

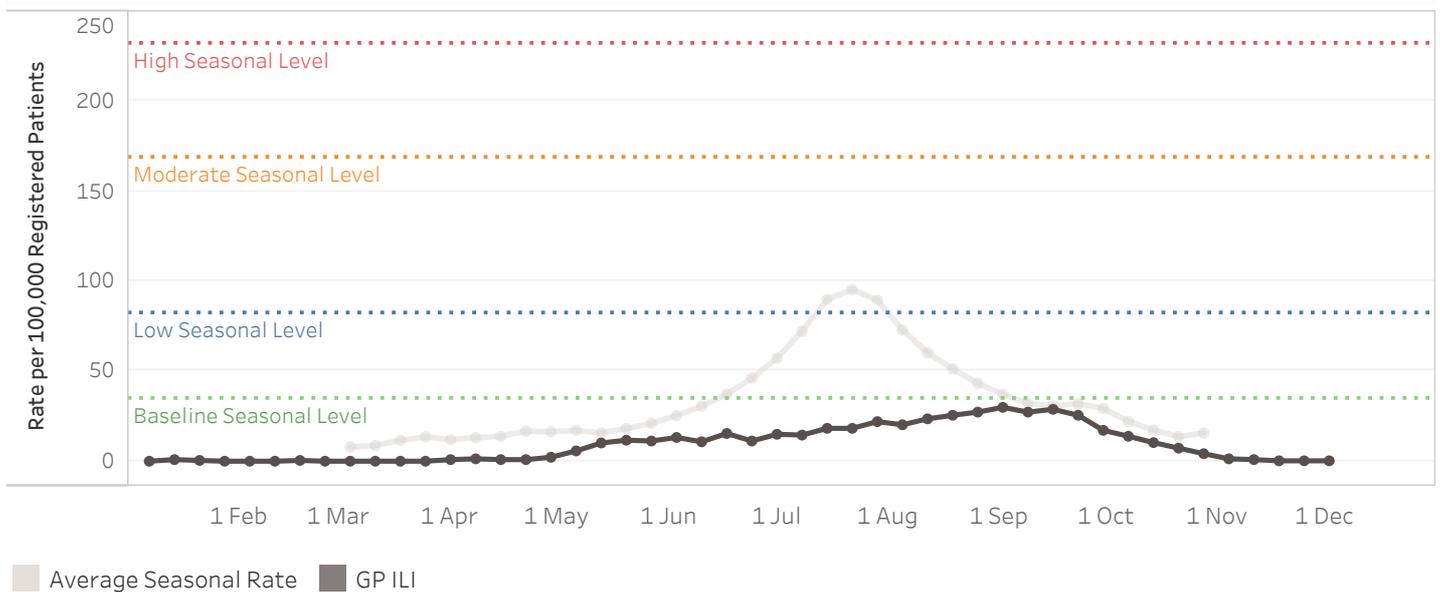
## Month of November 2018

### National Overview

Influenza activity has returned to interseasonal levels in New Zealand. This dashboard and the intelligence report will now be updated monthly until May 2019 unless the out of season surveillance in sentinel GPs and ICUs identifies concerns.

### Weekly General Practice Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Rates

To 02 Dec 18

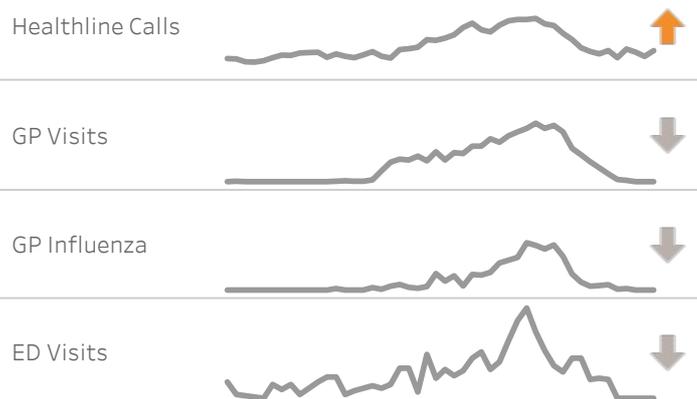


As expected for this time of year, indicators of community Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity have remained low over the last month. Over the month ILI related calls to HealthLine have continued at low levels.

Severe acute respiratory illness (SARI) admissions to sentinel hospitals in Auckland and Counties Manukau DHBs have remained low over the past month.

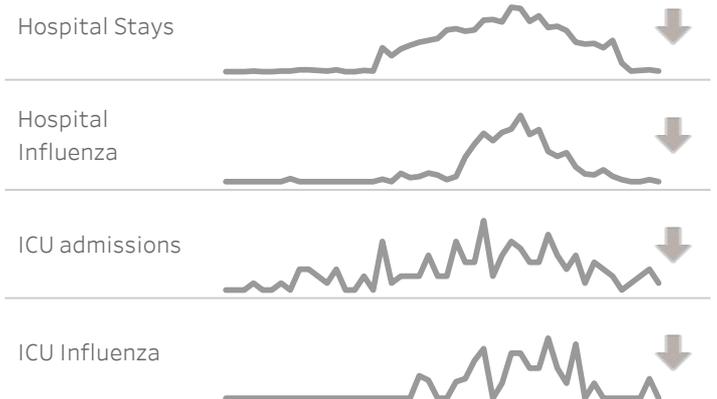
### Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Activity to 02 Dec 18

Arrow colour indicates whether the current weekly change is statistically significant.



