

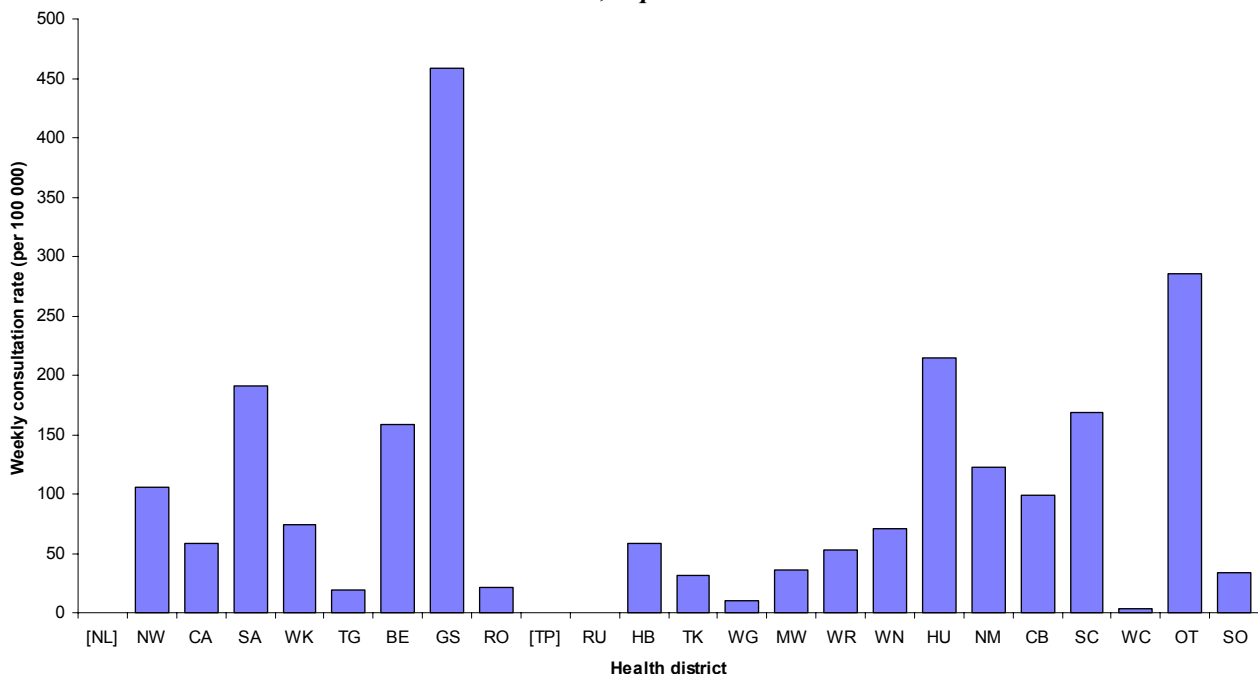
INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY - SEPTEMBER 2004

During September (weeks 36-39), 1309 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 79 general practices (on average) in 22 out of 24 health districts. The average weekly consultation rate for September was 95.8 per 100 000 patient population.

Figure 1 compares the average weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district during September. Gisborne had the highest consultation rate (458.3 per 100 000), followed by Otago (285.8 per 100 000).

Figure 1

Average weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness by health district, September 2004



NB [] Health Districts not participating

A total of 269 swabs were sent for testing during September from sentinel surveillance. Two hundred and seventy-two influenza swabs were received by the regional virology laboratories. Of these, 147 influenza viruses were identified, 104 as A/Fujian/411/02 (H3N2), 40 as influenza A (yet to be subtyped), two as B/Sichuan/379/99 and one as influenza b (not typed). The distribution by health district for the month of September is shown in Table 1.

Table 1.

	NW	CA	SA	WK	TG	BE	GS	RO	HB	WR	WN	HU	NM	CB	SC	OT	SO	Total
A (not subtyped)	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	6	0	40
A/Fujian/411/02	12	12	12	4	4	1	1	2	11	4	10	5	3	4	3	15	1	104
B (not typed)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
B/Sichuan/379/99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	12	12	13	5	4	1	1	2	11	4	12	5	3	37	3	21	1	147

In addition, 401 influenza viruses were reported for the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) in September. Of these, 239 were identified as influenza A (yet to be subtyped), 146 as A/Fujian/411/02 (H3N2), 15 as influenza B, and one as B/Sichuan/379/99. The distribution by health district for the month of September is shown in Table 2.

