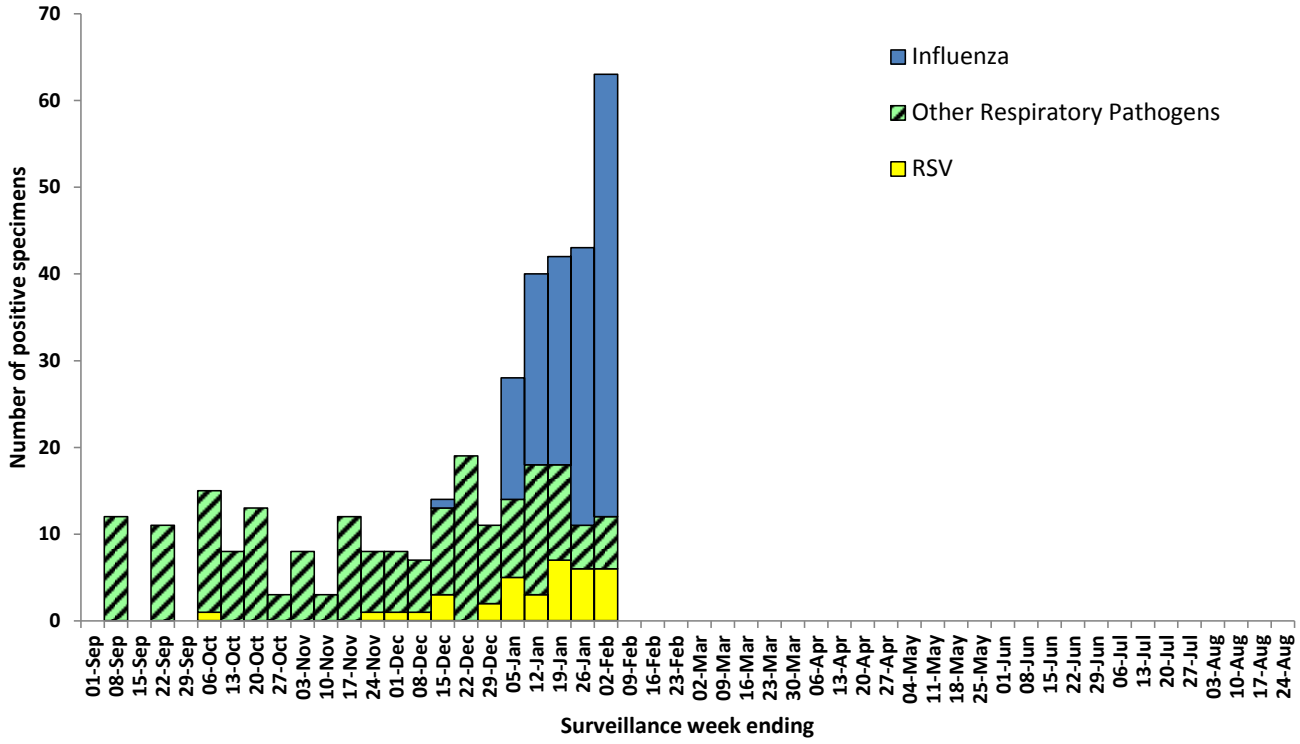
# RESPIRATORY WATCH

**Week 5 (January 27 to February 2, 2013)**

**Summary of Nova Scotia surveillance findings, for the period ending February 2, 2013:**

- Fifty-one influenza A positive lab results were reported this week.
- Other respiratory pathogen activity continues. Positive results were received for coronavirus, metapneumovirus, parainfluenza, rhinovirus and RSV.
- The ILI rate for Nova Scotia for this reporting period was 2.1. Eighty percent of ER sites reported ILI data this week.
- Five specimens were submitted through the sentinel swabbing program. All from DHA 8.
- Sentinel physician data was received from 9 (of 30) physicians.

