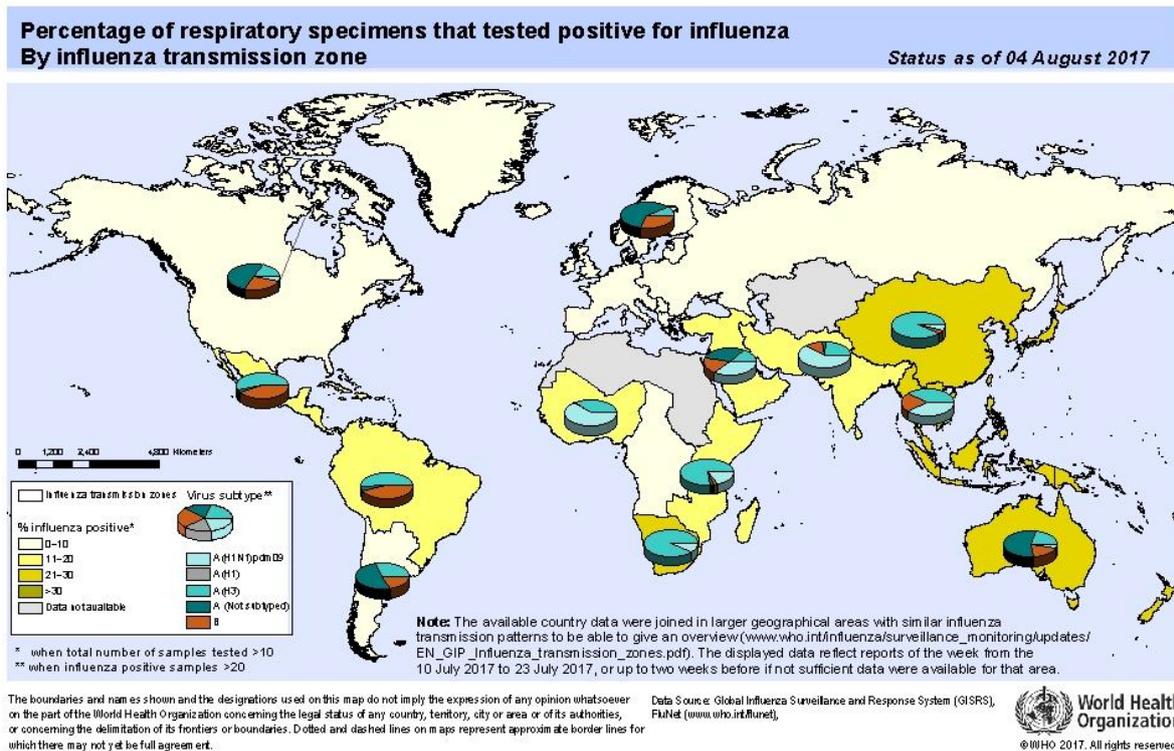


Influenza Update N° 295

7 August 2017, based on data up to 23 July, 2017

Information in this report is categorized by influenza transmission zones, which are geographical groups of countries, areas or territories with similar influenza transmission patterns. For more information on influenza transmission zones, see: www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/EN_GIP_Influenza_transmission_zones.pdf

Summary



- In the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere and in some countries of South East Asia, high levels of influenza activity continued to be reported. In Central America and the Caribbean increased influenza activity was reported in a few countries. Influenza activity in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere was reported at low levels. Worldwide, influenza A(H3N2) viruses are predominating.
- National Influenza Centres (NICs) and other national influenza laboratories from 78 countries, areas or territories reported data to FluNet for the time period from 10 July 2017 to 23 July 2017 (data as of 2017-08-04 04:25:11 UTC). The WHO GISRS laboratories tested more than 58087 specimens during that time period. 9972 were positive for influenza viruses, of which 9149 (91.7%) were typed as influenza A and 823 (8.3%) as influenza B. Of the sub-typed influenza A viruses, 653 (8%) were influenza A (H1N1)pdm09 and 7505 (92%) were influenza A (H3N2). Of the characterized B viruses, 173 (58.4%) belonged to the B-Yamagata lineage and 123 (41.6%) to the B-Victoria lineage.

