

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – February 27, 2025

Reporting period: February 16-22, 2025 (Epi-week 8)

Influenza activity is high; RSV activity remains elevated; COVID-19 activity is low

Influenza

Influenza A test positivity is still increasing, currently exceeding 30%. Other indicators including wastewater and outbreak reporting show similar elevated and generally increasing pattern.

RSV

RSV test positivity and wastewater viral loads show decreasing trends but remain elevated.

COVID-19

COVID-19 activity indicators are at low levels.

Health care visits

The proportions of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory illness are high and continue to increase in recent weeks.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, indicators of influenza activity continue to increase. The percentage of tests positive for influenza is now at its highest value since the start of the 2020-21 season.¹
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity remains elevated across the country.²
- In the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA), all indicators point to continued widespread, intense influenza activity. Increasing trends in activity continue to be observed in around one third of the countries, while the remainder appear to be reaching, or have passed, peak activity.³

RSV

- In Canada, RSV percent positivity continues to decrease.¹
- In the USA, RSV activity remains elevated but is declining in most areas of the country.²
- In the EU/EEA, overall RSV activity has decreased since a peak in December. However, at country level the picture is mixed, with approximately half of the reporting countries showing decreases and the remainder reporting stable or increasing levels of activity.³

COVID-19

- In Canada, indicators of COVID-19 activity continue to decrease. The percentage of tests positive for COVID-19 is now at its lowest value since the start of the 2022-23 season.¹
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity is elevated in many areas of the country.²
- In the EU/EEA, COVID-19 activity is at very low levels.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated: February 21, 2025.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated: February 21, 2025.

³ European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on February 26, 2025.