

USER GUIDE

Ontario Respiratory Virus Tool

Updated: September 2026

Introduction

The [Ontario Respiratory Virus Tool](#) integrates a number of different data sources to provide a comprehensive view of respiratory virus infection activity in the province. This user guide describes the contents of this interactive report, how it is organized, and the functionalities for visualizing the content.

This interactive report includes case data for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV, lab testing, and outbreak data for COVID-19, influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses within Ontario. Data for COVID-19 starts from January 2020, while for other viruses, additional historical data is available. The ORVT will always contain data for ten respiratory seasons: nine years of historical data, plus data for the current respiratory season, where available.

The tool is organized into five tabs based on the content type included:

- **Summary tab:** contains high level summary information on recent activity and positivity levels for COVID-19, influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses, including key statistics for the current surveillance week and current respiratory season, and past year trends for several indicators
- **Lab testing tab:** contains information on laboratory test results for COVID-19, influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses
- **Cases tab:** contains information on cases of COVID-19, influenza, and RSV
- **Outcomes tab:** contains information on COVID-19, influenza, and RSV hospital admissions, bed occupancy and COVID-19 deaths
- **Outbreaks tab:** contains information on outbreaks of COVID-19, influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses
- **Projections tab:** contains information on projected activity and risk of hospitalization from COVID-19, influenza, and RSV.

Each tab contains different selection criteria for users to view the data by several stratifiers, enabling them to make comparisons. Some of the options available include selecting by virus, respiratory season, public health unit, age group, and setting. Specific details on what is contained in all the tabs and sections is outlined throughout this document.

Using the Ontario Respiratory Virus Tool

Overview

Generally, the functionality is similar across the different tabs in the tool. The available selection areas are numbered and summarized below.



- 1. Navigation bar:** This top navigation bar is used to move between the different tabs (Summary, Lab testing, Cases, Outcomes, Outbreaks, Projections). The tab being viewed is indicated in white, while the others remain blue.
- 2. Stratifiers (View data by):** The buttons in the 'View data by' navigation bar are used to change the stratifier used in the graph. Selecting a stratifier organizes the larger data sets and allows users to view the data by subsets with similar characteristics (e.g., disease, public health unit, age group). The stratifiers for this tool vary depending on the tab users have selected. The current selection is indicated in purple, while the others remain white.

3. **Filters:** Filters are used to break down the data within each section by selecting the drop down arrow. The filter will either allow for a single selection or multi-selection depending on the stratifier selected. The Age group filters are multi-select throughout all of the tabs. Further details on filters in specific tabs are available in the section below.
 - The 'Measure' filter appears within all of tabs and stratification views except when 'Overall' is selected on the 'View data by' navigation bar. Selecting 'Overall' changes the measure being used to plot the data on the graph.
 - The 'Time period' filter is used to adjust the time period used to plot the data on the x-axis of the graph by either selecting a start and end date in the top boxes or by dragging the slider below the date selection. The weekly data in the graph will always start on the Sunday of that week. If a different day of the week is selected then the graph will default to the following Sunday. If 'Respiratory season' is selected in the 'View data by' navigation bar, the 'Time period' filter will be replaced by one where only the entire respiratory season can be selected.
4. **Changing views:** In some tabs there are multiple views available for the stratifier. You can view the data in the graph by selecting different views (trends, distribution, maps) for that specific stratifier (e.g., by age group or by setting). These buttons will appear on the right side of the time selector when this functionality is available.
5. **Download data from the graph:** When hovering over a graph, a context menu (denoted by three dots) will appear at the top right. Once selected, users can choose to export the data in the graph or view the data in the graph as a table. To capture an image of the graph, users can use the Snipping tool built into Microsoft Windows (Windows logo key + Shift + S) or macOS (Command + Shift + 5).
6. **Tooltips:** When hovering over any data point on a graph, a tooltip will appear with related information about that data point.
7. **Notes:** Beneath the visualization in each tab are brief notes describing important considerations for data interpretation. Further details can be found in the [technical notes](#).

Summary Tab

This tab contains high level summary information on recent activity and positivity levels for COVID-19, influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses in the province. The tab contains five sections:

Key Findings

This section provides a weekly assessment of COVID-19, influenza, and RSV indicators, along detailed key findings for the week. At the top of the page are three pictograms showing COVID-19, influenza, and RSV percent positivity (percent of persons tested who tested positive for the virus) and the change in activity from the previous week based on a combination of indicators including percent positivity and outbreaks. Below that are a number of bullets summarizing the key findings for the week. Lastly, at the bottom of the page are buttons which can be used to download CSV files containing data for the previous and current respiratory seasons. Users can also connect directly to these datasets from the following links:

