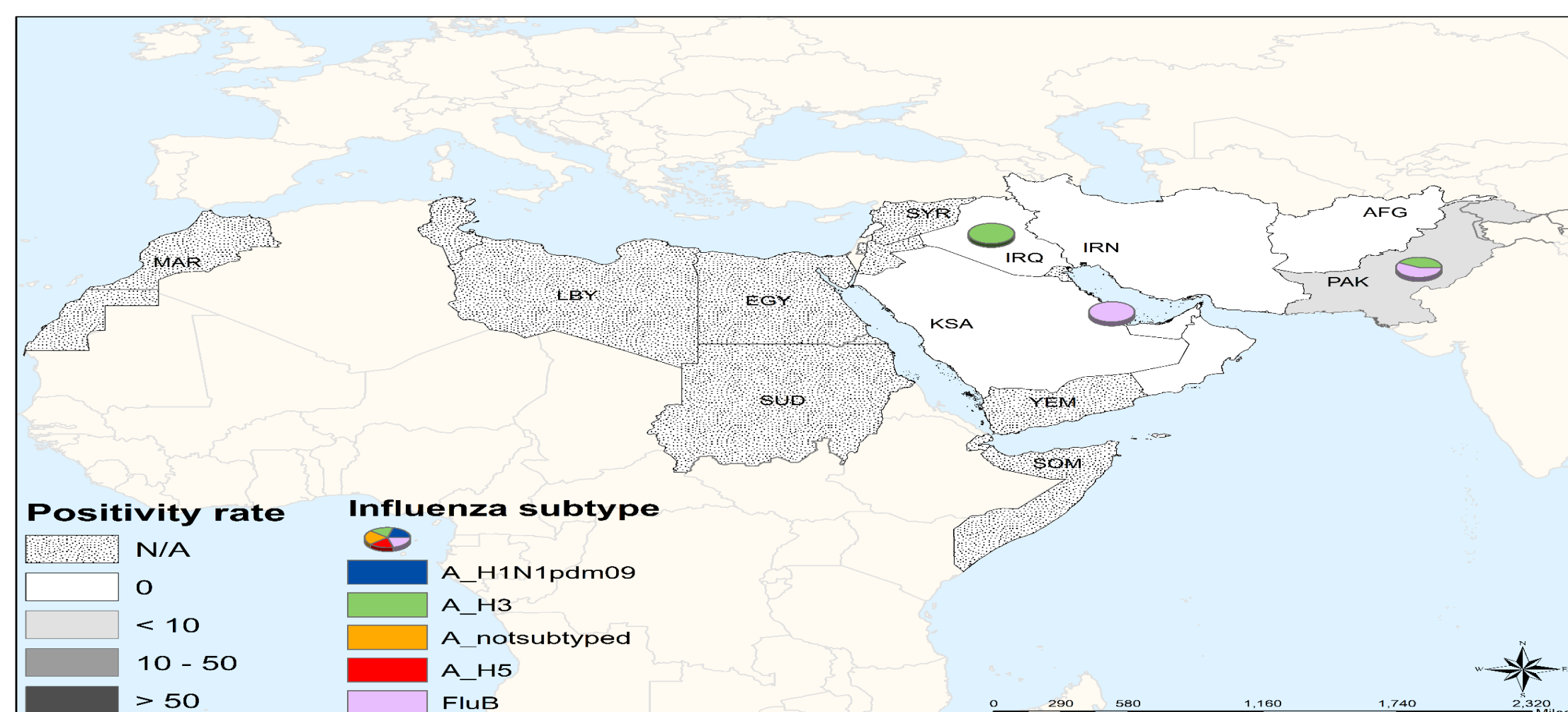


Influenza monthly update

In **May 2021**, 9 countries reported data to FluNet and EMFLU, namely Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

The proportion of tested cases for influenza in the Region was 85.8% out of 2204 enrolled cases. 1.5% of cases tested positive and 98.5% 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.

Figure 1. Influenza geographic spread during May 2021

Influenza activity by sub-type

▪In the western Asia influenza transmission zone, influenza B virus (lineage not determined) was the only subtype detected in Qatar while Iraq, Lebanon, Oman, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates reported no activity.

▪In the southern Asia transmission zone, influenza B virus (lineage not determined) was the only subtype detected in Pakistan while Afghanistan and Islamic Republic of Iran reported no activity.

