

# Influenza Surveillance in Ireland – Summary Report

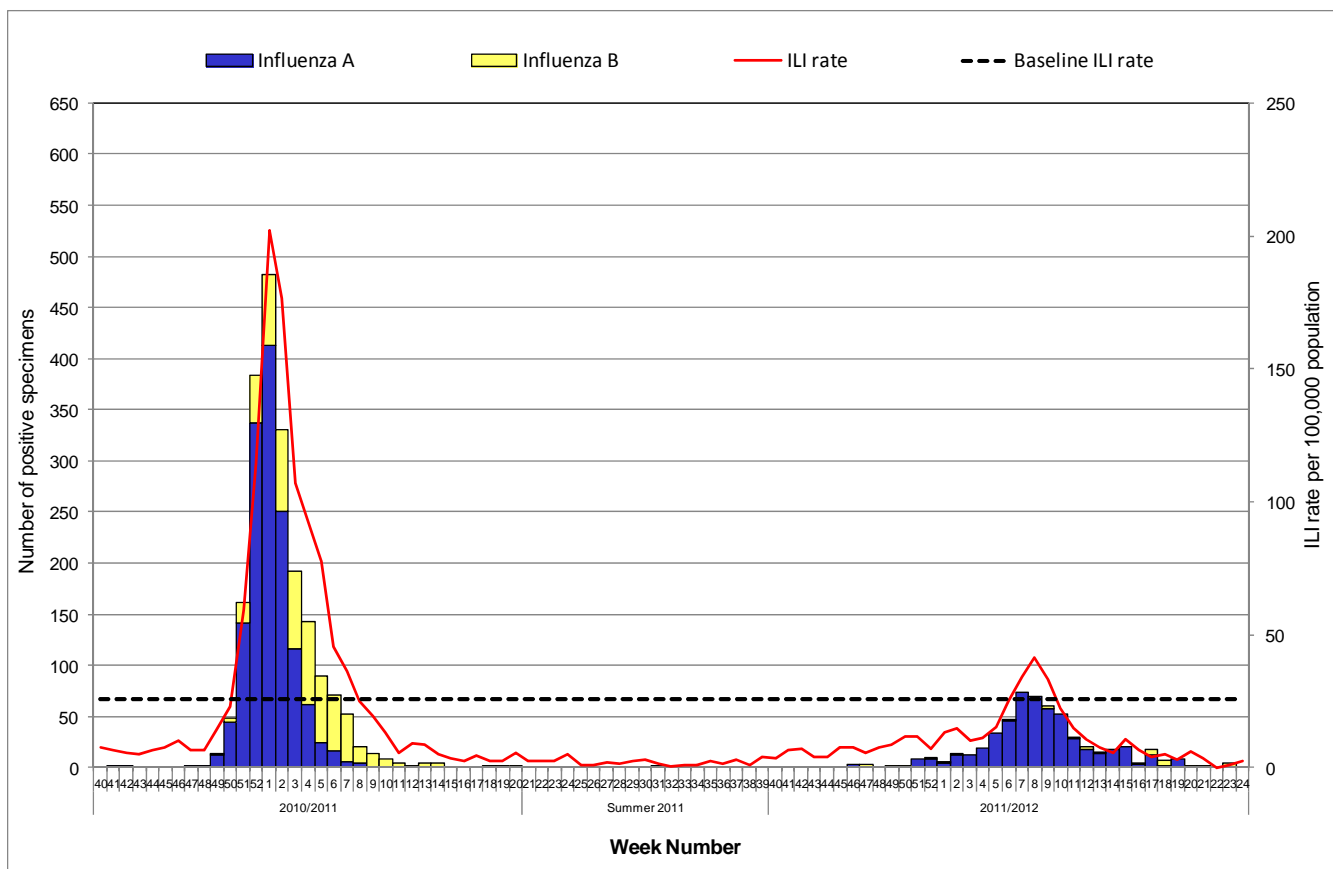
## Influenza Weeks 23 & 24 2012 (4<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012)



During the summer period, a short summary report of influenza activity will be published every fortnight.

### Summary

- **Overall, influenza activity in Ireland remained at low levels during weeks 23 and 24 2012.**
- The sentinel GP influenza-like illness (ILI) consultation rate was 2.3 per 100,000 population in week 24 2012 and 0.8 per 100,000 in week 23 2012, remaining low and stable compared to the rate of 3.7 per 100,000 during week 22 2012.
  - ♦ ILI rates are below the Irish baseline threshold (25.9 per 100,000 population).
  - ♦ Age specific ILI rates remained low in all age groups.
- The proportion of influenza-related calls to GP Out-of-Hours services remained at low levels.
- No influenza positive specimens were detected from sentinel GPs by the NVRL during weeks 23 and 24 2012.
- Four influenza B positive non-sentinel specimens were detected by the NVRL during week 23 2012. All of these positive specimens were associated with an influenza B outbreak (see below).
- The proportion of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) positive detections remained at low levels.
- Three adenovirus, two human metapneumovirus (hMPV) and seventeen parainfluenza virus type-3 (PIV-3) positive detections were reported during weeks 23 and 24 2012.
  - ♦ The proportion of PIV-3 positive detections increased in week 23 2012, for the fourth consecutive week, this was followed by a decrease in week 24 2012. PIV-3 positivity remained within expected levels for this time of year.
- One confirmed influenza A hospitalised case was *notified* during week 23 2012. This was a late notification of a case hospitalised in week 15 (April) 2012.
- No confirmed influenza -associated deaths were reported to HPSC during weeks 23 and 24 2012.
- One influenza B hospital outbreak was reported in week 23 2012. This is the only influenza outbreak that has been reported to date during the summer period.
- Worldwide influenza activity is generally low. Influenza activity in the northern hemisphere temperate regions is continuing to decline or has returned to baseline levels indicating that the season has ended. Influenza activity in tropical areas of the world is low, with the exception of China Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) and Madagascar where influenza A (H3N2) is predominating. Influenza activity in the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere is still low. Chile and Paraguay are reporting increasing ILI activity in the past couple of weeks, with influenza A (H3N2) predominating in Chile and influenza A (H1N1) 2009 in Paraguay. [http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\\_monitoring/updates/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/en/index.html)



**Figure 1. ILI sentinel GP consultation rates per 100,000 population, baseline ILI threshold rate, and number of positive influenza A and B specimens tested by the NVRL, by influenza week and season.**

Source: Clinical ILI data from ICGP and virological data from the NVRL <sup>\*,†</sup>

### Further information on influenza in Ireland and internationally

Ireland	<a href="http://www.hpsc.ie">www.hpsc.ie</a>
Northern Ireland	<a href="http://www.fluawareni.info/">http://www.fluawareni.info/</a>
Europe – ECDC	<a href="http://ecdc.europa.eu/">http://ecdc.europa.eu/</a>

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#### Acknowledgements

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\* Please note that in addition to the NVRL, Cork University Hospital (CUH) and Galway University Hospital(s) (GUH) also tested for influenza A (H1) 2009 during the pandemic period.

† Sentinel GP consultations and virological data are updated on an ongoing basis, ILI rates and virological data are adjusted accordingly.