

Report No. 4: Week ending 27 May 2018

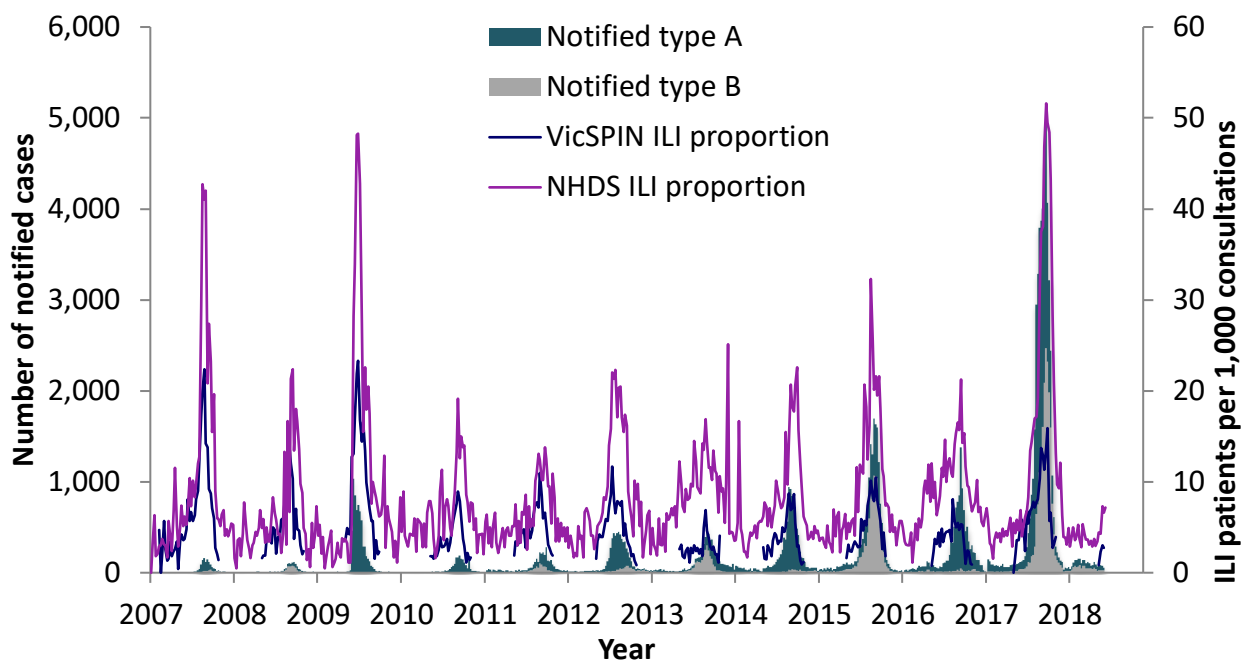
Overview: The 2018 influenza season so far

Influenza-like illness surveillance indicates activity is variable but still within **baseline thresholds**.

The number of notified **laboratory confirmed influenza** cases for the year to 27 May is **higher** than at the same time in 2017. Cases notified year-to-date have been type A (52%) and type B (48%).

Fifteen swabs were received from VicSPIN this week, but **none were positive for influenza**. Three swabs (20%) were positive for picornavirus.

Figure 1. Routinely notified influenza cases and VicSPIN and National Home Doctor Service (NHDS) ILI consultation proportions, Victoria, 2007-2018



National Home Doctor Service (Victoria)

- The ILI proportion for the week was 7.2 ILI cases per 1,000 patients seen (Figure 1), remaining within the baseline activity threshold.

Victorian Sentinel Practice Influenza Network

- The total influenza-like illness (ILI) proportion measured by VicSPIN is within baseline activity thresholds, with 2.7 ILI cases per 1,000 patients seen this week. (Figures 1 & 2).
- Fifteen swabs were received this week, but none were positive for influenza. Three swabs (20%) were positive for picornavirus.