**Figure 1: Summary of laboratory detected circulating respiratory pathogens, Nova Scotia, 2012–2013**

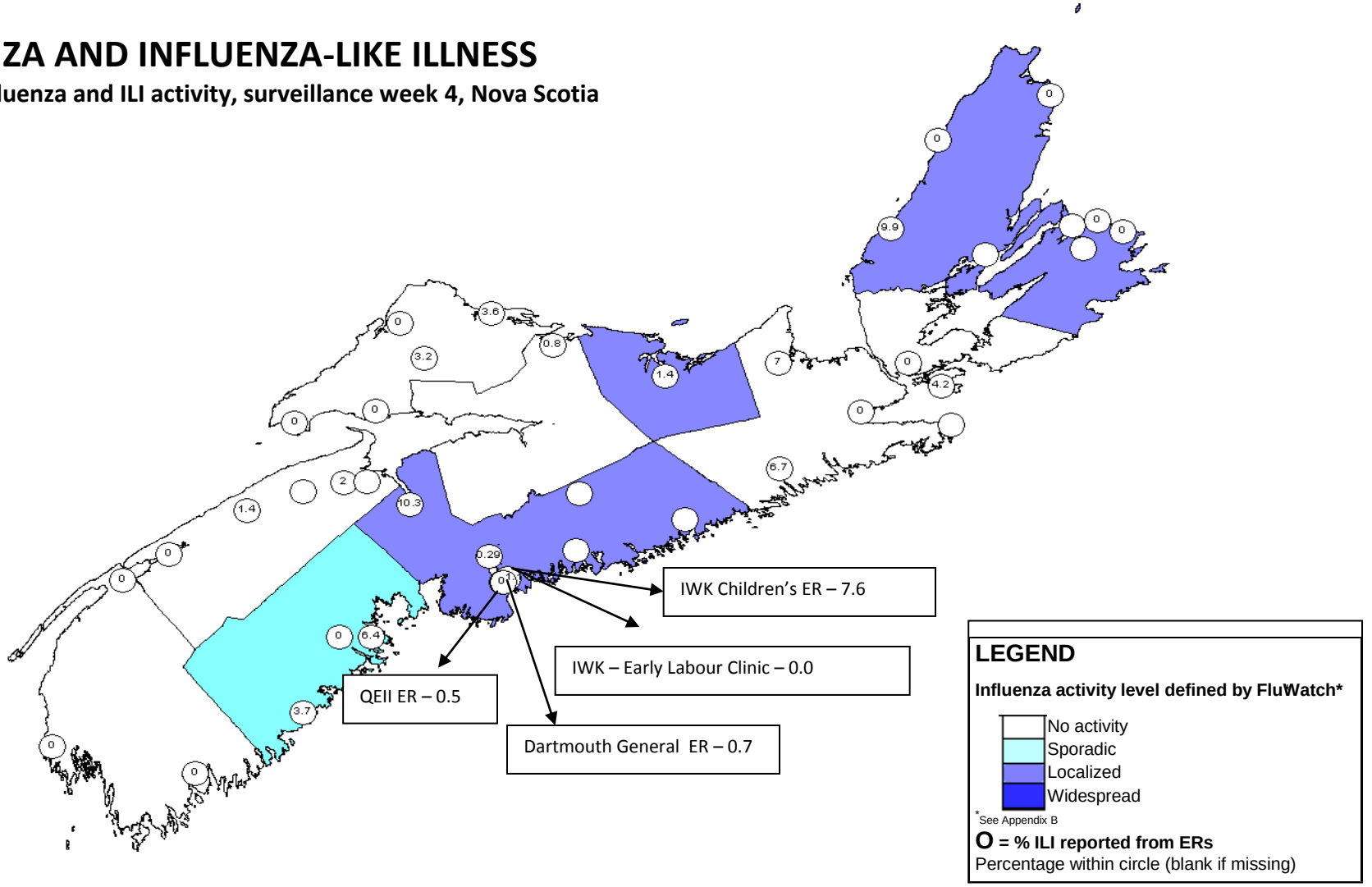


# RESPIRATORY WATCH

**Week 5 (January 27 to February 2, 2013)**

## INFLUENZA AND INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS

**Figure 2: Influenza and ILI activity, surveillance week 4, Nova Scotia**



# RESPIRATORY WATCH

**Week 5 (January 27 to February 2, 