

# Influenza Surveillance in Ireland – Summary Report

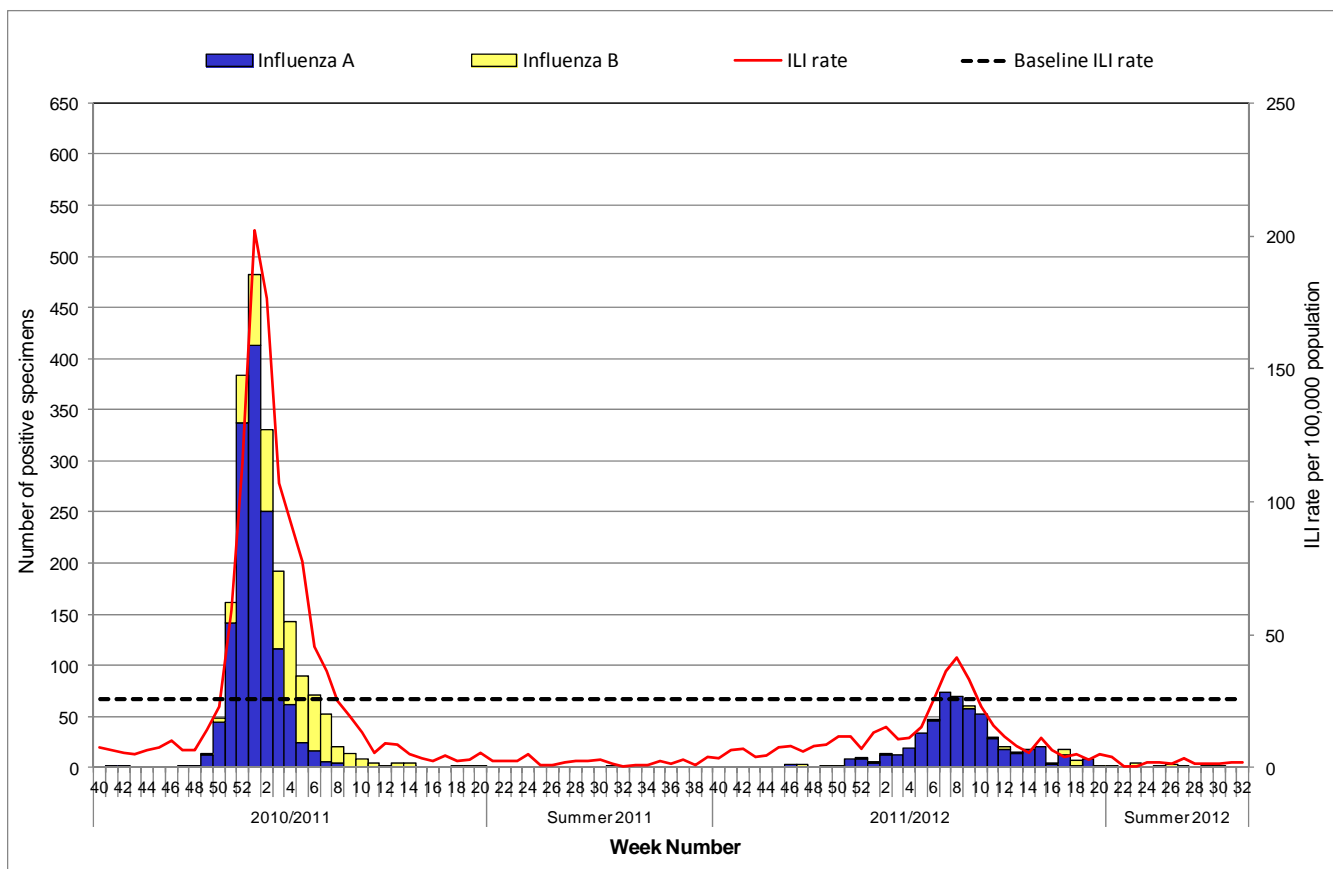
## Influenza Weeks 31 & 32 2012 (30<sup>th</sup> July – 12<sup>th</sup> August 2012)



*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 31 and 32 2012.**
- The sentinel GP influenza-like illness (ILI) consultation rate was 1.9 per 100,000 population in week 32 2012 and 2.0 per 100,000 in week 31 2012, remaining low and stable.
  - ♦ 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 by the NVRL during weeks 31 and 32 2012.
- Two respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) positive detections were detected by the NVRL during weeks 31 and 32 2012. Six RSV laboratory notifications were recorded on CIDR (Ireland's Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System) during weeks 31 and 32 2012.
- One adenovirus and two parainfluenza virus type-3 positive detections were reported by the NVRL during weeks 31 and 32 2012.
- No confirmed influenza cases were hospitalised during weeks 31 and 32 2012. During the 2012 summer period to date, nine confirmed influenza hospitalised cases were notified to HPSC.
- No confirmed influenza-associated deaths were reported to HPSC during weeks 31 and 32 2012.
- No influenza outbreaks were reported during weeks 31 and 32 2012. During the 2012 summer period to date, only one influenza outbreak has been reported.
- **International surveillance:** Most countries in the northern temperate zone have stopped weekly reporting or moved over to out of season surveillance schedules. A number of human infections with a swine origin variant influenza A H3N2 virus (H3N2v) have been detected in the United States since July 2011. Further information on these viruses is available on the [ECDC](#) and [CDC](#) websites. In the tropical zone, countries reporting influenza activity include Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador and Panama in the Americas (influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and B); Ghana and Madagascar in sub-Saharan Africa (influenza A (H3N2); southern China, Singapore and Viet Nam in Asia (A (H3N2) in China and Viet Nam, A (H3N2), A (H1N1) pdm09 and B in Singapore). The influenza season has continued in most temperate countries of the southern hemisphere and appears to have peaked in Chile and South Africa, where many indicators have recently begun to decline. In contrast, very low numbers of influenza detections were reported in recent weeks in Argentina. Rates of disease have continued to increase across Australia and New Zealand. Influenza A (H3N2) viruses were the most commonly reported type/sub-type in recent weeks across the Southern Hemisphere temperate region in Chile, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. However, the distribution was not uniform across Australia where influenza B accounted for a significant portion of viruses detected in Western Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland. Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 is the most common influenza virus detected in Paraguay as well as neighbouring areas of southern Brazil and Bolivia. [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

## Further information in Ireland and internationally

RSV was made notifiable in Ireland on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2012. Laboratory notifications of RSV are reported in more detail in the [Weekly Infectious Disease Report for Ireland](#).

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>

**This report was prepared by Lisa Domegan and Joan O’Donnell, HPSC.**

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