Bi-weekly Influenza Situation Update

8 October 2025

Virological Surveillance Summary

The total number of specimens and number of positive specimens reported to FluNet by Western Pacific Region countries and areas between week 1 and 39 of 2025 are presented in Table 1 below. Influenza A (H3) continues to dominate **(Figure 1)**. Caution should be taken when interpreting this data as there are reporting delays.

Table 1: Cumulative data reported to FluNet from Western Pacific Region, week 1 to 39 of 2025
(Source: WHO FLUNET)

Country (most recent week of report)	Total number of specimens processed	Total number of influenza-positive specimens
Australia (39 of 2025)	178 112	13 011
Brunei Darussalam (39 of 2025)	1 099	175
Cambodia (37 of 2025)	3 884	562
China (39 of 2025)	1 109 204	90 865
Fiji (35 of 2025)	798	25
Indonesia (39 of 2025)	5 023	1 272
Japan (37 of 2025)	17 532	2 358
Lao People's Democratic Republic (39 of 2025)	1 789	278
Malaysia (39 of 2025)	35 243	3 593
Mongolia (38 of 2025)	2 455	200
New Caledonia (38 of 2025)	1 612	259
New Zealand (36 of 2025)	2 365	637
Papua New Guinea (39 of 2025)	238	37
Philippines (38 of 2025)	3 634	498
Republic of Korea (39 of 2025)	13 144	2 091
Singapore (39 of 2025)	6 072	1 288
Viet Nam (39 of 2025)	3 355	570
Grand Total	**1 385 559**	**117 719**

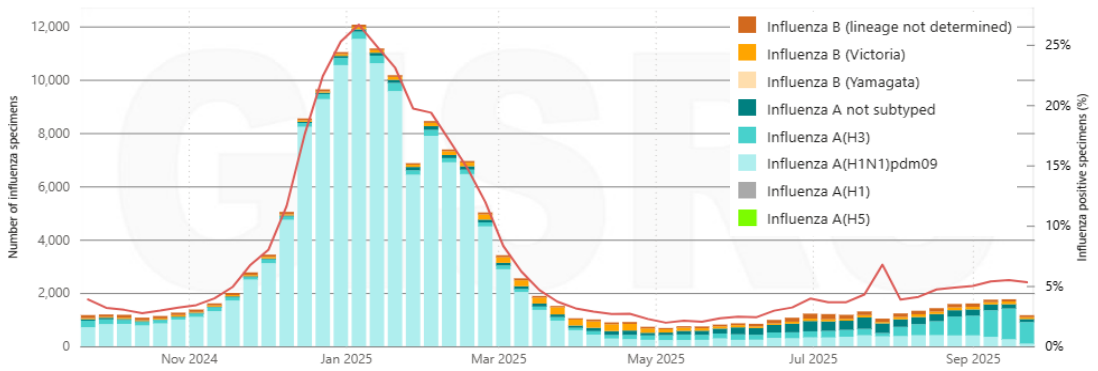


Figure 1: **Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype, Western Pacific Region, 29 September 2024 to 28 September 2025** (Source: WHO FLUNET)

Influenza surveillance summary

Influenza surveillance in the WHO Western Pacific Region is based on outpatient and inpatient indicator-based surveillance (IBS) systems, as well as event-based surveillance. Case definitions, population groups included, and data formats differ among countries. This influenza surveillance summary includes countries and areas where routine IBS is conducted, and information is available.

The WHO surveillance case definition for influenza-like illness (ILI) is an acute respiratory infection with a measured fever of ≥38°C and cough, with symptom onset within the last 10 days. For SARI, it is

an acute respiratory infection (ARI) with a history of fever or measured fever of ≥38°C and cough, with symptom onset within 10 days that requires hospitalization.

Sentinel site data should be interpreted with caution since the number of sites reporting may vary between weeks.

Countries in the temperate zone of the Northern Hemisphere

In countries within the temperate zone of the Northern Hemisphere, ILI and influenza activity are similar or lower to the corresponding period from previous years.

Outpatient ILI Surveillance

China (North)- Outpatient ILI Surveillance

In week 39 (the week of 22 to 28 September 2025), the percentage of outpatient or emergency visits for ILI (ILI%) in the northern provinces was 2.9%, lower than the previous week (3.0%), and higher than the same week of 2022 (2.6%), and lower than the same week of 2023 and 2024 (3.3% and 3.1%, respectively) **(Figure 2)**.

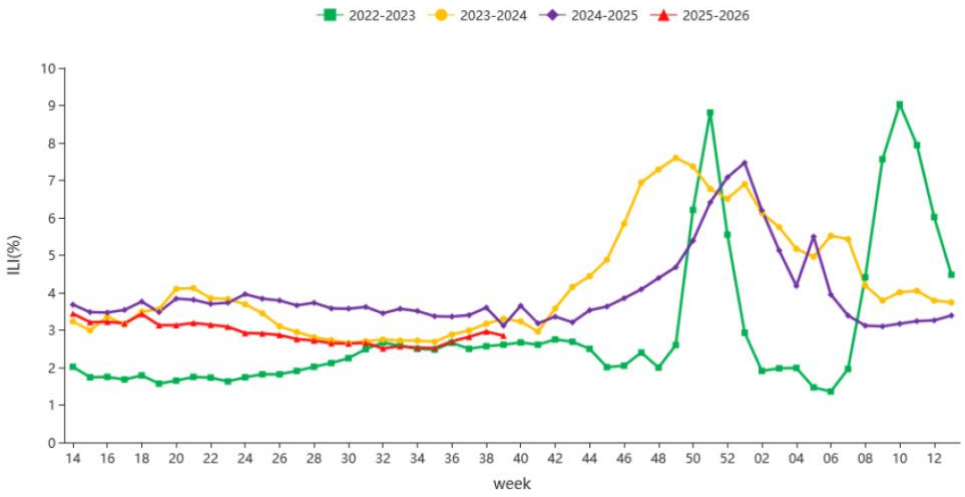
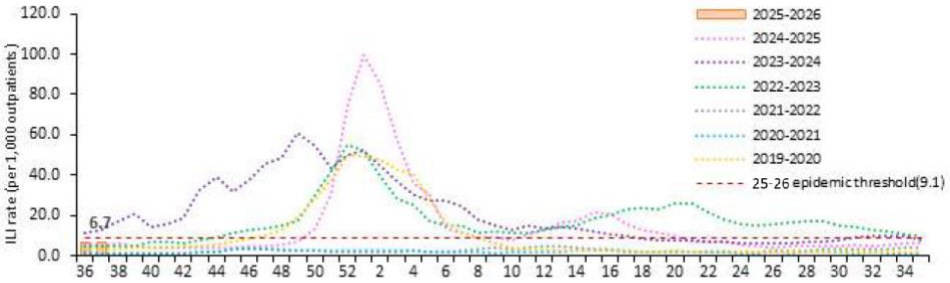


Figure 2: Percentage of visits for ILI at sentinel hospitals in northern China, 2022-2025
(Source: Chinese National Influenza Center)

Republic of Korea

There is no update in this reporting period. In week 37 (the week of 7 to 13 September 2025), the overall weekly ILI rate was 6.7%, which was higher than 6.6%, recorded in the previous week **(Figure 3)**. The positivity rate for influenza virus was 1.5% in week 37 of 2025 (positivity rate for influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 was 1.3% and 0.2% for influenza A(H3N2)).



※ 2024-2025 season epidemic threshold: 8.6 cases (/1,000)

Figure 3: Weekly ILI incidence rate per 1,000 outpatient consultations, Republic of Korea, 2019-2025
(Source: Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency).

