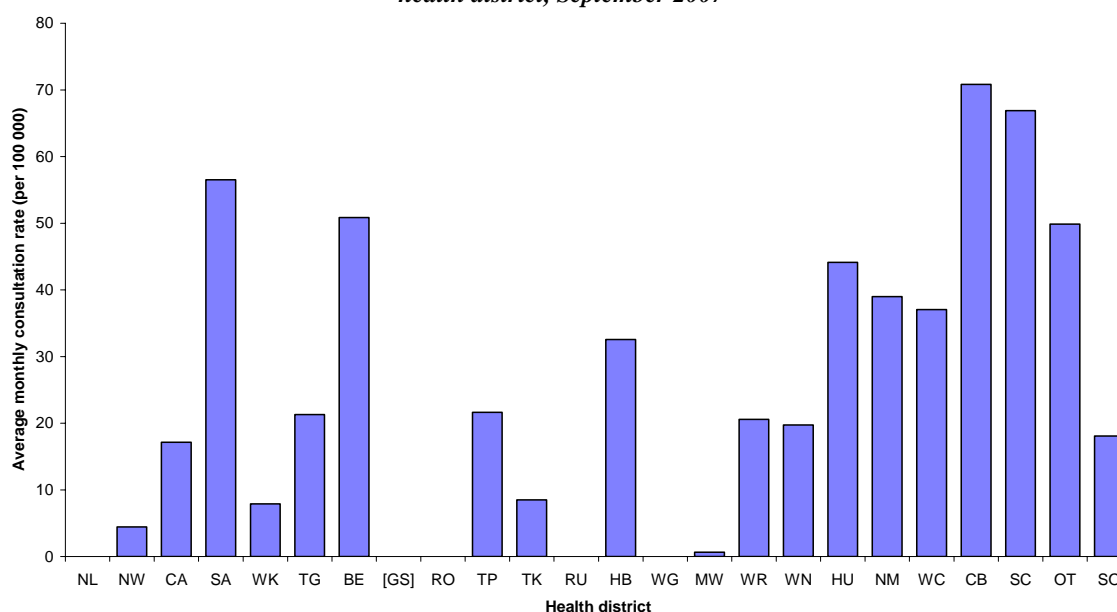


# INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY - SEPTEMBER 2007

During September (weeks 36 – 39), 349 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 76 general practices (on average) in 23 out of 24 health districts. The average weekly consultation rate for September was 27.7 per 100 000 patient population.

Figure 1 compares the average monthly consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district during September. Canterbury had the highest consultation rate (70.8 per 100 000), followed by South Canterbury (66.9 per 100 000).

*Figure 1: Average monthly consultation rates for influenza-like illness by health district, September 2007*



[ ] Health districts not participating in the influenza surveillance

A total of 112 swabs were sent for testing during September from sentinel surveillance. One hundred and four influenza swabs were received by the regional virology laboratories. Of these, 21 influenza viruses were isolated, 12 as influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) and nine as B not antigenically typed. The distribution by health district is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1**

Antigenic Strain	NW	CB	Total
A (not sub-typed)	1	11	12
B (not typed)	0	9	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>

In addition, 96 influenza viruses were reported from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance in September, 64 as influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), three as A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) – like, 26 as influenza B (yet to be antigenically typed), and three as B/Shanghai/361/2002 – like. The distribution by health district is shown in Table 2.

**Table 2**

Antigenic Strain	CA	SA	WK	HB	CB	Total
A (not sub-typed)	2	0	1	1	60	64
A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) - like	2	1	0	0	0	3
B (not typed)	0	0	0	0	26	26
B/Shanghai/361/2002-like	0	3	0	0	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>96</b>

Figure 2 shows the cumulative total of influenza isolates confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) for September 2007. A total of 117 isolates were identified, 76 as influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), three as A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) – like viruses, 35 as influenza B (yet to be antigenically typed), and three as B/Shanghai/361/2002 – like.

