

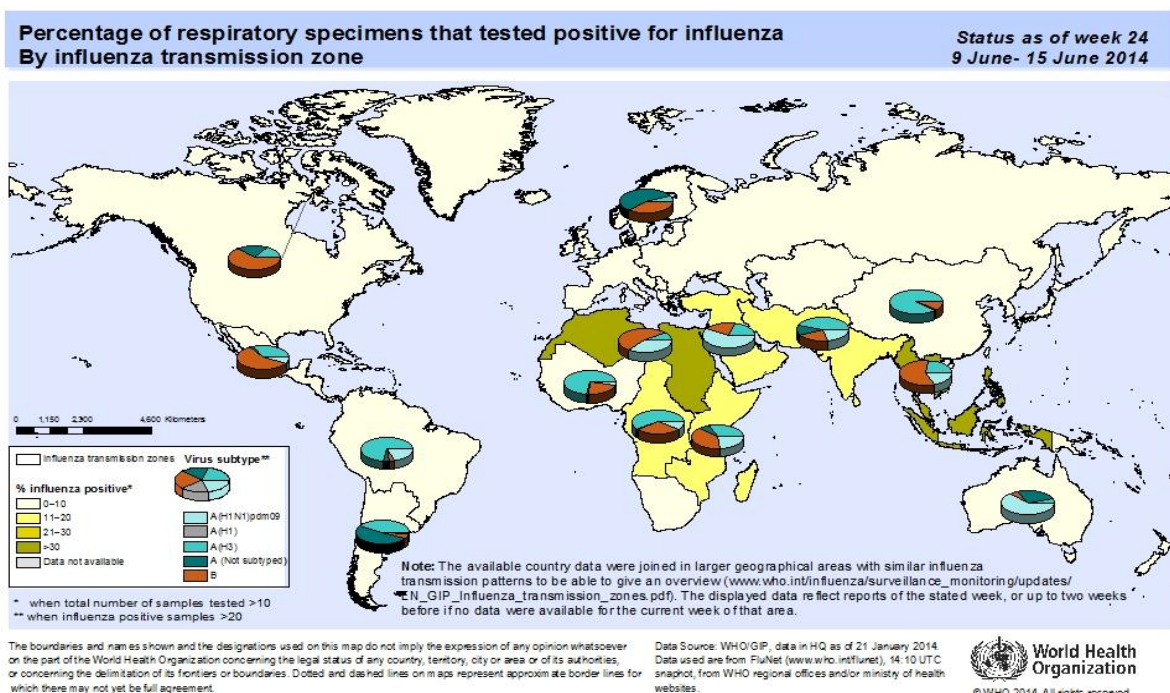
## Influenza Update N° 214

30 June 2014

### Summary

Globally influenza activity was low.

- In North America and Europe, overall influenza activity was at inter-seasonal levels.
- In eastern Asia, influenza activity approached inter-seasonal levels in most countries. Influenza activity slightly increased however in the southern region of China mainly due to influenza A(H3N2) viruses.
- In southern and south-eastern Asia, influenza activity continued to decline, except for Singapore where an increase was noticed, although the acute respiratory infections rate remained low.
- In northern Africa and western Asia, influenza activity remained low.
- In the southern hemisphere, influenza activity was still low, although some of the countries in the temperate zone of South America showed higher ILI activity with an increase in influenza virus detections.
- Based on FluNet reporting (as of 26 June 2014, 12:35 UTC), during weeks 23 to 24 (1 June 2014 to 14 June 2014), National Influenza Centres (NICs) and other national influenza laboratories from 76 countries, areas or territories reported data. The WHO GISRS laboratories tested more than 26 592 specimens. 1838 were positive for influenza viruses, of which 1345 (73.2%) were typed as influenza A and 493 (26.8%) as influenza B. Of the sub-typed influenza A viruses, 207 (18.9%) were influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and 888 (81.1%) were influenza A(H3N2). Of the characterized B viruses, 10 (71.4%) belong to the B-Yamagata lineage and 4 (28.6%) to the B-Victoria lineage.
- For updates on human infections with avian influenza A(H7N9) virus see the WHO website [http://www.who.int/influenza/human\\_animal\\_interface/influenza\\_h7n9/](http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/influenza_h7n9/)



