

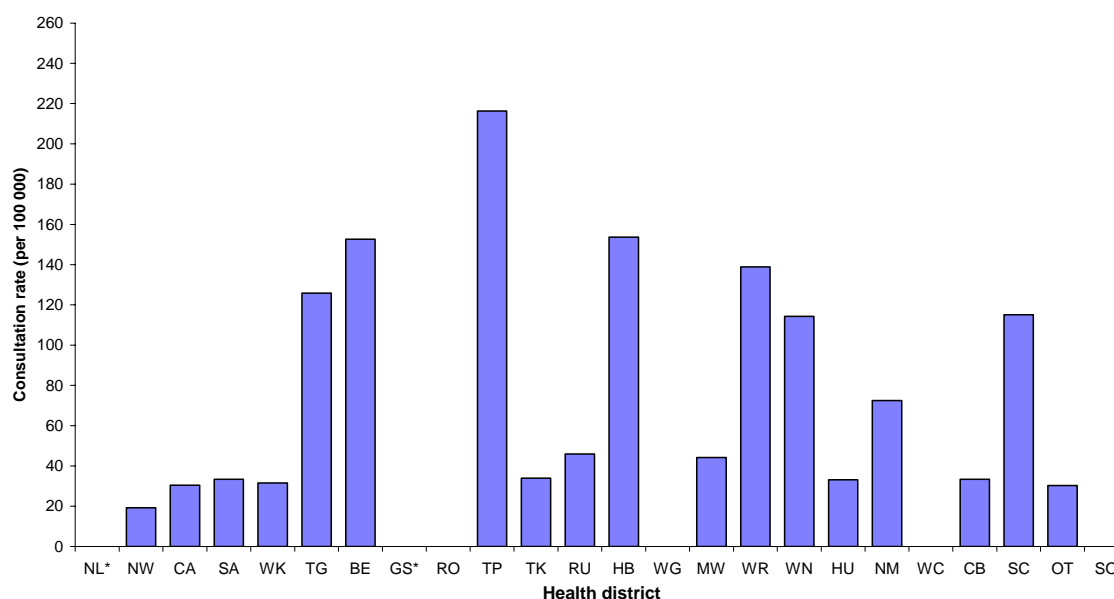
# INFLUENZA WEEKLY UPDATE

2007/27: 2 – 6 July 2007

In the past week, a total of 157 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 76 general practices in 22 out of 24 health districts. This gives a weekly consultation rate of 47.5 per 100 000 patient population.

Figure one compares the consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district over the past week. Taupo had the highest consultation rate (216.3 per 100 000), followed by Hawke's Bay (153.6 per 100 000).

*Figure 1. Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness by health district week ending 6 July 2007*



\*Health districts not participating in the influenza surveillance

Twenty-seven swabs were sent from the sentinel surveillance in the past week. Thirty-three swabs were received by virology laboratories. Of these, 17 influenza viruses were isolated, 10 as influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), four as A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) – like, two as A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2) – like, and one as B (yet to be typed). The distribution by health district is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1.**

Antigenic Strain	NW	CA	WK	HB	CB	Total
A	1	5	3	0	1	10
A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) - like	2	1	0	1	0	4
A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2) - like	0	2	0	0	0	2
B	0	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>

In addition, 18 influenza viruses were reported this week from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance. Ten were identified as influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), five as A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) – like, and three as influenza B (yet to be typed). The distribution by health district is shown in Table 2.

**Table 2.**

Antigenic Strain	NW	CA	SA	WK	GS	HB	WG	WN	CB	Total
A	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	10
A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) - like	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>18</b>

Figure 2 shows the cumulative total of influenza isolates confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) to the end of week 27, 6 July 2007. A total of 89 influenza viruses were identified, 52 as influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), 23 as A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) – like, five as influenza B (yet to be typed), three as A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2) – like, two as A(H3N2) not antigenically sub-typed, two as B/Malaysia/2506/2004-like, and two as B/Shanghai/361/2002-like.

