

Nivel FluCov: Influenza-COVID-19 Activity Report #4

15 April 2025

Seasonal Influenza

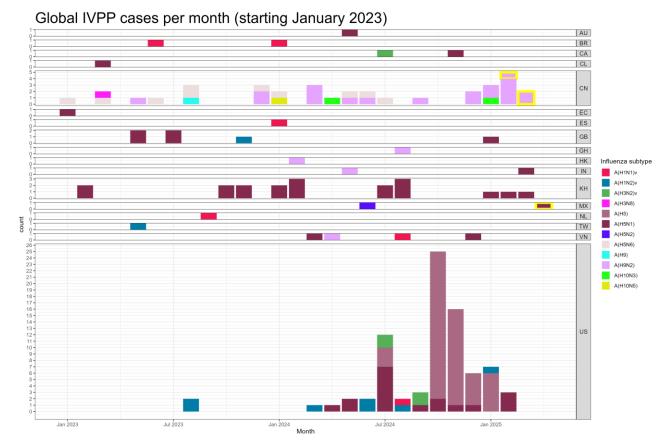
Influenza activity peaked in the Northern Hemisphere, rapidly declining in most countries

- North America and Europe: Influenza activity continues to decline in Europe and the US, as the peak has passed in most countries. In Denmark, influenza activity was at 17% positivity in week 14 (23% in week 13) suggesting a further decrease in activity. Activity remained very low (<10% positivity) in the UK, Spain, Italy and France and decreased to moderate (24.2% positivity) in Germany. In the US, influenza activity continued to decrease to low activity (7.6% positivity overall).
- Asia: Influenza activity in China remained at very low levels (<10% positivity) in Northern and Southern China.
- Southern Hemisphere: Influenza activity remained low in most countries in the Southern Hemisphere. Activity was elevated in a few countries in Tropical South America, Eastern Africa, South-East Asia, and Oceania.
- Severity: The current influenza season is intense in both the US and EU, with currently a decreasing trend. EuroMOMO estimates of all-cause mortality have returned to expected levels, after presenting increased levels of mortality from week 51, 2024 to week 9, 2025.
- Circulating virus: Globally, influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 predominated, followed by A(H3N2) and B/Victoria. This season, influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 dominated circulation in China (99%), while a mix of influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and A(H3N2) circulated in the US (1:1). In the EU, dominance varied across countries: overall influenza A and B circulation was around 3:1; influenza A(H1N1):A(H3N2) circulation was 2:1.
- Vaccine match: Based upon antigenic characterization (wk13), the <u>US</u> and <u>UK</u> report a good match (99-100% 'well recognised'/'similar') for influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and B/Victoria and a partial match (65-77% 'well-recognised'/'similar') for influenza A(H3N2).
- Influenza Viruses of Pandemic Potential: Fatal first human H5N1 case in Mexico, 3-year-old girl; exposure source unknown. 3 H9N2 cases reported in China, bringing the 2025 total to 5 (2024 total 11).
- SARS-CoV-2 activity: Low globally in week 13, with a few exceptions of elevated activity reported in Temperate South America, Eastern Asia, and Western Africa.

Positive Influenza tests (%)



Influenza viruses with pandemic potential



AU = Australia, BR = Brazil, CA = Canada, CL = Colombia, CN = China, EC = Ecuador, ES = Spain, GB = United Kingdom, GH = Ghana, HK = Hong Kong, IN = India, KH = Cambodia, MX = Mexico, NL = Netherlands, TW = Taiwan, US = United States, VN = Vietnam

New cases are outlined in yellow

New since 3 April

Influenza A(H5N1): On <u>8 April 2025</u>, **Mexico** (MX) reported its first human fatality from avian influenza A(H5N1). The patient, a three-year-old child from the state of Durango, tested positive on 1 April 2025 and was hospitalized in a serious condition. Authorities have begun targeted epidemiological and environmental response actions; so far, 38 human contacts of the case have been sampled and all tested negative.

