

## Report No. 11: Week ending 19 June 2022

### Overview

In 2022, the Victorian Sentinel Practice Influenza Network (**VicSPIN**), will report on influenza, SARS-CoV-2 and other respiratory viruses circulating in the community.

### The 2022 influenza season so far

**Influenza-like illness (ILI)** activity is currently **within the average** threshold for this week with **7 ILIs per 1000 patients seen**.

The number of notified cases of laboratory confirmed influenza is **over 416 times higher** than the number notified by the same time in 2021 but only **30% higher** than the number in 2019 prior to the COVID pandemic. **Most** notified cases have been **type A (99.9%)** (29% of type A cases are aged less than 10 years and 8% aged 65 years and over), **seven cases have been type B (0.03%)** and **five cases have been type A and type B (0.02%)**.

**Three swabs** were received from VicSPIN this week.

**One swab** tested positive for **influenza**.

### The 2022 SARS-CoV-2 case numbers so far

The number of routinely notified COVID-19 cases based on PCR and RAT testing so far in 2022 is **1,850,892 cases**.

The number notified by the same time in 2021 was **310 cases**.

There have been **47,698 cases** reported in the past week.

There have been **21,303,209** PCR tests to date. The total number of rapid antigen tests (RATs) conducted is unknown.

**Zero of the three swabs** received from VicSPIN this week tested positive for **SARS-CoV-2**.

Figure 1. Routinely notified influenza cases and VicSPIN ILI consultation proportions, Victoria, 2015 – 2022

