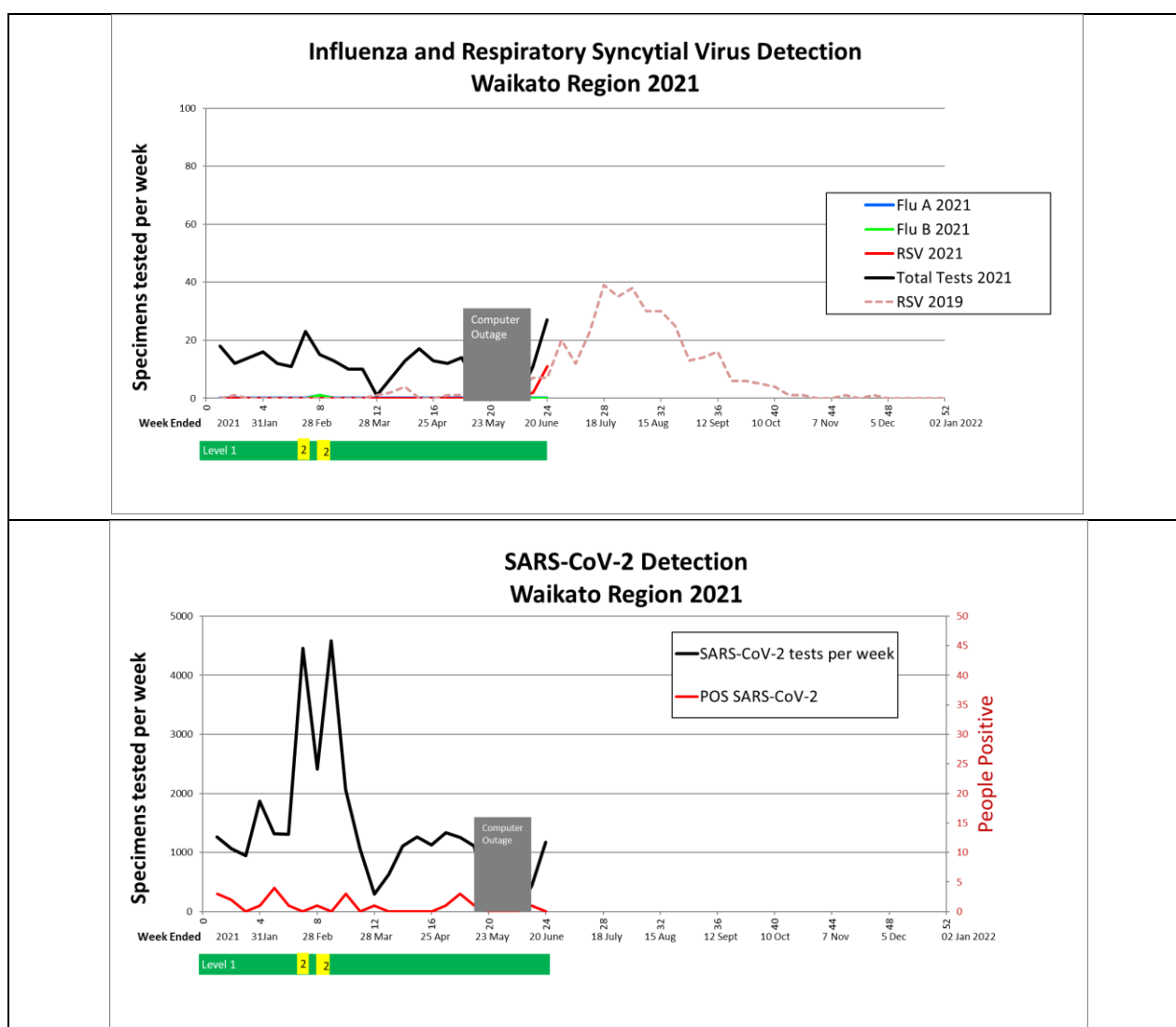


# Waikato Respiratory Virus Report

Week 24 2021

Week to 20 June 2021

Respiratory Syncytial Virus has arrived and we have had two patients in ICU last week. Numbers and timing are comparable to what we saw in 2019. There were no cases in 2020. Influenza is still absent. Due to a 4 week computer outage, COVID test results are not yet in our electronic database, although testing continued at about 200-300 people each day and we had just one positive from a returned traveller, who had acute infection overseas in March. With unquarantined travellers arriving from Australia (the likely origin of this year's RSV), ongoing outbreaks there, together with the current low vaccination coverage in New Zealand, it is likely we will see COVID outbreaks here over the coming winter. Patients with acute respiratory tract infection in the community should be tested for SARS-CoV-2, wherever possible, in order to detect outbreaks as early as possible.



Waikato laboratory web site and virus report archive: <https://lab.waikatodhb.health.nz/news/>

Global Influenza surveillance: <https://www.who.int/influenza/en/>

WHO global COVID situation page <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>