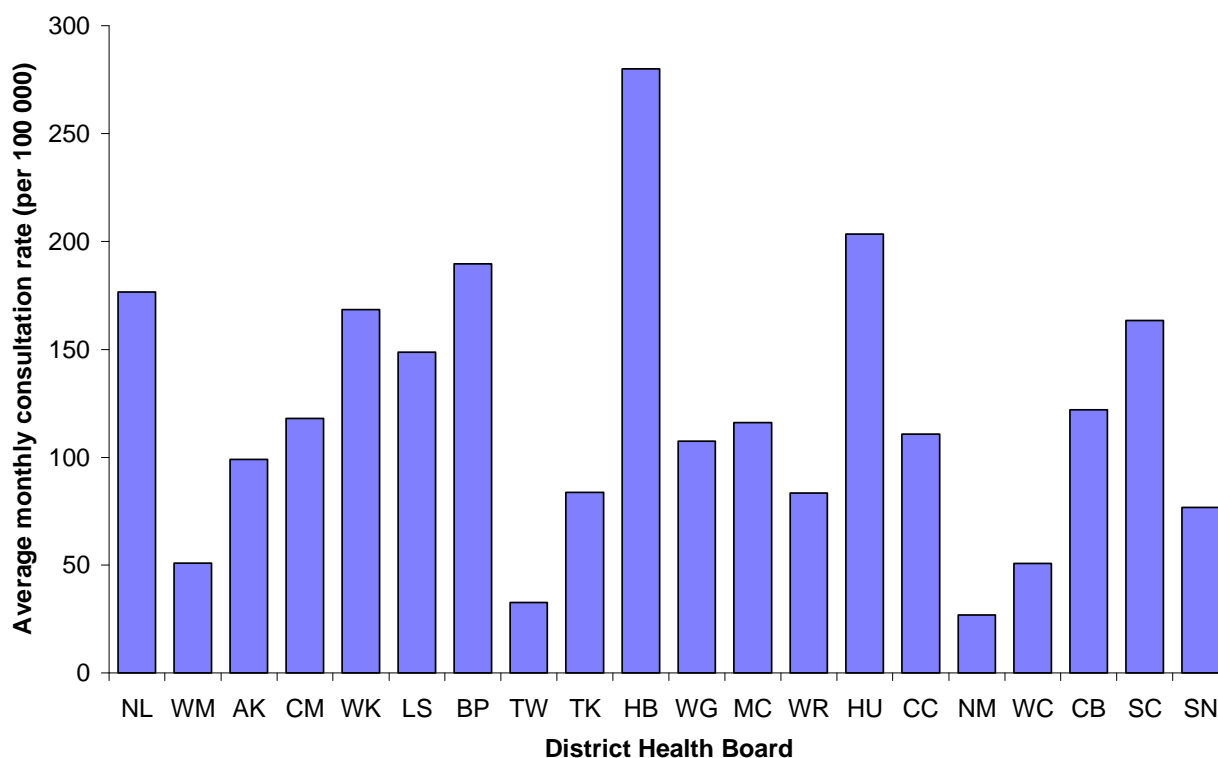


INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY - AUGUST 2010

During August (weeks 30 – 34), 2057 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 82 general practices (on average) in all 20 District Health Boards (DHB). The average monthly consultation rate for August was 118.6 per 100 000 patient population.

Figure 1 compares the average monthly consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each DHB during August. Hawke's Bay had the highest consultation rate (279.9 per 100 000, 279 cases), followed by Hutt Valley (203.5 per 100 000, 320 cases) and Bay of Plenty (189.8 per 100 000, 51 cases).

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



A total of 659 swabs were received for testing during August from sentinel surveillance. Of these, 223 viruses were identified: pandemic (H1N1) 09 (184), influenza A (not sub-typed) (38) and B (not typed) (1). The distribution by District Health Board is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Influenza viruses from sentinel surveillance for August by DHB

Antigenic Strain	NL	AK*	WK	LS	BP	TW	TK	HB	WG	MC	WR	HU	CC	NM	WC	CB	SC	SN	Total
A (not sub-typed)	0	25	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	38
B (not typed)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pandemic (H1N1) 09	13	2	7	4	4	2	5	17	12	9	0	5	9	5	5	68	3	14	184
Total	13	27	9	4	4	2	6	18	14	9	1	5	11	5	5	72	4	14	223

*Note: Viruses from Auckland without DHB codes have been temporarily assigned to Auckland (AK).

In addition, 4655 swabs were received by virology laboratories from non-sentinel surveillance. Of these, 1020 influenza viruses were identified: pandemic (H1N1) 09 (914), A (not sub-typed) (101), B/Brisbane/60/2008 – like (2), A/Perth/16/2009 (H3N2) (1), B (not typed) (1) and seasonal A (H3N2) (1). The distribution by DHB is shown in Table 2.