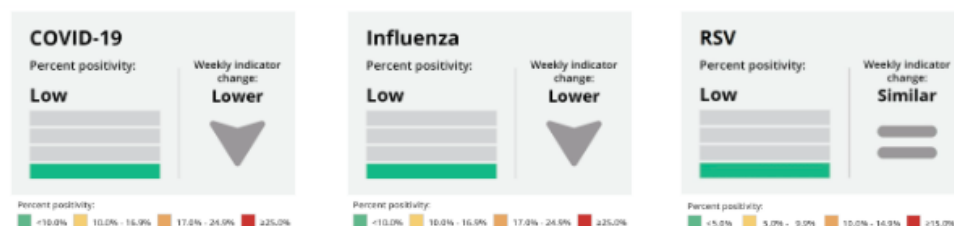
- [Cases](#)
- [Lab testing/percent positivity](#)
- [Outcomes](#)
- [Outbreaks](#)
- [Historical activity assessment](#)
- [PHU influenza activity/positivity](#)

Summary	Lab testing	Cases	Outcomes	Outbreaks	Projections
Key findings	Current surveillance week	Current respiratory season	Past year trends		

August 30, 2026 to September 5, 2026 (surveillance week 35, 2026-27 season, Ontario)

Weekly assessment

These images provide a high-level assessment of respiratory virus activity in Ontario. Provincial percent positivity can be used to provide an estimate of the intensity of circulating viruses in the province. Percent positivity for the most recent week of data available is used to assign COVID-19, influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) to either a low, moderate, high or very high category. **Weekly indicator change** was determined by considering a combination of indicators including changes in percent positivity and outbreaks. See [technical notes](#) for more details.



Key findings

COVID-19

- Percent positivity (the percentage of lab tests positive for a virus) was low (5.2%), and overall activity was lower than the previous week. Percent positivity is projected to increase through September 12.
- Percent positivity was highest in those aged <1 years (9.3%) and 65 years and older (6.1%).
- LP.8.1.1 was the most prevalent lineage identified from COVID-19 whole genome sequencing, based on the most recent genomics report.
- COVID-19 activity remained low throughout the 2025–26 season. Percent positivity peaked at 9.7% in mid-September 2025.

Influenza

- Percent positivity was low (3.7%), and overall activity was lower than the previous week. Percent positivity is projected to decrease through September 12.
- Influenza A / B percent positivity was highest in children aged 5–11 years (34.5%) and 12–19 years (18.1%).
- [Statement whether the season has started based on passing 5% positivity.]
- The 2025–26 season saw an early and intense period of influenza activity, mainly caused by Influenza A (A/H3N2), with percent positivity peaking at 35.7% in mid-December 2025.
- H3N2 was the most common subtype this season. See Cases tab.
- Whole genome sequencing based on testing from the National Microbiology Laboratory / Public Health Ontario has detected the following clades / subclades: xx. Further information will be available in an upcoming report.
- There have been no antiviral resistant influenza isolates identified in Ontario this season to date. OR Antiviral resistant influenza isolates identified in Ontario this season to date: One influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 isolate found resistant to oseltamivir.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus

- Percent positivity was low (4.8%), and overall activity was lower than the previous week. Percent positivity is projected to remain stable through September 12.
- Percent positivity was highest in children under 5: 11.1% (<1 year) and 11.7% (1–4 years).
- [Statement that RSV season has now started in Ontario.]
- During the 2025–26 season, RSV activity began later than in recent seasons, peaking at 7.9% in February before declining.

Other respiratory viruses

- Among other respiratory viruses, entero/rhinovirus was the most common, with percent positivity at 11.7% this surveillance week, and has been increasing since January 2026.
- Enterovirus was the most common among other respiratory viruses in the 2025–26 season-to date, with a peak provincial percent positivity of 20.6% in late September 2025.

Download data for the previous and current respiratory season

Cases	Outcomes	Lab testing / percent positivity
Historical activity assessment	PHU positivity/influenza activity	Outbreaks

Current Surveillance Week

This section shows key indicators for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV over the past week, along with percent positivity for other respiratory viruses for both the province as well as by public health unit.

Summary	Lab testing	Cases	Outcomes	Outbreaks	Projections
Key findings	Current surveillance week	Current respiratory season	Past year trends		
Select Ontario or a public health unit to update the data below:					
Ontario					

August 30, 2026 to September 5, 2026
Surveillance week 35 summary

COVID-19	Influenza (all types)	RSV
Percent positivity	Percent positivity	Percent positivity
0.8%	2.9%	0.7%
Cases	Cases	Cases
58	211	52
Outbreaks	Outbreaks	Outbreaks
3	1	2
Hospital admissions	Hospital admissions	Hospital admissions
21	44	19
Deaths	Deaths	Deaths
0	Not available	Not available

Other respiratory virus activity (most recent week)	
Virus	Percent positivity (%)
Adenovirus	0.9
Enterovirus/Rhinovirus	11.5
Human metapneumovirus	3.3
Parainfluenza (all types)	3.7
Seasonal human coronavirus	1.3

Current Respiratory Season

This section shows key indicators for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV over the current respiratory season, along with percent positivity for other respiratory viruses for both the province as well as by public health unit.

