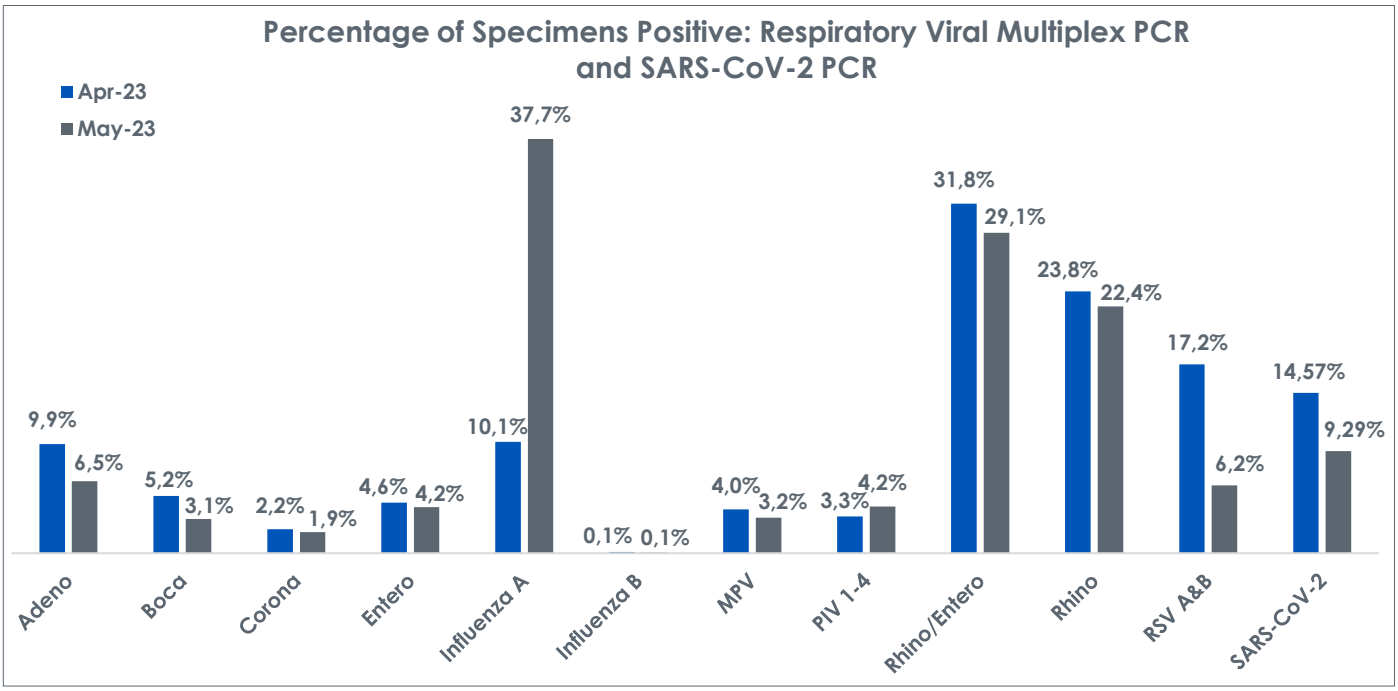
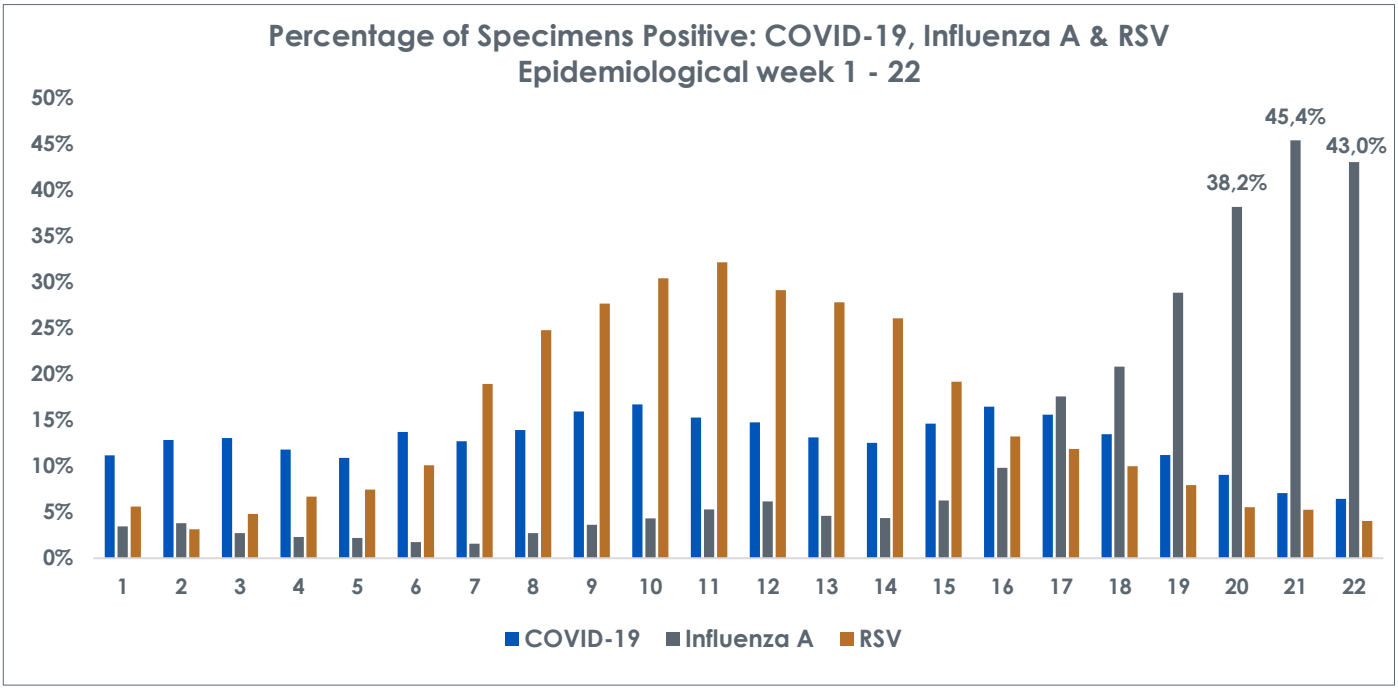
RESPIRATORY VIRUS STATISTICS
April/May 2023

