

Summary

The present report summarises the results obtained in the context of the virological surveillance activities in Italy, coordinated by the National Influenza Centre (NIC) laboratory at ISS, in collaboration with a network of 23 regional influenza laboratories (InfluNet).

During the sixth week of 2022 (**week 51/2022**), virological surveillance continues to report a significant influenza virus circulation in Italy. In particular, **1,581** clinical specimens were received by the InfluNet network laboratories and, among the **1.402** analyzed samples, **414** (**29.5%**) resulted positive for influenza. Among these samples, 410 belonged to influenza type **A** (304 were **H3N2**, 29 were **H1N1pdm09** and 77 not yet subtyped) and four to influenza type **B**.

Among the above analyzed samples, 127 (9%) resulted **SARS-CoV-2** and 287 were attributed to other respiratory viruses, in particular 214 (15%) **RSV**, 40 (2.8%) Rhinoviruses, 12 Metapneumoviruses, 11 human Coronaviruses (not SARS-CoV-2), 5 Parainfluenza viruses and 5 Adenoviruses.

So far, in the 2022/2023 influenza season (week 46-51/2022), a large prevalence of influenza type A viruses (99.1%) has been observed, mostly belonging to the H3N2 subtype. In particular, among a total of 8,102 collected samples, 3,049 (37.6%) resulted positive for influenza, of which 3,022 (99.1%) were positive for influenza A and 27 (0.9%) for influenza B.

Among the influenza A viruses, 85.7% (N=2,592) were A(H3N2) and 4.4% (N=135) were A(H1N1)pdm09; the remaining 295 A strains have not been subtyped yet.

Additional information and data for this report may be found in the full Italian version.

WHO NATIONAL INFLUENZA CENTRE/NIC-DMI Laboratory team:

S. Puzelli, M. Facchini, G. Di Mario, A. Di Martino, L. Calzoletti, C. Fabiani Department of Infectious Diseases, ISS Viale Regina Elena, 299 - Rome