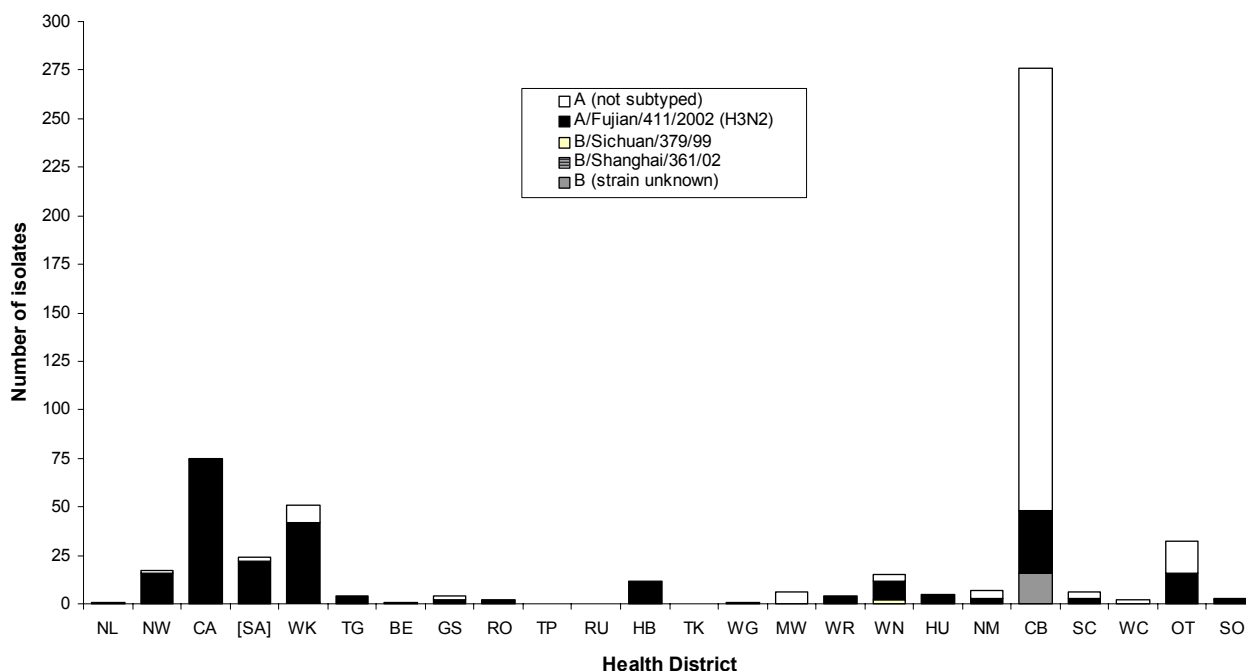
Table 2

	NL	NW	CA	SA	WK	GS	HB	WG	MW	WN	NM	CB	WC	SC	OT	SO	Total
A (not subtyped)	1	1	1	1	8	2	0	0	6	3	4	196	2	3	10	1	239
A/Fujian/411/02	0	4	62	10	37	1	1	1	0	0	0	28	0	0	1	1	146
B (not typed)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	15
B/Sichuan/379/99	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	1	5	63	11	46	3	1	1	6	3	4	239	2	3	11	2	401

Figure 2 shows the cumulative total of influenza isolates confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) for the month of September 2004. A total of 548 isolates were identified. Of these, 279 were influenza A (yet to be subtyped), 250 as A/Fujian/411/02 (H3N2), 16 as five as influenza B (yet to be typed), and three as B/Sichuan/379/99.

Figure 2

Cumulative laboratory-confirmed isolates by health district, September 2004



[] The two A/Fujian/411/2002 (H3N2) viruses reported from South Auckland were specimens taken in March.

Figure 3 shows the national weekly consultation rates to the end of week 39, September 2004 compared with 2003 and 2002.

Figure 3

*Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness in New Zealand,
2002, 2003 and 2004*

