

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – October 24, 2024

Reporting period: October 13-19, 2024 (Epi-week 42)

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

Influenza	RSV
Influenza activity is minimal.	RSV activity is minimal, but percent positivity is slowly increasing in the Lower Mainland in children.
COVID-19	Health care visits
SARS-CoV-2 levels in wastewater are moderate and decreasing at sites in Lower Mainland and remain high at other sites. Hospital admission rates continue to stabilize at elevated levels, but are below 2023/24 rates for this time.	Proportion of primary care and emergency department visits for respiratory illness are increasing in children and youth.

National and international context

Influenza

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

RSV

- In Canada, RSV percent positivity is stable at low levels.¹
- In the USA, RSV activity remains low, with signs of increased activity in the southeastern region, particularly in young children.²

COVID-19

- In Canada, SARS-CoV-2 percent positivity remains stable at elevated levels; however, trends vary across regions.¹
- In the USA, indicators for SARS-CoV-2 test positivity and COVID-19-associated emergency department visits and hospitalizations continue to decrease overall.²

Other respiratory viruses

- In Canada, enterovirus/rhinovirus is showing signs of decrease.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>