



## Respiratory Epidemiological Summary

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February 01, 2024

### Summary (Epidemiological week 4, 21 Jan to 27 Jan)

#### **Overall influenza and RSV activity have decreased; COVID-19 activity has been relatively stable.**

- Influenza test positivity, and influenza A levels at wastewater sites province-wide showed decreasing trends. Among subtyped influenza A samples over the past four weeks, the majority were H1, similar to what has been seen for the current respiratory season overall.
- RSV levels at most wastewater sites and RSV test positivity have decreased.
- COVID-19 hospital and critical care admissions have fluctuated over the past several weeks, while deaths have been relatively stable. SARS-CoV-2 wastewater levels have been relatively stable at most sites.
- The proportion of emergency department and primary care visits for respiratory symptoms have decreased since a peak in late December.

### National and international context

#### Influenza:

- In Canada, most influenza activity indicators have decreased since late December and are within or below expected levels typical of this time of year. Influenza A has been the most frequently reported influenza type since the start of the 2023/24 respiratory season; among those subtyped, 86% were H1.
- In the USA, influenza indicators have decreased or remained stable for three weeks, but seasonal influenza activity remains elevated in most parts of the country. Since the start of October, influenza A was the most frequently reported type; of those subtyped, 80% were H1.

#### RSV and other viruses:

- In Canada, RSV activity remains slightly below expected levels for this time of year. The activity of all other non-SARS-CoV-2 and non-influenza respiratory viruses is low and near expected levels for this time of year.

#### COVID-19:

- In Canada, COVID-19 activity level, outbreak incidence, and SARS-CoV-2 percent positivity are stable or decreasing in most provinces and territories.
- In the USA, weekly SARS-CoV-2 test positivity, COVID-19 hospitalizations, and emergency department visits diagnosed as COVID-19 have slightly decreased in recent weeks. Weekly deaths due to COVID-19 were relatively stable.