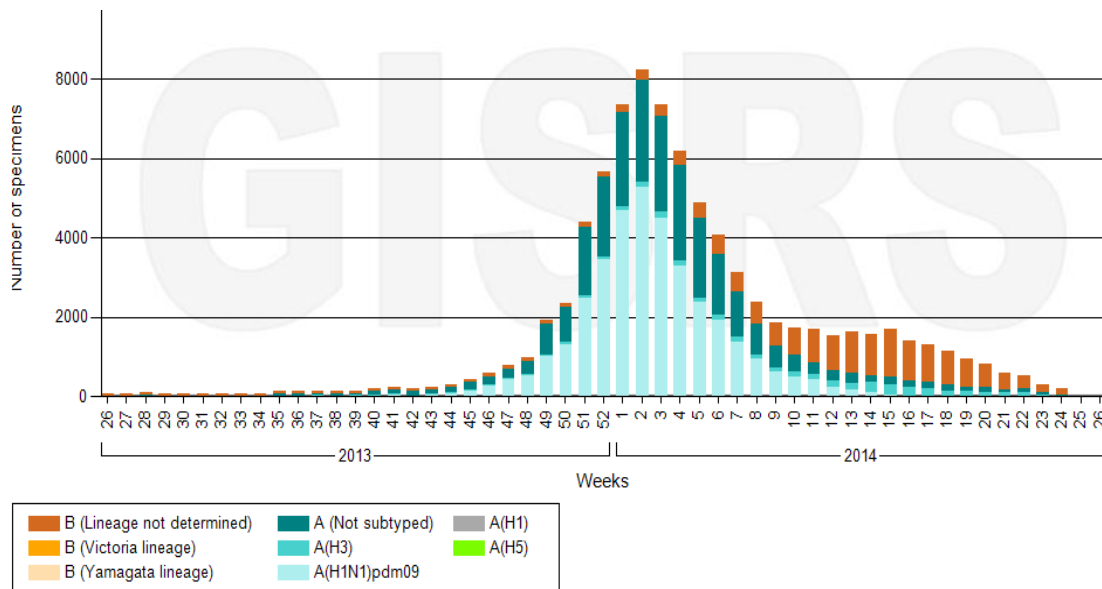
Note: Global epidemiology and surveillance updates are periodically collected from data reported by National authorities or organizations responsible for reporting this data. For further information on specific influenza virus activity in the world and scientific literature for practitioners and other professionals in the field, please visit the links provided at the end of this document.

## Countries in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere

### North America

In North America, influenza activity was at inter-seasonal levels in all countries with low circulation of influenza B virus within expected levels for this time of year.

#### Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in the North America Transmission Zone

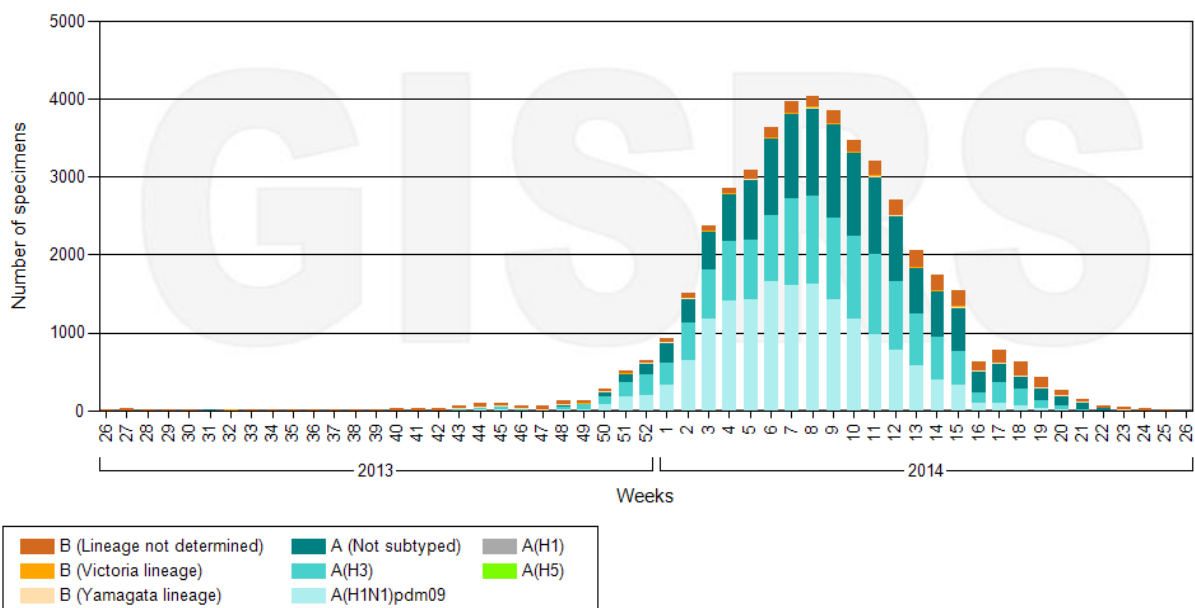


Data source: FluNet ([www.who.int/flu-net](http://www.who.int/flu-net)). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)  
Data generated on 26/06/2014

### Europe

In Europe, overall influenza activity is at inter-seasonal level. The number of severe acute respiratory infections (SARI)-hospitalizations and proportion of influenza positive SARI specimens dropped further.

#### Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in the EURO region



Data source: FluNet ([www.who.int/fluinet](http://www.who.int/fluinet)). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)  
Data generated on 26/06/2014

### ***Northern Africa and the Western and Central Asia region***

In Northern Africa and Central and Western Asia influenza activity remained low in the majority of countries. In Egypt and Tunisia the proportion of influenza positive specimens was higher than the previous weeks with most cases identified as influenza B viruses, although the number of samples tested were not high. Bahrain reported stable influenza activity mainly due to a low circulation of influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 viruses in recent weeks.

The Islamic Republic of Iran continued to report an increase in influenza detections (mainly influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and influenza B). Oman reported influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus detections since March.

### ***Eastern Asia***

In the eastern Asian region, influenza activity continued to decline. Influenza A(H3N2) and B were the main viruses in circulation, with low levels of A(H1N1)pdm09 also detected.

In Mongolia, ILI activity showed an overall decreasing trend. In northern China, the proportion of influenza positive specimens remained low with most cases identified as A(H3N2) and influenza B viruses. In southern China ILI rates slightly increased and were higher than expected for this time of the year, with mainly influenza A(H3N2) detections. In Japan and the Republic of Korea, influenza activity reached inter-seasonal levels.

## **Countries in the tropical zone**

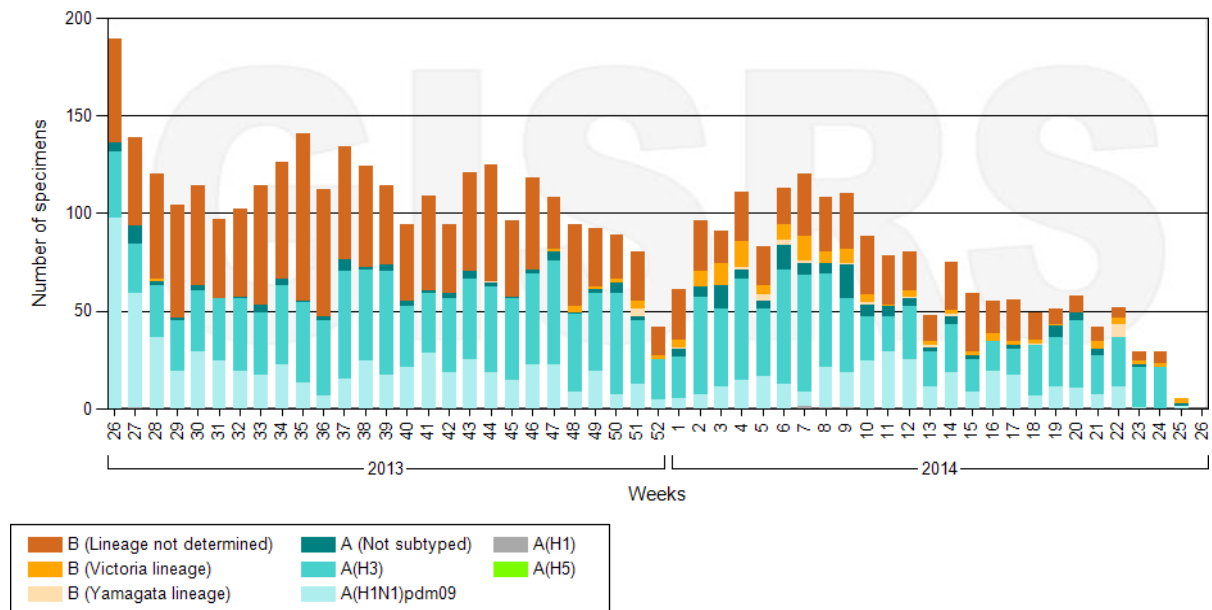
### ***Tropical countries of the Americas/Central America and the Caribbean***

The overall influenza activity in the Caribbean, Central America, and tropical areas of South America was at low levels. The tropical areas of Bolivia, Brazil and the Dominican Republic, reported a few detections of influenza mainly due to influenza A(H3N2) viruses.

### ***Central African tropical region***

In Africa, overall influenza activity reported from western, middle, and eastern Africa was at low levels. However, Cameroon reported an increase in influenza activity with mainly influenza A(H3N2) virus detections.

## Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in the African region



Data source: FluNet ([www.who.int/flu-net](http://www.who.int/flu-net)). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)  
Data generated on 26/06/2014

### Tropical Asia

In most southern Asian and South-Eastern Asian countries, activity declined or remained low.

In Lao People's Democratic republic, Thailand and Viet Nam influenza activity decreased. Singapore reported higher numbers of influenza positive specimens (with mainly influenza B virus), but with an acute respiratory infection activity level below baseline levels.

### Countries in the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere

In the southern hemisphere, influenza activity remained relatively low, with sporadic detections of influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, A(H3N2) and influenza B virus.

