

## Influenza-like illness

### INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS

#### The end of the influenza epidemic is approaching

Sentinel physicians monitor the number of ILI seen in consultations (defined by sudden fever > 39°C (>102°F) with myalgia and respiratory signs).

**Clinical monitoring:** in metropolitan France, last week, the incidence rate of influenza-like illness seen in general practice was estimated at 160 cases per 100,000 inhabitants (95% CI [140 ; 180]), below the epidemic threshold (165 cases per 100,000) [1]. It will take another week to confirm the end of the influenza epidemic. The activity is decreasing for 3 weeks (see the graph hereafter).

**At the regional level,** the highest incidence rates were reported in: Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (231 cases per 100,000 inhabitants, 95% CI [151 ; 311]), Pays de la Loire (197, 95% CI [89 ; 305]) and Nouvelle-Aquitaine (196, 95% CI [88 ; 304]). Five of the thirteen regions still have an incidence rate higher than the national epidemic threshold. (the regional data are presented at the end of this newsletter)

**Virological monitoring:** since week 2016w40, date of start of monitoring, 2,666 samples were collected by Sentinelles network practitioners (1,861 by general practitioners 805 by pediatricians), among them, 1,356 (50.9%) were positive for at least one influenza virus on 2,665 test. The virus of type A(H3N2) was predominant, accounting for 97.1% (1,316 / 1,356) of the positive samples. Last week 130 samples were tested, among them, 62 (47.7%) were positive for at least one influenza virus. The positivity rate decreased, mostly in pediatrics, this week. The A(H3N2) remains the predominant virus detected:

- 9 (0.3%) A(H1N1)pdm09 virus,
- 1316 (49.4%) A(H3N2) virus,
- 29 (1.1%) A untyped virus,
- 2 (0.1%) B/Victoria lineage virus,
- 0 (0.0%) B/Yamagata lineage virus,
- 1 (0.0%) B unknown lineage virus.

A single influenza A and B viruses co-infections has been observed.

Among the samples tested for three other respiratory viruses, the Rhinovirus and the Respiratory syncytial virus were dominant with 242 (9.2%) and 252 (9.5%) positive samples, respectively.

Last week, among the three viruses monitored RSV, Rhinovirus and Metapneumovirus were in slight increased circulation.

The samples were analyzed by the CNR (National Reference Centers) of *influenzae* viruses (CC Paris, CA Lyon), and the laboratory of Virology at the University of Corsica.

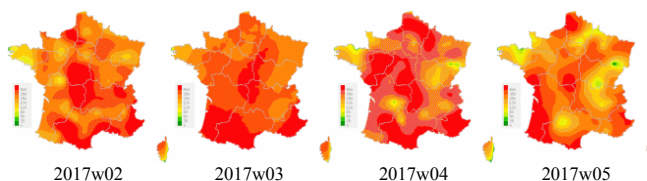
**Forecast:** according to the forecast models used (based on historical data [2] and on medication deliveries (IMS-Health research partnership) [3]), the level of activity of ILI should continue to decrease in the upcoming weeks (see the graph hereafter).

[More information about this surveillance](#)  
[Information about the statistical methods](#)

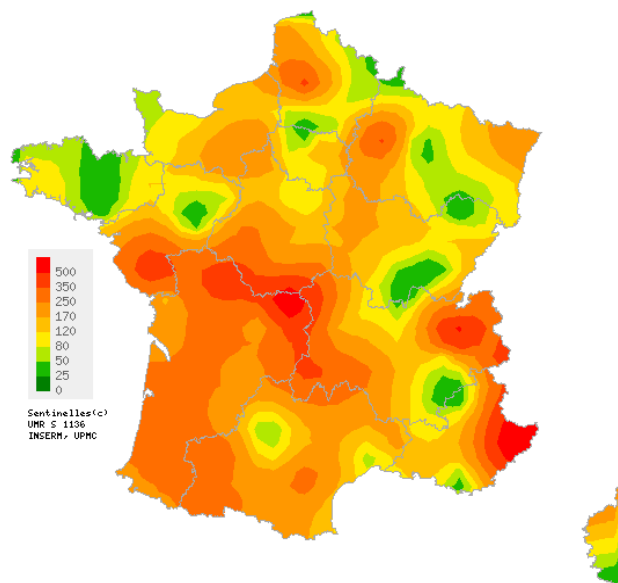
[1] Costagliola D, et al. A routine tool for detection and assessment of epidemics of influenza-like syndromes in France. *Am J Public Health*. 1991;81(1):97-9.

