

RESPIRATORY VIRUS DETECTION REPORT

January 21 to January 27, 2024
(Surveillance Week 2024-04)



Please note that the Respiratory Virus Detection Surveillance System (RVDSS) is a sentinel laboratory surveillance system that does not capture all respiratory virus testing performed in Canada; differences may exist between the data presented in this report and provincial/territorial epidemiological reports. SARS-CoV-2 laboratory data is included in this report to facilitate the comparison of positivity with other respiratory viruses. Interpretation should be made with caution as testing practices differ among viruses.

For additional SARS-CoV-2 surveillance information, please refer to the [COVID-19 epidemiology update](#).

Overall Summary

In week 4 (week ending January 27, 2024) in Canada, participating RVDSS laboratories reported 3,751 detections of SARS-CoV-2 from 36,924 tests (10.2% positive). Among non-SARS-CoV-2 respiratory viruses, where test volumes are lower (range of 8,641 to 34,665 tests), activity of flu is highest but remains near expected levels for this time of year.

- National SARS-CoV-2 percent positivity has been decreasing since mid-December 2023.
- Activity of influenza A has slightly increased but remains near expected levels for this time of year (3,884 detections; 11.2% positive). Activity of influenza B remains low (360 detections; 1.0% positive).
- Activity of RSV remains below expected levels for this time of year (1,738 detections; 5.9% positive).
- Activity of all other non-SARS-CoV-2 respiratory viruses is low and near expected levels typical of this time of year.
- 34/35 sentinel laboratories reported surveillance data

Abbreviations

ADV: Adenovirus

Atl: Atlantic Canada

BC: British Columbia

Can: Canada

EORLA: Eastern Ontario Regional Laboratory Association

EV/RV: Enterovirus/Rhinovirus

Flu: Influenza

Flu A(H1N1)pdm09: Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09

Flu A(H3): Influenza A(H3N2)

Flu A (UnS): Influenza A(Unsubtyped)