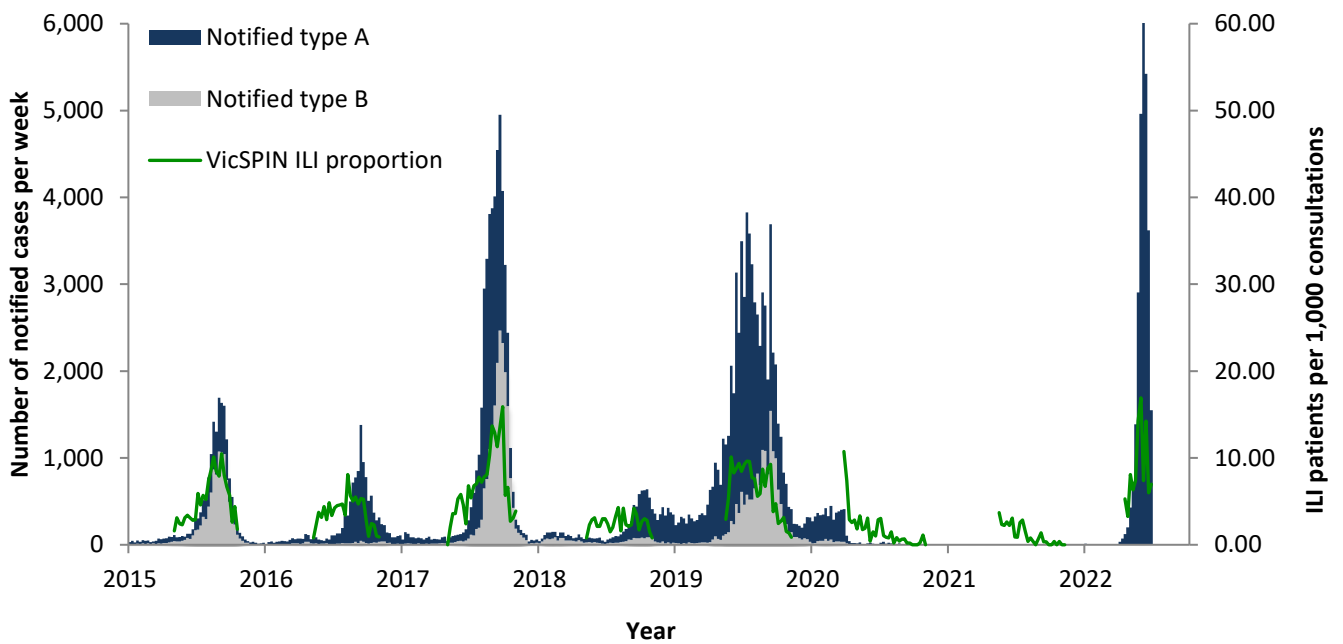
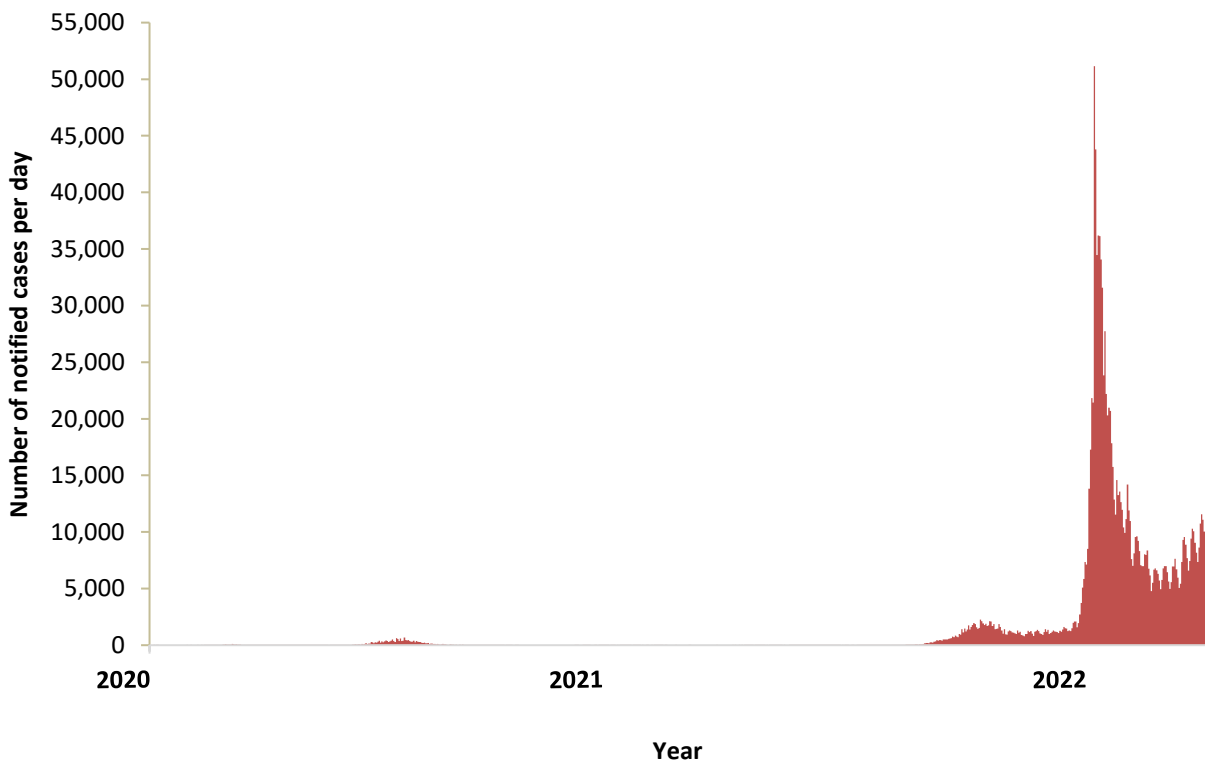


Figure 2. Daily routinely notified SARS-CoV-2 cases based on PCR and RAT testing, Victoria, 2020 – 2022



### Victorian Sentinel Practice Influenza Network

- The ILI proportion measured by VicSPIN for this week is **within** the average activity threshold with **7 ILI cases per 1,000 patients seen**. (Figures 1 & 3, and Table 1)
- **Three swabs** were received from VicSPIN this week. (Figure 4 and Table 1)
- **One swab** tested positive for influenza. (Figure 4 and Table 1)
- **Zero swabs** tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. (Figure 4 and Table 1)