2013)**

**Figure 3: Number of reported lab-confirmed influenza cases by type and report week, Nova Scotia, 2012–2013**

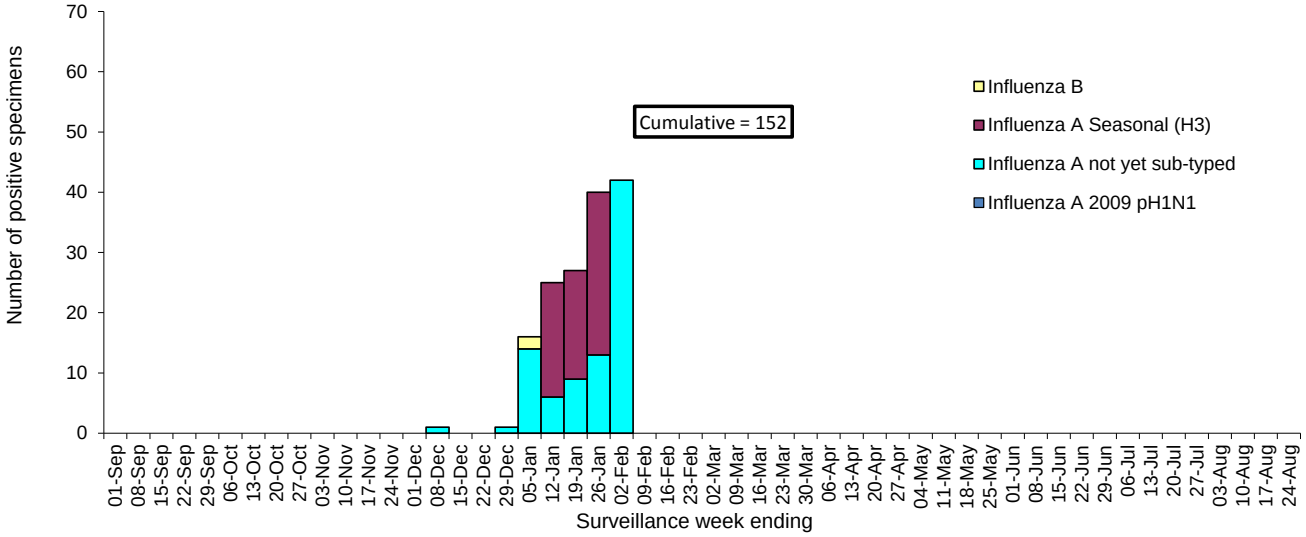
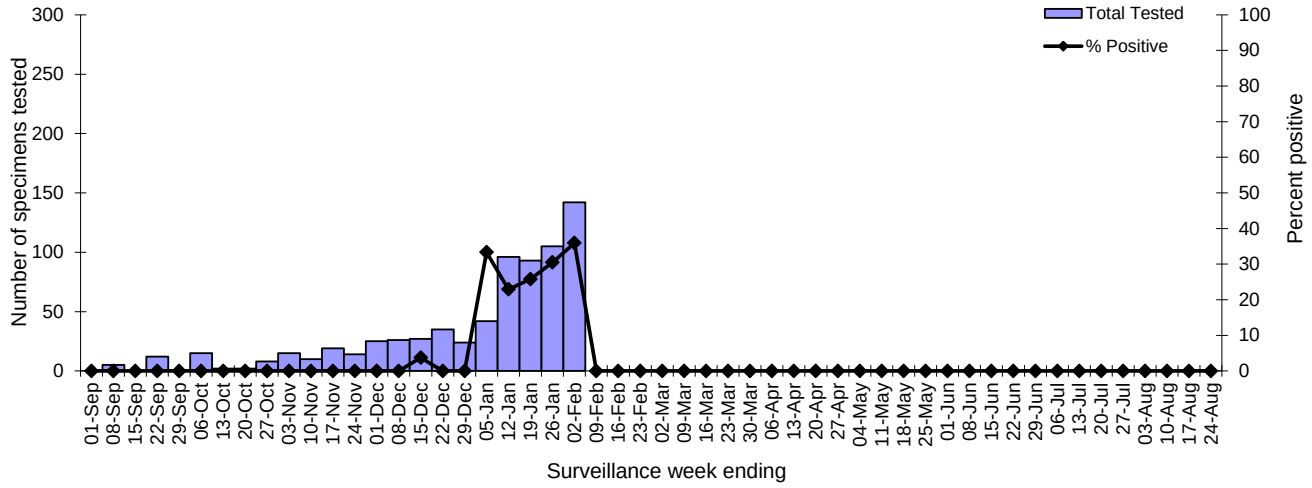



**Figure 4: Number of specimens tested for influenza and percent positive, Nova Scotia Provincial Public Health Laboratory Network, 2012–2013***




*Data presented in this figure refers to week specimen was tested.