AMPATH LABORATORIES





Comments

- Most frequently detected viruses across all age groups during May 2023: influenza A (37.7%), rhino/enterovirus (29.1%) and rhinovirus (22.4%).
- Epidemiological week 1 - 22:
  - COVID-19 percentage of positive specimens decreased during the last 4 weeks, with only 6.5% of specimens testing positive during epi week 22.
  - RSV percentage of positive specimens decreased during the last 4 weeks, with only 4.1% of specimens testing positive during epi week 22.
  - The percentage of influenza A specimens testing positive increased sharply for week 16 onwards, with numbers peaking during epi week 21, when 45.4% of specimens tested positive.

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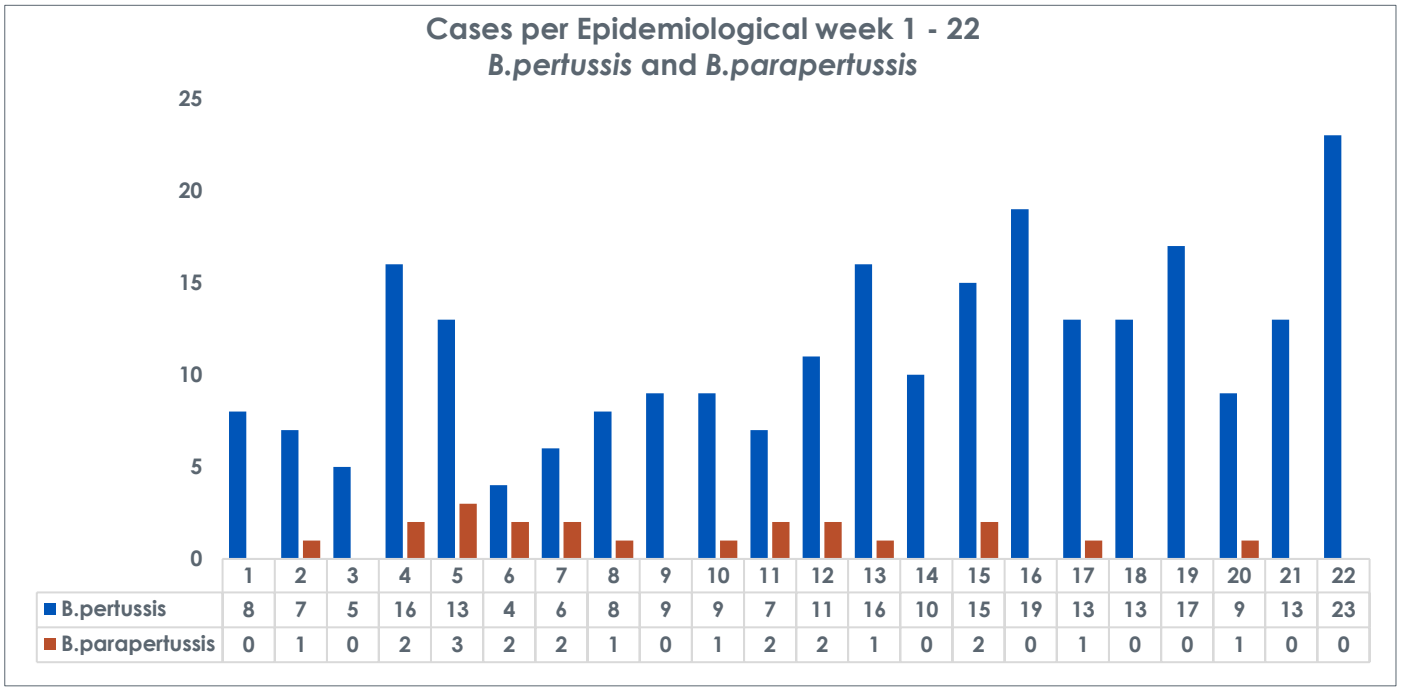
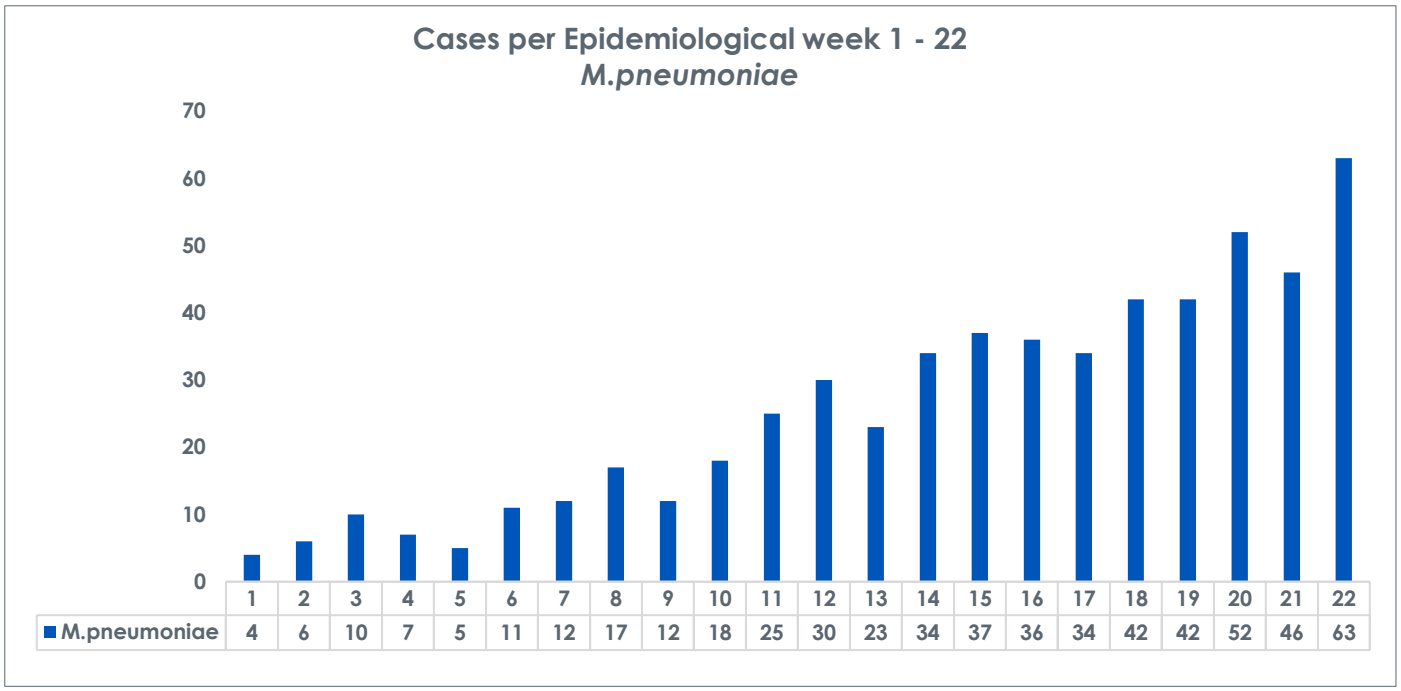


