# Epidemiological Surveillance of Respiratory Infections
# Weekly overview - Week 45/2026 (02/11/2026 – 08/11/2026)
## Summary of Epidemiological Data – Week 45/2026

Influenza-like Illness (ILI)

- The number of influenza-like illness cases per 1,000 visits is low, showing an increasing trend. During week 45/2026, it showed a small decrease compared to the previous week.

Severe Acute Respiratory Illness - SARI

- The number of SARI cases per 1,000 hospital admissions is also low, with small weekly fluctuations. In week 45/2026, it showed a decrease compared to the previous week.

SARS-CoV2 virus - COVID-19 infection

- The positivity rate based on all SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic tests performed nationwide is showing an upward trend. In week 45/2026 no significant change was recorded compared to last week.
- In week 45/2026, 186 new COVID-19 admissions were recorded (compared to 161 admissions in the previous week).
- Since the beginning of last summer, sporadic cases of intubations and deaths have been recorded. In week 45/2026, one new intubation and two new deaths were recorded. From week 01/2025 through week 45/2026, reported deaths in severe cases (intubated and/or admitted to an ICU) amount to a total of 98.
- In week 45/2026, the weighted SARS-CoV-2 viral load in urban wastewater across the tested areas lies at moderate levels.

Influenza virus

- Influenza positivity in the community (as estimated by the Sentinel Primary Health Care surveillance network) reached 10% (the epidemic threshold indicating seasonal influenza activity), showing an increase compared to last week. In secondary healthcare (as estimated by the SARI surveillance network), positivity levels also increased.
- In week 45/2026, 83 new influenza admissions were recorded, showing an increase compared to the previous week (N=58).
- In week 45/2026, one new severe case of laboratory-confirmed influenza requiring ICU admission and one new death from laboratory-confirmed influenza were reported.
- Overall, from week 40/2026 through week 45/2026, 16 cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza requiring ICU admission and four deaths due to laboratory-confirmed influenza were recorded. It is noted that, from week 01/2025 through week 45/2026, the number of recorded deaths among severe cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza is 174.
- Overall, from week 40/2026 through week 45/2026, 37 positive influenza virus samples were identified among 593 samples (from the community Sentinel surveillance network, SARI surveillance, and hospitals outside the surveillance networks), 36 type A and one type B.
- Of the 33 influenza A strains that were subtyped, 20 were A(H1)pdm09 and three A(H3).
- During week 45/2026, the weighted SARS-CoV-2 viral load in urban wastewater across the tested areas is low.

Respiratory syncytial virus – RSV

- Positivity rates both in the community (Primary Health Care Sentinel surveillance network) and within the SARI surveillance network remain very low. In week 45/2026 no positive samples were recorded from samplings in the community, nor the SARI surveillance network. Vaccination for individuals aged over 75 years and for individuals belonging to high-risk groups is recommended, according to the National Immunization Programme.

Both influenza and COVID-19 are associated with a significant number of deaths among severe cases. It is recommended that persons who qualify for vaccination, particularly those at higher risk of severe outcomes (elderly and people with underlying diseases) should get vaccinated against both diseases.

NOTE: Retrospective inclusion of data reported with delay can result in modifications in the numbers presented.