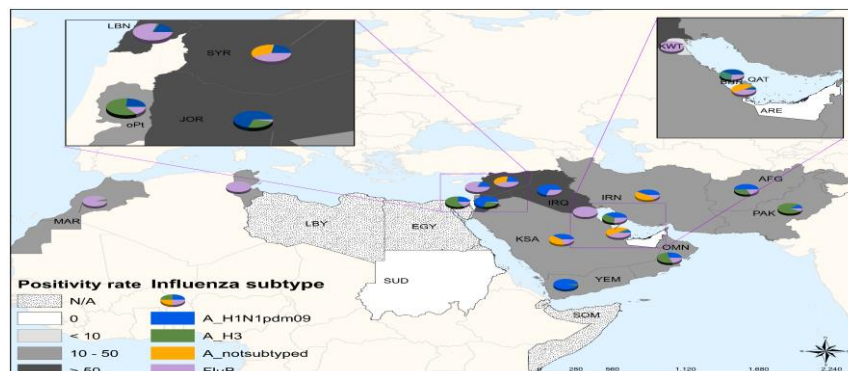


Influenza monthly update

In December 2019, many countries reported data to FluNet and EMFLU, namely Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

The proportion of tested cases for influenza in the Region was 96.7% out of 18 910 enrolled cases; 26.6% of cases tested positive and 73.4% negative.



Disclaimer: The representation of material on the maps contained herein does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authority of frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represents approximate border lines for which there may not be full agreement.

Fig. 1. Influenza geographic spread during December 2019

Influenza activity by sub-type

- In Northern Africa, Morocco and Tunisia reported predominantly detection of influenza B viruses.
- In Western Asia, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Oman, oPt, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Syria reported co-circulation of influenza types A and B, with influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 circulating predominately in Iraq and Jordan. While Kuwait reported exclusive circulation of influenza B viruses and Yemen reported predominant A(H1N1)pdm circulation with sporadic A(H3N2) viruses.
- In the Southern Asia transmission zone, the Islamic Republic of Iran reported high co-circulation of influenza types A and B, while Afghanistan and Pakistan reported low detection of influenza A and B.

Source of transmission zones:
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/transmission_zones/en/

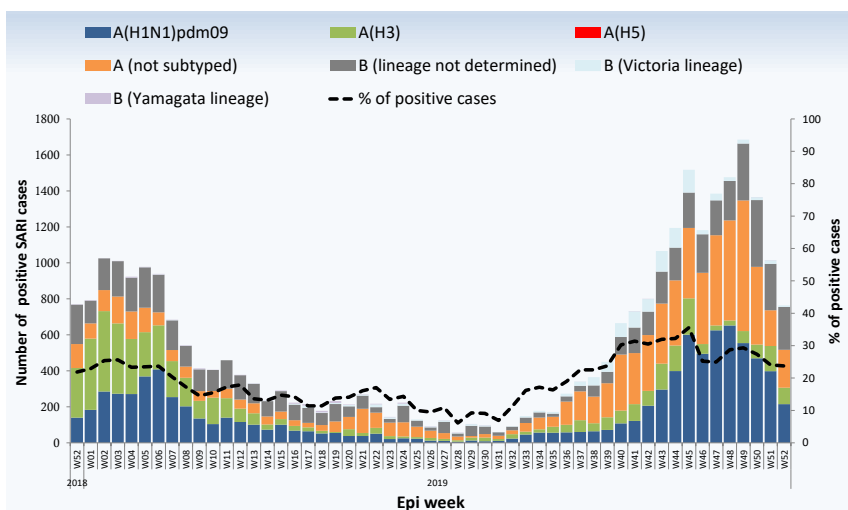


Fig. 2. Weekly positive cases of influenza by subtype, weeks 52/2018–52/2019

Circulating influenza viruses by sub-type

- During December 2019, national influenza centres and influenza laboratories in the Region tested a total of 18 285 specimens for influenza viruses, of which 4856 tested positive (26.6%).
- The average percentage of positive rates was 26.6%, with the highest positive rates recorded in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon.
- Of the viruses tested, 3579 (74%) were influenza A viruses, including 1637 (34%) influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus, 374 (8%) were influenza A(H3) virus and 1568 (32%) were influenza A (not subtyped) virus. Influenza B (lineage not determined) virus accounted for 1183 (25%).

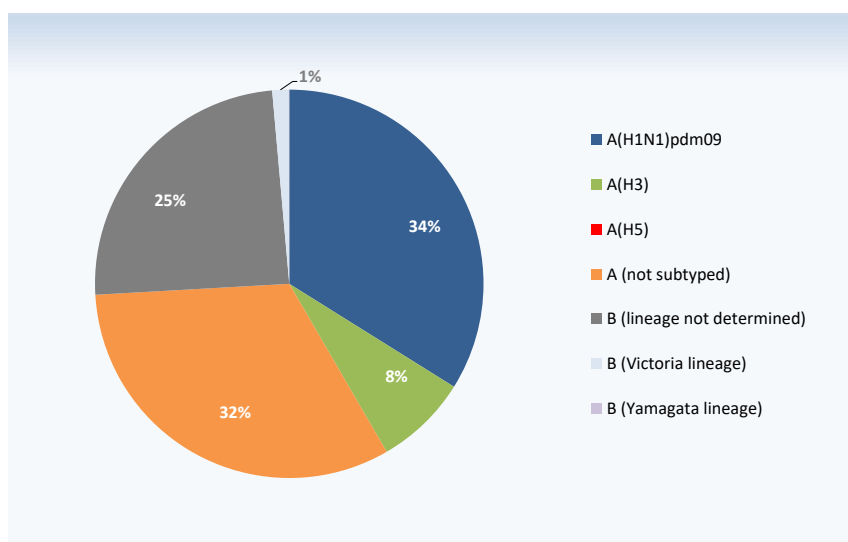


Fig. 3. Circulating influenza viruses by sub-type during December 2019

Source of data: FluNet and EMFLU