Globally, from 2003 through 9 April 2025, there have been 972 human cases of A(H5N1), including 470 deaths. To date, no sustained human-to-human transmission has been detected.

Influenza A(H9N2): Three cases of influenza A(H9N2) were reported in different regions in **China** (CN). The cases involved a seven-year-old girl from Henan Province with disease onset on 11 February 2025, a five-year-old boy from Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region with disease onset on 3 March 2025, and a 35-year-old woman from Guizhou Province with disease onset on 10 March 2025. The source of exposure and current condition of the patients were not reported. Thus far, a total of five H9N2 cases were reported in China in 2025.

For avian influenza virus infections in animals, please see: <u>Global AIV with Zoonotic Potential (fao.org)</u> [last updated 27 March 2025].

Seasonal influenza global overview: 15 April 2025

Global circulation: In the **Northern hemisphere**, influenza activity decreased or remained stable in most countries. Increased activity was reported in a few countries in Eastern Africa, Southwest Europe and Eastern Asia. Activity remained elevated in North America, Central America, Caribbean, Tropical South America, Africa, Europe and Asia. In the **Southern hemisphere**, activity remained similar or decreased in most countries. Influenza activity remained elevated in a few countries in Tropical South America, Eastern Africa, South-East Asia and Oceania.

Northern Hemisphere							
Country/ region	Week	Indicator	Info	Trend			
EU	14	Predominant virus lineage	Co-circulation of A(H1N1)pdm09, A(H3N2) and B/Vic influenza viruses	\			
		Influenza activity	Decreasing after peak in week 6				
		% positive tests	Pooled: 15%, median: 13%				
		SARI influenza positive	Pooled: 9.6%, median: 12%				
		Mortality (EuroMOMO)	Excess mortality returned to expected levels				
England	14	Predominant virus lineage	Mainly influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, increasing proportion influenza B in 2025				
		Influenza activity	Low activity levels	<10%			
		% positive tests	6.2%				
		Hospitalization rate (weekly)	1.36 per 100,000				
USA	14	Predominant virus lineage	Cocirculation of A(H1N1)pdm09, A(H3N2) and B viruses	<10%			
		Influenza activity	Continues to decline, several more weeks of activity expected				
		% positive tests	7.6%				
		Hospitalization rate (weekly)	1.2 per 100,000				
		Mortality	0.6% of deaths attributed to influenza				
Canada	14	Predominant virus lineage	Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09	\			
		Influenza activity	Decreasing trend				
		% positive tests	13.6%				
		Hospitalization rate (weekly)	2.3 per 100,000				
		Mortality	329 deaths since 25 August 2024				
	14	Predominant virus lineage	A(H1N1)pdm09	<10%			
China		Influenza activity	Decrease in Southern provinces and slightly				
		illideliza activity	increased detections in Northern provinces				
Southern H	Hemisph	ere					
Brazil	13	Predominant virus lineage	Influenza B/Victoria	<10%			
		Influenza activity	Below epidemic threshold				
		% positive tests	1.96%				
Australia	13-14	Predominant virus lineage	Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09	<10%			
		Influenza activity	Low at interseasonal levels				
		% positive tests	5.1%				
		Hospitalizations	285 adults admitted to sentinel hospitals in 2025 (1 January – 23 March)	10%			
		Mortality rate	26 deaths in January 2025				
South Africa	14	Predominant virus lineage	Influenza A				
		Influenza activity	Increasing trend				
		% positive tests	11.4% (15/132 detections)	1			
		Hospitalizations	28 (30 Dec 2024 – 6 April 2025)				

[↑] increase; → stable; ↓ decrease

SARS-CoV-2 global overview: 15 April 2025

Global circulation: Globally, SARS-CoV-2 activity remained low across reporting countries except for a few countries in Temperate South America, Western Africa and Eastern Asia where positivity remained elevated.

