# RESPIRATORY WATCH

Week 24 (June 12 2022 to June 18, 2022)

## In Summary…

| Activity levels** |
|---|
| • Sporadic activity has been reported in the Northern, Eastern, and Western Zone. No activity has been reported in the Central Zone during this reporting period<br>• Influenza activity is higher in week 24 than it has been in the same week in the last 5 influenza seasons |
| **Laboratory-confirmed cases*** |
| • There were 46 new cases of Influenza A and 0 new cases of Influenza B during this reporting period.<br>• There have been 310 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A and 6 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza B reported during the 2021-2022 influenza season.<br>• There were also 1 Adenovirus, 1 Coronavirus****, 1 Enterovirus/Rhinovirus, 5 Metapneumovirus, 2 Parainfluenza and 9 Respiratory Syncytial Virus cases identified during this reporting period. |
| **Severity** |
| • This reporting period, there were 2 cases hospitalized and 1 case admitted to the ICU with Influenza A.<br>• During the 2021-2022 influenza season,<br>  • there have been 31 hospitalizations; mostly from influenza A (n=29)<br>  • there have been 4 ICU admissions, all in adults aged 20+<br>  • there have been 0 deaths*** of laboratory confirmed influenza |
| **Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)** |
| • For current epidemiology of COVID-19 please refer to: https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/alerts-notices/#epidemiologic-summaries |
| **Syndromic surveillance** |
| • The percentage of visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 1.3% during this reporting period. This is lower than last week. |

***Notes:*** **Reporting weeks run from Sunday to Saturday. The 2021-2022 influenza season is defined using PHAC's influenza surveillance weeks. This year runs from August 29, 2021 (Week 35) to August 27, 2022 (Week 34);*

***Activity level data is obtained from CNPHI, see appendix for definitions.*

****Deaths include individuals with a positive influenza test result, influenza may not have been the major contributing cause of death or hospitalization.*

*****EXCLUDES novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)*

## LABORATORY-CONFIRMED INFLUENZA CASES

**Figure 1: Number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases by report week, 2021-2022 season, Nova Scotia**

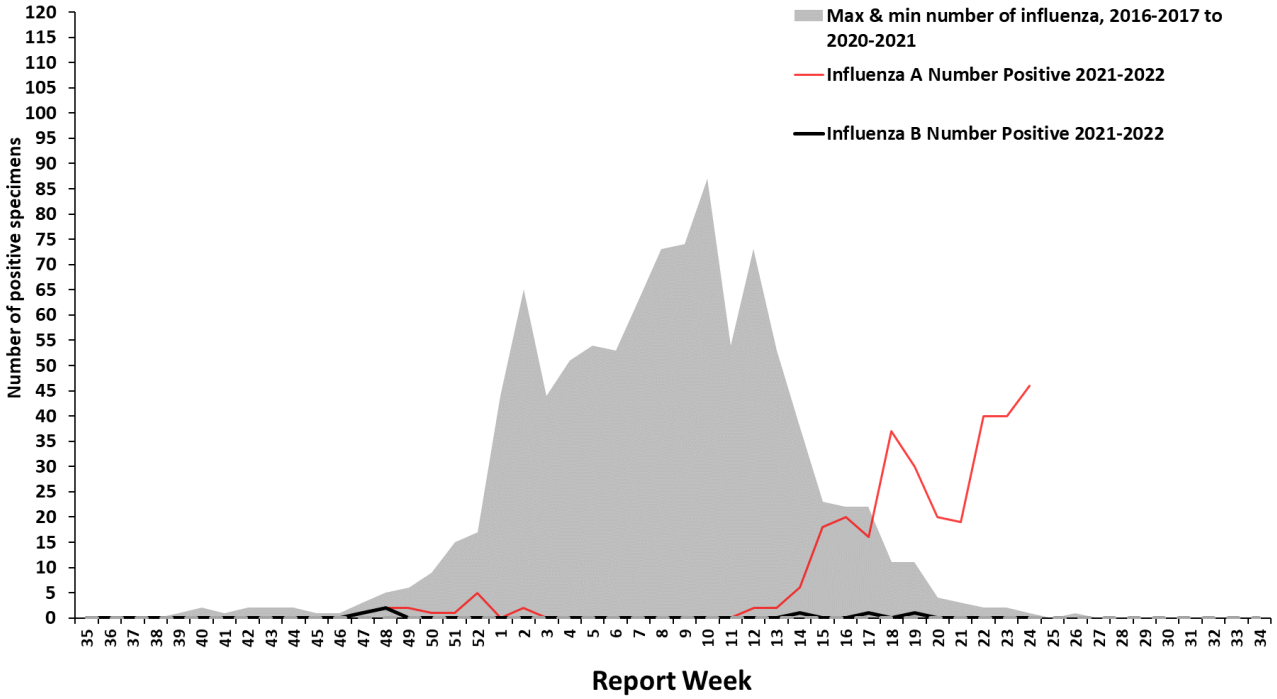



**Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by zone, current week and cumulative 2021-2022 season in Nova Scotia**

