

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – December 18, 2025

Reporting period: December 7-13, 2025 (Epi-week 50)

All dashboards, except Facility Outbreaks, will next be updated on December 24. The following week, starting December 28, all dashboard reporting will be paused. Regular updates will resume on January 8.

Current respiratory activity is measured in consideration of recent past respiratory seasons.

Influenza and RSV activity are increasing; COVID-19 is decreasing.

Influenza

Influenza test positivity is increasing in all age groups, with high levels observed in children. Wastewater viral loads have shown recent signs of increase in a few sites.

RSV

RSV test positivity is increasing, notably among children, and is at low-moderate levels. Wastewater viral loads have shown recent signs of increase in a few sites but remain low overall.

COVID-19

SARS-CoV-2 test positivity continues to decrease and is at low levels. Wastewater viral loads are decreasing or remain stable at varying levels in most sites. Severe outcomes remain low.

Health care visits

The proportions of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory illness continue to increase, particularly among children. Trends remain comparable to the same period of the prior season.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, all indicators of influenza activity are increasing quickly, with all regions throughout the country reporting increasing influenza activity.¹
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity continues to increase in most areas of the country.²
- In the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA), influenza circulation continues to increase with most countries now reporting widespread activity at low-to-medium intensity. Circulation is highest in children aged 5-14 years. Increases in hospitalisation are being observed in some countries, affecting all age groups, but primarily in adults aged 65 years and above.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated: December 12, 2025.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated: December 12, 2025.

³ European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on December 17, 2025.

RSV

- In Canada, indicators of RSV activity are showing signs of increase but remain below expected levels for this time of year.¹
- In the USA, RSV activity is increasing in the Southeastern, Southern, and Mid-Atlantic areas of the country with emergency department visits and hospitalizations increasing among children 0-4 years old.²
- In the EU/EEA, RSV circulation is slowly increasing from low levels, although a slight decrease has been observed in the last week. Overall circulation remains below what was observed at this time in the past four seasons. Hospital data show rising RSV-related admissions in a few countries, primarily among children under five years.³

COVID-19

- In Canada, indicators of COVID-19 activity were stable in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity is low.²
- In the EU/EEA, SARS-CoV-2 continues to circulate but is decreasing in all age groups, and the impact on hospitalisations is currently limited.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated: December 12, 2025.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated: December 12, 2025.

³ European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on December 17, 2025.