Influenza Update N° 292
26 June 2017, based on data up to 11 June, 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, influenza activity continued to increase and was above seasonal threshold levels in South America but remained low in general in Oceania. Influenza activity in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere continued to decrease. Worldwide, influenza A(H3N2) and B viruses co-circulated.

- National Influenza Centres (NICs) and other national influenza laboratories from 84 countries, areas or territories reported data to FluNet for the time period from 29 May 2017 to 11 June 2017 (data as of 2017-06-23 08:49:26 UTC). The WHO GISRS laboratories tested more than 61275 specimens during that time period. 4815 were positive for influenza viruses, of which 3286 (68.2%) were typed as influenza A and 1529 (31.8%) as influenza B. Of the sub-typed influenza A viruses, 757 (31.5%) were influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and 1648 (68.5%) were influenza A(H3N2). Of the characterized B viruses, 134 (37.1%) belonged to the B-Yamagata lineage and 227 (62.9%) 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](http://www.paho.org/influenzareports)
- WHO European Region (EURO): [www.flunewseurope.org/](http://www.flunewseurope.org/)
- WHO Western Pacific Region (WPRO): [www.wpro.who.int/emerging_diseases/Influenza/en/](http://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 slightly increased in recent weeks.
- In temperate South America, influenza like illness (ILI) levels increased over the prior weeks and remained above the seasonal threshold in Chile and Paraguay. Influenza activity also continued to increase in Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, with influenza A(H3N2) viruses predominant.
- In Southern Africa, the 2017 influenza season has started with influenza activity on the rise, with influenza A(H3N2) being the most detected subtype.
- In Oceania, influenza activity in Australia and New Zealand increased from baseline to average levels, with both influenza A and B co-circulating. Nevertheless, influenza detection rates remain low and at inter-seasonal levels in all territories.

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

![Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype](image)

Data source: FluNet ([www.who.int/fluonet](http://www.who.int/fluonet)). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)

Data generated on 22/06/17
Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in Oceania

Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype

Data source: FluNet (www.who.int/flunet). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)
Data generated on 22/06/17

Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in Southern Africa

Data source: FluNet (www.who.int/flunet). Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)
Data generated on 22/06/17
Countries in the tropical zone

Tropical countries of Central America, the Caribbean and South America

- In the Caribbean and Central America countries, respiratory virus activity remained low.
- In tropical South America, influenza activity remained low in most of the region, with influenza A(H3N2) and B viruses predominating. In Brazil, influenza activity increased slightly but still remained below the alert threshold, with influenza A(H3N2) predominant. Influenza activity also slightly increased in Ecuador but with few overall detections, influenza B predominating.

African region

- In Western Africa, few influenza detections were reported in Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Mali and Togo with all seasonal influenza subtypes co-circulating in the region. In Eastern Africa, increased influenza activity was reported in Madagascar and the Republic of Mauritius, with influenza A(H3N2) predominant.
- ILI and severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) levels remain low in Ghana and Mali, as reported to FluID.

Tropical Asia

- In Southern Asia, low levels of influenza activity continue to be reported. In Bhutan, ILI and SARI levels decreased in recent weeks, with influenza B virus most frequently detected. In India, influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus detections continued to decrease.
- In South East Asia, influenza activity increased slightly in recent weeks, with influenza A(H3N2) predominant. In Singapore, ILI levels and influenza activity continued to be reported with influenza A(H3N2) and B viruses predominant. In Hong Kong SAR, China, ILI levels remained elevated with influenza A(H3N2) virus predominant. Increased influenza activity was reported in Viet Nam in recent weeks, with influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and B viruses predominant.

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 22/06/17
Countries in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere

North America

- In North America, influenza activity continued to decrease overall.

Europe

- In Europe, influenza activity was low in general. In Northern and Eastern Europe, low levels of influenza B virus detections were reported. No influenza virus detections were reported in South West Europe.

Northern Africa

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

Western Asia

- In Western Asia, influenza activity increased slightly in recent weeks. Influenza activity continued to be reported in Oman, with influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and B viruses being the most detected subtypes. In Qatar, influenza activity increased, with influenza A(H3N2) and A(H1N1)pdm09 predominant. Decreasing trends of SARI activity were reported in Armenia and Georgia.

Central Asia

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

Eastern Asia

- In East Asia, influenza activity was low in general, except in China where detections of all seasonal influenza subtypes continued to be reported. In Southern China, influenza activity continued to decrease with A(H1N1)pdm09 and B Victoria lineage viruses predominant. In Northern China, low influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus detections were reported.

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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