# RESPIRATORY WATCH

## Week 5 (January 27 to February 2, 2013)

**Table 1: Influenza case counts by DHA, current surveillance week and cumulative, Nova Scotia, 2012–2013**

| | DHA 1 | DHA 2 | DHA 3 | DHA 4 | DHA 5 | DHA 6 | DHA 7 | DHA 8 | DHA 9 | Nova Scotia |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Influenza A 2009 pH1N1** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Week | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cumulative 2012 - 2013 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| **Influenza A (not yet sub-typed)** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Week | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 27 | 42 |
| Cumulative 2012 - 2013 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 16 | 41 | 72 |
| **Influenza A Seasonal (H3)** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Week | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cumulative 2012 - 2013 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 9 | 38 | 77 |
| **Influenza B** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Week | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cumulative 2012 - 2013 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |

**Figure 5: Influenza rate per 100,000 population by type and age group, cumulative, Nova Scotia, 2012–2013**

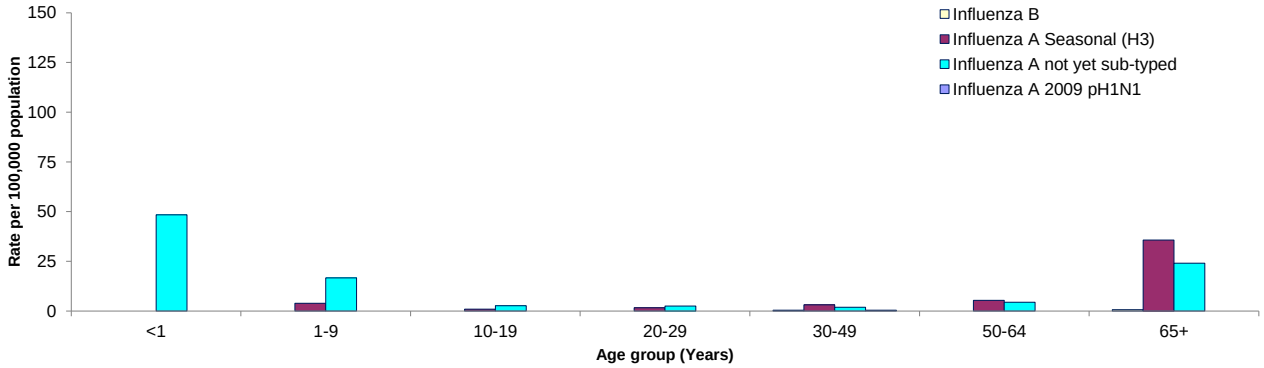
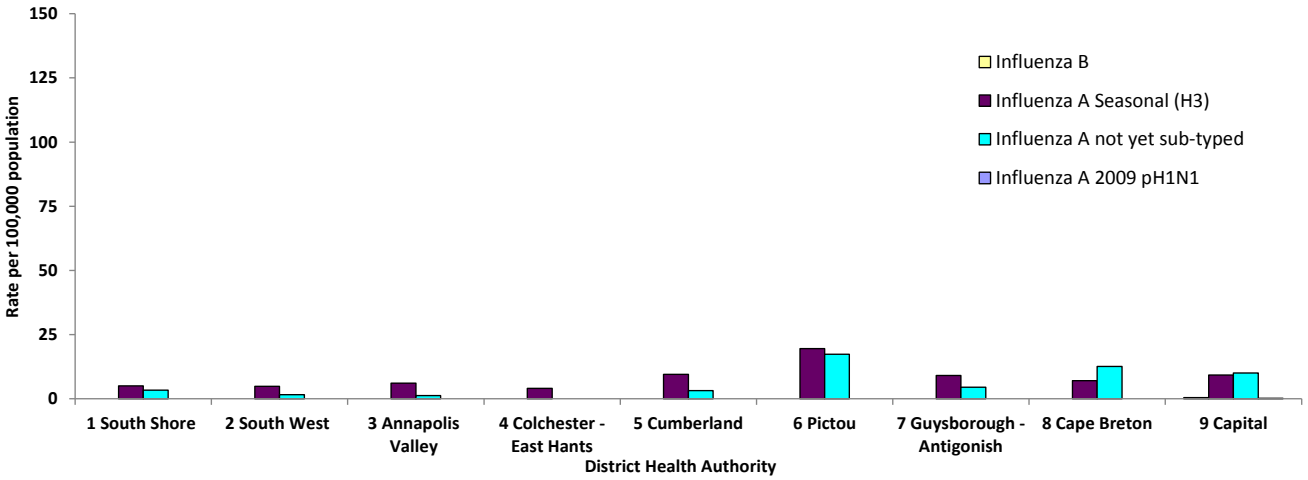



