



WEEK ENDING 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014

## KEY POINTS

### INFLUENZA AND INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESSES (ILI)

**Summary:** Non-influenza virus activity increased this week, particularly respiratory syncytial virus, but influenza activity remains low.

- ILI presentations to sentinel general practitioners (GPs) and influenza notifications remain low
- ILI presentations to emergency departments (EDs) increased this week; hospital admissions for influenza remain low.
- The majority of influenza viruses subtyped in the past week were influenza A/H1N1, but influenza A/H3N2 and influenza B viruses are also circulating.
- Detections of non-influenza respiratory viruses increased this week, particularly respiratory syncytial virus.

### GASTROENTERITIS

- Gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel GPs and EDs are within expected levels.

### VARICELLA AND VIRAL RASHES

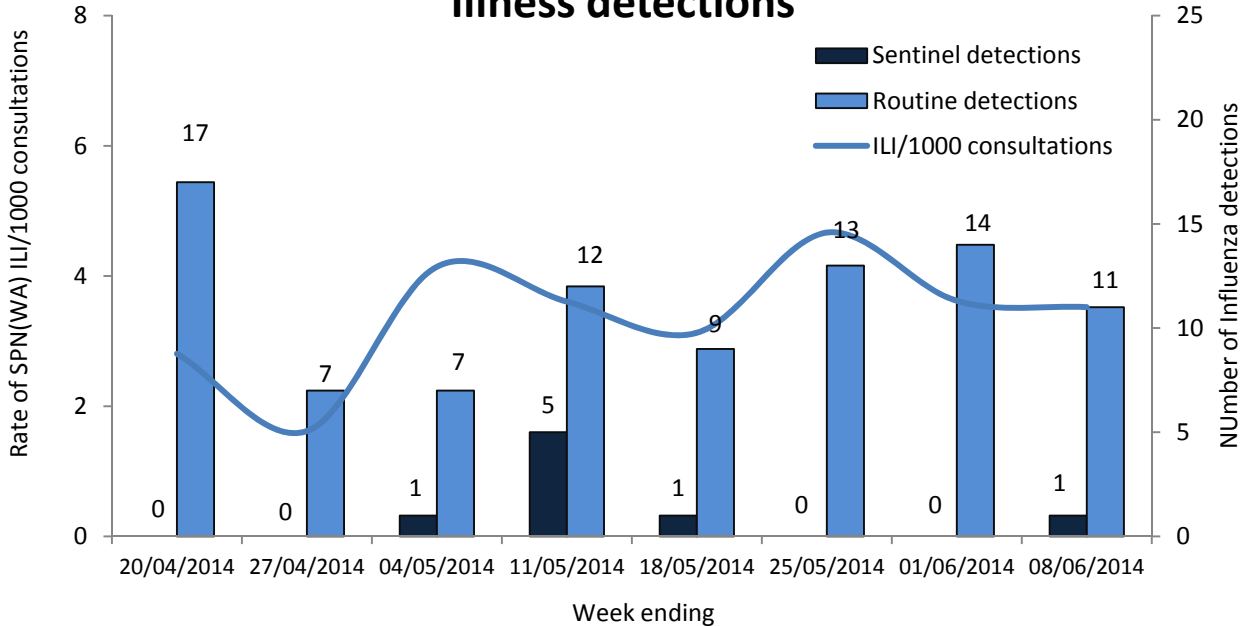
- Shingles presentations to sentinel GPs and EDs remain near expected levels and chickenpox presentations remain low.
- One case of measles was reported in a young adult returning from travel to Bali, Indonesia.
- No cases of rubella or mumps were notified this week.

Current and archived issues of Virus Watch [http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/3/487/3/virus\\_watch.pm](http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/3/487/3/virus_watch.pm)

*Virus Watch is a weekly electronic publication by the Communicable Disease Control Directorate (CDCD) and key collaborators. It provides a brief summary of General Practice and Hospital Emergency Department sentinel surveillance data on influenza-like illness, gastroenteritis and varicella-zoster disease, together with relevant laboratory information, to alert health care workers in WA to important circulating viruses. General Practice data are collected by members of the Sentinel Practitioners Network of Western Australia - SPN(WA). Emergency Department data are provided by the Emergency Department Information System (EDIS), which incorporates data from the following hospitals: Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Fremantle Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, King Edward Memorial Hospital, Bunbury Hospital, Armadale Hospital, Joondalup Health Campus, Swan District Hospital and Rockingham General Hospital. Viral laboratory data are obtained from PathWest laboratories at QEII Medical Centre and Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, as well as via notification data sent by all WA laboratories to CDCD, WA Department of Health. All figures and data were accurate at time of publication, but subject to change.*

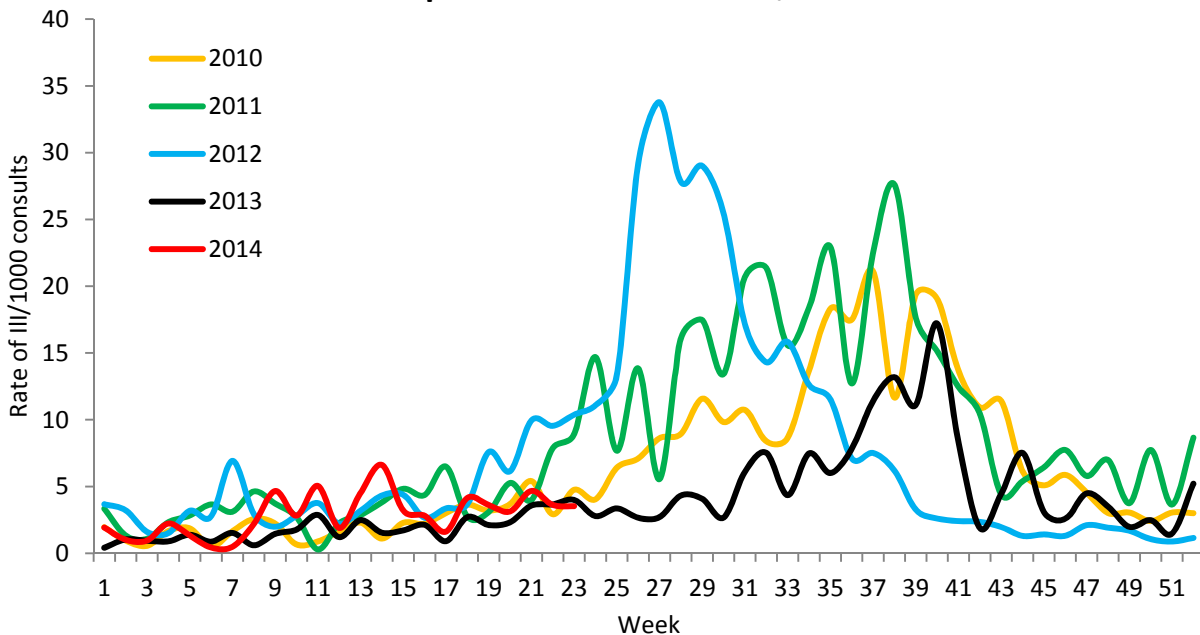
# Influenza and Influenza-like Illnesses