In Chile, influenza continued to increase with ILI levels also rising within the expected levels. Among the positive influenza specimens the majority were influenza A(H3N2).

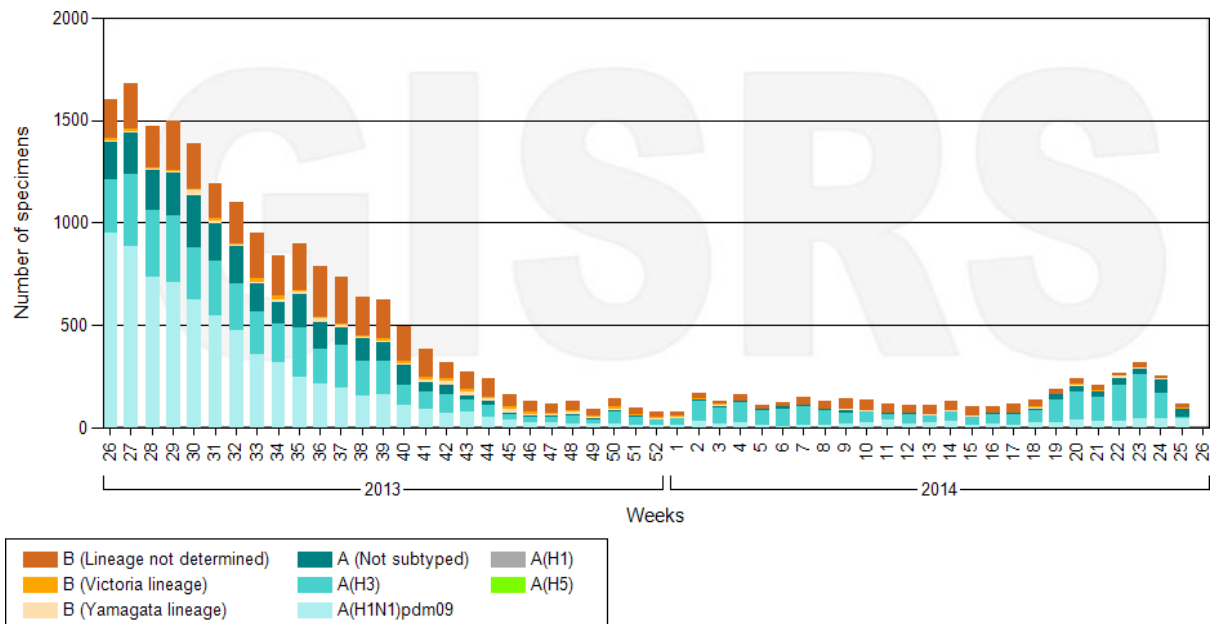
In Paraguay, the ILI consultation rate increased above the expected levels for this time of the year. The influenza positive specimens were all influenza B.

In South Africa, although there was some influenza activity mainly due to influenza A(H3N2), detections were still sporadic.

Both Australia and New Zealand had low influenza activity and were below their seasonal thresholds. Nationally, influenza activity levels were stable in Australia, while in New Zealand activity showed an increase with influenza A as the predominant influenza virus type. Of those subtyped the majority were influenza A(H1N1)pdm09.

In the Pacific Islands, ILI activity was variable with a decreasing trend observed in several islands. However, in Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam and Tuvalu, ILI activity increased.

### Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in the Southern Hemisphere



Data source: FluNet ([www.who.int/fluNet](http://www.who.int/fluNet)). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)  
Data generated on 26/06/2014

## Source of data

The Global Influenza Programme monitors influenza activity worldwide and publishes an update every two weeks.

The updates are based on available epidemiological and virological data sources, including FluNet (reported by the WHO Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System) and influenza reports from WHO Regional Offices and Member States. Completeness can vary among updates due to availability and quality of data available at the time when the update is developed.

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## Link to web pages

Influenza reports from WHO Regional Offices:

AMRO:[http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=3352&Itemid=2469&lang=en](http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3352&Itemid=2469&lang=en)

EURO:<http://www.euroflu.org/>

WPRO:[http://www.wpro.who.int/emerging\\_diseases/Influenza/](http://www.wpro.who.int/emerging_diseases/Influenza/)

Epidemiological Influenza updates:

[http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\\_monitoring/updates/latest\\_update\\_GIP\\_surveillance](http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance)

Epidemiological Influenza updates archives 2012:

[http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\\_monitoring/updates/GIP\\_surveillance\\_2012\\_archives](http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/GIP_surveillance_2012_archives)

Virological surveillance updates :

[http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs\\_laboratory/updates/summaryreport](http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/updates/summaryreport)

Virological surveillance updates archives :

[http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs\\_laboratory/updates/](http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/updates/)

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## Contact

[fluupdate@who.int](mailto:fluupdate@who.int)