HCoV: Human coronavirus 229E/OC43/NL63/HKU1

HMPV: Human metapneumovirus

HPIV: Human parainfluenza virus

HSC: Health Sciences Centre

N.C.: Data not collected

N.R.: Data not reported for current week

ON: Ontario

PR: Prairies

P.H.O.L.: Public Health Ontario Laboratory

QC: Quebec

RSV: Respiratory syncytial virus

RVDSS: Respiratory Virus Detection Surveillance System

SARS-CoV-2: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2

Terr: Territories of Canada

UHN: University Health Network

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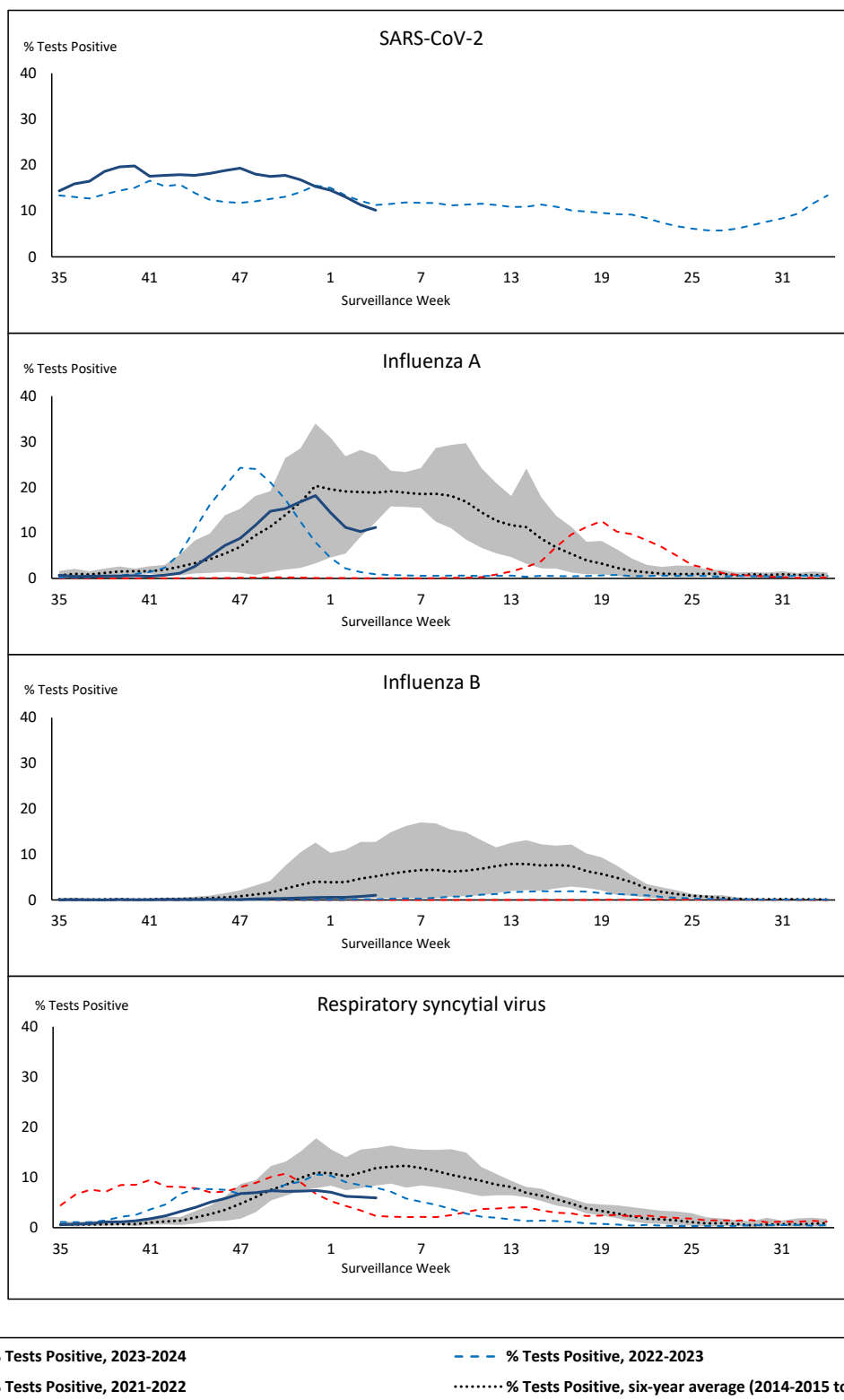


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Figure 1: Positive severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus tests (%) reported by participating laboratories in Canada by surveillance week compared to average and range from 2014-2015 to 2019-2020 season



