

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – February 12, 2026

Reporting period: February 1-7, 2026 (Epi-week 5)

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

RSV is elevated; influenza is moderate; COVID-19 is low.

Influenza	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)
Influenza A test positivity continues to decrease and is at moderate levels. Influenza B test positivity is slowly increasing but remains low. Wastewater levels are low-to-moderate for influenza A and B.	RSV test positivity continues to increase and is at elevated levels. Wastewater levels remain low-to-moderate.
COVID-19	Health care visits
SARS-CoV-2 test positivity remains stable and low. Wastewater levels are low-to-moderate. Severe outcomes remain low.	The proportions of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory illness remain at moderate levels.

Publication available

- [Interim 2025/26 influenza vaccine effectiveness estimates](#)

Key takeaway: The Canadian Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network (SPSN) estimates that the 2025/26 influenza vaccine reduced the risk of medically-attended influenza A(H3N2) illness, including due to subclade K, by about 40% overall. The paper provides immuno-epidemiological context for interpreting such meaningful vaccine protection in the context of earlier concerns regarding vaccine mismatch.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, all indicators of influenza activity continued to decrease in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity remains elevated with most areas of the country reporting stable or decreasing trends; however, activity continues to increase in the Pacific Northwest.²

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on February 6, 2026.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on February 6, 2026.

- In the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA), influenza circulation remains widespread; activity has peaked in some countries while others appear to be approaching their peak.³

RSV

- In Canada, indicators of RSV activity were either increasing or stable in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, RSV activity is elevated in many areas of the country, including emergency department visits among infants under 1 year and children 1-4 years old. Hospitalisations are highest among infants less than 1 year old.²
- In the EU/EEA, RSV circulation is elevated and continues to increase, with this season starting later than the previous two seasons. Children under five years are the most affected and account for most of the hospitalisations.³

COVID-19

- In Canada, indicators of COVID-19 activity were decreasing or stable in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity is elevated in some areas of the country.²
- In the EU/EEA, SARS-CoV-2 circulation remains low in all age groups, and the number of hospitalisations due to SARS-CoV-2 is currently limited compared to influenza and RSV.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on February 6, 2026.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on February 6, 2026.

³ European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on February 11, 2026.