**Figure 6: Influenza rate per 100,000 population by type and DHA, cumulative, Nova Scotia, 2012–2013**



# RESPIRATORY WATCH

**Week 5 (January 27 to February 2, 2013)**

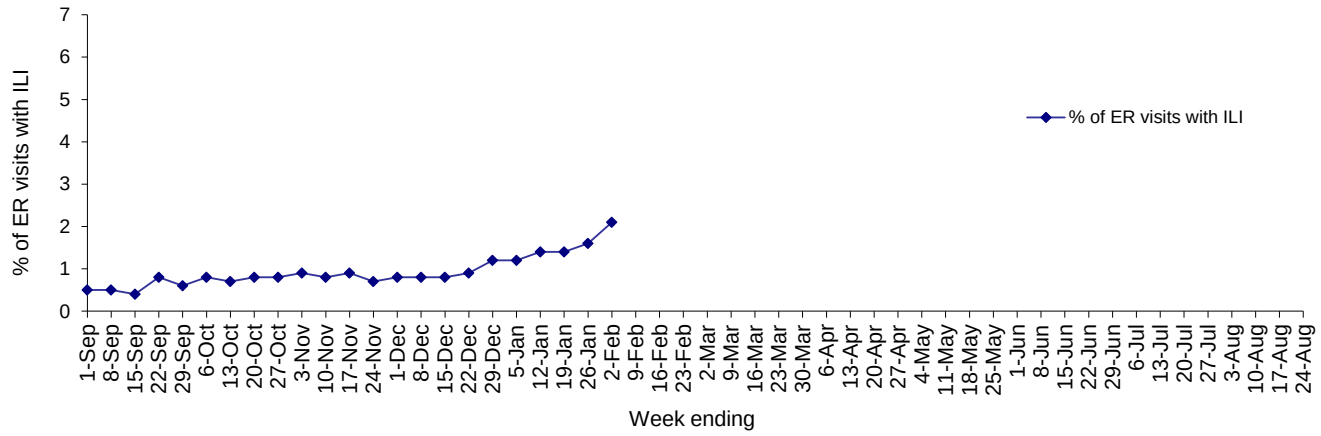
**Table 2: ILI reporting from emergency departments and FluWatch sentinel physicians, and Sentinel Swabbing Specimen Submissions, Nova Scotia, 2012-2013**

| | ER SURVEILLANCE | | | | SENTINEL SURVEILLANCE* | | | SENTINEL SWABBING | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | %ILI | Reporting ERs | | | %ILI | Reporting Sentinels | | # Swabs | Sites Submitting Specimens |
| DHA 1 | 2.8 | 3 | of 3 | | 30.0 | 1 of 6 | | 0 | 0 of 1 |
| DHA 2 | 0.0 | 3 | of 3 | | – | 0 of 0 | | 0 | 0 of 1 |
| DHA 3 | 1.6 | 3 | of 5 | | – | 0 of 1 | | 0 | 0 of 2 |
| DHA 4 | 2.3 | 2 | of 2 | | – | 0 of 0 | | 0 | 0 of 2 |
| DHA 5 | 1.7 | 5 | of 5 | | 25.0 | 1 of 2 | | 0 | 0 of 1 |
| DHA 6 | 1.4 | 1 | of 1 | | – | 0 of 2 | | 0 | 0 of 1 |
| DHA 7 | 3.8 | 6 | of 6 | | 0.0 | 1 of 1 | | 0 | 0 of 2 |
| DHA 8 | 1.7 | 5 | of 8 | | 3.7 | 1 of 4 | | 5 | 3 of 3 |
| DHA 9 | 1.7 | 4 | of 7 | | 11.2 | 5 of 14 | | | |
| IWK | 5.5 | 1 | of 1 | | | | | | |
| **Nova Scotia (excl. IWK)†** | **1.8** | | **32 of 40** | **80.0%** | | | | **5** | **3 of 12** |
| **Nova Scotia (incl. IWK)** | **2.1** | | **33 of 41** | **80.5%** | **39.1** | **9 of 30** | **30.0%** | | |