Sentinel influenza surveillance

Japan

In week 38 (the week of 15 to 21 September 2025), the weekly number of influenza cases reported by sentinel hospital sites in Japan slightly increased (n=3 073), compared to the previous week (n=2 732), which is also higher than the number of cases observed during the same period in previous years (n=2 725) **(Figure 4).**

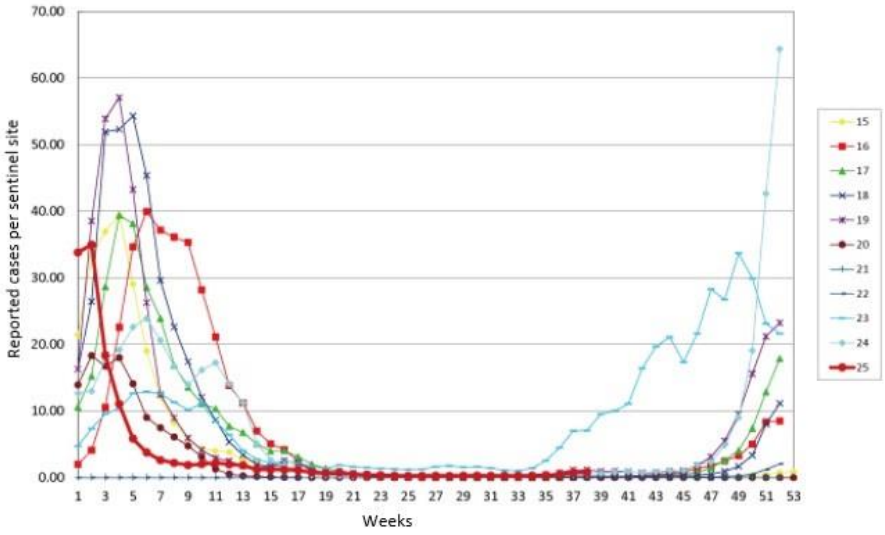


Figure 4: Weekly number of influenza cases reported per reporting sentinel hospital site, Japan 2015-2025
(Source: Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS))

Note: The Sentinel surveillance criteria were revised From 7 April 2025, changing the sentinel sites from influenza/COVID-19 surveillance, with approximately 5 000 medical institutions, to acute respiratory infection surveillance, with approximately 3 000 medical institutions.

Countries/areas in the tropical zone

In the tropical zone, ILI activity is similar or lower to the corresponding period from previous years in most countries and areas.

China, Hong Kong SAR – ILI and Hospital Surveillance

In week 39 (the week of 21 to 27 September 2025), the average consultation rate for influenza-like illness (ILI) among sentinel general outpatient clinics was 11.7 ILI cases per 1 000 consultations, which was lower than 13.6 recorded in the previous week **(Figure 5)**. The average consultation rate for ILI among sentinel private medical practitioner clinics was 43.4 ILI cases per 1 000 consultations, which was lower than 49.2 recorded in the previous week **(Figure 6)**.

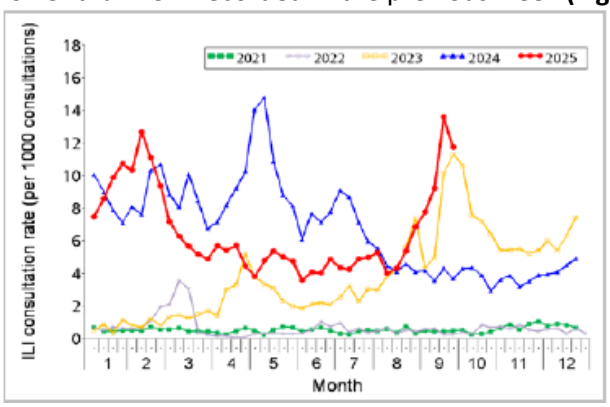


Figure 5: ILI consultation rates at sentinel general outpatient clinics, Hong Kong SAR 2021-2025
(Source: Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection)

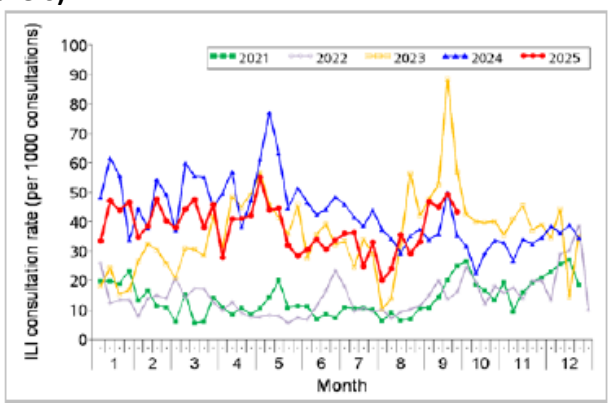


Figure 6: ILI consultation rates at sentinel private medical practitioner clinics, Hong Kong SAR 2021-2025
(Source: Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection)

China (South) - ILI Surveillance

In week 39 (the week of 22 to 28 September 2025), the percentage of outpatient or emergency visits for ILI (ILI%) at national sentinel hospitals in the southern provinces was 3.8%, the same as the last week (3.8%), higher than the same week of 2022 and 2024 (3.3% and 3.6%, respectively), and lower than the same week of 2023 (5.6%) **(Figure 7)**.

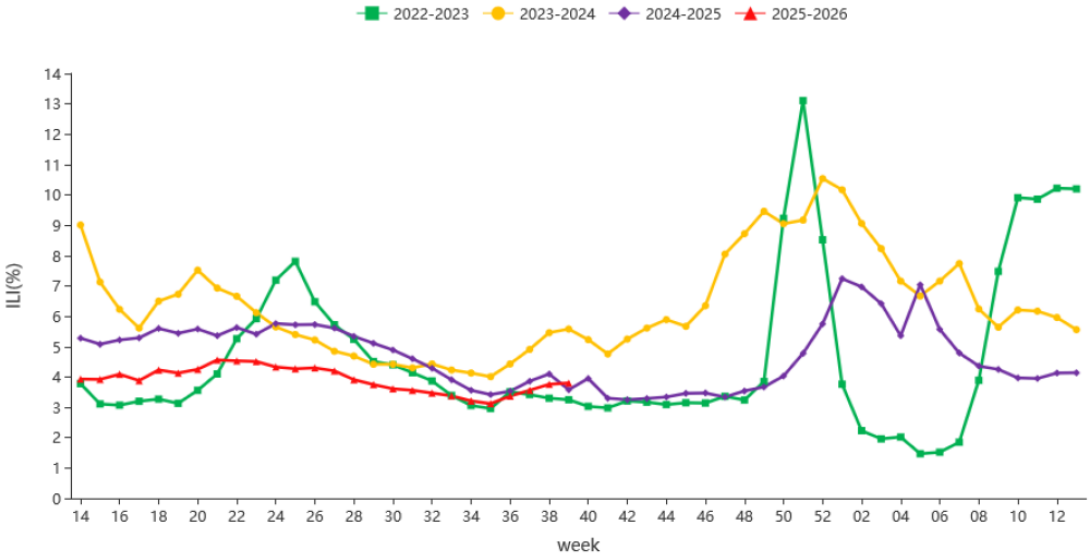


Figure 7: Percentage of visits for ILI at sentinel hospitals in southern China, 2022-2025
(Source: Chinese National Influenza Center)

Indonesia- ILI SARI sentinel surveillance

In epidemiological week 39 of 2025, the Ministry of Health received reports from 45 sentinel sites across Indonesia. The national influenza positivity rate slightly decreased, from 45% (in the previous week) to 43%, with 35 positive cases identified out of 82 specimens tested. Influenza A(H3N2) remained the predominant strain detected in this reporting period. **(Figure 8).**

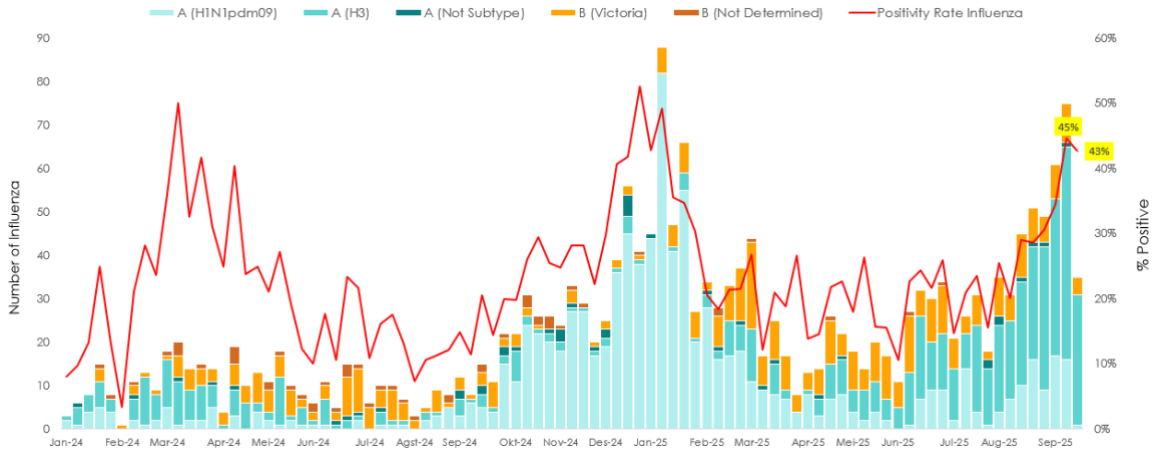


Figure 8: Number of influenza cases from sentinel sites and influenza positivity rate by week, 2024-2025
(Source: ILI-SARI sentinel surveillance dashboard, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia)

Singapore – Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) Surveillance

In week 39 (the week of 21 to 27 September 2025), the average daily number of patients seeking treatment in the polyclinics for ARI was 2 748 (over 5.5 working days) **(Figure 9)**. The proportion of patients with ILI among the polyclinic attendances for ARI was 1.0%. The positivity rate for influenza among ILI samples (n=228) in the community was 40% in week 37. Of the 119 specimens tested positive for influenza in August 2025, 25 were positive for influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 (21%), 84 were positive for influenza A(H3N2) (71%), and 10 were positive for influenza B (8%) **(Figure 10)**.

