



## Respiratory Epidemiological Summary

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February 15, 2024

### Summary (Epidemiological week 6, 04 Feb to 10 Feb)

#### **Influenza A and RSV have decreased from peaks in late December; influenza B has increased but remains low; COVID-19 has been relatively stable.**

- Influenza A test positivity has stabilized since early January, while influenza A levels in wastewater have continued to show decreasing trends. Among subtyped influenza A samples over the past four weeks, the majority were H1, as seen throughout this respiratory season.
- Influenza B test positivity has slightly increased in recent weeks while remaining low overall. At select wastewater sites within the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island, influenza B levels have increased.
- RSV levels at most wastewater sites have continued to decrease while RSV test positivity has stabilized since mid-January.
- COVID-19 critical care admissions and deaths have remained relatively stable over the past several weeks, while hospital admissions have decreased. SARS-CoV-2 wastewater levels have been relatively stable at most sites.
- The proportion of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory symptoms have continued to decrease since a peak in late December.

### National and international context

#### Influenza:

- In Canada, most influenza activity indicators have remained similar compared to the previous epi-week. All surveillance indicators are within or below expected levels typical of this time of year. Influenza A has been the most frequently reported influenza type since the start of the 2023/24 respiratory season; among those subtyped, 86% were H1.
- In the USA, influenza activity remains elevated nationally with increases in some parts of the country. Since the start of October, influenza A was the most frequently reported type; of those subtyped, 79% were H1.

#### RSV and other viruses:

- In Canada, RSV activity remains below expected levels for this time of year. The activity of all other non-SARS-CoV-2 and non-influenza respiratory viruses is low and near expected levels for this time of year.

#### COVID-19:

- In Canada, COVID-19 activity level trends, outbreak incidence, and SARS-CoV-2 percent positivity are overall stable or decreasing.
- In the USA, weekly SARS-CoV-2 test positivity, COVID-19 new hospital admissions, and emergency department visits diagnosed as COVID-19 have decreased in recent weeks. Weekly deaths due to COVID-19 were relatively stable.