



Syndromic Surveillance & COVID-19 Update

Epiweek 50: 11/12/23 – 17/12/23

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Prepared by: National Health Surveillance & IHR Division

Email: surveillance@health.gov.ws

Tel: 66506/66507

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) | 58 |
| 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 | 8.66% |
| Cumulative number of COVID-19 positive cases (border and community cases) | 16,942 |
| 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

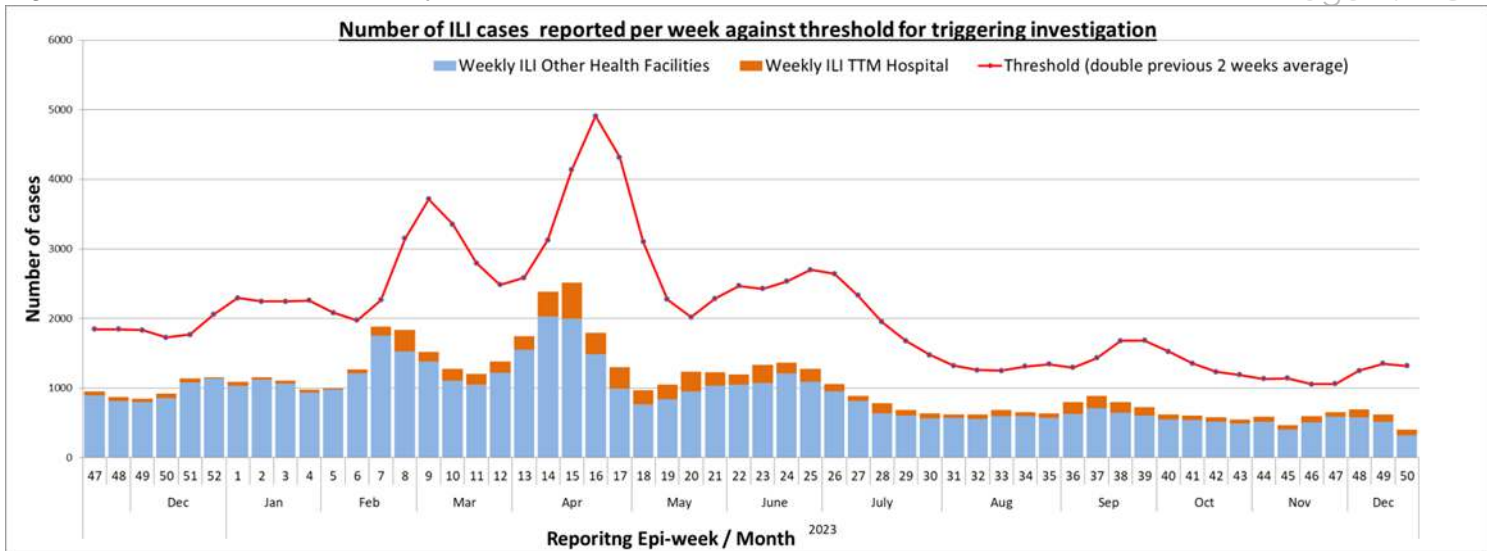
1. Influenza like illness (ILI)

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 49: 04/12/23-10/12/23 | Epi-week 50: 11/12/23-17/12/23 |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Total cases reported | 622 | 407 |
| Moving Average | 676 | 659 |
| Threshold | 1351 | 1318 |





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.

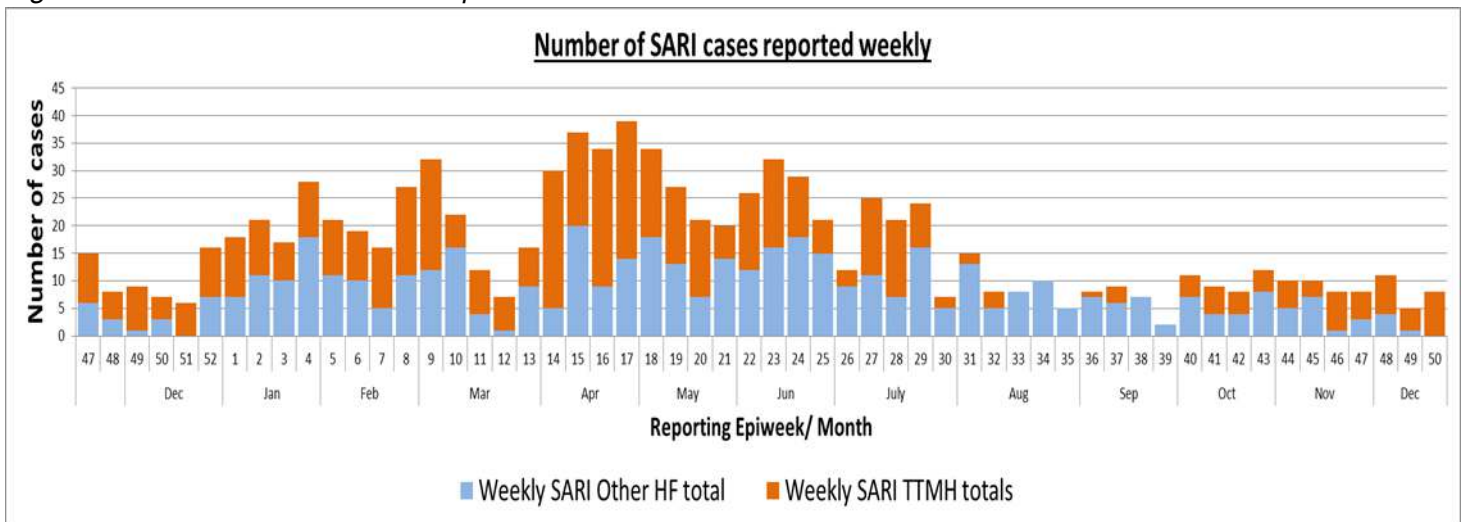
2. Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI)

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 49: 04/12/23-10/12/23 | Epi-week 50: 11/12/23-17/12/23 |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Total cases reported | 5 | 8 |
| Moving Average | 9.5 | 8 |
| 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.