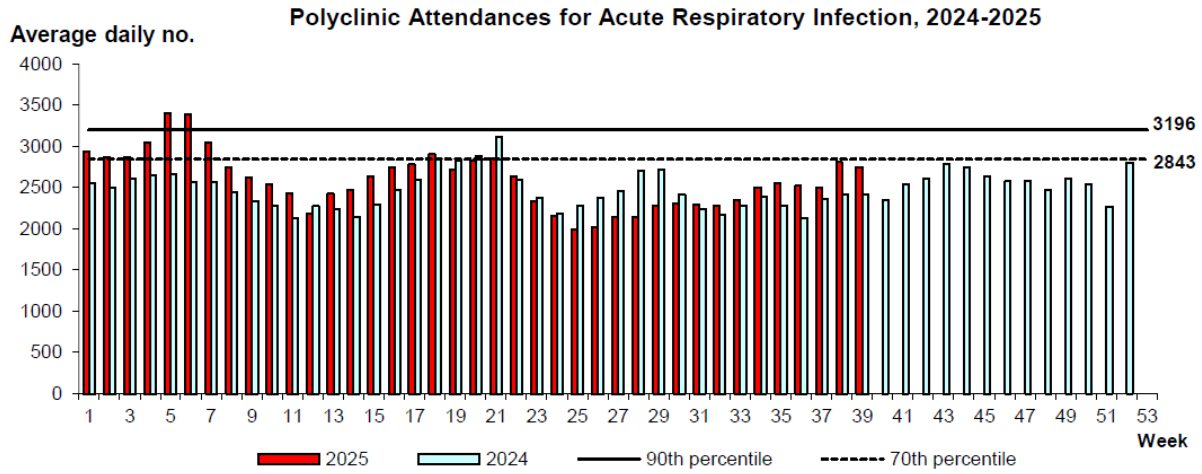
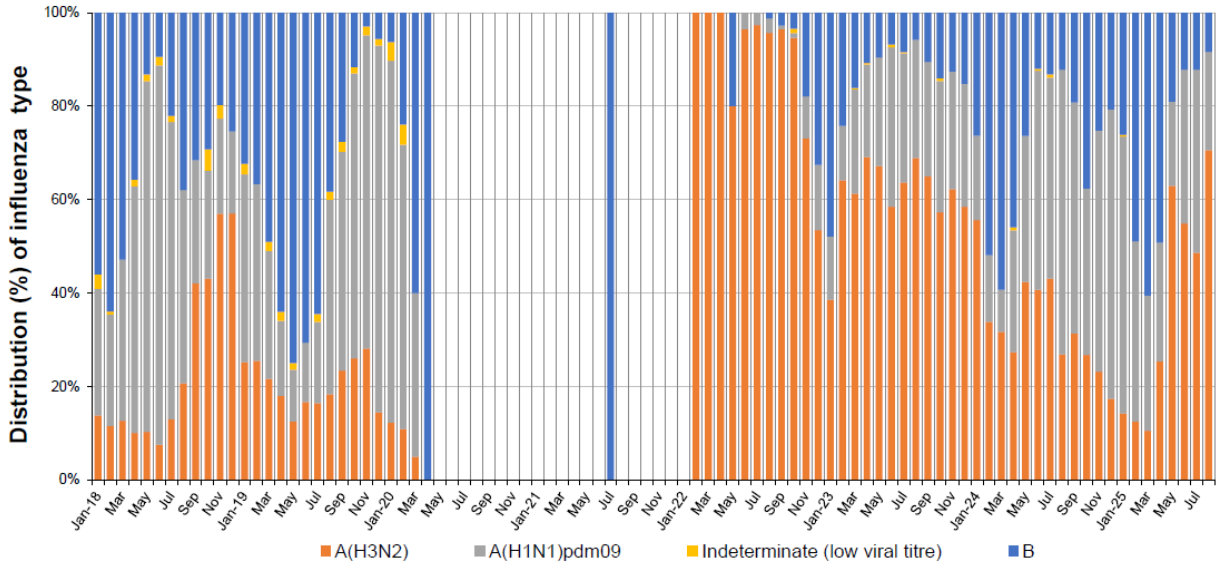


Figure 9: Average daily polyclinic attendances for ARI in Singapore, 2024-2025
(Source: Singapore Ministry of Health)



Based on influenza-like illness (ILI) samples from GPs and polyclinics

Figure 10: Monthly influenza surveillance for ARI in Singapore, 2018-2025
(Source: Singapore Ministry of Health)

Lao People's Democratic Republic

In week 39 (22 to 28 September 2025), the National Center for Laboratory and Epidemiology received data from all sentinel sites in Lao PDR. The weekly number of ILI cases reported was lower by 45 cases compared to the previous week **(Figure 11)**. There were 97 samples tested for influenza in week 39, of which 13 were positive for influenza A(H3), 13 for influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, and three for influenza B (Victoria).

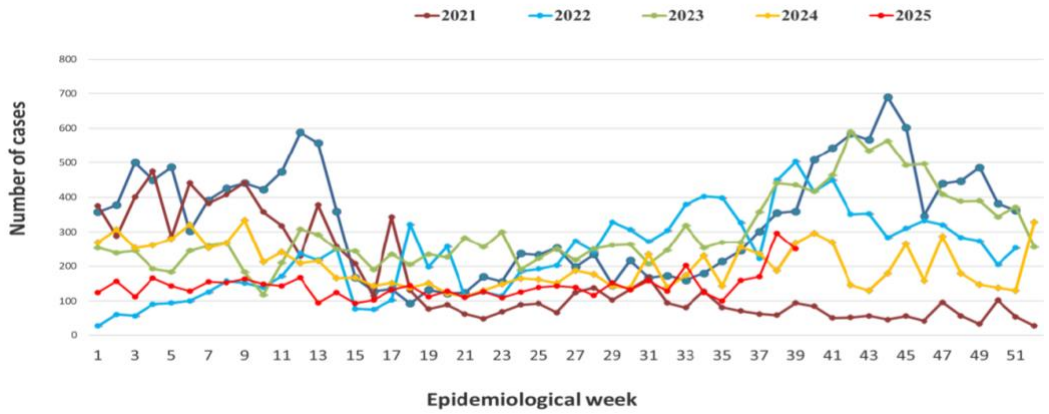


Figure 11: Weekly number of ILI cases at sentinel sites, Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2021-2025
(Source: Lao PDR National Center for Laboratory and Epidemiology)

Cambodia

In week 39 of 2025, the Ministry of Health received data from all seven sentinel sites in Cambodia. The number of ILI cases in Cambodia decreased in week 39 of 2025 (268 cases), compared to week 38 of 2025 (289 cases) **(Figure 12)**. However, the positivity rate increased (35%), compared to the last week (19%). From week 1 of 2024 to week 39 of 2025, 515 influenza-positive cases were detected (influenza B (Victoria))=124, influenza A(H3N2)=201, and influenza A(H1N1)pdm09=190). Influenza A(H3N2) was the predominant strain in the last years followed by influenza A(H1N1)pdm09.

