

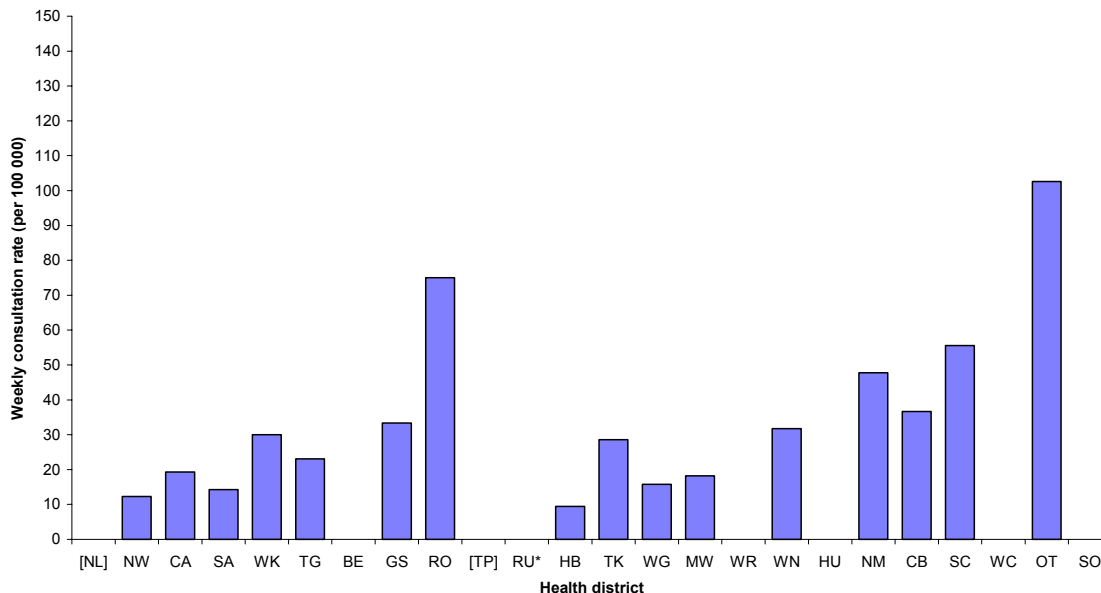
INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY - OCTOBER 2004

During October (weeks 40-44), 478 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 79 general practices (on average) in 21 out of 24 health districts. The average weekly consultation rate for October was 28.5 per 100 000 patient population.

Figure 1 compares the average weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district during October. Otago had the highest consultation rate (102.6 per 100 000), followed by Rotorua (75.0 per 100 000).

Figure 1

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



NB [] Health Districts not participating

* Health district did not participate for the month

A total of 109 swabs were sent for testing during October from sentinel surveillance. One hundred and twenty-three swabs were received by the regional virology laboratories. Of these, 21 influenza viruses were identified, nine as A/Fujian/411/02 (H3N2), six as B/Sichuan/379/99, four as influenza A (yet to be subtyped), and two as influenza B (not typed). The distribution by health district for the month of October is shown in Table 1.

Table 1.

	CA	WN	CB	OT	Total
A (yet to be subtyped)	1	0	2	1	4
A/Fujian/411/02	1	3	0	5	9
B (not typed)	0	0	1	1	2
B/Sichuan/379/99	0	4	0	2	6
Total	2	7	3	9	21

In addition, 96 influenza viruses were reported for the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) in October. Of these, 57 were identified as influenza A (yet to be subtyped), 26 as influenza B (not typed), 10 as A/Fujian/411/02 (H3N2), and three as B/Sichuan/379/99. The distribution by health district for the month of October is shown in Table 2.

Table 2

	CA	SA	WK	TG	CB	OT	Total
A (yet to be subtyped)	3	0	0	2	48	4	57
A/Fujian/411/02	3	0	7	0	0	0	10
B (not typed)	3	1	0	0	20	2	26
B/Sichuan/379/99	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Total	9	1	10	2	68	6	96

Figure 2 shows the cumulative total of influenza isolates confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) for the month of October 2004. A total of 117 isolates were identified. Of these, 61 were identified as influenza A (yet to be subtyped), 28 as influenza B (not typed), 19 as A/Fujian/411/02 (H3N2), and nine as B/Sichuan/379/99.

