

## Report No. 26: Week ending 28 October 2018

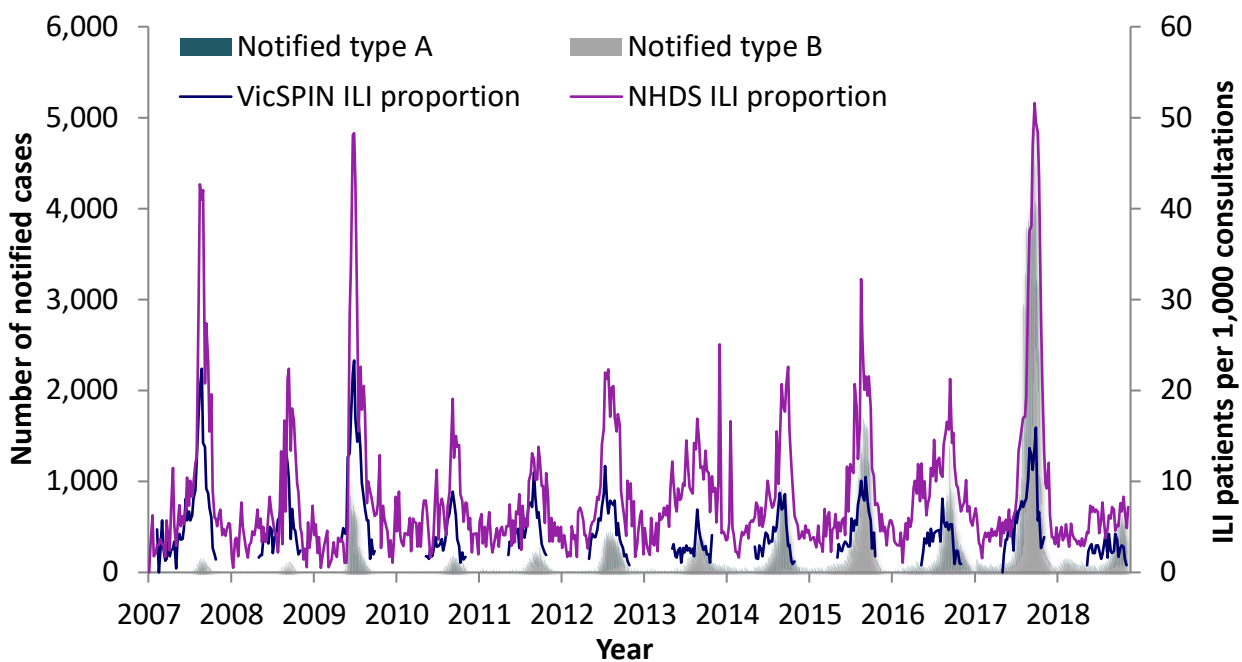
### Overview: The 2018 influenza season so far

Influenza-like illness activity decreased further within the **baseline** threshold.

The number of **notified cases of laboratory confirmed influenza continues to decrease after peaking two weeks ago**. The number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases processed to date in 2018 is **82% lower than for the same time in 2017**.

**Three swabs were received** from VicSPIN this week, **none were positive for influenza**.

*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 increased from 4.9 to 7.2 ILI cases per 1,000 patients seen (Figure 1), but remained in the baseline activity threshold.

### Victorian Sentinel Practice Influenza Network

- The total influenza-like illness (ILI) proportion measured by VicSPIN was below baseline activity levels with 0.8 ILI cases per 1,000 patients seen this week. (Figures 1 & 2).
- Only three swabs were received this week, and none were positive for influenza. Parainfluenza virus was detected from one swab.