Summary	Lab testing	Cases	Outcomes	Outbreaks	Projections
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Key findings

Current surveillance week

Current respiratory season

Past year trends

Select Ontario or a public health unit to update the data below:

Ontario

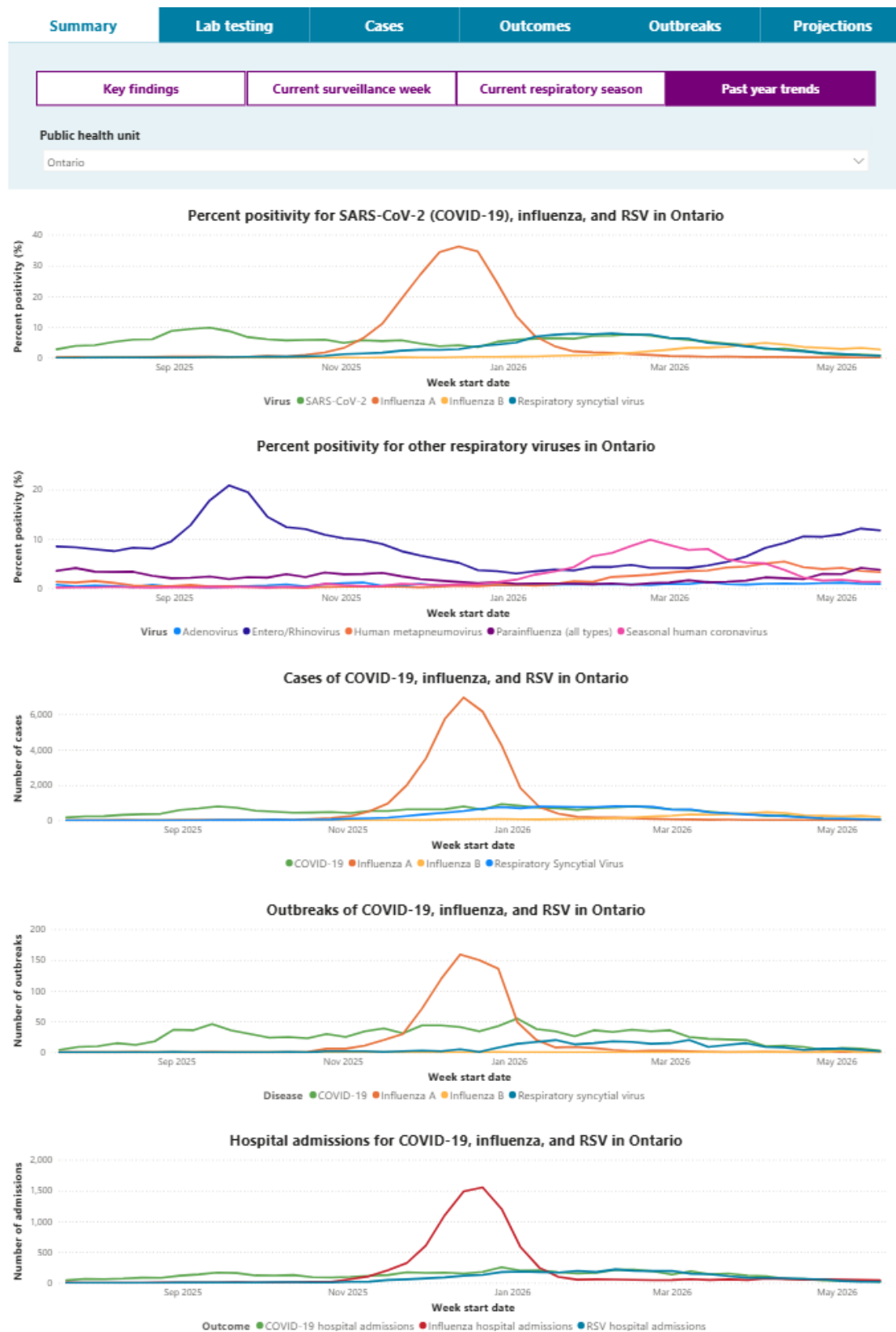
August 30, 2026 to September 5, 2026
2026-27 respiratory season totals

COVID-19	Influenza (all types)	RSV
Percent positivity highest reported in this respiratory season 9.7%	Percent positivity highest reported in this respiratory season 36.0%	Percent positivity highest reported in this respiratory season 7.9%
Cases 20,486	Cases 39,129	Cases 13,037
Outbreaks 1,107	Outbreaks 829	Outbreaks 268
Hospital admissions 5,316	Hospital admissions 8,620	Hospital admissions 6,776
Deaths 181	Deaths Not available	Deaths Not available

Other respiratory virus activity (highest reported in this respiratory season)	
Virus	Percent positivity (%)
Seasonal human coronavirus	9.8
Parainfluenza (all types)	4.1
Human metapneumovirus	5.6
Enterovirus/Rhinovirus	20.6
Adenovirus	1.3