Source of transmission zones:

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/transmission_zones/en/

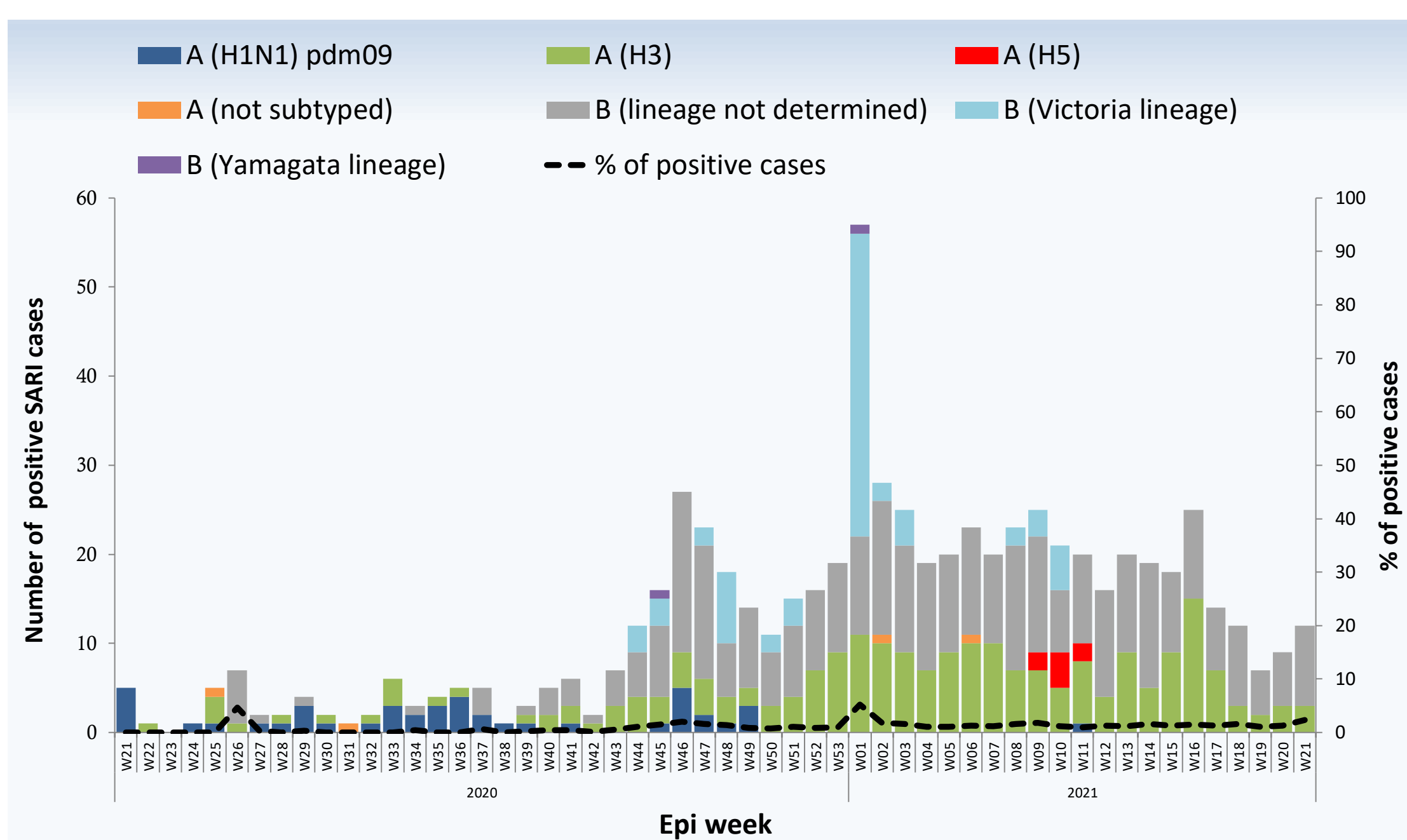


Figure 2. Weekly positive cases of influenza by subtype, weeks 21/2020–2021

Circulating influenza viruses by sub-type

▪During **May 2021**, national influenza centres and influenza laboratories in the Region tested a total of 1819 specimens for influenza viruses, of which 29 tested positive (1.5%).

