



Respiratory Epidemiological Summary

November 16, 2023

Summary (Epidemiological week 45, 05 Nov to 11 Nov)

COVID-19 activity has decreased since early October; influenza A and RSV activity are increasing.

- COVID-19 activity for testing positivity, cases, hospitalizations, and deaths continue to decrease.
- Influenza A activity is increasing and is the most detected influenza type (96%) in the 2023/24 respiratory season to date. Among subtyped influenza A samples this season, the majority were H1 (83%).
- RSV test positivity continues to increase and is higher in children.

National and international context

COVID-19:

- In Canada, COVID-19 activity levels (e.g., outbreaks and test positivity) varied across provinces and territories, reporting stable trends in the most recent reporting week.
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity for test positivity and deaths remains stable. There have been recent decreases in emergency department visits and hospitalizations.

Influenza:

- In Canada, influenza activity increased but overall remained low and below seasonal threshold levels. As seen in BC, influenza A was the most frequently reported type since the start of the 2023/24 respiratory season (August 27 – November 4). Among samples subtyped, 82% were H1.
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity is increasing in most parts of the country, most notably in the South Central, Southeast, and West Coast regions. Since the start of October, influenza A was the most frequently reported type (67%); of those subtyped, the majority were H1 (91%).

RSV and other viruses:

- In Canada, RSV activity is increasing and slightly above expected levels for this time of the year. The activity of all other non-SARS-CoV-2 and non-influenza respiratory viruses is low and at expected levels this time of year.