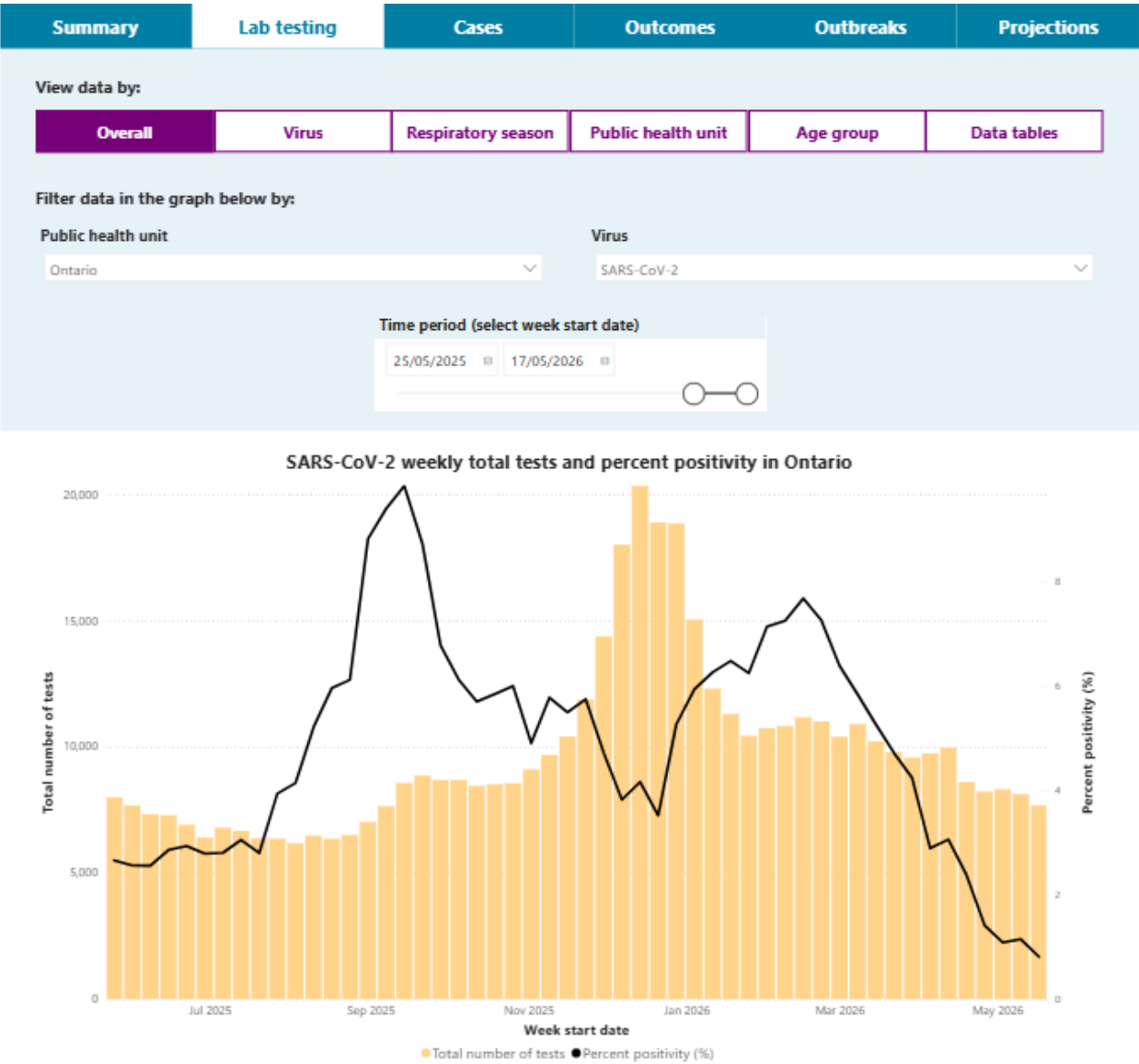
Past Year Trends

This section shows provincial trends of key indicators over the past 52 weeks for COVID-19, influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses at the provincial or public health unit level.



Lab Testing Tab

This tab contains information on laboratory test results for respiratory viruses in the province, with the ability to filter and view data by key stratifiers.



This tab contains six sections:

Overall

This section contains a bar and line graph displaying total number of tests and percent positivity by week. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), virus (SARS-CoV-2, influenza by subtype, adenovirus, entero/rhinovirus, human metapneumovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, seasonal coronavirus), and time period.

Virus

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (number of total tests, number of positive tests, or percent positivity), allowing users to compare trends for the selected viruses. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), virus (SARS-CoV-2, influenza by subtype, adenovirus, entero/rhinovirus, human metapneumovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, seasonal coronavirus), and time period. Filtering by more than one virus will add lines to the graph for the selected viruses.

Respiratory Season

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (number of total tests, number of positive tests, or percent positivity) over different respiratory seasons, allowing users to compare seasonal differences in the data. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), virus (SARS-CoV-2, influenza by subtype, adenovirus, entero/rhinovirus, human metapneumovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, seasonal coronavirus), and time period. Filtering by more than one respiratory season will add lines to the graph for the selected respiratory seasons. This section also has a button which will switch the view to display a bar graph showing the distribution by respiratory season for the selected time period.

Public Health Unit

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (number of total tests, number of positive tests, or percent positivity), allowing users to compare trends by public health unit. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), virus (SARS-CoV-2, influenza by subtype, adenovirus, entero/rhinovirus, human metapneumovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, seasonal coronavirus), and time period. Filtering by more than one public health unit will add lines to the graph for the selected public health units (by default, only the provincial line is selected). This section also has buttons which will switch the view to display either a bar graph showing the distribution by public health unit for the selected time period, or a map of the province showing COVID-19, influenza, and RSV positivity levels.