### Acute Hospital Activity (SARI) to 02 Dec 18

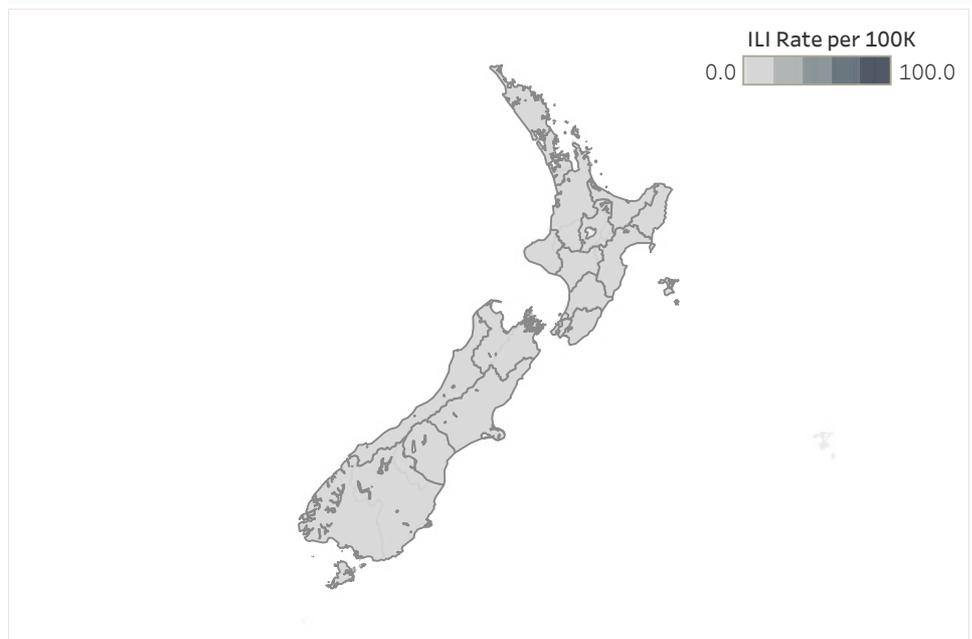
Arrow colour indicates whether the current weekly change is statistically significant.



## Activity by DHB

As expected for this time of year, across all District Health Boards, rates of GP visits for ILI have remained low over the month. Interpretation of DHB-level GP ILI rates should be done with caution, because rates for an individual DHB are dependent on the number and size of participating practices in the DHB. Some DHBs have sparse ILI GP surveillance coverage. Cumulative rates for Healthline ILI calls in 2018 do not vary greatly across DHBs.

## GP Visits (ILI) Rate by DHB - Current Week



## Control Measures

The 2018 publically funded seasonal influenza vaccine contains the following four components (i.e. this is a quadrivalent vaccine):

- o A(H1N1): an A/Michigan/45/2015 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus
- o A(H3N2): an A/Singapore/INF16H-16-0019/2016 (H3N2)-like virus
- o B: a B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (belonging to B/Yamagata lineage)
- o B: a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus (belonging to B/Victoria lineage)

## Overseas acute respiratory disease surveillance

### Influenza:

In the temperate zone of the Northern Hemisphere, influenza activity has started to increase, although overall activity remains low. Increased influenza detections have also been reported in some South-East Asian and Central American countries (based on data reported to 11 November 2018).<sup>2</sup>

In the temperate zones of the Southern Hemisphere, influenza activity has returned to inter-seasonal levels. <sup>2</sup>

### Other viral illnesses:

The US CDC continues to investigate an increase in Acute Flaccid Myelitis (AFM) associated with enterovirus infection. To date in 2018, there have been 158 confirmed cases in 36 states (to 7 December 2018). AFM may commence with acute respiratory or gastrointestinal symptoms and have previously been associated with enterovirus D68 infections. <sup>4</sup>

In 2018, cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) have continued to be reported in the Middle East. Sporadic cases have been reported elsewhere (linked to known exposure to camels in the Middle East). <sup>5</sup>

In 2018, sporadic cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) and A(H5N6) have continued to be reported associated with exposure to birds in China. In February 2018, the first reported case of human avian influenza A (H7N4) was detected in China. <sup>6</sup>

These four viruses (MERS-CoV, avian influenza A(H7N9), A(H5N6) and A(H7N4)) are not known to spread easily from person-to-person at present and are classified by the WHO as being of low risk of international spread. <sup>5,6</sup>

Further information on overseas acute respiratory disease activity:

1. Australia: [www.health.gov.au/flureport](http://www.health.gov.au/flureport) (accessed 11/12/18)
2. WHO Global Flu Update (data to 11 November 2018): [www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\\_monitoring/updates/latest\\_update\\_GIP\\_surveillance/en/](http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/en/) (accessed 11/12/18)
3. Pacific: [www.spc.int/phd/epidemics/](http://www.spc.int/phd/epidemics/) (accessed 11/12/18)
4. CDC USA: [www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis/afm-surveillance.html](http://www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis/afm-surveillance.html) (accessed 11/12/18)
5. WHO Emergency Preparedness, response: [www.who.int/csr/don/archive/year/2018/en/](http://www.who.int/csr/don/archive/year/2018/en/) (accessed 11/12/18)
6. WHO Avian and other zoonotic influenza: [www.who.int/influenza/human\\_animal\\_interface/en/](http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/en/) (accessed 11/12/18)