

# Global Respiratory Virus Activity Weekly Update N° 476

Summarizing data through Week 19, ending 12 May 2024

## Summary

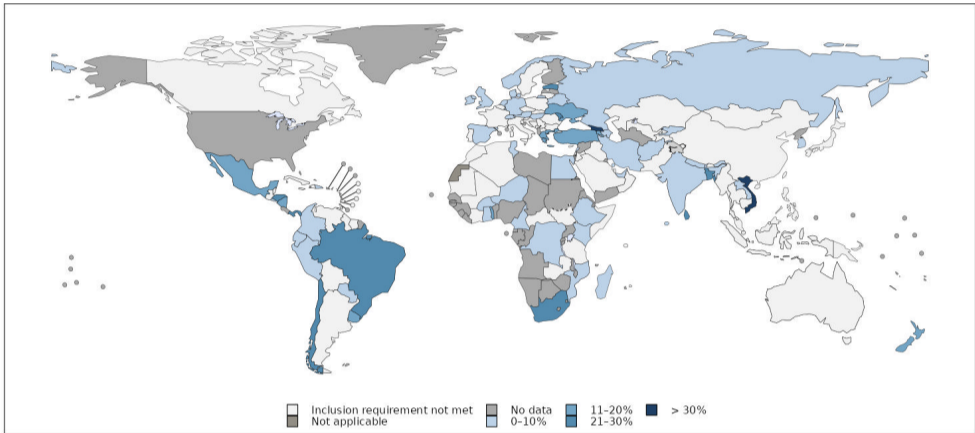
### Influenza

- In the Northern Hemisphere, influenza activity was stable or declined in most countries. Elevated activity continued to be reported in Central America and the Caribbean, due primarily to influenza A(H3N2) viruses, and in some parts of Eastern Europe and Western Asia, due primarily to influenza B viruses.
- In the Southern hemisphere, several countries in South America reported elevated influenza activity, with mainly influenza A viruses detected (A(H1N1)pdm09 and A(H3N2) viruses have been co-circulating). In Southern Africa, activity was elevated and increased relative to prior weeks, due primarily to influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 viruses.

### SARS-CoV-2

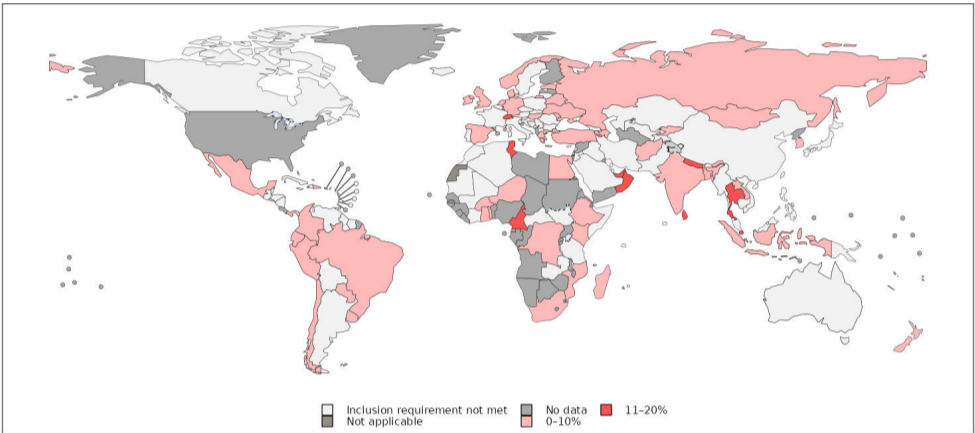
- SARS-CoV-2 activity, as reported from sentinel surveillance in 59 countries/areas/territories that met inclusion criteria, was low overall, but elevated in some countries in South West Europe, Middle Africa, Northern Africa, Western Asia, South Asia, and South East Asia. Activity was stable in most countries, with small increases reported in South West Europe, Middle Africa, Eastern Africa, and Western Asia.

Influenza activity

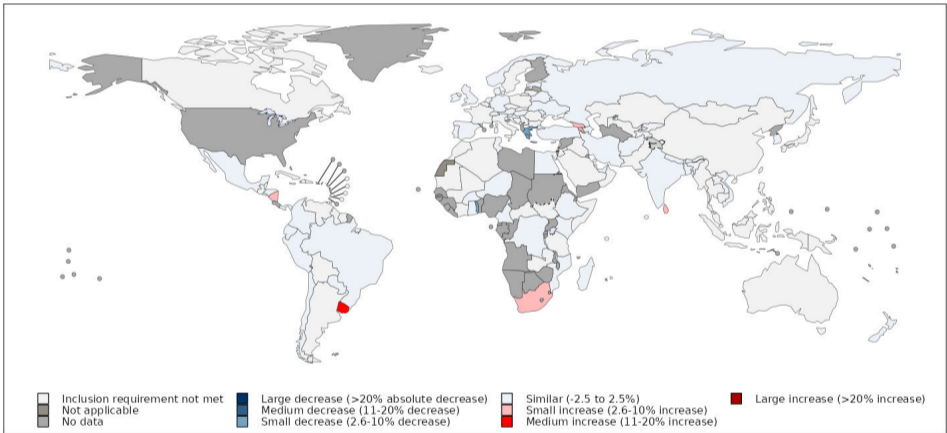


Proportion of sentinel specimens testing positive for influenza

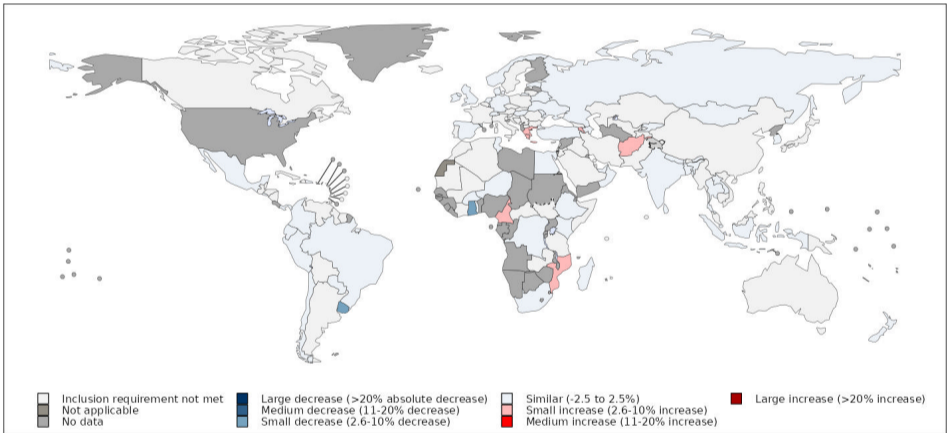
SARS-CoV-2 activity



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

### 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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