Age Group

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (number of total tests, number of positive tests, or percent positivity), allowing users to compare trends by age group. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), virus (SARS-CoV-2, influenza by subtype, adenovirus, entero/rhinovirus, human metapneumovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, seasonal coronavirus), age group, and time period. Filtering by more than one age group will add lines to the graph for the selected age groups. This section also has a button which will switch the view to display a bar graph showing the distribution by age group for the selected time period.

Data Tables

This section allows the user to build a table with lab testing data which can be exported. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), virus (SARS-CoV-2, influenza by subtype, adenovirus, entero/rhinovirus, human metapneumovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, seasonal coronavirus), and time period. This section has a filter which allows the user to add surveillance week and age group to the table.

Cases Tab

This tab contains information on cases of COVID-19, influenza, and RSV in the province, and provides users with the ability to view data by key stratifiers with options to further filter the data.

SummaryLab testing**Cases**OutcomesOutbreaksProjections

View data by:

Overall

Disease

Respiratory season

Public health unit

Age group

Influenza A subtypes

Data tables

Filter data in the graph below by:

Public health unit

Ontario

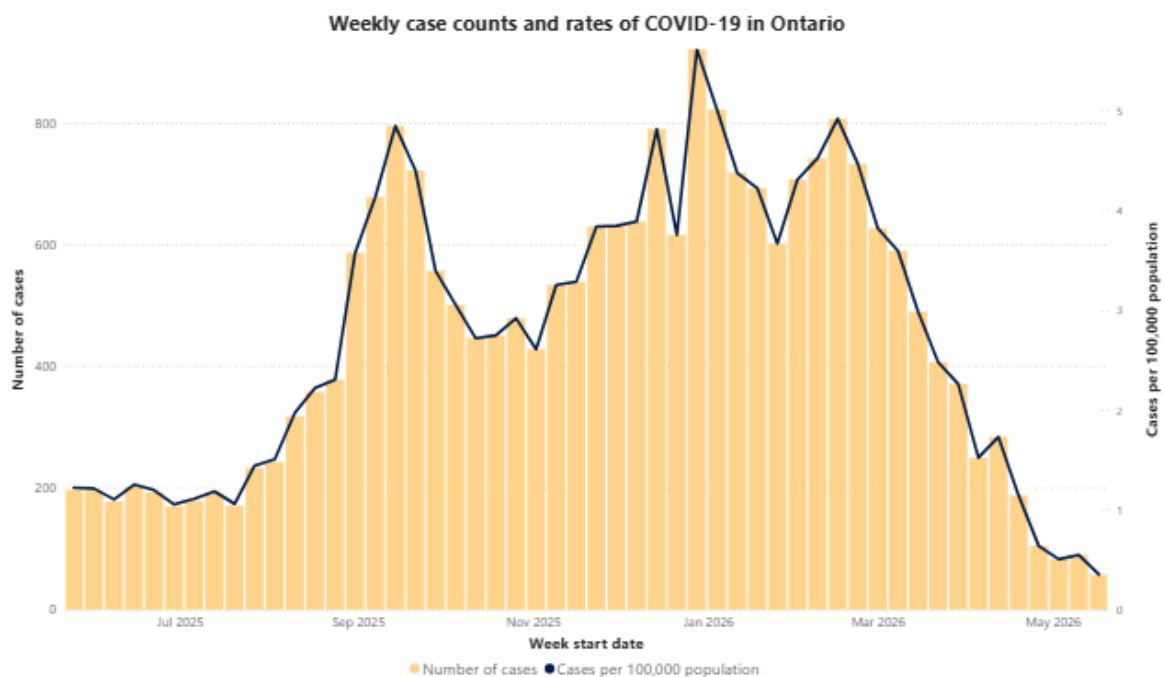
Disease

COVID-19

Time period (select week start date)

25/05/2025

17/05/2026



This tab contains seven sections:

Overall

This section contains a bar and line graph displaying cases and rates by week. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza by subtype (all types, influenza A, influenza A H1, influenza A H3, influenza B), and RSV), and time period.

Disease

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (cases or rates), allowing users to compare trends by disease. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza by subtype (all types, influenza A, influenza A H1, influenza A H3, influenza B), and RSV), and time period. Selecting more than one disease in that filter will add the corresponding information to the graph.

Respiratory Season

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (cases or rates) over different annual respiratory seasons, allowing users to compare seasonal differences in the data. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza by subtype (all types, influenza A, influenza A H1, influenza A H3, influenza B), and RSV), and respiratory season. Filtering by more than one respiratory season will add those lines to the graph. This section also has a button which will switch the view to display the data for respiratory season totals.

Public Health Unit

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (cases or rates), allowing users to compare trends by public health unit. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza by subtype (all types, influenza A, influenza A H1, influenza A H3, influenza B), and RSV), and time period. Filtering by more than one public health unit will add those PHUs to the graph (by default, only the provincial line is selected). This section also has buttons which will switch the view to display either a bar graph showing the distribution by public health unit for the selected time period, or a map of the province showing indicators for cases of COVID-19, influenza, and RSV or influenza activity.

