

## Influenza monthly update

Source of data: FluNet and EMFLU

Epidemiological week: 44-48/2019

Influenza activity continued to decrease in the month of **November** in many countries reporting 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.

In **November 2019**, the proportion of tested cases for influenza the Region was 96.9% out of 21 113 enrolled cases; 28.1% of cases tested positive, and 71.9% negative.

### Cumulative numbers of positive influenza specimens by type/subtype reported in the Region, November 2019

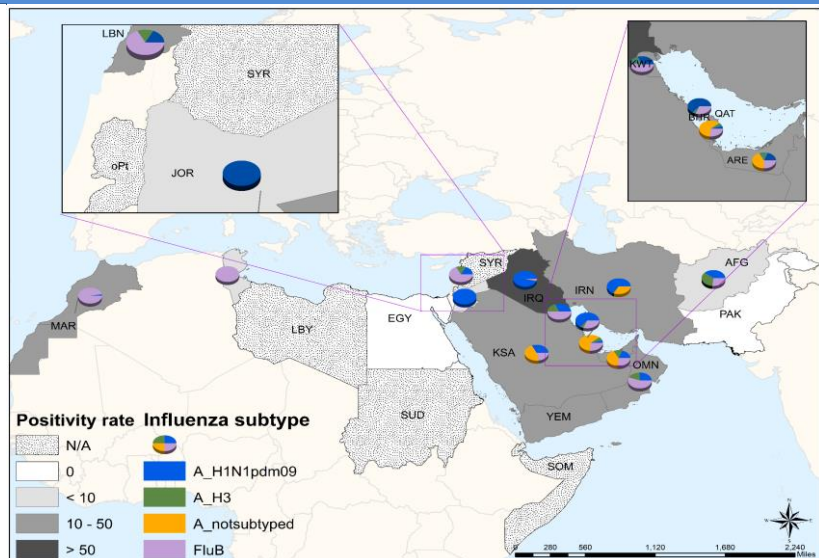
- In northern Africa, Morocco reported low detection of influenza B/Victoria lineage viruses.

- In western Asia, influenza detection increased across reporting countries. Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait reported co-circulation of influenza types A and B, with influenza B predominately detected in Oman and Kuwait, A(H1N1)pdm predominant in Bahrain and Iraq and influenza A(H3N2) predominant in Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

- In the southern Asia transmission zone, the Islamic Republic of Iran reported increased co-circulation of influenza types A and B, with influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 predominant, while Afghanistan reported low detection of influenza A and B.

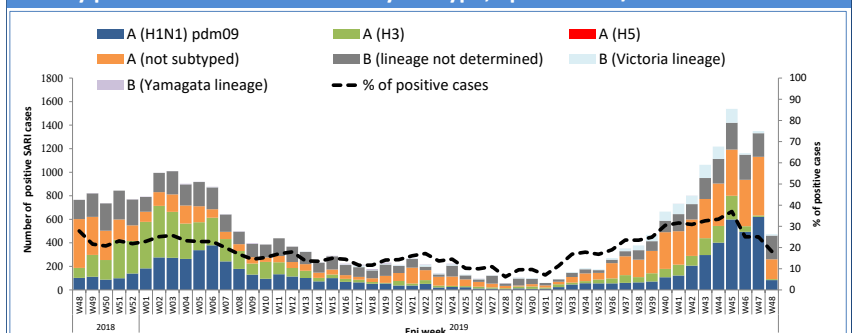
#### Source of transmission zones:

[http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/transmission\\_zones/en/](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/transmission_zones/en/)



*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.*

### Weekly positive cases of influenza by subtype, Epi week 48/2018–2019



### Circulating influenza viruses in the Eastern Mediterranean Region by subtype, November 2019

- During **November 2019**, national influenza centres and influenza laboratories in the Region tested a total of 20 466 specimens for influenza viruses, of which 5753 tested positive (28.1%).
- The average percentage of positive rates was 28.1%, with the highest positive rates recorded in Iraq, UAE, Morocco and Saudi Arabia.
- Of the viruses tested; 4423 (77%) were influenza A viruses, including 2198 (38%) influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus, 411 (7%) were influenza A(H3) virus and 1814 (32%) were influenza A(not subtyped) virus. Influenza B (Lineage Not determined) virus accounted for 1052 (18%) and influenza B (Victoria lineage) virus accounted for 267 (5%).

