

Respiratory virus activity in BC:

Weekly summary – September 24, 2026

Reporting period: August 30 – September 19, 2026 (Epi-weeks 35-37)

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

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

Influenza

Influenza test positivity continues to increase and is at low-to-moderate levels. Wastewater levels have increased in a few sites.

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

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

COVID-19

SARS-CoV-2 test positivity has remained stable in the reporting period and is low-to-moderate, although clinical detections have increased. Wastewater levels continue to increase in some sites and are at moderate levels. Hospital admissions have slightly increased but remain low.

Health care visits

The proportions of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory illness are low but have increased over the past several weeks.

National and international context

Influenza

- In Canada, as of September 4, 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, with only a few countries reporting detection.³

RSV

- In Canada, as of September 4, 2026, indicators of RSV activity were 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 September 4, 2026.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on September 18, 2026.

³ European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS), <https://erviss.org/>. Accessed on September 23, 2026.

- 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 September 4, 2026, indicators of COVID-19 activity were low but showing signs of increase.¹
- In the USA, COVID-19 activity is elevated and increasing nationally, but hospitalizations remain low overall.²
- In the EU/EEA, SARS-CoV-2 activity is increasing slightly in primary and secondary care in several countries.³

¹ Canadian Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/respiratory-virus-surveillance/>. Last updated on September 4, 2026.

² Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel, <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>. Last updated on September 18, 2026.

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