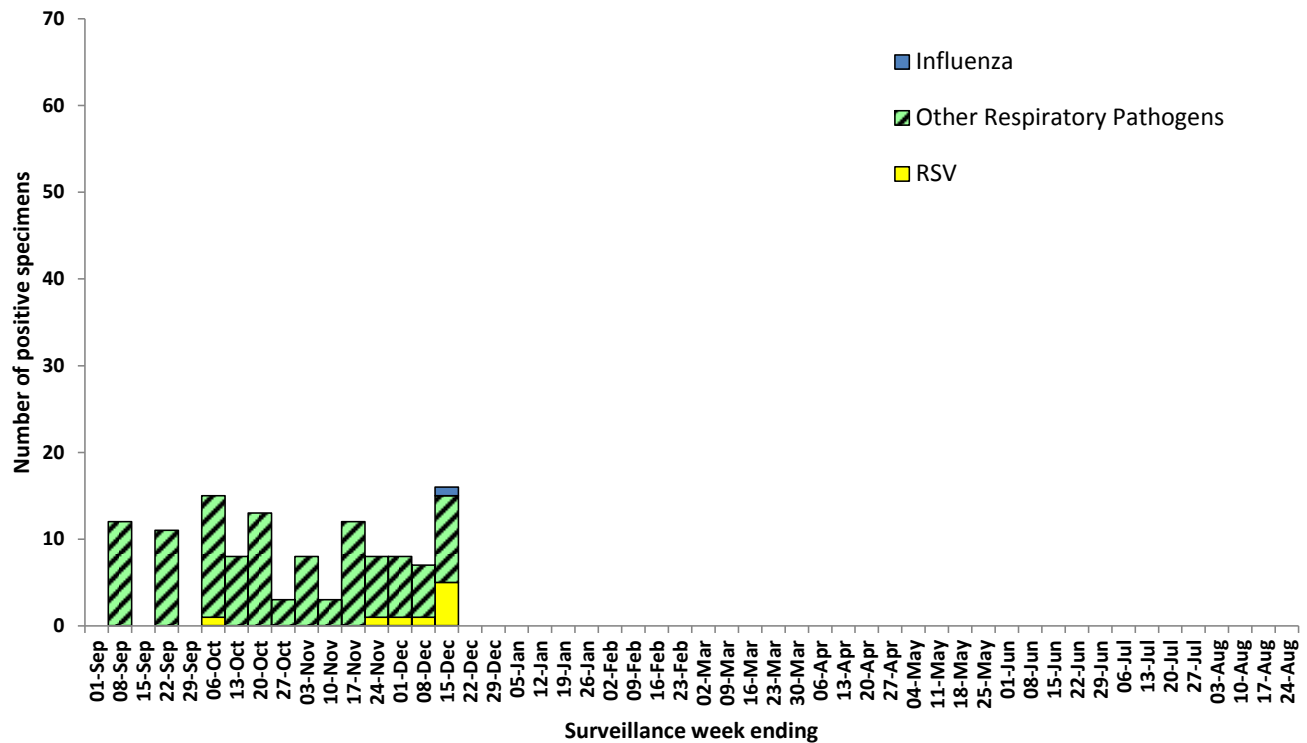


Summary of Nova Scotia surveillance findings, for the period ending December 15, 2012:

- The first case of influenza for the 2012-2013 influenza season was reported this week in DHA 9. Laboratory results were positive for influenza A, in an individual aged 30-49 years of age.
- Other respiratory pathogen activity continues. Positive results were received for chlamydomydia pneumoniae, mycoplasma pneumoniae, parainfluenza, rhinovirus and RSV.
- The ILI rate for Nova Scotia for this reporting period was 0.8. DHA 4 did not report. Seventy eight percent of ER sites reported ILI data this week.
- Zero specimens were submitted for the sentinel swabbing program.

