

INFLUENZA WEEKLY UPDATE

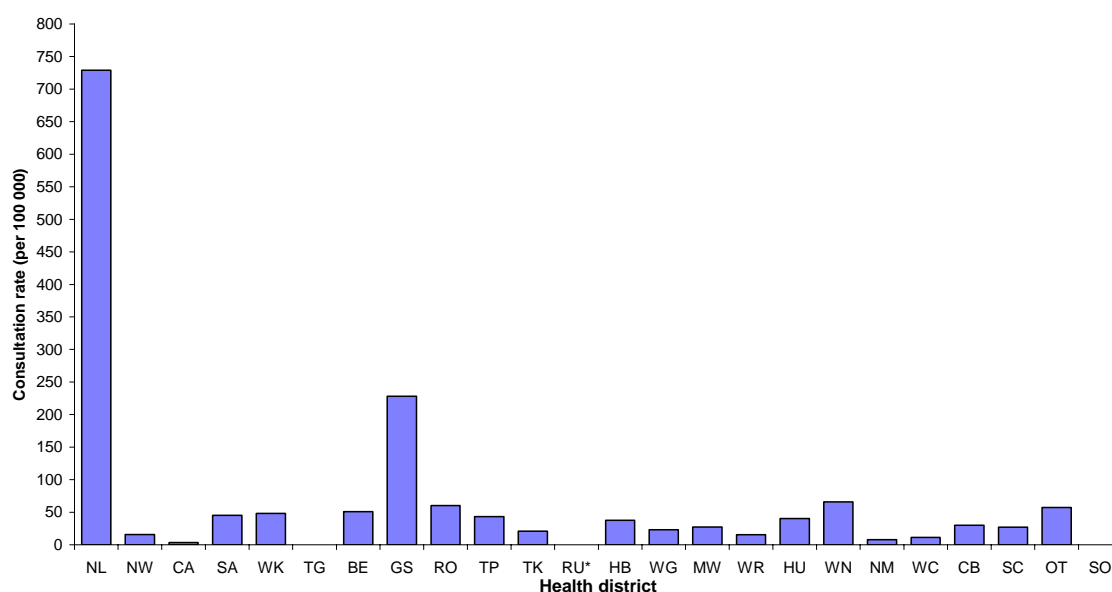
2008/23: 2 – 6 June 2008

In the past week, a total of 126 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 82 general practices in 23 out of 24 health districts. This gives a weekly consultation rate of 35.4 per 100 000 patient population.

Figure 1 compares the consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district over the past week. Northland had the highest consultation rate (728.9 per 100 000), followed by Gisborne (228.5 per 100 000).

Figure 1

Figure 1: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness by health district week ending 6 June 2008



*Health district did not participate for the week

Thirty-two swabs were sent from the sentinel surveillance in the past week. Thirty-three swabs were received by virology laboratories. Of these, two influenza viruses were identified, one influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) and one A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2) – like. The distribution by health district is shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Antigenic Strain	WK	WG	Total
A (yet to be sub-typed)	1	0	1
A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2) - like	0	1	1
Total	1	1	2

In addition, eight influenza viruses were reported this week from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance, seven influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) and one B (not typed). The distribution by health district is shown in Table 2.

Table 2

Antigenic Strain	CA	SA	WK	Total
A (yet to be sub-typed)	4	2	1	7
B (not typed)	0	0	1	1
Total	4	2	2	8

Figure 2 shows the cumulative total of influenza viruses confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) to the end of week 23, 6 June 2008. A total of 38 influenza viruses were identified, 24 influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), five A H3N2, two A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2) – like, one A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2) – like, and six influenza B (yet to be typed).

Figure 2

Figure 2: Cumulative laboratory-confirmed isolates by health district to 6 June 2008

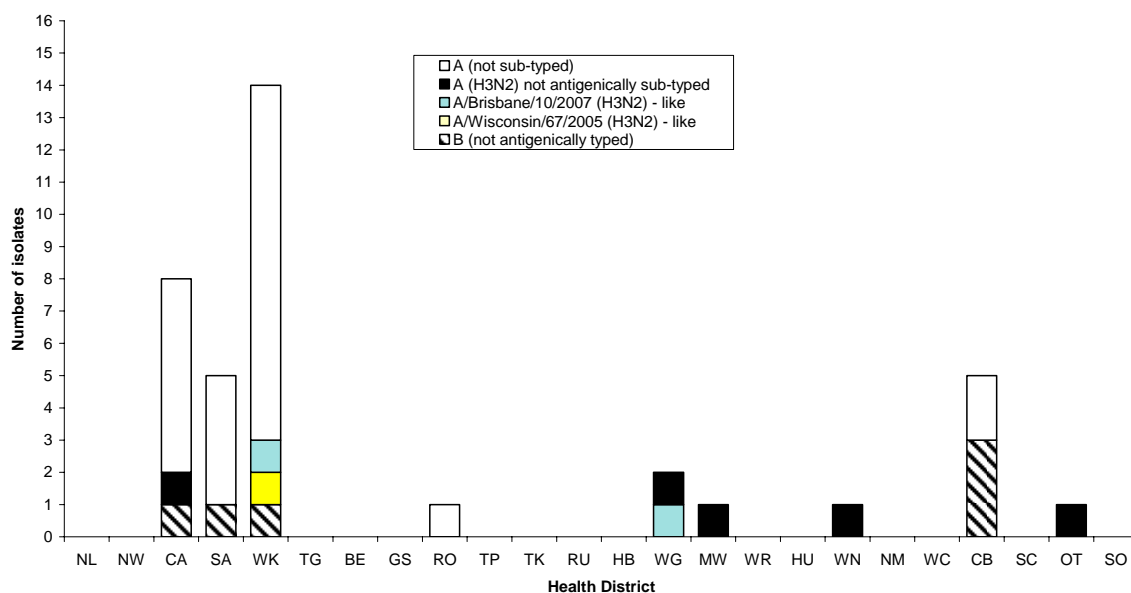


Figure 3 shows the weekly national consultation rates for 2006 and 2007 seasons, and 2008 so far. The current rate of influenza is higher than at the same time last year.

Figure 3

Figure 3: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness in New Zealand, 2006, 2007 and 2008

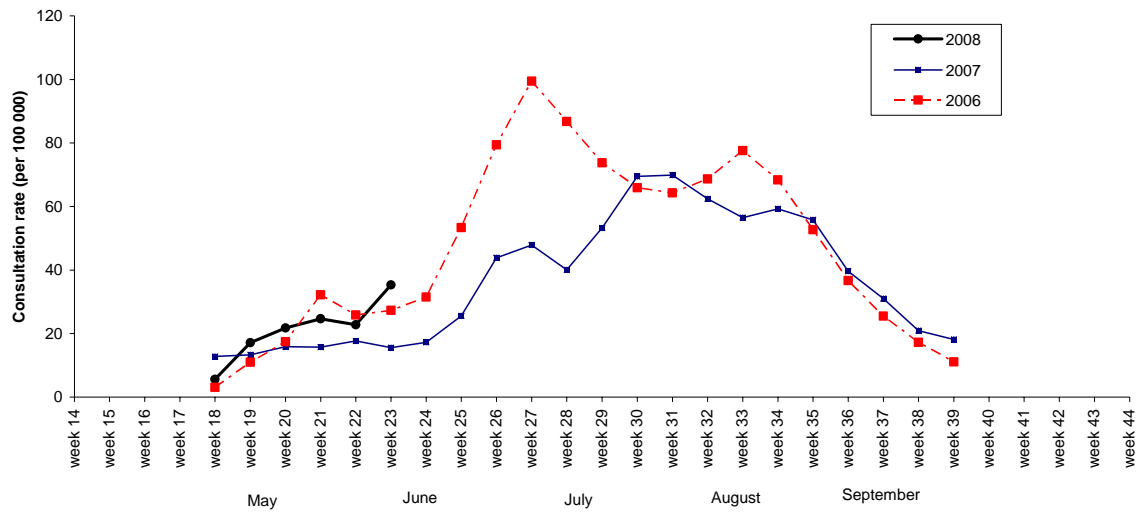
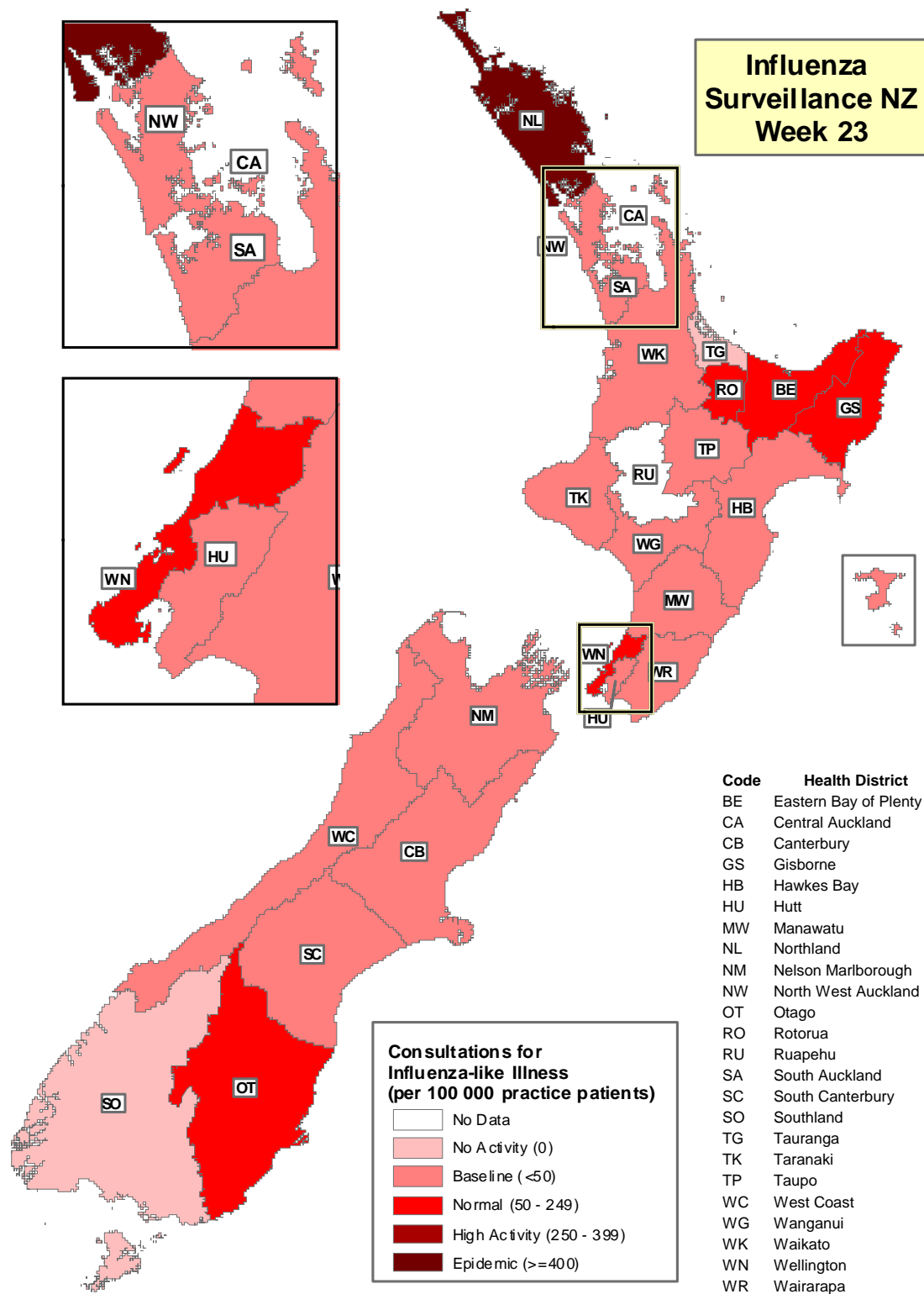


Figure 4 illustrates consultation rates for influenza-like illness mapped by health district for week 23, 2008.

Figure 4



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