*Figure 2: Cumulative laboratory-confirmed isolates by health district to 6 July 2007*

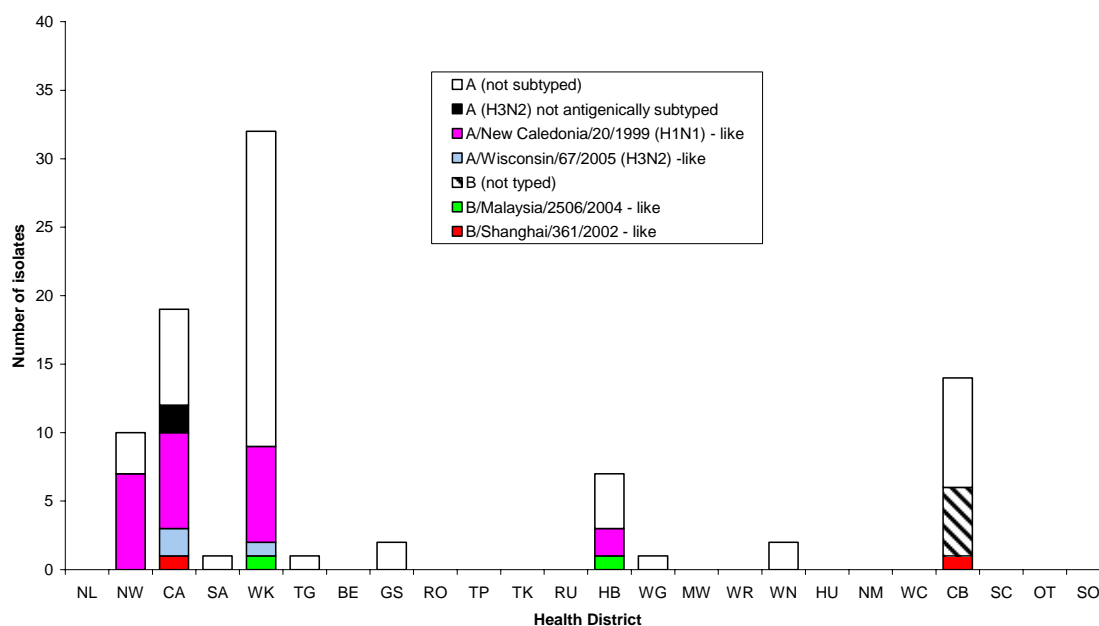


Figure 3 shows the weekly national consultation rates for 2005 and 2006 seasons, and 2007 so far. The current rate of influenza is lower than at the same time last year.

