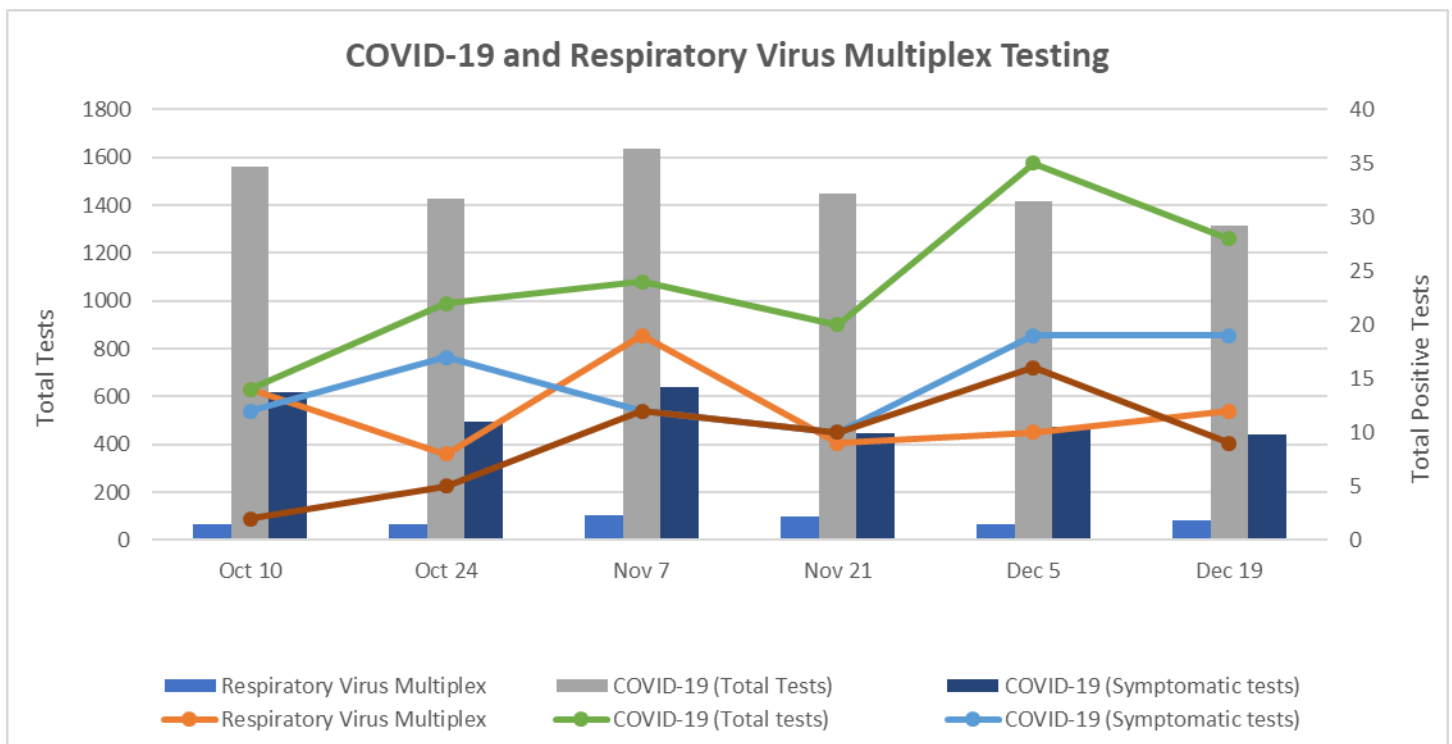
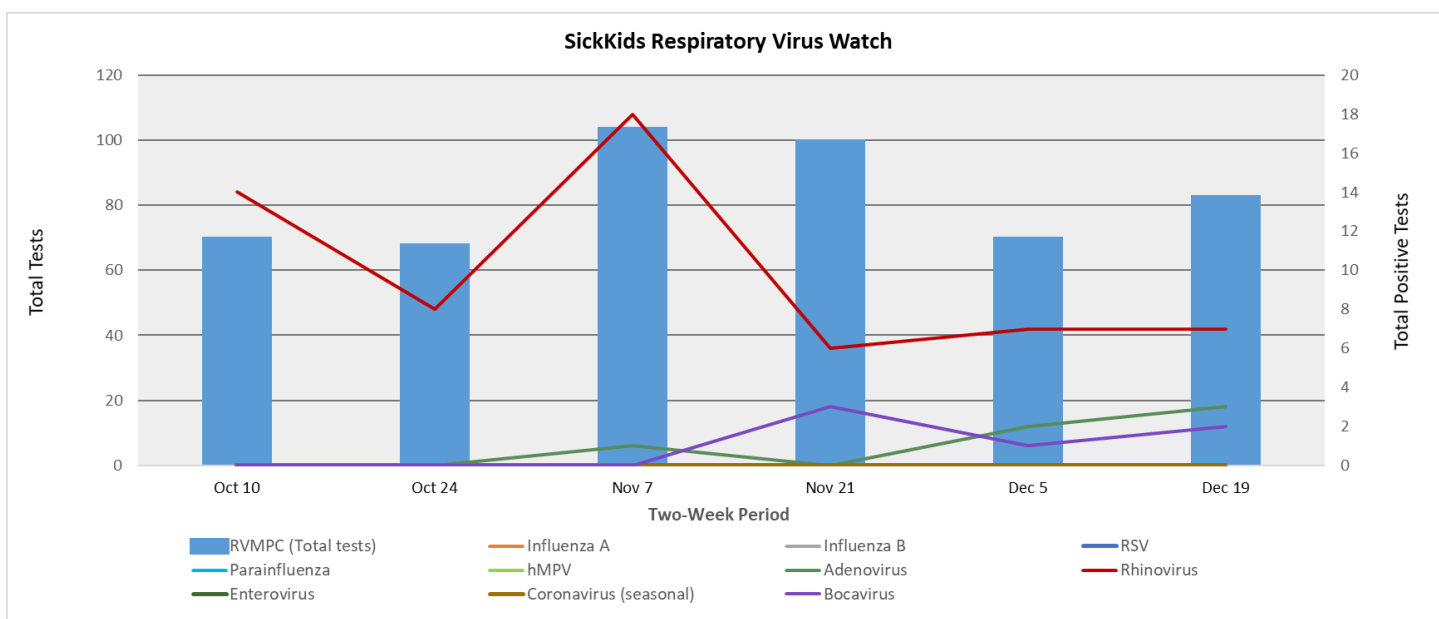


## December 23, 2020

During the 2-week period of December 6 – December 19, 2020, 81 respiratory samples were sent for respiratory virus multiplex PCR testing, while 1316 SickKids patients had respiratory samples sent for SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing.

The number of cases of SARS-CoV-2 detected has fluctuated over the past month with the majority being detected in symptomatic individuals. While SARS-CoV-2 was detected more frequently than other respiratory viruses, this may have been, in part, because significantly more patients were tested for SARS-CoV-2 than for other respiratory viruses. For the respiratory virus multiplex, during the past 2-week period, rhinovirus (7) remained the most common respiratory virus detected, followed by adenovirus (3) and bocavirus (2). No significant influenza or RSV activity has been detected during the current respiratory virus season to date.





Influenza activity in Ontario for the week of December 6 – December 12, 2020 was similar to the previous week with an overall low number of influenza cases. Rhinovirus/enterovirus continues to be the primary respiratory virus pathogen detected.

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/ServicesAndTools/SurveillanceServices/Pages/Ontario-Respiratory-Virus-Bulletin.aspx>

Nationally, influenza virus activity continues to be low as of December 6 – December 12, 2020 with no evidence of community circulation. Testing for influenza, however, has increased.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/flu-influenza/influenza-surveillance.html>