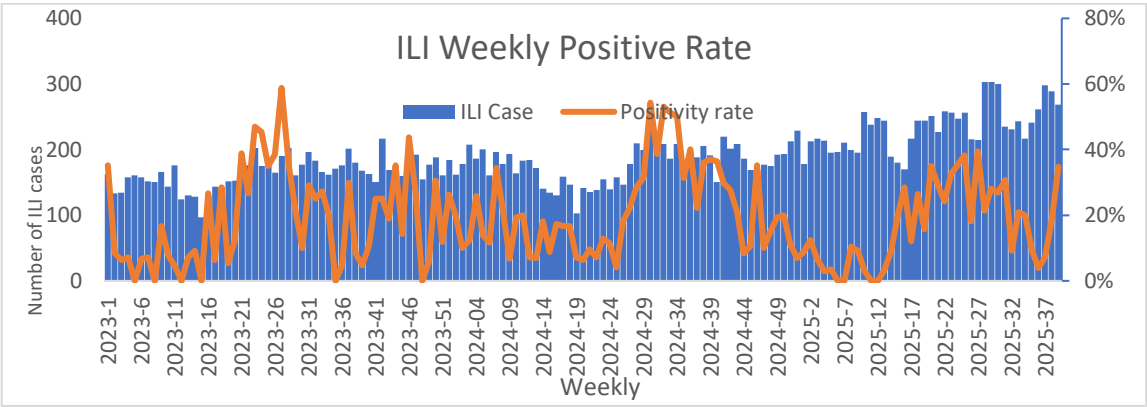


Figure 12: Number of ILI cases from sentinel sites and influenza positivity rate by week, 2023-2025, Cambodia
(Source: Communicable Disease Control Department, Cambodia Ministry of Health)

Countries in the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere

In the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere, influenza activity is reported during the influenza season, usually starting in May in Australia and New Zealand.

Australia – Laboratory-confirmed influenza

From 8 to 21 September 2025, there was a 21.5% decrease in influenza cases reported. Although the number of influenza cases nationally has decreased in this reporting period, influenza case numbers were higher than observed at the same time in previous years **(Figure 13)**. This can be attributed to a prolonged peak in between late June to mid-August 2025, and a slower decrease in case numbers than observed in previous seasons. In the year-to-date (1 January to 21 September 2025), a total of 377 107 influenza cases have been reported, 10.5% more than the number of cases reported in the same period last year (n=341 412), with influenza A (unsubtyped) accounting for the majority of cases across all jurisdictions.

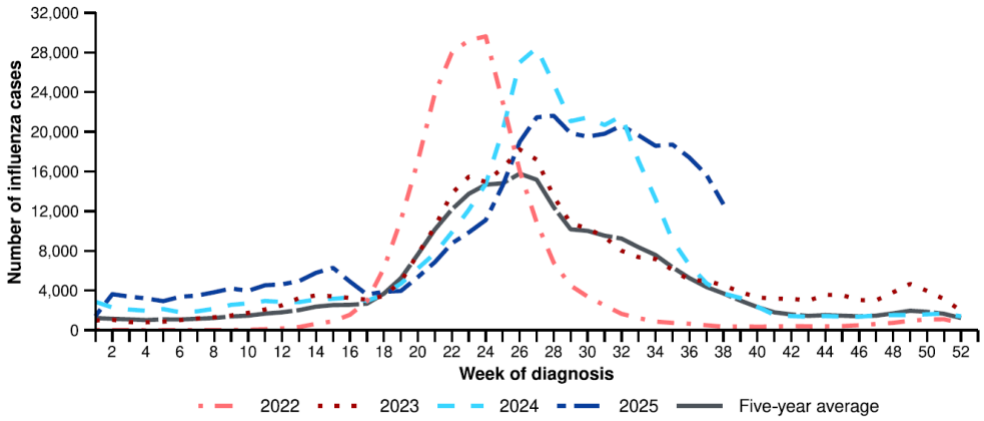


Figure 13: Notifications of laboratory-confirmed influenza by year and week from 2022 to 2025 in Australia
(Source: National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System, Australian Department of Health)

Note: The years 2020 and 2021 are excluded when comparing the current season to historical periods when influenza virus has circulated without public health restrictions. As such, the five-year average includes the years 2018 to 2019 and 2022 to 2024.

New Zealand – ILI Surveillance

During week 39 of 2025 (the week ending on 28 September 2025), the national rate of ILI-related Healthline calls decreased slightly but remains at elevated mid-seasonal levels, with 28.3 calls per 100 000 population **(Figure 14)**. The community peak in illness activity is later than it has been in recent years and more prolonged but remains lower than the peak weekly rates observed in 2022-2024. In the last two weeks, influenza A(H3) has become the predominant influenza virus circulating.

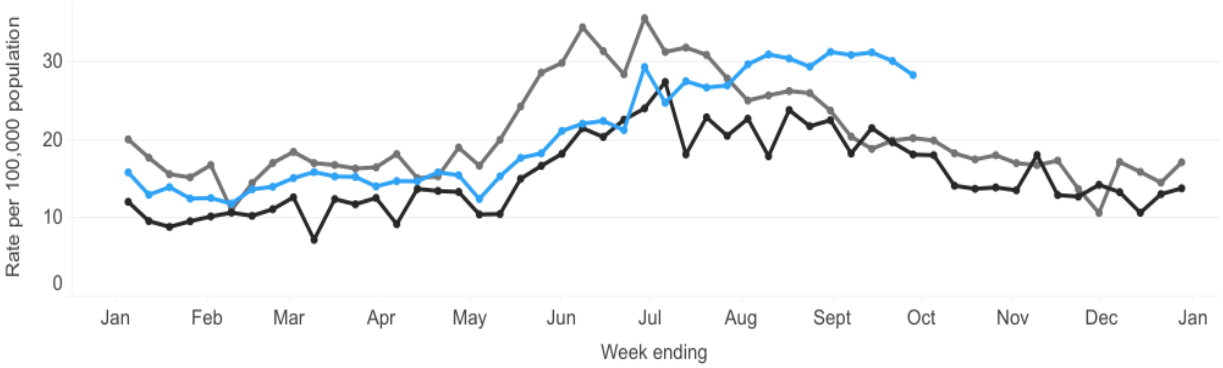
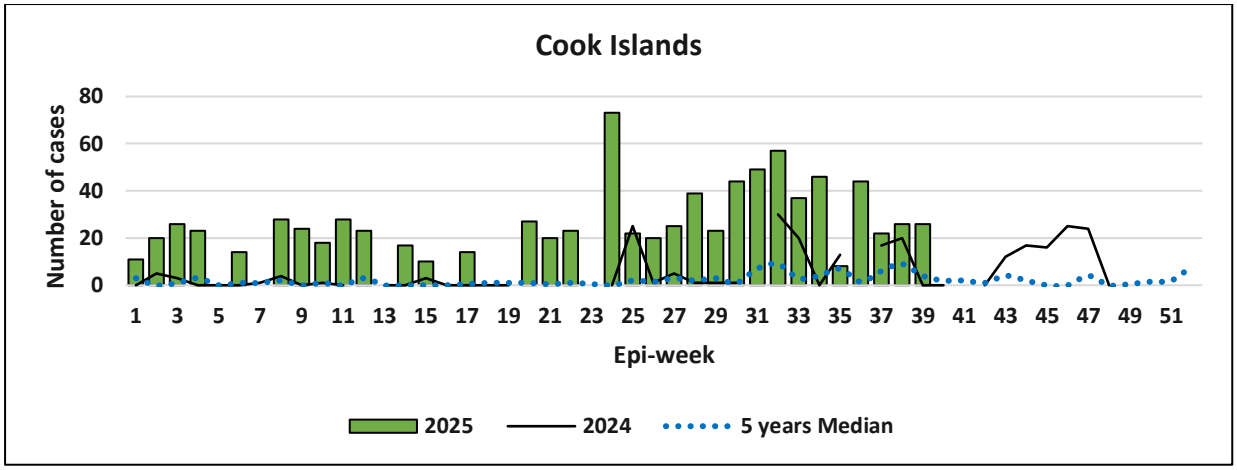
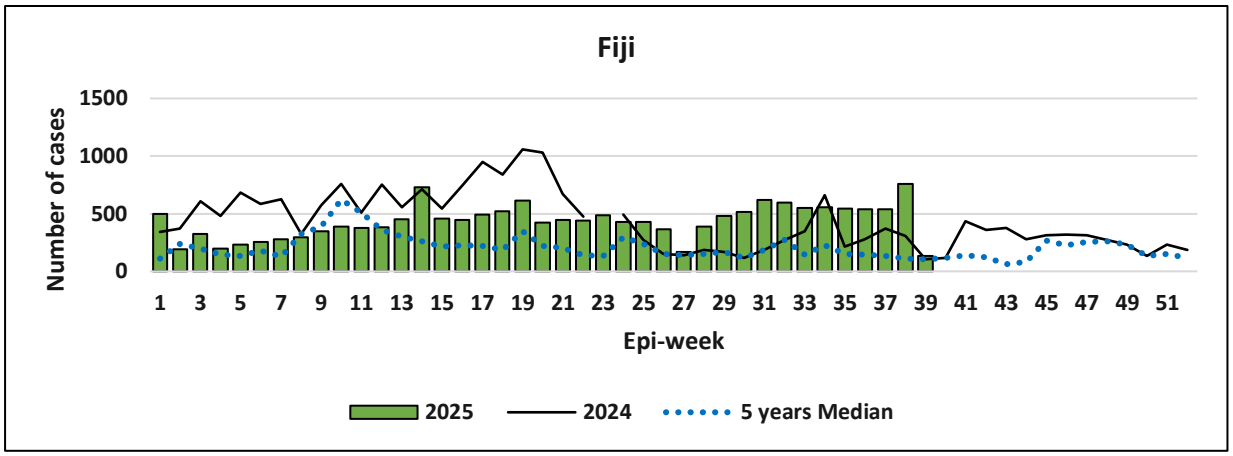


