



**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. 04, 2021 - 15th February — 28th February 2021

NATIONAL SUMMARY

-  Influenza-like-illness levels remain steady below baseline levels
- 0** Case of influenza have been detected in this reporting period
0 x Influenza A
0 x Influenza B
- 0%** Influenza positivity during the reporting period.
- 0** Cases of influenza have been detected this year:
0 x Influenza A
0 x Influenza B
-  Gastroenteritis levels remain steady below baseline levels

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE
REPORTING**

Reports were received from 206 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 7 and 8 reporters saw a total of 33,958 patients.

INFLUENZA-LIKE-ILLNESS (ILI)

Nationally, ILI notifications significantly increased during the period with 29 notifications being reported in weeks 7—8. ILI rates reported in this period remained steady at 1 case per 1000 consultations (weighted). This was similar to the previous fortnight where rates were 1 case per 1000 consultations in weeks 5 and 6. For the same reporting period in 2020, ILI rates were higher at 3 cases per 1000 consultations for weeks 7 and 8 (see Fig. 5).

GASTROENTERITIS

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications significantly increased over the period with 61 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period slightly decreased to 2 cases per 1000 consultations in both weeks 7 and 8, compared to 3 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 5 and 6 (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.

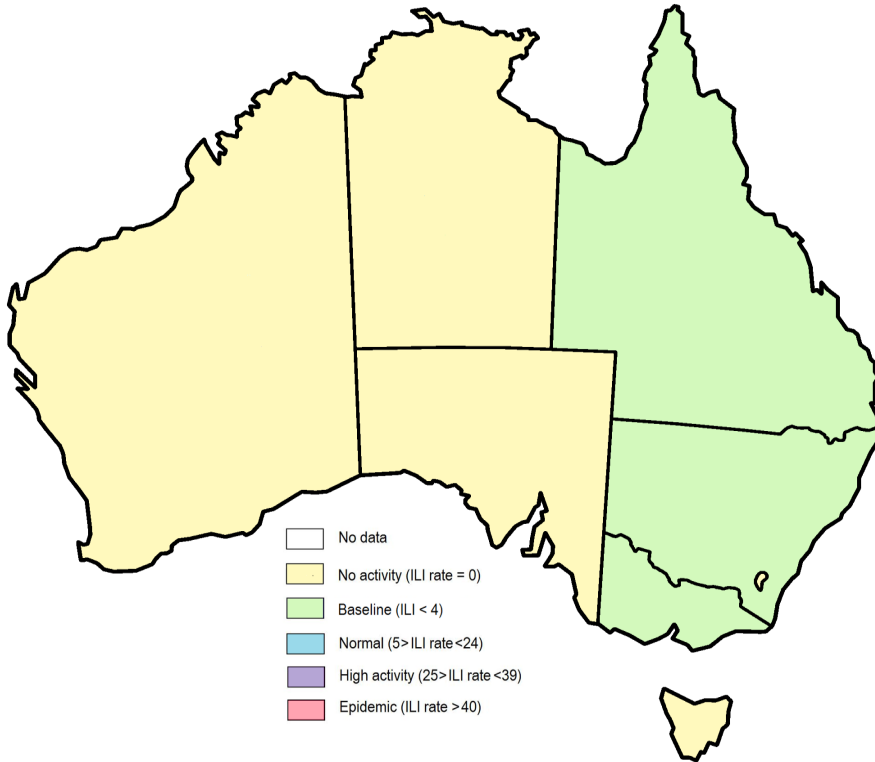


Figure 1. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, weeks 07 - 08, 2021.

