

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – October 22, 2026

Reporting period: October 11-17, 2026 (Epi-week 41)

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

Influenza activity is moderate; COVID-19 is low-to-moderate; RSV remains low.

Influenza	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)
Influenza test positivity has increased in recent weeks and is at moderate levels. Wastewater levels are increasing in some sites.	RSV test positivity remains low. Wastewater levels are stable and low.
COVID-19	Health care visits
SARS-CoV-2 test positivity has increased to low-to-moderate levels in recent weeks. Wastewater levels continue to increase in many sites and are at moderate-to-high levels. Hospital admissions have increased in recent weeks but remain low.	The proportions of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory illness remain at low levels but have been increasing in recent weeks.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, indicators of influenza activity are either increasing or stable in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, seasonal influenza activity is increasing in many parts of the country but remains low.²
- In the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA), influenza activity is at baseline levels overall, with countries reporting few detections in primary and secondary care.³

RSV

- In Canada, indicators of RSV activity are stable at inter-seasonal levels in the most recent reporting week.¹

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on October 16, 2026.
² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on October 16, 2026.
³ European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on October 21, 2026.

- In the USA, RSV activity is very low in most areas of the country.²
- In the EU/EEA, RSV activity is very low.³

COVID-19

- In Canada, indicators of COVID-19 activity are low and either increasing or stable in the most recent reporting week.¹
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity remains elevated in some regions but is declining nationally.²
- In the EU/EEA, SARS-CoV-2 test positivity remains low in primary and secondary care in most countries, with most detections reported by two countries with higher rates of test positivity.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on October 16, 2026.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on October 16, 2026.

³ European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on October 21, 2026.