

**NATIONAL PRIMARY CARE INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
SENTINEL SURVEILLANCE FORTNIGHTLY REPORT**

From The Australian Sentinel Practices Research Network (ASPREN) \*

No. 17, 2024 - 12th August — 25th August 2024

**NATIONAL SUMMARY**



Influenza-like-illness levels are decreasing

**41**

Case of influenza have been detected in this reporting period  
40 x Influenza A  
1 x Influenza B

**28%**

Influenza positivity during the reporting period.

**335**

Cases of influenza have been detected this year:  
323 x Influenza A  
12 x Influenza B



Gastroenteritis levels remain steady below baseline levels

**SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE  
REPORTING**

Reports were received from 324 reporters from 8 states and territories during the reporting period. During weeks 33 and 34 reporters saw a total of 49,651 patients.

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

Nationally, ILI notifications decreased during the period with 555 notifications being reported in weeks 33–34. ILI rates reported in this period were 13 and 11 cases per 1000 consultations (weighted). This was lower than the previous fortnight where rates were 15 and 12 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 31 and 32 respectively. For the same reporting period in 2023, ILI rates were lower at 6 cases per 1000 consultations for weeks 33 and 34 respectively (see Fig. 5).

**GASTROENTERITIS**

Nationally, gastroenteritis notifications increased to 73 notifications reported. Gastroenteritis rates reported in this period remained steady at 2 and 1 cases per 1000 consultations in weeks 33 and 34 respectively, compared to 2 and 1 case per 1000 consultations in weeks 31 and 32 respectively (see Fig. 5).

\* ASPREN is funded by the Commonwealth's Department of Health, Office of Health Protection, Vaccine Preventable Disease Surveillance Section.



Figure 1. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, weeks 33 - 34, 2024.

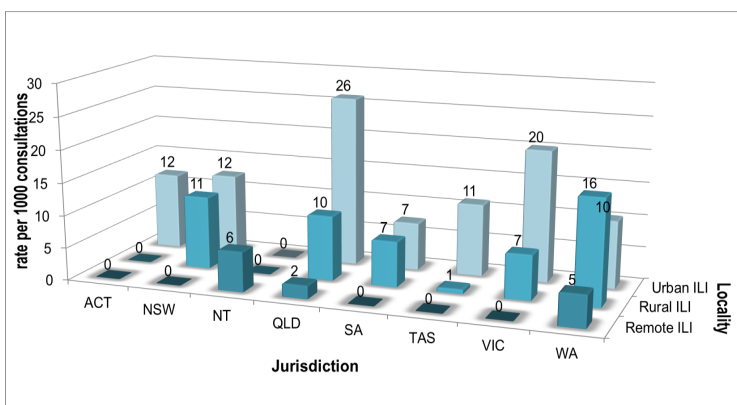


Figure 2. ASPREN rate of ILI by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 33 - 34, 2024.

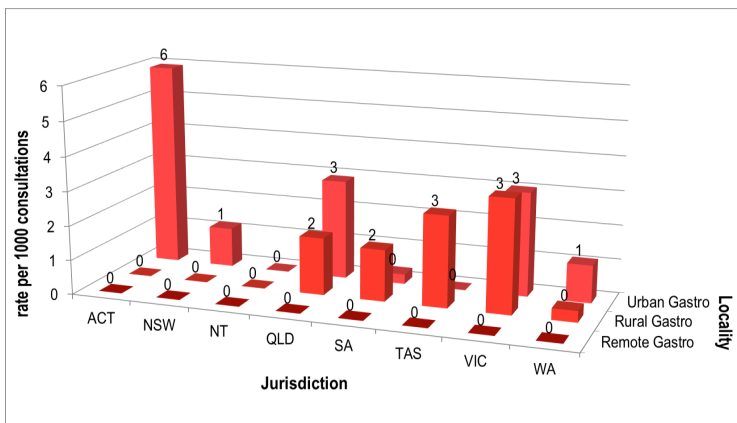


Figure 3. ASPREN rate of gastroenteritis by locality and jurisdiction, weeks 33 - 34, 2024.

