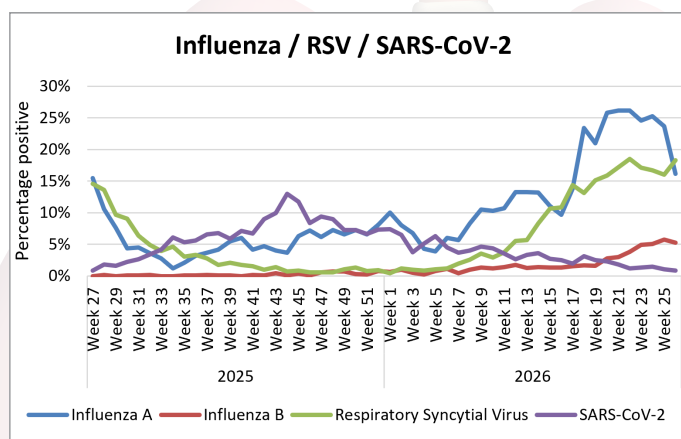


This report is a summary of the results obtained from various molecular respiratory panels performed across PathCare laboratories during June 2026 (epidemiological weeks 23-26). The data is dependent on submission of samples by clinicians and therefore may not be representative of the general population but is intended to identify trends in the circulation of these viruses which may be of clinical relevance.

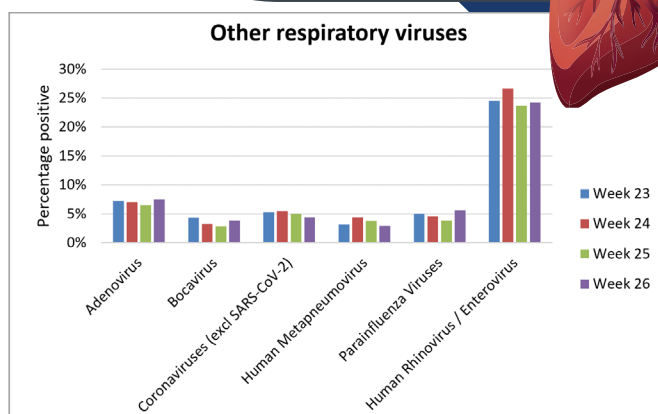
INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) AND SARS-COV-2

- The influenza A detection rates appeared to have peaked during June and showed a decreasing trend from week 25 (week starting 15 June). While both influenza A/H1 and A/H3 continued to circulate, the proportion of A/H3 detections increased to 62% (54% during May).
- Influenza B detection rates showed an increase during June, ranging from 5-6%. Notable provincial differences were observed, with higher positivity rates in the Western Cape (9%), KwaZulu Natal (11%) and the Eastern Cape (15%), while the rest of the country remained $\leq 1\%$.
- RSV positivity remained high and the combined RSV detection rates ranged from 16-18%. As is characteristic, the highest positivity rates were in those aged ≤ 5 years. Similar to the previous reporting period, the percentage of samples testing positive for RSV was 51% in those aged < 6 months, 41% in 6-12 month olds, and 28% in children aged 1-5 years. The percentage of samples testing positive for RSV was 9% for patients aged 6 years and older.
- The SARS-CoV-2 detection rate ranged from 1-2%, similar to the previous reporting period.



OTHER RESPIRATORY VIRUSES

- The slight downward trend in the rhino/enterovirus positivity rate continued during June (24-27%). No marked changes were noted in the positivity rates of the other respiratory viruses.
- For the parainfluenza viruses for which molecular typing was available, no marked differences were noted in the distribution of the four types as compared to May. Parainfluenza virus types 1 and 4 accounted for 19% of isolates, type 2 for 27% and type 3 for 35%.
- Among the endemic coronavirus for which molecular typing was available, the proportion of HKU1 (39%) and OC43 (34%) increased further, with NL63 dropping to 22% and 229E at 5% of isolates.



ATYPICAL BACTERIA

- During June, 29 *Bordetella pertussis* cases were detected. Cases were detected from a number of provinces including Gauteng (n=9), Western Cape (n=8), Free State (n=5), KwaZulu-Natal (n=3), Northern Cape (n=3) and North West (n=1). Regarding age distribution, 14 cases were in children aged ≤ 5 years, seven were aged 6-18 years, and eight were aged > 18 years. *Bordetella pertussis* is a vaccine-preventable disease, a notifiable medical condition, and post-exposure prophylaxis is recommended for close and vulnerable respiratory exposed contacts.
- The higher than average number of *Bordetella parapertussis* case detections continued during June, with 46 positive samples. This included isolates from the Western Cape (n=13), KwaZulu-Natal (n=10), Gauteng (n=9), Northern Cape (n=5), Free State (n=5), North West (n=2), Limpopo (n=1) and the Eastern Cape (n=1). The majority of cases were children aged ≤ 5 years (n=40), with a further five cases in those aged 6-18 years, and a single case aged > 18 years. *B. parapertussis* typically presents with milder symptoms than *B. pertussis* and has less outbreak potential, therefore no prophylaxis is advised and there is currently no vaccine available. Droplet precautions should be implemented for managing these cases.
- Chlamydia pneumoniae* and *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* detection rates remained $\leq 1\%$, however an increasing trend was noted in the number of *M. pneumoniae* cases.
- Two *Legionella pneumophila* cases were detected during June, with one case each from the Western Cape and the Eastern Cape. Both cases were adults. *Legionella pneumophila* is a notifiable disease and these statistics represent only molecular testing for *Legionella pneumophila*, as legionella urinary antigen results are not included in this report.