## Sentinel and Routine Influenza and Influenza-like Illness detections



There was little change in the number of ILI presentations to sentinel GP practices this week; one (5%) of the 18 swabs collected at sentinel practices tested positive for influenza virus; of 242 routinely collected specimens, 11 (5%) tested positive.

## Sentinel Practitioner Network of WA - GP surveillance Rate of ILI per 1000 consultations, 2010 - 2014

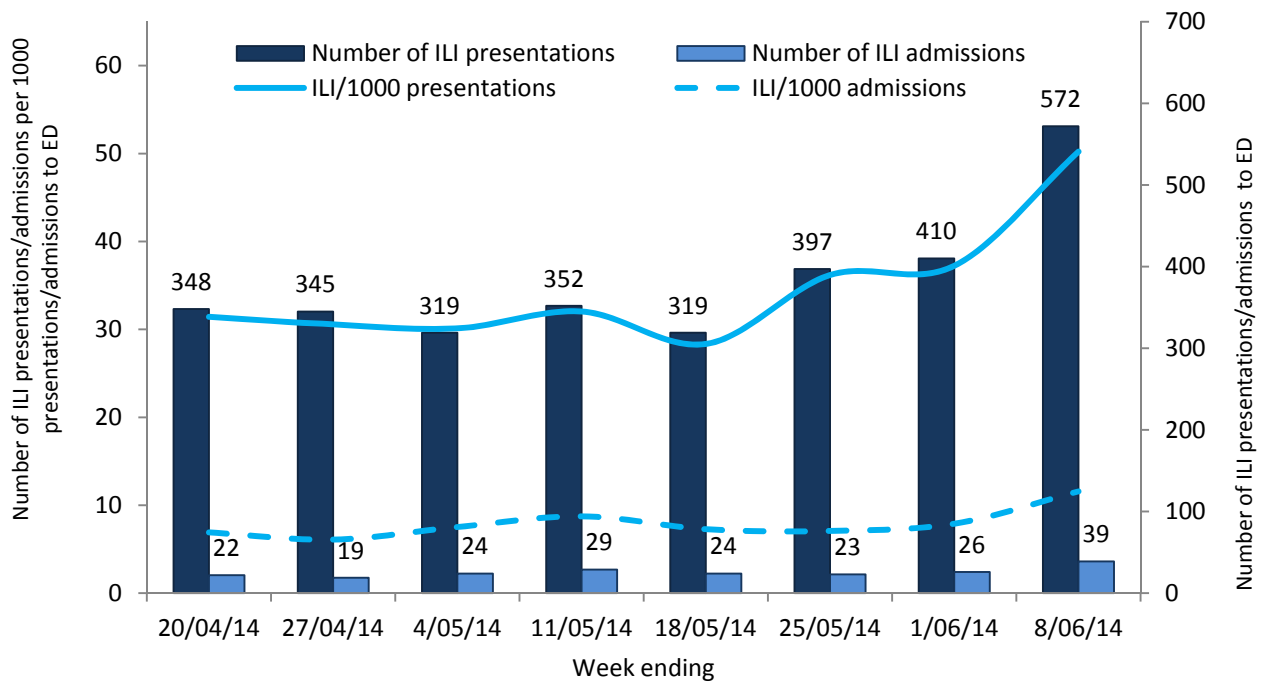


The rate of ILI presentations to SPN(WA) GPs remains near 4 cases per 1000 consultations this week, which is consistent with recent mild seasons.



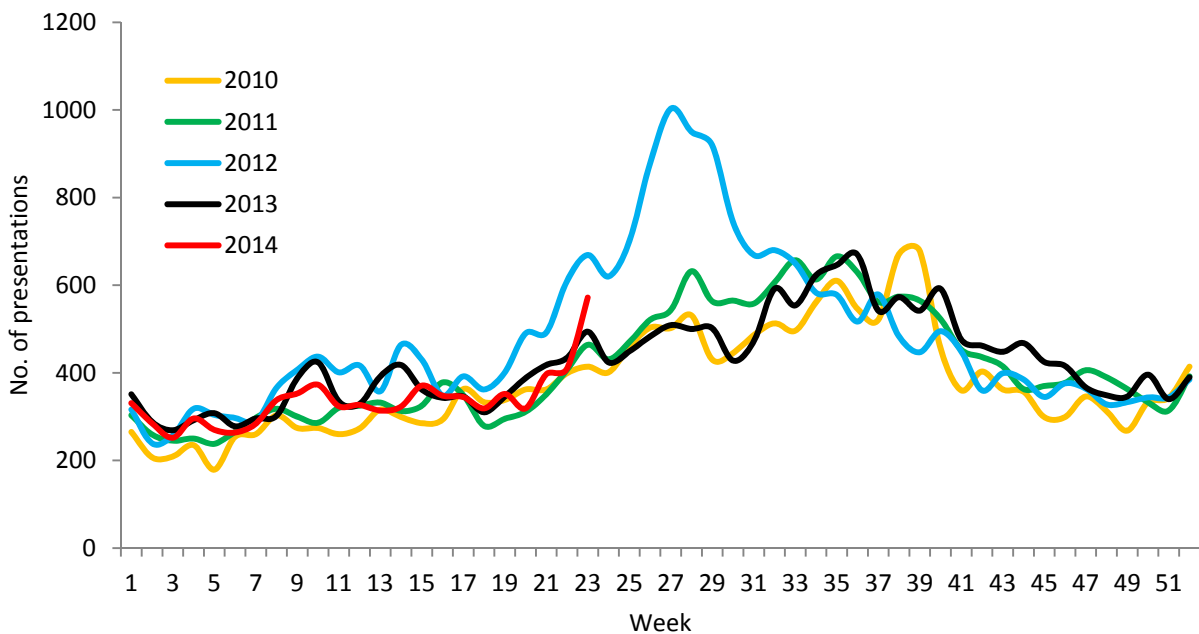
The following is a summary of current Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) data for respiratory viral presentations.

