

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Monthly summary – September 3, 2026

Reporting period: August 2-29, 2026 (Epi-weeks 31-34)

With the end of the 2025/26 respiratory virus season, reporting has shifted to a spring–summer schedule. During this period, the Wastewater Surveillance dashboard will continue to be updated weekly. Updates to the Facility Outbreaks dashboard will be paused until fall. All other respiratory virus dashboards will be updated on the first Thursday of each month.

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

COVID-19 activity is low to moderate; influenza and RSV are low.

Influenza

Influenza test positivity has increased over the past month but remains low. Wastewater levels for influenza remain low.

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

RSV test positivity remains low. Wastewater levels are stable and low.

COVID-19

SARS-CoV-2 test positivity has continued to increase in the reporting period and is low to moderate. Wastewater levels are increasing in some sites and are low to moderate. Severe outcomes remain low.

Health care visits

The proportions of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory illness are stable and low.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, as of July 31, 2026, indicators of influenza activity were stable at inter-seasonal levels in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity is low.²
- In the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA), influenza activity is low overall but increasing in both primary and secondary care in several countries. In a few countries, hospitalisations associated with influenza A virus detections have increased and are mainly affecting adults over 65 years of age.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on July 31, 2026.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on August 28, 2026.

³ European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on September 2, 2026.

RSV

- In Canada, as of July 31, 2026, indicators of RSV activity were stable at inter-seasonal levels in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, RSV activity is very low in most areas of the country.²
- In the EU/EEA, RSV activity is low and at expected inter-seasonal levels.³

COVID-19

- In Canada, as of July 31, 2026, indicators of COVID-19 activity were stable at or near the lowest levels recorded this season in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity is elevated and increasing nationally, though hospitalizations remain low.²
- In the EU/EEA, SARS-CoV-2 activity is low but increasing in primary and secondary care across all age groups in several countries. Although numbers of hospital admissions remain very low, a few countries are reporting a clear increase, mainly in those over 65 years of age.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on July 31, 2026.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on August 28, 2026.

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