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

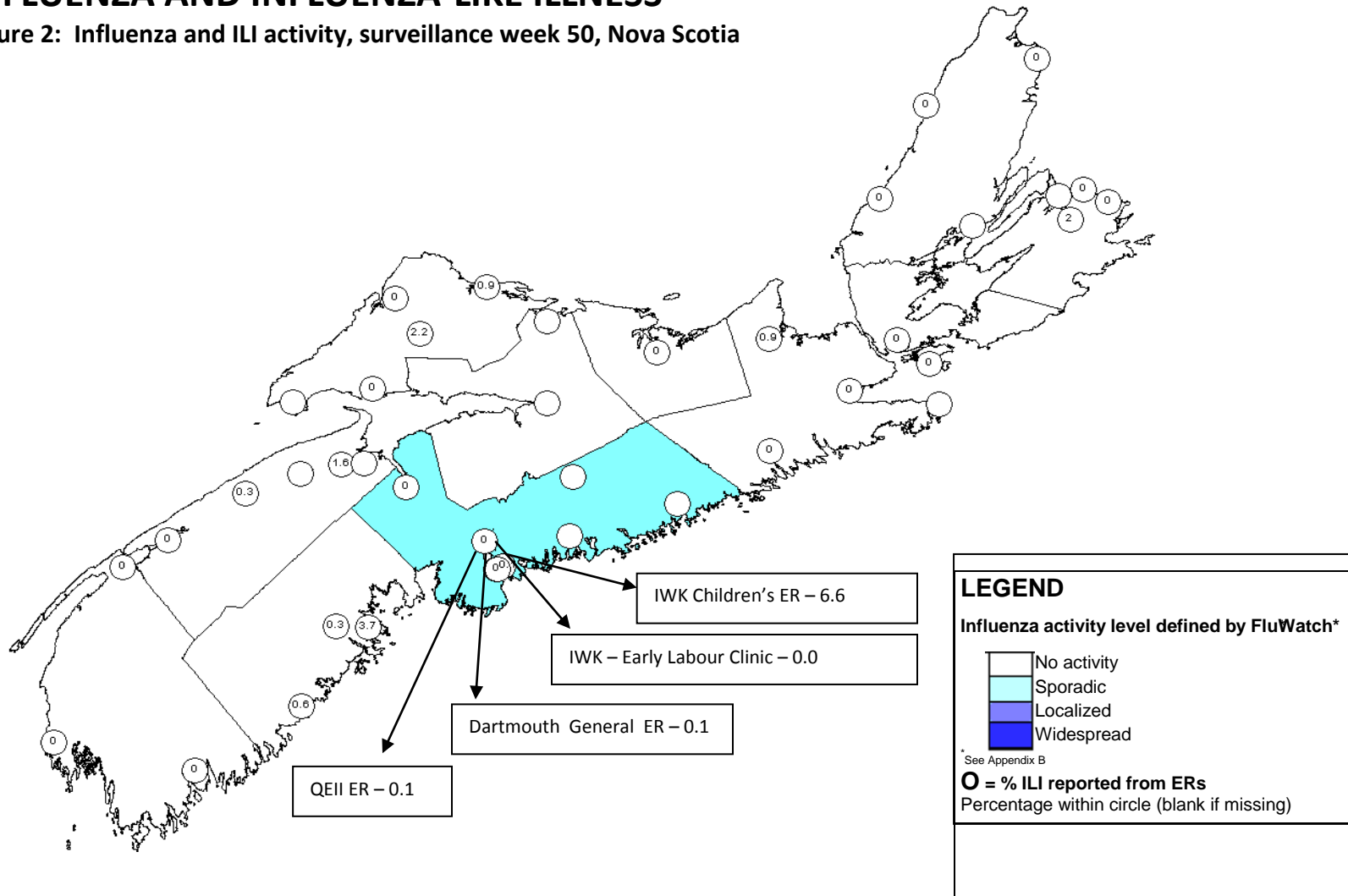


RESPIRATORY WATCH

Week 50 (December 9 to December 15, 2012)

INFLUENZA AND INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS

Figure 2: Influenza and ILI activity, surveillance week 50, Nova Scotia



RESPIRATORY WATCH

Week 50 (December 9 to December 15, 2012)