Table 1. Summary of reporting from general practice sentinel sites, week ending 19 June 2022.\*

	Week	Year-to-date
Number (%) of general practitioners reporting	28 (100%)	
Total patients seen	1,576	18,829
Total patients with ILI	11	165
Consultation rate for ILI (per 1,000 patients)	7.0	8.8
Number of specimens received	3	61
Number (%) positive for influenza	1 (33%)	25 (41%)
Number (%) positive for SARS-CoV-2	0 (0%)	8 (13%)

\* These numbers are subject to change as data are processed and updated.

Figure 3. VicSPIN ILI consultation proportions, Victoria, 2018 – 2022

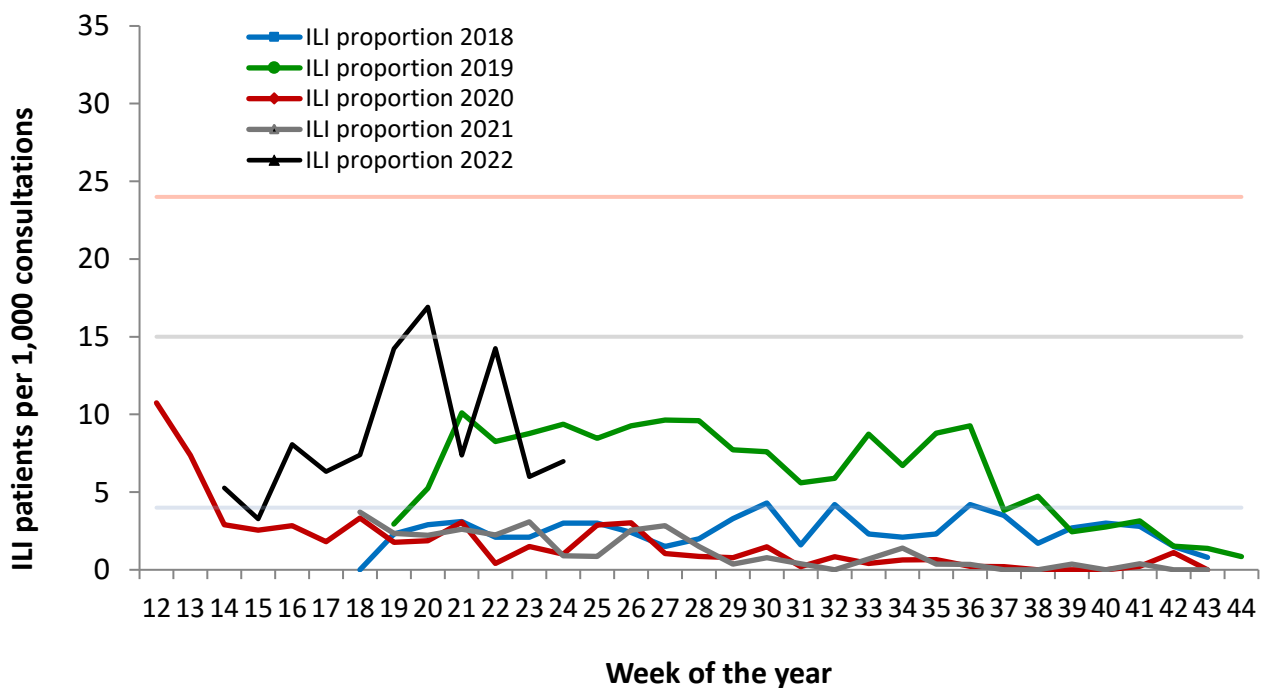
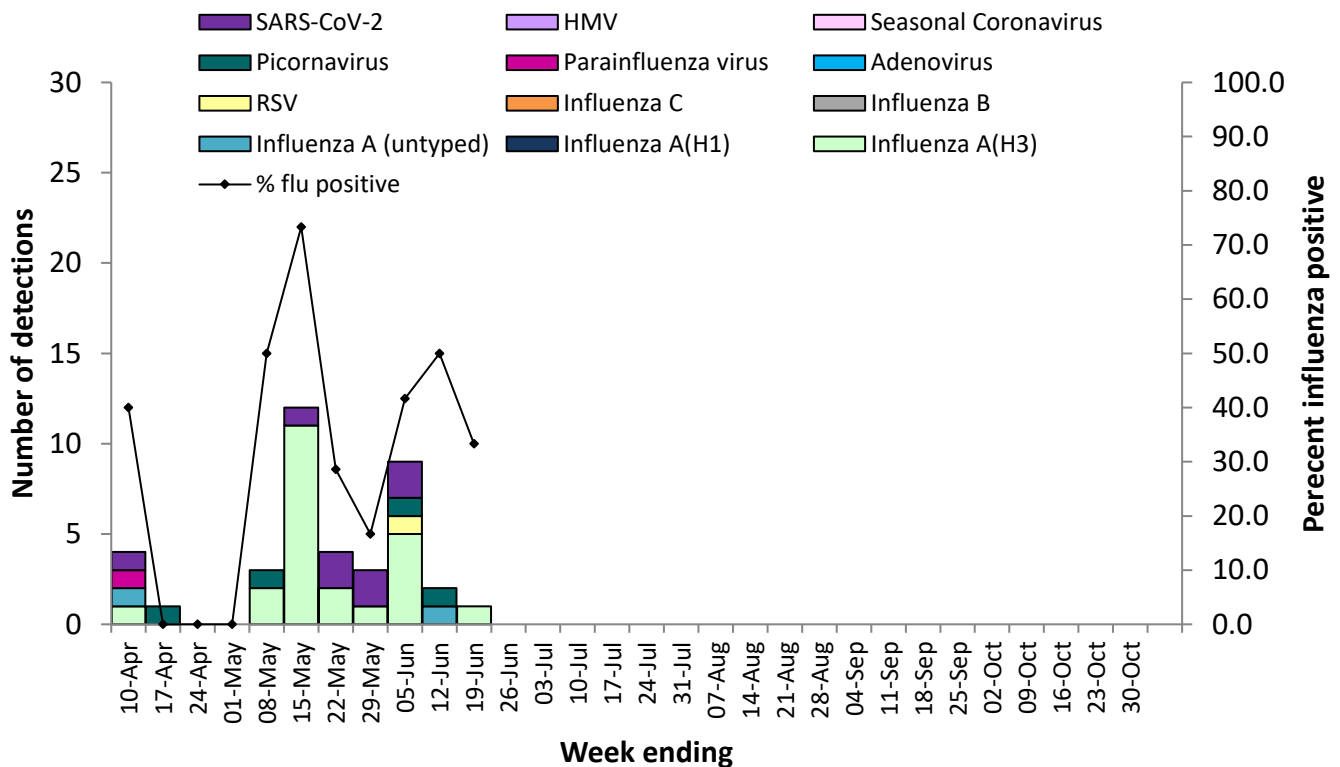