Northern Hemisphere						
Country/region	Week	Indicator	Info	Trend		
		Detections	At very low level	→		
		% positive tests	Pooled: 2.4%, median: 0.4%			
EU	14	SARI SARS-CoV-2 positive	Pooled: 1.7%, median: 1.6%			
		Mortality (EuroMOMO)	Excess mortality returned to expected levels			
		Detections	Circulating at baseline level, slight increase	→		
England	14	% positive tests	4.5%			
		Hospitalizations	1.43 per 100,000			
		Mortality	77 (7 days up to 28 March 2025)			
		% positive tests	3.6%	→		
USA	14	Hospitalizations	1.8 per 100,000			
		Mortality	0.7% of all deaths			
		Detections/activity	Stabilization at low levels	→		
0	14	% positive tests	2%			
Canada	14	Hospitalizations	0.6 per 100,000			
		Mortality	1852 deaths since 25 August 2024			
China	13	Detections	0 cases reported (28 days up to 30 March)			
		% positive tests	-			
Southern Hemisp	here					
D!I	13	Detections	Circulation decreasing	+		
Brazil	13	% positive tests	6.98%			
		Detections	Remain low	→ →		
		% positive tests	2.9%			
Acceptable	12.14		383 adults admitted to sentinel			
Australia	13-14	Hospitalizations	hospitals in 2025 (1 January – 23 March)			
		Mortality	228 deaths in January 2025			
		Detections	Low detection rate	→		
South Africa	14	% positive tests	1.5% (2/132 detections)			
		Hospitalizations	39 (30 Dec 2024 – 6 April 2025)			

[↑] increase; → stable; ↓ decrease; → stable at base level

Data sources & details FluCov influenza and COVID-19 activity report

Percentage positive graphs (via CERP - CERP - EPI Live! Flu)

China:China CDCGermany &Italy:WHO FluNET (sentinel)US:FluView (Clinical Laboratories)All others:WHO FluNet (non-sentinel)Spain:ERVISS (sentinel)Vaccine match:US (CDC), EU (ERVISS)

Influenza Viruses with Pandemic Potential

- ProMED
- Disease Outbreak News | WHO
- http://outbreaknewstoday.com/
- Homepage | CIDRAP
- ECDC Weekly threats reports (CDTR) (europa.eu)

Seasonal influenza and SARS-CoV-2

Global

- Global Influenza Programma Influenza update | WHO (#521, 10 April 2025)
- FluCov Dashboard | Nivel

Europe

- ERVISS | ECDC (W14)
- <u>EuroMOMO</u> (W14)
- National flu and COVID-19 surveillance reports: 2024 to 2025 season | UKHSA (W15)
- COVID-19 | UKHSA data dashboard (10 April 2025)

Americas

- FluView | FluView | CDC (EW14)
- COVID Data Tracker | CDC (5 April 2025)
- Overview: Canadian respiratory virus surveillance report (FluWatch+) Canada.ca (EW14)
- Respiratory Viruses weekly report | PAHO WHO (EW13)

Western Pacific

- Weekly Report | Chinese National Influenza Center (W14)
- <u>Seasonal influenza (who.int)</u> (9 April 2025)
- <u>COVID-19 situation reports | WHO Western Pacific</u> (11 April 2025)
- Australian Respiratory Surveillance Reports 2024 | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care (W13-14)

Africa

• Weekly respiratory pathogens surveillance report week | NICD (W14)

A Nivel publication

Heemskerk, S., Boudewijns, B., C, Laarman., Heuvel, L. van, Del Riccio, M., Caini, S., Stelma, F. Nivel FluCov: Influenza-COVID-19 Activity Report #3: 1 April 2025. Netherlands, Utrecht: Nivel, 2025

Websites for more information

Project Website: https://www.nivel.nl/en/flucov

FluCov Dashboard: https://www.nivel.nl/en/flucov-dashboard

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