



Syndromic Surveillance & COVID-19 Update

Epiweek 49: 04/12/23 – 10/12/23

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A. COVID-19 Situational Update

SAMOA COVID-19 SITUATION	Number of cases
Total of new COVID-19 positive cases over the last 7 days (both PCR and rapid antigen test - RAT)	41
Total of new COVID-19 positive cases detected at the border over the last 7 days (both PCR and rapid antigen test - RAT)	0
Positivity rate for COVID-19 testing in the last 7 days	6.14%
Cumulative number of COVID-19 positive cases (border and community cases)	16,884
Cumulative number of COVID-19 related deaths since community transmission detected in March 17, 2022	31

The Ministry of Health continues to encourage all the eligible population especially those who are high risk to get their booster doses at any health facility in Upolu and Savaii.

B. Syndromic Surveillance Update

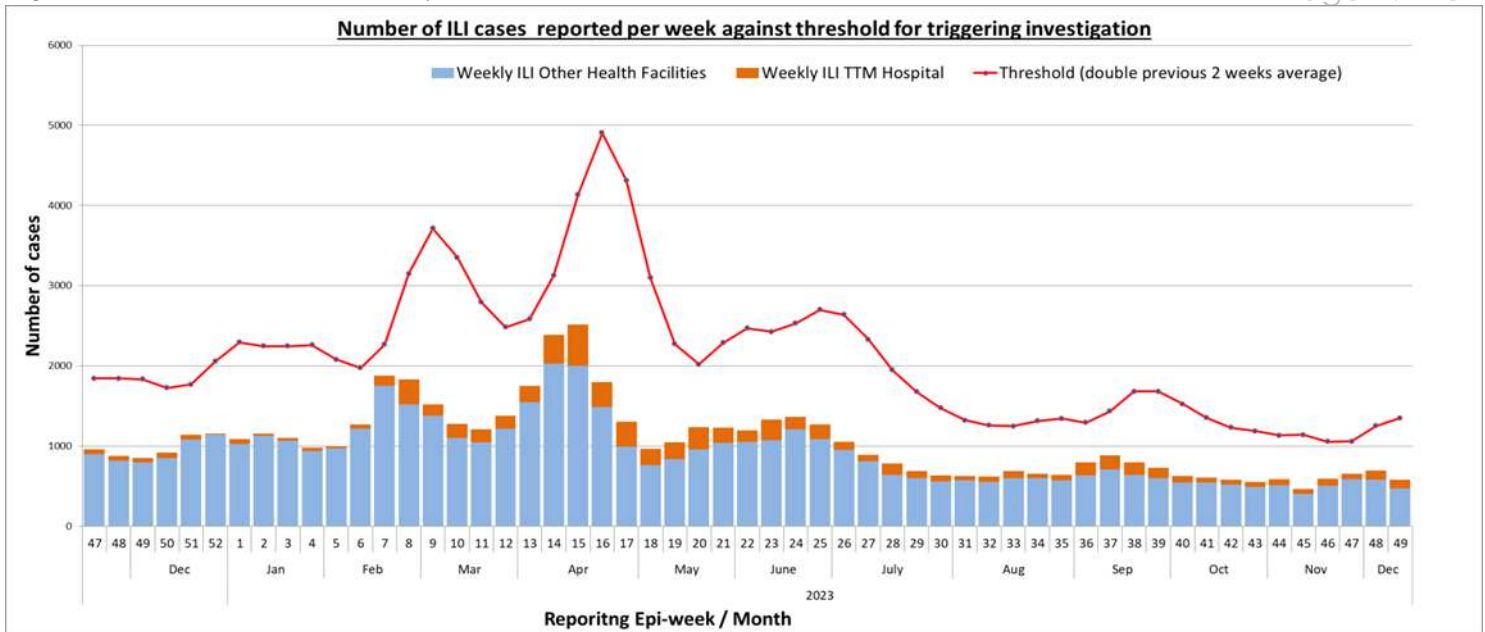
1. Influenza like illness (ILI)

