

Global Respiratory Virus Activity Weekly Update N° 474

Summarizing data through Week 17, ending 28 April 2024

Summary

Influenza

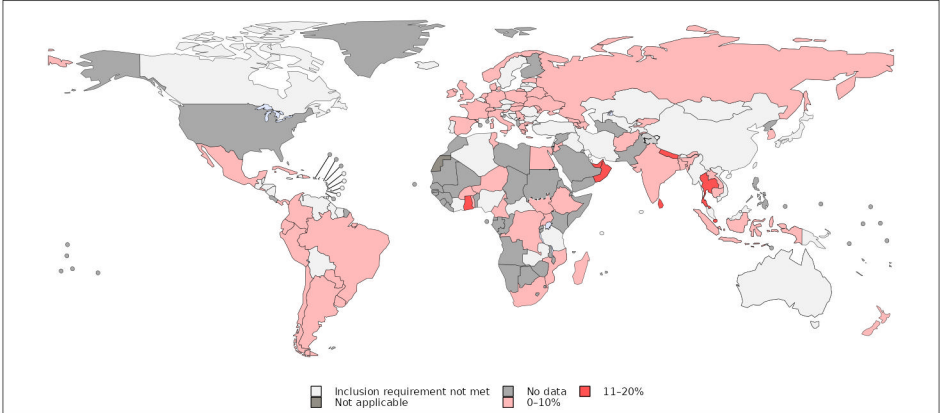
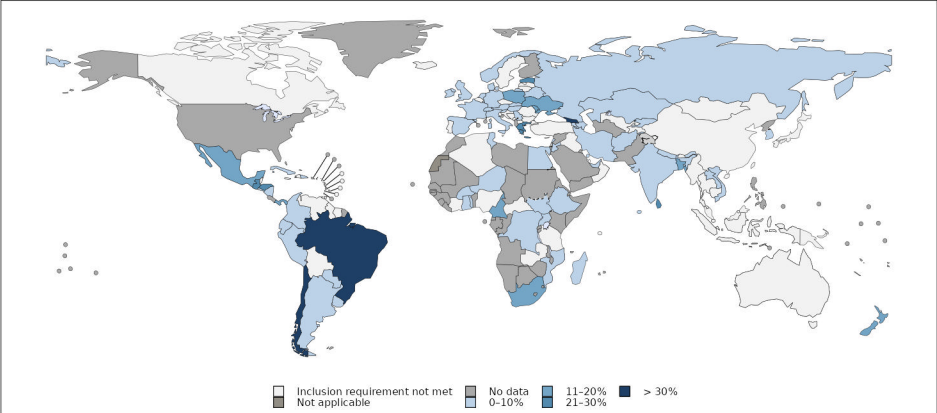
- In the Northern Hemisphere, influenza activity continued to decline in most countries. Elevated activity is being reported in Central America and the Caribbean, due primarily to influenza A viruses, and in Eastern Europe and Western Asia, due primarily to influenza B viruses.
- In the southern hemisphere, countries in South America reported elevated influenza activity, with mainly influenza A viruses detected. Some countries in Southern Africa reported elevated and increasing activity from prior weeks, with both influenza A and B viruses detected.

SARS-CoV-2

- SARS-CoV-2 activity, as reported from sentinel surveillance in 70 countries/areas/territories that met inclusion criteria*, is low overall, but remains elevated in some countries in Western Africa, Western Asia, Southern Asia , and South East Asia. Increases in activity have been reported in countries in Northern Africa, Western Asia, Southern Asia, and South East Asia.

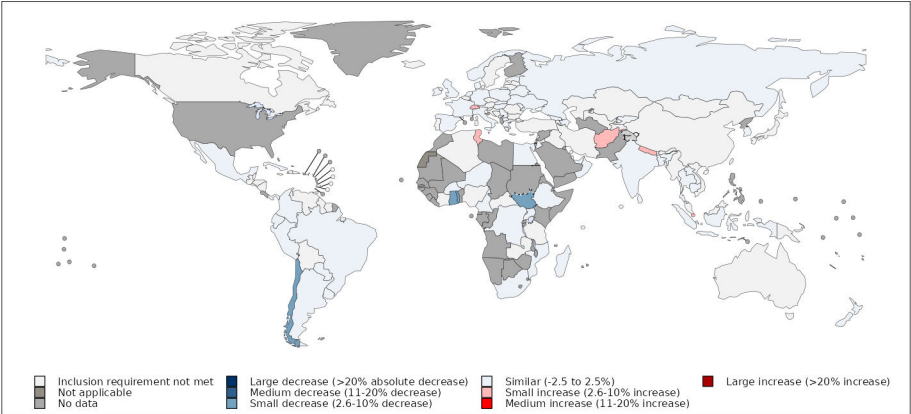
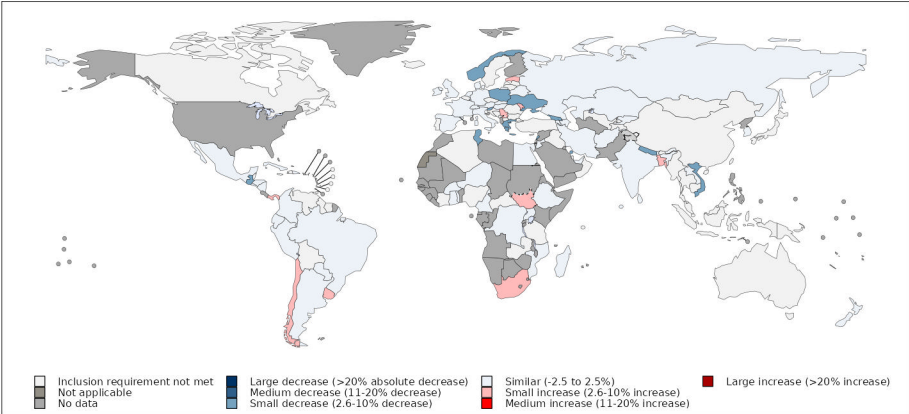
Influenza activity

SARS-CoV-2 activity



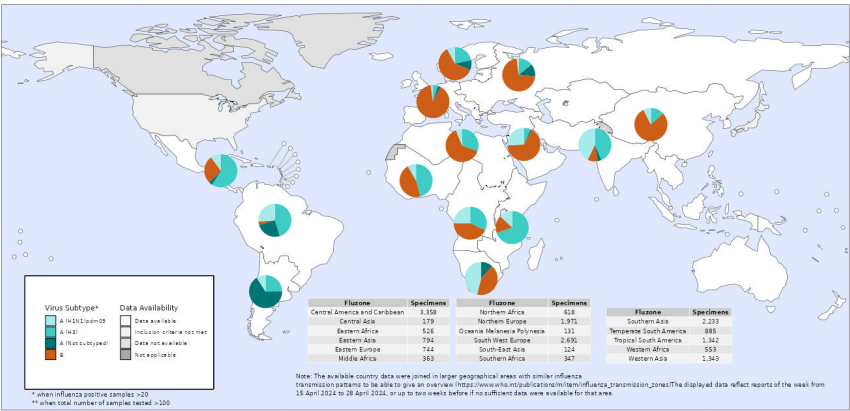
Proportion of sentinel specimens testing positive for influenza

Proportion of sentinel specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2



Change in proportion of sentinel specimens testing positive for influenza

Change in proportion of sentinel specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2



Sentinel specimens testing positive for influenza, by virus type and subtype

*Additional information

Only data on respiratory specimens tested for influenza or SARS-CoV-2 and reported to RespiMart from sentinel surveillance were included in the report. Countries may monitor respiratory virus activity using other surveillance approaches; however, those data were not included. Data from other sources of respiratory virus surveillance reported to RespiMart can be viewed [here](#). Additional information on COVID-19 is reported on the [WHO COVID-19 dashboard](#). Data on respiratory virus surveillance are provided to WHO through participation or collaboration with the [Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System \(GISRS\)](#)

The proportion of sentinel specimens testing positive for influenza or SARS-CoV-2 was smoothed over a 3-week period among countries who reported testing at least 10 specimens for 2 weeks of the 3-week period. The change in smoothed proportion of sentinel specimens testing positive for each virus was calculated as the absolute difference from the smoothed value during the prior reporting week.

Activity is summarized by geographical groupings of countries, areas, and territories. These groupings were used for their geographical description and do not imply similarity of respiratory virus transmission within each group. More information about the geographical groupings can be found [here](#).

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