

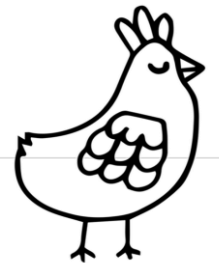
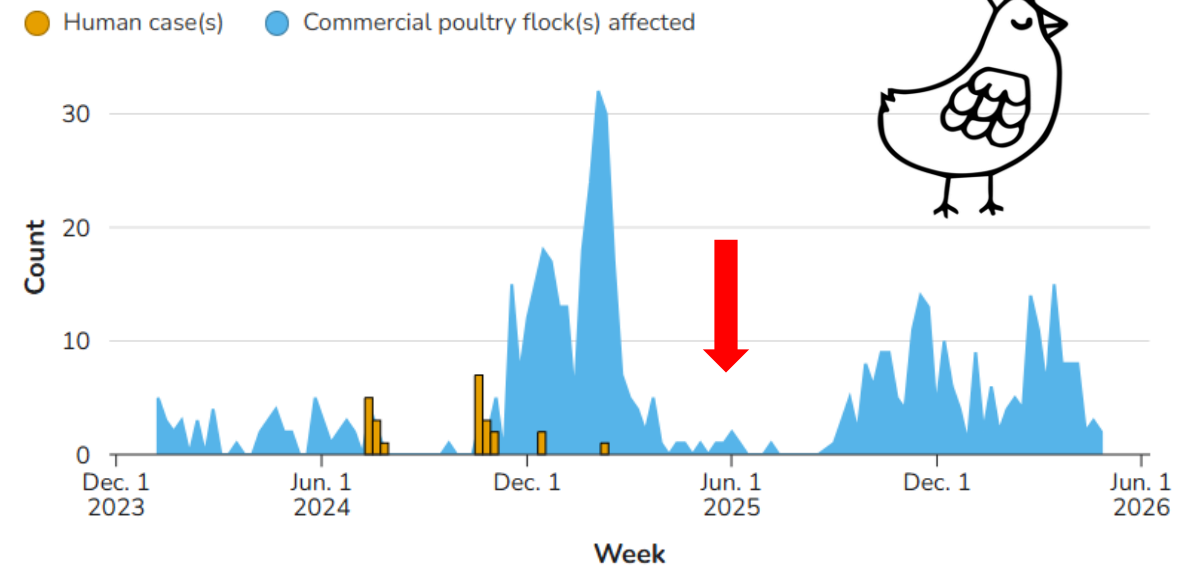
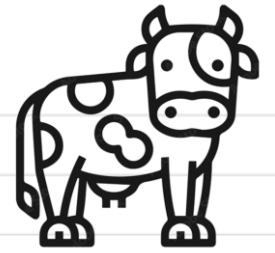
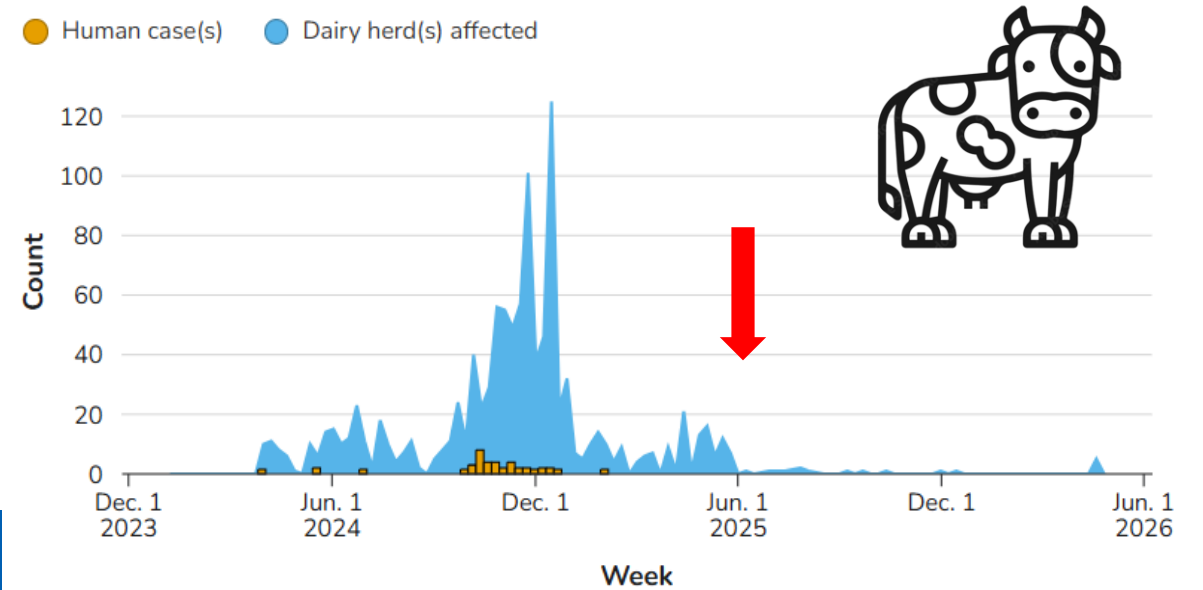
Year in Review: 2025-26

ERIKA HANSON

WISCONSIN STATE LABORATORY OF HYGIENE

Avian Influenza

■ H5N1



Avian Influenza

Nationally

- 71 Human Cases
- 2 Human Deaths
- No Human to Human transmission

Wisconsin

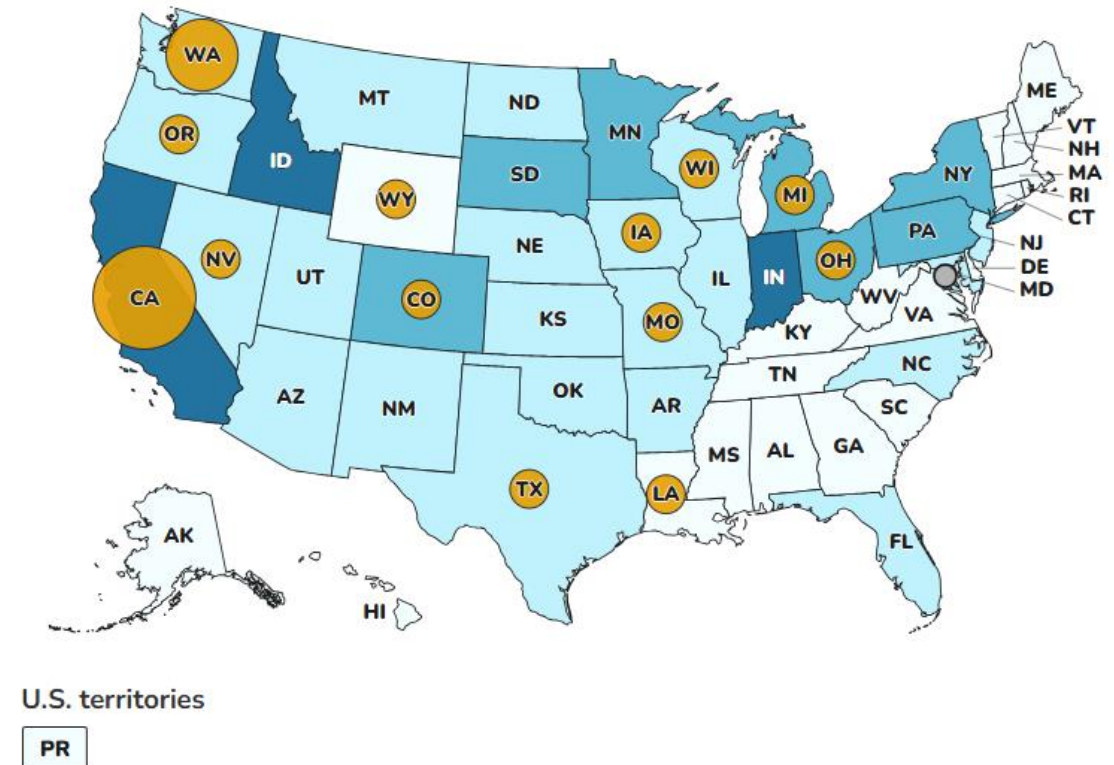
- 1 Human case
- 48 infected commercial/backyard flocks
- 1 infected dairy herd

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/>

Number of affected dairy herds, commercial poultry flocks, or backyard flocks



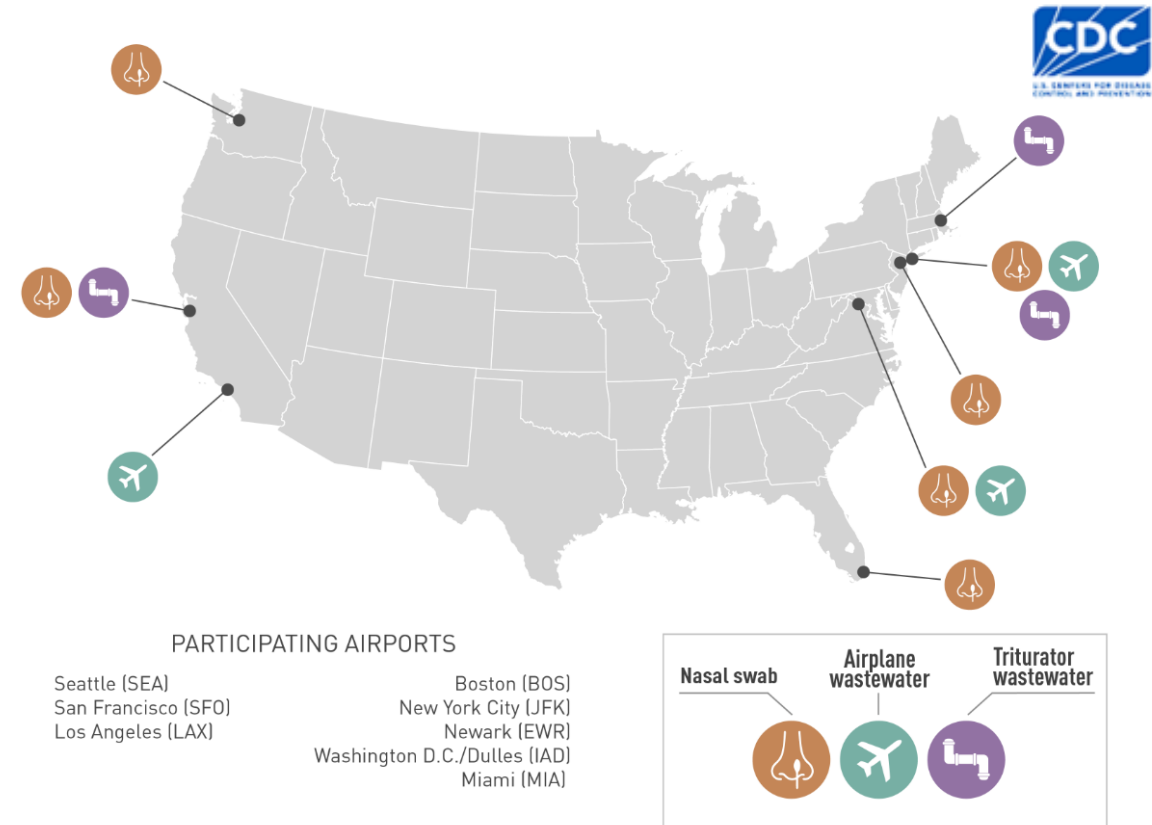
Total human cases exposed to any animal



<https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/h5-monitoring/index.html?cove-tab=0>

Influenza A(H3N2) - Subclade K

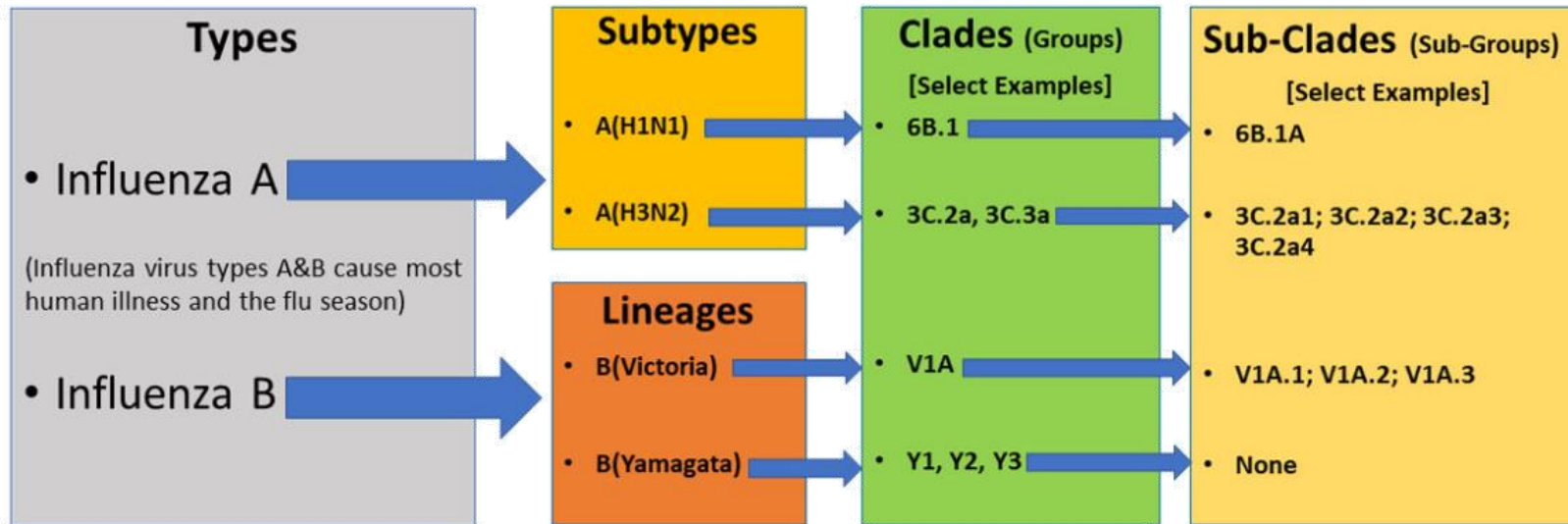
- Emerged in the US in the Summer of 2025
- First identified in CDC Travel-based genomic surveillance Program
 - Nasal swabs from international travelers
 - Wastewater from airplanes
- First 'circulating' specimens received at CDC were from Wisconsin and Michigan!



Influenza A(H3N2) - Subclade K

- 7-11 amino acid changes (drifted as compared with vaccine strain)
- Poor match for the 2025-26 vaccine strain (J.2)

Human Seasonal Influenza Viruses





Measles in Oconto

Bureau of Communicable Diseases Information Update

Oconto County Measles Outbreak: August 22, 2025 Update

This message is being sent to Infection Preventionists and the Health Alert Network.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) and Oconto County Public Health have identified five additional cases of [measles](#) in Oconto County. The additional cases are linked to the [nine cases](#) confirmed in the county on August 2, 2025, bringing the total number of cases to 14.