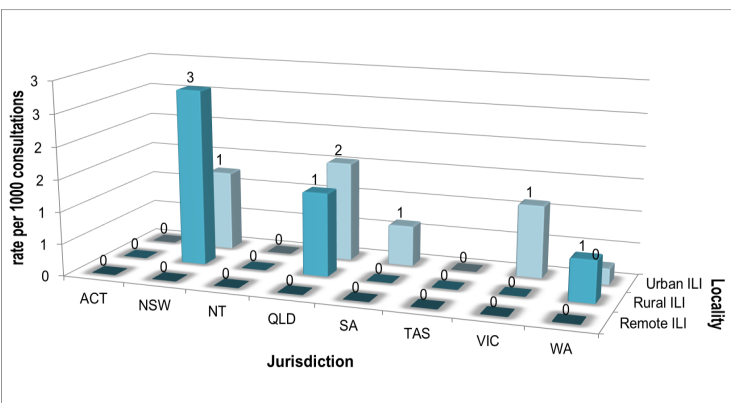


Figure 2. ASPREN + VicSPIN rate of ILI by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 07 - 08, 2021.

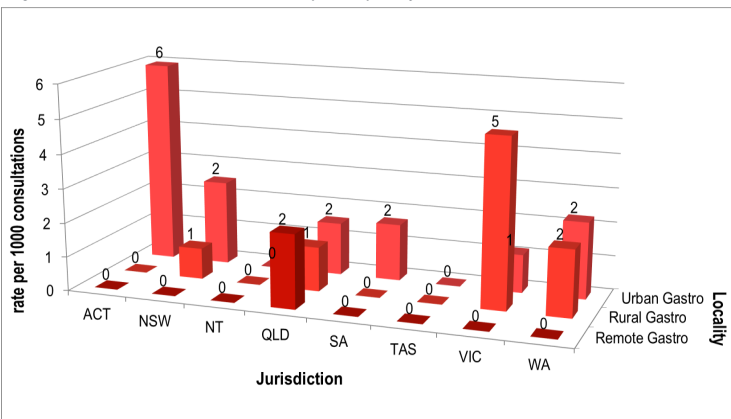


Figure 3. ASPREN rate of gastroenteritis by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 07 - 08, 2021.

