



Epidemiological Surveillance of Respiratory Infections Weekly overview - Week 14/2025 (31/03/2025 –06/04/2025)

Influenza-like Illness (ILI)

- The number of influenza cases per 1,000 visits has significantly decreased compared to the previous week.

Severe Acute Respiratory Illness- SARI (ILI)

- The number of SARI cases per 1,000 hospital admissions decreased compared to last week.

SARS-CoV2 virus - COVID-19 infection

- Test positivity from all tests performed in the country (COVID-19 registry data) remains very low.
- 56 COVID-19 hospital admissions were recorded, while the average weekly number of new hospital admissions during the previous four weeks was 88.
- No new intubations were recorded. The average weekly number of new intubations for the past four weeks was two.
- The current number of ventilated patients with COVID-19 infection is four.
- Two deaths were recorded. The average weekly number of deaths for the past four weeks was five. From week 01/2024 to week 14/2025, 392 deaths among severe cases (intubated and/or with ICU hospitalization) were recorded.
- In week 33/2024 the first variants of XEC were detected, showing thereafter an upward trend. Since the beginning of December 2024, XEC is the predominant variant.
- At the national level, the weighted viral load in urban wastewater is considered low compared to historical data, showing a decrease compared to the previous week.

Influenza virus

- Influenza positivity in the community (as assessed by Sentinel surveillance in primary health care (ILI specimens) presented a significant decrease. Positivity of SARI specimens remained low, showing a small increase compared to last week.
- In week 14/2025, one new ICU laboratory-confirmed influenza case and three new deaths from laboratory-confirmed influenza were recorded. Additionally, one ICU laboratory-confirmed influenza case and one death from laboratory-confirmed influenza with admission dates within previous week were retrospectively reported. In total, from week 40/2023 to week 14/2025, 181 severe cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza were admitted to ICU and 72 deaths were recorded. From week 01/2024 to week 14/2025, 133 deaths in severe cases with laboratory confirmed influenza were recorded.
- From week 40/2024 to week 14/2025, among 4.075 samples (Sentinel Primary Health Care Surveillance, SARI surveillance and hospitals outside surveillance networks), 829 (21%) positive samples for influenza viruses were found. Of the 816 samples typed, 522 were type A and 294 type B.
- Among the 491 type A samples that were subtyped, 247 were A(H1)pdm09 and 244 were A(H3).

Respiratory syncytial virus – RSV

- RSV activity remains relatively mild in both sentinel primary health care (ILI specimens) and in hospitals (SARI specimens), with small weekly fluctuations.
- 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