### Viral Respiratory ED Presentations and Admissions



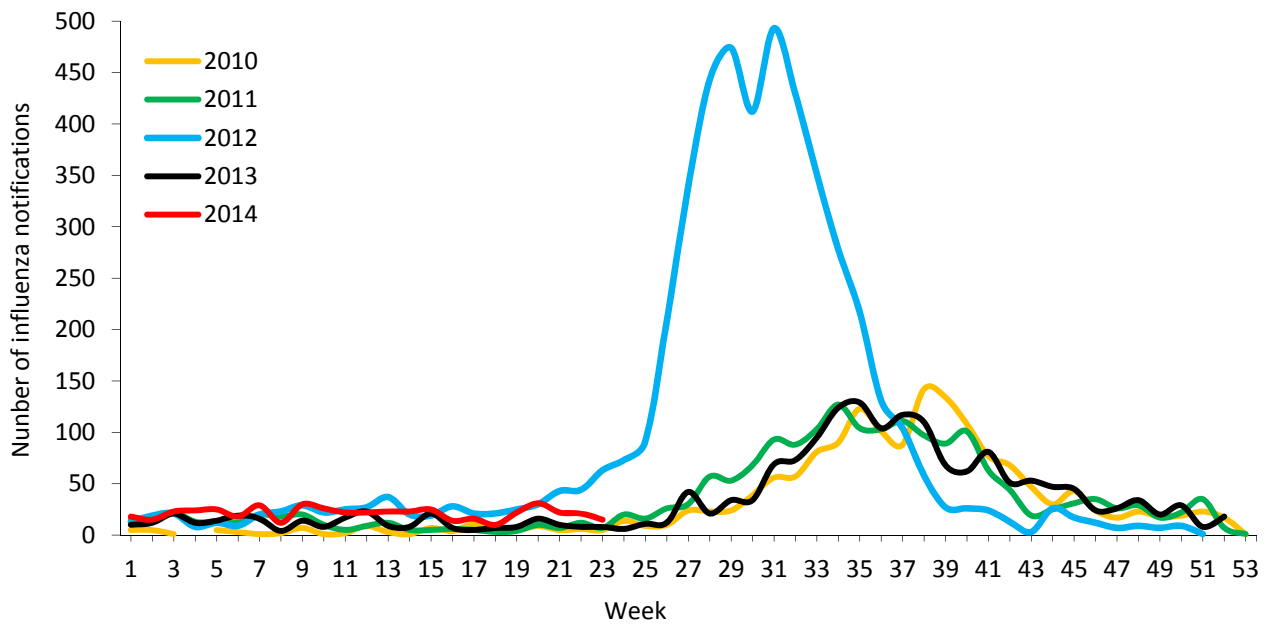
ED presentations and admissions for a viral respiratory illness increased this week.

### ED Respiratory Viral Presentations, 2010 - 2014



The number of ILI presentations to sentinel EDs increased this week and is currently higher than in recent mild seasons, but lower than the 2012 season.

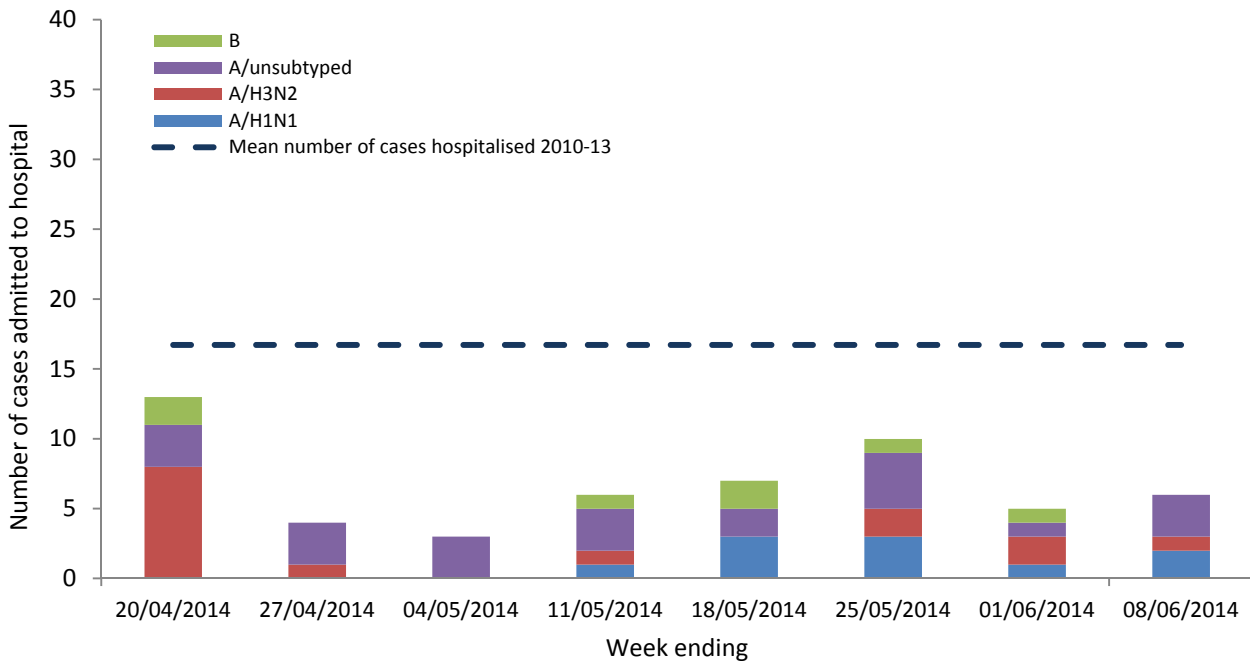
## Influenza notifications in Western Australia by week, 2010 to 2014



