

# Respiratory virus activity in BC:

## Weekly summary – April 16, 2026

Reporting period: April 5-11, 2026 (Epi-week 14)

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

### Influenza B activity remains elevated; RSV is moderate; influenza A and COVID-19 are low.

#### Influenza

Influenza A test positivity is low. Influenza B test positivity has decreased in recent weeks but remains elevated. Wastewater levels are low for influenza A across the province. Influenza B levels in wastewater remain high in most sites.

#### Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

RSV test positivity continues to decrease and is at moderate levels. Wastewater levels are stable or decreasing and are at low-to-moderate levels across the province.

#### COVID-19

SARS-CoV-2 test positivity remains low. Wastewater levels are stable or decreasing and are at low levels across the province. Severe outcomes have remained low in recent weeks.

#### Health care visits

The proportions of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory illness continue to decrease, especially among children, and remain at moderate levels.

## National and international context

### Influenza

- In Canada, most indicators of influenza activity were low and stable in the most recent reporting week. Influenza B activity continued to gradually increase while influenza A gradually decreased. Influenza B is circulating within expected levels for this time of year; however, trends vary by region.<sup>1</sup>
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity continues to decrease in most areas of the country. Influenza A activity is low across all regions while trends in influenza B activity vary by region.<sup>2</sup>
- In the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA), influenza circulation and hospitalisations remain low and continue to decrease across all age groups.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on April 10, 2026.

<sup>2</sup> Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on April 10, 2026.

<sup>3</sup> European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on April 15, 2026.

## RSV

- In Canada, indicators of RSV activity were stable or decreasing in the most recent reporting week.<sup>1</sup>
- 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 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.<sup>2</sup>
- In the EU/EEA, RSV activity and hospitalisations remain elevated, although recent trends suggest that overall levels are decreasing. Children under five years continue to account for most hospital admissions.<sup>3</sup>

## COVID-19

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

---

<sup>1</sup> Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on April 10, 2026.

<sup>2</sup> Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on April 10, 2026.

<sup>3</sup> European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on April 15, 2026.