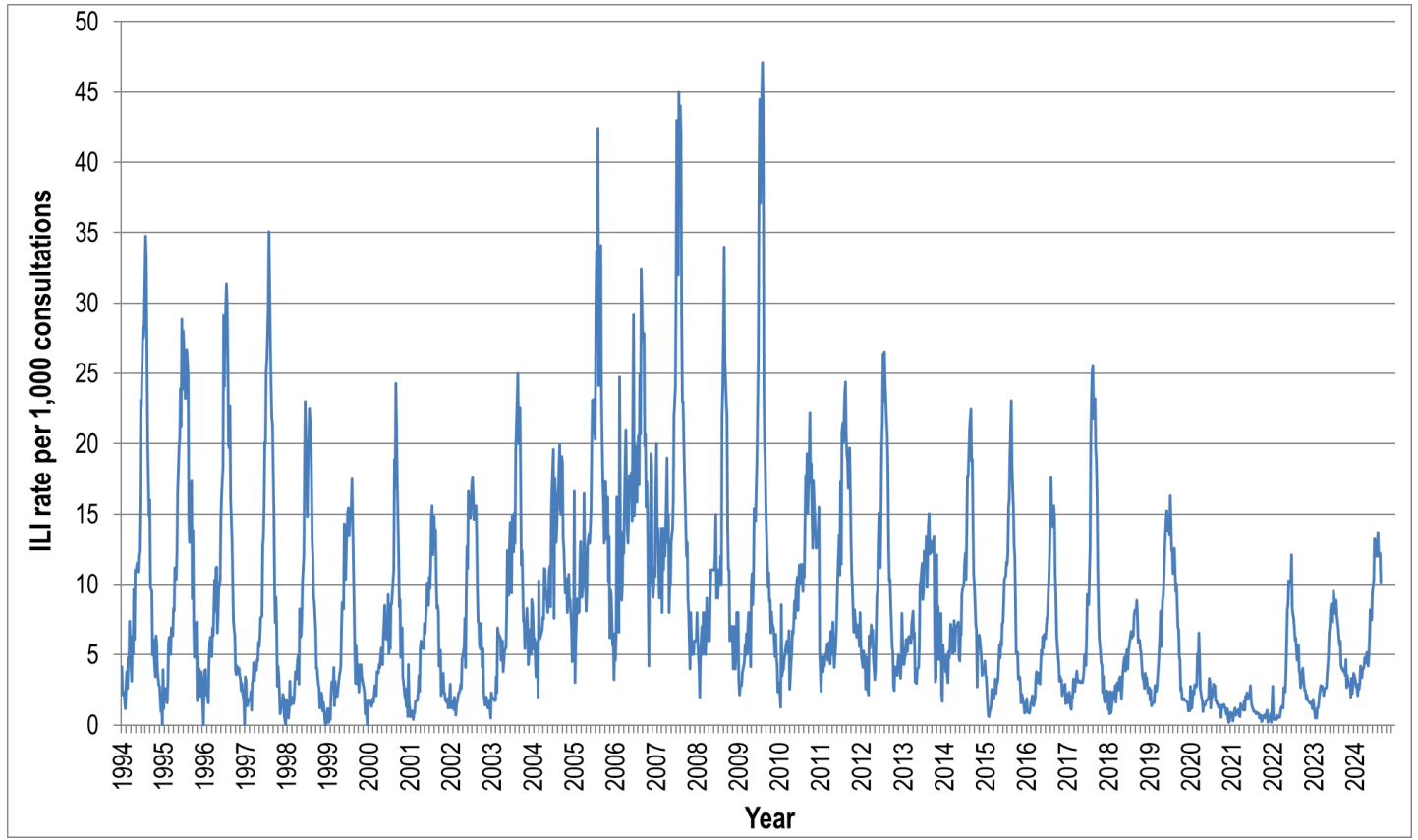


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rates 1994 - 2024.

