

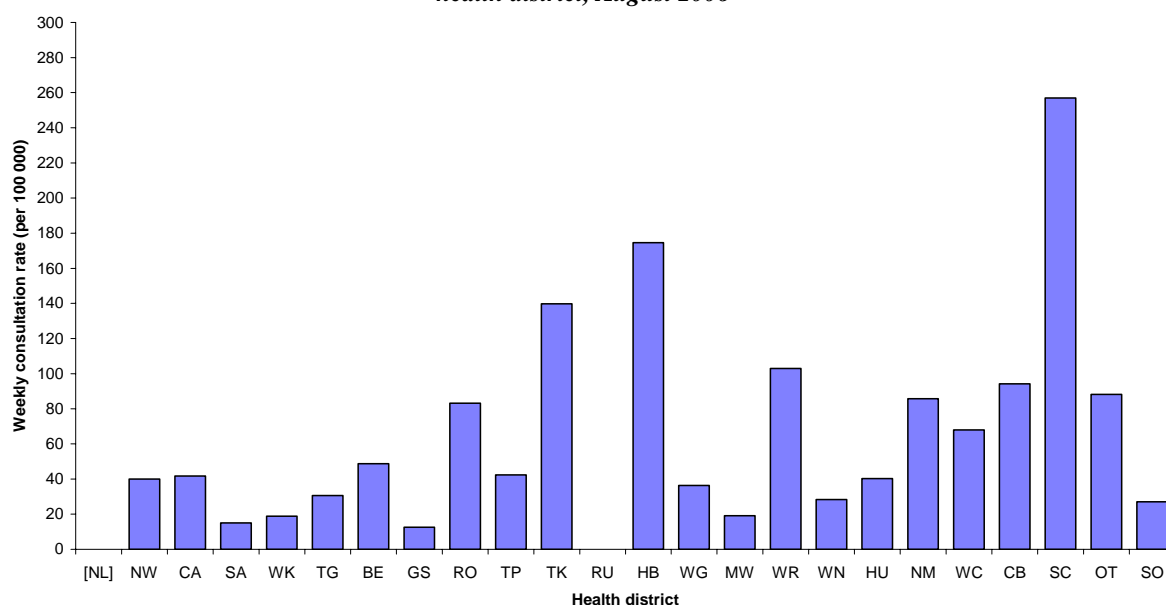
# INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY - AUGUST 2006

During August (weeks 31 – 34), 953 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 80 general practices (on average) in 23 out of 24 health districts. The average weekly consultation rate for August was 69.9 per 100 000 patient population.

Figure 1 compares the average weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district during August. South Canterbury had the highest consultation rate (257.0 per 100 000), followed by Hawke's Bay (174.6 per 100 000).

**Figure 1**

*Average weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness by health district, August 2006*



[ ] Health district not participating

A total of 199 swabs were sent for testing during August from sentinel surveillance. Two hundred and thirty-six influenza swabs were received by the regional virology laboratories. Of these, 72 influenza viruses were isolated, 39 as influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), 25 as A/New York/55/2004 (H3N2) – like, and eight as A/New Caledonia/20/1999 (H1N1) – like. The distribution by health district is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1**

	NW	CA	HB	WR	WN	HU	NM	WC	CB	SC	OT	SO	Total
A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	29	9	0	0	<b>39</b>
A/New Caledonia/20/1999 (H1N1) - like	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	<b>8</b>
A/New York/55/2004 (H3N2) - like	0	4	6	0	3	1	1	0	0	1	6	3	<b>25</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>72</b>

In addition, 142 influenza viruses were reported from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance in August, 134 as influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), six as A/New York/55/2004 (H3N2) – like, one as A/New Caledonia/20/1999 (H1N1) – like, and one as influenza B (not typed). The distribution by health district is shown in Table 2.

Table 2

	NW	CA	SA	WK	WN	WC	CB	SC	OT	SO	Total
A	0	2	0	1	0	1	121	6	1	2	134
A/New Caledonia/20/1999 (H1N1) - like	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
A/New York/55/2004 (H3N2) - like	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
B	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>142</b>

Figure 2 shows the cumulative total of influenza isolates confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) for August 2006. A total of 214 isolates were identified, 173 as influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), 31 as A/New York/55/2004 (H3N2) – like, nine as A/New Caledonia/20/1999 (H1N1) – like, and one as influenza B (not typed).

Figure 2

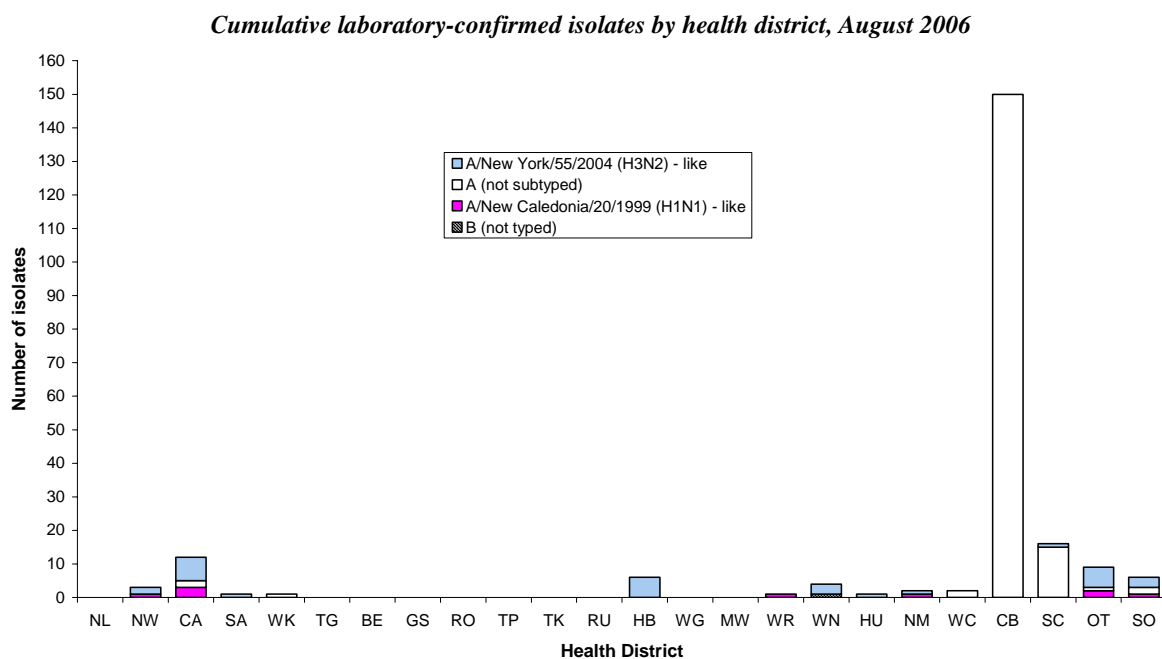


Figure 3 shows the national weekly consultation rates to the end of week 34, August 2006 and rates in 2005 and 2004.

**Figure 3**

*Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness in New Zealand, 2004, 2005 and 2006*