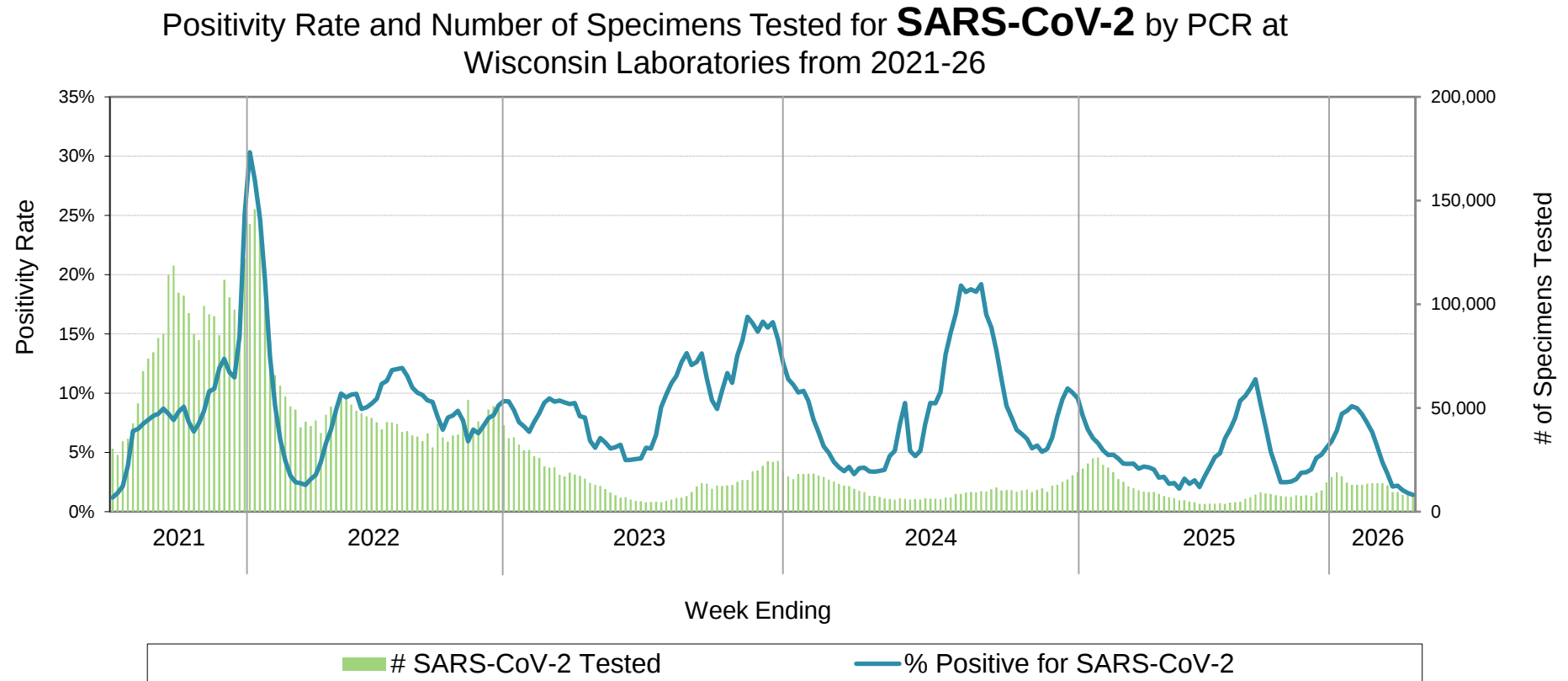
DHS is working in coordination with Oconto County Public Health and surrounding local public health departments to identify and directly notify people with known exposures.

At this time, the investigation has not identified locations in public settings for which a full list of exposed people cannot be obtained.

Given the potential for additional cases, we ask that infection preventionists, especially those in the Northeastern Region, share this information within their health care networks.

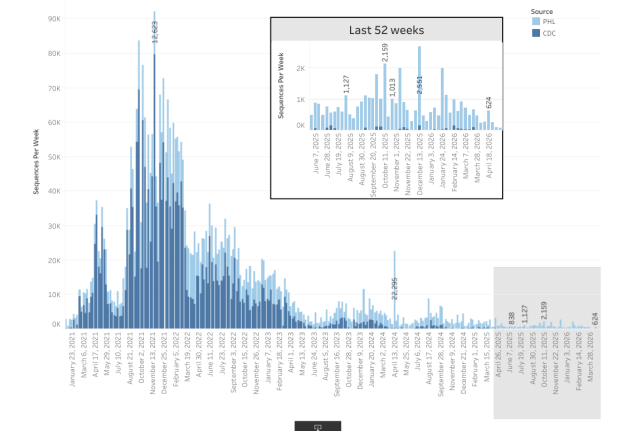
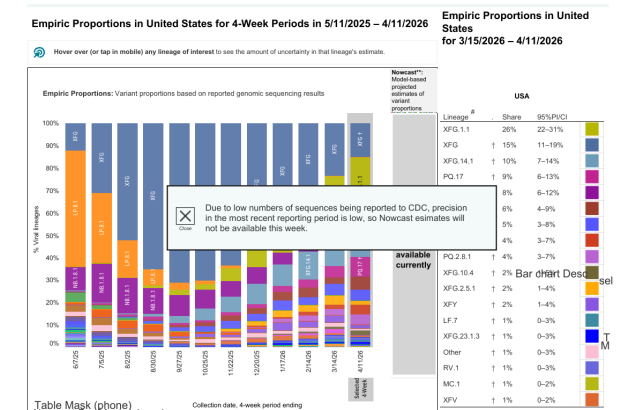
SARS-CoV-2

- Bi-modal transmission pattern
- No “off-season”



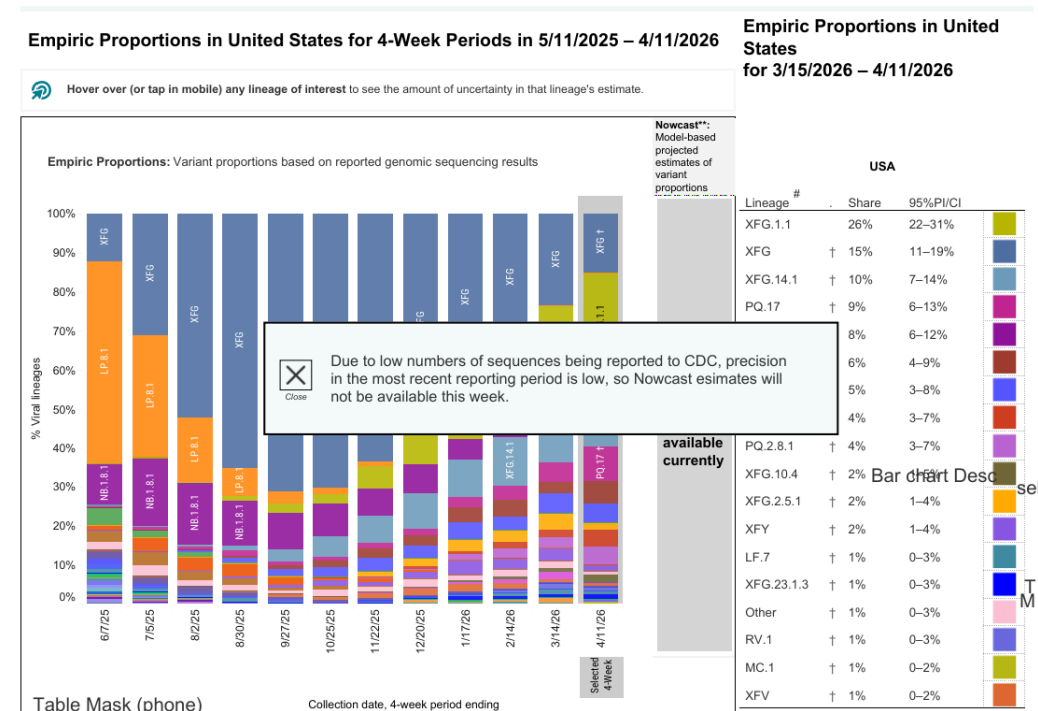
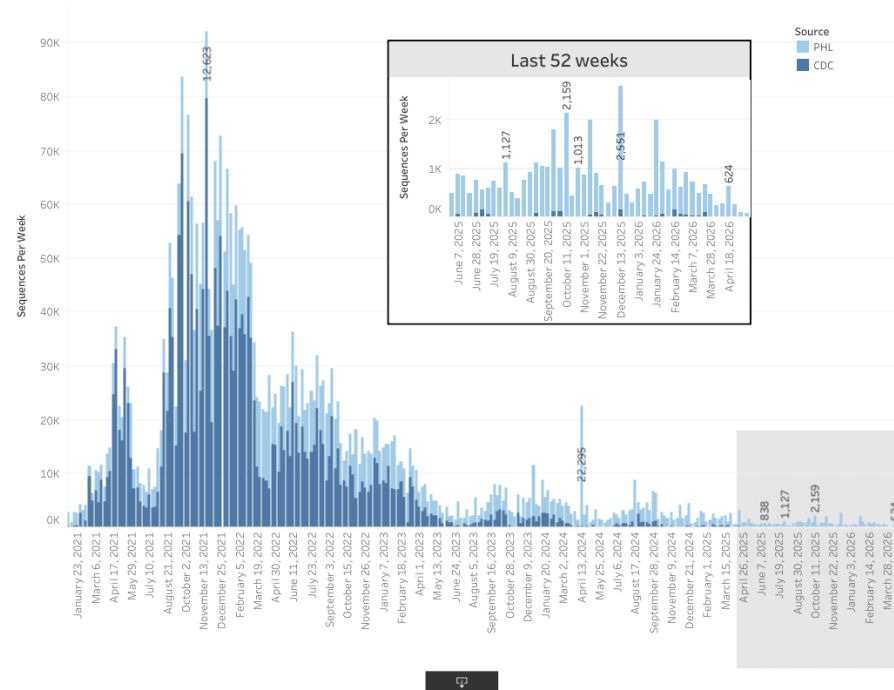
SARS-CoV-2 – National Picture

- Majority of circulating variants are JN.1 lineage-based (all circulating above 1%)
 - Match the 2025-26 vaccine formulation
- Vaccine efficacy was approximately 55% against COVID-related hospitalization

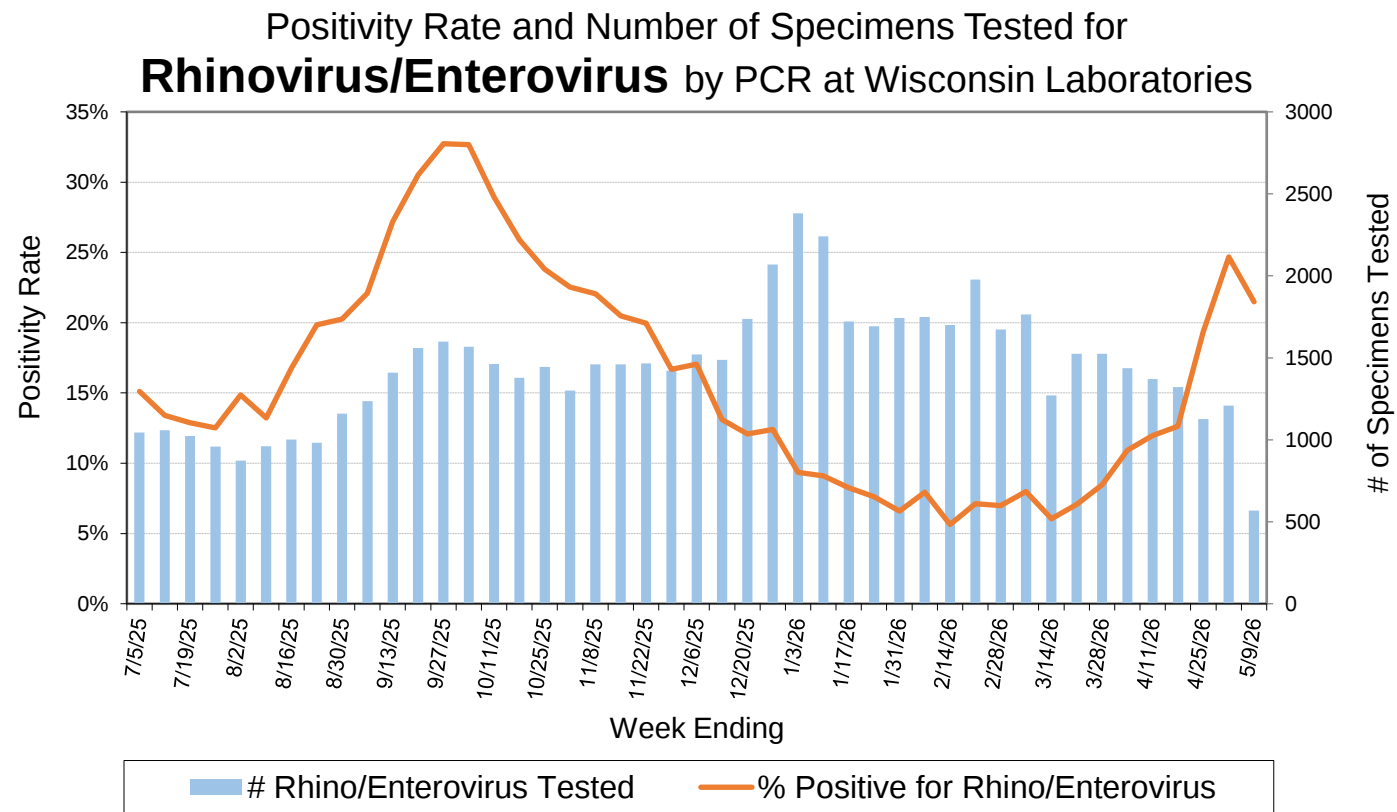


SARS-CoV-2 Sequencing – National Picture

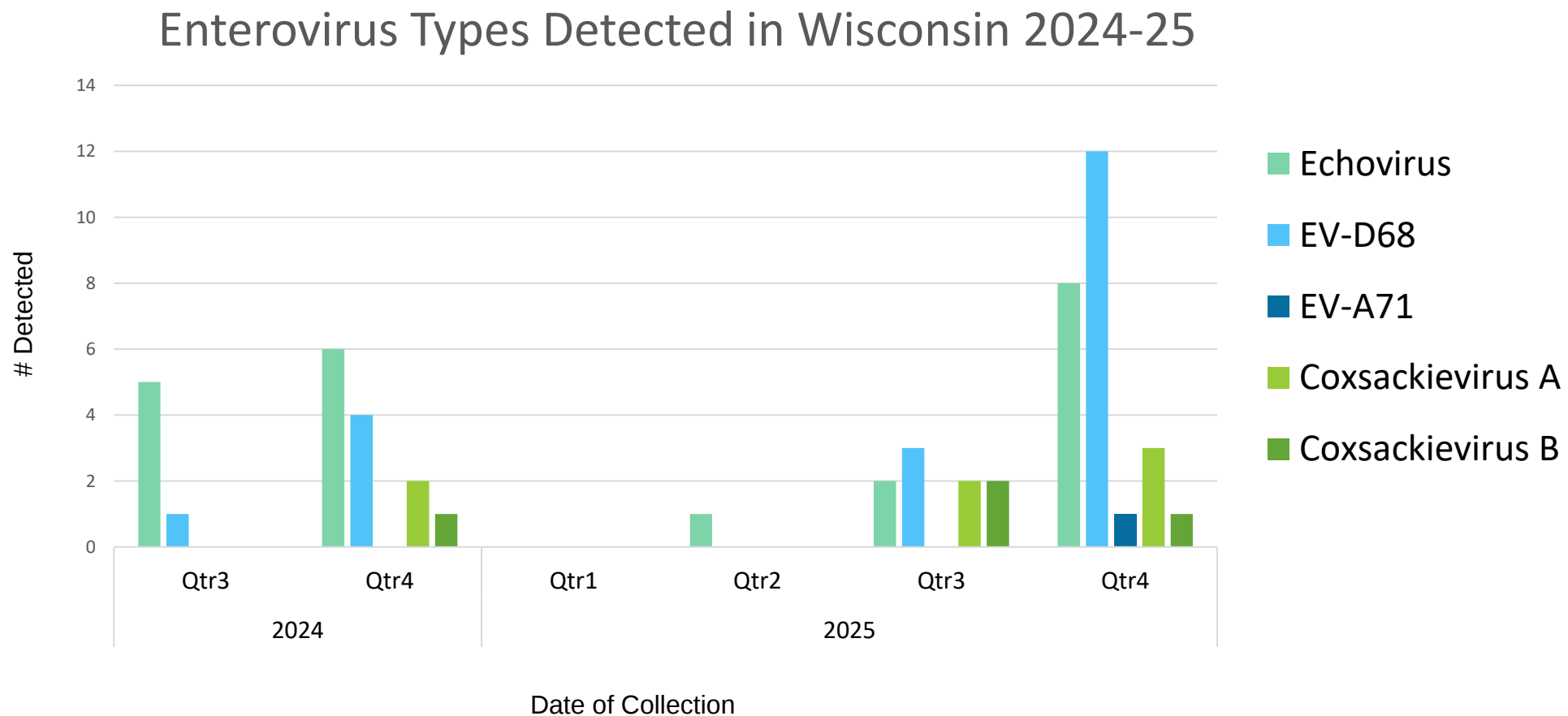
- # of SARS-CoV-2 sequences being generated nation-wide is decreasing



Rhinovirus/Enterovirus

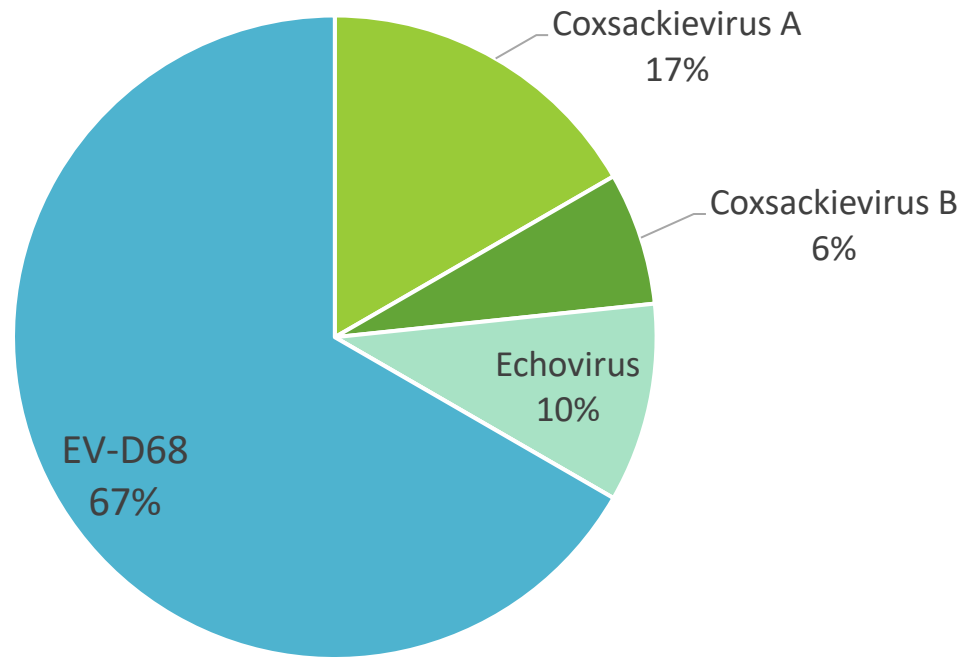


Enterovirus Types - Wisconsin

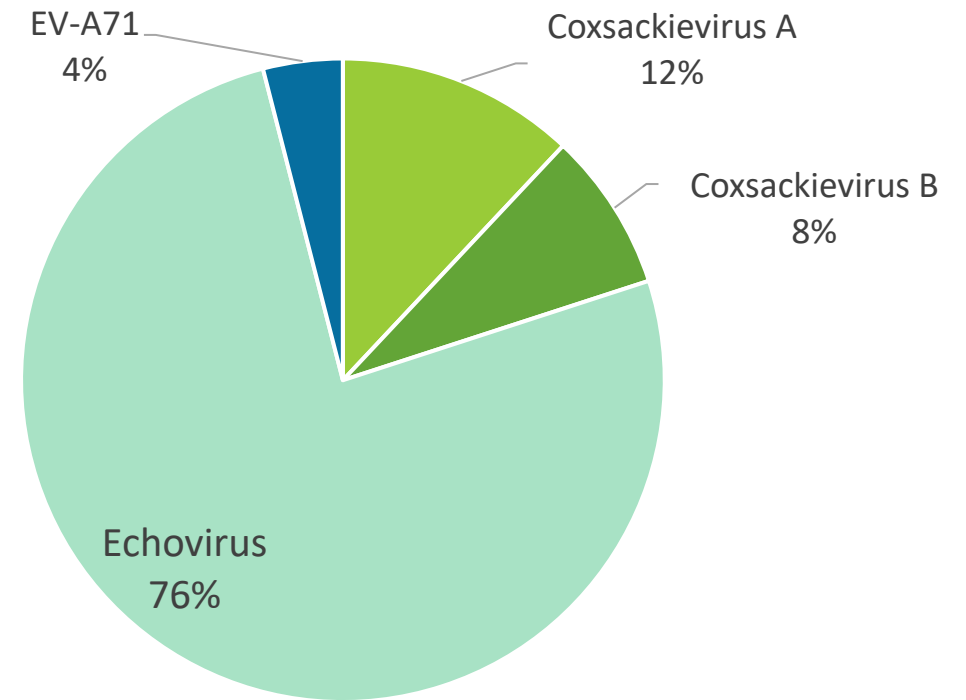


Enterovirus Types - Wisconsin

Respiratory Specimens (n=30)

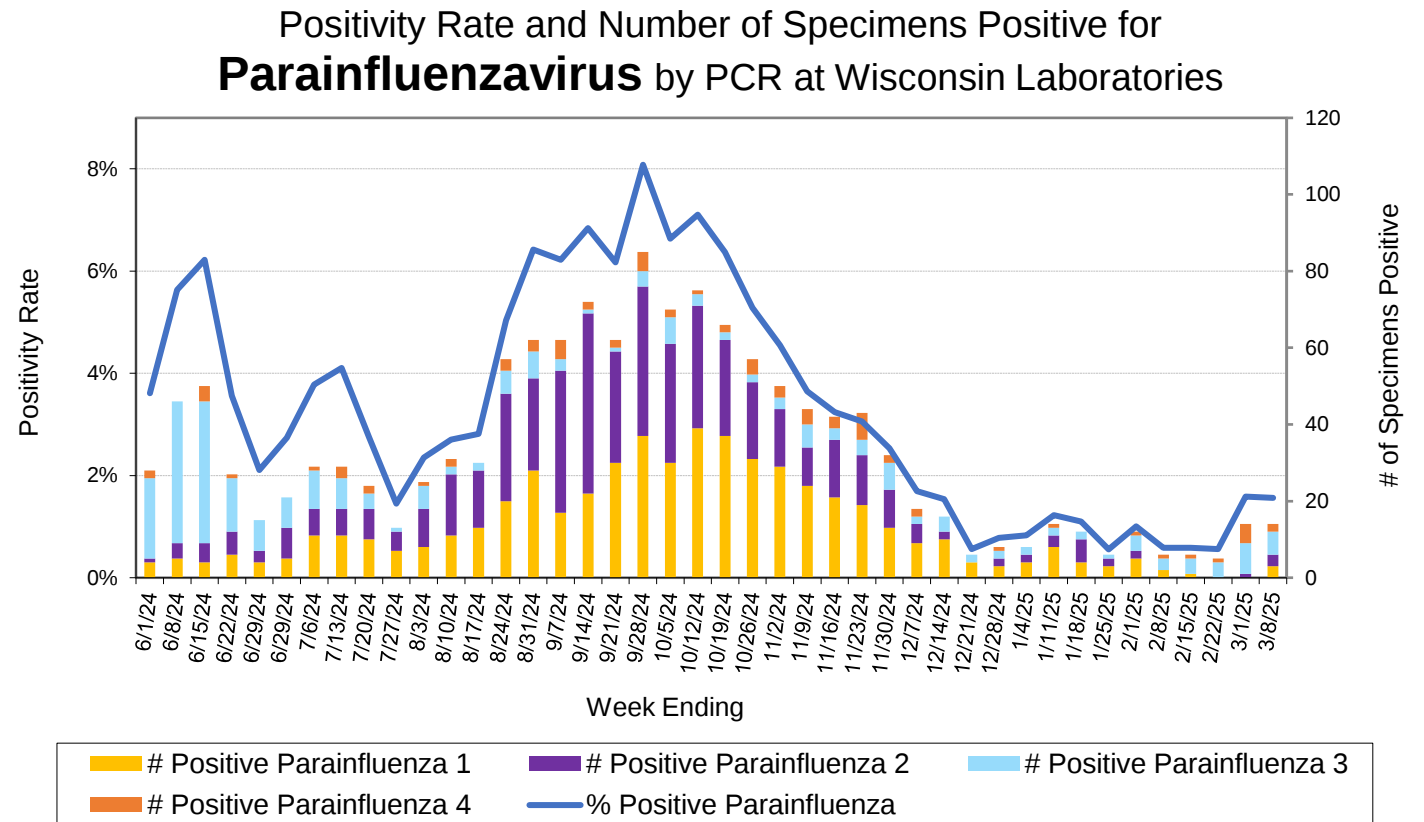


Cerebrospinal Fluid (n=25)

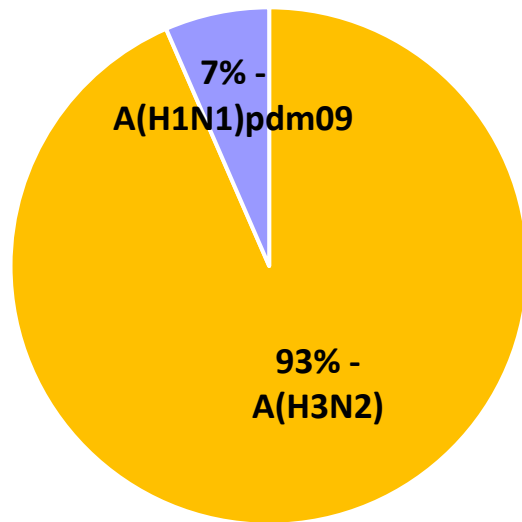


Parainfluenza

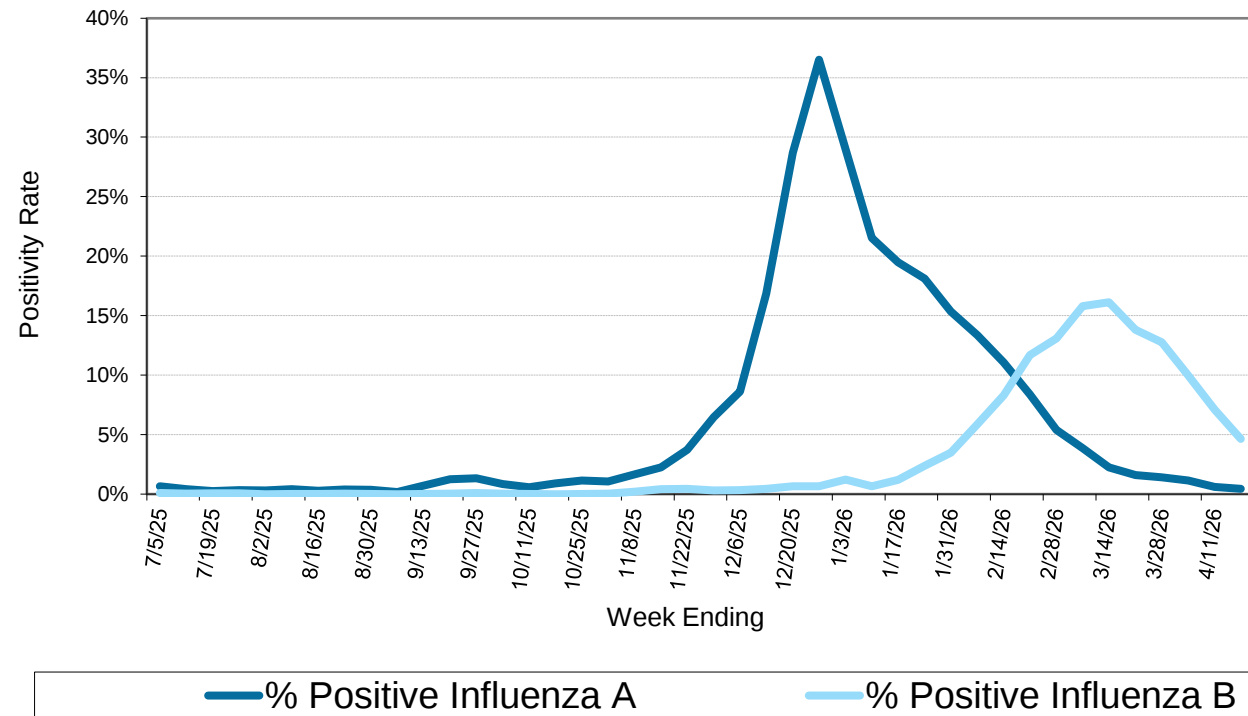
- Predominantly Parainfluenza types 1 and 2



Influenza A

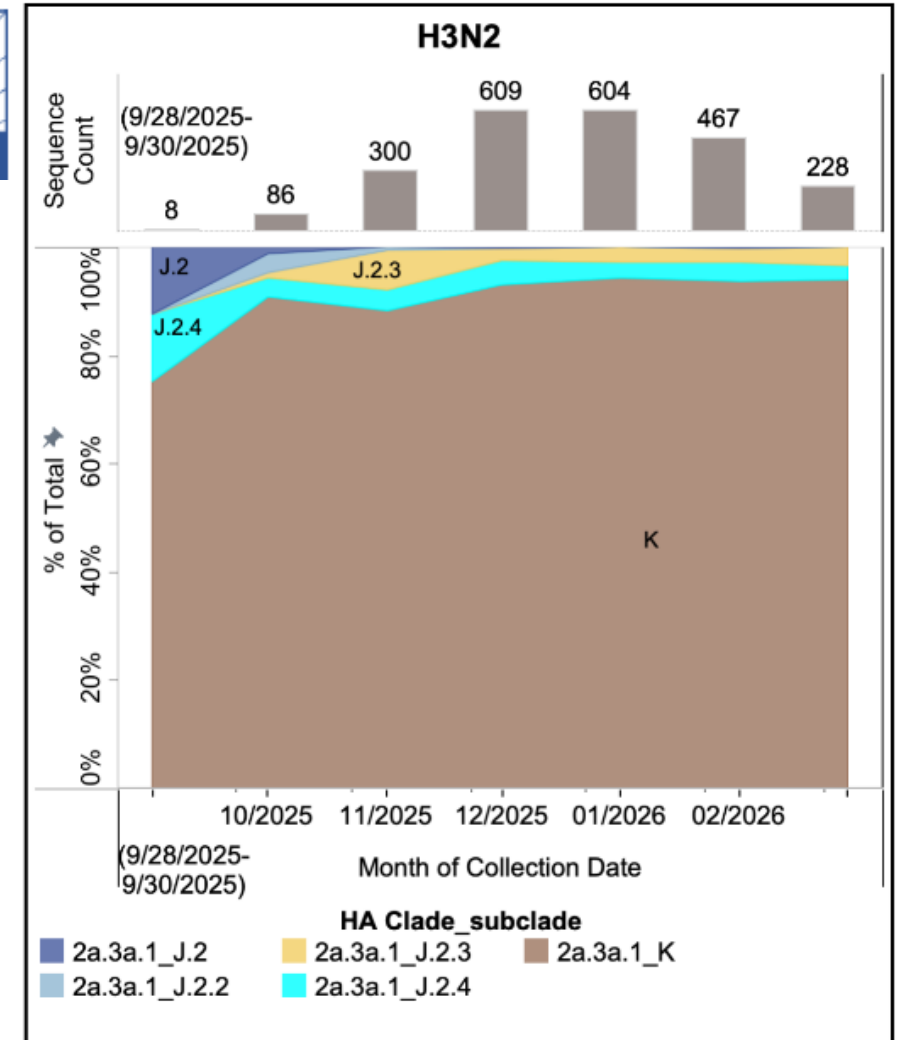


Positivity Rate for **Influenza** by PCR at Wisconsin Laboratories



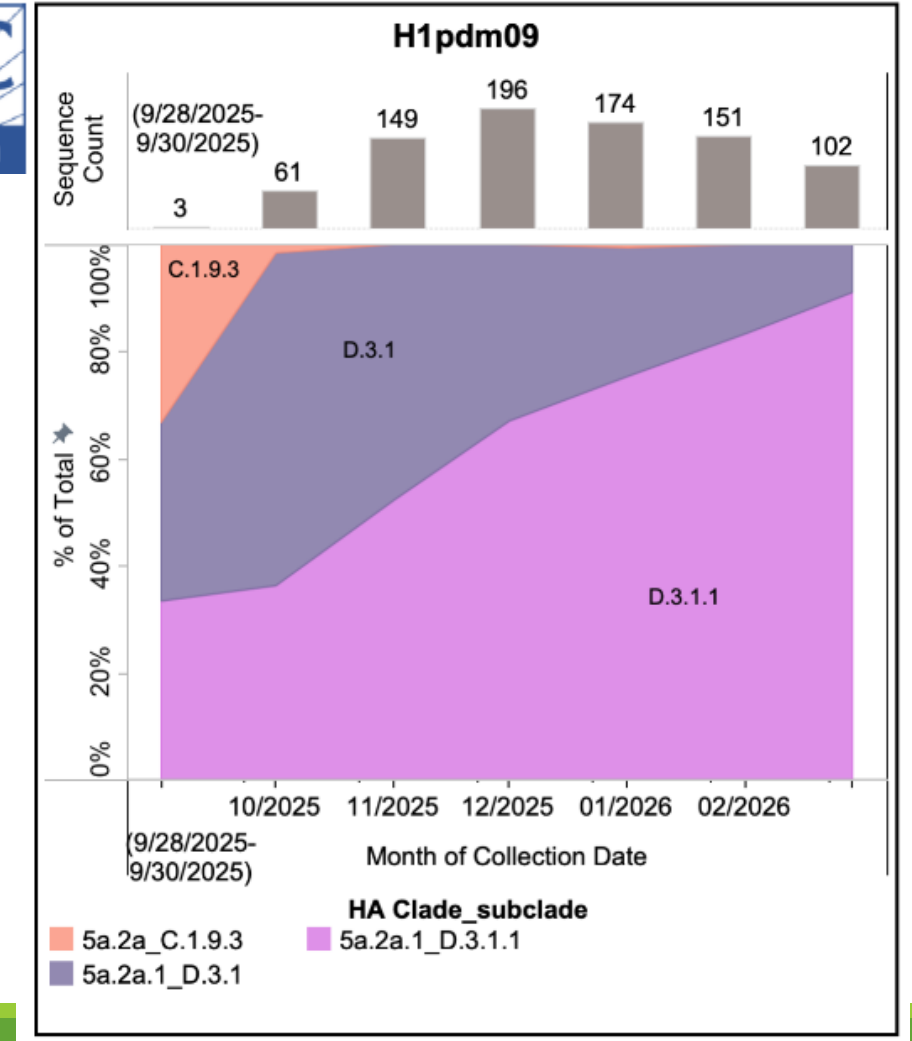
Influenza A(H3N2) – Strain Characterization

- 98% of H3N2 viruses in WI in 2025-26 season were subclade K
- Only 1.5% of circulating H3N2 viruses were a good antigenic match with the 2025-26 vaccine strain (J.2)

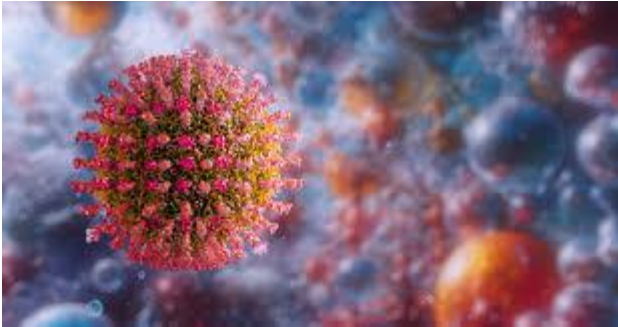


Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 – Strain Characterization

- 98% of circulating H1N1 viruses were a good antigenic match with 2025-26 vaccine strains (C.1)
- D.3.1 and D.3.1.1 were predominant



More Measles!



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 2026

Contact

DHS Media, 608-266-1683

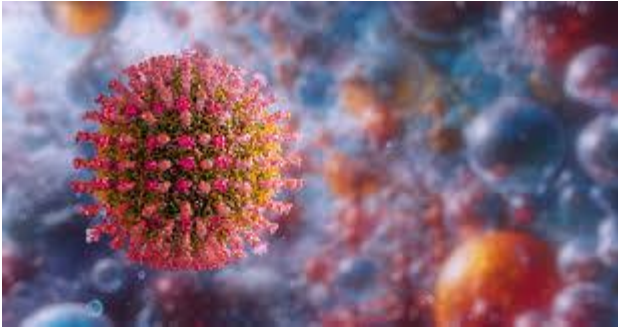
DHS Confirms Case of Measles in Waukesha County

Health officials investigating, no known public exposures identified

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) and Waukesha County Health and Human Services have confirmed one case of [measles](#) in a resident of Waukesha County, representing the first confirmed case of measles in Wisconsin this year.

The case was confirmed through testing at the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene.

More Measles!



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 2026

Contact

DHS Media, 608-266-1683

DHS Confirms Case of Measles in Waukesha County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2, 2026

Contact

DHS Media, 608-266-1683

DHS Confirms Case of Measles in Dane County

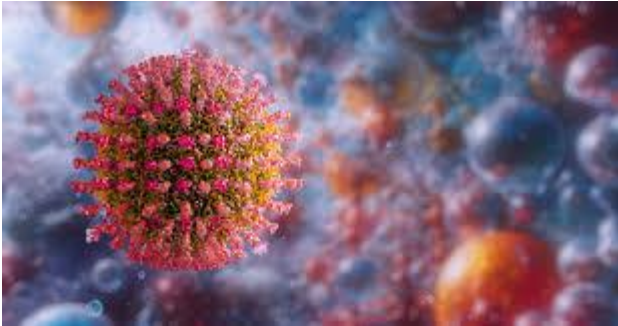
Health officials investigating

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) and Public Health Madison Dane County have confirmed a case of [measles](#) in a resident of Dane County, representing the second confirmed case of measles in Wisconsin this year.

ntified

ices have confirmed one
in Wisconsin this year.

More Measles!



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 2026

Contact

DHS Media, 608-266-1683

DHS Confirms Case of Measles in Waukesha County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2, 2026

Contact

DHS Media, 608-266-1683

DHS Confirms Case of Measles in Dane County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 6, 2026

Contact

DHS Media, 608-266-1683

DHS Announces Measles Exposures in Milwaukee County

Case related to exposure out of state, health officials advise residents to watch for symptoms and check their vaccine status

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD), and Walworth County Department of Health and Human Services are jointly investigating a case of [measles](#) confirmed in a person who traveled through Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport to Walworth County.

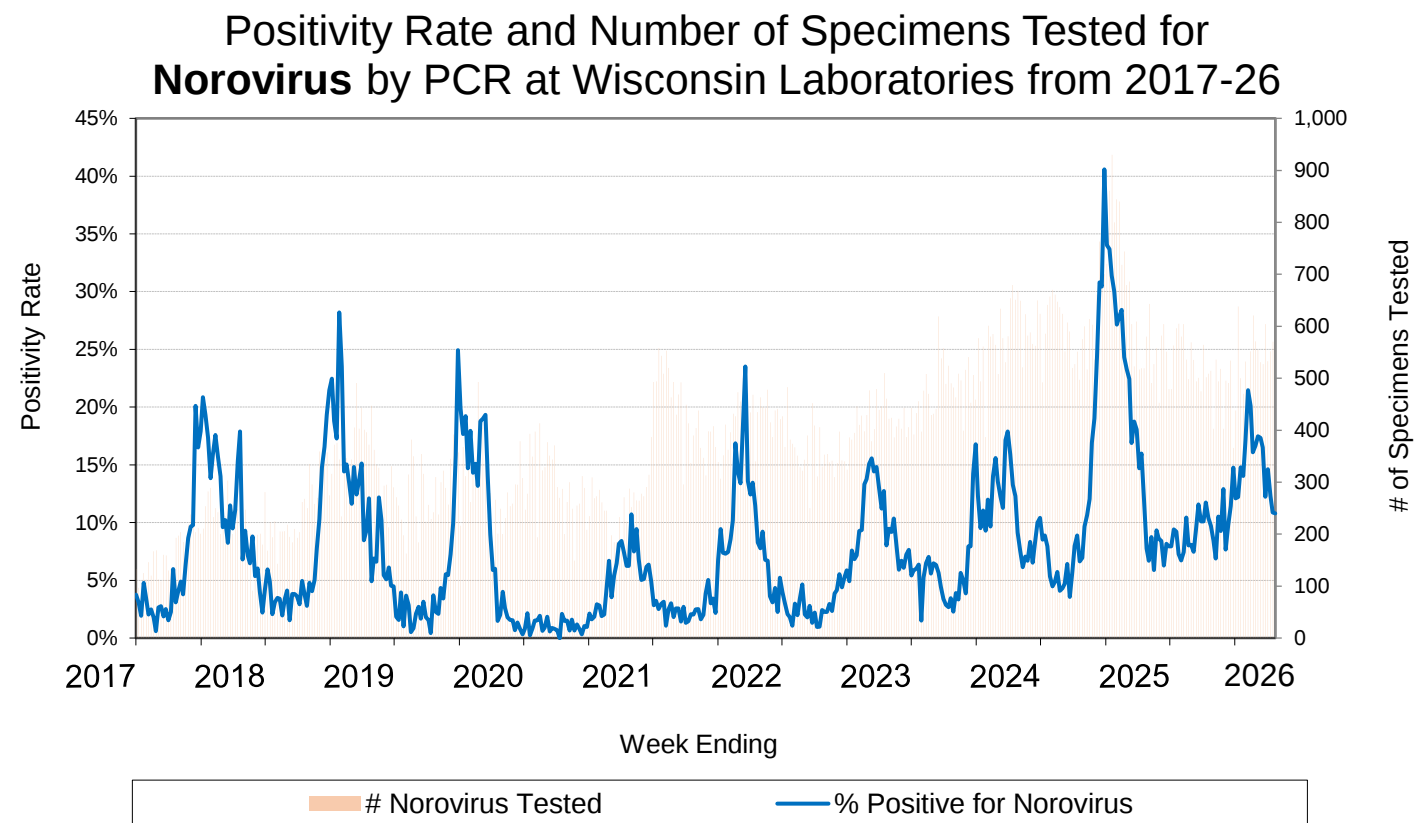
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in Wisconsin this year.

y have confirmed a case of
in Wisconsin this year.



Norovirus – 2017-26 (10 Years)



Norovirus – 2017-26 (10 Years)



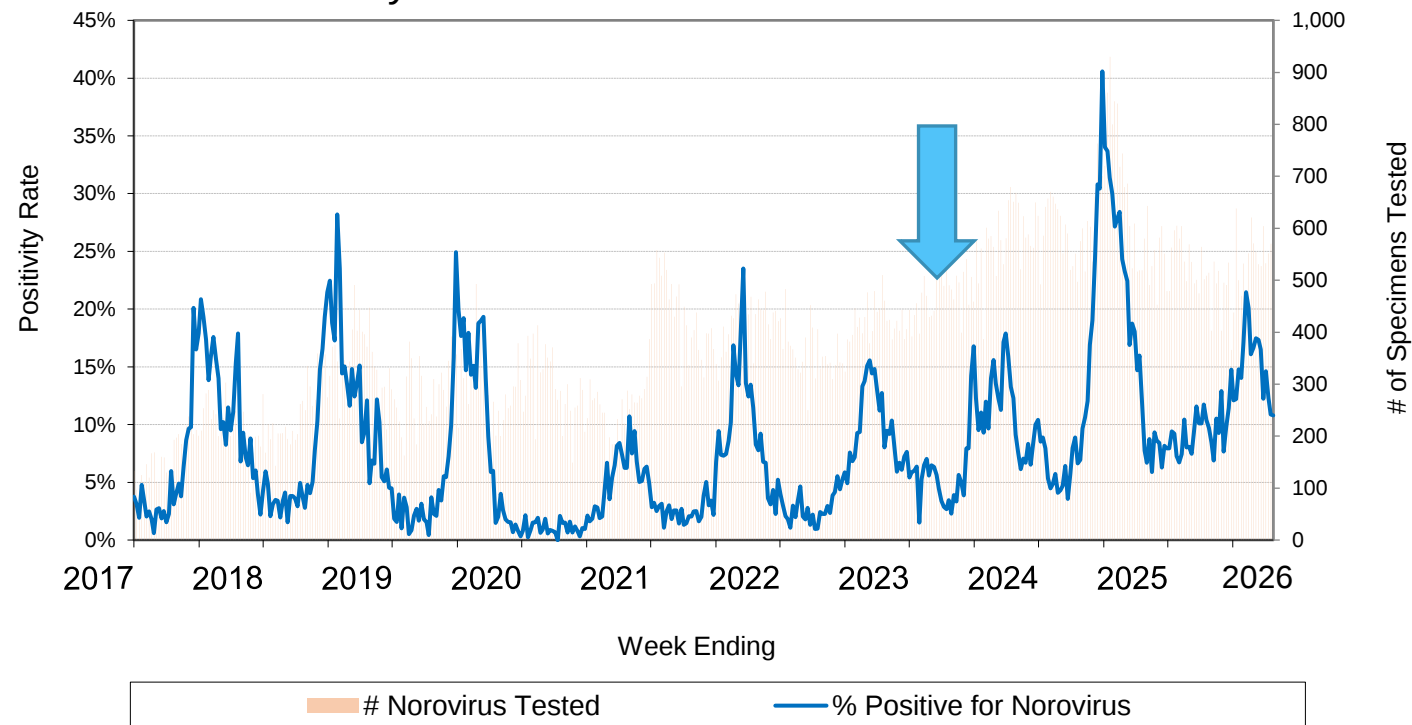
IMPORTANT:

URGENT: MEDICAL DEVICE RECALL

BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Gastrointestinal (GI) Panel – Ref. Number: RFIT-ASY-0116 & RFIT-ASY-0104

FSCA 5812 – Increased Risk of False Positive Norovirus Results with the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Gastrointestinal (GI) Panel

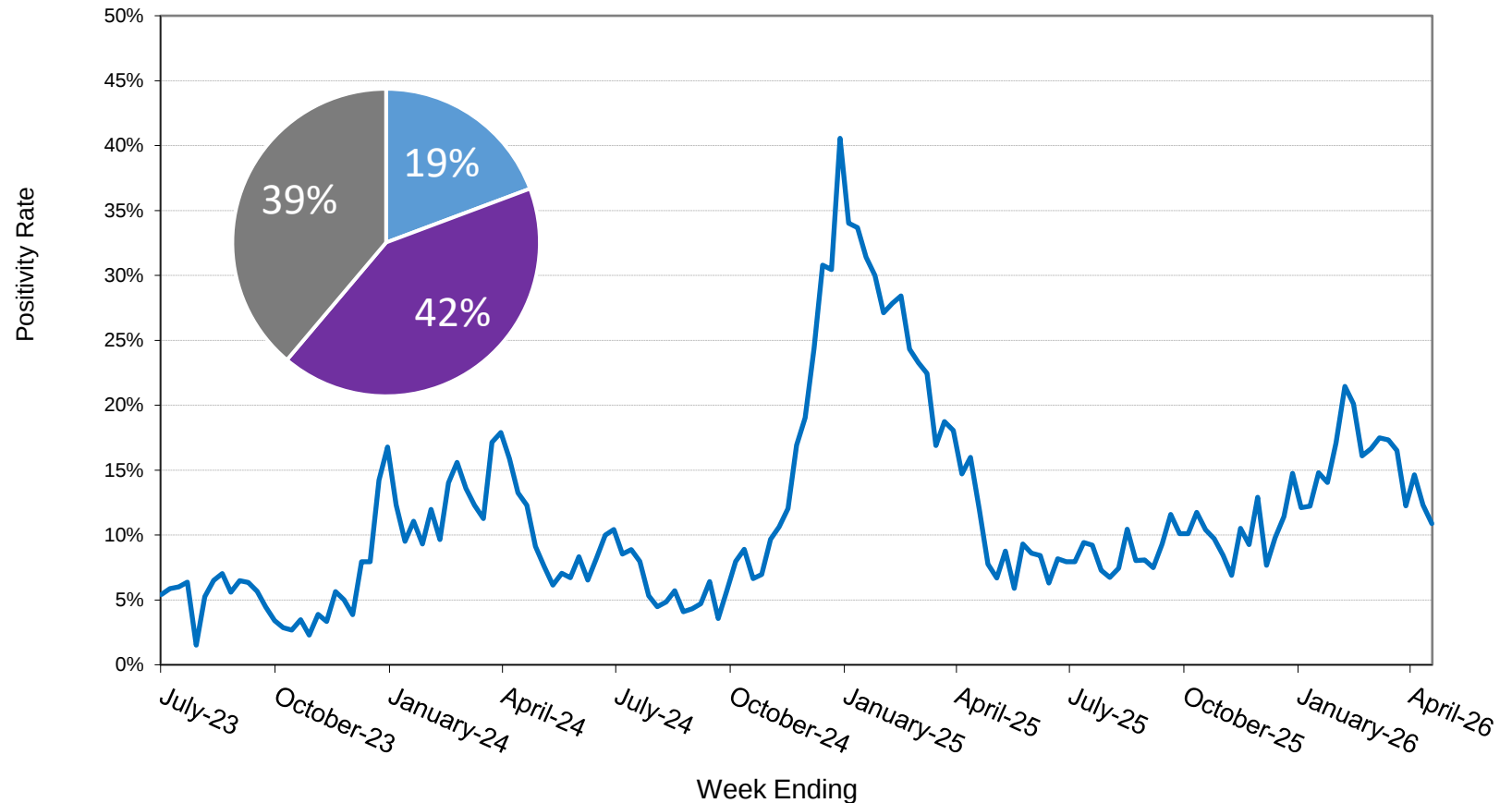
Positivity Rate and Number of Specimens Tested for **Norovirus** by PCR at Wisconsin Laboratories from 2017-26



Norovirus Types – 2023-26

■ Wisconsin Sequencing Data

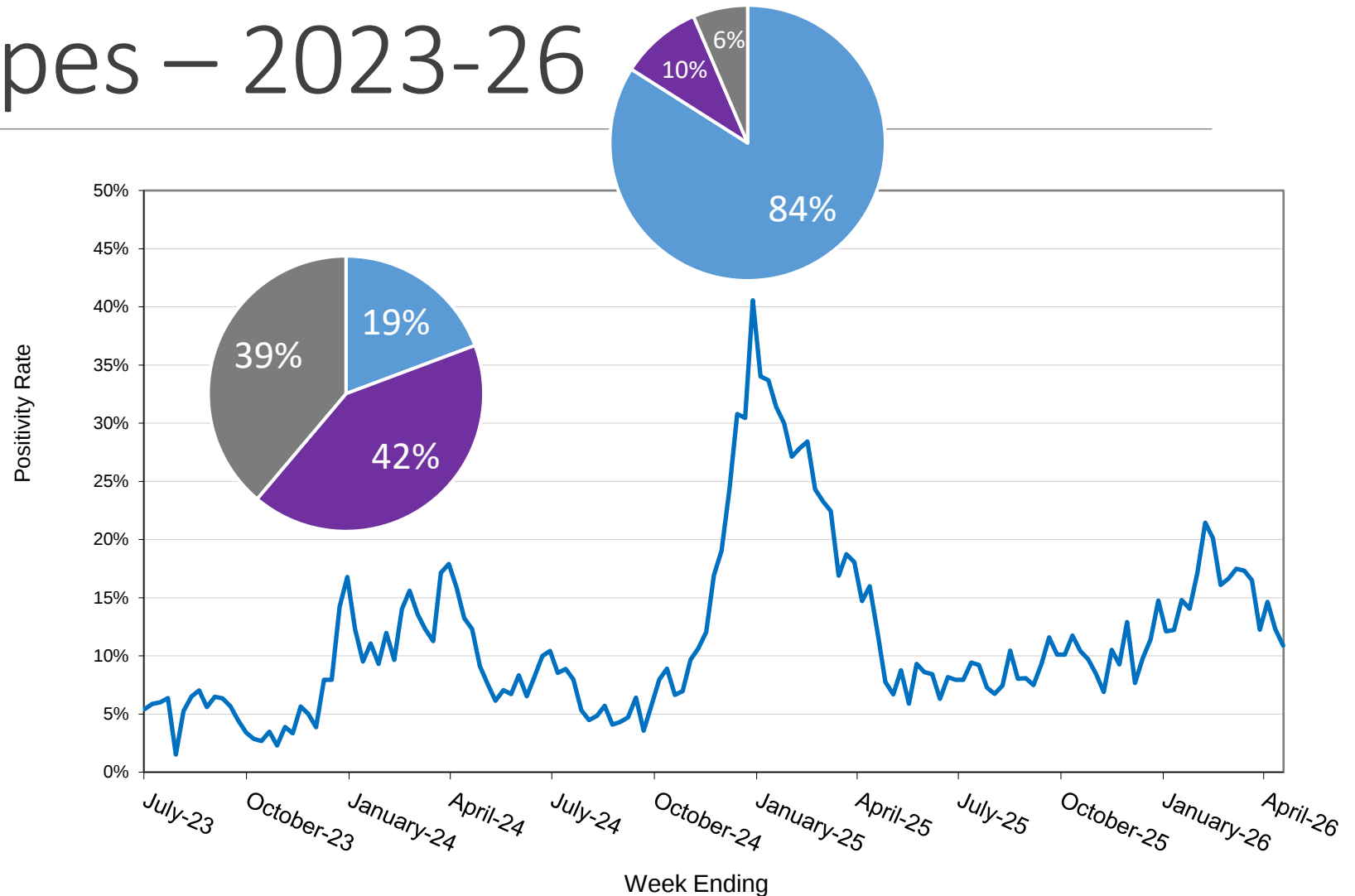
- GII.17 [P17]
- GII.4 Sydney [P16]
- Other



Norovirus Types – 2023-26

■ Wisconsin Sequencing Data

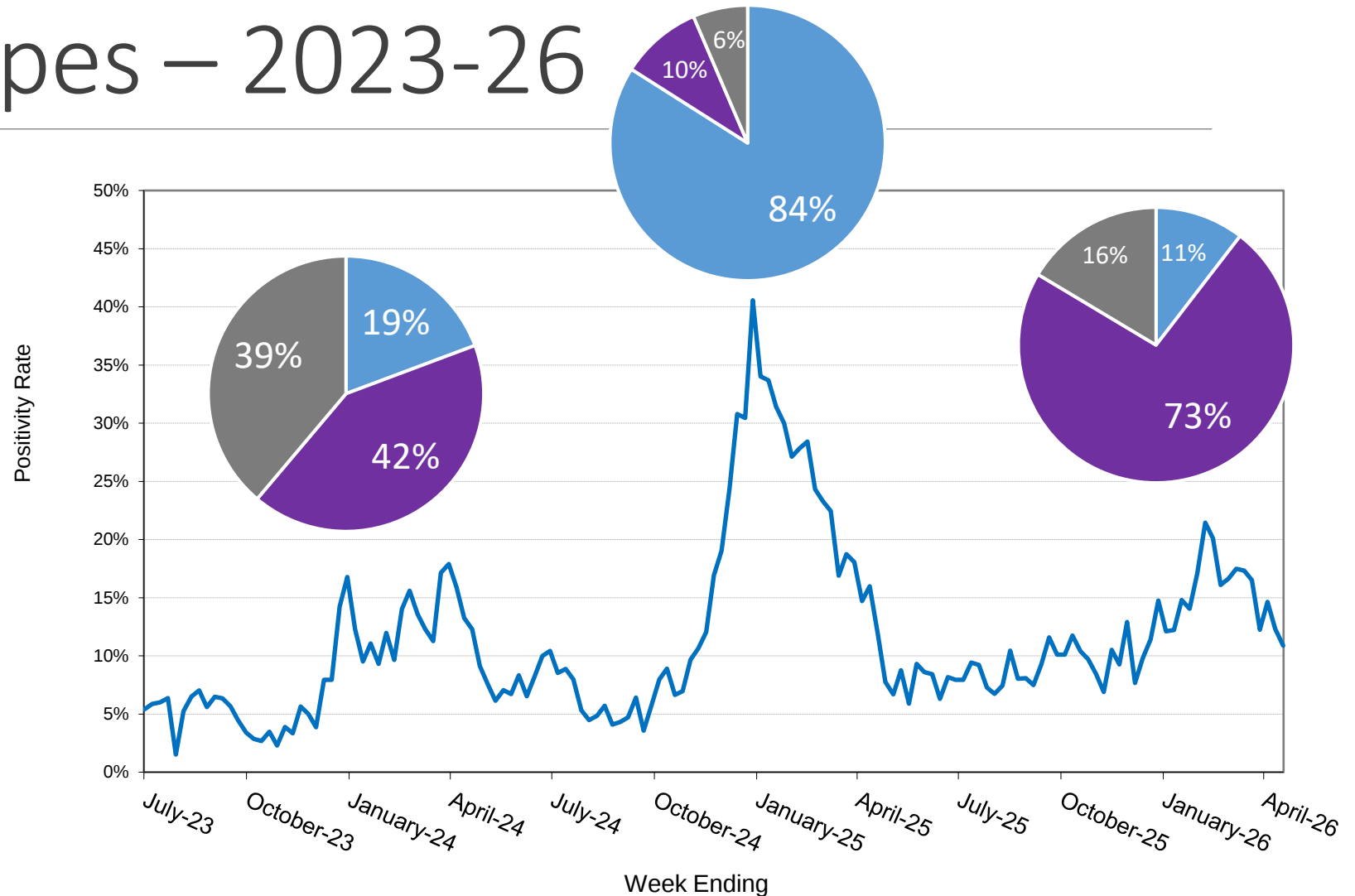
- GII.17 [P17]
- GII.4 Sydney [P16]
- Other



Norovirus Types – 2023-26

■ Wisconsin Sequencing Data

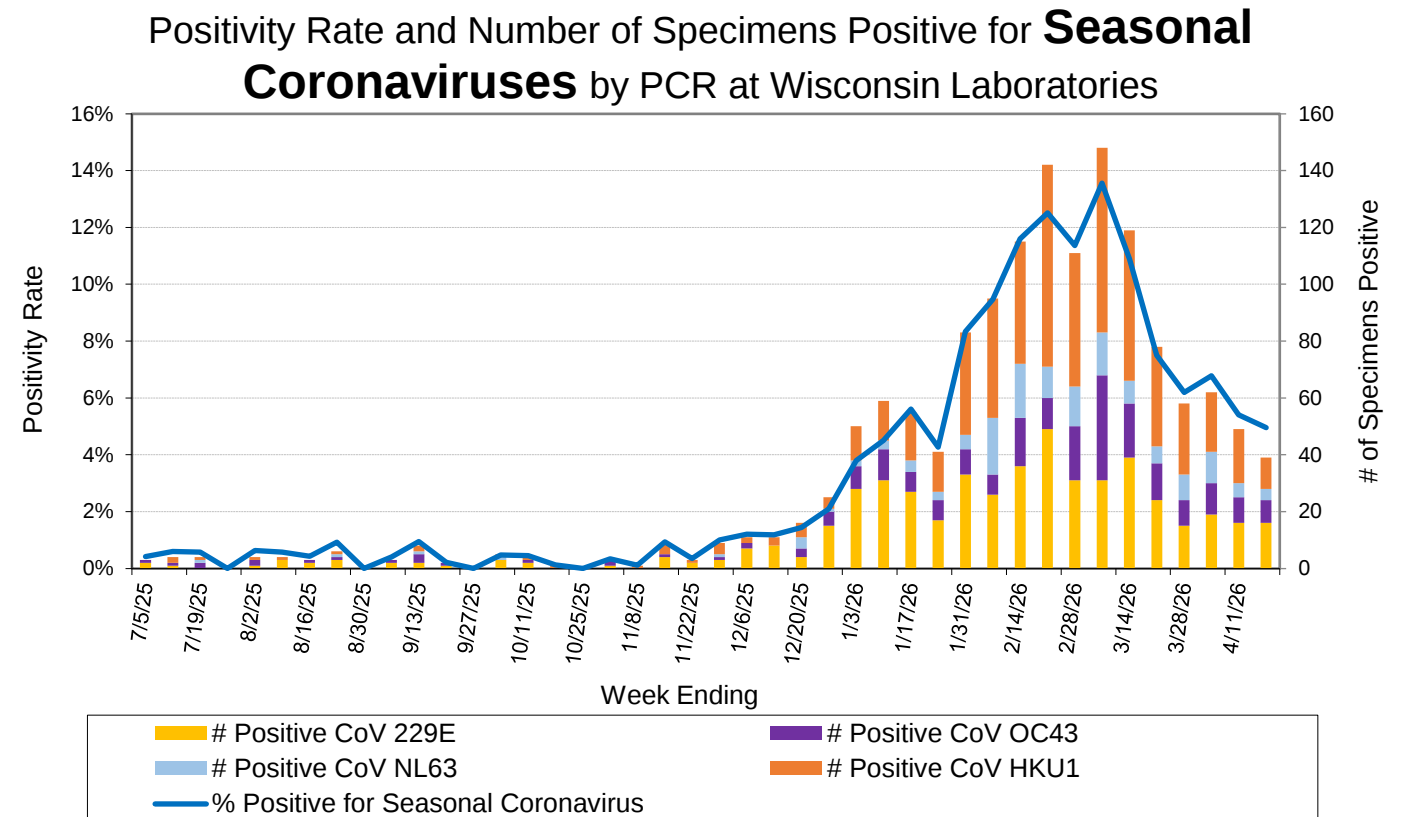
- GII.17 [P17]
- GII.4 Sydney [P16]
- Other





Seasonal Coronaviruses

- Predominately types 229E and HKU1

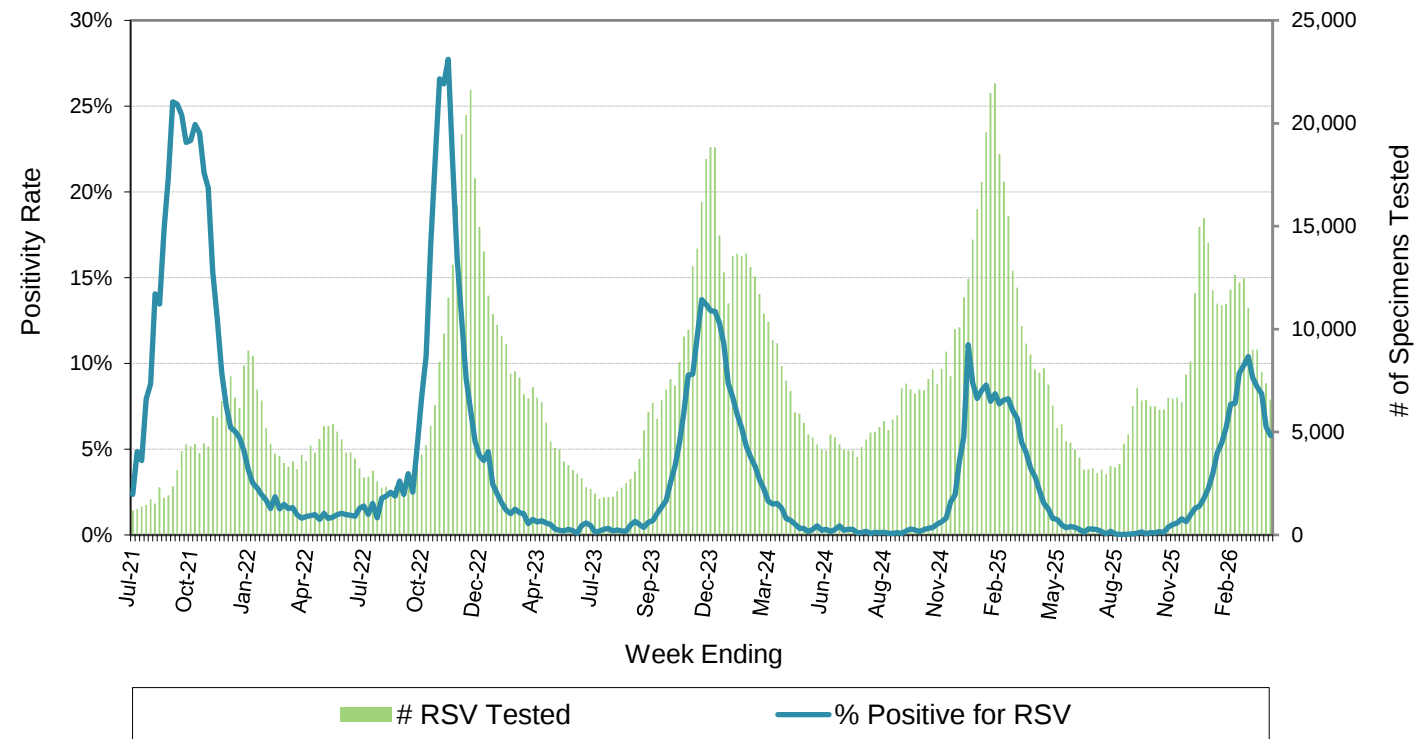




RSV - 2021-26 (5 years)

- Mild Season and really late!

Positivity Rate and Number of Specimens Tested for **RSV** by PCR at Wisconsin Laboratories from 2021-26





RSV - 2021-26 (5 years)

- Mild Season and really late!

FDA NEWS RELEASE

FDA Approves First Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccine

Arexvy Approved for Individuals 60 Years of Age and Older

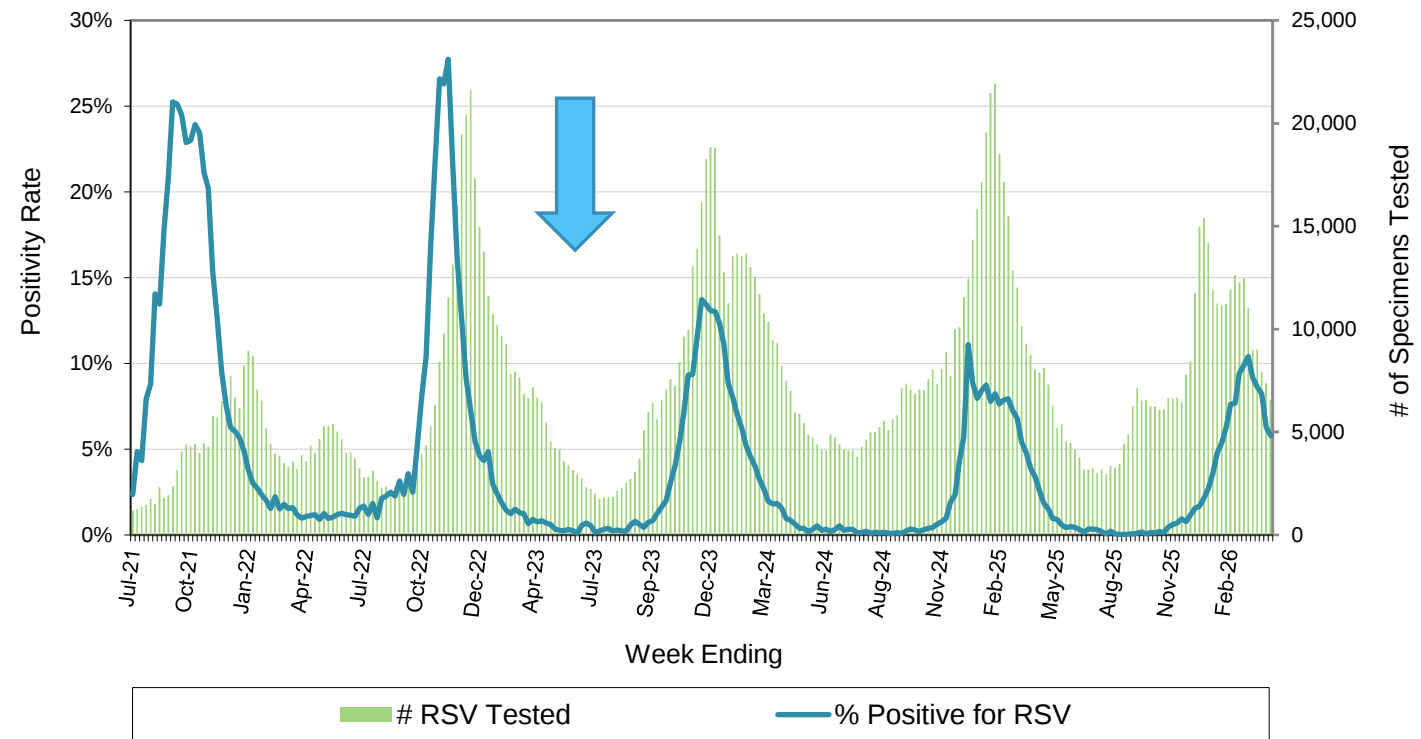
For Immediate Release: May 03, 2023

FDA NEWS RELEASE

FDA Approves New Drug to Prevent RSV in Babies and Toddlers

For Immediate Release: July 17, 2023

Positivity Rate and Number of Specimens Tested for **RSV** by PCR at Wisconsin Laboratories from 2021-26





RSV – Monoclonal Antibodies

- Approved for use in infants from **October to March**
- Wisconsin DHS recommended extending the use of mAbs through April

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Health Services
Division of Public Health



201 E. Washington Ave.
PO Box 2659
Madison WI 53701-2659

Telephone: 607-267-9003
TTY: 800-947-3529

Date: March 17, 2026

BCD-2026-03

To: Wisconsin Local Health Departments, Tribal Health Agencies, Health Care Providers, and Infection Preventionists

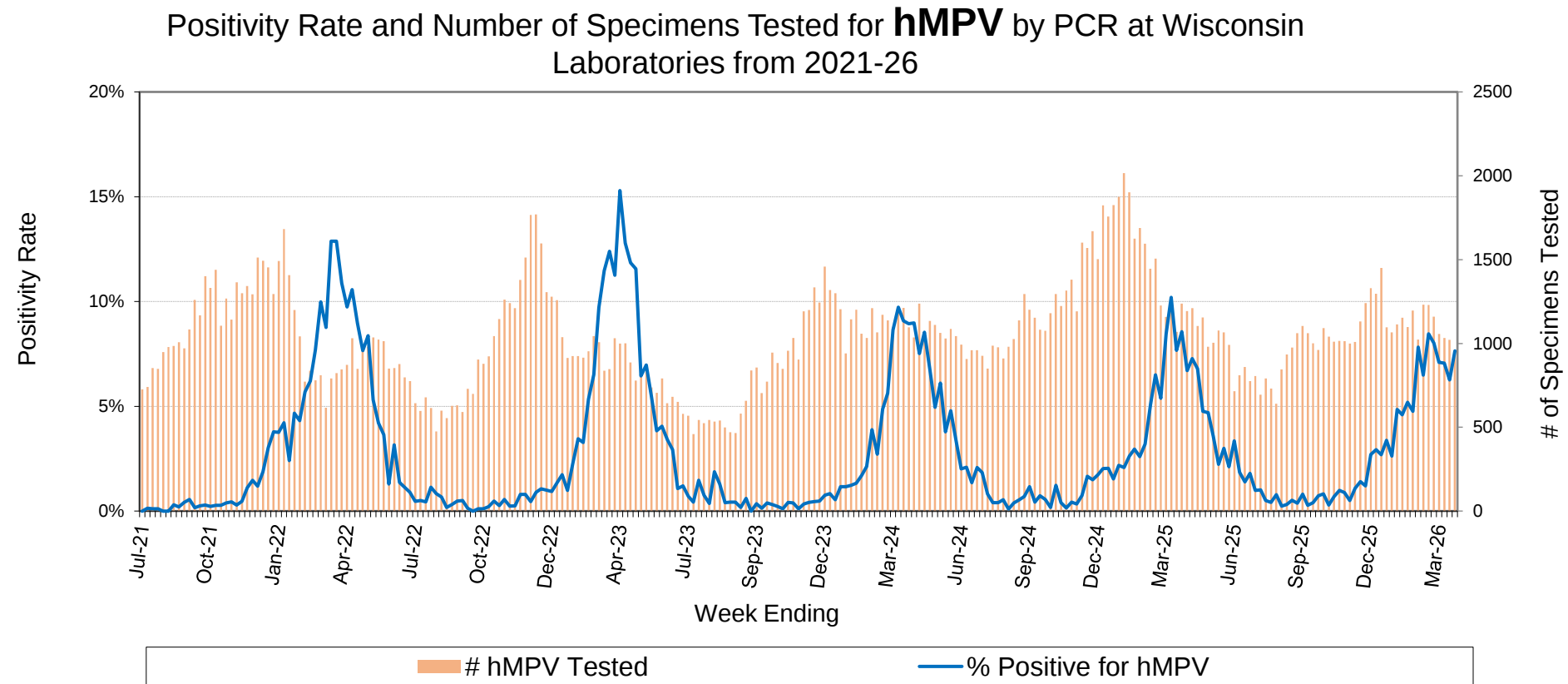
From: Ryan Westergaard, M.D., Ph.D.
Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist for Communicable Diseases
Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Stephanie Schauer, Ph.D.
Director, Immunization Program
Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Recommendation to Continue Administration of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Monoclonal Antibody Products Beyond March 31, 2026



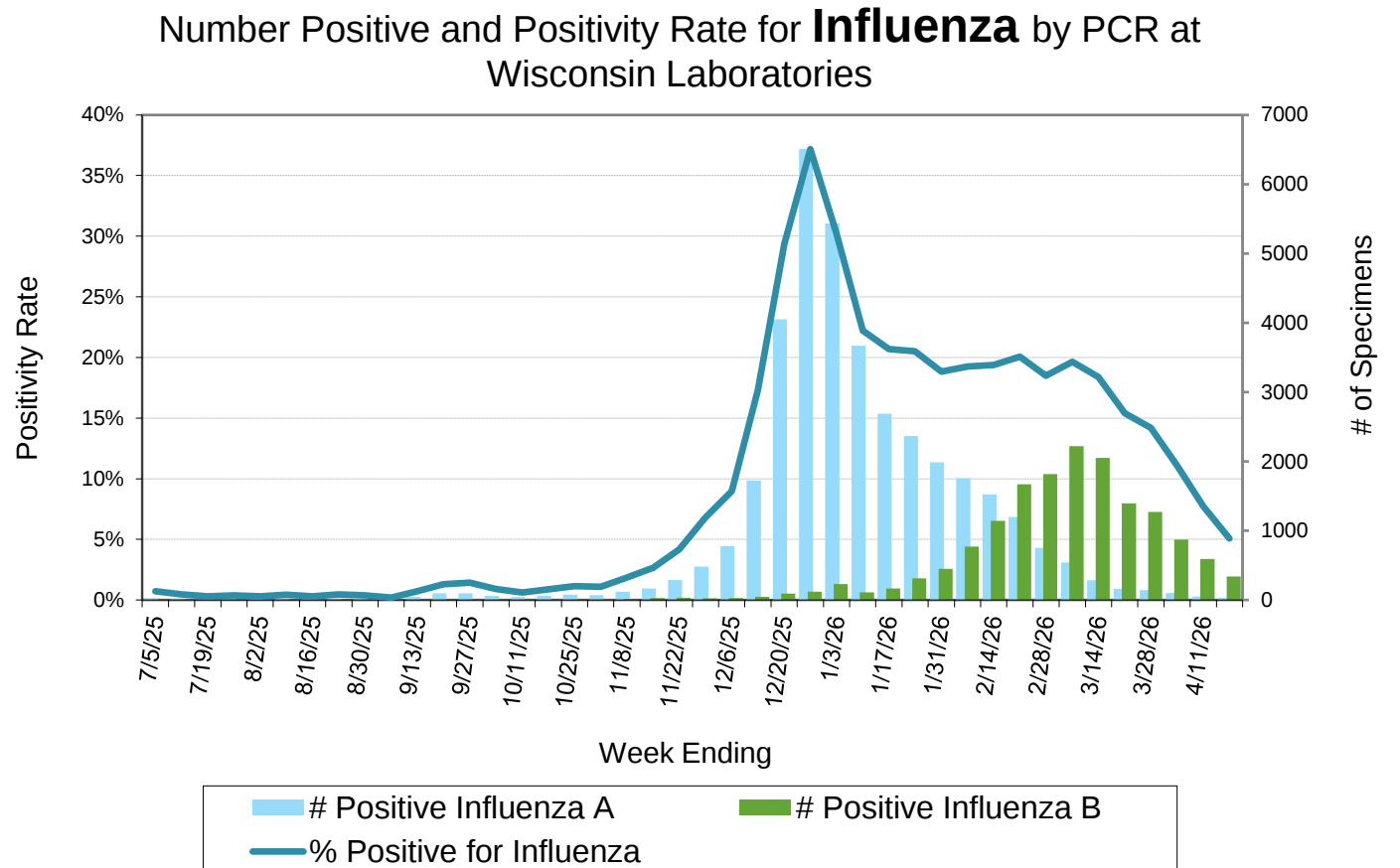
Human Metapneumovirus





Flu B

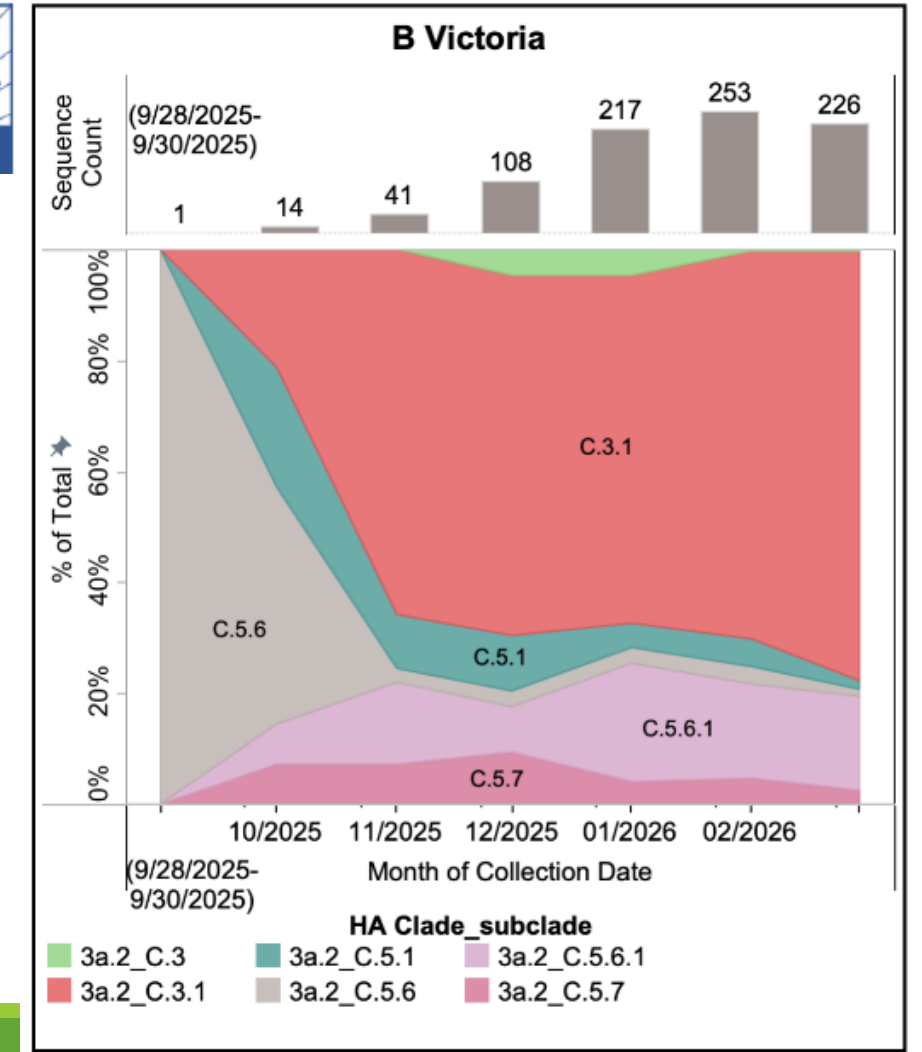
- 100% B/Victoria
- WSLH has discontinued performing the CDC Influenza B Lineage rRT-PCR



Influenza B Strain Characterization Wisconsin 2025-26

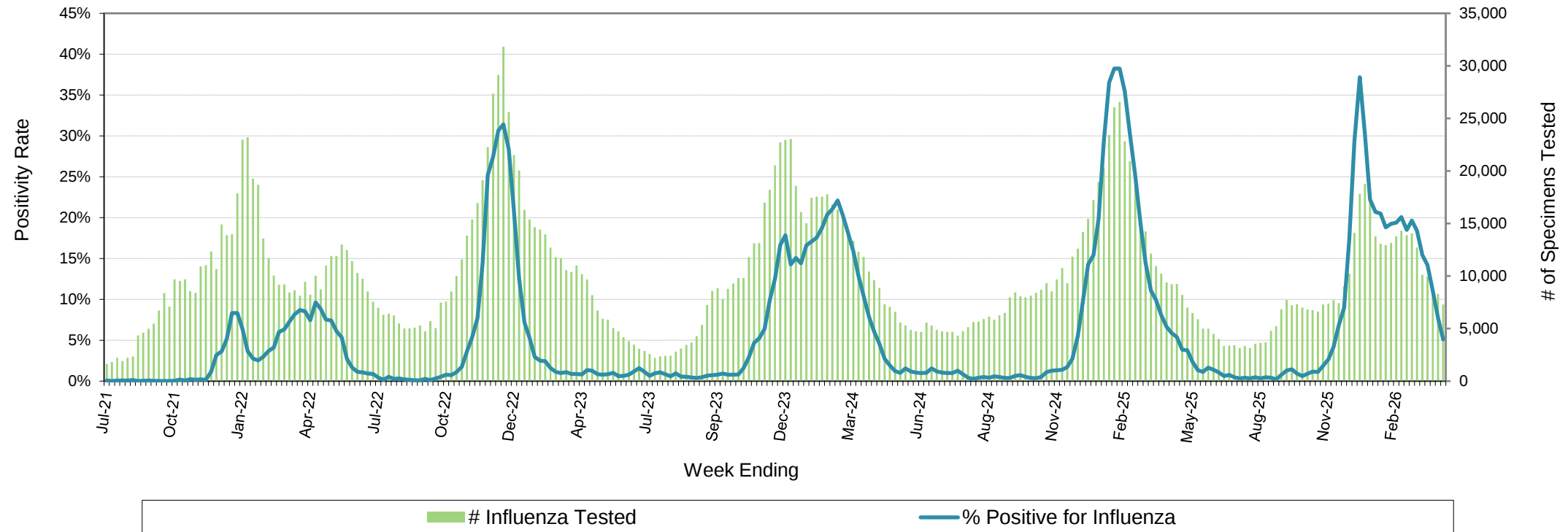


- Only 32.3% of circulating flu Bs were a good antigenic match with the 2025-26 vaccine strains
- Overall, vaccine still offered significant protection against hospitalization (<https://www.eurosurveillance.org/>)



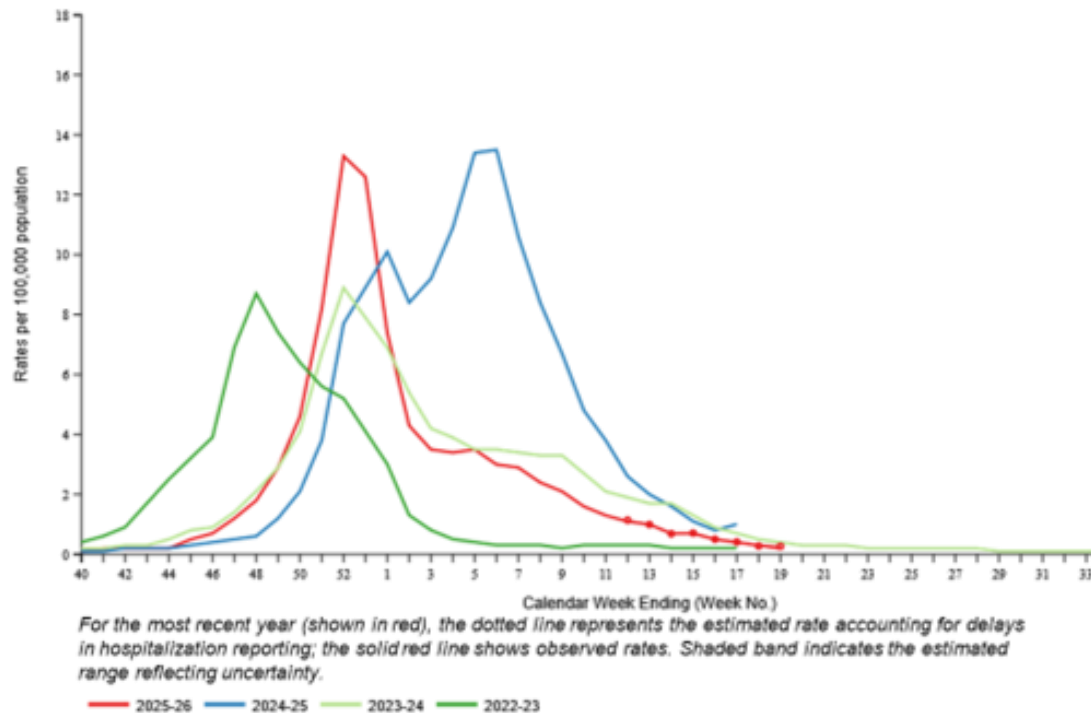
Influenza – 2021-26 (5 Years)

Positivity Rate and Number of Specimens Tested for **Influenza** by PCR at Wisconsin Laboratories from 2021-26

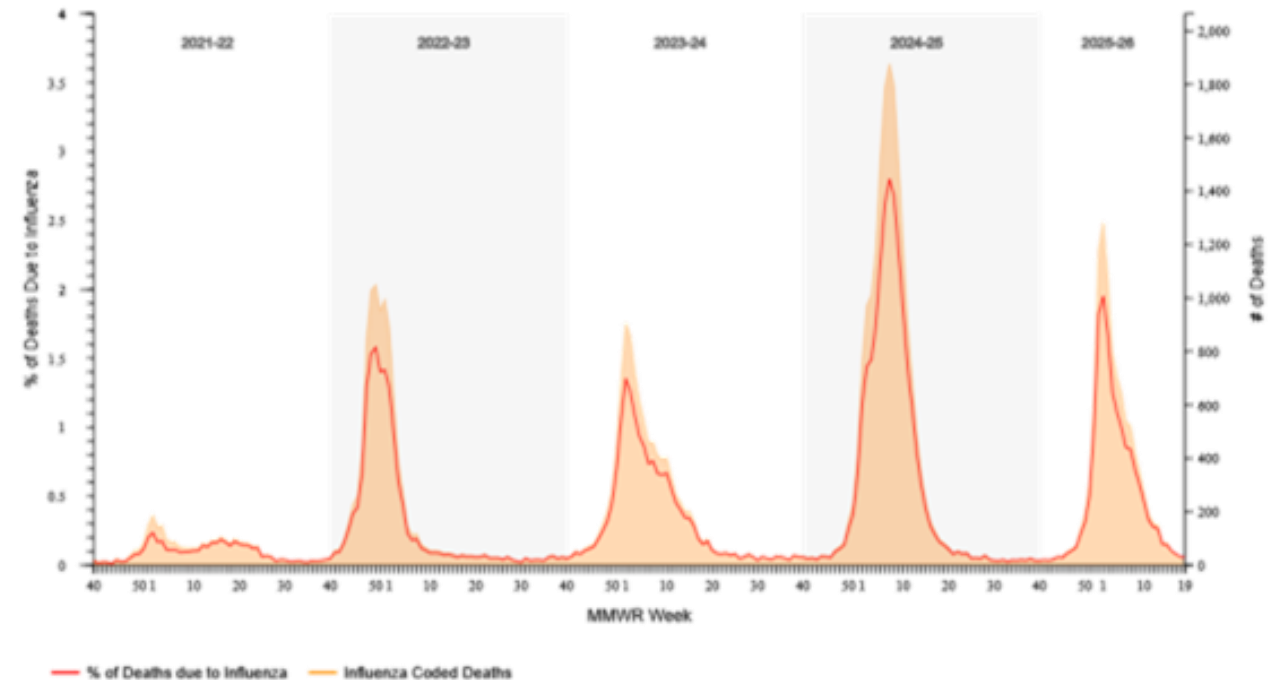


Influenza – Morbidity and Mortality

Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza Hospitalizations
Preliminary cumulative rates as of May 22, 2026
FluSurv-NET :: Entire Network :: Overall Age Group :: Weekly Rate



the National Center for Health Statistics Mortality Surveillance System
National Summary data through the week ending May 16, 2026



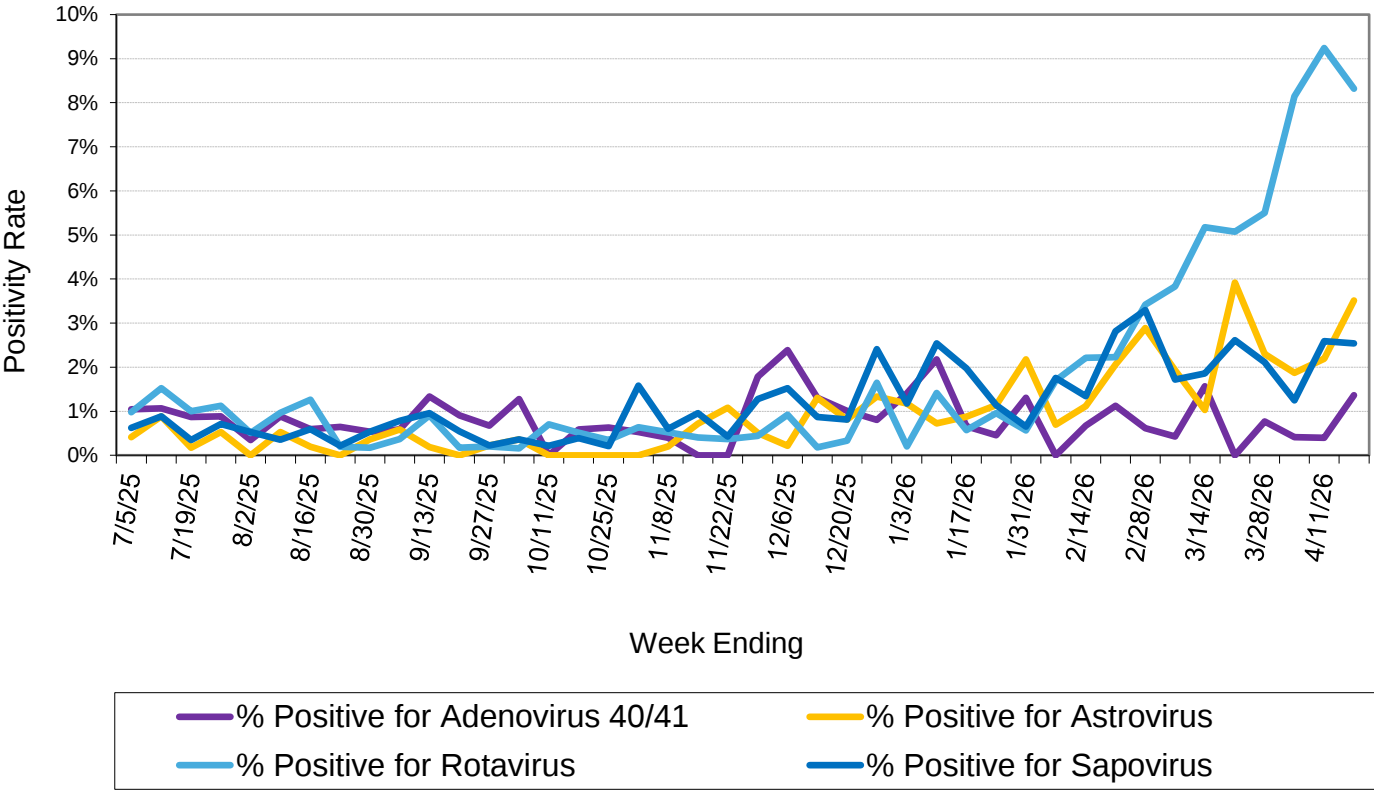
2026-27 Vaccine Strain Formula

- **All three vaccine components were updated for both vaccine formulas**
- Egg based vaccines
 - an A/Missouri/11/2025 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
 - an A/Darwin/1454/2025 (H3N2)-like virus; and
 - a B/Tokyo/EIS13-175/2025 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus.
- Cell- or recombinant vaccines
 - an A/Missouri/11/2025 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
 - an A/Darwin/1415/2025 (H3N2)-like virus; and
 - a B/Pennsylvania/14/2025 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus.



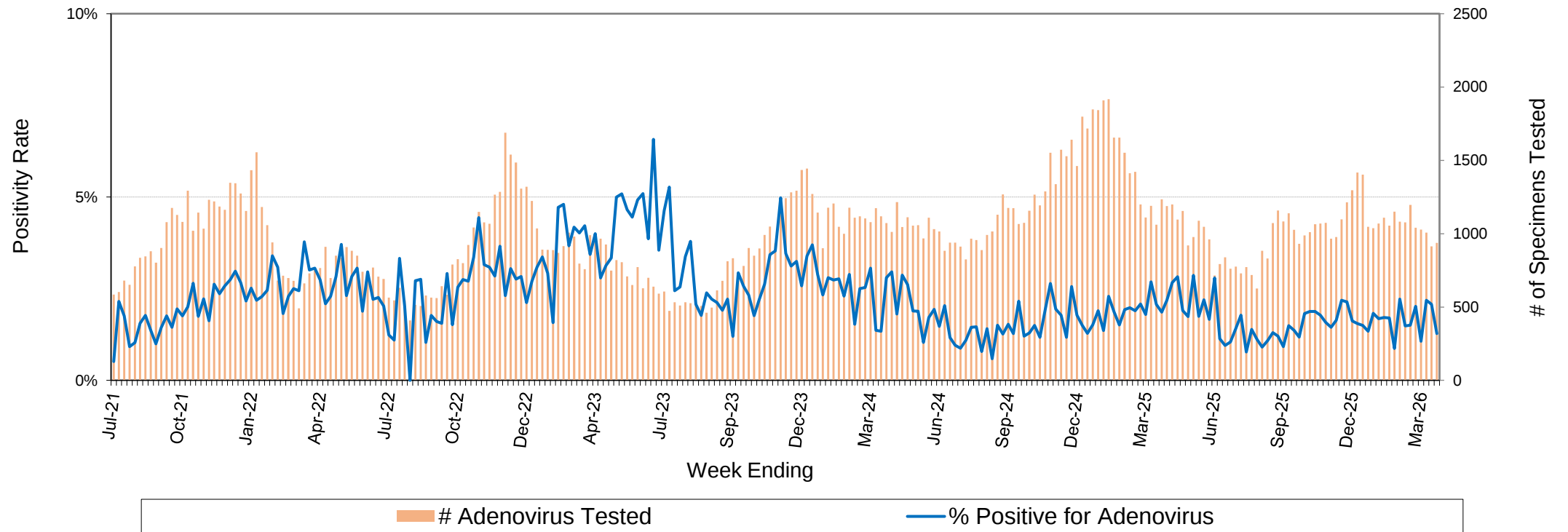
Enteric Viruses

Positivity Rate of **Viral Enteric Pathogens** by PCR at
Wisconsin Laboratories



Adenovirus – 2021-26 (5 years)

Positivity Rate and Number of Specimens Tested for **Adenovirus** by PCR at Wisconsin Laboratories
from 2021-26



Andes Hantavirus Cluster

- As of May 26:
 - 13 known cases, and three deaths – none in the United States.
 - The Wisconsin DHS has confirmed that there were no passengers from Wisconsin on the cruise ship and there are currently no known cases in Wisconsin.
- Testing Resources:
 - Diagnostic testing for antibodies available at the CDC
 - No widely available diagnostic rRT-PCR assay for the Andes virus

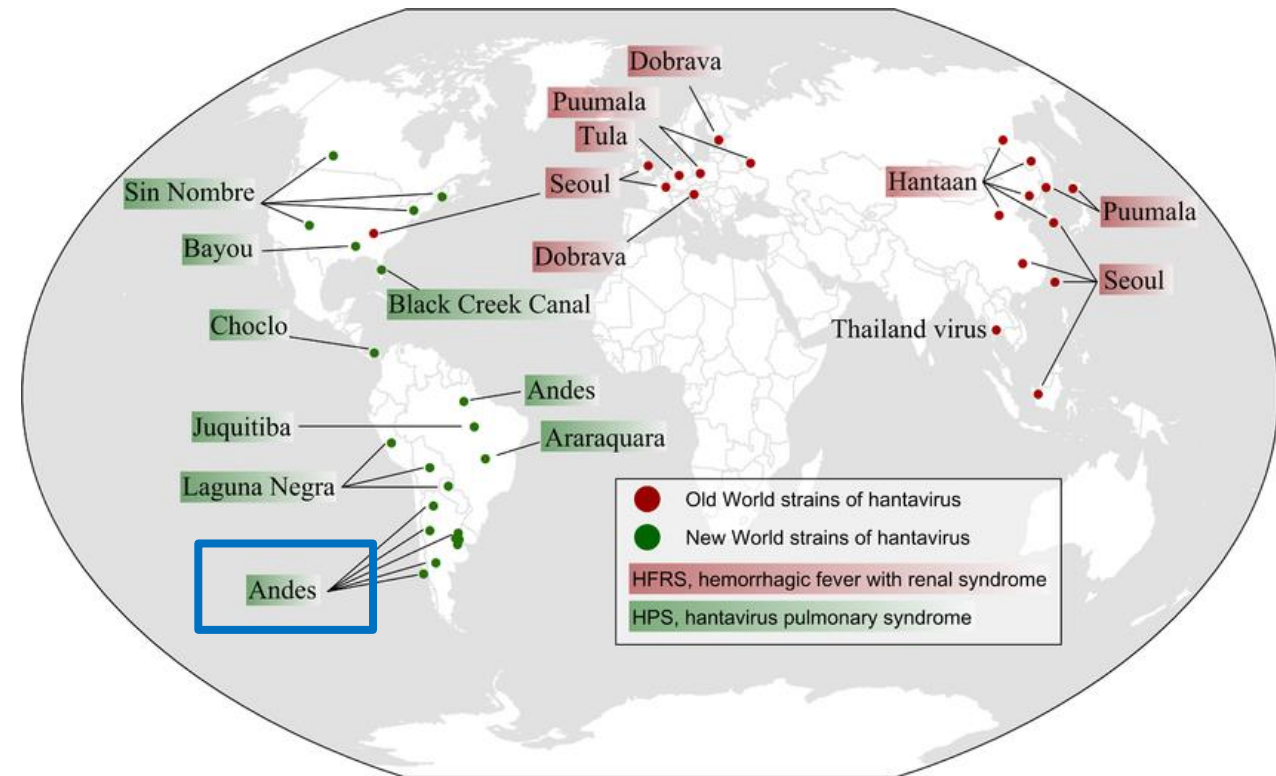


MV Hondius

- Dutch-flagged expedition ship
- ~150 passengers and crew
- South America / Antarctica route

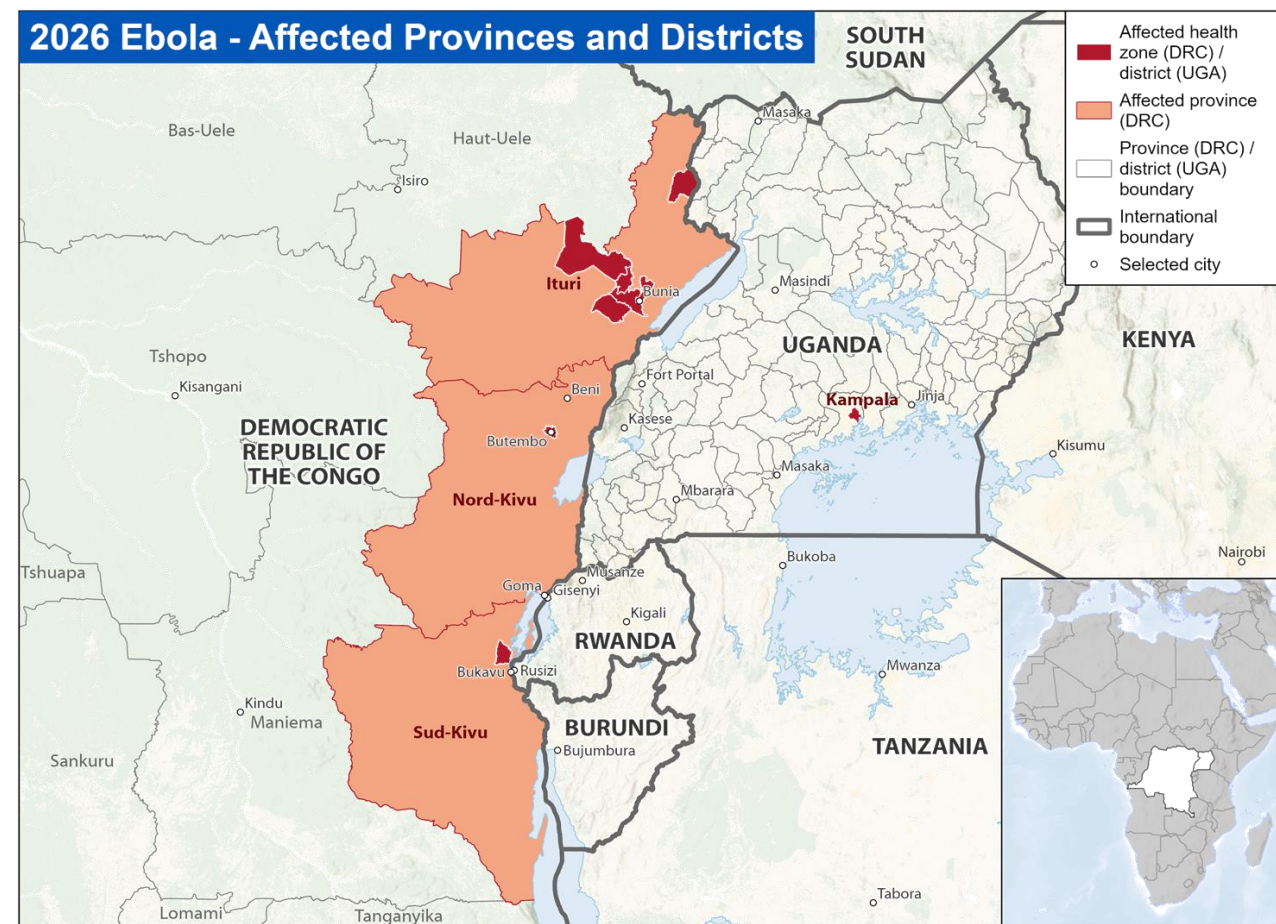
Andes Hantavirus

- Causes Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS)
 - Fatality rate of approximately 38%
 - Prolonged incubation period
- Spread mainly by rodents
- Only member of the Hantavirus family that is known to spread person-to-person



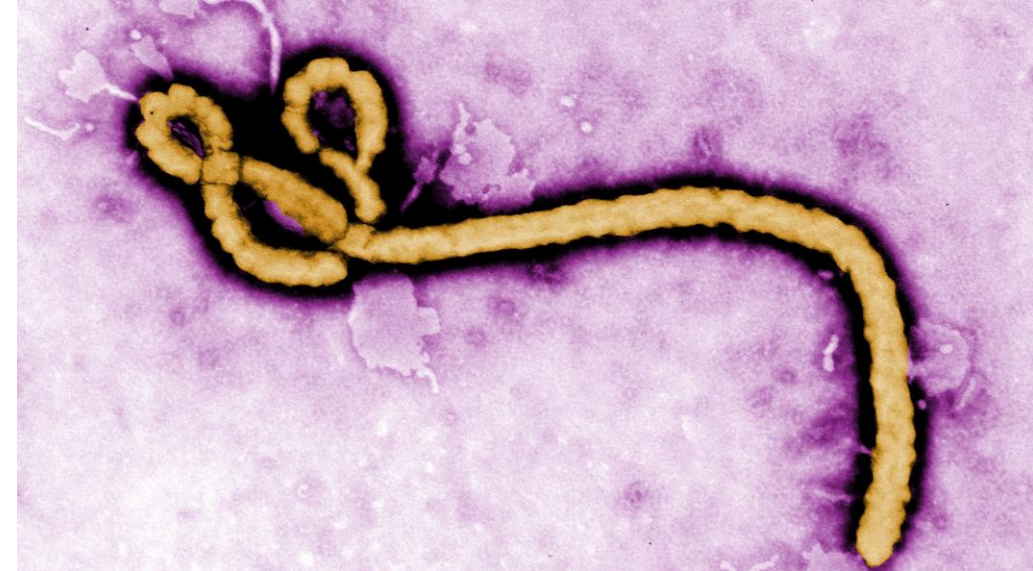
Ebola Outbreak - 2026

- First cases identified in early May in the northeastern DRC
- As of May 26, the DRC and Uganda ministries of health report:
 - >233 deaths (suspect and confirmed)
 - >1000 cases (suspect and confirmed)



Bundibugyo virus (*Orthoebolavirus bundibugyoense*)

- Member of the Ebola virus family
- Causes viral hemorrhagic fever (Bundibugyo virus disease)
- Fatality rate of 25-90%
- Spread via direct contact with bodily fluids
- Incubation time is 2 to 21 days post exposure
- No currently approved vaccines or therapeutics



New Surveillance Data Submission Portal!



Please enter clinical testing data for the week ending Saturday, 05/09/26

- A week is defined as Sunday to Saturday
- If you wish to submit retrospective testing data or edit previously submitted data, please email WCLN@slh.wisc.edu.

Please confirm your institution information:

Admin

Admin

Admin, Admin, _____

Is the institution information listed above correct?

* must provide value

**** Please enter data for the week ending Saturday, 05/09/26 ****

FLU / SARS-CoV-2 / RSV PCR/Molecular Testing

Please report the number of specimens tested and the number positive.

Influenza	Number Tested	Number Positive for Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09	Number Positive for Influenza A (H3)	Number Positive for Influenza A (Test Does not Subtype)	Number Positive for Influenza B
SARS-CoV-2 (COVID)	Number Tested	Number Positive for SARS-CoV-2			
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Number Tested	Number Positive for RSV A	Number Positive for RSV B	Number Positive for RSV (Test does not type)	

Thank You for Participating in Surveillance!!



Number of participating labs in NRESVS, 2025
(n=533)