Table 1. Summary of reporting from general practice sentinel sites, week ending 27 May 2018

	Total	Year-to-date
Number (%) of general practitioners notifying	95 (98%)	93 (96%)
Total patients seen	6,651	28,987
Total patients with ILI	19	63
Consultation rate for ILI (per 1,000 patients)	2.7	2.2
Number of specimens received	15	49
Number (%) positive for influenza	0 (0%)	1 (2.0%)

Figure 2. VicSPIN ILI consultation proportions, Victoria, 2018

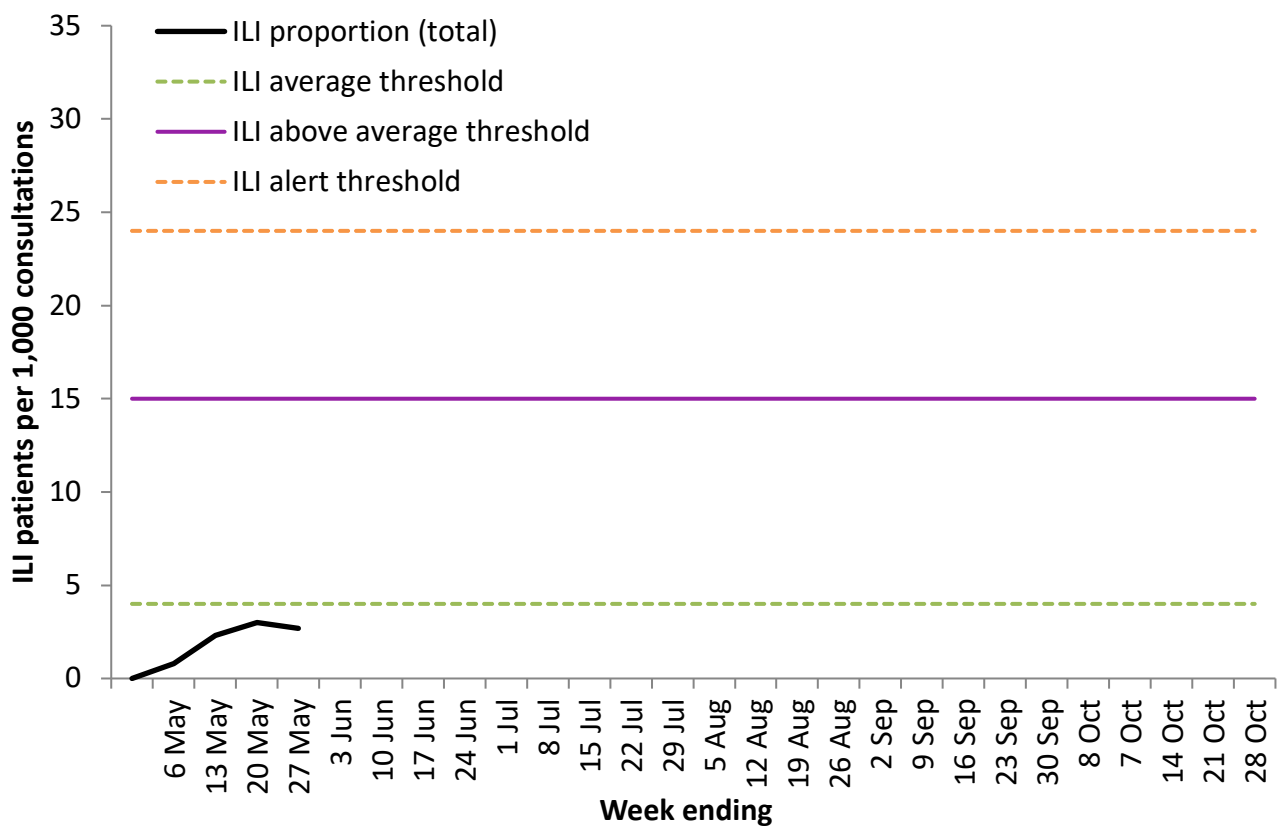
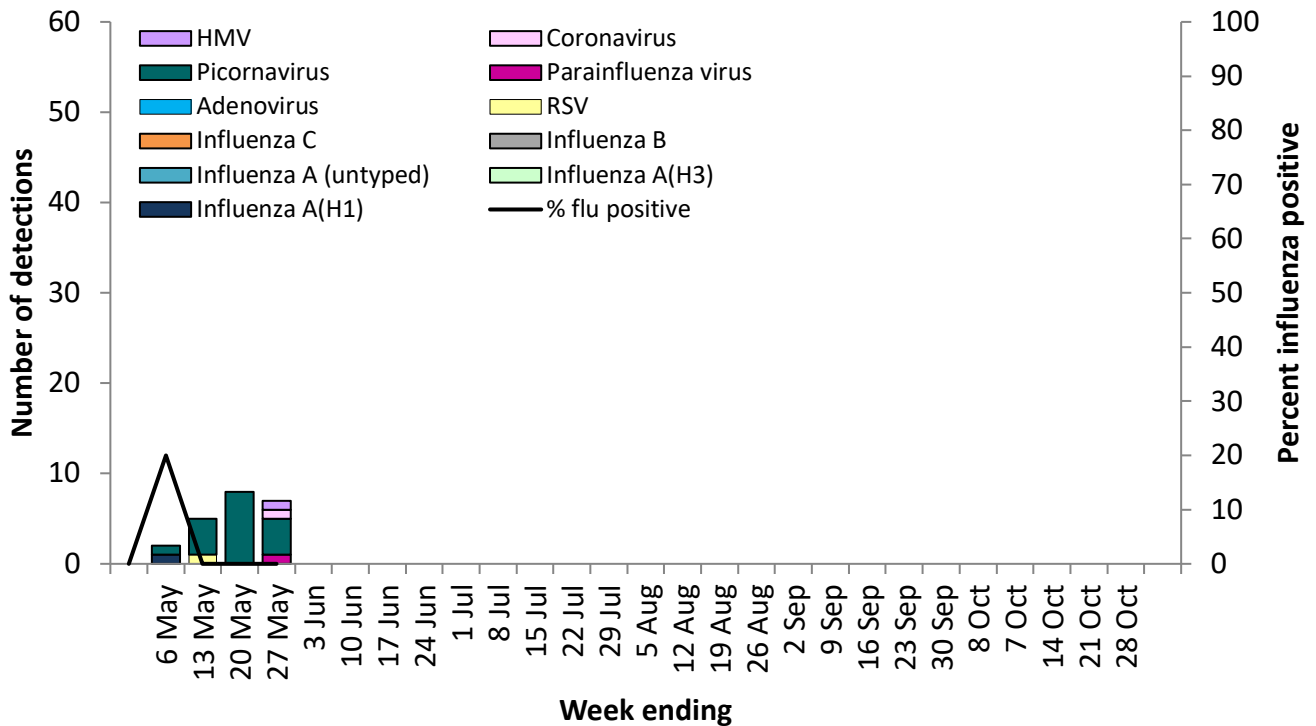


Figure 3. VicSPIN respiratory virus detections and percent influenza positive, Victoria, 2018



Observations from other influenza surveillance systems

Notified cases of laboratory confirmed influenza

- A total of 2,261 cases of laboratory confirmed influenza have been processed so far in 2018 (Figure 1), compared with 1,804 in 2017.
- Cases notified year-to-date have been type A (52%) and type B (48%). Type A cases had a median age of 45 years and type B cases median age 47 years.

World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza

- The strains included in the 2018 quadrivalent influenza vaccine are: A/Michigan/45/2015 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus; A/Singapore/INFIMH-16-0019/2016 (H3N2)-like virus; B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus with the quadrivalent vaccine including B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus as well.
- No Victorian isolates have been strain-typed by the WHO so far in 2018.
- No isolate has shown resistance to Zanamivir, among the 114 Australian isolates tested so far in 2018.