

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 eleventh week of virological surveillance (week 04/2023) for the 2022/2023 season, influenza virus circulation is gradually declining in Italy, after registering a peak in the proportion of influenza positive specimens at the beginning of December. In particular, this week, 1,099 clinical specimens were received by the InfluNet network laboratories and, among the 1.028 analyzed samples, 93 (9%) resulted positive for influenza. Among these samples, 65 belonged to influenza type A (29 were H3N2, 28 were H1N1pdm09 and 8 have not been subtyped yet) and 28 to influenza type B.

Among the above analyzed samples, 60 (5.8%) resulted **SARS-CoV-2** and 271 were attributed to other respiratory viruses, in particular 171 (16.6%) **RSV**, 42 Rhinoviruses, 30 Metapneumoviruses, 15 Adenoviruses, 11 Parainfluenza viruses and 2 Bocaviruses.

So far, in the 2022/2023 influenza season (week 46/2022-04/2023), a large prevalence of influenza type A viruses (97%) has been observed, mostly belonging to the H3N2 subtype. In particular, among a total of 16,278 collected samples, 4,608 (28.3%) resulted positive for influenza, of which 4,471 (97%) were positive for influenza A and 137 (3%) for influenza B.

Among the influenza A viruses, 83.7% (N=3,742) were A(H3N2) and 8% (N=358) were A(H1N1)pdm09; the remaining 371 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