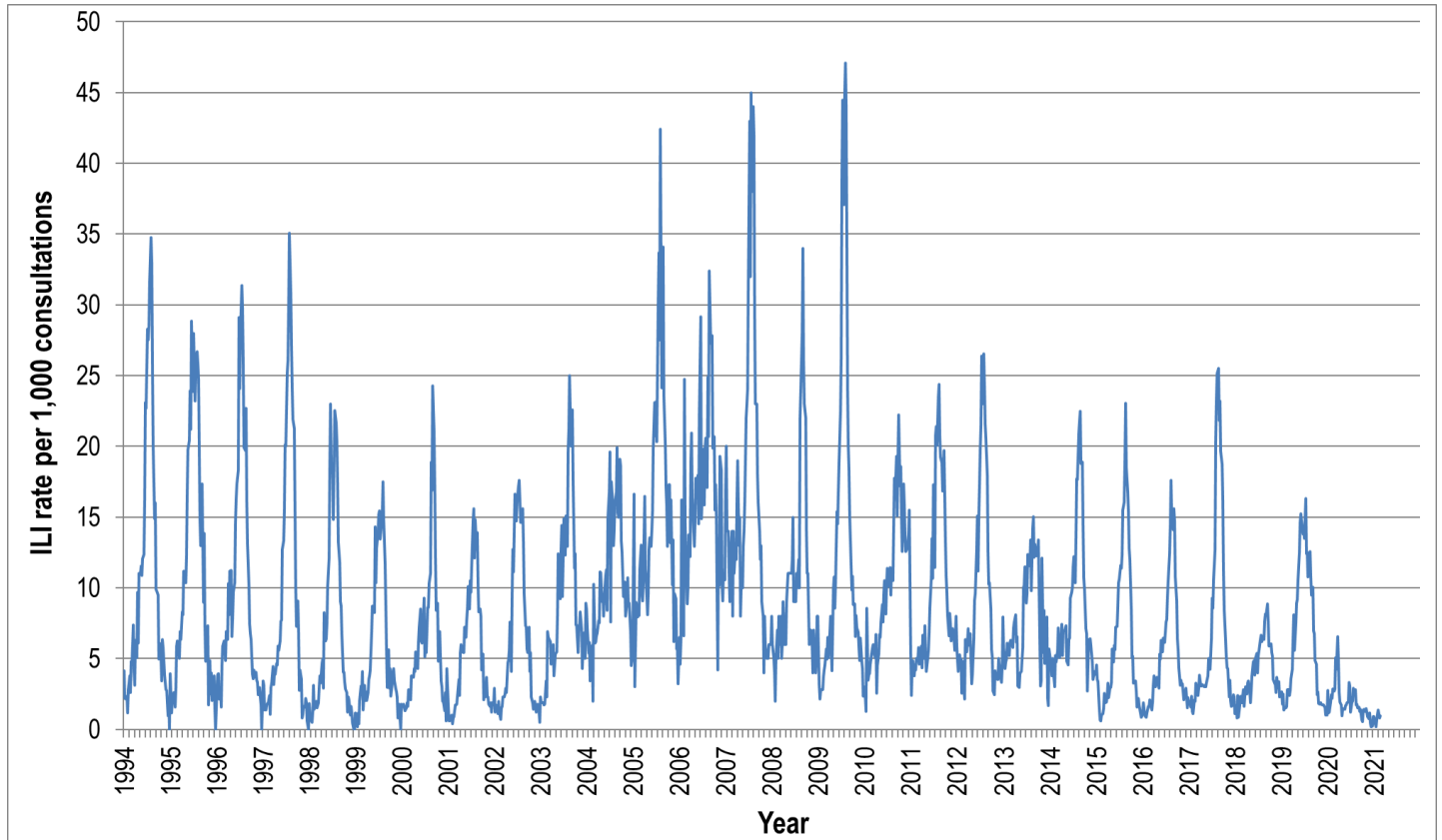


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2021.

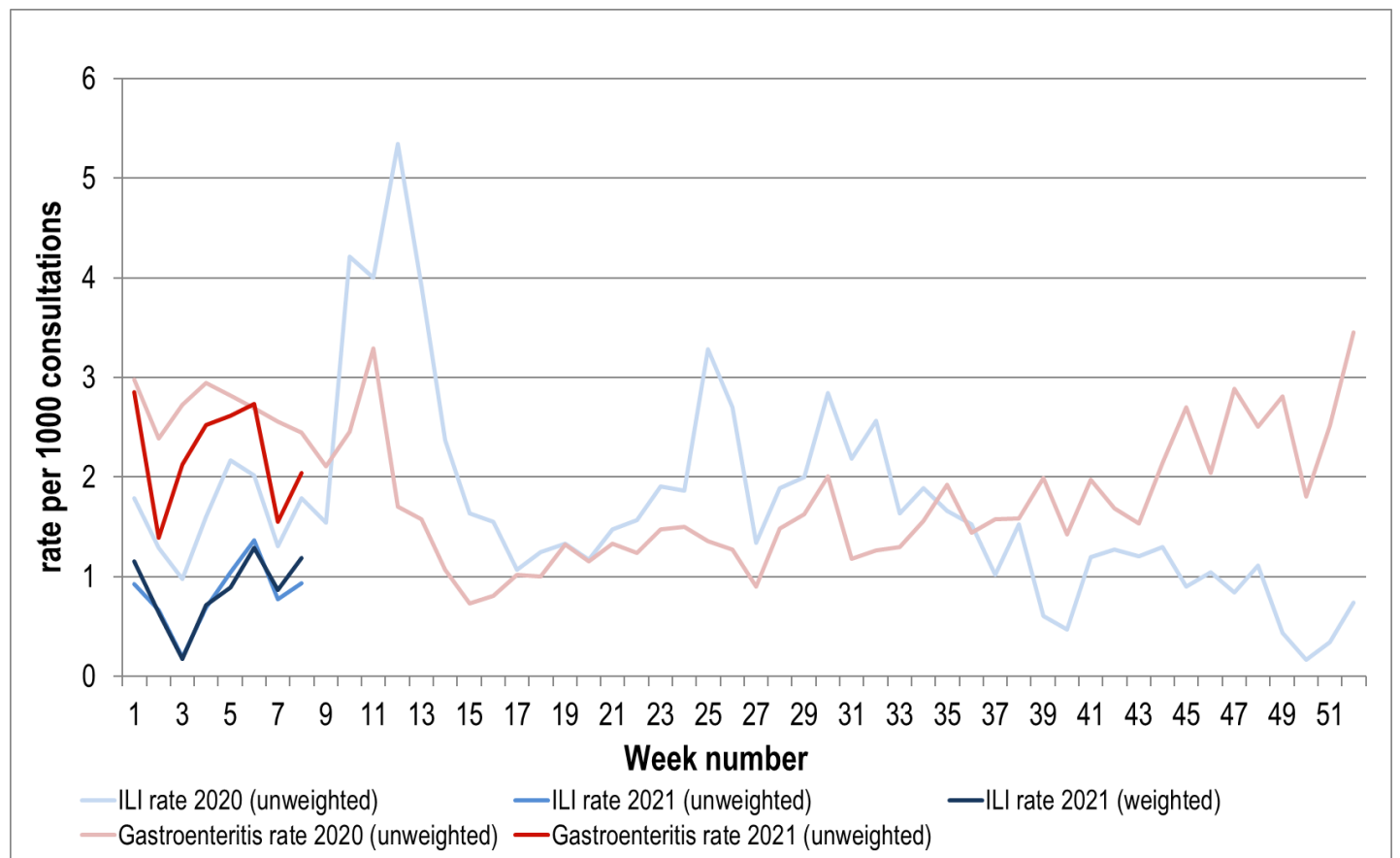


Figure 5. ASPREN + VicSPIN ILI and ASPREN gastroenteritis rates 2020-21. Weighted rates are weighted to account for population size differences between jurisdictions, using population estimates from the 2011 Australian Census.

VIROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE

38% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 7 and 8 (see Figure 6).

No cases of Influenza were detected during this period. There were 5 cases of Rhinovirus detected making it the most common respiratory virus circulating the nation at present (see figure 8).

Viral laboratory data are provided by SA Pathology and VicSPIN laboratories.

	Reporting Period	YTD
	15 Feb - 28 Feb 2021	01 Jan - 28 Feb 2021
Total number of ILI notifications	29	106
Number of swab tests performed	11	44
% ILI patients tested	38%	42%
% of swab tests positive for influenza	0%	0%

Figure 6. ASPREN + VicSPIN virological surveillance results overview for 2021 #

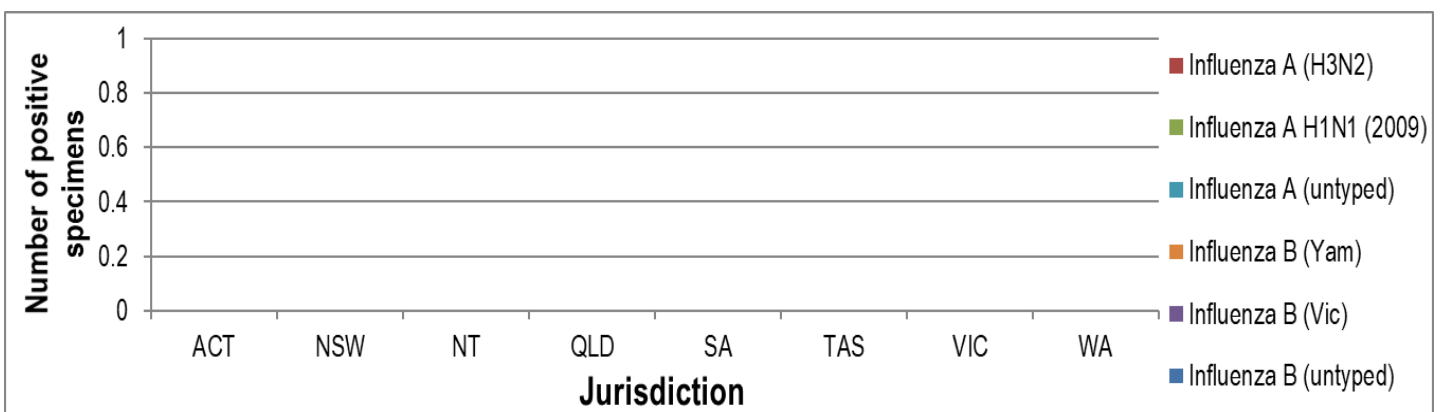


Figure 7. ASPREN + VicSPIN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2021 #

