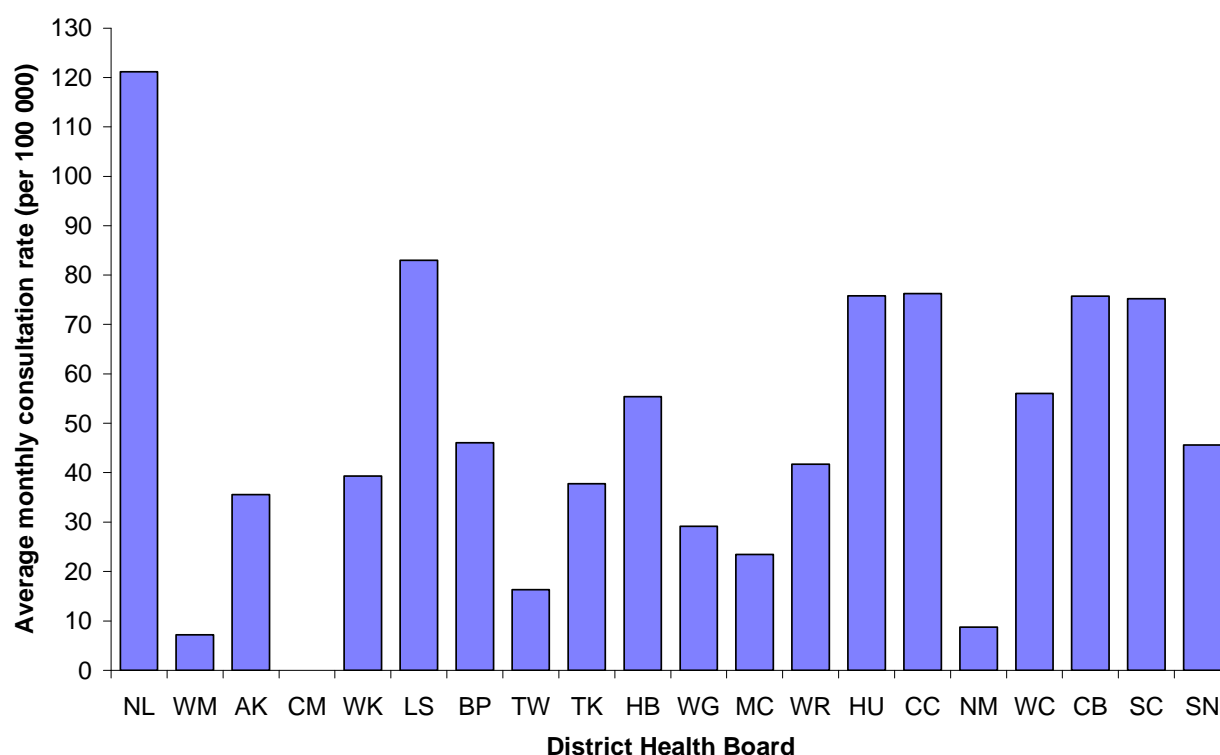


INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY - SEPTEMBER 2010

During September (weeks 35 – 38), 662 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 79 general practices (on average) in all 20 District Health Boards (DHB). The average monthly consultation rate for September was 48.9 per 100 000 patient population.

Figure 1 compares the average monthly consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each DHB during September. Northland had the highest consultation rate (121.1 per 100 000, 40 cases), followed by Lakes (83.0 per 100 000, 10 cases) and Capital and Coast (76.3 per 100 000, 63 cases).

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



A total of 249 swabs were received for testing during September from sentinel surveillance. Of these, 34 viruses were identified: pandemic (H1N1) 09 (29), influenza A (not sub-typed) (3) and seasonal A (H3N2) (2). The distribution by District Health Board is shown in Table 1.

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

Antigenic Strain	AK*	BP	TK	HB	WG	MC	CB	SC	Total
A (not sub-typed)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Pandemic (H1N1) 09	2	1	1	2	5	2	12	4	29
Seasonal A (H3N2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Total	5	1	1	2	5	2	14	4	34

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

In addition, 2167 swabs were received by virology laboratories from non-sentinel surveillance. Of these, 126 influenza viruses were identified: pandemic (H1N1) 09 (109), A (not sub-typed) (14) and seasonal A (H3N2) (3). The distribution by DHB is shown in Table 2.

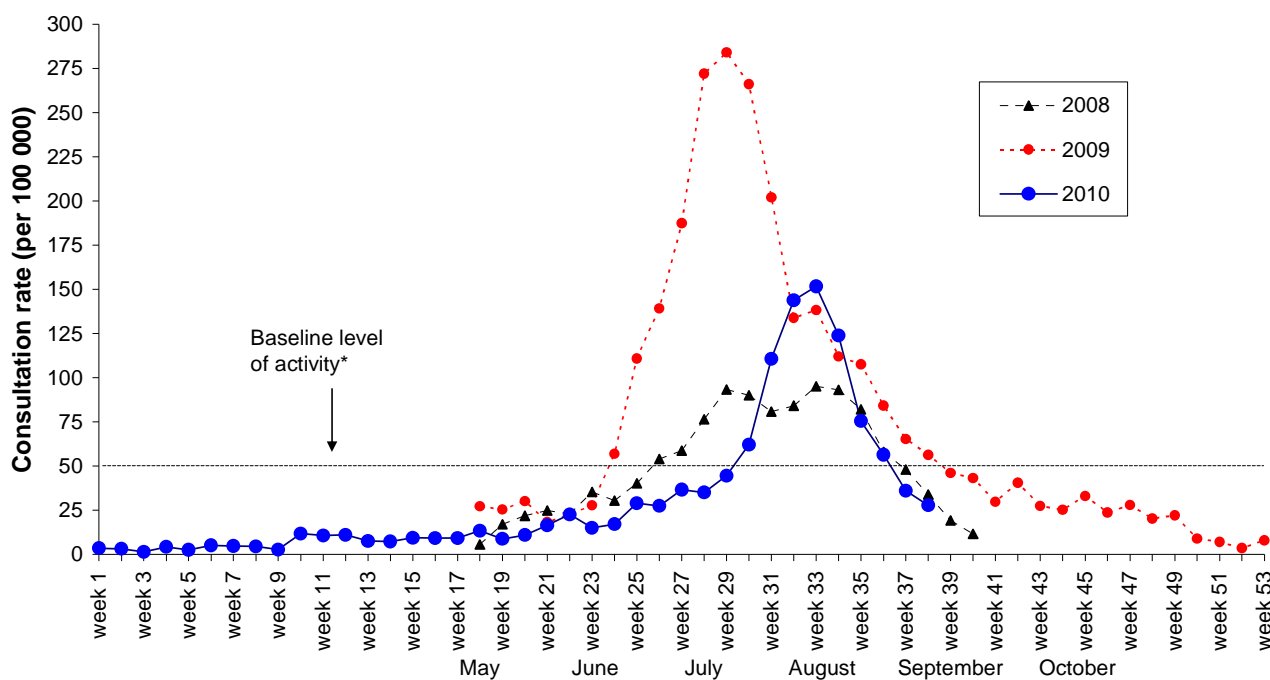
Table 2: Influenza viruses from non-sentinel surveillance for September by DHB

Antigenic Strain	AK*	WK	LS	BP	HB	WG	MC	HU	CC	NM	CB	SC	SN	Total
A (not sub-typed)	4	2	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	14
Pandemic (H1N1) 09	13	2	0	12	2	1	5	1	18	4	46	4	1	109
Seasonal A (H3N2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3
Total	17	4	1	12	7	1	5	1	19	4	50	4	1	126

*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 38, September 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.