

Influenza Surveillance in Ireland – Summary Report

Influenza Weeks 33 & 34 2012 (13th – 26th 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 33 and 34 2012.**
- The sentinel GP influenza-like illness (ILI) consultation rate was 0.9 per 100,000 population in week 34 2012 and 1.7 per 100,000 in week 33 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 33 and 34 2012.
- One respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) positive detection was reported by the NVRL during weeks 33 and 34 2012. Nine RSV laboratory notifications were recorded on CIDR (Ireland's Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System) during weeks 33 and 34 2012.
- One adenovirus and three parainfluenza virus type-3 positive detections were reported by the NVRL during weeks 33 and 34 2012.
- One influenza A case was hospitalised during weeks 33 2012. During the 2012 summer period to date, ten confirmed influenza hospitalised cases were notified to HPSC.
- No confirmed influenza-associated deaths were reported to HPSC for the summer 2012 period.
- No influenza outbreaks were reported during weeks 33 and 34 2012. During the 2012 summer period to date, only one influenza outbreak (associated with influenza B) 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. The United States of America is continuing to detect cases of influenza A(H3N2)v in humans. Most cases have occurred following contact with pigs and no sustained human-to-human transmission has been identified to date. In the tropical zone, the countries reporting notable influenza activity are Brazil, Cuba, El Salvador, Honduras and Panama in the Americas (A(H1N1)pdm09 and B); Ghana and Madagascar in sub-Saharan Africa (A(H3N2) and B); Bangladesh, southern China, India, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam in Asia (A(H3N2) and B). While New Zealand continues to report increases in some indicators, influenza activities have decreased in most of the temperate countries of the southern hemisphere. Australia, Chile, Paraguay and South Africa, continue to report declines in indicators. Argentina continues to report very low numbers of detections throughout 2012. Influenza A(H3N2) viruses are the most commonly reported type/sub-type in recent weeks across the southern hemisphere temperate region in Chile, South Africa, and Australia. Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09 is the most common influenza virus detected in Paraguay as well as neighbouring areas of southern Brazil and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, whereas Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama and Peru are reporting mostly influenza B. http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/en/index.html

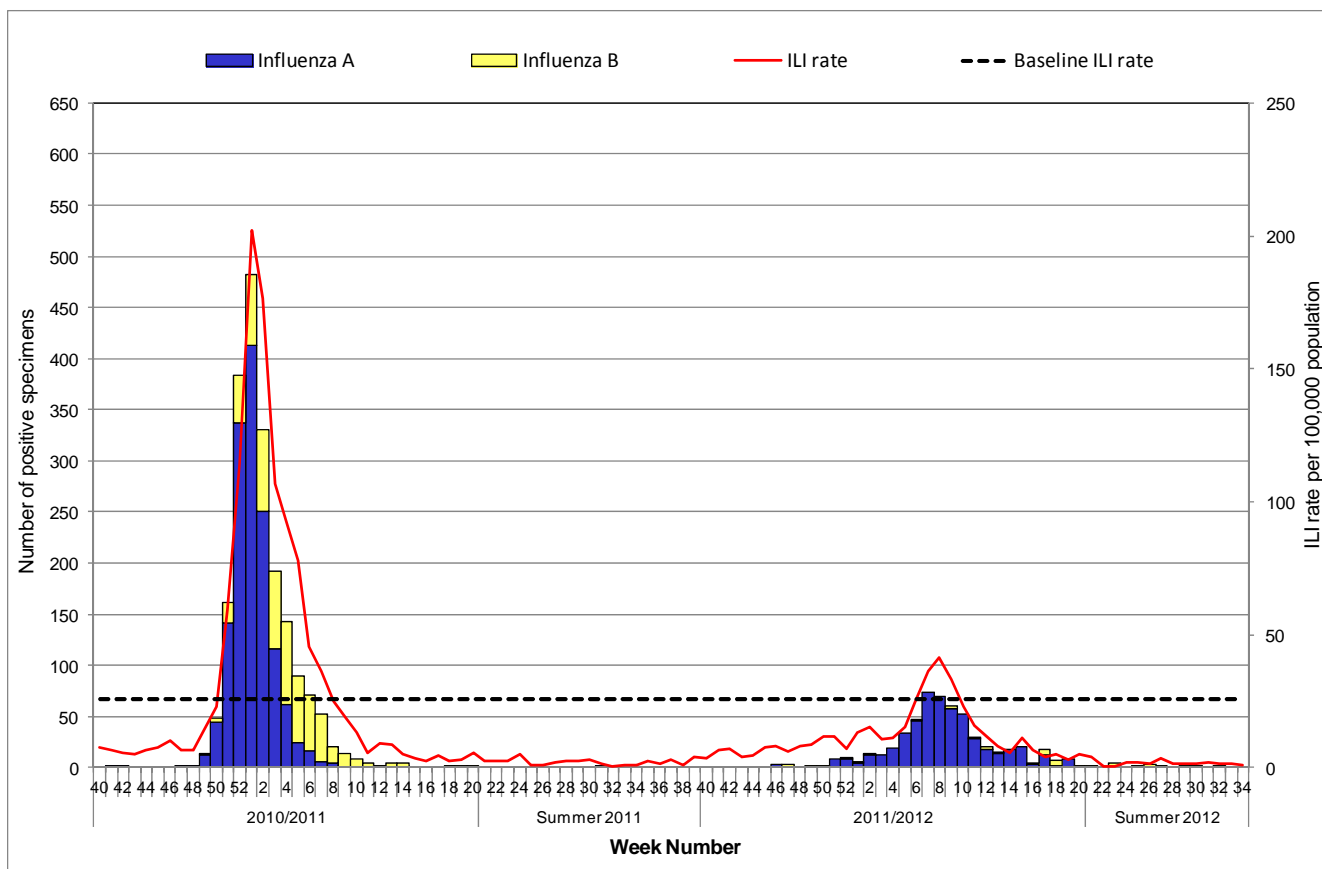


Figure 1. ILI sentinel GP consultation rates per 100,000 population, baseline ILI threshold rate, and number of positive influenza A and B specimens tested by the NVRL, by influenza week and season.

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 1st 2012. Laboratory notifications of RSV are reported in more detail in the [Weekly Infectious Disease Report for Ireland](#).

Ireland	www.hpsc.ie
Northern Ireland	http://www.fluawareni.info/
Europe – ECDC	http://ecdc.europa.eu/

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