

US Medical Affairs 2025 TRENDS Report: 2/16/25-3/1/25

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Gastrointestinal (GI)

What is TRENDS showing us:

- Norovirus GI/GII remains at very high activity, rising from 28.7% to 34.9% in the Northeast, trending down in the West, and remaining stable in the Midwest and South.
- Enteropathogenic/Enteroaggregative *E. coli* are at **high activity in most regions**, with Enteropathogenic *E. coli* increasing from **2.1% to 5.9%** in the **Northeast**, remaining stable in the West and South, and trending down in the **Midwest (3.9% to 1.7%)**.
- C. difficile remains high overall, with rates rising in the West (13.9% to 18.1%), remaining stable in the Midwest and South, and declining in the Northeast (15.4% to 13.3%).
- Rotavirus and Campylobacter remain at high to medium activity, with Rotavirus slightly declining in the Northeast and stable in the Midwest, while Campylobacter dropped in the Northeast (3.1% to 1.3%) but increased in the West (3% to 4%).
- Shigella/EIEC, Enterotoxigenic E. coli, and Sapovirus are at **medium activity**. Shigella/EIEC jumped from **0.7% to 2.0% in the Northeast**, while Enterotoxigenic E. coli and Sapovirus also slightly increased in this region.

What this means for U.S. providers/labs:

- · Norovirus GI/GII surge in the Northeast calls for enhanced infection control, especially in high-risk settings.
- E. coli activity emphasizes the need for strict food safety precautions and hygiene education to reduce transmission.
- High C. difficile rates reinforce the importance of antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention.
- Rotavirus and Campylobacter shifts require continued monitoring in pediatric and GI cases.
- Rising Shigella/EIEC in the Northeast signals a need for increased awareness and education on precautions to limit the spread of Shigella.

Respiratory (RP)

What is TRENDS showing us:

- Co-detections remain stable in all regions except the Northeast, which continues to exhibit a decline (20% to 13%) over the past eight weeks.
- Influenza A activity has declined over the past two weeks after sustained highs in January and early February, with H1-2009 still at one of the highest rates of detection (Midwest: 9.8%, South: 6.3%), and H3 following a similar pattern across all regions.
 - CDC data notes influenza cases and respiratory-related healthcare visits are declining (5.8% from 7.8%), while influenza-related mortality remains stable at 2.8%.
 - Read more: Weekly US Influenza Surveillance Report: Key Updates for Week 8, ending February 22, 2025
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) rates remain stable or slightly declining in the Northeast, South, and Midwest, while the West continues to have the highest RSV detections (12.7%).
- Human Rhinovirus/Enterovirus continues to climb detection rates in the **South (17.2%)** while remaining stable in the **West (12%)**, **Midwest (6%)**, and **Northeast (5%)**.
- Human Metapneumovirus (hMPV) slowly continues to increase in the **West (4.8%)** and **Midwest (2.9%)**, with lower but steady detection in the **Northeast (2.0%)**.

What this means for U.S. providers/labs:

- The 2024-2025 respiratory season remains active, with high healthcare demand despite waning Influenza A
 detections; lower co-detection rates may result in fewer multiple-pathogen cases, reinforcing the need for rapid
 identification to guide appropriate antiviral use and reduce unnecessary antibiotic prescriptions.
- As Influenza A detections decline, **providers may shift focus to other respiratory viruses** (e.g., Human Rhinovirus/Enterovirus) and the potential impact of Avian Influenza (H5N1) on future seasons.
- Human Metapneumovirus (hMPV) detections are **rising as expected** for this stage of the respiratory season and may persist. **Providers may continue to have questions** given international trends from other countries.