	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
B.pertussis	8	7	5	16	13	4	6	8	9	9	7	11	16	10	15	19	13	13	17	9	13	23
B.parapertussis	0	1	0	2	3	2	2	1	0	1	2	2	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
M.pneumoniae	4	6	10	7	5	11	12	17	12	18	25	30	23	34	37	36	34	42	42	52	46	63

Comments

- For epi weeks 1 - 22 far more *B. pertussis* (total: 251 cases) compared to *B. parapertussis* (total: 21 cases) positive specimens were detected.
    - Most *B. pertussis* cases were detected in the 0 - 6 month age group (26%), followed by the 6 - 12 year age group (24%) and the 1 – 5 year age group (22%).
- For epi weeks 1 – 22 a total of 566 cases of *M. pneumoniae* were detected, with the number of cases increasing week on week.
    - Most *M. pneumoniae* cases were detected in the 1 - 5 year age group (43%), followed by the 6 - 12 year age group (26%) and the 19 – 64 year age group (13%).

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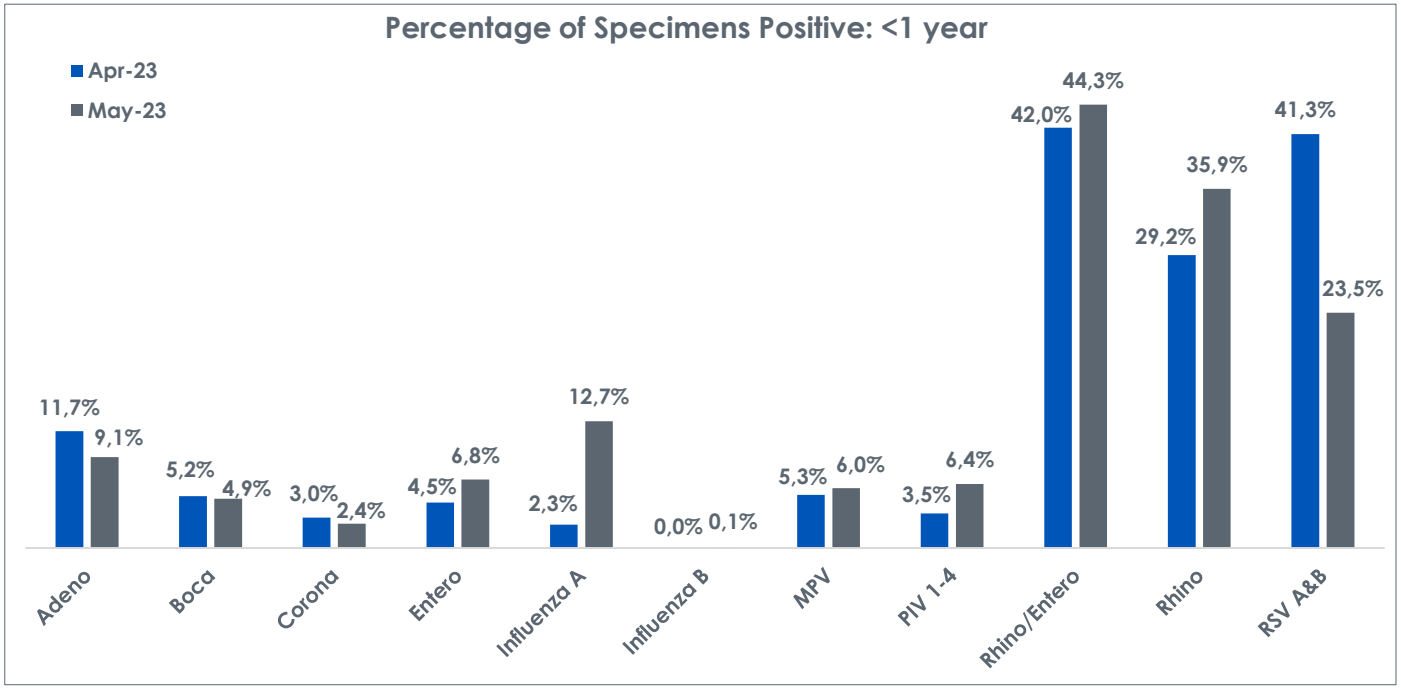
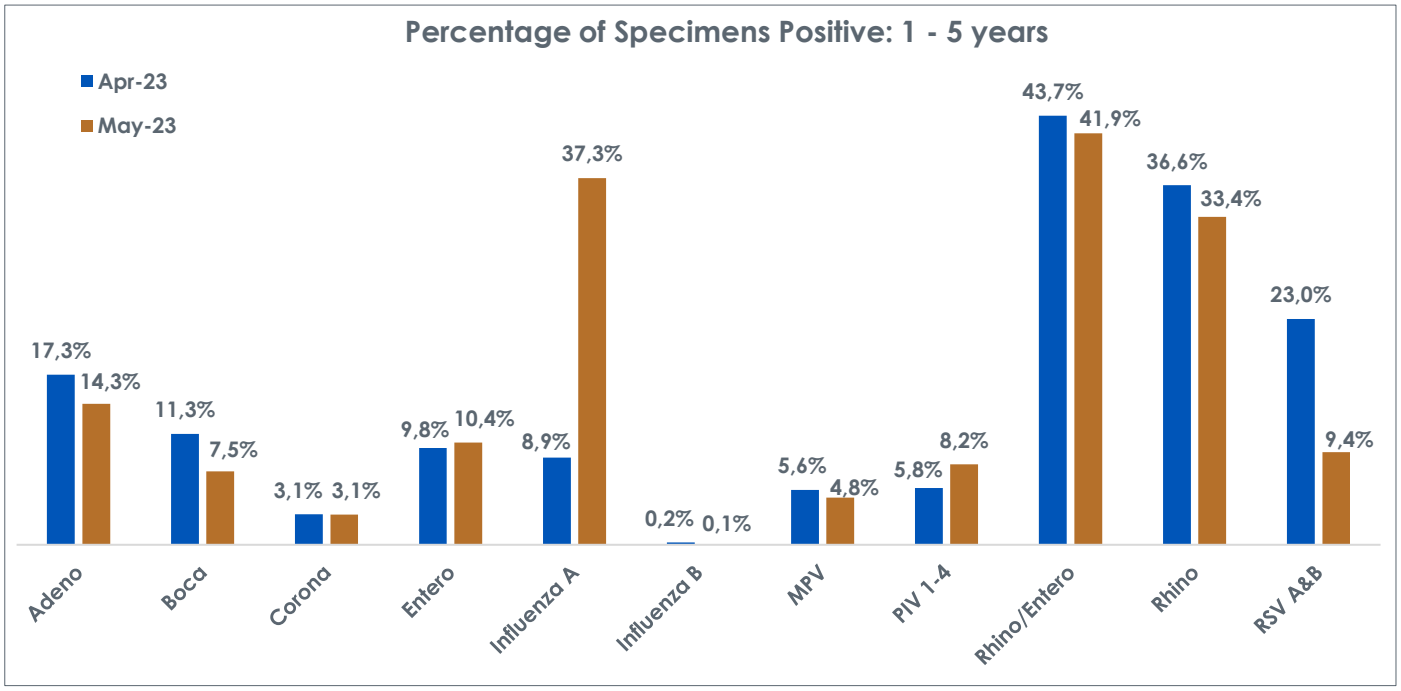
Paediatric Respiratory Viral Multiplex PCR data: 0 – 12 years