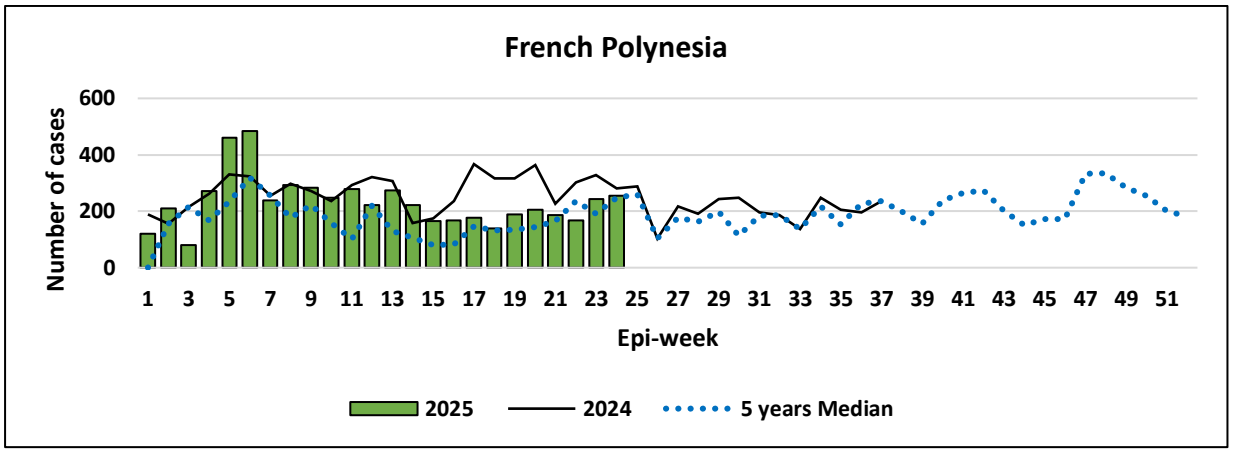
Figure 14: Weekly Healthline ILI call rate per 100,000 people in New Zealand in 2015-2025
(Source: New Zealand Institute of Environmental Science and Research)

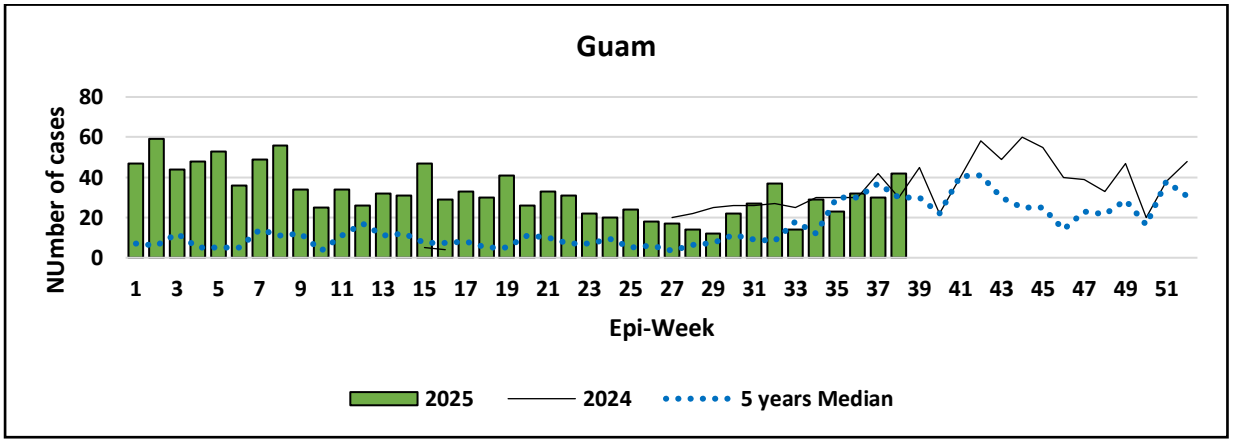
Pacific Island Countries and Areas (PICs) - ILI Surveillance

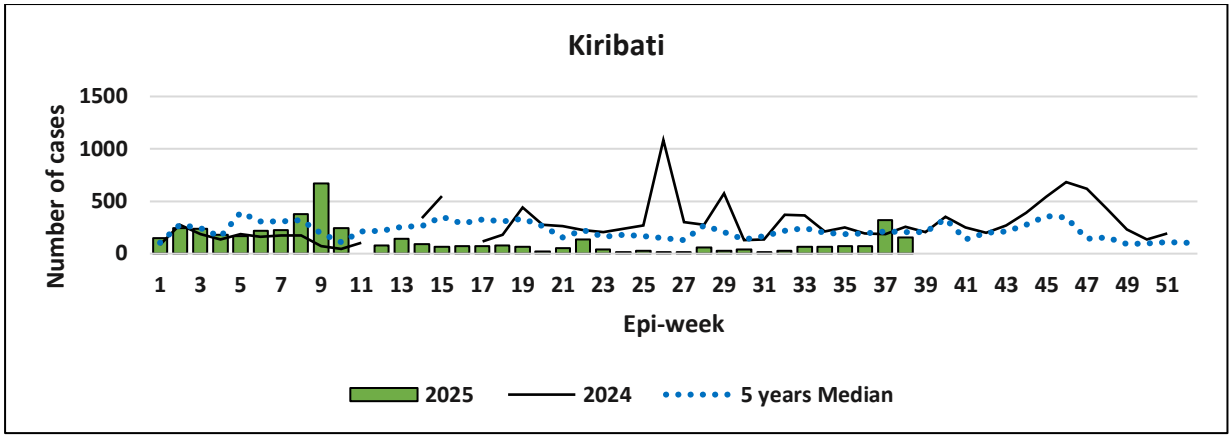
In week 39 of 2025, 20 out of 21 PICs reported ILI surveillance data. No report is available for American Samoa. In this reporting period, Guam, New Caledonia, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Samoa, Tonga, and Tuvalu reported an increase in ILI cases in week 38-39, compared to the previous week. Cook Islands reported a similar trend in ILI cases, compared to the previous week. Remaining countries and areas reported either no cases or a decrease in their ILI cases **(Figure 15)**.

