

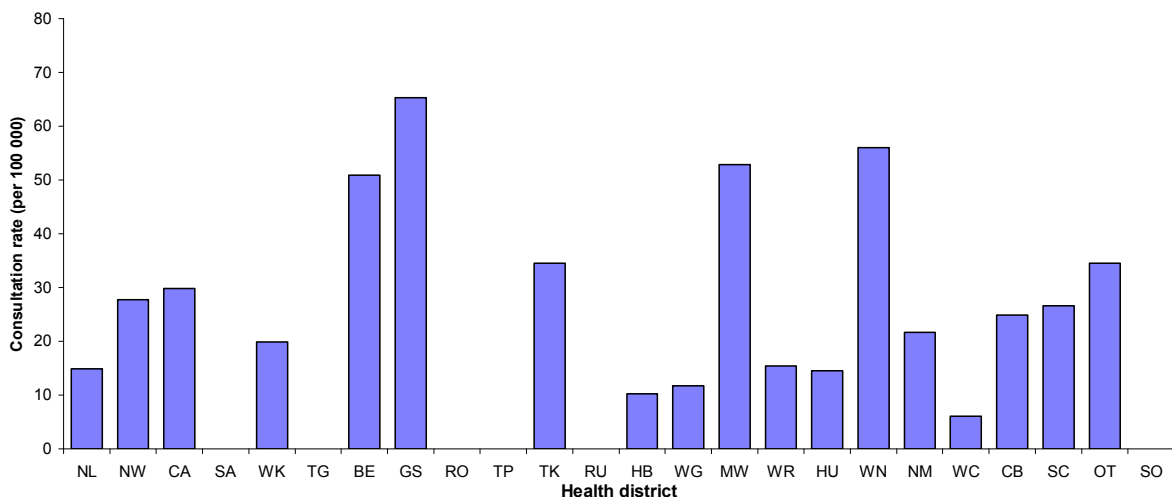
INFLUENZA WEEKLY UPDATE

2009/23: 1-7 June 2009

In the past week, a total of 108 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 91 general practices in all 24 health districts. This gives a weekly consultation rate of 27.0 per 100 000 patient population.

The graph below compares the consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district over the past week. Gisborne had the highest consultation rate (65.3 per 100 000, 2 cases), followed by Wellington (56.0 per 100 000, 15 cases) and Manawatu (52.8 per 100 000, 19 cases).

Figure 1: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness by health district week ending 7 June 2009



Thirty-four swabs were sent from the sentinel surveillance in the past week. Thirty-five swabs were received by the virology laboratories. Of these, one seasonal AH1N1 by PCR influenza virus was identified from Otago.

In addition, 18 influenza viruses were reported this week from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance: seasonal AH1N1 by PCR (12), seasonal influenza AH3N2 by PCR (3), influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) (2), and A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1) - like virus (1). The distribution by health district is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Laboratory-based influenza viruses by Health District

Antigenic Strain	CA	SA	WK	TG	WN	CB	Total
A (not antigenically sub-typed)	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1) - like virus	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Seasonal A H1N1 by PCR	6	1	1	1	1	2	12
Seasonal A H3N2 by PCR	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total	10	1	2	1	1	3	18

Figure 2 shows the cumulative total of influenza viruses confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) to the end of week 23, 7 June 2009. A total of 79¹ influenza viruses were identified: A (yet to be sub-typed) (18), seasonal AH1N1 by PCR (33), seasonal AH3N2 by PCR (20), A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1)-like virus (6), and B (not antigenically typed) (2). So far, 18 seasonal AH1N1 viruses have been tested for the H275Y mutation (histidine-to-tyrosine mutation at the codon of 275 in N1 numbering) which is known to confer resistance to Oseltamivir. All 18 viruses had the H275Y mutation.