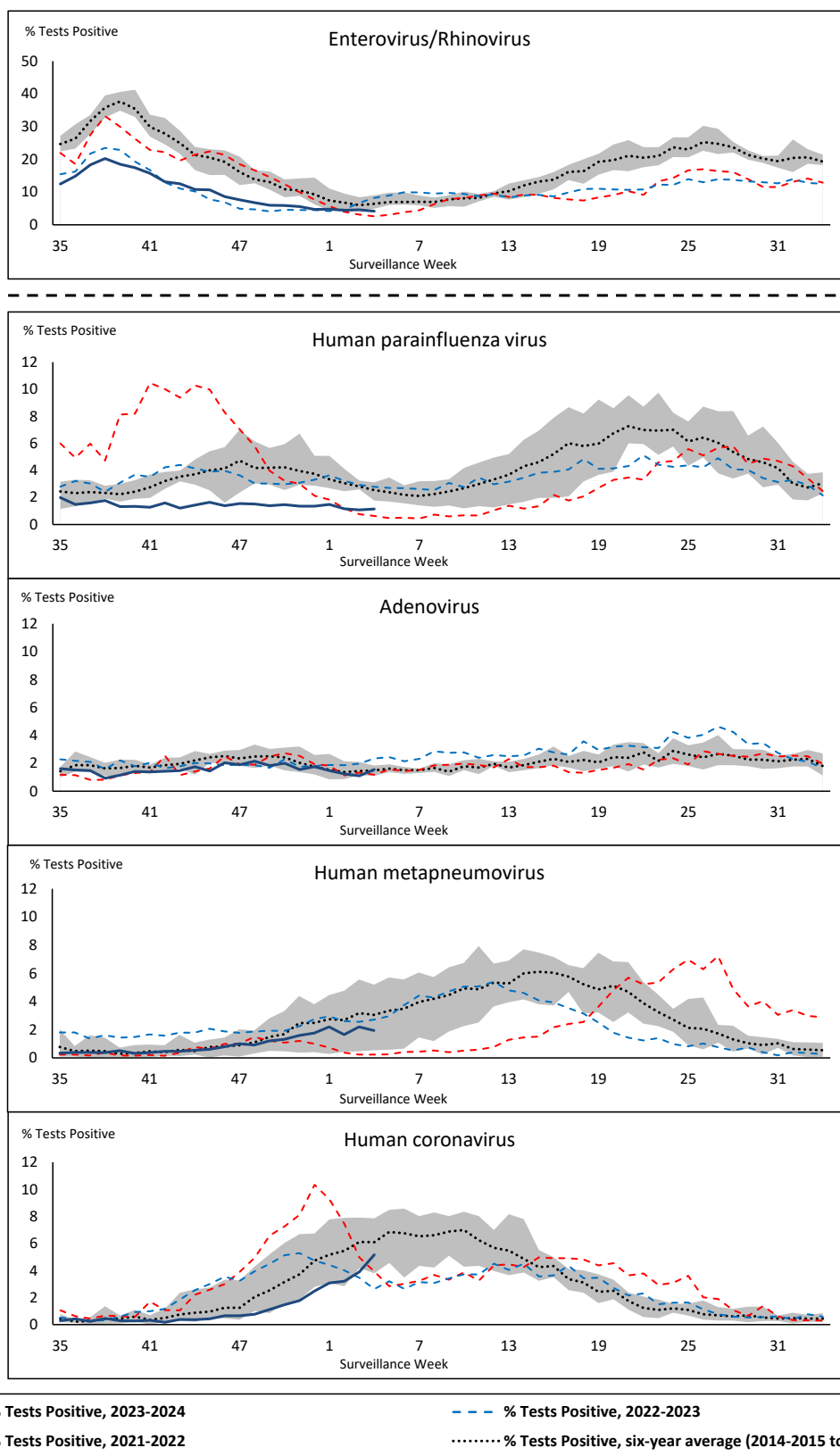
Shaded area represents the maximum and minimum % of respiratory virus tests positive reported by week from seasons 2014-2015 to 2019-2020

Note: Changes to testing practices during the COVID-19 pandemic may cause substantial changes to indicator estimates from previous years. Collection of laboratory testing practice meta-data to understand these changes is ongoing. Interpret trends with caution.

Note: SARS-CoV-2 surveillance was integrated into RVDSS at the beginning of the 2022-2023 season; no prior data is available for historical comparison.

Note: Data from week 11 of the 2019-2020 season onwards are excluded from the historical comparison due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 2: Positive tests (%) of other respiratory viruses reported by participating laboratories in Canada by surveillance week compared to average and range from 2014-2015 to 2019-2020 season



