

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – October 3, 2024

Reporting period: September 22-28, 2024 (Epi-week 39)

COVID-19 activity is elevated; Influenza and RSV activity is minimal.

Influenza	RSV
Influenza activity is minimal.	RSV activity is minimal.
COVID-19	Health care visits
SARS-CoV-2 levels in wastewater remain high. Hospital admission rates are increasing since late August but are below 2023/24 rates for this time.	The proportion of primary care and emergency department visits for respiratory illness are increasing, similar to trends last year.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, influenza percent positivity is stable at low levels and remains at inter-seasonal levels.¹
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity (including laboratory testing, hospitalizations, and deaths) remains stable at low levels.²

RSV

- In Canada, RSV percent positivity is stable at low levels.¹
- In the USA, RSV activity remains low.²

COVID-19

- In Canada, COVID-19 indicators are stable at elevated levels compared to the spring; however, trends vary across region.¹
- In the USA, weekly SARS-CoV-2 test positivity, the proportion of emergency department visits diagnosed as COVID-19, and the rate of COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to decrease.²

Other respiratory viruses

- In Canada, enterovirus/rhinovirus is increasing, as expected for this time of year.¹

¹ Respiratory virus trends in Canada. <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-detections/>

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel. <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>