**Fifteen confirmed influenza cases were reported to the Department of Health this week, which is fewer than last week, and similar to levels at this time in recent mild seasons.**

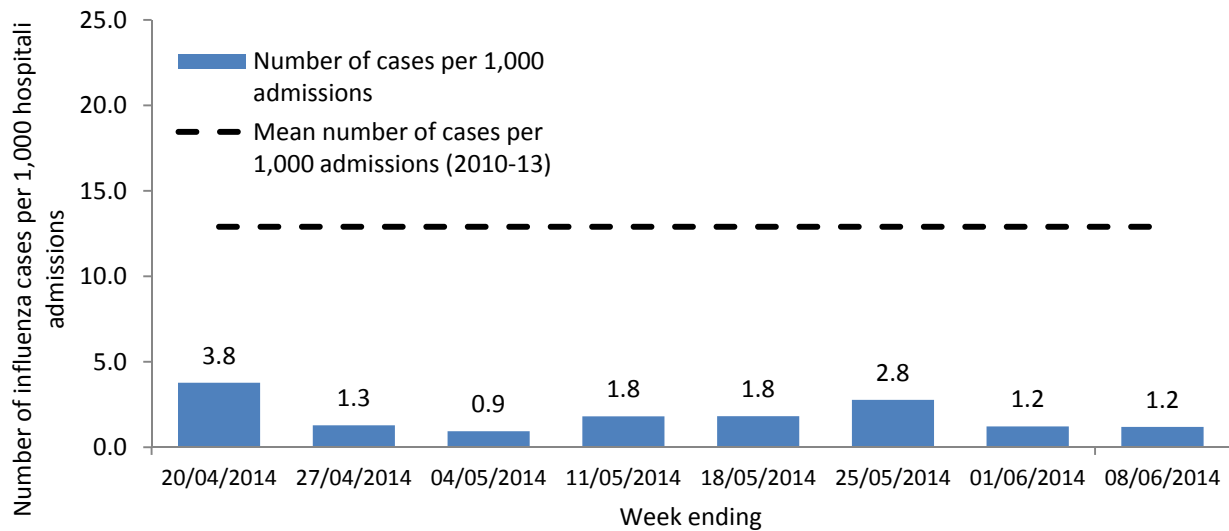
The graph is a summary of all influenza notifications received by the DoH, Western Australia to the end of the current reporting week, for which cases had date of symptom onset or specimen collection between 02/06/2014 and 08/06/2014.

## Number of influenza cases hospitalised



**Six notified influenza cases were hospitalised in the past week, 3 (50%) influenza A/untsubtyped, 2 (33%) with influenza A/H1N1, and 1 (17%) with influenza A/H3N2.**

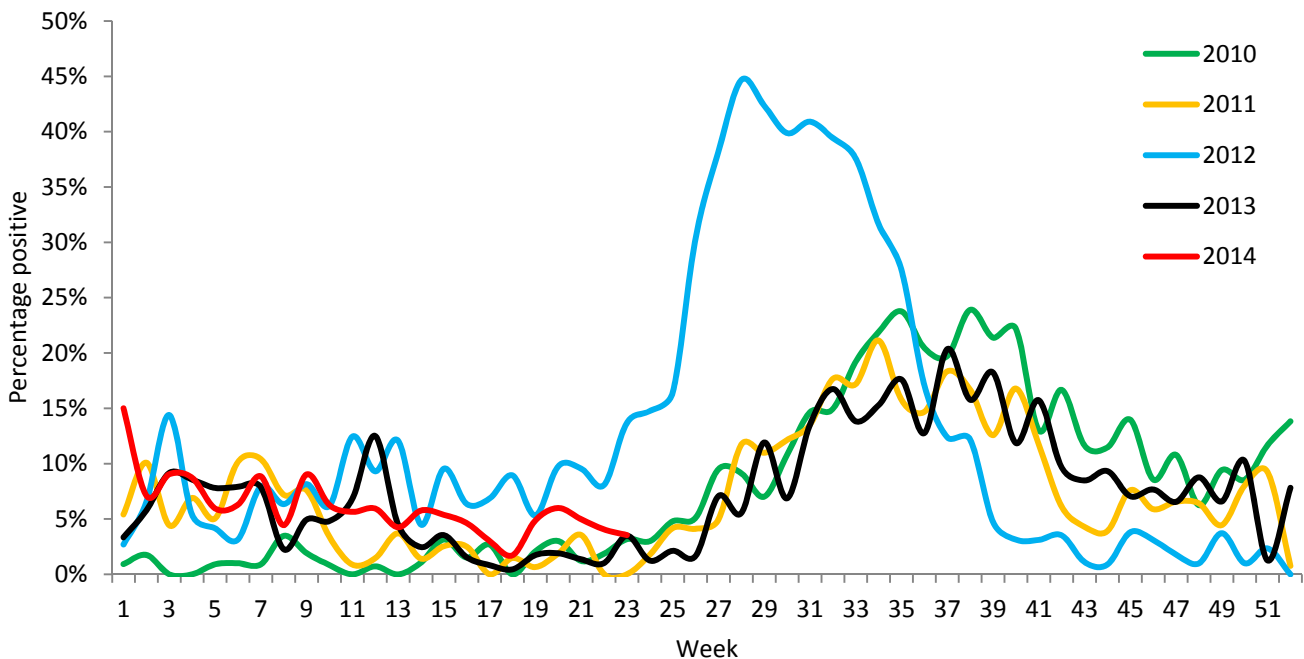
## Influenza cases per 1000 hospital admissions



**The proportion of hospital admissions notified as having laboratory-confirmed influenza remains low and well below baseline level.**

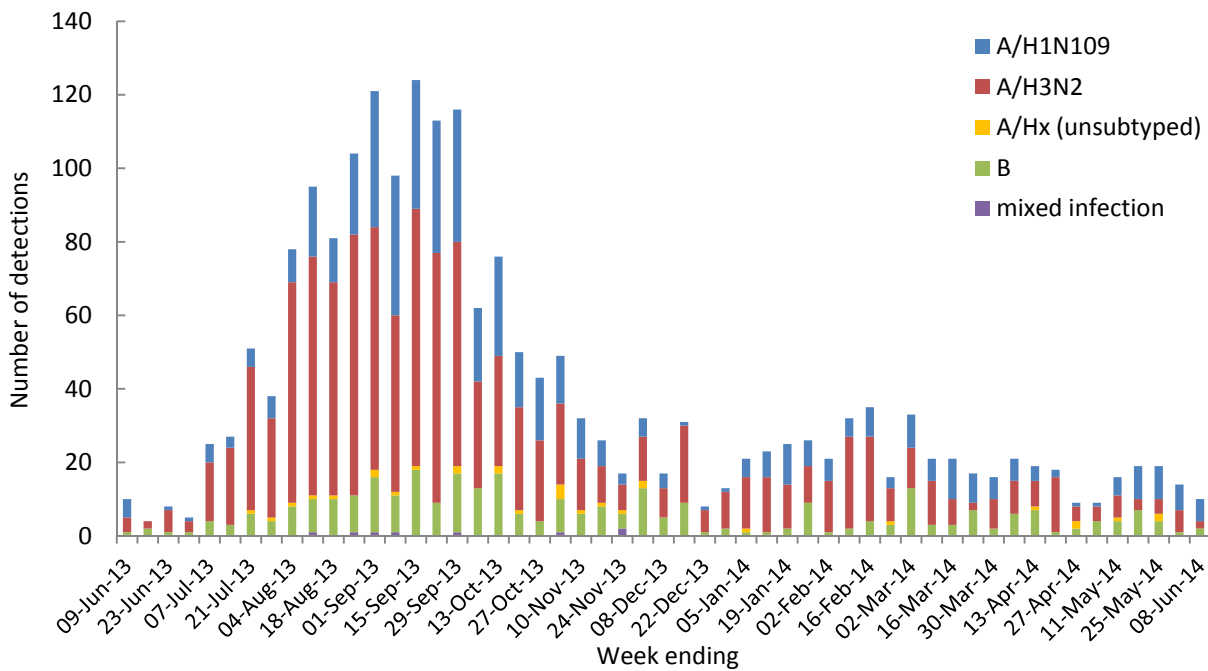
The graph is a summary of influenza notifications received by the DoH who were recorded as having a hospital admission, expressed per 1,000 admissions.

## PathWest-QEII-PMH influenza percentage positive 2010 - 2014



**Among samples tested at PathWest-QEII-PMH this week, 4.0% tested positive for influenza virus, which is similar to levels reported at this time during recent mild influenza seasons.**

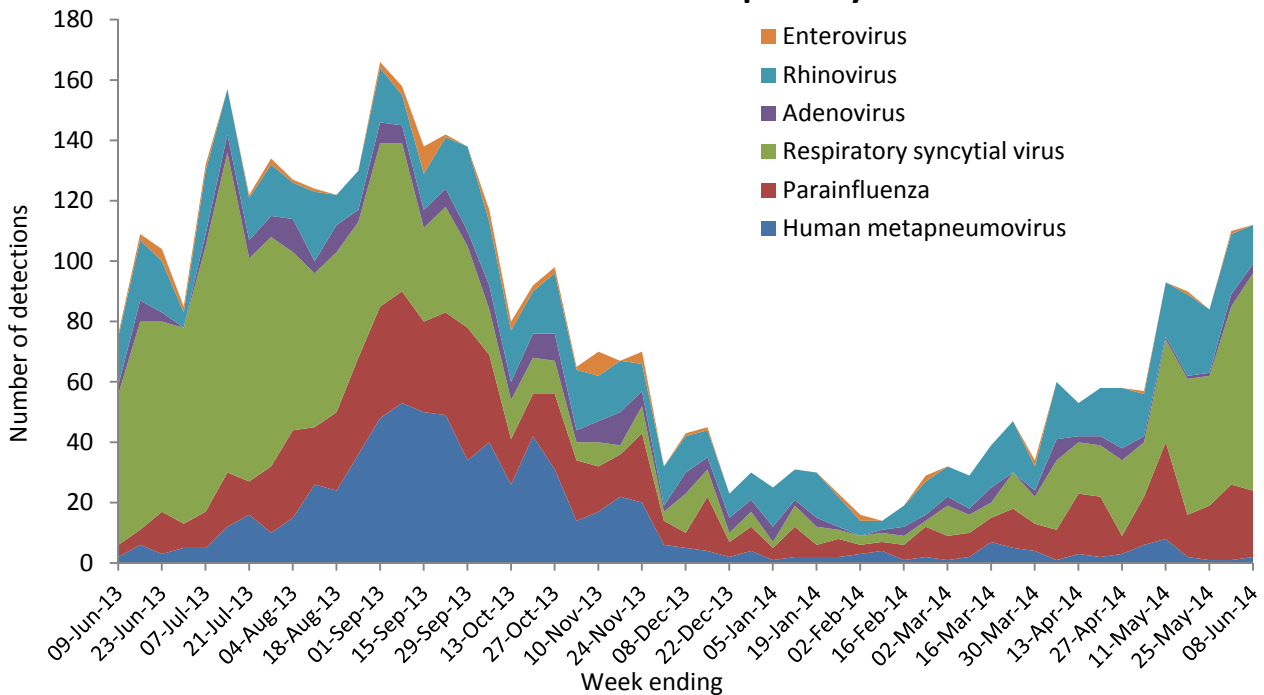
### PathWest-QEII-PMH 2013-2014 Influenza subtypes