| ZONE | CURRENT WEEK | | | CUMULATIVE 2021-2022 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B |
| Western | 6 | 6 | 0 | 21 | 21 | 0 |
| Northern | 15 | 15 | 0 | 141 | 141 | 0 |
| Eastern | 25 | 25 | 0 | 107 | 105 | 2 |
| Central | 0 | 0 | 0 | 47 | 43 | 4 |
| Nova Scotia Total | 46 | 46 | 0 | 316 | 310 | 6 |

**Table 2: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by age group (years), current week and cumulative 2021-2022 season in Nova Scotia**

| AGE (YEARS) | CURRENT WEEK | | | CUMULATIVE 2021-2022 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B |
| 0-4 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 33 | 33 | 0 |
| 5-19 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 114 | 114 | 0 |
| 20-44 | 12 | 12 | 0 | 83 | 82 | 1 |
| 45-64 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 25 | 24 | 1 |
| 65+ | 10 | 10 | 0 | 61 | 57 | 4 |
| Nova Scotia Total | 46 | 46 | 0 | 316 | 310 | 6 |

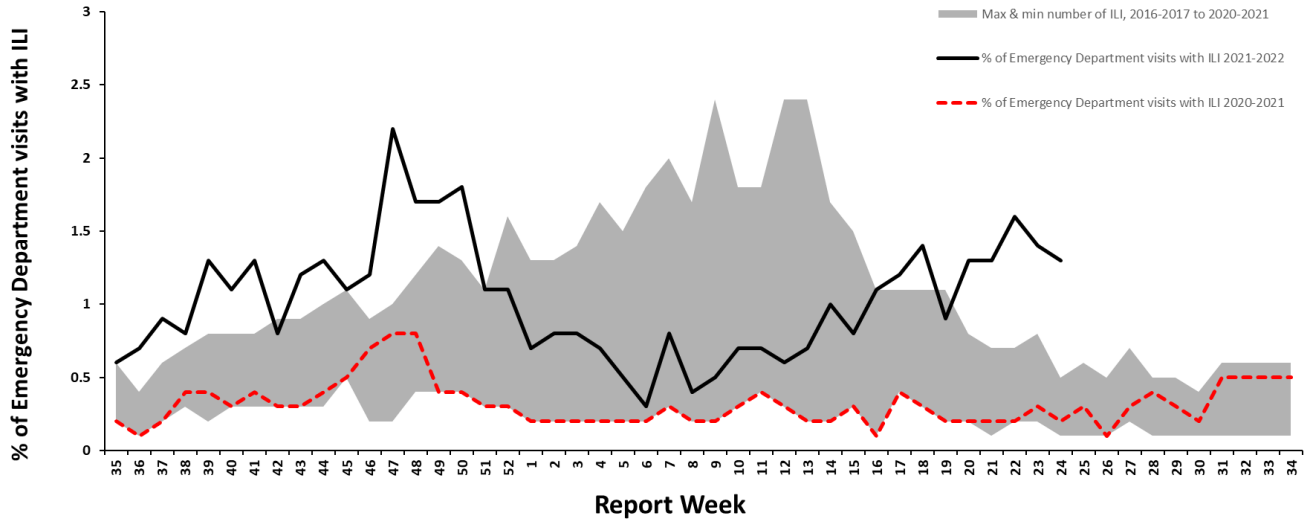
**Table 3: Hospitalizations, ICU admissions and deaths for influenza positive patients, current week and cumulative, 2021-2022 season, Nova Scotia**

| | CURRENT WEEK | | | CUMULATIVE 2021-2022 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B | TOTAL | INFLUENZA A | INFLUENZA B |
| Hospitalized | 2 | 2 | 0 | 31 | 29 | 2 |
| Hospitalized - ICU | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Deceased* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nova Scotia Total | 3 | 3 | 0 | 35 | 32 | 3 |

***Notes:*** *Outcome categories (hospitalized hospitalized-ICU, Deceased) are mutually exclusive; Deaths include individuals with a positive influenza test result, influenza may not have been the major contributing cause of death or hospitalization.*

