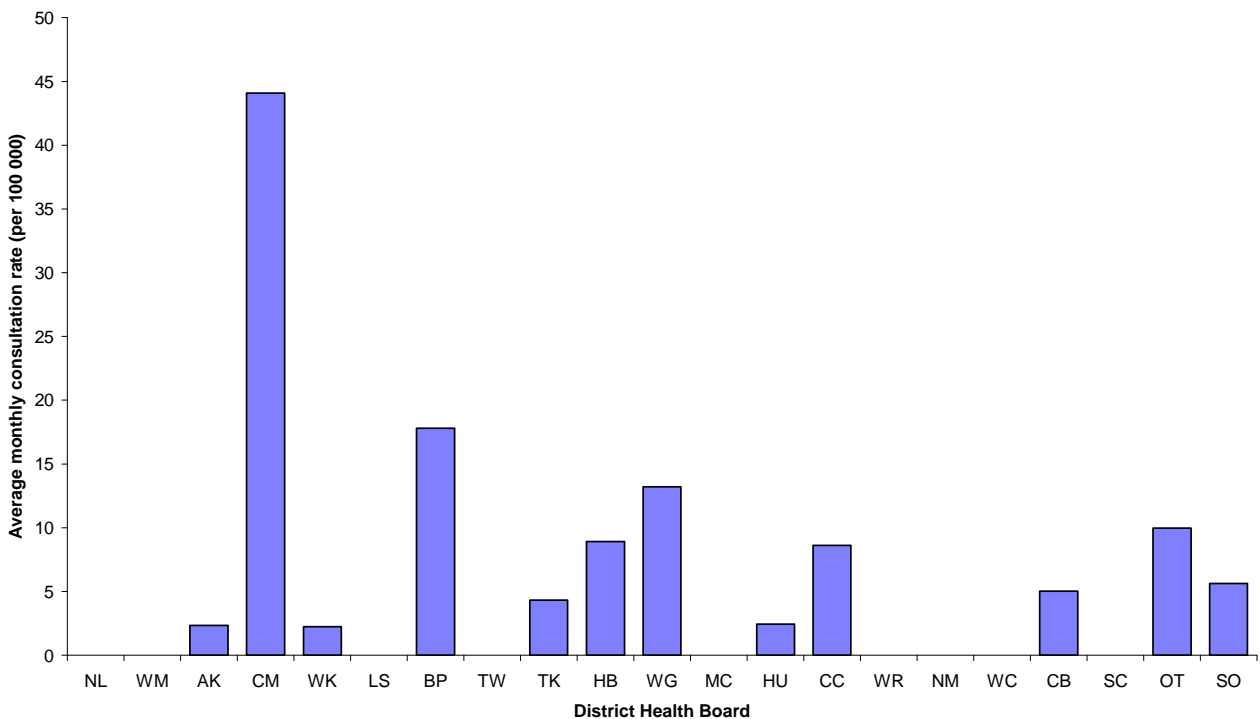


INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY - FEBRUARY 2010

During February (weeks 5 – 8), 188 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 86 general practices (on average) in all of the 21 District Health Boards (DHB). The average weekly consultation rate for February was 11.6 per 100 000 patient population.

Figure 1 compares the average monthly consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each DHB during February. Counties Manukau had the highest consultation rate (44.1 per 100 000, 132 cases), followed by Bay of Plenty (17.8 per 100 000, 3 cases) and Whanganui (13.2 per 100 000, 3 cases).

Figure 1: Average monthly consultation rates for influenza-like illness by DHB, February 2010



A total of 25 swabs were received for testing during February: 12 from sentinel and 13 from non-sentinel surveillance. No influenza viruses were identified.

Figure 2 shows the national weekly consultation rates to the end of week 8, February 2010 and rates in 2009 and 2008.

Figure 2: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness in New Zealand, 2008, 2009 and 2010