**Ten influenza viruses were characterised by PathWest, QEII and PMH during this reporting week, comprising 6 (60%) influenza A/H1N1, 2 (20%) influenza A/H3N2, and 2 (20%) influenza B.**

The graph is a summary of all samples that have been recorded as subtyped at PathWest QEII as of 12.01am Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014 and may differ from numbers described in the above figure.

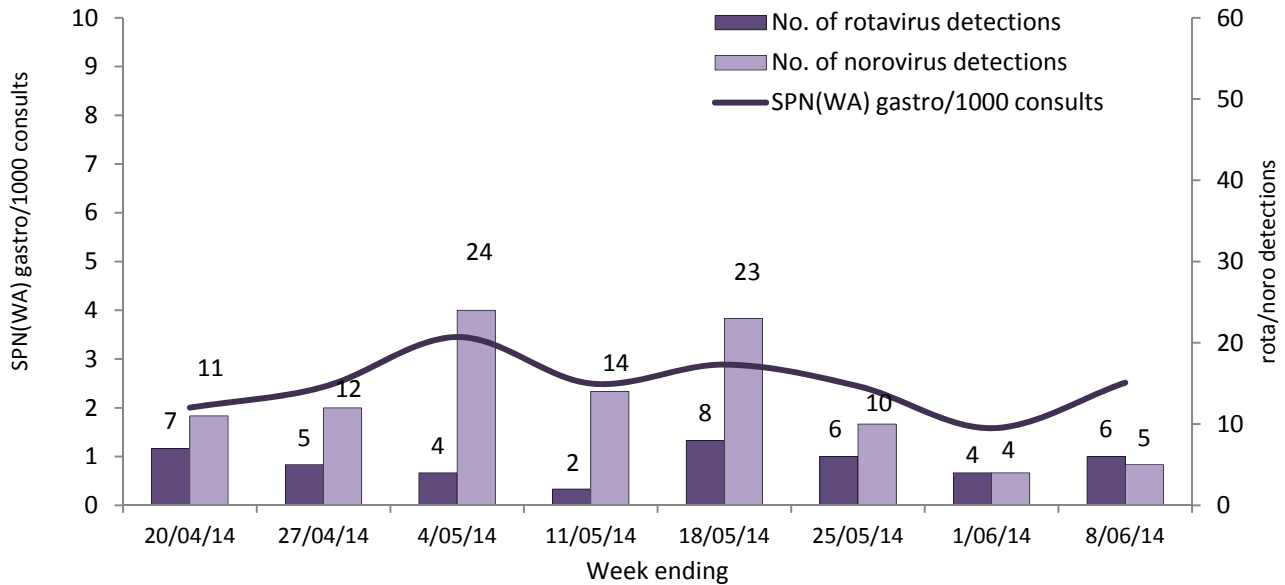
### 2013-2014 Non-Influenza respiratory viruses



**Overall detections of non-influenza respiratory viruses increased this week, primarily because of an increase in RSV.**

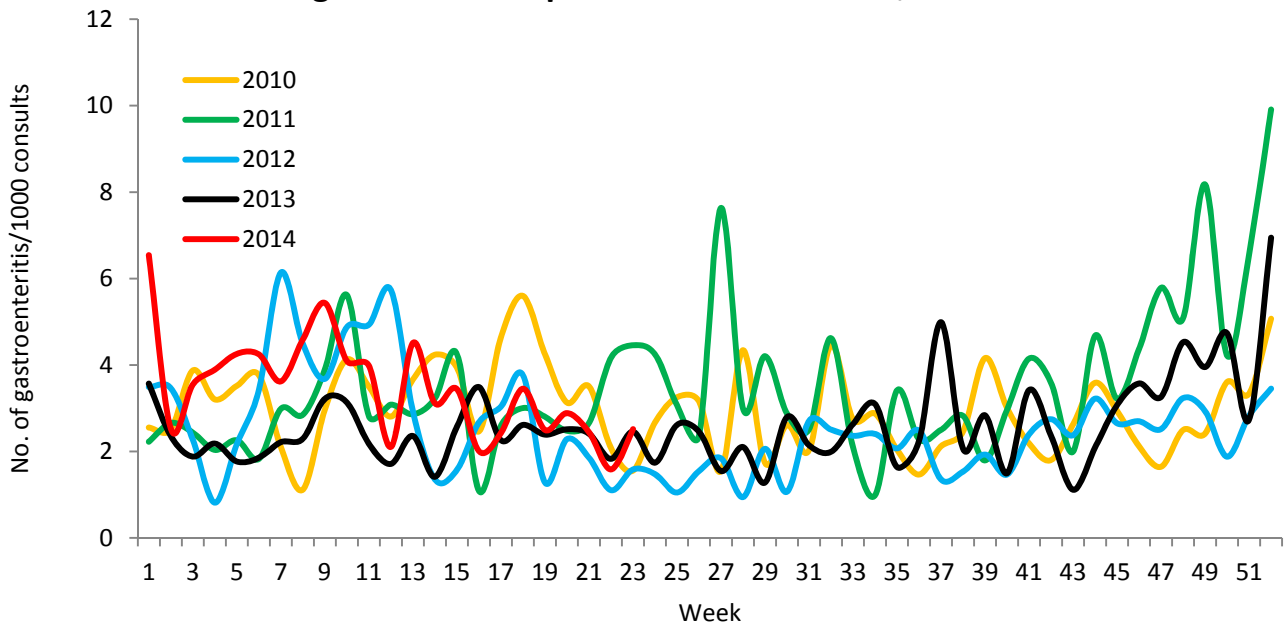
# Gastroenteritis

## Gastroenteritis GP Presentations



Gastroenteritis presentations increased to 2.5 cases per 1000 consultations. Norovirus and rotavirus detections remain similar to detections from week.

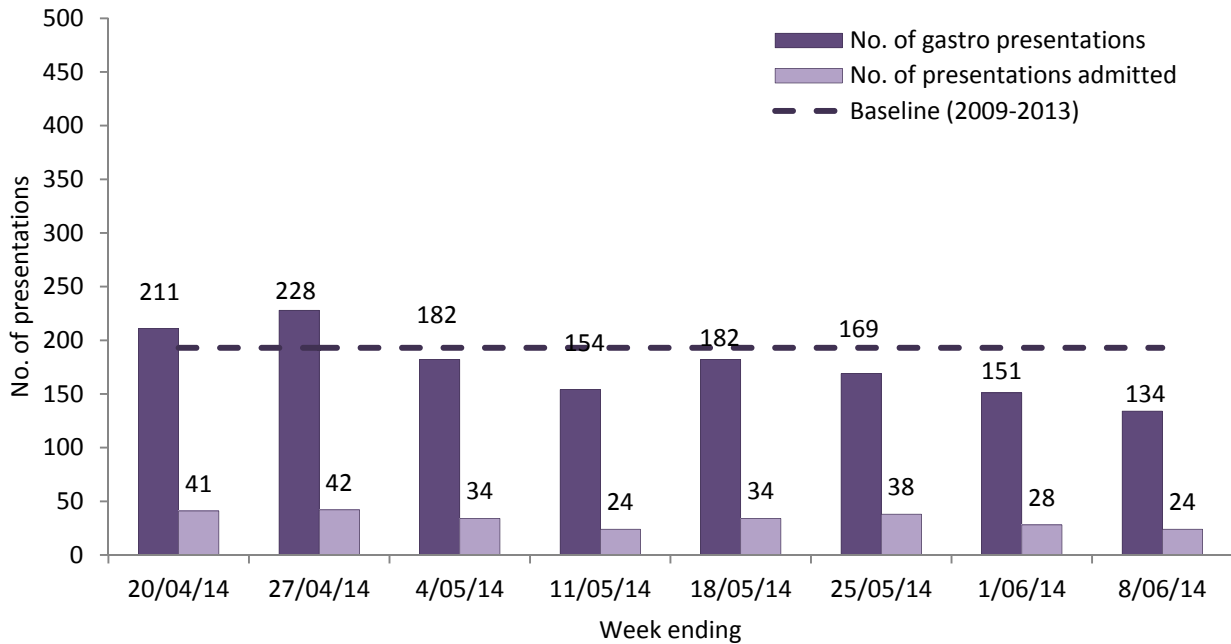
## Sentinel Practitioner's Network of WA SPN(WA) - GP surveillance Rate of gastroenteritis per 1000 consultations, 2010 - 2014



The rate of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel GPs is in the lower range of values compared to the same time period in recent years.

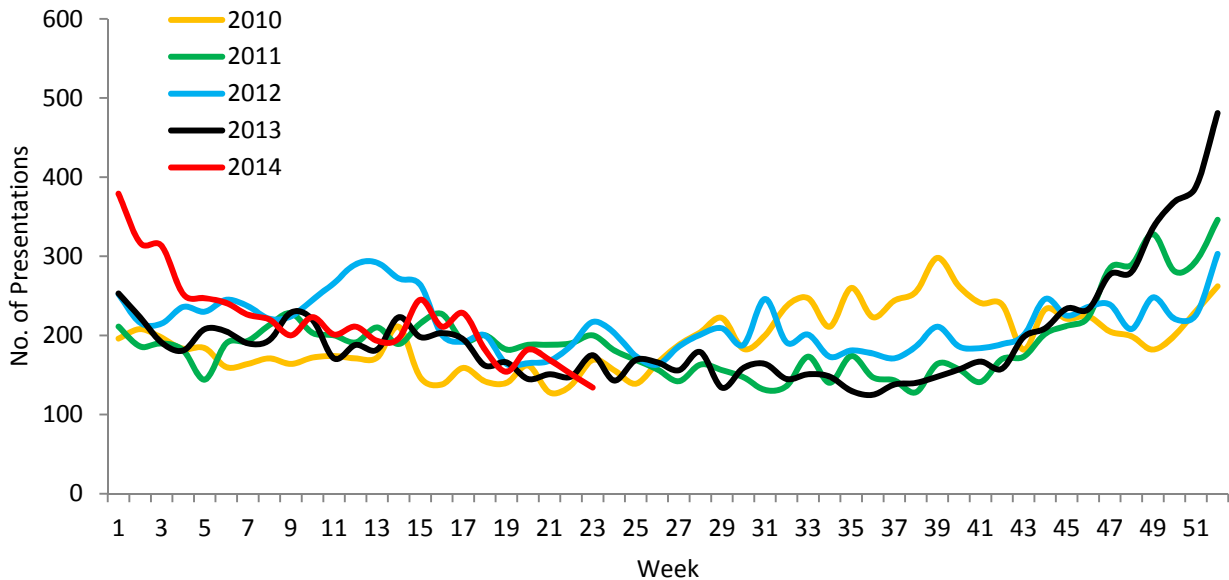
The following is a summary of current Emergency Department Sentinel Surveillance (EDSS) data for gastroenteritis presentations. Baseline levels for gastroenteritis presentations were calculated using the mean of weekly EDIS data from week 1, 2009 to week 52, 2013.

## Gastroenteritis ED Presentations



Gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel EDs remain below baseline this week.