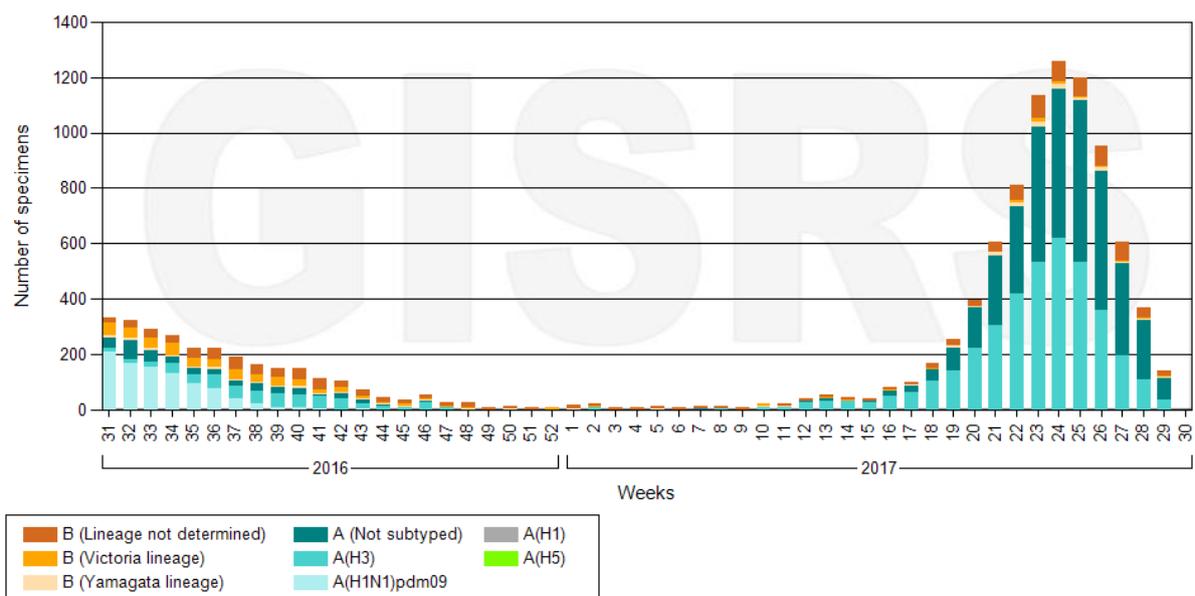
For more detailed information, see the Influenza reports from WHO Regional Offices:

- WHO Region of the Americas (AMRO): www.paho.org/influenzareports
- WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMRO): www.emro.who.int/surveillance-forecasting-response/surveillance-news/
- WHO European Region (EURO): www.flunewseurope.org/
- WHO Western Pacific Region (WPRO): www.wpro.who.int/emerging_diseases/Influenza/en/

