

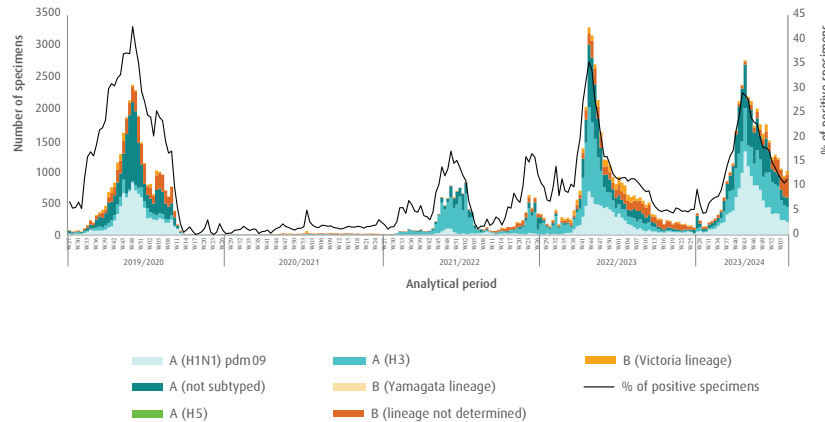
# INFLUENZA MONTHLY UPDATE

January 2024 - Epidemiological weeks: 1-5, 2024

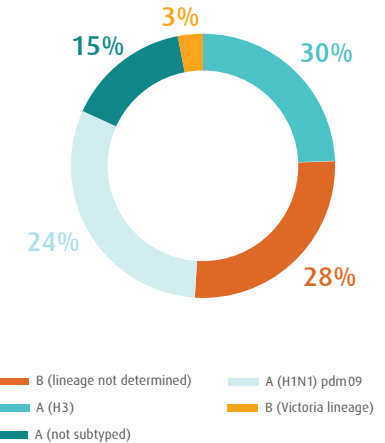
## Key highlights

- In Jan 2024, 19 out of 21 Member States with existing influenza surveillance system in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) reported influenza data to FluNet and/or EMFLU (Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunis, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen)
- The influenza-positive proportion has been showing a decreasing trend since its highest peak (28%) in week 42 of season 2023-24 (Figure 1)
- In the current analytical period (epidemiological week 27 2023 to week 05, 2024), there was a 28% increase in the number of enrolled cases (221,509 compared to the previous reporting period with 173,427 cases in epidemiological week 27 to week 52, 2023). Out of the 221,509 enrolled cases, 220,919 (99.7%) were tested and, out of those, 36,450 (16%) were influenza-positive (Table)
- Influenza positivity proportions varied across countries; from 0% in Somalia to 29% in each of Morocco and Lebanon, based on 200 or more specimens tested during Jan 2024
- In Jan 2024, 47,912 cases were enrolled of which, 47,727 specimens were tested for influenza (99.6%). Of those specimens tested, 5,526 (12%) were positive
- The positivity proportion of influenza type A was higher than that of type B (70% and 30% respectively) during the month of January (Figure 2)
- Of the total 5,526 specimens that tested positive for influenza in January, 1,660 (30%) were type A(H3), 1,574 (28%) were influenza B (lineage not determined), 1,312 (24%) were A (H1N1) pdm09, 815 (15%) were influenza A (not subtyped), and 165 (3%) were influenza B (Victoria lineage) (Figure 2 and Map)

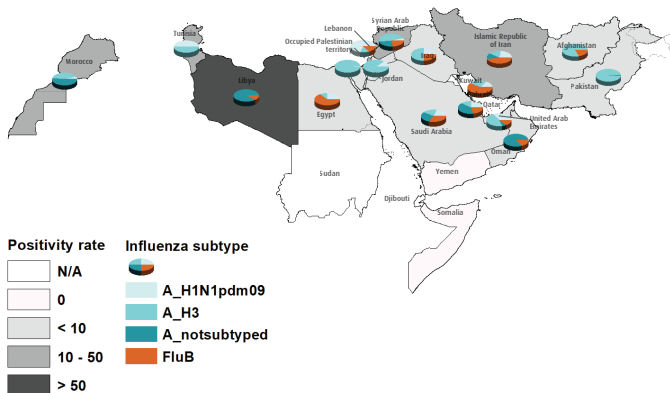
**Fig 1. Number of specimens by influenza virus subtypes/lineages and percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza viruses in the Region from week 27, 2019 to week 5, 2024**



**Fig 2. Proportion of influenza types and subtypes/lineages, EMR, January 2024**



**Map. Influenza positivity rate and detected influenza types and subtypes by country, EMR, January 2024**



**Table. Reported cumulative cases by country in the Region during the analytical period week 27, 2022 to week 5, 2024**

Transmission zone	Country	Number of enrolled cases	Number of tested cases (%)	Number of positive cases (%)	Flu A (%)				Number of flu B cases (%)
					A (H1N1)pdm09	A (H3)	A (H5)	A (not subtyped)	
Eastern Africa	Somalia	1809	1809 (100)	18 (1)	17 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)
Northern Africa	Egypt	21326	21326 (100)	2688 (13)	1839 (9)	136 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	713 (3)
	Libya	118	118 (100)	43 (36)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	40 (34)	3 (3)
	Morocco	2246	2246 (100)	373 (17)	16 (1)	158 (7)	0 (0)	199 (9)	0 (0)
	Tunisia	1659	1659 (100)	226 (14)	112 (7)	114 (7)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Southern Asia	Afghanistan	2305	2295 (100)	182 (8)	1 (0)	169 (7)	0 (0)	0 (0)	12 (1)
	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	83180	83180 (100)	16645 (20)	6726 (8)	2641 (3)	0 (0)	5620 (7)	1658 (2)
	Pakistan	6403	6401 (100)	847 (13)	0 (0)	841 (13)	0 (0)	0 (0)	6 (0)
Western Asia	Bahrain	4470	4465 (100)	830 (19)	367 (8)	239 (5)	0 (0)	16 (0)	208 (5)
	Iraq	856	851 (99)	87 (10)	21 (2)	65 (8)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)
	Jordan	3090	3090 (100)	383 (12)	27 (1)	356 (12)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
	Lebanon	2232	2232 (100)	660 (30)	562 (25)	71 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	27 (1)
	occupied Palestinian territory	1032	1032 (100)	121 (12)	1 (0)	120 (12)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
	Oman	6736	6731 (100)	1288 (19)	341 (5)	174 (3)	0 (0)	695 (10)	78 (1)
	Qatar	15270	15270 (100)	2207 (14)	408 (3)	538 (4)	0 (0)	871 (6)	390 (3)
	Saudi Arabia	31892	31353 (98)	4514 (14)	972 (3)	1087 (3)	0 (0)	1434 (5)	1021 (3)
	Syrian Arab Republic	737	735 (100)	121 (16)	3 (0)	89 (12)	0 (0)	17 (2)	12 (2)
	United Arab Emirates	36031	36023 (100)	5213 (14)	1335 (4)	2582 (7)	0 (0)	566 (2)	730 (2)
Yemen	117	103 (88)	4 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4 (4)	0 (0)	
<b>Total</b>		<b>221509</b>	<b>220919 (100)</b>	<b>36450 (16)</b>	<b>12748 (6)</b>	<b>9380 (4)</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>	<b>9462 (4)</b>	<b>4860 (2)</b>

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