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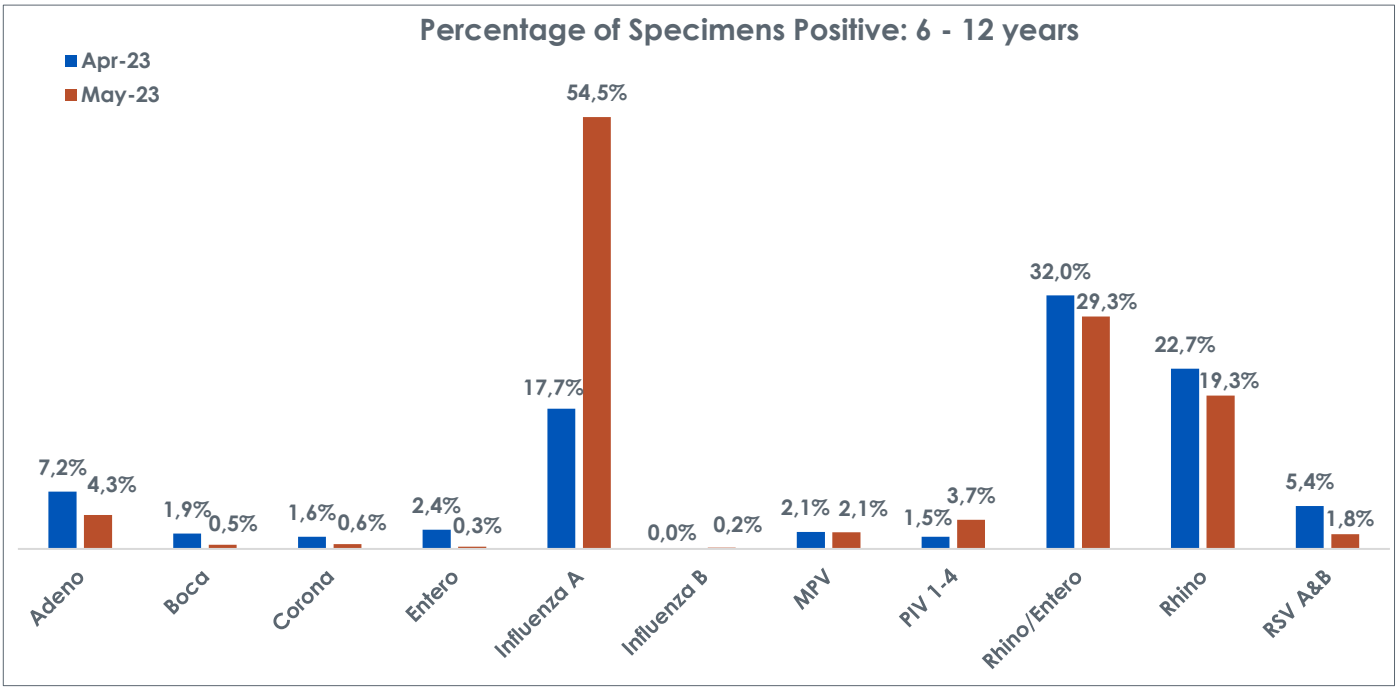

Comments

- Most frequently detected viruses during May 2023:
  - <1 year: rhino/enterovirus (44.3%), rhinovirus (35.9%) and RSV A&B (23.5%).
  - 1 - 5 years: rhino/enterovirus (41.9%), influenza A (37.7%) and rhinovirus (33.4%).
  - 6 - 12 years: influenza A (54.5%), rhino/enterovirus (29.3%) and rhinovirus (19.3%).
- The <1 year age group had a significantly higher percentage positive RSV A&B specimens (23.5%) when compared to the 1 - 5 year age group (9.4%) and the 6 - 12 year age group (1.8%).
- The 6 - 12 year age group had a significantly higher percentage positive Influenza A specimens (54.5%) when compared to the 1 - 5 year age group (37.3%) and the <1 year age group (12.7%).