



GLOBAL

Influenza remains a public health issue worldwide since the COVID-19 pandemic, with ups and downs in the number of cases reported over the past two years. In 2024, there are 1,065,479 influenza cases globally. Of those, the majority occurred in the Northern Hemisphere, with 970,119 cases, while 95,360 occurred in the Southern Hemisphere.

Globally, the cases peaked in January 2024, with the majority occurring in the Northern Hemisphere. While in the Southern Hemisphere, cases peak in May. It shows that influenza activity follows a seasonal pattern, with peaks happening in the winter months for both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

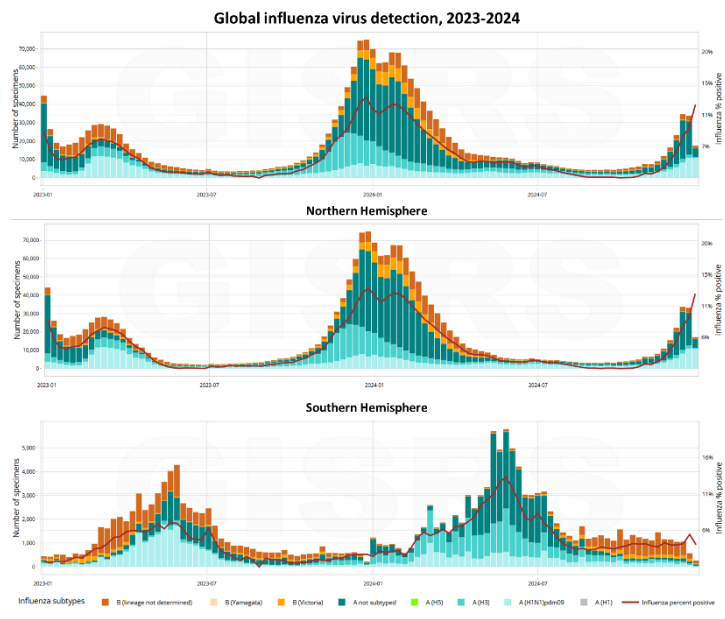


Figure 1. Global Influenza virus detection
 Source: WHO (<https://worldhealthorg.shinyapps.io/flunetchart/>)

CHINA

Figure 2 tracks the positivity rates of various respiratory viruses in China starting from epi-week 23, 2024. A significant increase in COVID-19 cases is evident from epi-week 49, suggesting a potential resurgence of the virus. Influenza virus infections peaked around epi-week 40, aligning with a typical flu season. While human metapneumovirus (hMPV) cases are rising since epi-week 49, they remain at a low level throughout the period, below 10%. Other viruses, including Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and parainfluenza virus, also show increases in infection rates, while some remain relatively unchanged.

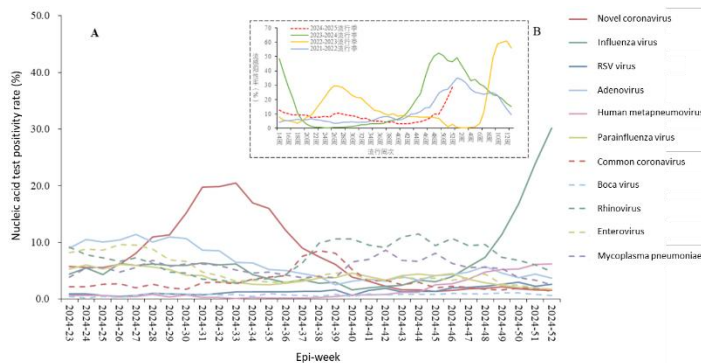


Figure 2. Distribution of SARI-ILI in China, epi-week 23-52, 2024

Source: Our World in Data

https://ivdc.chinacdc.cn/cnic/en/Surveillance/WeeklyReport/202501/t20250102_303648.htm

ASEAN

Figure 3 reveals influenza patterns in ASEAN countries. Peaks occur during rainy season, with significant variation in intensity and timing across countries. This highlights the influence of factors like climate. The presence of multiple-colored bars suggests diverse influenza subtypes circulating.

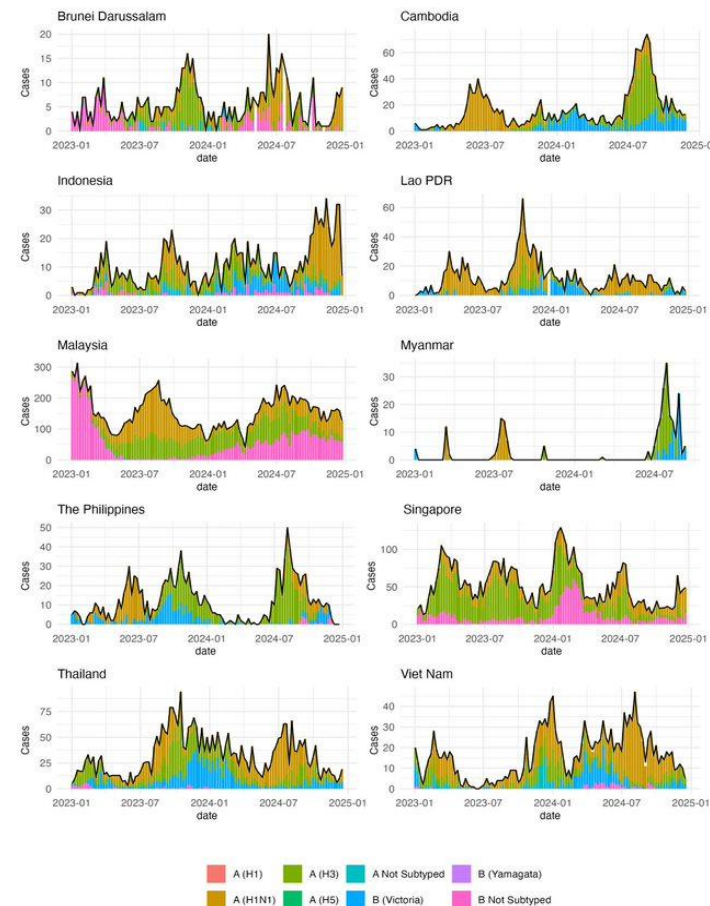


Figure 3. Influenza virus detection in ASEAN
 Source: WHO (<https://worldhealthorg.shinyapps.io/flunetchart/>)

Overall, in the ASEAN region, there are few countries experience an upward trend of influenza cases in 2024.