Influenza activity by sub-type

- In April 2018, no new cases of human influenza A(H5N1) were reported in Egypt.
- In the northern Africa influenza transmission zone, Tunisia reported sporadic circulation of A(H1N1)pdm09 and influenza B, while Egypt reported co-circulation of all seasonal influenza viruses.
- In the Western Asia influenza transmission zone, influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 was detected with influenza B virus in Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, while Jordan reported A(H1N1)pdm09 and influenza B, Iraq reported circulation of A(H1N1)pdm09, while oPt reported co-circulation of influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and A (H3N2).
- In southern Asia transmission zone, Afghanistan reported sporadic circulation of influenza B; Iran (Islamic Republic of) reported sporadic detection of seasonal influenza A, and Pakistan reported co-circulation of all seasonal influenza viruses.


Figure 2 shows the weekly distribution of influenza subtypes.

Circulating influenza viruses by subtype

- During April 2018, national influenza centres and influenza laboratories in the Region tested a total of 4818 specimens for influenza viruses of which 747 tested positive (16%).
- The average percentage of positivity rates is 16%, with highest positivity rate recorded in Bahrain, Egypt, Lebanon, Kuwait and Qatar.
- Of the viruses tested, 511 (68%) were influenza A viruses, including 371 (50%) influenza A/H1N1pdm09 virus and 109 (15%) were influenza A/H3 virus. Influenza B virus accounted for 235 (31%) including 221 (29%) influenza B (Lineage Not determined) and 14 (2%) B (Yamagata Lineage) (Figure 3).