

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – December 5, 2024

Reporting period: November 24 – 30, 2024 (Epi-week 48)

RSV activity is increasing; COVID-19 activity is decreasing; Influenza activity remains low

Influenza

Influenza activity remains low but is showing early signs of increase.

RSV

RSV activity continues to increase, predominantly in children, and is comparable to last season.

COVID-19

Indicators of COVID-19 activity are decreasing or remain stable.

Health care visits

The proportion of health care visits for respiratory illness continues to increase in children and youth and is comparable to last season.

Special Report now available:

- [Influenza virus characterization](#) - This report summarizes genetic and antigenic characterization of influenza A from May to September 2024.
Key takeaway: One H3N2 clade (2a.3a.1) and two major H1N1 clades (5a.2a and 5a.2a.1) contributed to circulating influenza A viruses in this period.
 - The 2024/25 vaccine includes H3N2 clade 2a.3a.1 and H1N1 clade 5a.2a.1.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, indicators of influenza activity remain at interseasonal levels but are showing signs of increase.¹
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity is increasing slightly among children but remains low nationally.²

RSV

- In Canada, RSV percent positivity is increasing.¹
- In the USA, RSV activity is elevated and continues to increase in the southern, central and eastern United States, particularly in young children.²

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report. Summary: Canadian respiratory virus surveillance report (FluWatch+) <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>

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

COVID-19

- In Canada, indicators of COVID-19 activity are decreasing.¹
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity remains low and is stable in most areas.²

Other respiratory viruses

- In Canada, enterovirus/rhinovirus percent positivity is stable, and all other respiratory viruses are following historically observed trends.¹