Age Group

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (cases or rates), allowing users to compare trends by age group. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza by subtype (all types, influenza A, influenza A H1, influenza A H3, influenza B), and RSV), age group, and time period. Filtering by more than one age group will add those age groups to the graph. This section also has buttons which will switch the view to displaying a bar graph showing the distribution by age group by week or by respiratory season.

Influenza A Subtypes

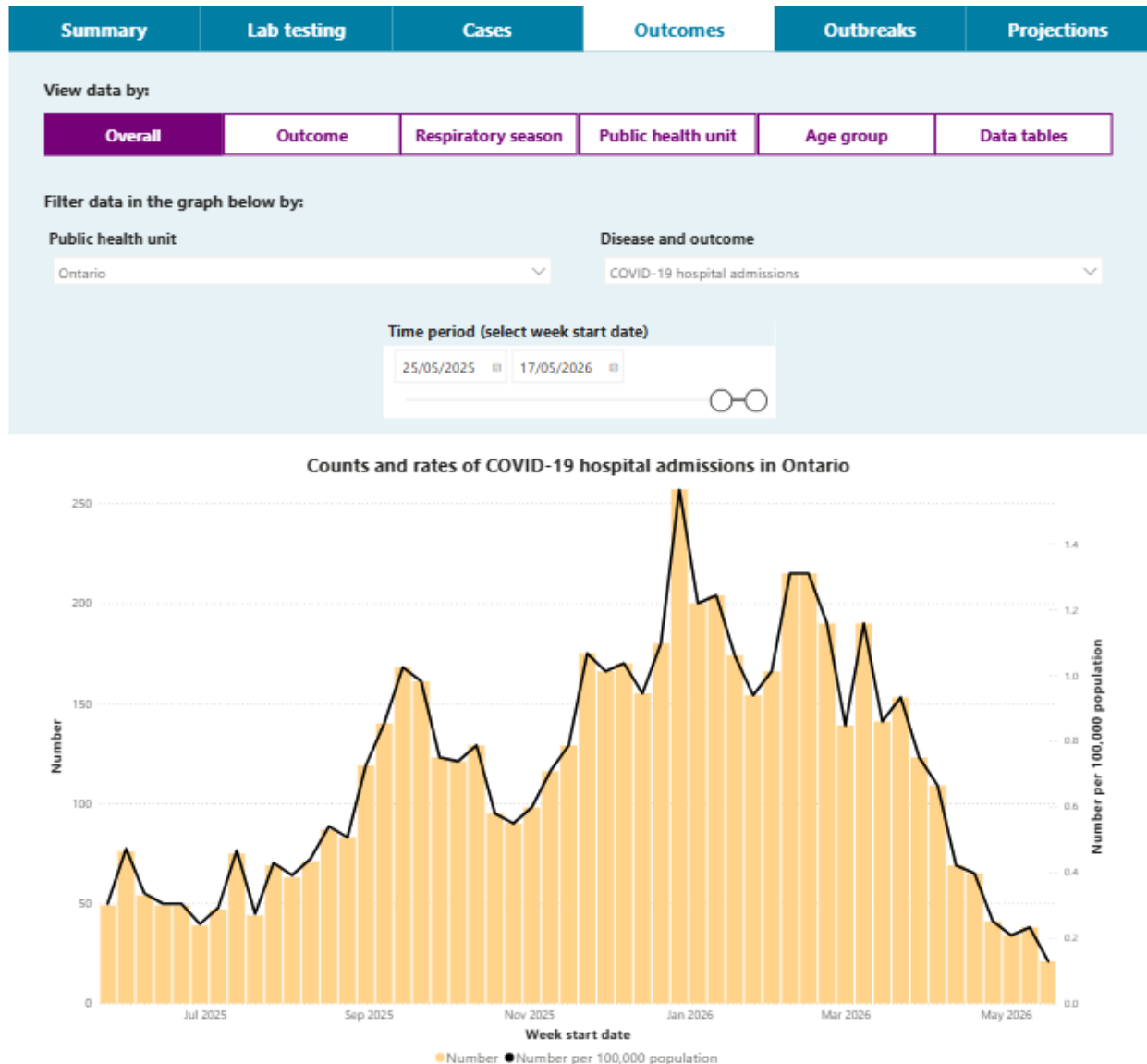
This section contains a bar chart showing circulating influenza A subtypes in the most recent week and the current respiratory season to-date. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province).

Data Tables

This section allows the user to build a table with case data which can be exported. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza by subtype (all types, influenza A, influenza A H1, influenza A H3, influenza B), and RSV), and time period. This section has a filter which allows the user to add surveillance week and age group to the table.

Outcomes Tab

This tab contains information on outcomes for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV in the province, and provides users with the ability to view data by key stratifiers with options to further filter the data.



This tab contains six sections:

Overall

This section contains a bar and line graph displaying the outcomes and rates by week. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), outcome (hospital admissions, bed occupancy and deaths (COVID-19 only)), and time period.