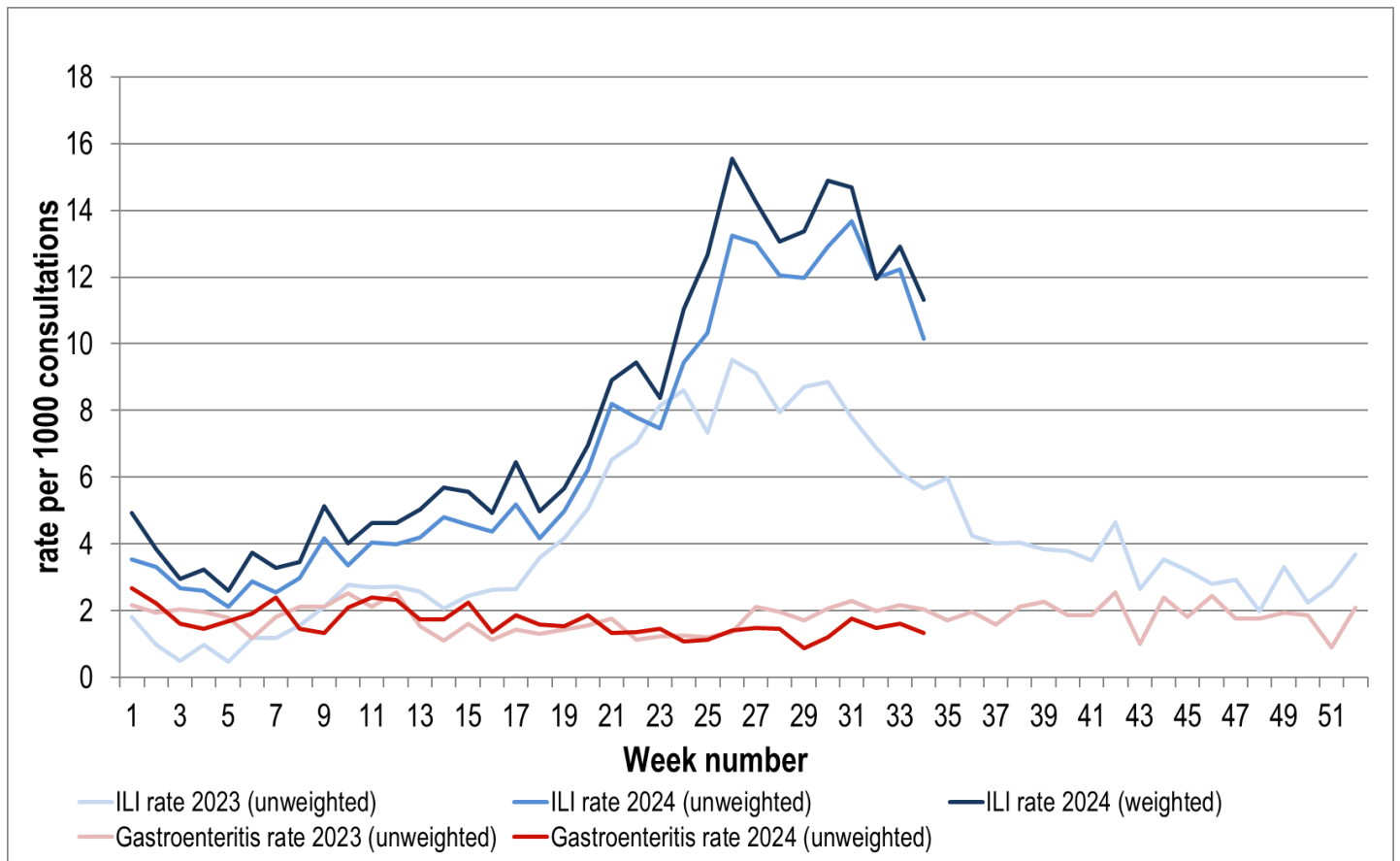


Figure 5. ASPREN ILI and gastroenteritis rates 2023-24.

Weighted rates are weighted to account for population size differences between jurisdictions, using population estimates from the 2011 Australian Census.

**VIROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE**

35% of all ILI patients were swab tested during weeks 33 and 34 (see Figure 6). 40 cases of Influenza A, 1 case of Influenza B, and 5 cases of SARS-CoV-2 were detected during this period. There were 31 cases of Rhinovirus detected making it the second most common respiratory virus circulating the nation at present (see figure 8).

# Viral laboratory data is provided by SA Pathology laboratory.

|  | Reporting Period           | YTD                    |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------|
|  | 12 August - 25 August 2024 | 1 Jan - 25 August 2024 |
| Total number of ILI notifications      | 555                        | 5365                   |
| Number of swab tests performed         | 195                        | 1955                   |
| % ILI patients tested                  | 35%                        | 36%                    |
| % of swab tests positive for influenza | 21%                        | 17%                    |

