# Laboratory-based Virology Weekly Report

## Week 43 ending 25 October 2026

The laboratory-based surveillance for influenza and common respiratory viruses is carried out all-year-around by the New Zealand virus laboratory network consisting of the WHO National Influenza Centre (NIC) at PHF Science and six hospital laboratories in Auckland (2), Waikato, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. This laboratory network tests specimens ordered by clinicians for hospital inpatients and outpatients during normal clinical practice (serving ~70% of the New Zealand population). In addition, this laboratory network also conducts testing for public health surveillance, including SARI, ILI and WellKiwis (i.e. SHIVERS) cohort surveillance. Furthermore, some of untyped enteroviruses, adenoviruses and respiratory syncytial viruses are referred to PHF Science for further typing.

Caution is needed in the interpretation:

1) Sample collection is ordered by clinicians based on clinical judgement for patient management, rather than a systematic sampling approach for surveillance;
2) The number of laboratory tests can be influenced by testing priorities and demands, reagent and resource availability;
3) Testing technology and instruments evolve over the years which may have contributed to improved sensitivity for detection in recent years.

Tables and Figures below show the weekly influenza and common non-influenza viruses reported from the laboratory network in 2026. The latest information on COVID-19 cases is available on the Ministry of Health website here

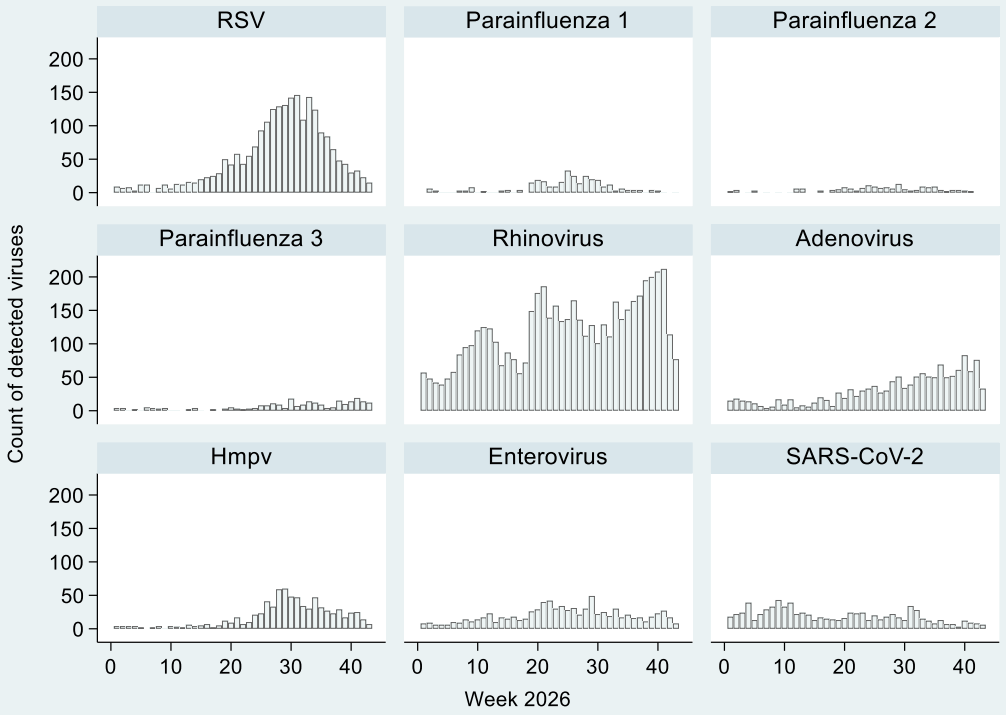
**Table 1. Influenza respiratory viruses reported since 1 January 2026**

| *Influenza viruses* | Total |
|---|---|
| No. of positive specimens | 5822 |
| Influenza A | 5401 |
| A (not subtyped) | 3628 |
| A Quadrivalent-Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) | 100 |
| A(H1N1)pdm09 | 906 |
| A(H1N1)pdm09 by PCR | 857 |
| A/Missouri/11/2025 (H1N1)pdm09-like | 49 |
| A(H3N2) | 867 |
| A(H3N2) by PCR | 729 |
| A/Sydney/ 1359/2024 (H3N2)-like | 138 |
| Influenza B | 421 |
| B (lineage not determined) | 403 |
| B Quadrivalent-Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) | 2 |
| B/Yamagata lineage | 0 |
| B/Yamagata lineage by PCR | 0 |
| B/Phuket/3073/2013-like | 0 |
| B/Victoria lineage | 18 |
| B/Victoria lineage by PCR | 14 |
| B/Austria/1359417/2021-like | 4 |