Table 1. Summary of reporting from general practice sentinel sites, week ending 28 October 2018

	Week	Year-to-date
Number (%) of general practitioners notifying	88 (91%)	
Total patients seen	6,155	160,567
Total patients with ILI	5	402
Consultation rate for ILI (per 1,000 patients)	0.8	2.5
Number of specimens received	3	301
Number (%) positive for influenza	0 (0%)	35 (12%)

Figure 2. VicSPIN ILI consultation proportions, Victoria, 2018

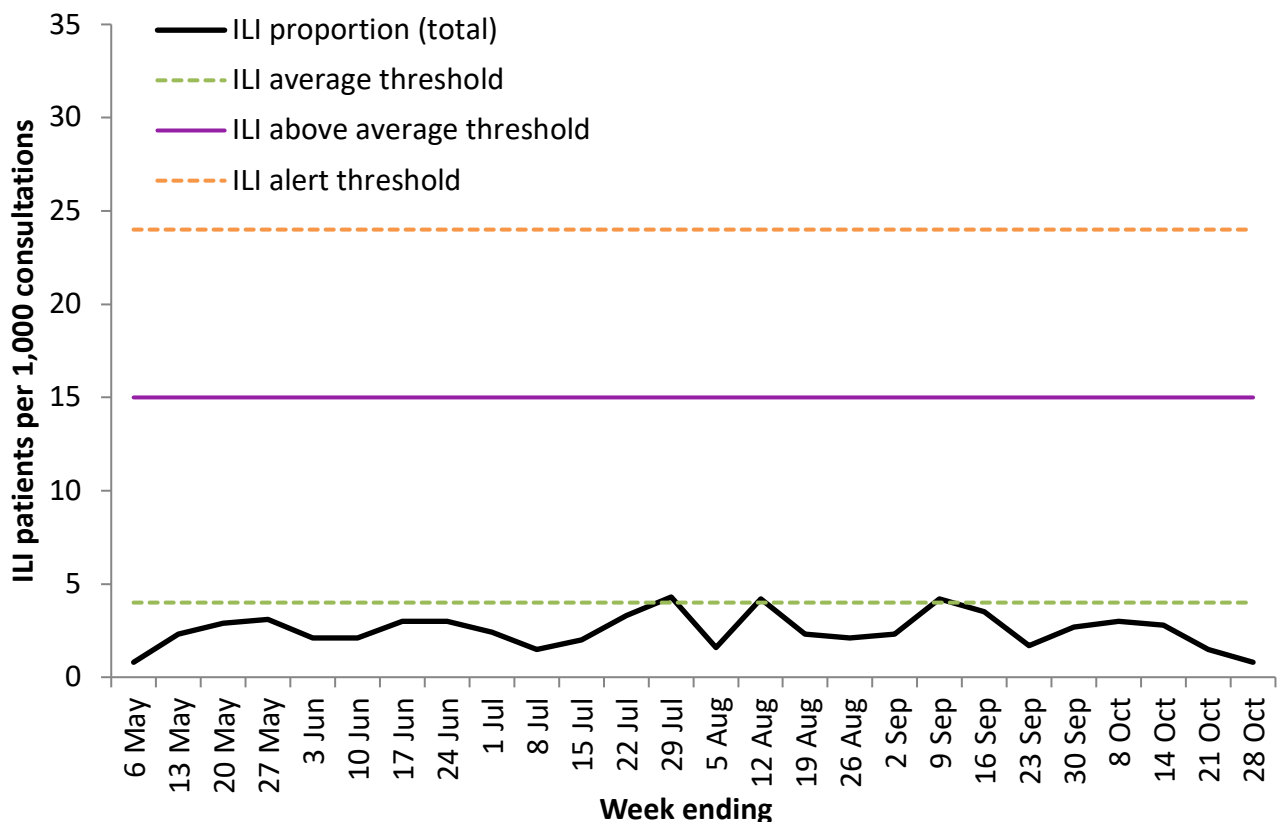
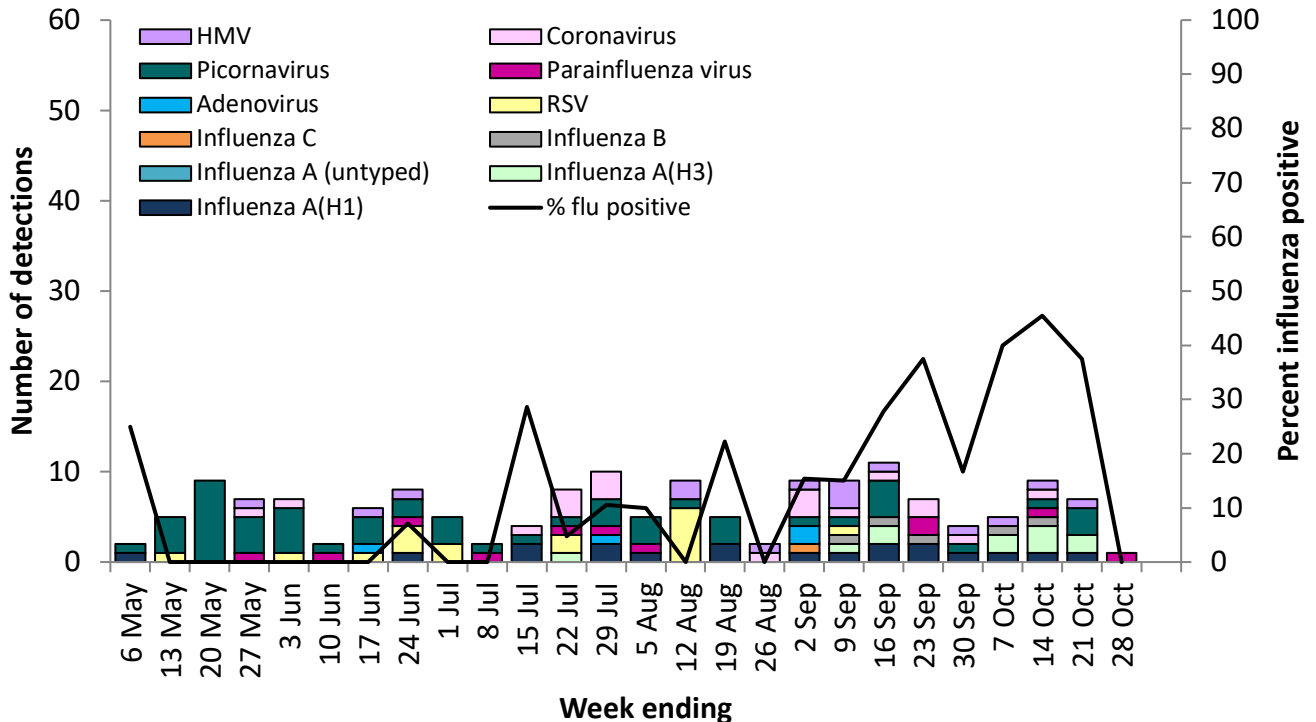


Figure 3. VicSPIN respiratory virus detections and percent influenza positive, Victoria, 2018



## Observations from other influenza surveillance systems

### Notified cases of laboratory confirmed influenza

- The number of notified cases of laboratory confirmed influenza decreased a further 22% from the previous week to 410 cases.
- A total of 8,175 cases of laboratory confirmed influenza have been processed so far in 2018 compared with 46,314 in 2017, an 82% decrease (Figure 1).
- Year to date 74% have been type A (median age: 37 years) and 26% type B (median age: 43 years). In the last four weeks, 85% have been type A (median age: 37 years) and 15% type B (median age: 41 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-Like (H1N1)pdm09 virus; A/Singapore/INFIMH-16-0019/2016-like (H3N2) virus; B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus with the quadrivalent vaccine including B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus as well.
- Twenty-nine Victorian isolates have been strain-typed by the WHO to date: 26 as A/Michigan/45/2015-Like, one as A/Singapore/INFIMH-16-0019/2016-Like, and two as B/Phuket/3073/2013-Like.
- No isolate has shown resistance to zanamivir, among the 687 Australian isolates tested so far in 2018.