▪The average percentage of positive rates was 1.5%, with the highest positive rates recorded in Qatar.

▪Of the viruses tested, 29 (73%) were influenza B (lineage not determined), while 11 (27%) were influenza A(H3).

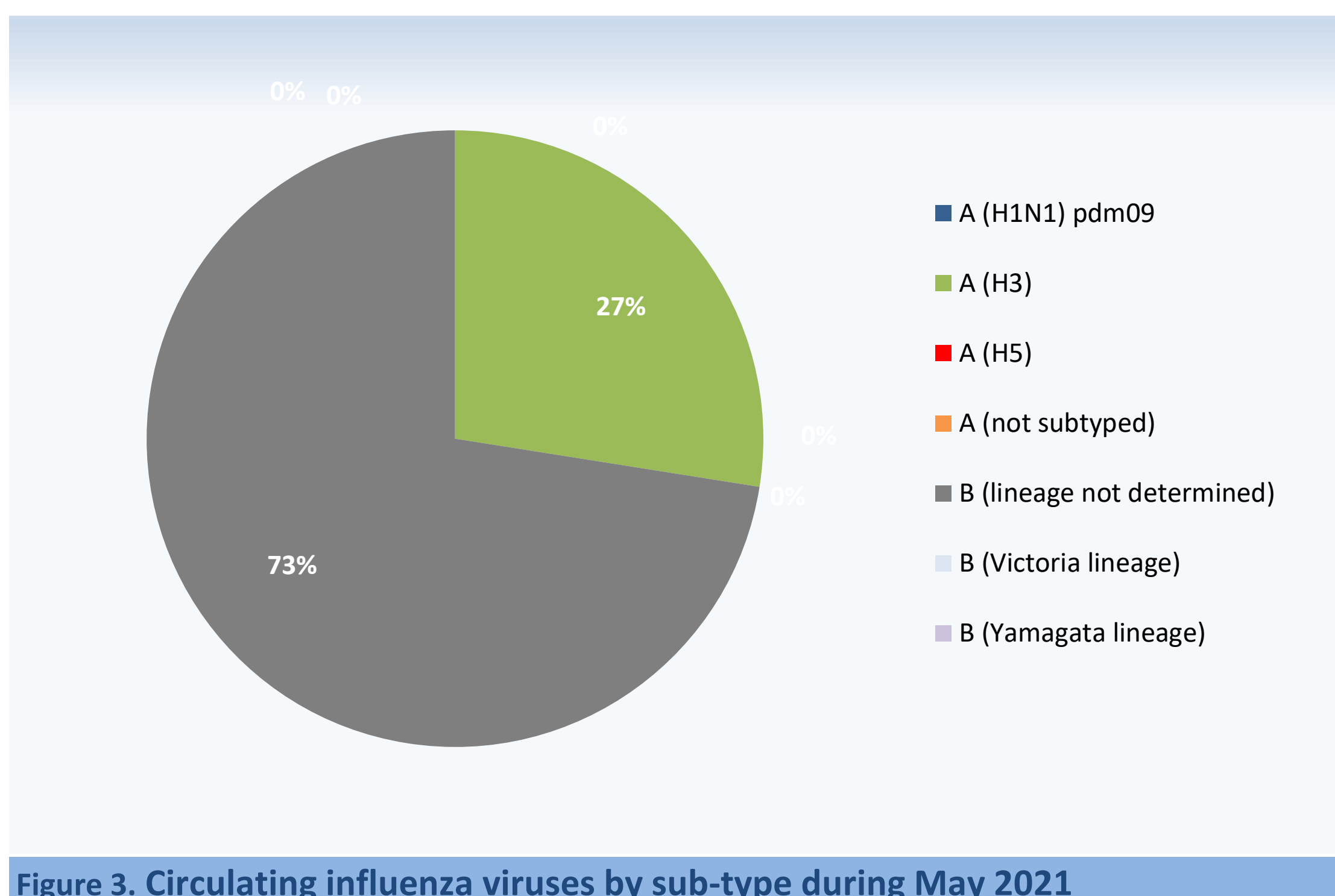


Figure 3. Circulating influenza viruses by sub-type during May 2021

Source of data: FluNet and EMFLU

© World Health Organization 2021.

Some rights reserved. This work is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-Share Alike 3.0 IGO license (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO); <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo/>.