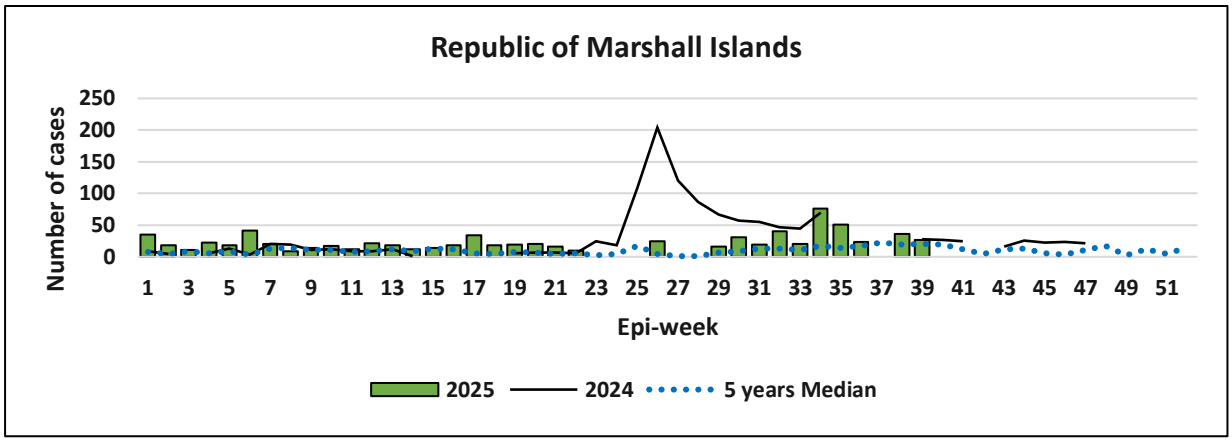

Cook Islands
Number of cases
80
60
40
20
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median

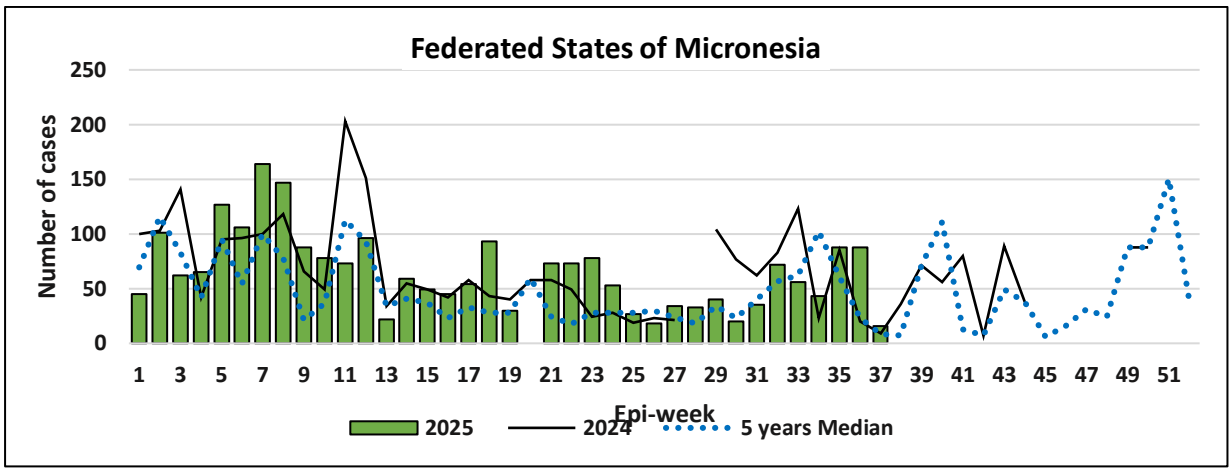

Fiji
Number of cases
1500
1000
500
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median

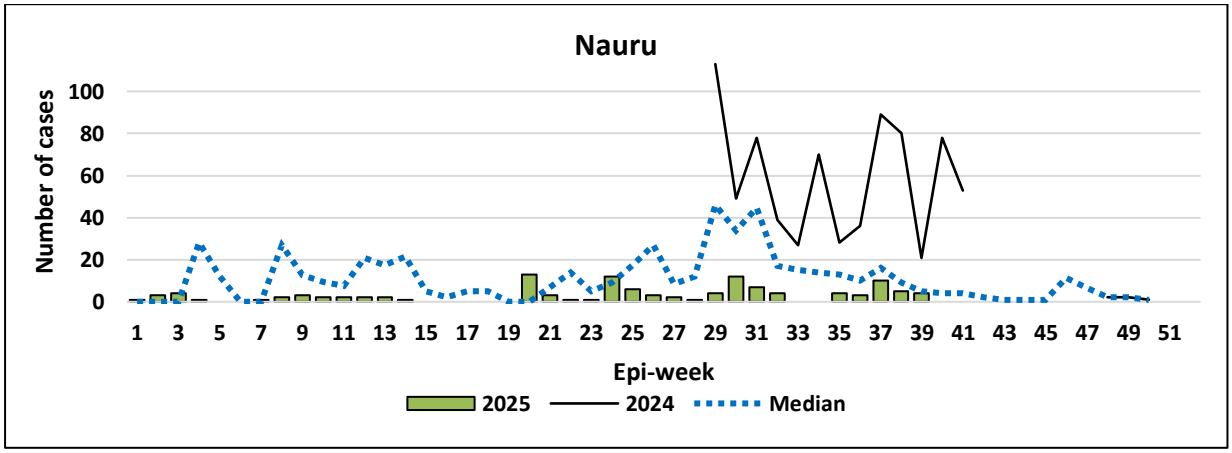

French Polynesia
Number of cases
600
400
200
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median

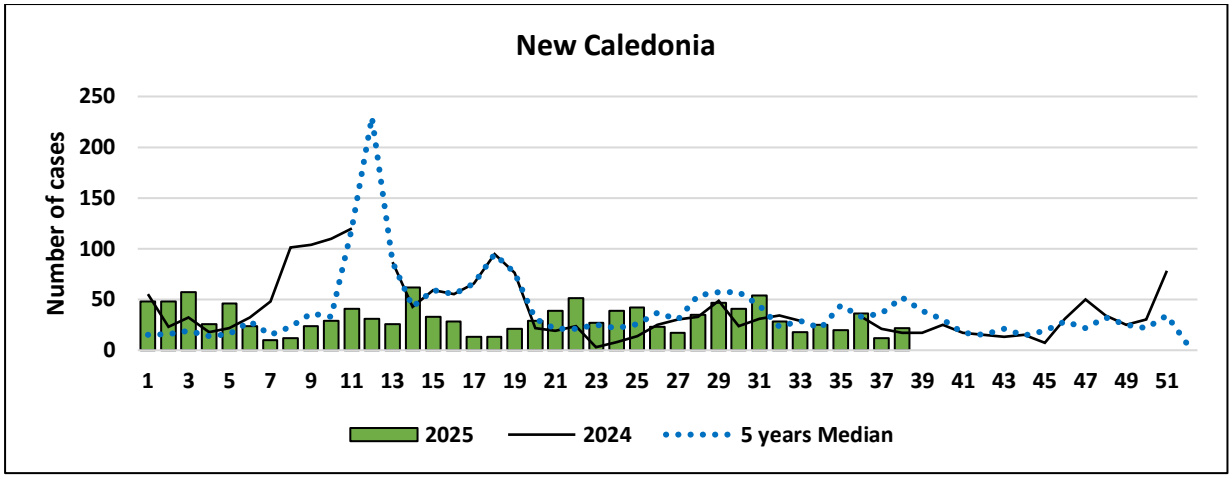

Guam
NUmber of cases
80
60
40
20
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-Week
2025
2024
5 years Median

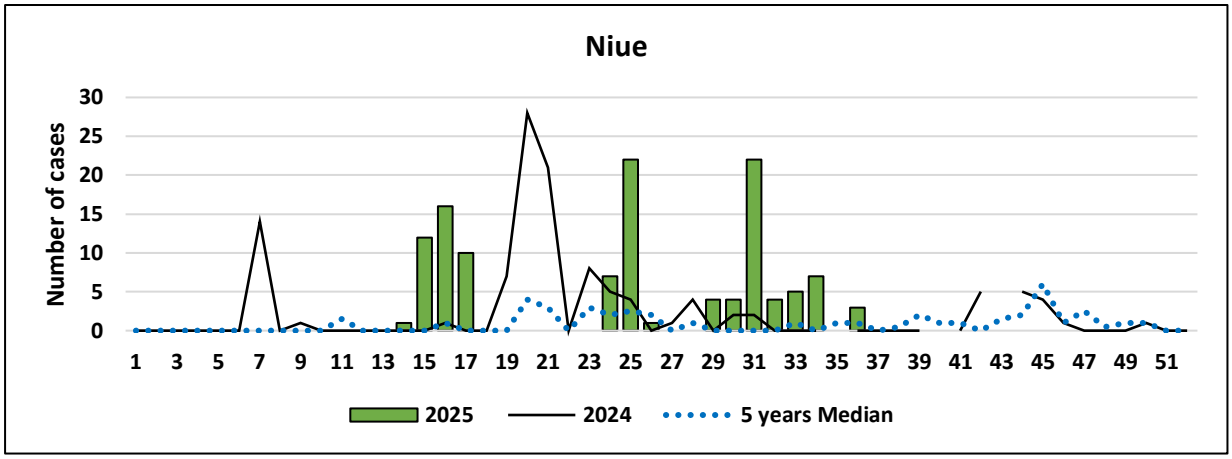

Kiribati
Number of cases
1500
1000
500
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median