[2] Viboud C, et al. Prediction of the spread of influenza epidemics by the method of analogues. *Am J Epidemiol*. 2003 Nov 15;158(10):996-1006.

[3] Vergu E, et al. Medication sales and syndromic surveillance, France. *Emerg Infect Dis*. 2006. 12(3):416-21.



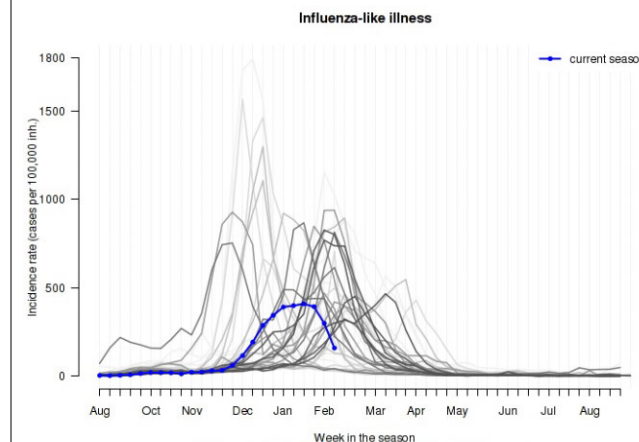
Consolidated data for the last 4 weeks



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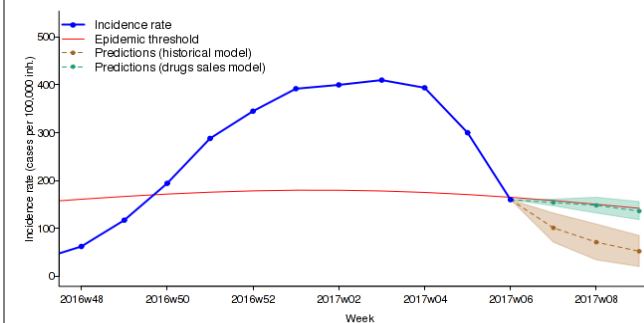
Map of spatial data interpolation based on Influenza-like illness incidence rates at the « département » (NUTS 3) level (per 100 000 inhabitants),

Sentinelles general practitioners, 2017w06  
Maps available at <http://www.sentiweb.fr>



Incidence rate of influenza-like illness since 1984 (per 100 000 inhabitants),  
Sentinelles general practitioners.

In Blue: season 2016-2017 / In gray: seasons from 1984 to 2016  
(the clearer the curve the older the data)



Predicted incidence rate for the next three weeks  
based on a forecast model on historical data [2] and on drug sales [3]  
Sentinelles general practitioners

## Acute Diarrhea

### ACUTE DIARRHEA

#### Moderate activity

Sentinel physicians monitor the number of acute diarrhea seen in consultations (defined by recent acute diarrhea (at least 3 daily watery or nearly so stools, dating less than 14 days, motivating consultation).

**Clinical monitoring:** in metropolitan France, last week, the incidence rate of acute diarrhea seen in general practice was estimated at 162 cases per 100,000 inhabitants (95% CI [143 ; 181]), **below** the epidemic threshold (189 cases per 100,000) [1]. (see the graphe hereafter).

**At the regional level,** the highest incidence rates were noted in: Pays de la Loire (254 cases per 100,000 inhabitants, 95% CI [108 ; 400]), Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (224, 95% CI [0 ; 453]) and Grand Est (195, 95% CI [133 ; 257]) (the regional data are presented at the end of this newsletter).