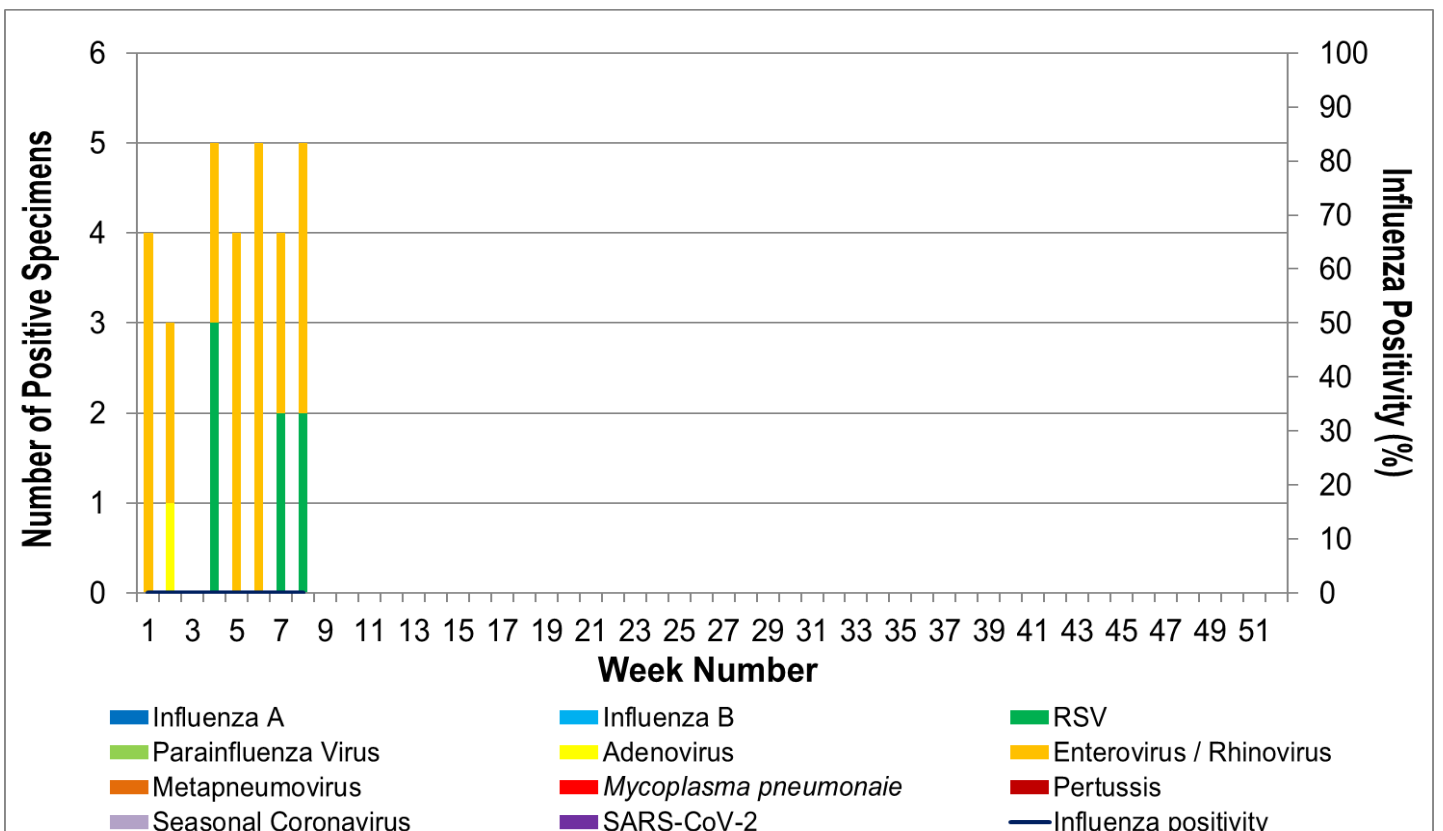


Figure 8. ASPREN, VicSPIN laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2021 #

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 11 March 2021. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.