Figure 6. ASPREN virological surveillance results overview for 2024 #

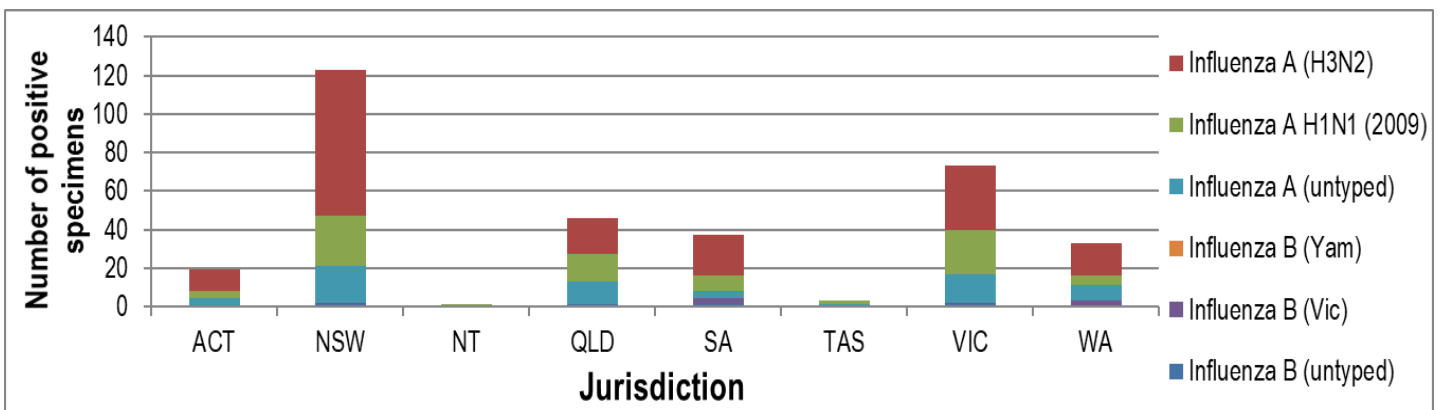


Figure 7. ASPREN influenza subtype analysis by jurisdiction for 2024 #

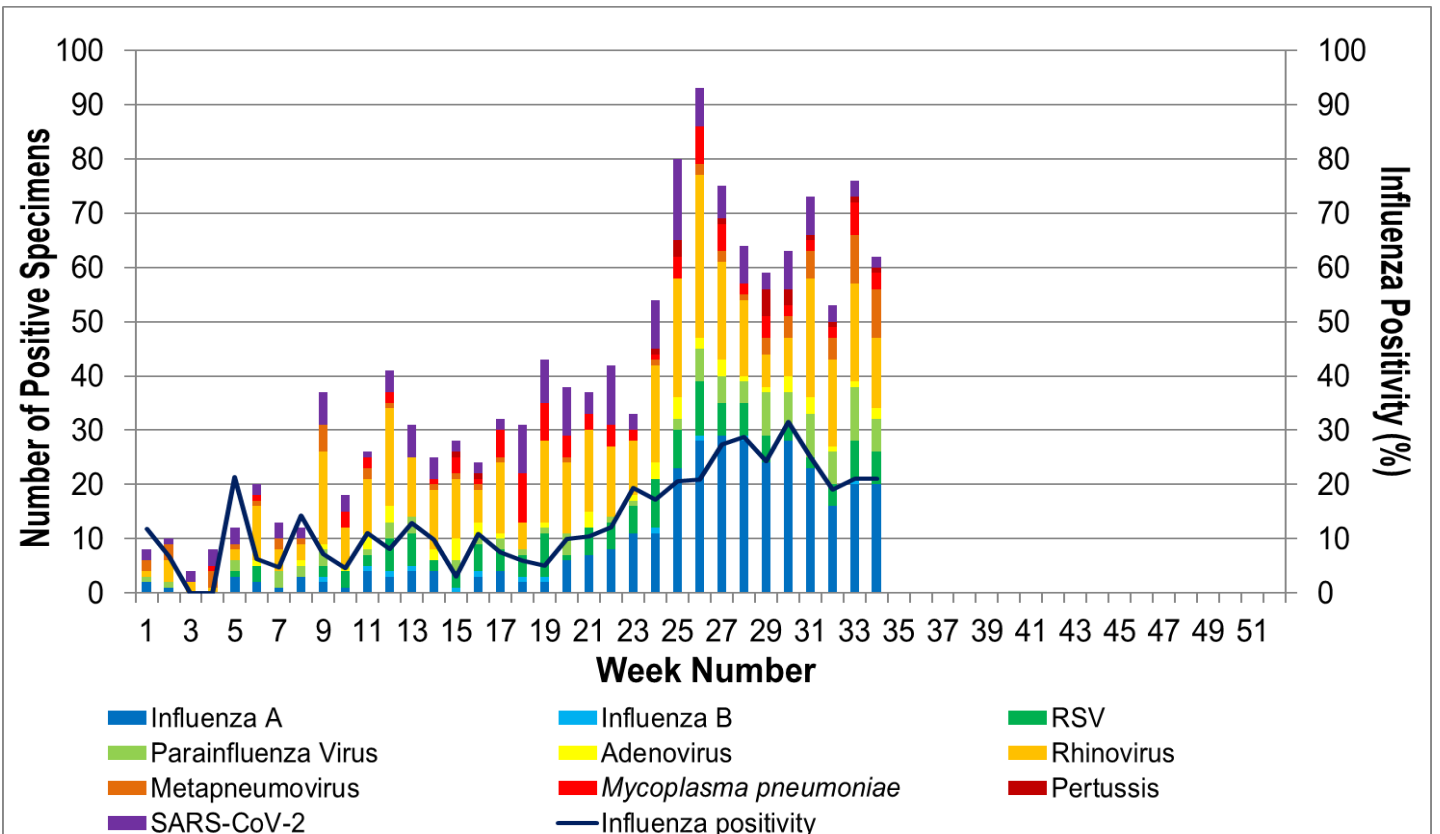


Figure 8. ASPREN, laboratory detection of influenza and other respiratory viruses for 2024 #

The Australian Sentinel Practices Research Network is supported by the Australian Government Department of Health (the Department). The opinions expressed in this paper are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Department.

Please note: This report is based on data available as at 15 August 2024. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.