

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – March 27, 2025

Reporting period: March 16-22, 2025 (Epi-week 12)

Influenza activity is elevated; RSV activity is moderate; COVID-19 activity is low

Influenza

Influenza test positivity continues to decrease but remains elevated. Wastewater viral loads are elevated but decreasing in most sites across BC.

RSV

RSV test positivity has decreased in recent weeks and is moderately elevated. Wastewater viral loads continue to decrease across BC.

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 continue to decrease and remain elevated.

Report now available

- [Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network \(SPSN\) Report #5](#), October 27, 2024, to March 8, 2025.
Key Takeaway: Across SPSN provinces overall, the delayed 2024/25 influenza season has been characterized by co-circulating A(H1N1) (~65%) and A(H3N2) (~35%) viruses. Peak influenza A activity appears to have now passed, but influenza B shows recent increase. SARS-CoV-2 activity has remained low and stable across the study period.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, indicators of influenza activity decreased in the most recent reporting week. The percentage of tests positive for influenza continued to decrease. However, trends vary regionally.¹
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity remains elevated nationally but has decreased for five consecutive weeks.²
- In the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA), the peak in influenza activity has passed, with decreases observed in most countries.³

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

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

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

RSV

- In Canada, indicators of RSV activity are decreasing. The percentage of tests positive for RSV has gradually decreased over the past four weeks.¹
- In the USA, RSV activity is declining in most areas of the country.²
- In the EU/EEA, RSV activity remains elevated, with little change in recent weeks.³

COVID-19

- In Canada, most indicators of COVID-19 activity continue to decrease. The percentage of tests positive for COVID-19 is showing signs of stabilization at the lowest recorded values seen this surveillance year (which began August 25, 2024).¹
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity is declining nationally but elevated in some areas of the country.²
- In the EU/EEA, SARS-CoV-2 activity remains at low levels in all countries.³

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

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