

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – October 31, 2024

Reporting period: October 20-26, 2024 (Epi-week 43)

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

Influenza	RSV
Influenza activity is minimal.	RSV activity is minimal overall, but wastewater samples at some sites in Lower Mainland are detecting higher viral loads.
COVID-19	Health care visits
SARS-CoV-2 levels in wastewater and COVID-19 hospital admission rates are stable or decreasing.	The proportion of primary care and emergency department visits for respiratory illness continue to increase in children and youth, similar to last season.

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 slowly increasing; however, trends vary by region.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 by region.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 percent positivity is decreasing, and all other respiratory viruses are similar to historically observed trends.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>