Figure 2

Cumulative laboratory-confirmed isolates by health district, October 2004

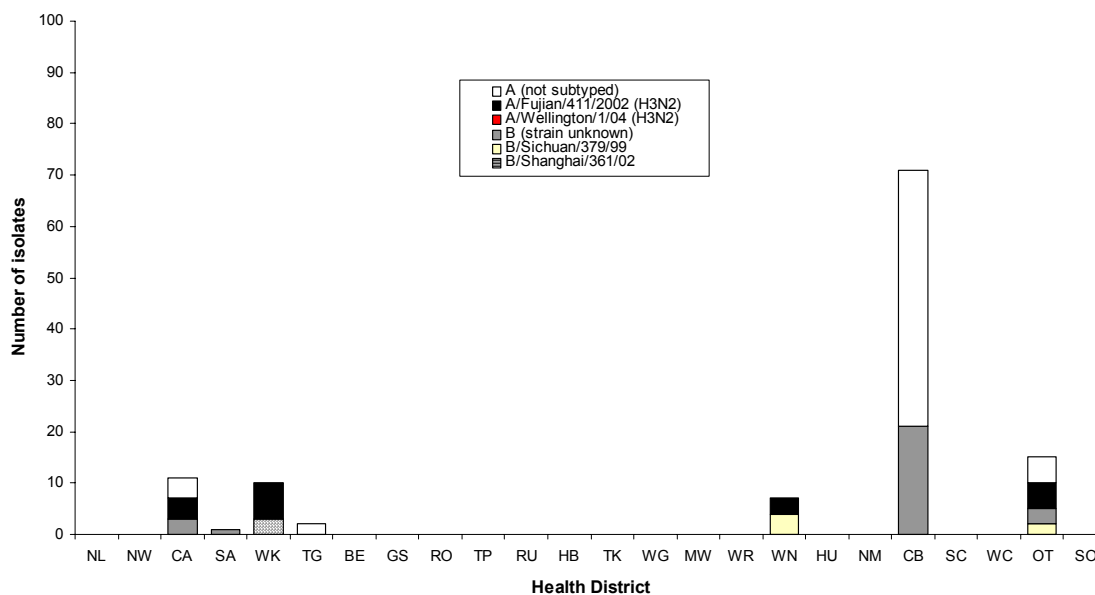
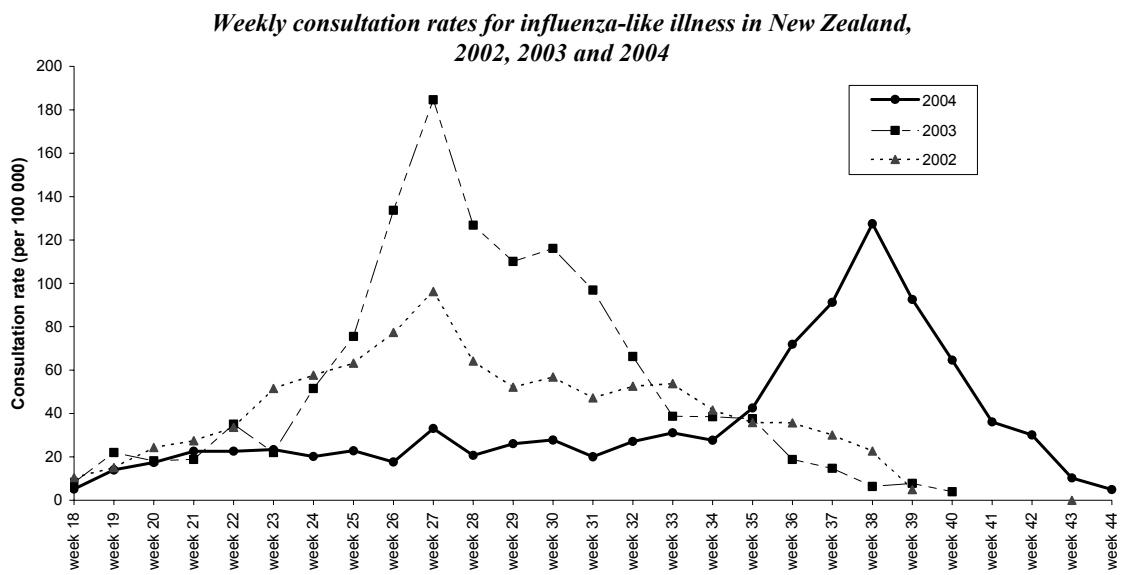


Figure 3 shows the national weekly consultation rates to the end of week 44, October 2004 compared with 2003 and 2002.

Figure 3



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