*Fluw atch sentinels

†Excludes the children's ER from IWK

**Figure 7: Percentage of ER visits with ILI, Nova Scotia, 2012–2013**



# RESPIRATORY WATCH

**Week 5 (January 27 to February 2, 2013)**

## RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV)

**Figure 8: Number of positive RSV specimens by report week, Nova Scotia, 2012–2013**

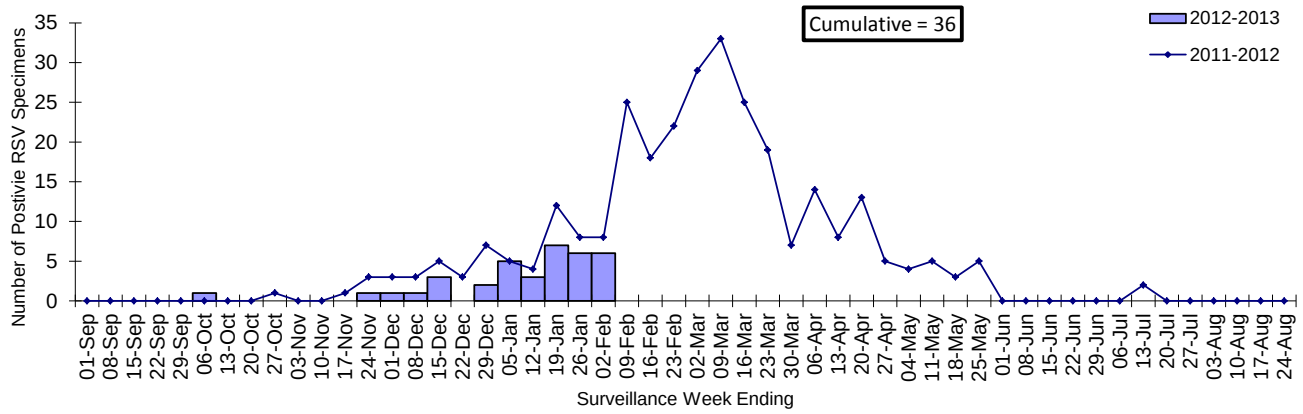
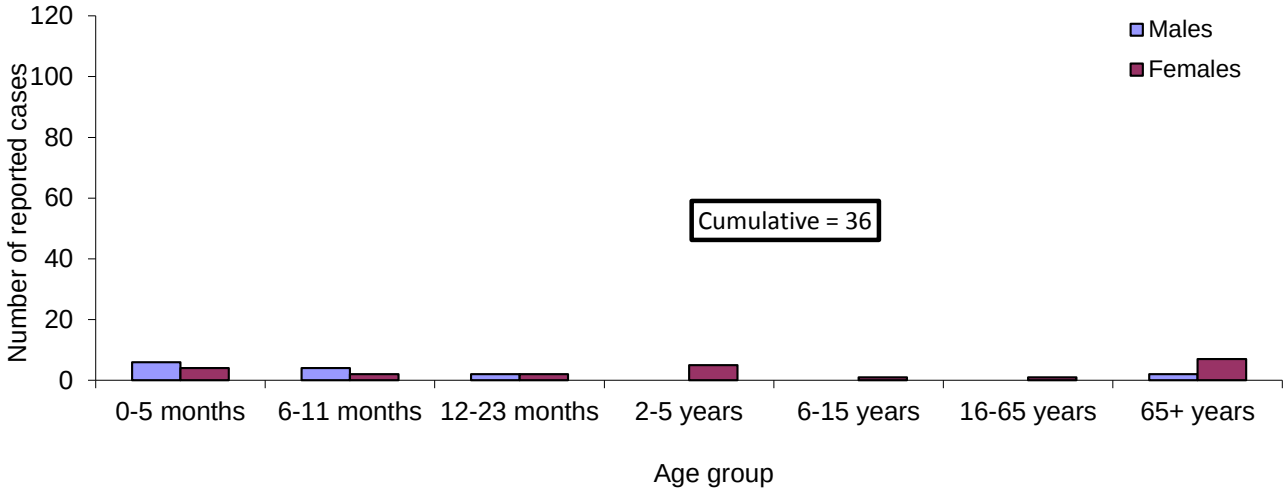