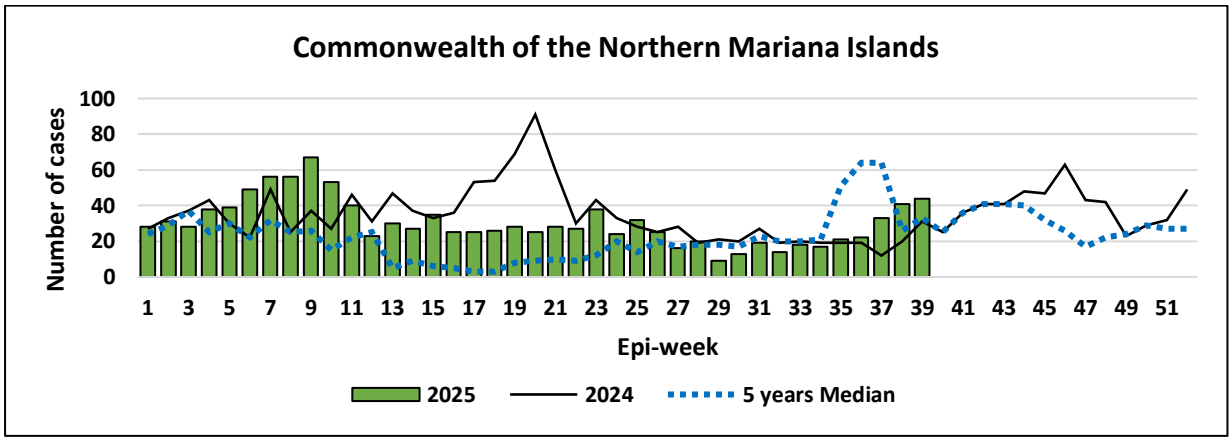

Republic of Marshall Islands
Number of cases
250
200
150
100
50
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median

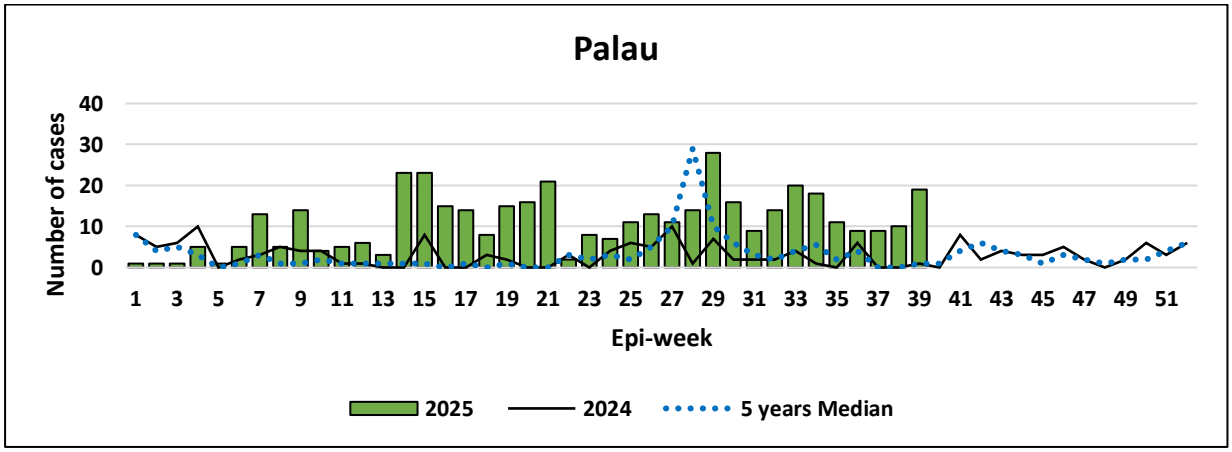

Federated States of Micronesia
Number of cases
250
200
150
100
50
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median

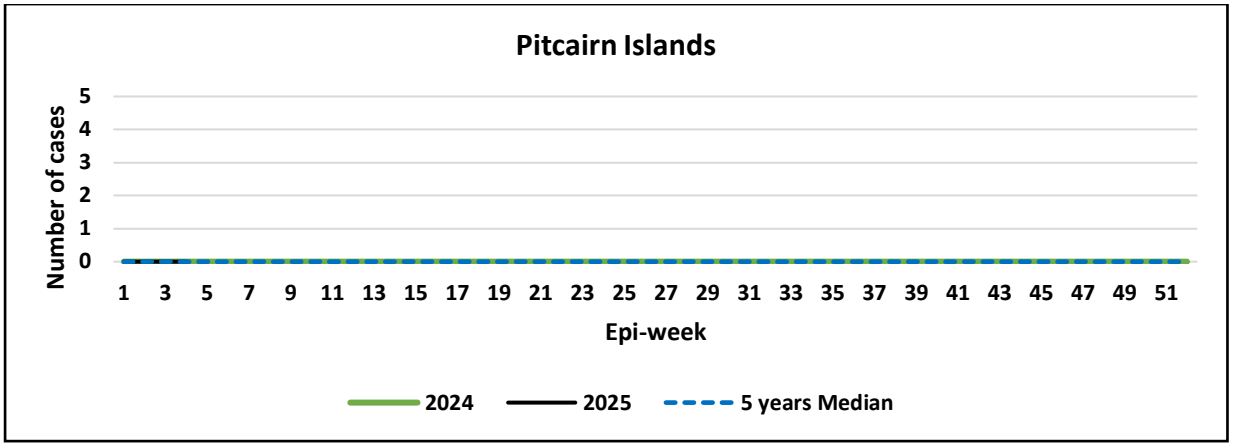

Nauru
Number of cases
100
80
60
40
20
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
Median

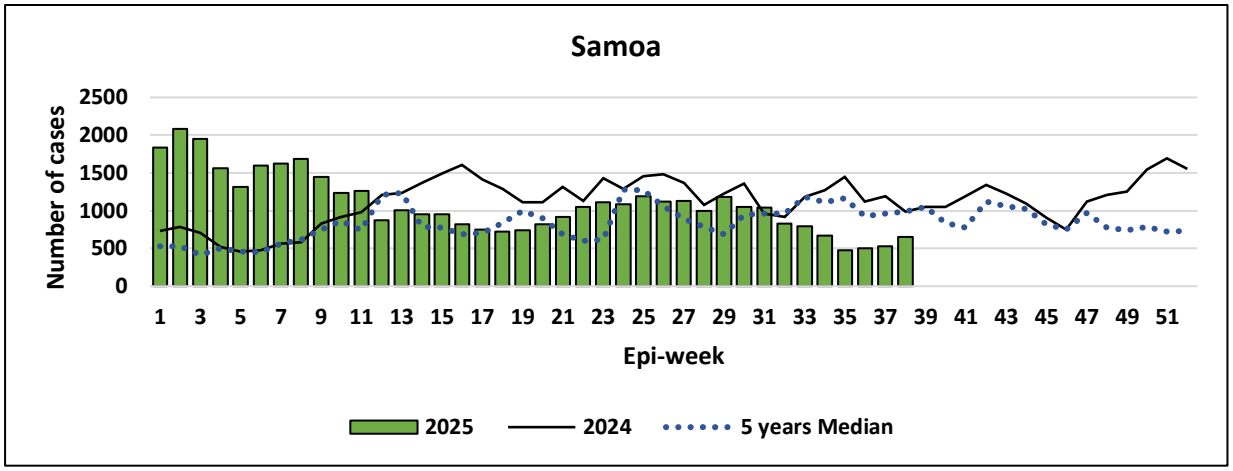

New Caledonia
Number of cases
250
200
150
100
50
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
2025
2024
5 years Median