Figure 2: Cumulative laboratory-confirmed isolates by health district, September 2007

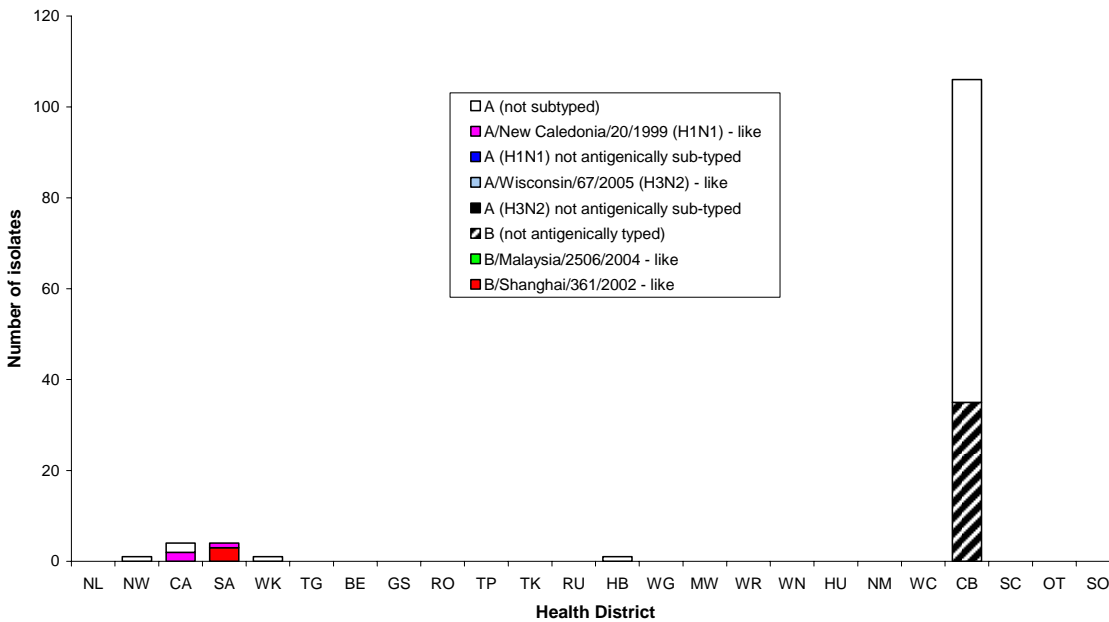
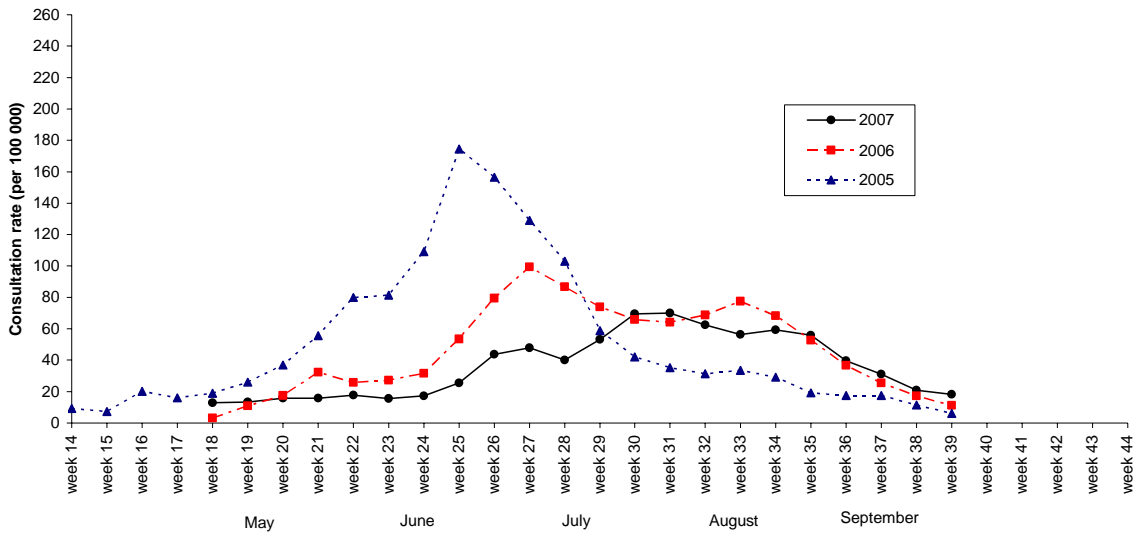


Figure 3 shows the national weekly consultation rates to the end of week 39, September 2007 and rates in 2006 and 2005.

**Figure 3: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness in New Zealand, 2005, 2006 and 2007**



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