## ED Gastroenteritis Presentations 2010 - 2014

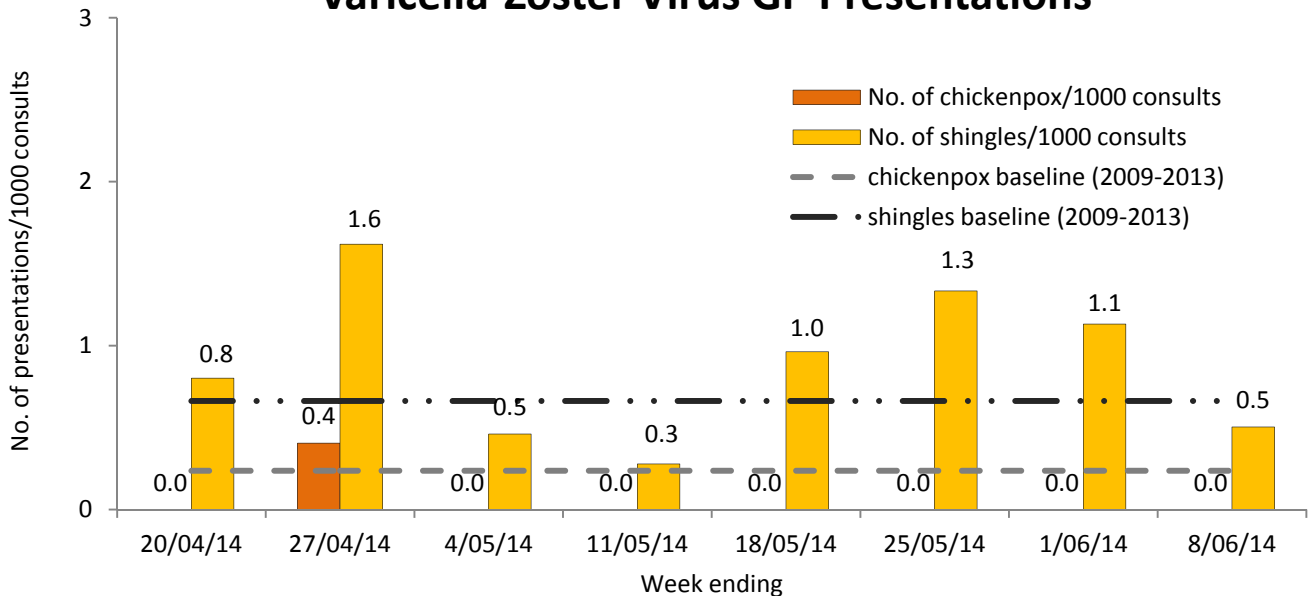


The number of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel EDs decreased this week and is lower than the range of levels seen during this time period in previous years.



# Viral Rashes

## Varicella-Zoster Virus GP Presentations

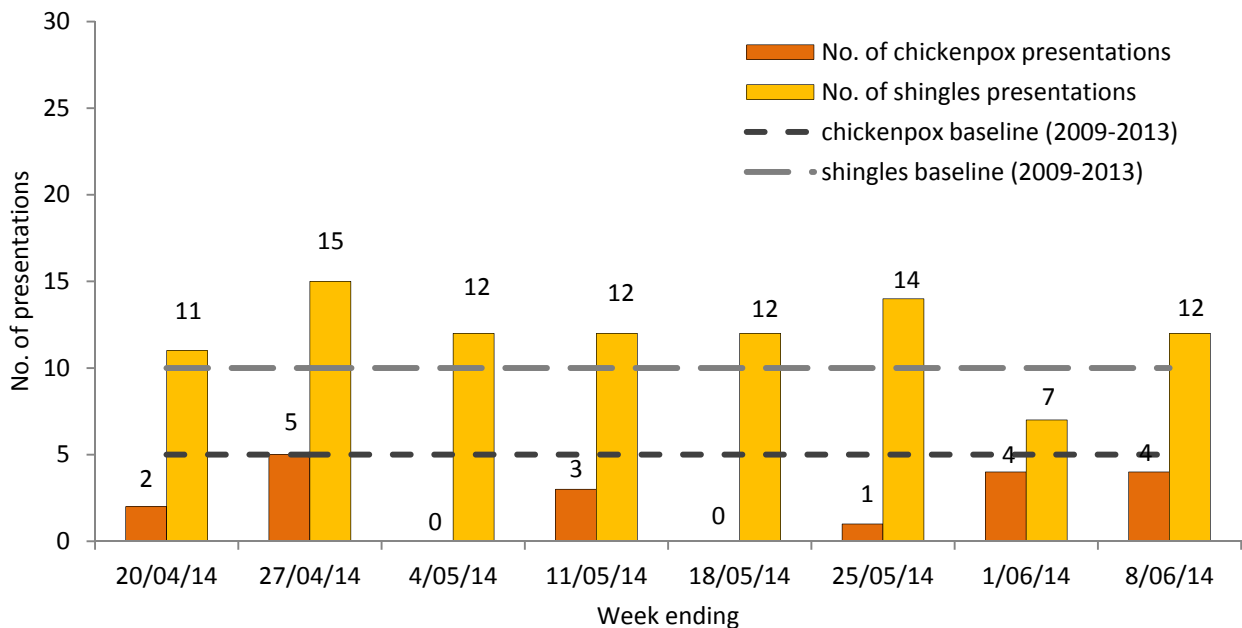


The rate of shingles presentations to SPN(WA) GPs remains near baseline level this week. No chickenpox cases were seen at sentinel GPs. One case of measles was reported in a returning traveller from Bali, Indonesia. No cases of mumps or rubella were notified.

Baseline levels for chickenpox and shingles presentations to SPN(WA) GPs per thousand consultations were calculated using the mean of weekly WA ASPREN data from week 1, 2009 to week 52, 2013.

The following is a summary of current Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) data for varicella-zoster virus presentations. Baseline levels for varicella-zoster virus presentations were calculated using the mean of weekly EDIS data from week 1, 2009 to week 52, 2013.

## Varicella-Zoster virus ED Presentations



Shingles presentations to sentinel EDs remain near below baseline level. Chickenpox presentations remain below baseline level.

