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 in the Region was 96.9% out of 21,113 enrolled cases; 28.1% of cases tested positive, and 71.9% negative.

Figure 1: Influenza geographic spread by type and subtypes, 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 influenzaA(H3N2) predominant in Qatar and Saudia 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.

Figure 2: Circulating influenza viruses by subtype
Figure 3: Circulating influenza viruses in the EMR by subtype, November 2019.