Countries in the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere

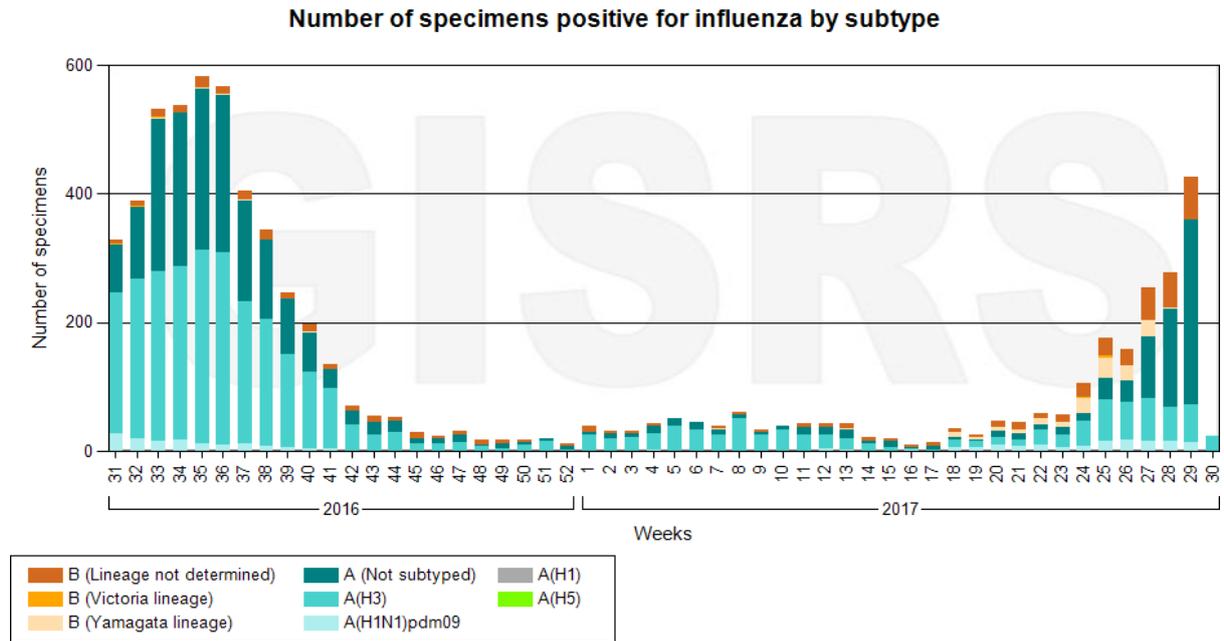
- In the temperate zone of the Southern Hemisphere, influenza activity increased or peaked in most countries in recent weeks.
- In temperate South America, influenza activity, severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) and influenza like illness (ILI) indicators decreased in the countries reporting data. Influenza A(H3N2) viruses predominated in the region with some B virus activity reported as well.
- In Oceania, seasonal influenza activity continued to increase, with influenza A(H3N2) and B viruses present in the region. In Australia, influenza activity followed the seasonal pattern. ILI and SARI indicators continued to increase in New Zealand, with ILI remaining just above the seasonal threshold level. Influenza activity continued also to increase with influenza A(H3N2) and B Yamagata lineage viruses predominantly detected. Other respiratory virus activity decreased.
- In Southern Africa, seasonal activity appeared to decrease after peaking in week 26, with influenza A(H3N2) being the most detected viruses.

Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in Temperate South America



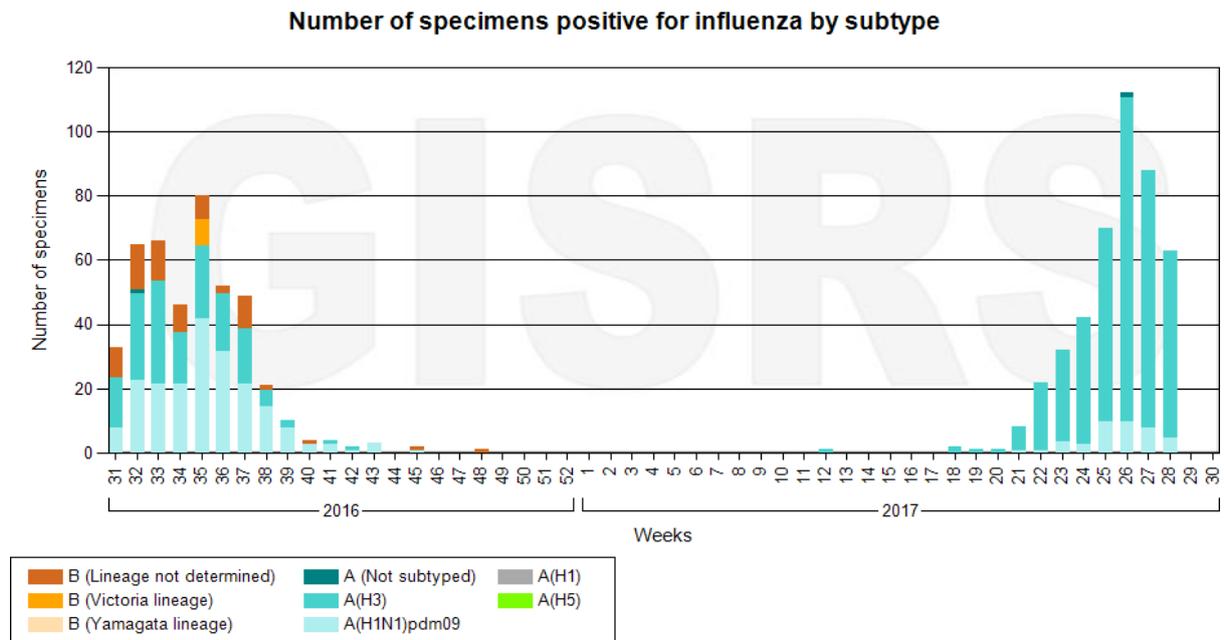
Data source: FluNet (www.who.int/flunet). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)
Data generated on 03/08/17

Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in Oceania, Melanesia and Polynesia



Data source: FluNet (www.who.int/fluinet). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)
Data generated on 03/08/17

Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in Southern Africa



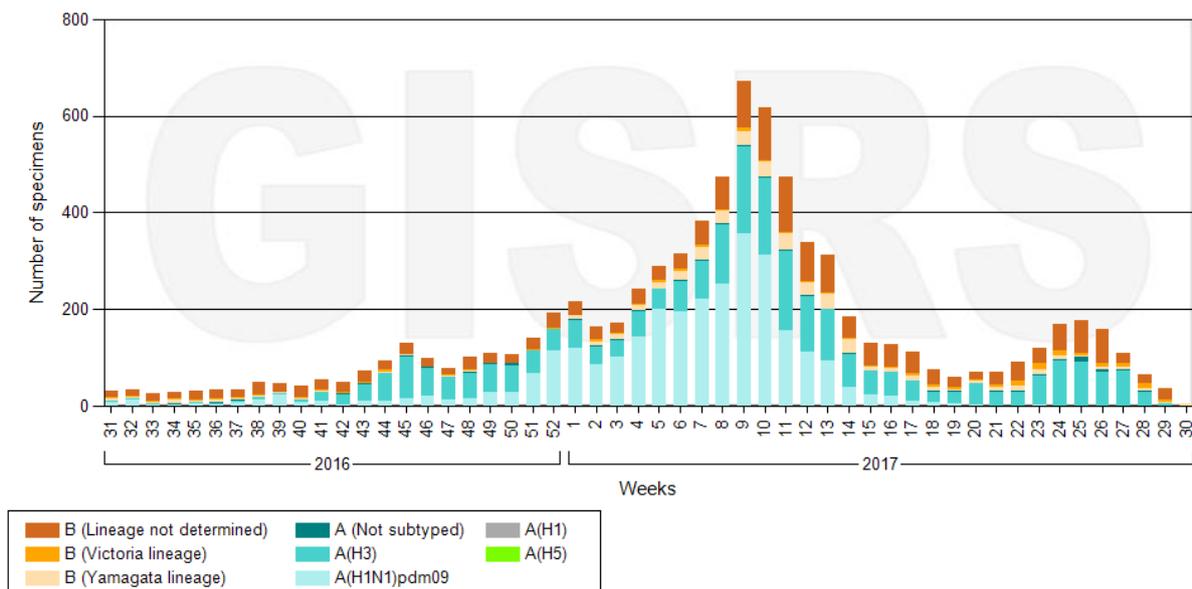
Data source: FluNet (www.who.int/fluinet). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)
Data generated on 03/08/17

Countries in the tropical zone

Tropical countries of Central America, the Caribbean and South America

- In the Caribbean and Central American countries, respiratory virus activity remained generally low, and increased in some countries. SARI and ILI indicators were low in general. In Cuba, influenza detections of mainly A(H3N2) viruses increased and Jamaica reported a small number of influenza B virus detections. In Suriname, the proportion of SARI cases among all hospitalizations increased; no influenza activity was reported but RSV activity increased. In Nicaragua, detections of influenza B viruses increased over the past few weeks. Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guatemala reported decreased influenza activity and increased RSV detections. In El Salvador, the proportion of SARI cases among all hospitalizations and pneumonia cases increased.
- In tropical South America, influenza activity remained low.

Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in Central America and the Caribbean



Data source: FluNet (www.who.int/fluinet). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)
Data generated on 03/08/17

African region

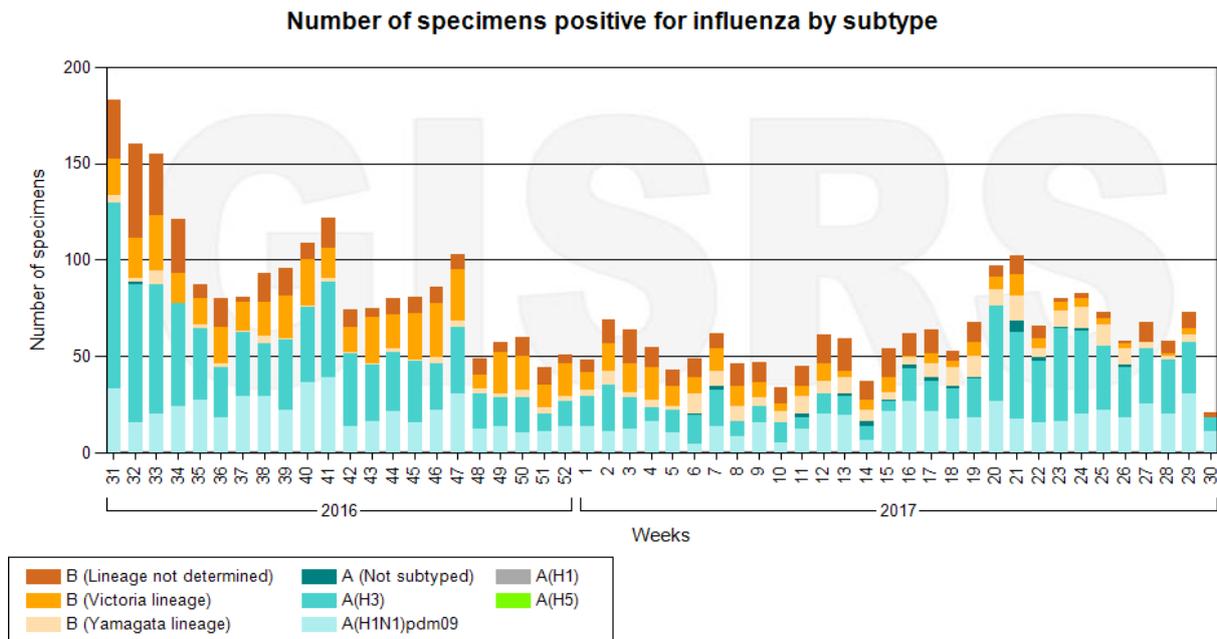
- In Western Africa, low influenza activity was reported in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Togo, with influenza A(H3N2) and A(H1N1)pdm09 viruses co-circulating in the region. In Eastern Africa, few influenza A(H3N2) virus detections were reported.

Tropical Asia

- In Southern Asia, low levels of influenza activity continued to be reported, with influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus predominant. High levels of ILI continued to be reported in Bhutan with few influenza detections.
- In South East Asia, influenza activity continued to be reported, with all seasonal influenza subtypes present in the region. In Singapore, acute respiratory infection (ARI) and ILI appeared to increase while influenza detections appeared to decrease in recent weeks.

Influenza activity continued to be reported in the Philippines and Thailand. High levels of ILI and influenza activity continued to be reported in Southern China and in Hong Kong, SAR, China, with detections of predominantly influenza A(H3N2) viruses. High SARI activity was also reported in Hong Kong, SAR, China. Increased influenza detections with mainly influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 were reported from Myanmar.

Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in South East Asia



Data source: FluNet (www.who.int/fluNet). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)
Data generated on 03/08/17

Countries in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere

North America

- In North America, little to no influenza activity was reported.

Europe

- In Europe, little to no influenza activity was reported.

Northern Africa

- In Northern Africa, no influenza virus detections were reported.

Western Asia

- In Western Asia, a few influenza virus detections were reported in recent weeks.

Central Asia

- In Central Asia, there were no updated reports on virus detections or respiratory illness indicators.

Eastern Asia

- In East Asia, influenza activity remained low.

Sources 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) FluID (epidemiological data reported by national focal points) 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.

Epidemiological Influenza updates:

http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance

Epidemiological Influenza updates archives 2015:

http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/GIP_surveillance_2015_archives

Virological surveillance updates:

http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/updates/summaryreport

Virological surveillance updates archives:

http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/updates/

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