Case Definition: An acute respiratory infection with a history of fever or measured fever of $\geq 38\text{ C}^\circ$ and cough, with onset within the last 10 days

Alert threshold: **Exceeding double the average in the previous 2 weeks**

Epi-weeks	Epi-week 48: 27/11/23-03/12/23	Epi-week 49: 04/12/23-10/12/23
Total cases reported	696	578
Moving Average	626	676
Threshold	1251	1351





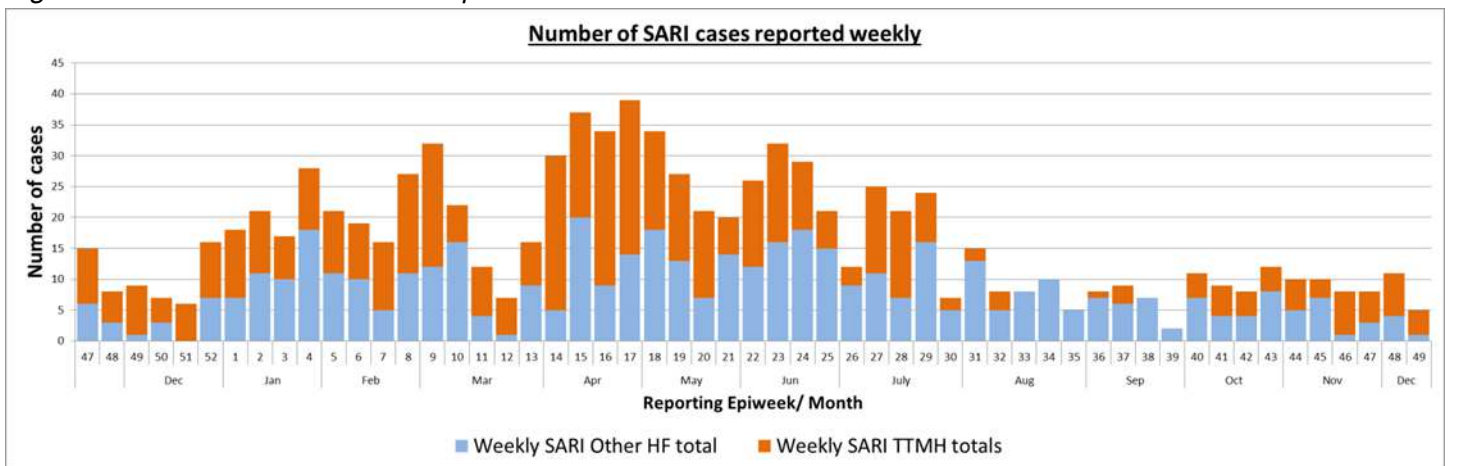
The ILI cases reported is below the alert threshold. However, the Ministry of Health still highly recommends the general public to continue the practice of preventative measures such as – wearing of masks especially when you’re having flu-like symptoms such as cough and runny nose, hand hygiene and avoid large gatherings without masks. If you are feeling ill with flu-like symptoms, please see a nurse or doctor, stay home and take medications as prescribed.

2. Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI)

Case Definition: An acute respiratory infection with a history of fever or measured fever of $\geq 38\text{ C}^\circ$ and cough, with onset within the last 10 days, AND requiring hospitalization
Alert threshold: 2 linked cases

Epi-weeks	Epi-week 48: 27/11/23-03/12/23	Epi-week 49: 04/12/23-10/12/23
Total cases reported	11	5
Moving Average	8	9.5
Threshold	2 linked cases	2 linked cases

Figure 2. Number of SARI cases reported from all health facilities



The SARI cases reported have been investigated, and no known links were identified. Therefore, it does not meet the definition exceeding the threshold. Despite the threshold, the public is strongly advised to continue to practice preventative measures as mentioned above such as wearing of masks, hand hygiene and avoid crowded places.