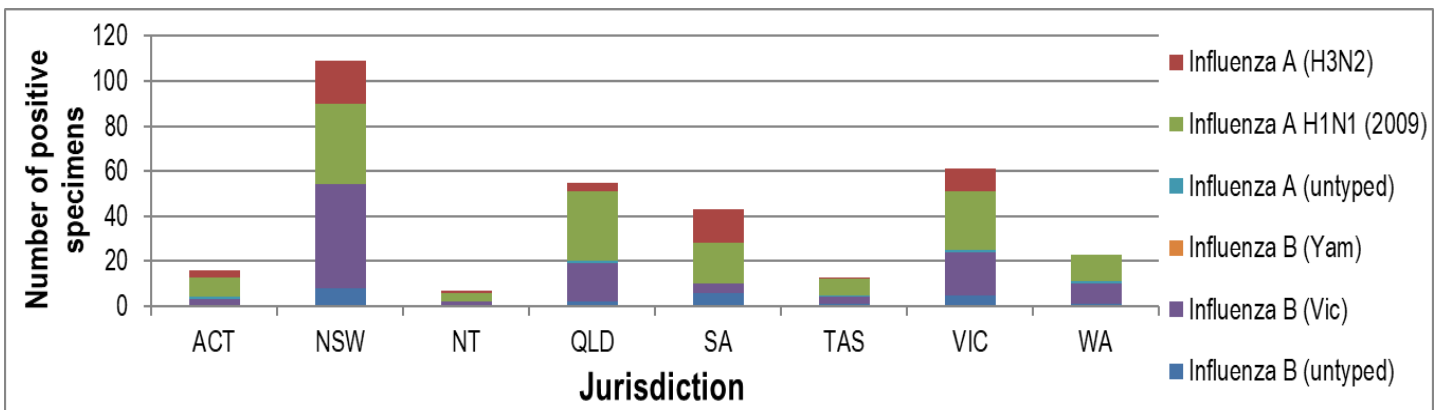


Figure 7. ASPREN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2023 #

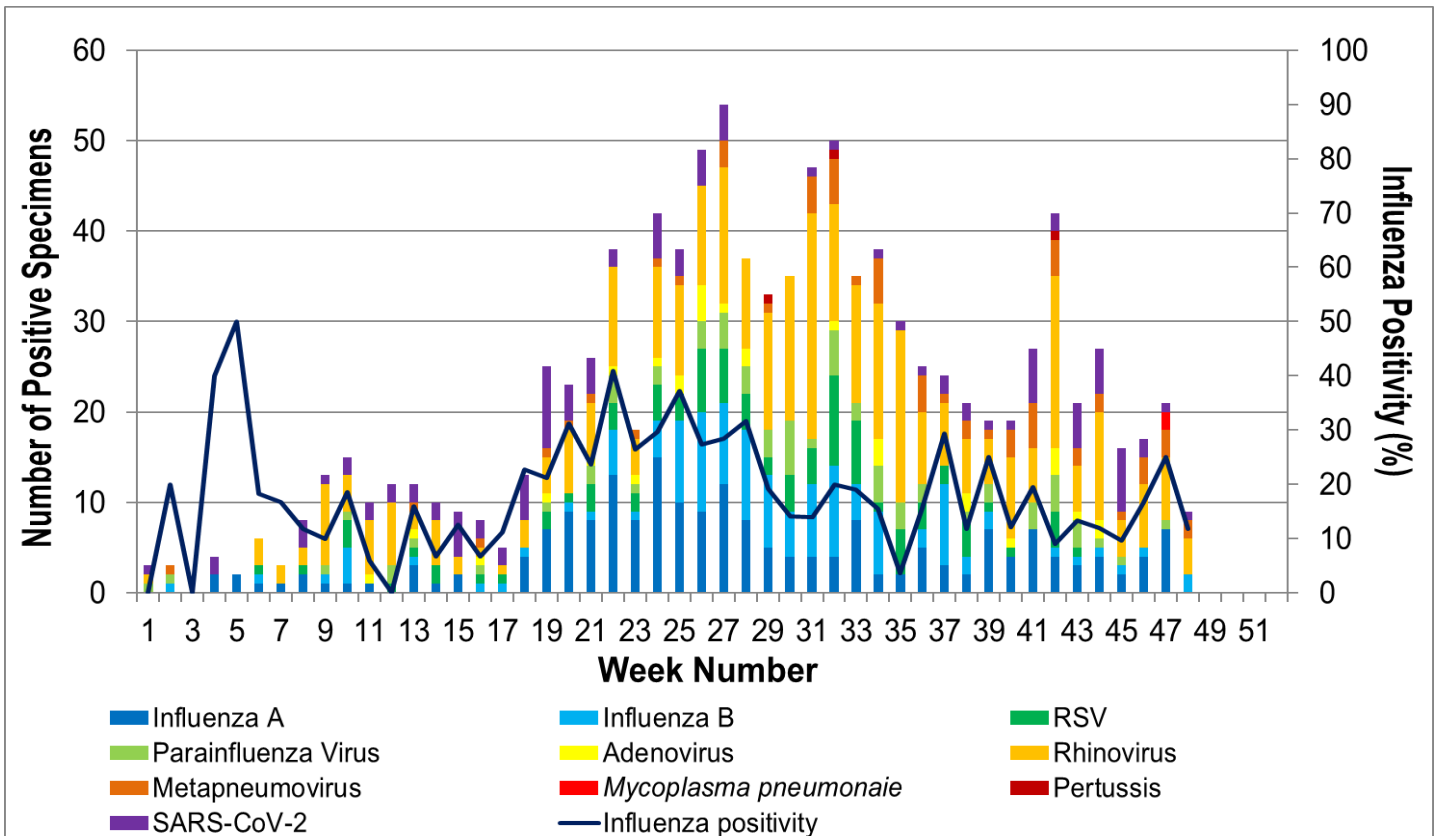


Figure 8. ASPREN, laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2023 #

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 7 December 2023. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.