

In Summary...

<p>Activity levels**</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Localized activity was reported in the Western and Northern Zone. Sporadic Activity was reported in Eastern and Central Zone during week 48.
<p>Laboratory-confirmed cases*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were 673 new cases of Influenza A, and 0 new cases of Influenza B reported during Week 48. There have been 1,652 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A and 1 laboratory confirmed case of Influenza B reported during the 2022-2023 influenza season. There were also 3 Adenovirus, 1 Coronavirus****, 6 Enterovirus/Rhinovirus, 3 Parainfluenza, and 173 Respiratory Syncytial Virus cases identified during this reporting period.
<p>Severity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were 84 cases hospitalized (non-ICU), 10 ICU admissions and 3 deaths with Influenza A during this reporting period. During the 2022-2023 influenza season there have been: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 234 hospitalizations (non-ICU) 17 ICU admissions 15 deaths*** of laboratory confirmed influenza
<p>Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For current epidemiology of COVID-19 please refer to: https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/alerts-notices/#epidemiologic-summaries
<p>Syndromic surveillance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The percentage of visits for influenza like illness (ILI) was 6.8% during this reporting period.

Notes: There has been a change in testing methods with the implementation of multiplex respiratory virus PCR for 2019-nCoV. This may increase the number of cases detected through the flu season.

*A reporting week runs from Sunday to Saturday. The 2022-2023 influenza season is defined using PHAC's influenza surveillance weeks. This year runs from August 28, 2022 (Week 35) to August 26, 2023 (Week 34);

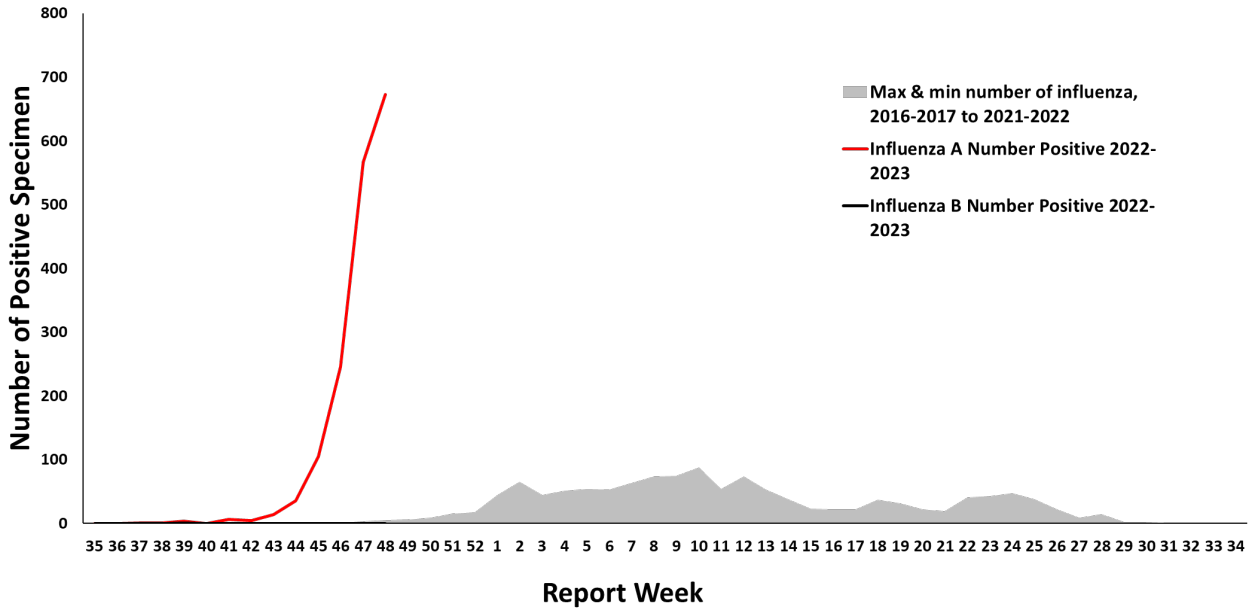
**Activity level is obtained from CNPHI, see appendix for definitions.

***Deaths include individuals with a positive influenza test result, influenza may or 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, 2022-2023 season, Nova Scotia



Notes: There has been a change in testing methods with the implementation of multiplex respiratory virus PCR for 2019-nCoV. This may increase the number of cases detected through the flu season.

Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by zone, current week and cumulative 2022-2023 season in Nova Scotia

ZONE	WEEK 48			CUMULATIVE 2022-2023		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Western	201	201	0	545	545	0
Northern	226	226	0	500	500	0
Eastern	107	107	0	234	234	0
Central	139	139	0	374	373	1
Nova Scotia Total	673	673	0	1653	1652	1

Table 2: Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases by age group (years), current week and cumulative 2022-2023 season in Nova Scotia

AGE (YEARS)	WEEK 48			CUMULATIVE 2022-2023		
	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	TOTAL	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
0-4	91	91	0	193	192	1
5-19	146	146	0	471	471	0
20-44	165	165	0	371	371	0
45-64	96	96	0	244	244	0
65+	175	175	0	374	374	0
Nova Scotia Total	673	673	0	1653	1652	1

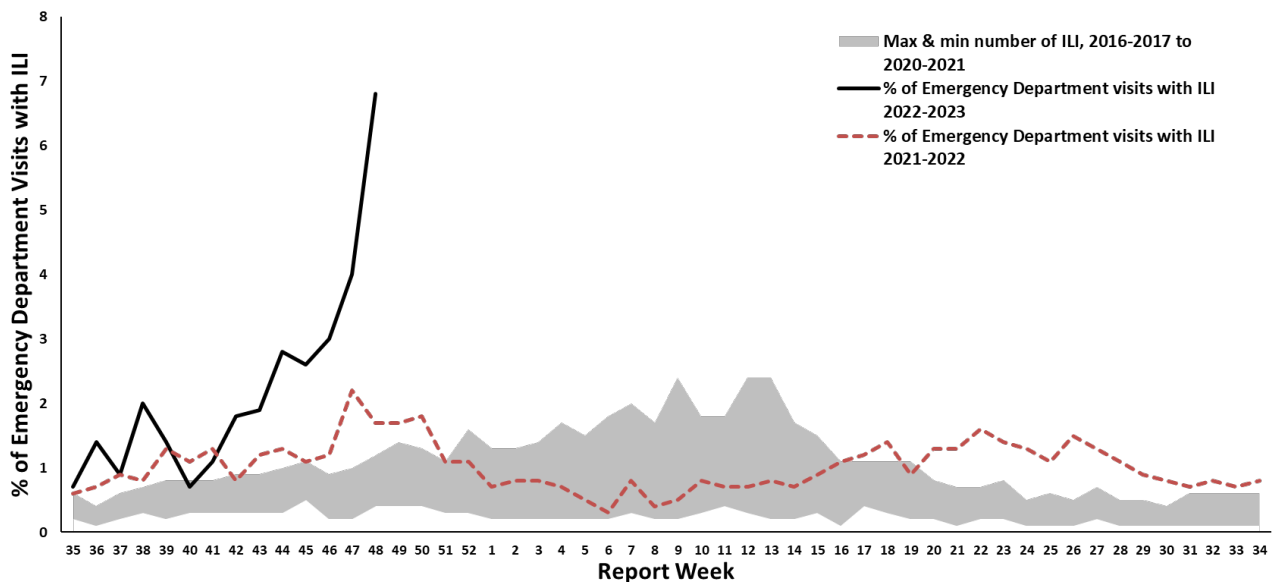
Table 3: Hospitalizations, ICU admissions and deaths for influenza positive patients, current week and cumulative, 2022-2023 season, Nova Scotia

	WEEK 48		CUMULATIVE 2022-2023	
	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B	INFLUENZA A	INFLUENZA B
Hospitalized	84	0	234	0
Hospitalized - ICU	10	0	17	0
Deceased*	3	0	15	0
Nova Scotia Total	97	0	266	0

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

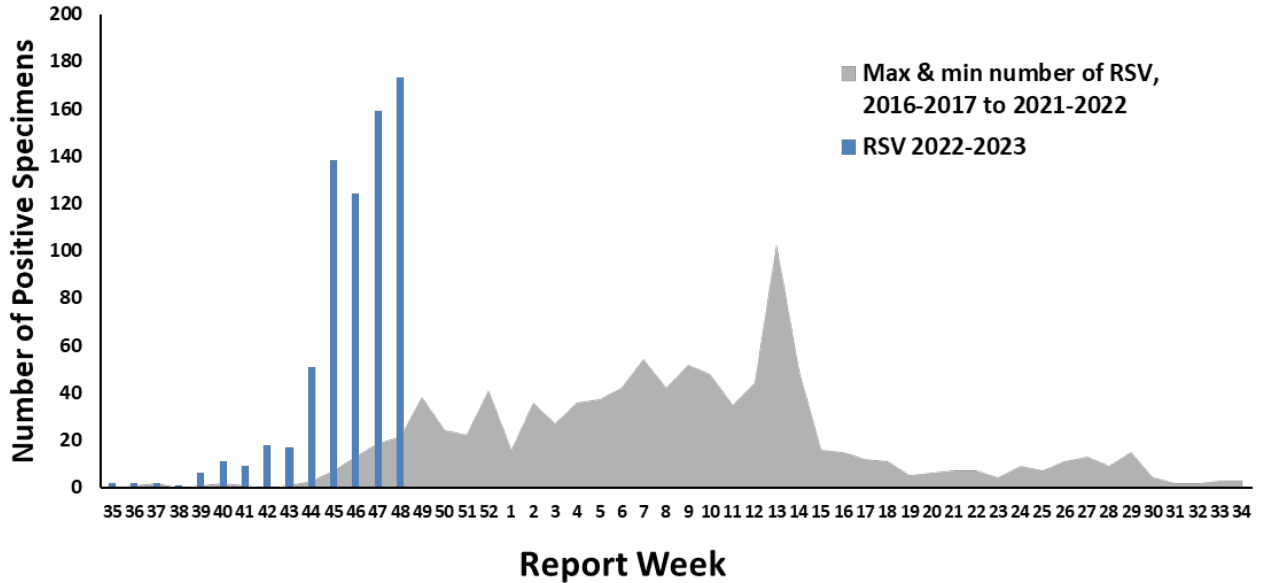
SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