Figure 4. VicSPIN respiratory virus detections and percent influenza positive, Victoria, 2022



### Observations from other influenza and SARS-CoV-2 surveillance systems

#### Notified cases of laboratory confirmed influenza and SARS-CoV-2

- The number of notified cases of laboratory confirmed influenza entered so far for this week is 1,555 (Table 2).
- A total of 27,487 cases of laboratory confirmed influenza have been processed so far in 2022, over 416-fold increase on the number notified by the same time in 2021 but only 30% higher than in 2019, prior to the COVID pandemic (Figure 1 and Table 2).
- Year to date, 99.9% of notified cases have been type A (29% of Type A cases are aged less than 10 years and 8% aged 65 years and over), seven cases (0.03%) have been type B and five cases (0.02%) have been type A and B.
- The number of total SARS-CoV-2 cases for this week is 47,698 (Table 2).
- A total of 1,850,892 probable and confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases have been notified so far in 2022 compared with 310 for the same in 2021 (Table 2)
- There have been 21,303,209 PCR tests to date. The total number of rapid antigen tests (RATs) conducted is unknown
- These numbers are subject to change as data are processed and uploaded.

Table 2. Summary of notified influenza and SARS-CoV-2 cases, week ending 19 June 2022.

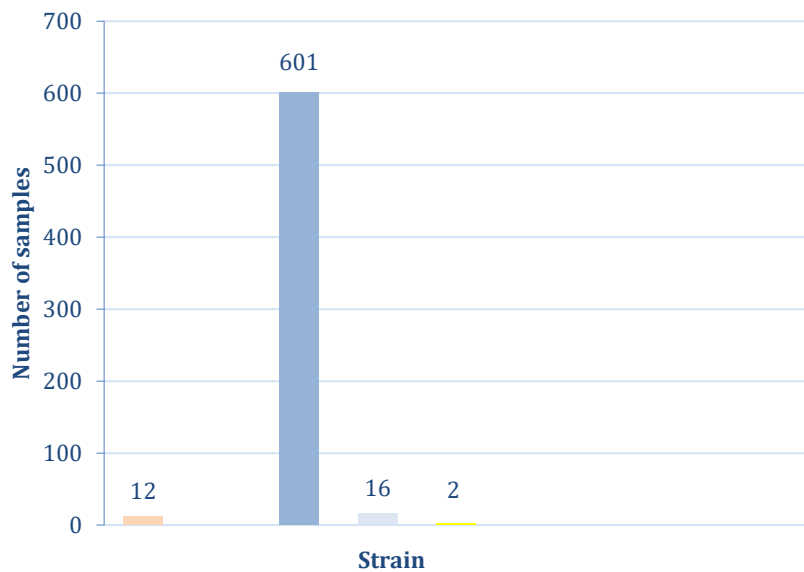
	Week	2022 Year-to-date	2021 Year-to-date	2019 Year-to-date
Notified influenza cases	1,555	27,487	66	20,838
Notified SARS-CoV-2 cases	47,698	1,850,892	310	N/A

**World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza**

- The strains included in the 2022 egg-based Southern Hemisphere seasonal influenza quadrivalent vaccines are: A/Victoria/2570/2019 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus, A/Darwin/9/2021 (H3N2)-like virus, B/Austria/1359417/2021-like (B/Victoria lineage) virus and B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (B/Yamagata lineage) virus. ]
- The strains included in the 2022 cell-based Southern Hemisphere seasonal influenza quadrivalent vaccines are: A/Wisconsin/588/2019 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus, A/Darwin/9/2021 (H3N2)-like virus, B/Austria/1359417/2021-like (B/Victoria lineage) virus and B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (B/Yamagata lineage) virus.
- A total of 629 Victorian isolates has been strain-typed by the WHO to date. (Fig. 5)

*Figure 5. Victorian influenza isolates typed by haemagglutination inhibition assay, samples collected year-to-date, 2022.*

- STRAIN A H1PDM09
- A/Victoria/2570/2019-Like
- A/Victoria/2570/2019-Low Reactor
- STRAIN A H3
- A/Darwin/726/2019-Like
- A/Darwin/726/2019-Low Reactor
- Insufficient titre for HI\*
- STRAIN B VICTORIA
- B/Austria/1359417/2021-Like
- B/Austria/1359417/2021-Low Reactor
- STRAIN B YAMAGATA
- B/Phuket/3073/2013-Like
- B/Phuket/3073/2013-Low Reactor



\* Insufficient titre for HI means viruses were unable to be characterised in the HI assay.

- N.B. A/Darwin/6/2019 is the cell equivalent of A/Darwin/9/2021 - H3N2 vaccine strain.
- No isolates have shown resistance to zanamivir, however two isolates have shown resistance to oseltamivir, among the 800 Australian isolates tested so far in 2022.