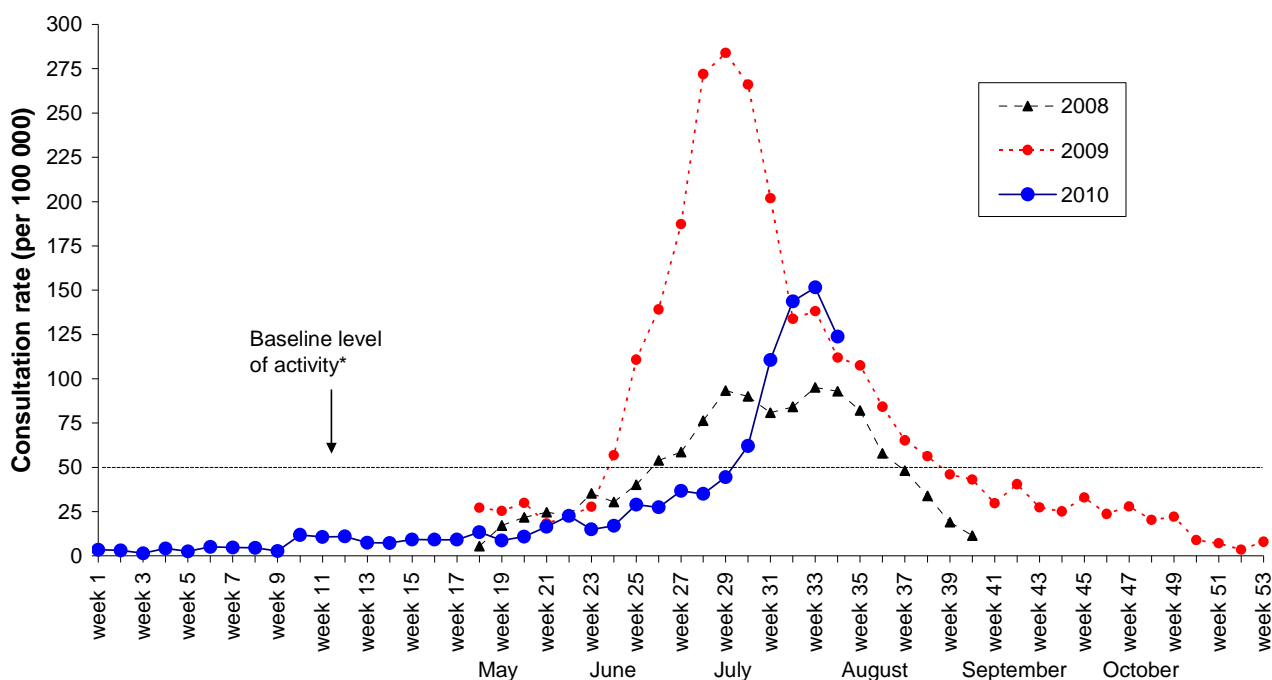
Table 2: Influenza viruses from non-sentinel surveillance for August by DHB

Antigenic Strain	NL	AK	CM	WK	LS	BP	TW	TK	HB	WG	MC	WR	HU	CC	NM	WC	CB	SC	SN	Total
A (not sub-typed)	1	39	0	17	1	5	0	1	13	0	5	0	0	2	0	0	15	2	0	101
A/Perth/16/2009 (H3N2)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
B (not typed)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
B/Brisbane/60/2008 - like	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Pandemic (H1N1) 09	0	227	42	175	17	123	1	16	25	3	64	1	3	79	8	5	112	7	6	914
Seasonal A (H3N2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	1	266	42	193	18	128	1	17	38	3	69	1	3	83	8	5	129	9	6	1020

*Note: Viruses from Auckland without DHB codes have been temporarily assigned to Auckland (AK).

Figure 2 shows the national weekly consultation rates to the end of week 34, August 2010 and rates in 2009 and 2008.

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



* A weekly rate <50 ILI consultations per 100 000 patient population is considered baseline activity. A rate of 50–249 is considered indicative of normal seasonal influenza activity, and a rate of 250–399 indicative of higher than expected influenza activity. A rate >400 ILI consultations per 100 000 patient population indicates an epidemic level of influenza activity.

Compiled by:

Liza Lopez

Population and Environmental Health

ESR Kenepuru Science Centre

PO Box 50 348, PORIRUA

Tel : 04 914 0647 Fax: 04 978 6690 Email:liza.lopez@esr.cri.nz

Dr. Sue Huang

WHO National Influenza Centre

ESR Wallaceville Science Centre

PO Box 40158, Upper Hutt