**Figure 9: Cumulative number of positive RSV specimens by age group and sex, Nova Scotia, 2012-2013**



## OTHER RESPIRATORY PATHOGENS

**Table 3: Total number of specimens tested and number (%) positive for other respiratory pathogens, by report week and cumulative season, Nova Scotia, 2012–2013**

| | Surveillance Week | | | Cumulative Season-to-Date Totals | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number and percent positive for: | n tested | n positive | % positive | n tested | n positive | % positive |
| **Adenovirus** | 21 | 0 | 0.0 | 369 | 0 | 0.0 |
| **Bocavirus** | 21 | 0 | 0.0 | 369 | 1 | 0.3 |
| **Chlamydophila pneumoniae** | 24 | 0 | 0.0 | 326 | 23 | 7.1 |
| **Coronavirus** | 21 | 3 | 14.3 | 369 | 11 | 3.0 |
| **Enterovirus** | 21 | 0 | 0.0 | 369 | 4 | 1.1 |
| **Metapneumovirus** | 21 | 1 | 4.8 | 369 | 6 | 1.6 |
| **Mycoplasma pneumoniae** | 24 | 0 | 0.0 | 326 | 62 | 19.0 |
| **Parainfluenza** | 21 | 1 | 4.8 | 369 | 18 | 4.9 |
| **Pertussis** | 8 | 0 | 0.0 | 176 | 14 | 8.0 |
| **Respiratory syncytial virus A** | 21 | 1 | 0.0 | 329 | 9 | 2.7 |
| **Respiratory syncytial virus B** | 21 | 0 | 0.0 | 329 | 0 | 0.0 |
| **Respiratory syncytial virus not typed** | 121 | 5 | 4.1 | 468 | 27 | 5.8 |
| **Rhinovirus** | 21 | 1 | 4.8 | 369 | 49 | 13.3 |

## APPENDIX: Definitions used in Influenza Surveillance, 2012-2013

1) ILI in the general population:

Acute onset of respiratory illness with fever and cough and with one or more of the following - sore throat, arthralgia, myalgia, or prostration which is likely due to influenza. In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present. In patients under 5 or 65 and older, fever may not be prominent.

2) Outbreaks of influenza / ILI by setting:

Schools and Daycares:
Greater than 10% absenteeism (or absenteeism that is higher (e.g. >5-10%) than expected level as determined by school or public health authority) which is likely due to ILI.

Hospitals and residential institutions:
Two or more cases of ILI within a seven-day period, including at least one laboratory confirmed case. Institutional outbreaks should be reported within 24 hours of identification. Residential institutions include but not limited to long-term care facilities (LTCF) and prisons.

Other Settings:
Two or more cases of ILI within a seven-day period, including at least one laboratory confirmed case; i.e. closed communities.

3) National FluWatch Definitions for Influenza Activity Levels:

**Influenza activity levels are defined as:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1 =** | **No activity:** | i.e. no laboratory-confirmed influenza detections in the reporting week, however, sporadically occurring ILI* may be reported |
| **2 =** | **Sporadic:** | sporadically occurring ILI* and lab confirmed influenza detection(s) with **no outbreaks** detected within the influenza surveillance region† |
| **3 =** | **Localized:** | (1) evidence of increased ILI* and<br>(2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with<br>(3) outbreaks in schools, hospitals, residential institutions and/or other types of facilities occurring in **less than 50% of the influenza surveillance region†** |
| **4 =** | **Widespread:** | (1) evidence of increased ILI* and<br>(2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with<br>(3) outbreaks in schools, hospitals, residential institutions and/or other types of facilities occurring **in greater than or equal to 50% of the influenza surveillance region†** |

* ILI data may be reported through sentinel physicians, emergency room visits or health line telephone calls.

† Sub-regions within the province or territory as defined by the provincial/territorial epidemiologist.

4) District Health Authorities (DHAs), Nova Scotia:
DHA 1 – South Shore Health
DHA 2 – South West Health
DHA 3 – Annapolis Valley Health
DHA 4 – Colchester East Hants Health Authority
DHA 5 – Cumberland Health Authority
DHA 6 – Pictou County Health Authority
DHA 7 – Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority
DHA 8 – Cape Breton District Health Authority
DHA 9 – Capital Health