**Results for 2016-17 epidemic :** the epidemic lasted for 10 weeks, from November 14th 2016 to January 22nd 2017 (week 2016w46 to 2017w03); within this period 1,367,000 people have consulted their GP for acute diarrhea (CI 95% [1,368,000 ; 1,406,000]). The apex of the epidemic was reached the week 2017w01 (247 cases per 100,000 inhabitants). The incidence has remained relatively constant and close to the epidemic threshold. The 2016-2017 epidemic has been the earliest observed by the Sentinelles network since 1990, but of moderate magnitude (14th out of the 27 observed epidemics).

**Regarding the cases reported** during the 10 weeks of epidemic, the median age was 25 years ( 2 months to 98 years). Males accounted for 48% of the cases. These cases showed no particular sign of severity: the percentage of hospitalization was estimated at 0.38% (95% CI [0.25 ; 0.55]).

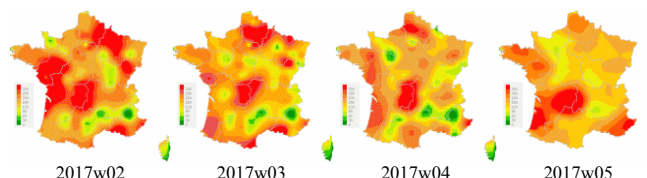
**Forecast:** according to the forecast model based on historical data [2], the level of activity of acute diarrhea should continue to decline (see the graphe hereafter).

[More information about this surveillance](#)

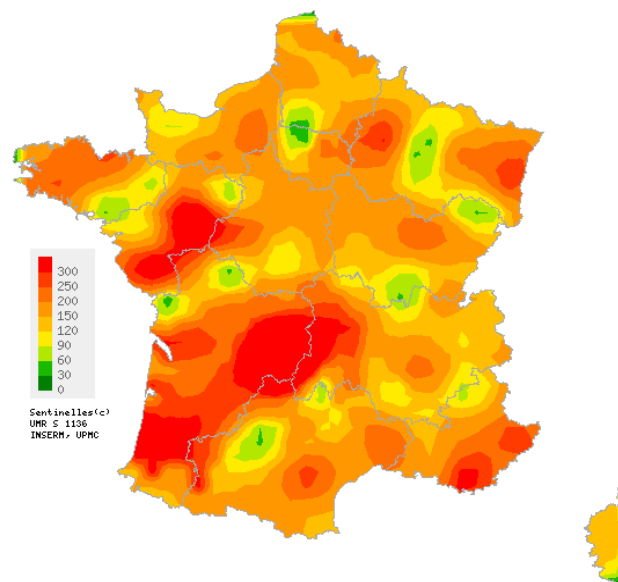
[Information about the statistical methods](#)

[1] Costagliola D, et al. A routine tool for detection and assessment of epidemics of influenza-like syndromes in France. *Am J Public Health.* 1991;81(1):97-9.

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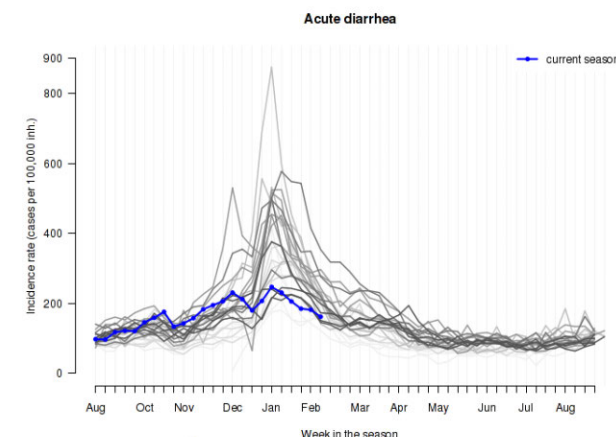


