

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – April 2, 2026

Reporting period: March 22-28, 2026 (Epi-week 12)

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

RSV and influenza B activity are elevated; influenza A and COVID-19 are low.

Influenza

Influenza A test positivity is low. Influenza B test positivity remains elevated. Wastewater levels are low for influenza A across the province. Influenza B levels in wastewater continue to increase and are high in most sites.

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

RSV test positivity has decreased over recent weeks but remains elevated. Wastewater levels are stable or decreasing and are at low-to-moderate levels in most sites.

COVID-19

SARS-CoV-2 test positivity remains stable and low. Wastewater levels are stable or decreasing and are at low levels in most sites. Severe outcomes remain low.

Health care visits

The proportions of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory illness remain at moderate levels.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, indicators of influenza activity were either stable or decreasing in the most recent reporting week. Influenza B accounted for 80% of influenza detections. The majority of influenza B laboratory detections have occurred in individuals aged 5-19 and 20-44 years.¹
- In the USA, seasonal influenza continues to decrease in most areas of the country. Influenza A activity continues to decrease across all regions while trends in influenza B activity vary by region.²
- In the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA), influenza circulation and hospitalisations continue to decrease across all age groups.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on March 27, 2026.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on March 27, 2026.

³ European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on April 1, 2026.

RSV

- In Canada, indicators of RSV activity were decreasing in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, RSV activity started later than expected in most regions, though illness is not more severe compared with recent seasons. This unusual timing means that higher levels of RSV activity may continue into April in many regions. Emergency department visits and hospitalisations for RSV are highest among infants and children less than 4 years old.²
- In the EU/EEA, RSV activity and hospitalisations remain elevated, with children under five years accounting for most admissions.³

COVID-19

- In Canada, indicators of COVID-19 activity were decreasing in the most recent reporting week. Indicators are at or near the lowest levels recorded this season.¹
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity is low in most areas of the country.²
- In the EU/EEA, SARS-CoV-2 circulation remains low in all age groups, with few hospitalisations.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on March 27, 2026.

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