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

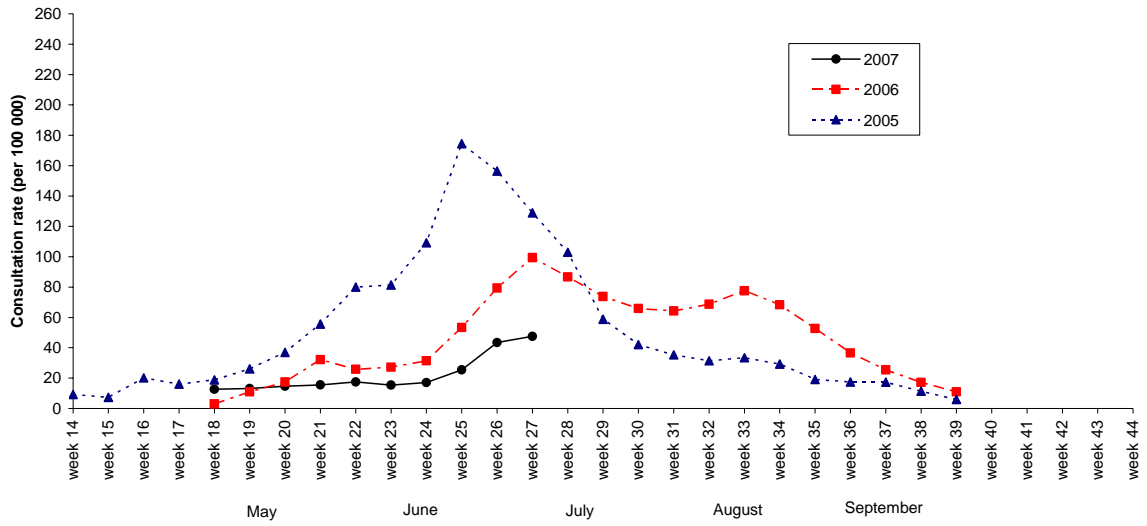
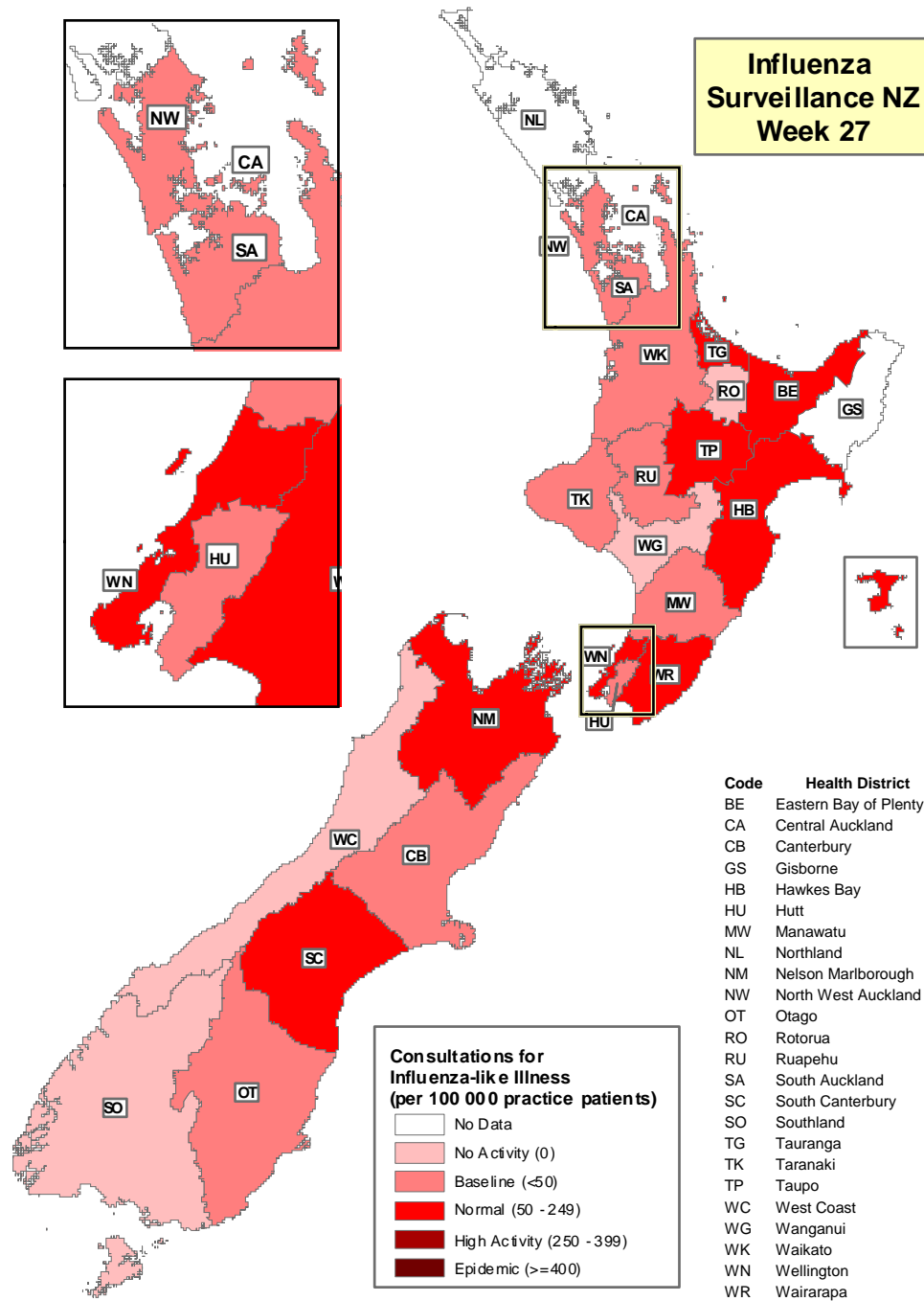


Figure 4 illustrates consultation rates for influenza-like illness mapped by health district for week 27, 2007.

Figure 4



The threshold used to describe the influenza-like activity can be referred in New Zealand Public Health Report 2001, 8 (1): 9-12 "Influenza surveillance and immunisation in New Zealand, 1990-1999"

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