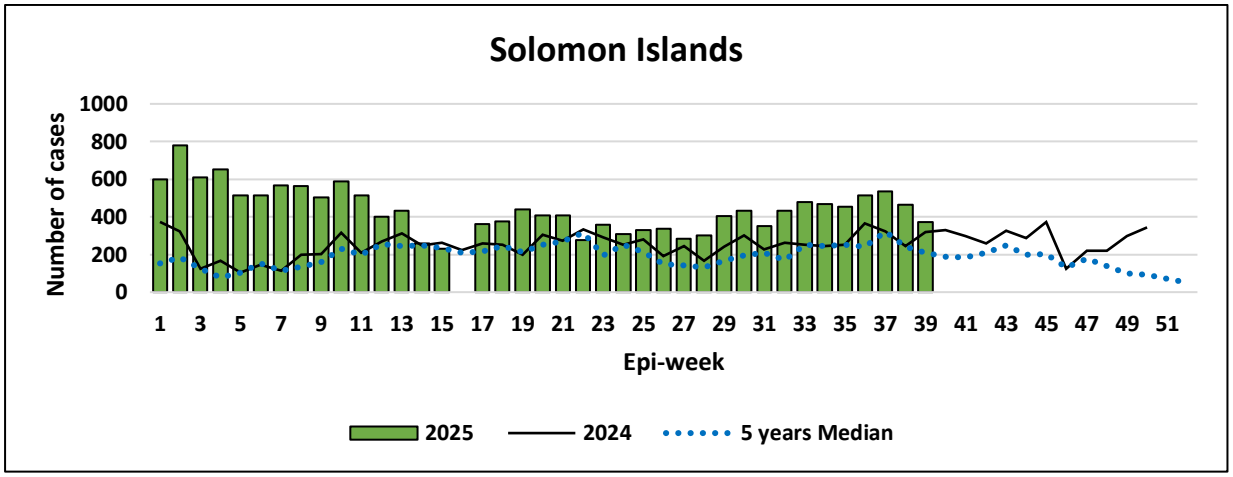

Niue
Number of cases
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
2025
2024
5 years Median

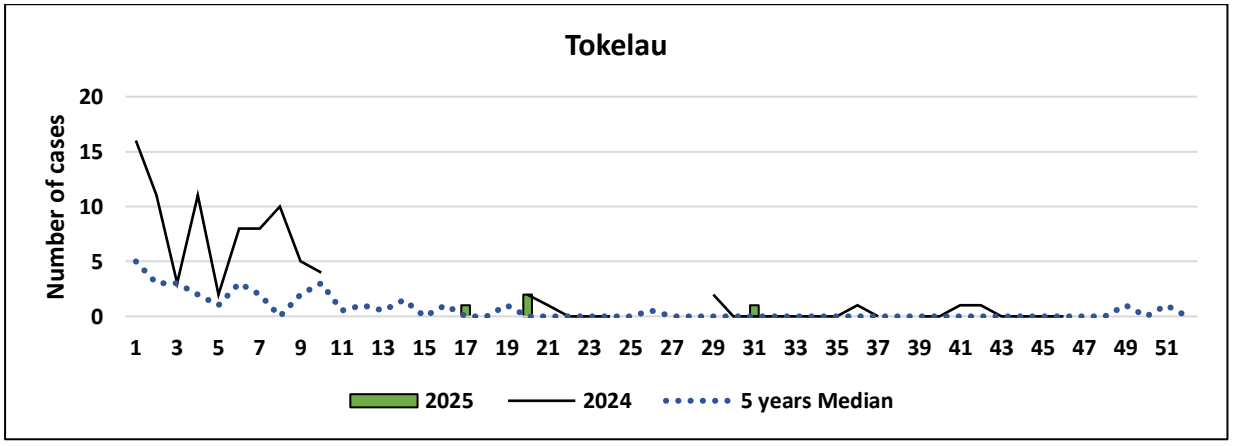

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Number of cases
100
80
60
40
20
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median


Palau
Number of cases
40
30
20
10
0
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median


Pitcairn Islands
Number of cases
0
1
2
3
4
5
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2024
2025
5 years Median


Samoa
Number of cases
0
500
1000
1500
2000
2500
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median


Solomon Islands
Number of cases
0
200
400
600
800
1000
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
Epi-week
2025
2024
5 years Median


Tokelau
Number of cases
0
5
10
15
20
1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51
2025
2024
5 years Median

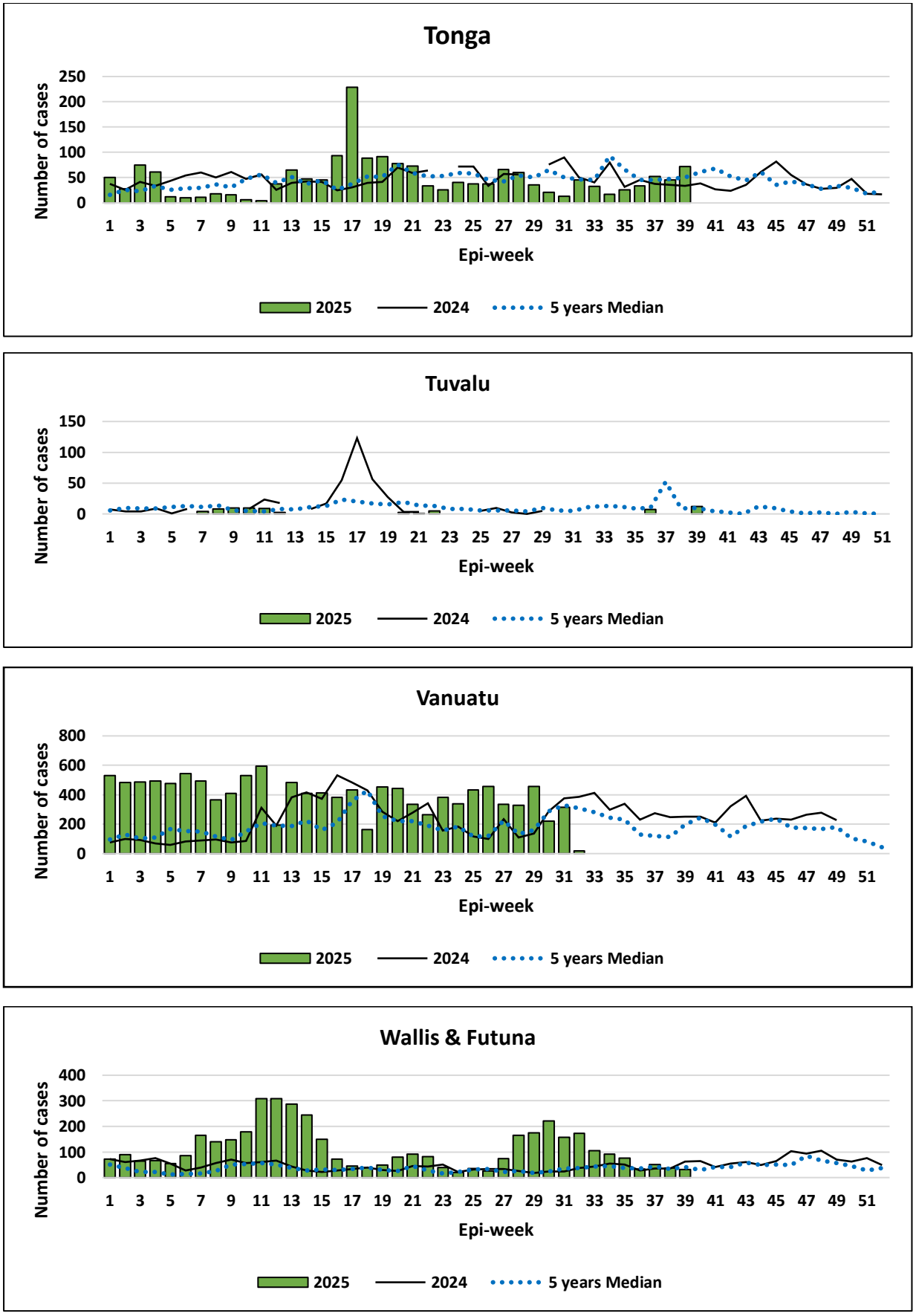


Figure 14: Weekly number of cases of influenza-like illness in Pacific Island Countries, 2024-2025 and 5-year median
(Source: Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System Weekly Bulletin)

Note: Caution should be taken in interpreting these data as there may be changes in the number of sentinel sites reporting to the Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System.

Global influenza situation updates

Global update

Others:

- Recommended composition of influenza virus vaccines for use in the 2026 southern hemisphere influenza season Link
- Recommended composition of influenza virus vaccines for use in the 2025 southern hemisphere influenza season Link
- WHO Consultation on the Composition of Influenza Virus Vaccines for Use in the 2025-2026 Northern Hemisphere Influenza Season Link
- WHO Consultation on the Composition of Influenza Virus Vaccines for Use in the 2025 Southern Hemisphere Influenza Season 23-26 September 2024 Link
- WHO issues updated influenza vaccines position paper Link

WHO's YouTube Channel: film exploring a number of key aspects of the constant evolution of influenza viruses and associated impacts on public health. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish