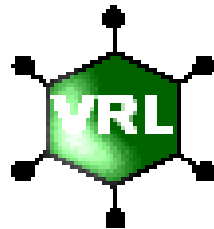


# Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report



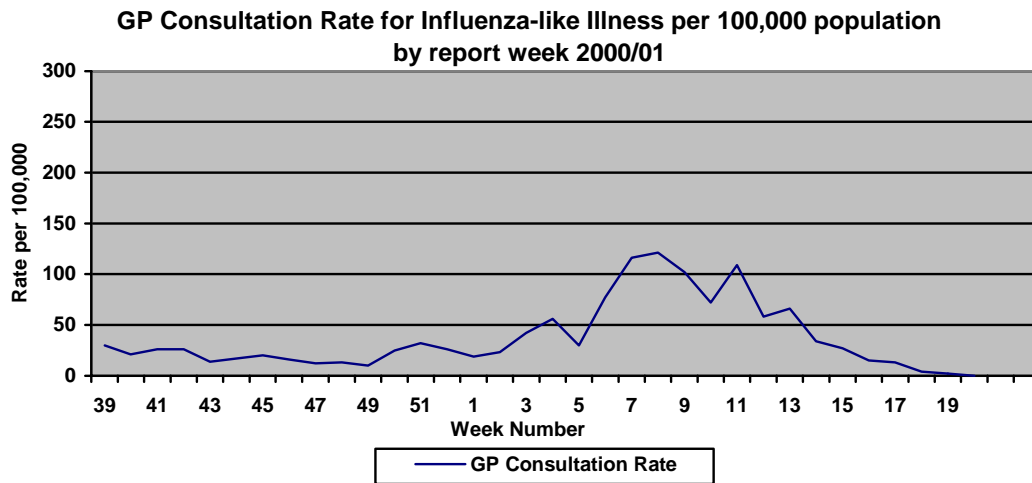
**Week 20**

**Report produced: 23/05/2001**

## Influenza activity in Ireland

For the week ending the 20<sup>th</sup> of May, week 20, influenza activity has reached its lowest level all season. Sentinel general practices reported zero cases of influenza-like illness. Reports were received from 15 of the sentinel general practices, all of which reported no influenza activity.

**Graph 1**



## Virological data

For week 20, 1 swab was received from sentinel general practices. No influenza virus was isolated. Serology results for week 19 have been updated, 59 tests were carried out; 3 of which were positive for influenza B.

Influenza positive results by serology may be due to:

- Influenza vaccination
- Infection with influenza or
- Both

Therefore these results are used as indicators of the presence of influenza in the community in the same way that consultation rates for respiratory symptoms are used. Most importantly samples received from hospitals are not paired and therefore a rising and a falling titre cannot be determined.

**Table 1**

Influenza results by cell culture and / or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) by type and subtype by report week for 2000/2001

<b>Week Number</b>	<b>Influenza A</b>	<b>Influenza A (H1N1)</b>	<b>Influenza A (H3N2)</b>	<b>Influenza B</b>
51 (w/e 23/12/00)	3	2 (PCR, culture)	1 (PCR)	0
52 (w/e 30/12/00)	1	1 (PCR, culture)	0	0
1 (w/e 06/01/01)	2	2 (PCR, culture)	0	1 (PCR, culture)
2 (w/e 13/01/01)	5	5 (PCR)	0	0
3 (w/e 20/01/01)	7	7 (PCR)	0	1 (PCR)
4 (w/e 27/01/01)	7	7	0	2 (PCR)
5 (w/e 03/02/01)	7	7 (PCR, culture)	0	0
6 (w/e 10/02/01)	4	4 (PCR, culture)	0	3 (PCR, culture)
7 (w/e 17/02/01)	6	5 (PCR, culture)	1	11 (PCR, culture)
8 (w/e 24/02/01)	2	2 (PCR, culture)	0	8 (PCR, culture)
9 (w/e 03/03/01)	0	0	0	13 (PCR, culture)
10 (w/e 10/03/01)	1	1	0	13 (PCR, culture)
11 (w/e 17/03/01)	0	0	0	9 (PCR, culture)
12 (w/e 24/03/01)	0	0	0	3 (PCR, culture)
13 (w/e 31/03/01)	0	0	0	7 (PCR, culture)
14 (w/e 07/04/01)	0	0	0	5 (culture)
15 (w/e 14/04/01)	0	0	0	5 (PCR, culture)
16 (w/e 21/04/01)	0	0	0	0
17 (w/e 28/04/01)	0	0	0	0
18 (w/e 05/05/01)	0	0	0	0
19 (w/e 12/05/01)	0	0	0	0
20 (w/e 19/05/01)	0	0	0	0

**Table 2**

Influenza positive results by serology by type and by report week for 2000/2001

<b>Week Number</b>	<b>Influenza A</b>	<b>Influenza B</b>
40 (w/e 07/10/00)	0	0
41 (w/e 14/10/00)	0	0
42 (w/e 21/10/00)	5	0
43 (w/e 28/10/00)	2	1
44 (w/e 04/11/00)	3	0
45 (w/e 11/11/00)	3	0
46 (w/e 18/11/00)	0	0
47 (w/e 25/11/00)	1	0
48 (w/e 02/12/00)	4	0
49 (w/e 09/12/00)	4	0
50 (w/e 16/12/00)	2	0
51 (w/e 23/12/00)	3	0
52 (w/e 30/12/00)	0	0
01 (w/e 06/01/01)	0	0
02 (w/e 13/01/01)	4	0
03 (w/e 20/01/01)	4	0
04 (w/e 27/01/01)	3	0
05 (w/e 03/02/01)	6	0
06 (w/e 10/02/01)	2	0
07 (w/e 17/02/01)	5	1
08 (w/e 24/02/01)	8	2
09 (w/e 03/03/01)	1	3
10 (w/e 10/03/01)	1	0
11 (w/e 17/03/01)	3	3
12 (w/e 24/03/01)	3	3
13 (w/e 31/03/01)	3	4
14 (w/e 07/04/01)	6	7
15 (w/e 14/04/01)	4	12
16 (w/e 21/04/01)	0	7
17 (w/e 28/04/01)	0	0
18 (w/e 05/05/01)	2	0
19 (w/e 12/05/01)	0	3

**Influenza activity Worldwide**

In Scotland, the GP consultation rate for influenza-like illness has decreased to 2 per 100,000 population, within the baseline range. Influenza B predominated with 3 influenza A and 9 influenza B.

For the week ending the 19<sup>th</sup> May, sporadic activity was reported in Latvia, Argentina, France, Norway, and Hong Kong. Influenza B predominated in Latvia and Norway. In France, the consultation rate was 94 per 100,000, below epidemic threshold level. In Argentina, 4 isolates of influenza A were reported. Influenza A (H1N1) has continued to predominate in Hong Kong; with 28 influenza A (H1N1), 3

influenza A (H3N2), 6 influenza A (unsubtyped) and 25 influenza B. No influenza activity was reported in Spain.

*This is the last weekly influenza surveillance report for the 2000/2001 influenza season. A summary report will be published in the next few weeks. Weekly influenza reports will resume again in October 2001 for the 2001/2002 influenza season. Many thanks are due to those who provided data for the 2000/2001 season, particularly the sentinel general practices, the Irish College of General Practitioners and the Virus Reference Laboratory.*