Figure 2: Cumulative laboratory-confirmed isolates by health district to 7 June 2009

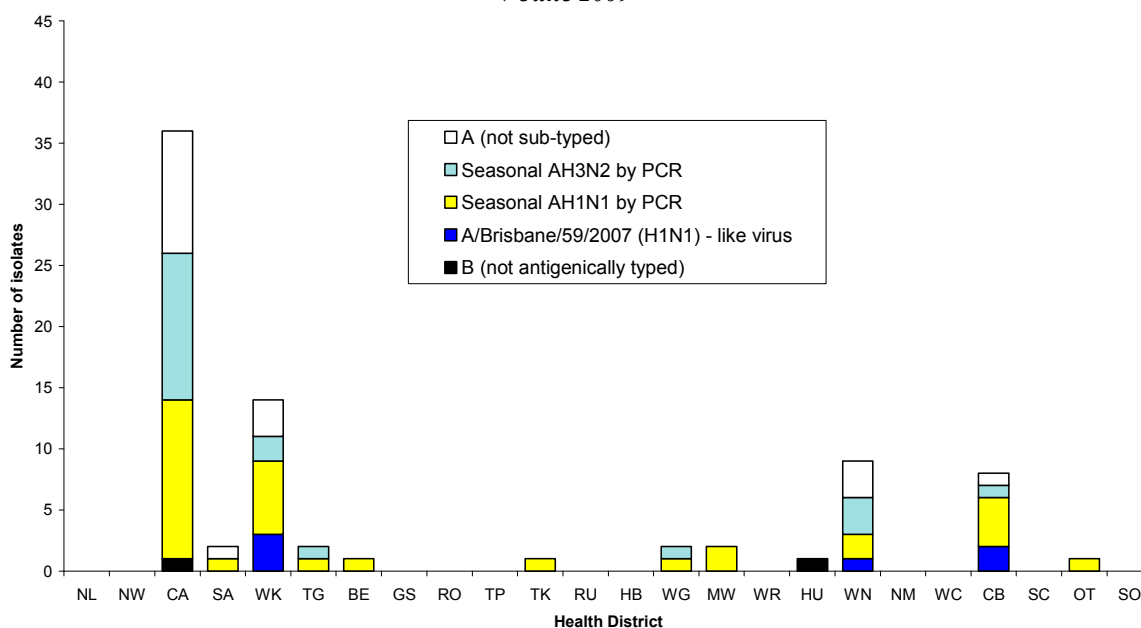


Figure 3 shows the weekly national consultation rates for 2007 and 2008 seasons, and 2009 so far. The current rate of influenza is lower than at the same time last year.

¹ Data exclude Non Seasonal Influenza A (H1N1) swine lineage viruses. Please refer to the Ministry of Health's website for further information: <http://www.moh.govt.nz/influenza-a-h1n1>

Figure 3: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness in New Zealand, 2007, 2008 and 2009

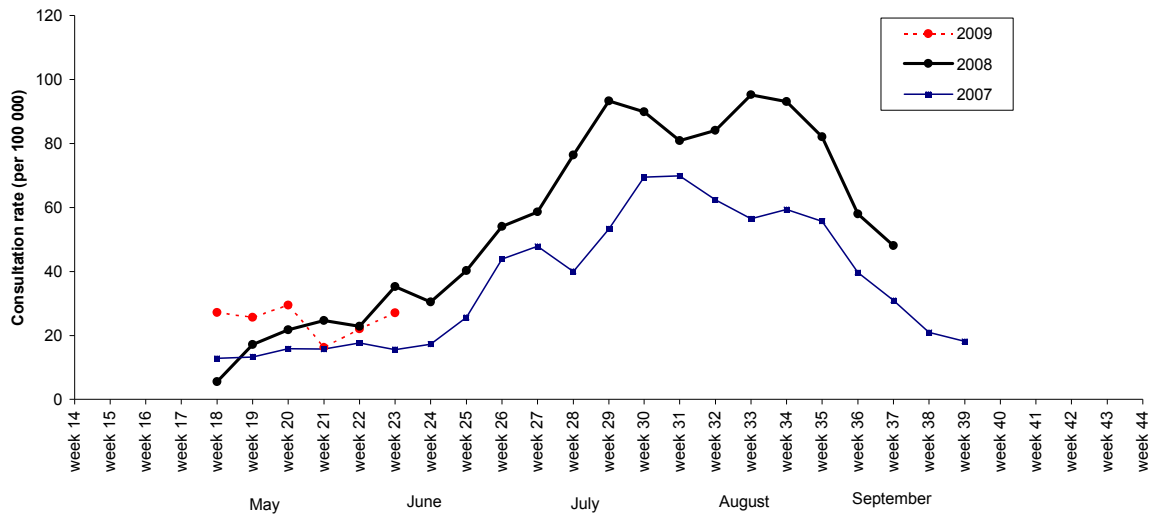
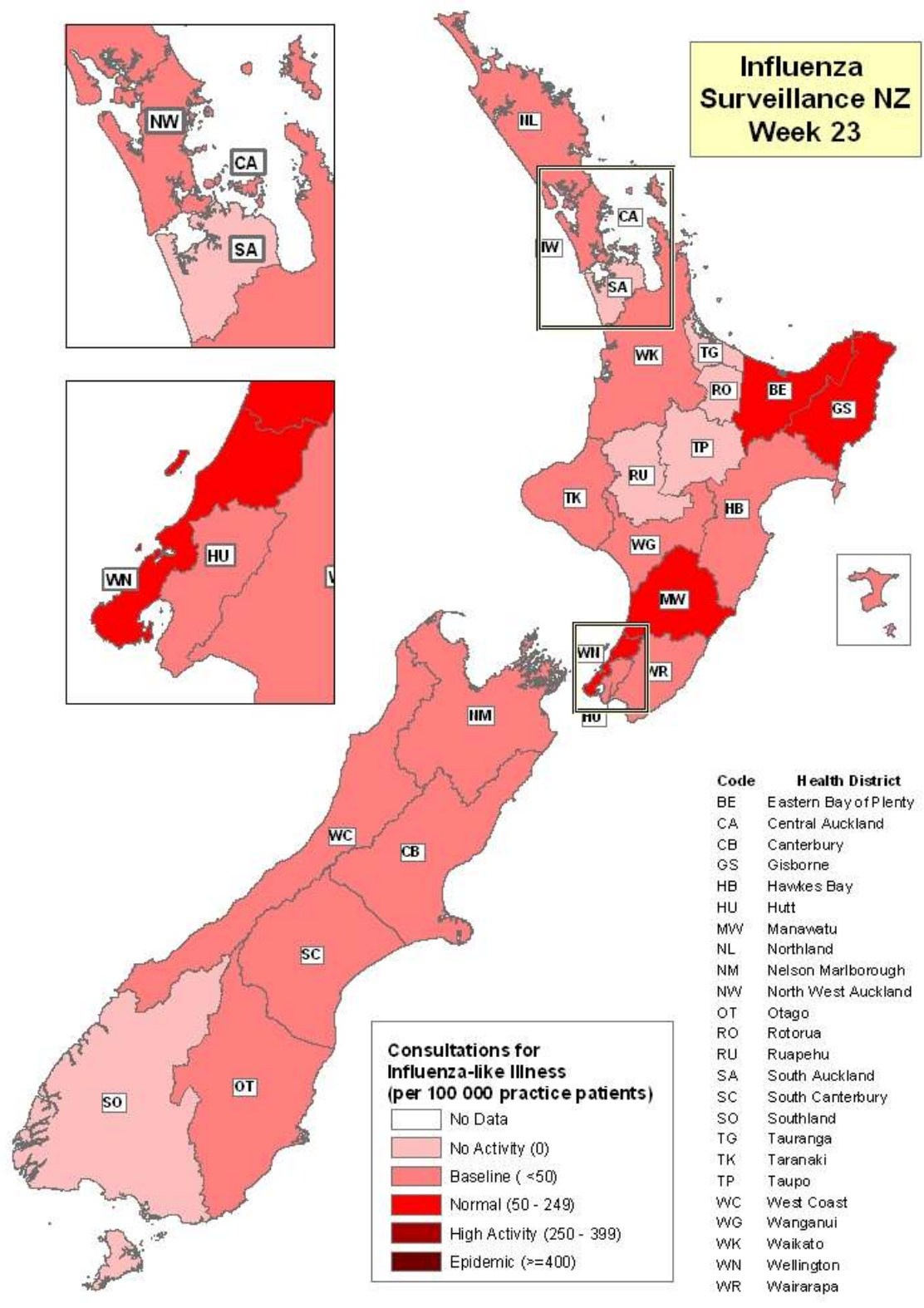


Figure 4 illustrates consultation rates for influenza-like illness mapped by health district for week 23, 2009.



Non Seasonal Influenza A (H1N1) swine lineage virus Update in New Zealand (as of 12 June 2009 – 1pm)

Thirty-five cases of non seasonal influenza A (H1N1) swine lineage viruses have been confirmed in New Zealand. A further 25 probable cases are awaiting confirmation. No deaths were 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>