**Table 2. Non-influenza respiratory viruses reported since 1 January 2026**

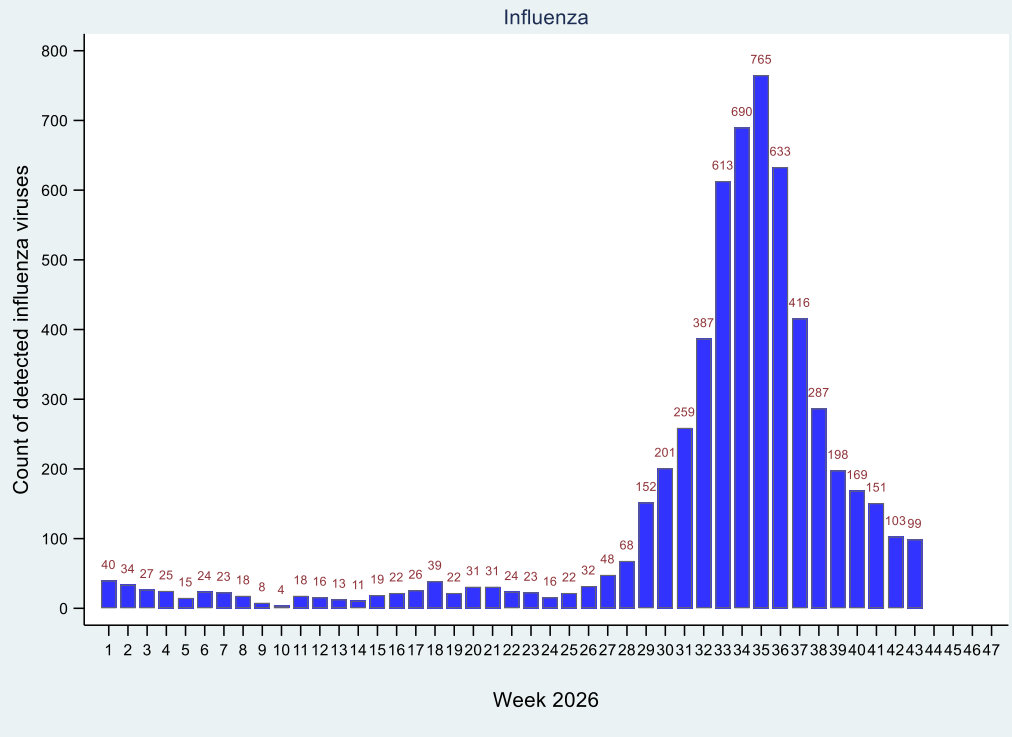
| *Non-influenza respiratory viruses* | Total |
|---|---|
| No. of positive viruses | 11882 |
| SARS-CoV-2 | 820 |
| Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) | 2226 |
| Parainfluenza 1 (PIV1) | 316 |
| Parainfluenza 2 (PIV2) | 172 |
| Parainfluenza 3 (PIV3) | 261 |
| Rhinovirus (RV) | 5153 |
| Adenovirus (AdV) | 1323 |
| Human metapneumovirus (hMPV) | 759 |
| Enterovirus | 852 |

## Figure 1. Non-influenza respiratory viruses reported since 1 January 2026, by week




Numbers for recent weeks are updated due to time lag in receiving laboratory test results.

## Figure 2. Influenza viruses reported since 1 January 2026, by week



### Table 3. Number of adenovirus types since 1 January 2026

| *Adenovirus type* | Month | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Adenovirus C | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Adenovirus type 1 | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | |
| Adenovirus type 2 | | | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| Adenovirus type 3 | | | | | | | 4 | 2 | 2 | | | |
| Adenovirus type 4 | | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| Adenovirus type 7 | | | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | | | |
| Adenovirus type 37 | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | | |
| Adenovirus type 40 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Adenovirus type 41 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | | | |
| Adenovirus type 57 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | |

### Table 4. Number of enterovirus types since 1 January 2026

| *Enterovirus type* | Month | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Coxsackie A virus type 4 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coxsackie A virus type 5 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Coxsackie A virus type 6 | | 3 | 11 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 19 | 15 | 9 | 10 | | |
| Coxsackie A virus type 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coxsackie A virus type 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coxsackie A virus type 10 | 1 | | 1 | | | 3 | 2 | 2 | | | | |
| Coxsackie A virus type 16 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Coxsackie A virus type 21 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coxsackie B virus type 4 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| Coxsackie B virus type 5 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Echovirus type 11 | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | |
| Echovirus type 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Echovirus type 18 | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | |
| Echovirus type 21 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Echovirus type 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Enterovirus type 68 | | | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | | | | | |
| Enterovirus type 71 | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Enterovirus type C105 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Human Rhinovirus | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | |

### Table 5. Number of respiratory syncytial virus types reported since 1 January 2026

| *RSV type* | Month | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| RSV A | 2 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 25 | 34 | 25 | 19 | 10 | | |
| RSV B | 1 | 1 | 13 | 10 | 16 | 24 | 55 | 29 | 15 | 2 | | |

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