Consolidated data for the last 4 weeks



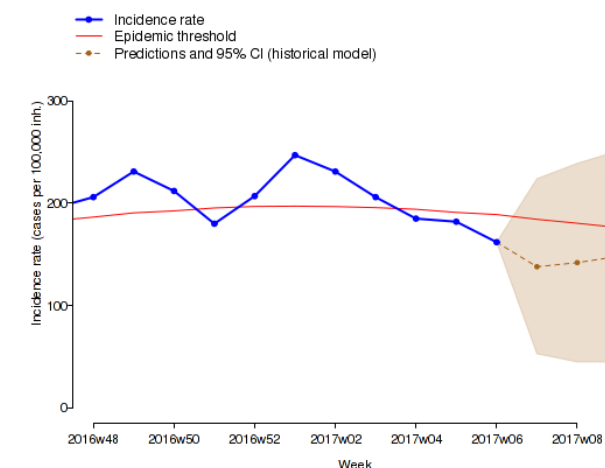
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Map of spatial data interpolation  
based on acute diarrhea incidence rates  
at the « département » (NUTS 3) level (per 100 000 inhabitants),  
Sentinelles general practitioners, 2017w06  
[Maps available at http://www.sentiweb.fr](http://www.sentiweb.fr)



Incidence rate of acute diarrhea since 1990 (per 100 000 inhabitants),  
Sentinelles general practitioners.

In Blue : season 2016-2017 / In gray: seasons from 1990 to 2016  
(the clearer the curve the older the data)



Predicted acute diarrhea incidence rate for the next three weeks  
based on a forecast model on historical data [2]  
Sentinelles general practitioners

## Chickenpox

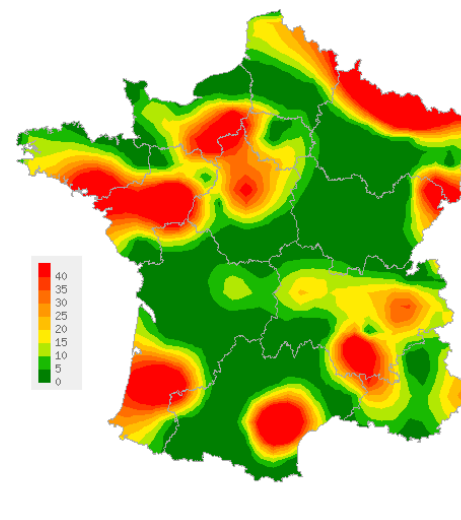
### CHICKENPOX Moderate activity

In metropolitan France, last week (2017w06), the incidence rate of Chickenpox seen in general practice was estimated at 17 cases per 100,000 inhabitants (95% CI [11 ; 23]).

**Eight moderate regional clusters** were reported in Pays de la Loire (37, 95% CI [0;87]), Grand Est (32, 95% CI [3; 61]), Bretagne (20, 95% CI [0 ; 57]), Centre-Val de Loire (20, 95% CI [2 ; 38]), Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (19, 95% CI [5 ; 33]), Normandie (18, 95% CI [0 ; 43]), Hauts-de-France (17, 95% CI [0 ; 36]) and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (15, 95% CI [0 ; 35]). \*

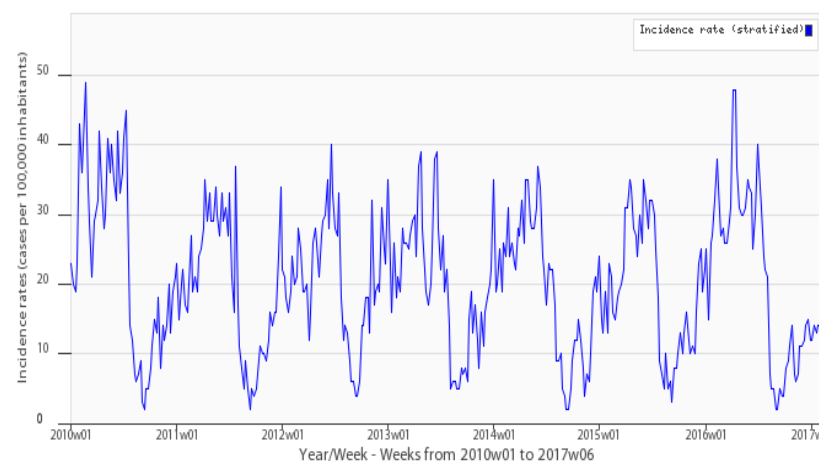
[More information about this surveillance](#)

\* The regional data are presented at the end of this report.