Outcome

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (cases or rates), allowing users to compare trends by outcome. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), outcome (hospital admissions, bed occupancy and deaths (COVID-19 only)), and time period. Selecting more than one outcome in that filter will add the corresponding information to the graph.

Respiratory Season

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (cases or rates) over different annual respiratory seasons, allowing users to compare seasonal differences in the data. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), outcome (hospital admissions, bed occupancy and deaths (COVID-19 only)), and respiratory season. Filtering by more than one respiratory season will add those lines to the graph. This section also has a button which will switch the view to display the data for respiratory season totals (totals are available for COVID-19 hospital admissions and deaths only).

Public Health Unit

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (cases or rates), allowing users to compare trends by public health unit. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), outcome (hospital admissions, bed occupancy and deaths (COVID-19 only)), and time period. Filtering by more than one public health unit will add those public health units to the graph (by default, only the provincial line is selected). This section also has buttons which will switch the view to display either a bar graph showing the distribution by public health unit for the selected time period, or a map of the province showing outcomes for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV.

Age Group

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (cases or rates) for hospital bed occupancy or a graph showing distribution by age group for COVID-19 hospital admissions and deaths. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), age group, and time period.

Data Tables

This section allows the user to build a table with outcome data which can be exported. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), outcome (hospital admissions, bed occupancy, and deaths (COVID-19 only)), and time period.

Outbreaks Tab

This tab contains information on outbreaks of respiratory viruses in the province, with the ability to view data by key stratifiers, as well as filter the data.

Summary	Lab testing	Cases	Outcomes	Outbreaks	Projections
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View data by:

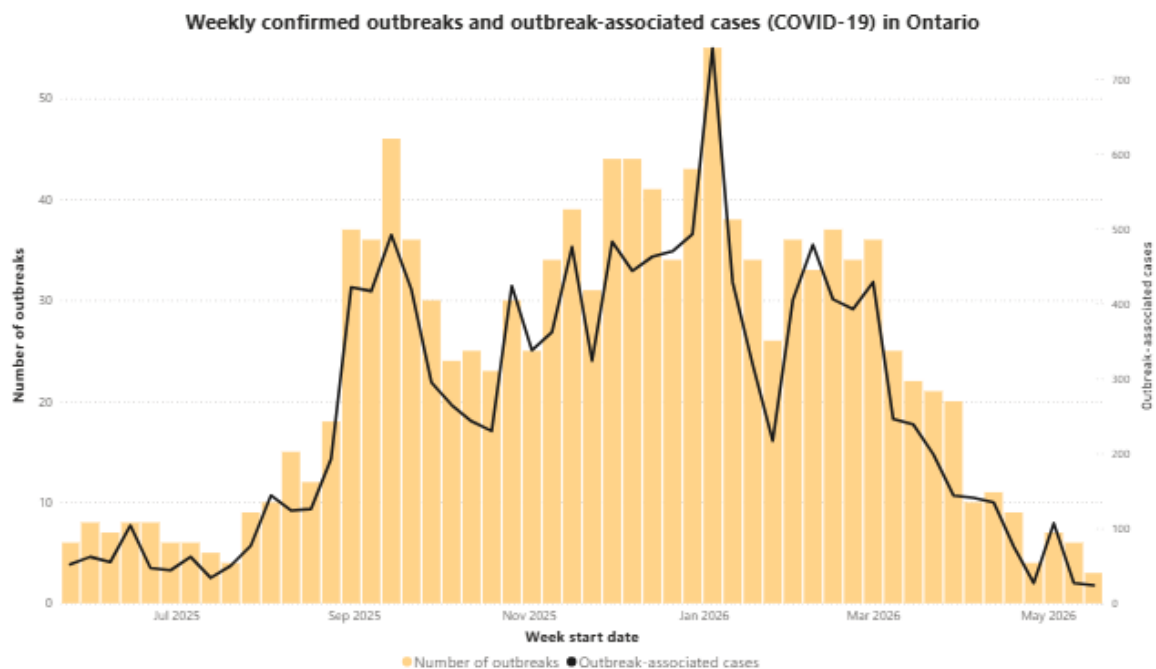
Overall	Disease	Respiratory season	Public health unit	Setting	Severity	Data tables
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Filter data in the graph below by:

Public health unit:

Disease:

Time period (select week start date):



This tab contains seven sections:

Overall

This section contains a bar and line graph displaying the number of outbreaks and outbreak-associated cases by week. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza A, influenza B, entero/rhinovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, other, more than one, none detected), and time period.

Disease

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (outbreaks or outbreak-associated cases), allowing users to compare trends for the selected diseases. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza A, influenza B, entero/rhinovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, other, more than one, none detected), and time period. Filtering by more than one disease will add lines to the graph for the selected diseases.

Respiratory Season

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (outbreaks or outbreak-associated cases) over different respiratory seasons, allowing users to compare seasonal differences in the data. Users can filter the data by public health unit (Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza A, influenza B, entero/rhinovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, other, more than one, none detected), and time period. Filtering by more than one respiratory season will add lines to the graph for the selected respiratory season. This section also has a button which will switch the view to display a bar graph showing the distribution by respiratory season for the selected time period.