Figure 2: Percentage of emergency department visits due to ILI by report week, 2022-2023 season, with trend-line comparison to 2021-2022 season, Nova Scotia



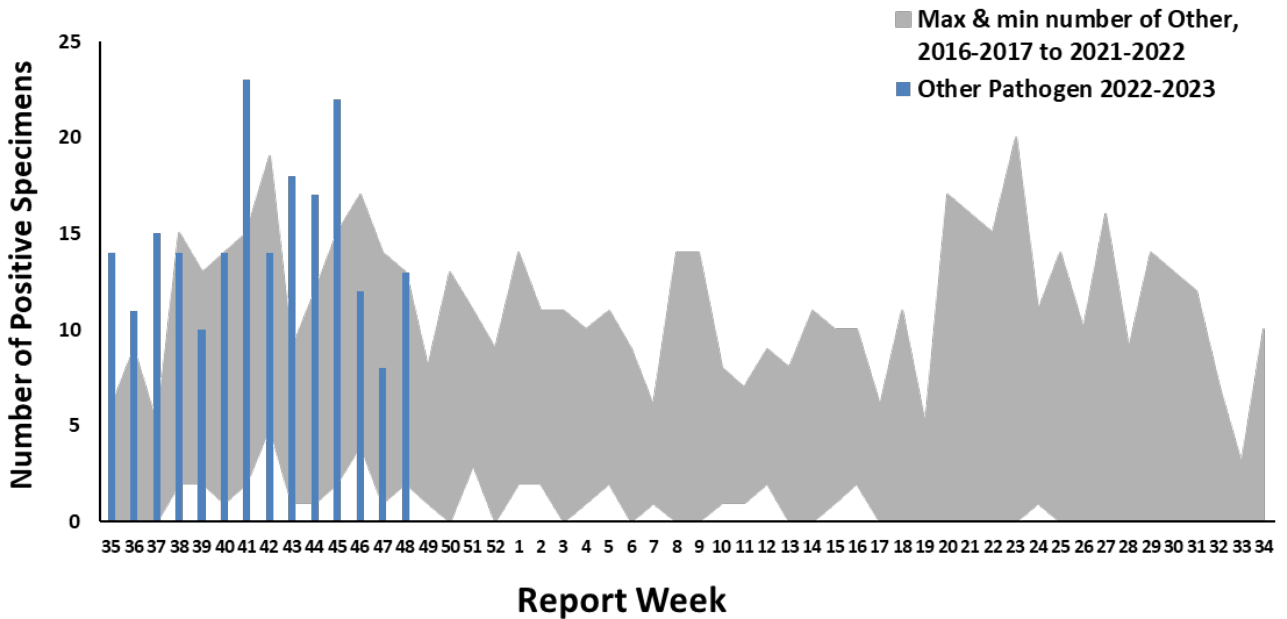
OTHER RESPIRATORY PATHOGENS

Figure 3: Number of positive specimens tested for RSV by report week, 2022-2023 season, Nova Scotia



Notes: in Nova Scotia RSV is not a notifiable disease.

Figure 4: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens by report week, 2022-2023 season, Nova Scotia



Notes: Other respiratory pathogen includes Adenovirus, Bocavirus, Chlamydomphila pneumonia, Coronavirus, Enterovirus, Metapneumovirus, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Parainfluenza, Pertussis, Rhinovirus. Data for this figure is obtained from provincial laboratories.

Table 4: Number of positive RSV specimens by age group, current report week and cumulative 2022-2023 season, Nova Scotia

AGE GROUP	Week 48	Cumulative 2022-2023
0-5 months	24	121
6-11 months	9	44
12-23 months	27	124
2-5 years	21	157
6-15 years	5	48
16-65 years	39	114
65+ years	48	105
Totals (n)	173	713

Table 5: Number of positive specimens tested for other respiratory pathogens, current report week and cumulative 2022-2023 season, Nova Scotia

Pathogen	WEEK 47	CUMULATIVE 2022-2023
Adenovirus	3	26
Bocavirus	0	0
Chlamydomphila pneumoniae	0	0
Coronavirus*	1	5
Enterovirus/Rhinovirus	6	148
Metapneumovirus	0	0
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	0	0
Parainfluenza	3	26
Pertussis	0	0
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	173	713

*Notes: EXCLUDES novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

APPENDIX: DEFINITIONS USED IN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE, AND USEFUL LINKS, 2022-2023

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 (2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with (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 (2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with (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