Cases of influenza have been detected this year:

- **103** x Influenza A
- **27** x Influenza B

**14%** Influenza positivity during the reporting period.

**130** Cases of influenza have been detected this year:

- **103** x Influenza A
- **27** x Influenza B

Gastroenteritis levels remain steady at baseline levels.

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE REPORTING**

Reports were received from 320 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 35 and 36 reporters saw a total of 43,766 patients.

**INFLUENZA-LIKE-ILLNESS (ILI)**

Nationally, ILI notifications increased over the period with 255 notifications being reported in weeks 35—36. ILI rates reported in this period increased to 6 and 8 cases per 1000 consultations (weighted) in weeks 35 and 36 respectively. This was higher than the previous fortnight where rates were 5 and 6 cases per 1000 consultations. For the same reporting period in 2017, ILI rates were higher at 21 cases per 1000 consultations for weeks 35 and 36 (see Fig. 5).

**GASTROENTERITIS**

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications decreased over the period with 87 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period remained steady at 3 cases per 1000 consultations in both weeks 35 and 36, compared to 3 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 33 and 34 respectively (see Fig. 5).

* ASPREN is funded by the Commonwealth’s Department of Health, Office of Health Protection, Vaccine Preventable Disease Surveillance Section.
* VicSPIN is funded by Melbourne Health and the Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory.
Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2017.

Figure 5. ASPREN + VicSPIN ILI and ASPREN gastroenteritis rates 2017-18.
Weighted rates are weighted to account for population size differences between jurisdictions, using population estimates from the 2011 Australian Census.

Please note: This report is based on data available as at 21 September 2018. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.
85% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 35 - 36 (see Figure 6). 31 cases of Influenza were detected during this period. There were also 26 cases of Rhinovirus detected making it the second most common respiratory virus circulating the nation at present (see figure 8).

Viral laboratory data are provided by SA Pathology, PathWest and VicSPIN laboratories.

**Table 1: ASPREN + VicSPIN virological surveillance results overview for 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Period</th>
<th>YTD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 Aug - 9 Sept 2018</td>
<td>1 Jan - 9 Sept 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of ILI notifications</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of swab tests performed</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% ILI patients tested</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of swab tests positive for influenza</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 6. ASPREN + VicSPIN virological surveillance results overview for 2018**

**Figure 7. ASPREN + VicSPIN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2018**

**Figure 8. ASPREN, VicSPIN laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2018**

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Please note: This report is based on data available as at 21 September 2018. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.