Public Health Unit

This section contains a multi-line graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (outbreaks or outbreak-associated cases), allowing users to compare trends by public health unit. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza A, influenza B, entero/rhinovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, other, more than one, none detected), and time period. Filtering by more than one public health unit will add lines to the graph for the selected public health units (by default only the provincial line is selected). This section also has a button which will switch the view to display a bar graph showing the distribution by public health unit for the selected time period.

Setting

This section contains a stacked bar graph displaying weekly trends for the selected measure (outbreaks or outbreak-associated cases), allowing users to compare trends by setting. Users can filter the data by public health unit (Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza A, influenza B, entero/rhinovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, other, more than one, none detected), setting (congregate care [long-term care homes, hospitals, retirement homes], congregate living [group home/supportive housing, correctional facility, shelter], other, unknown), and time period. Filtering by more than one setting will add bars to the graph for the selected settings. This section also has a button which will switch the view to display a bar graph showing the distribution setting for the selected time period.

Severity

This section contains both a stacked bar chart comparing counts of outbreak-associated severity measures (cases, hospitalizations, deaths) by disease and role (residents/patients or staff) as well as box plots displaying information on the distribution of the rates of outbreak-associated severity measures (cases, hospitalizations, deaths) by disease in a given respiratory season. Users can filter the data by public health unit (Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza A, influenza B, entero/rhinovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, other, more than one, none detected), setting (long-term care homes, hospitals, retirement homes), and role (residents/patients or staff). A table below the distribution figures displays the data being used for the box plot for the counts, number of outbreaks, minimum, 25th percentile, median, 75th percentile, and maximum values.

Data Tables

This section allows the user to build a table with outbreak data which can be exported. Users can filter the data by public health unit (province of Ontario or one of the 29 PHUs in the province), disease (COVID-19, influenza A, influenza B, entero/rhinovirus, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial virus, other, more than one, none detected), and time period. This section has a filter which allows the user to add surveillance week, setting category (congregate care, congregate living, other/unknown), and setting (congregate care [long-term care homes, hospitals, retirement homes], congregate living [group home/supportive housing, correctional facility, shelter], other/unknown [other, unknown]) to the table.

Projections Tab

This tab contains information on projected activity and risk of hospitalization from respiratory viruses in the province, with the ability to view data by virus and age group. Projections data is only available at the provincial level.

Summary	Lab testing	Cases	Outcomes	Outbreaks	Projections
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View data by:

Overview	Percent positivity	Risk of hospitalization
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Projections of respiratory virus percent positivity and hospitalization risk in Ontario for Month XX, 2026 to Month XX, 2026

The COVID-19, influenza and RSV percent positivity indicators summarize projections of virus-specific percent positivity in Ontario for the next two weeks (the period noted in the heading above). Percent positivity is the percentage of tests that are positive for a given virus. It is calculated by dividing the number of positive tests by the total number of tests performed for that virus in a given period.

The risk of hospitalization from COVID-19, influenza and RSV for the pediatric age group (<18 years), adults (18-64) and older adults (65+) in Ontario is presented for the week before the two-week projections. The projected risk of hospitalization by the end of the next two weeks is presented, relative to the most recent week with observed data. These indicators are based on laboratory testing and hospital bed occupancy data for all three viruses combined to predict how hospitalization risk may change in each age group over the next two weeks.

Projected respiratory virus percent positivity in Ontario over the next two weeks

COVID-19 percent positivity	Influenza percent positivity	RSV percent positivity
decrease	decrease	remain stable

Observed and projected hospitalization risk (COVID-19, influenza, RSV combined) in Ontario, by age group

Pediatric (<18) risk of hospitalization	Adult (18-64) risk of hospitalization	Older adults (65+) risk of hospitalization
in the most recent week with observed data	in the most recent week with observed data	in the most recent week with observed data
decrease	decrease	decrease
at the end of the next two weeks	at the end of the next two weeks	at the end of the next two weeks
medium	high	high

This tab contains three sections:

Overview

This section contains projections of respiratory virus activity for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV over the next two weeks, as well as risk of hospitalization for the three viruses combined in the most recent assessment period, and the change predicted for that risk over the next two weeks.

Percent Positivity

This section contains a multi-line graph showing historic and projected percent positivity in the province. The graph shows lines for the historical data, dots for the observed positivity in the current season (with a complementary smoothed line), and the projected positivity in the next two weeks (NOWCAST). Users can filter the data by virus (SARS-CoV-2, influenza by subtype (all types, influenza A, influenza B), and RSV), and age group (all ages, pediatric (<18), adults (18-64), older adults (65+)).

Risk of Hospitalization

This section contains a bar graph showing estimated weekly risk of hospitalization in the province for SARS-CoV-2, influenza, and RSV combined. The relative risk of hospitalization is indicators by the colour of the bars in the graph, but also by hovering over any of the bars. The two rightmost bars indicate the projected risk in the next two weeks, along with the associated confidence intervals around those estimates. Users can filter the data by age group (all ages, pediatric (<18), adults (18-64), older adults (65+)).

Citation

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). User guide: Ontario respiratory virus tool. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario; 2026.

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