Map of spatial data interpolation based on chickenpox incidence rates at the « département » (NUTS 3) level (per 100 000 inhabitants), Sentinelles general practitioners, 2017w06  
[Maps available at http://www.sentiweb.fr](http://www.sentiweb.fr)

Sentinelles Network, Chickenpox, Metropolitan France



Chickenpox incidence rate  
(per 100 000 inhabitants), Sentinelles general practitioners

| National incidence rates<br>(per 100 000 inhabitants)<br>over the past 3 weeks | 2017w06 (non consolidated)                             | 2017w05  | 2017w04  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  | Incidence rate estimation<br>[95% confidence interval] | Incidence rate estimation<br>[95% confidence interval] | Incidence rate estimation<br>[95% confidence interval] |
| INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS   | 160 [140 ; 180]  | 300 [278 ; 322]  | 394 [370 ; 418]  |
| ACUTE DIARRHEA   | 162 [143 ; 181]  | 182 [165 ; 199]  | 185 [168 ; 202]  |
| CHICKENPOX   | 17 [11 ; 23]   | 14 [10 ; 18]   | 14 [9 ; 19]  |

Table 1 : Incidence rates\* estimation with 95% confidence interval, for each indicator, in France, over the past 3 weeks .

| Regional incidence rates<br>for week 2017w06<br>(per 100 000 inhabitants) | INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS                                 | ACUTE DIARRHEA   | CHICKENPOX   |
|---|--|--|--|
|   | Incidence rate estimation<br>[95% confidence interval] | Incidence rate estimation<br>[95% confidence interval] | Incidence rate estimation<br>[95% confidence interval] |
| Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes  | 178 [131 ; 225]  | 158 [112 ; 204]  | 19 [5 ; 33]  |
| Bourgogne-Franche-Comté   | 83 [27 ; 139]  | 132 [63 ; 201]   | 4 [0 ; 11]   |
| Bretagne  | 72 [28 ; 116]  | 147 [83 ; 211]   | 20 [0 ; 57]  |
| Centre-Val de Loire   | 158 [98 ; 218]   | 173 [114 ; 232]  | 20 [2 ; 38]  |
| Corse   | 182 [91 ; 273]   | 107 [40 ; 174]   | 9 [0 ; 30]   |
| Grand Est   | 151 [95 ; 207]   | 195 [133 ; 257]  | 32 [3 ; 61]  |
| Hauts-de-France   | 114 [63 ; 165]   | 166 [103 ; 229]  | 17 [0 ; 36]  |
| Ile-de-France   | 90 [35 ; 145]  | 114 [61 ; 167]   | 4 [0 ; 11]   |
| Normandie   | 145 [73 ; 217]   | 181 [97 ; 265]   | 18 [0 ; 43]  |
| Nouvelle-Aquitaine  | 196 [88 ; 304]   | 161 [55 ; 267]   | 6 [0 ; 17]   |
| Occitanie   | 108 [51 ; 165]   | 134 [70 ; 198]   | 7 [0 ; 20]   |
| Pays de la Loire  | 197 [89 ; 305]   | 254 [108 ; 400]  | 37 [0 ; 87]  |
| Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur  | 231 [151 ; 311]  | 224 [0 ; 453]  | 15 [0 ; 35]  |

Table 2 : Incidence rates\* estimation with 95% confidence interval, for each indicator, for each French region, for week 2017w06.

## Réseau Sentinelles

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*The " Réseau Sentinelles" or Sentinelles Network  
(a.k.a. French Communicable Diseases Computer Network)  
is a network of **1401** physicians working throughout the metropolitan regions  
of France including **560** involved in the clinical surveillance activity  
(**445** general practitioners and **115** pediatricians)  
enabling the achievement of weekly newsletters.  
This network is developed in cooperation between Inserm, Université Pierre  
et Marie Curie (UPMC) and the Agence Santé publique France.*

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**Editor :** Yves Dorléans

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| <b>Centre Val de Loire /<br/>Hauts-de-France</b>                                 | Thierry Prazuck                         | Thomas Goronflot<br>Mathieu Rivière                   |
| <b>Ile-de-France</b>   | Mathilde François                       | Cécile Pino   |
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\* Incidence rates estimate are calculated on the activity of general practitioners.