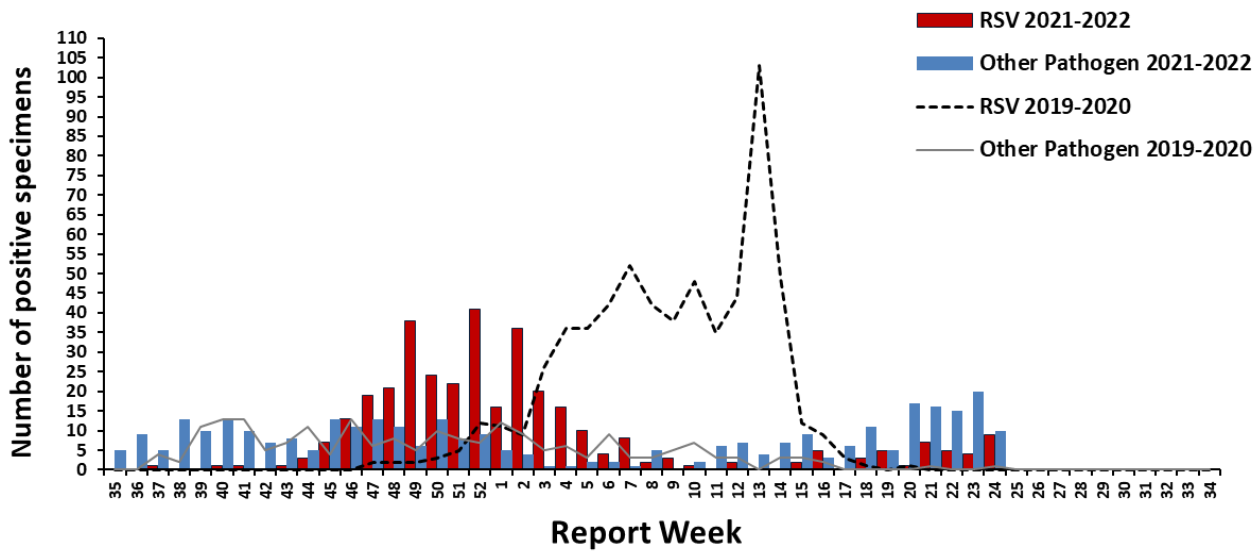
## SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

**Figure 2: Percentage of emergency department visits due to ILI by report week, 2021-2022 season, with trend-line comparison to 2020-2021 season, Nova Scotia**



## OTHER RESPIRATORY PATHOGENS

**Figure 3: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens* and RSV by report week, 2021-2022 season, with trend-line comparison to 2019-2020 season, Nova Scotia**




***Notes:*** *Other respiratory pathogen includes Adenovirus, Bocavirus, Chlamydophila pneumonia, Coronavirus, Enterovirus, Metapneumovirus, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Parainfluenza, Pertussis, Rhinovirus.*
*Note that data for this figure is obtained from provincial laboratories. There is no RSV 2020-2021 trend line visible because Nova Scotia did not identify any cases of RSV. For this season, 2019-2020 data will be used for a trend comparison.*

**Table 4: Number of positive RSV specimens by age group, 2021-2022 season, Nova Scotia**

| AGE GROUP | 2021-2022 |
|---|---|
| 0-5 months | 77 |
| 6-11 months | 24 |
| 12-23 months | 43 |
| 2-5 years | 82 |
| 6-15 years | 9 |
| 16-65 years | 80 |
| 65+ years | 36 |
| Nova Scotia Total | 351 |

**Table 5: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens, current report week and cumulative season, Nova Scotia, 2021–2022**

| Pathogen | CURRENT WEEK (n positive) | CUMULATIVE 2021-2022 |
|---|---|---|
| Adenovirus | 1 | 18 |
| Bocavirus | 0 | 2 |
| Chlamydophila pneumoniae | 0 | 1 |
| Coronavirus* | 1 | 46 |
| Enterovirus/Rhinovirus | 1 | 152 |
| Metapneumovirus | 5 | 36 |
| Mycoplasma pneumoniae | 0 | 1 |
| Parainfluenza | 2 | 72 |
| Pertussis | 0 | 0 |
| Respiratory Syncytial Virus | 9 | 351 |

***Notes:*** *EXCLUDES novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)*

## Appendix: Definitions used in Influenza surveillance, and useful links, 2021-2022

### Acronym List

**CNPHI** Canadian Network for Public Health Intelligence
**ICU** Intensive care unit
**ILI** Influenza-like illness
**RSV** Respiratory syncytial virus

### ILI Case Definition

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.

### National FluWatch Definitions for Influenza Activity Levels

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

### Links to other weekly influenza reporting bodies

Canada: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/
World: https://www.who.int/teams/global-influenza-programme/surveillance-and-monitoring/influenza-updates/current-influenza-update
US: www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly