

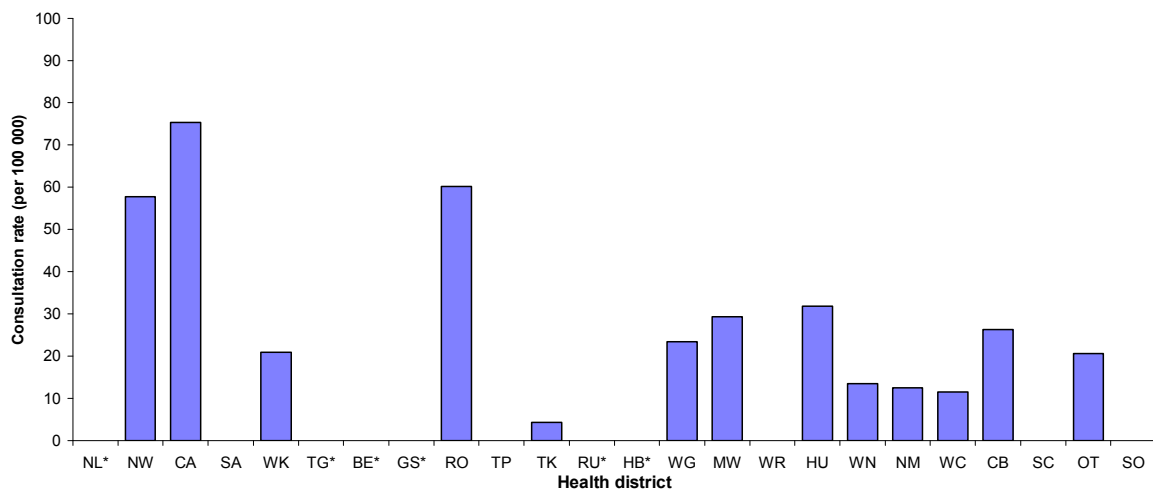
# INFLUENZA WEEKLY UPDATE

2009/18: 27 April – 3 May 2009

In the past week, a total of 77 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 62 general practices<sup>1</sup> in 19 out of 24 health districts. This gives a weekly consultation rate of 27.2 per 100 000 patient population.

The graph below compares the consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district over the past week. Central Auckland had the highest consultation rate (75.3 per 100 000, 24 cases), followed by Rotorua (60.2 per 100 000, 1 case) and North West Auckland (57.7 per 100 000, 10 cases).

*Figure 1: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness by health district week ending 3 May 2009*



\*Health districts did not participate for the week.

**Table 1. Health District Codes and Description**

Code	Description	Code	Description
NL	Northland	HB	Hawke's Bay
NW	North West Auckland	WG	Wanganui
CA	Central Auckland	MW	Manawatu
SA	South Auckland	WR	Wairarapa
WK	Waikato	HU	Hutt
TG	Tauranga	WN	Wellington
BE	Eastern Bay of Plenty	NM	Nelson-Marlborough
GS	Gisborne	WC	West Coast
RO	Rotorua	CB	Canterbury
TP	Taupo	SC	South Canterbury
TK	Taranaki	OT	Otago
RU	Ruapehu	SO	Southland

<sup>1</sup> Please note: Data was reported daily and then aggregated, not all GPs provided data for all days of the week.

Twenty-seven swabs were sent from the sentinel surveillance in the past week. Sixteen swabs were received by the virology laboratories. Of these, three influenza viruses were identified, two as Influenza AH3 by PCR one each from Wanganui and Wellington and one as Influenza AH1 by PCR from Taranaki.

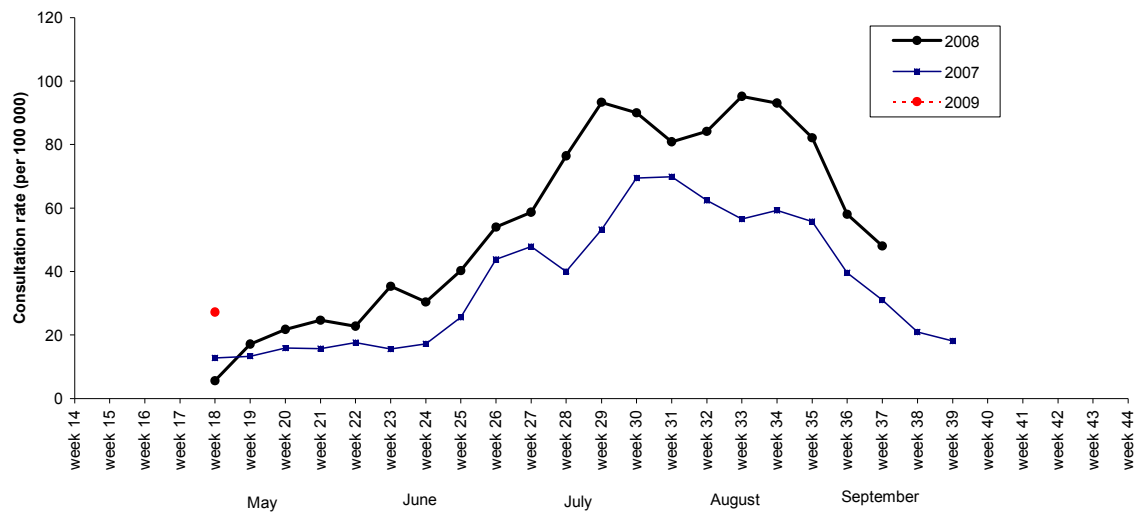
In addition, 32 influenza viruses were reported this week from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance. Twenty-nine as Influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), two as Influenza AH1 by PCR and one as Influenza AH3 by PCR. The distribution by health district is shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Laboratory-based influenza viruses by Health District**

Antigenic Strain	CA	WK	HB	WN	CB	Total
A (yet to be sub-typed)	25	2	1	0	1	<b>29</b>
AH1 by PCR	2	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
AH3 by PCR	0	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>

Figure 2 shows the weekly national consultation rates for 2007 and 2008 seasons, and 2009 so far. The current rate of influenza is higher than at the same time last year.

*Figure 2: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness in New Zealand, 2007, 2008 and 2009*



Note: There is only one value for 2009.

## Swine Influenza Update in New Zealand

- No further cases have been confirmed leaving the total of laboratory confirmed cases to five.
- Fourteen probable cases are awaiting confirmation.
- No deaths have been reported.

For further information please refer to the Ministry of Health's website  
<http://www.moh.govt.nz/influenza-a-h1n1>

The 2008 Influenza annual report can be found at  
<http://www.surv.esr.cri.nz/virology/virology.php>