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

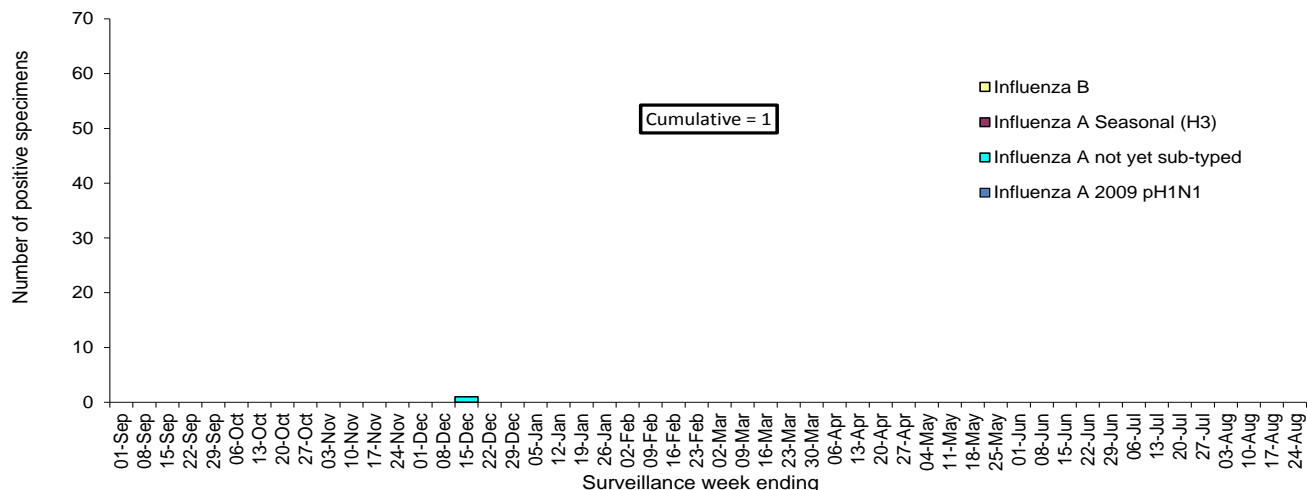
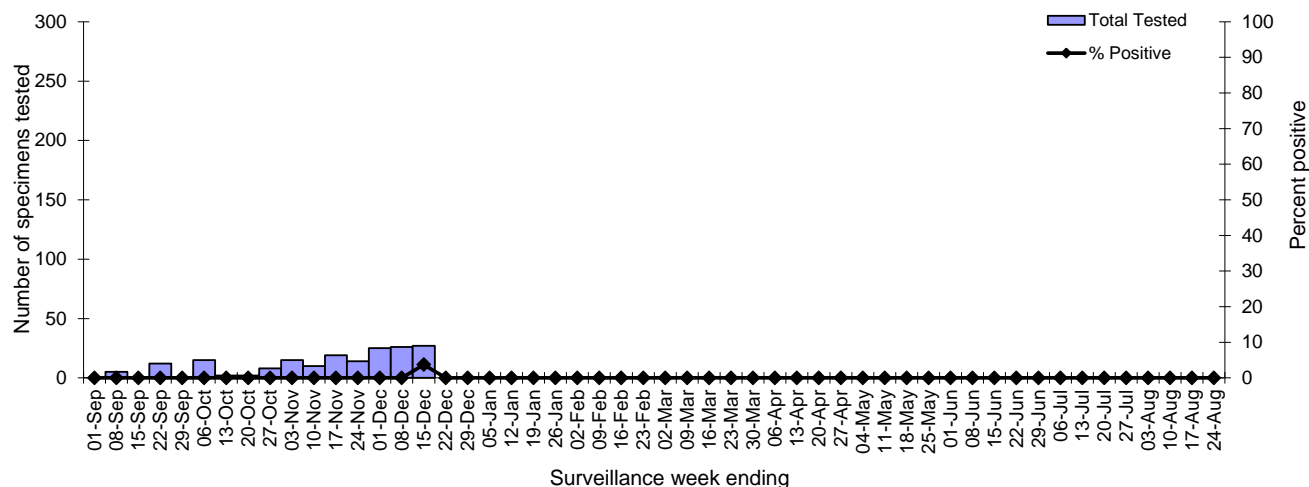


Figure 4: Number of specimens tested for influenza and percent positive, Nova Scotia Provincial Public Health Laboratory Network, 2012–2013*



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

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	0	0
Influenza A (not yet sub-typed)										
Current Week	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Cumulative 2012 - 2013	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza A Seasonal (H3)										
Current Week	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative 2012 - 2013	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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	0	0

RESPIRATORY WATCH

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

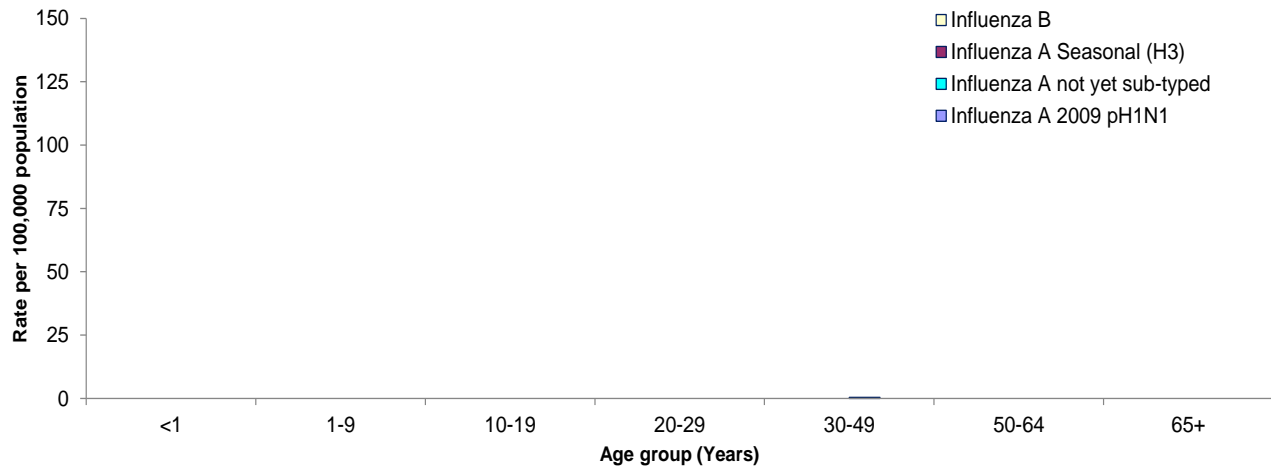


Figure 6: Influenza rate per 100,000 population by type and DHA, cumulative, Nova Scotia, 2012–2013

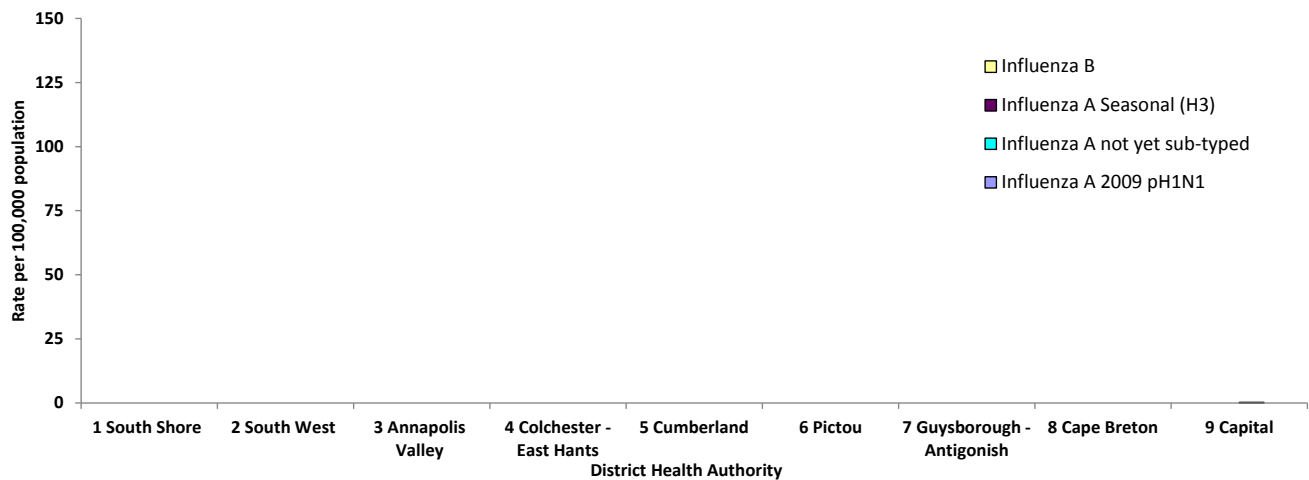


Table 2: ILI reporting from emergency departments and FluWatch sentinel physicians, and Sentinel Swabbing Specimen Submissions, Nova Scotia, 2012-2013

	ER SURVEILLANCE		SENTINEL SURVEILLANCE*		SENTINEL SWABBING	
	%ILI	Reporting ERs	%ILI	Reporting Sentinels	# Swabs	Sites Submitting Specimens
DHA 1	1.3	3 of 3	1.3	3 of 6	0	0 of 1
DHA 2	0.0	3 of 3	–	0 of 0	0	0 of 1
DHA 3	1.0	3 of 5	–	0 of 1	0	0 of 2
DHA 4	–	0 of 2	–	0 of 0	0	0 of 2
DHA 5	0.8	5 of 5	6.7	1 of 2	0	0 of 1
DHA 6	0.0	1 of 1	–	0 of 2	0	0 of 1
DHA 7	0.5	6 of 6	–	0 of 1	0	0 of 2
DHA 8	0.9	6 of 8	3.4	1 of 4	0	0 of 3
DHA 9	0.1	4 of 7	5.6	5 of 14		
IWK	4.9	1 of 1				
Nova Scotia (excl. IWK)†	0.5	31 of 40	77.5%		0	0 of 12
Nova Scotia (incl. IWK)	0.8	32 of 41	78.0%	4.3	10 of 30	33.3%

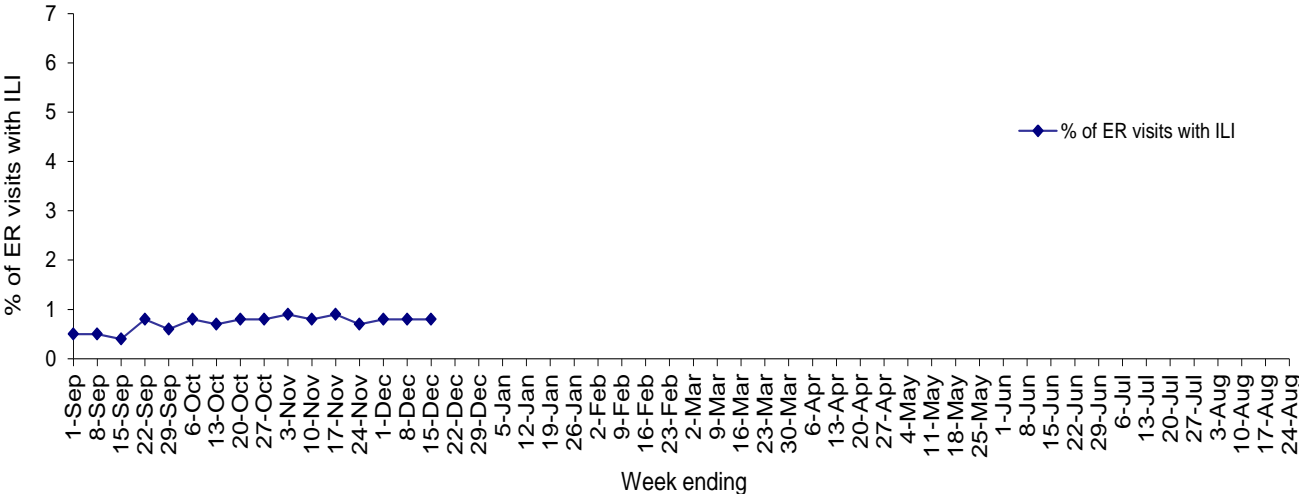
*Flu watch sentinels

†Excludes the children's ER from IWK

RESPIRATORY WATCH

Week 50 (December 9 to December 15, 2012)

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



RESPIRATORY WATCH

Week 50 (December 9 to December 15, 2012)

RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV)

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

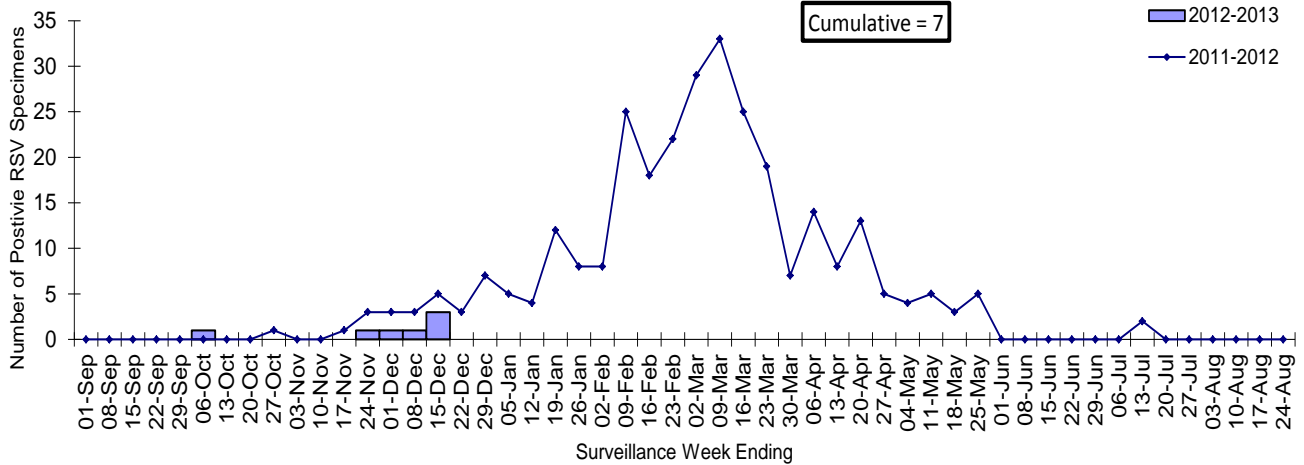


Figure 9: Cumulative number of positive RSV specimens by age group and sex, Nova Scotia, 2012-2013



RESPIRATORY WATCH

Week 50 (December 9 to December 15, 2012)

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

Number and percent positive for:	Surveillance Week			Cumulative Season-to-Date Totals		
	n tested	n positive	% positive	n tested	n positive	% positive
Adenovirus	23	0	0.0	148	0	0.0
Bocavirus	23	0	0.0	148	1	0.7
Chlamydomphila pneumoniae	16	2	12.5	208	22	10.6
Coronavirus	23	0	0.0	148	0	0.0
Enterovirus	23	0	0.0	148	2	1.4
Metapneumovirus	23	0	0.0	148	1	0.7
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	16	4	25.0	208	48	23.1
Parainfluenza	23	1	4.3	148	5	3.4
Pertussis	7	0	0.0	103	6	5.8
Respiratory syncytial virus A	23	3	13.0	150	6	4.0
Respiratory syncytial virus B	23	0	0.0	150	0	0.0
Respiratory syncytial virus not typed	6	0	0.0	97	1	1.0
Rhinovirus	23	3	13.0	148	29	19.6

RESPIRATORY WATCH

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

RESPIRATORY WATCH

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- 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