

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 eighth week of virological surveillance (week 01/2023) for the 2022/2023 season, influenza virus circulation is still significant in Italy, although showing a slight and gradual decrease. In particular, 1,395 clinical specimens were received by the InfluNet network laboratories and, among the 1.305 analyzed samples, 224 (17.2%) resulted positive for influenza. Among these samples, 214 belonged to influenza type A (162 were H3N2, 27 were H1N1pdm09 and 25 have not been subtyped yet) and 10 to influenza type B.

Among the above analyzed samples, 94 (7.2%) resulted **SARS-CoV-2** and 353 were attributed to other respiratory viruses, in particular 273 (21%) **RSV**, 31 Rhinoviruses, 20 Metapneumoviruses, 14 Adenoviruses, 8 human Coronaviruses (not SARS-CoV-2), 5 Parainfluenza viruses and 2 Bocaviruses.

So far, in the 2022/2023 influenza season (week 46/2022-01/2023), a large prevalence of influenza type A viruses (98.7%) has been observed, mostly belonging to the H3N2 subtype. In particular, among a total of 11,454 collected samples, 3,919 (34.2%) resulted positive for influenza, of which 3,868 (98.7%) were positive for influenza A and 51 (1.3%) for influenza B.

Among the influenza A viruses, 85.3% (N=3,301) were A(H3N2) and 5.7% (N=221) were A(H1N1)pdm09; the remaining 346 A strains have not been subtyped yet.

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

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