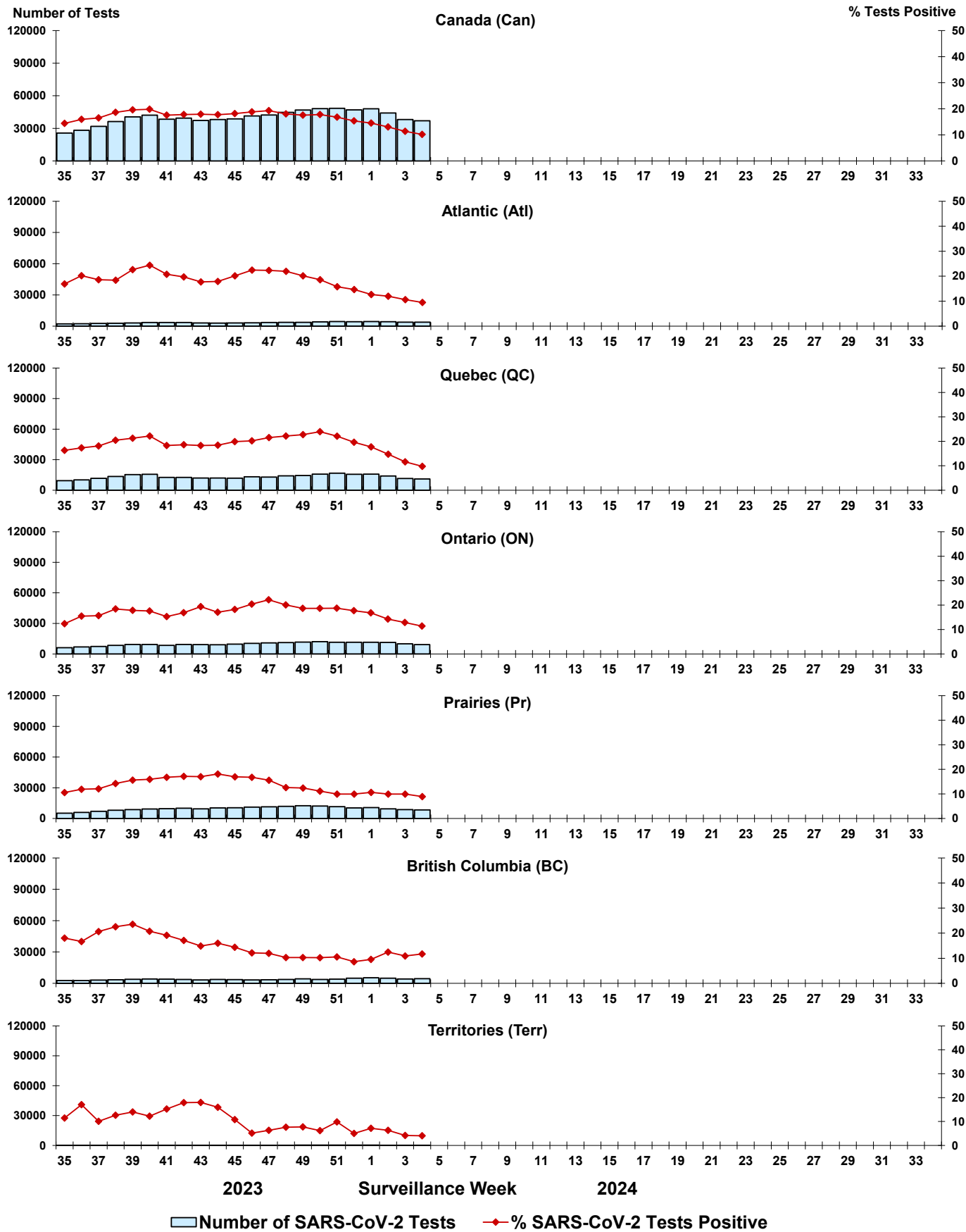
Shaded area represents the maximum and minimum % of respiratory virus tests positive reported by week from seasons 2014-2015 to 2019-2020

Note: Changes to testing practices during the COVID-19 pandemic may cause substantial changes to indicator estimates from previous years. Collection of laboratory testing practice meta-data to understand these changes is ongoing. Interpret trends with caution.

Note: Data from week 11 of the 2019-2020 season onwards are excluded from the historical comparison due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Note: % Tests Positive scale changes across the dashed line

Figure 3: Positive severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) tests (%) in Canada by region by surveillance week



Note: Differences in positivity between jurisdictions can reflect differences in testing practices. Please interpret with caution.

Figure 4: Positive Influenza (Flu) tests (%) in Canada by region by surveillance week

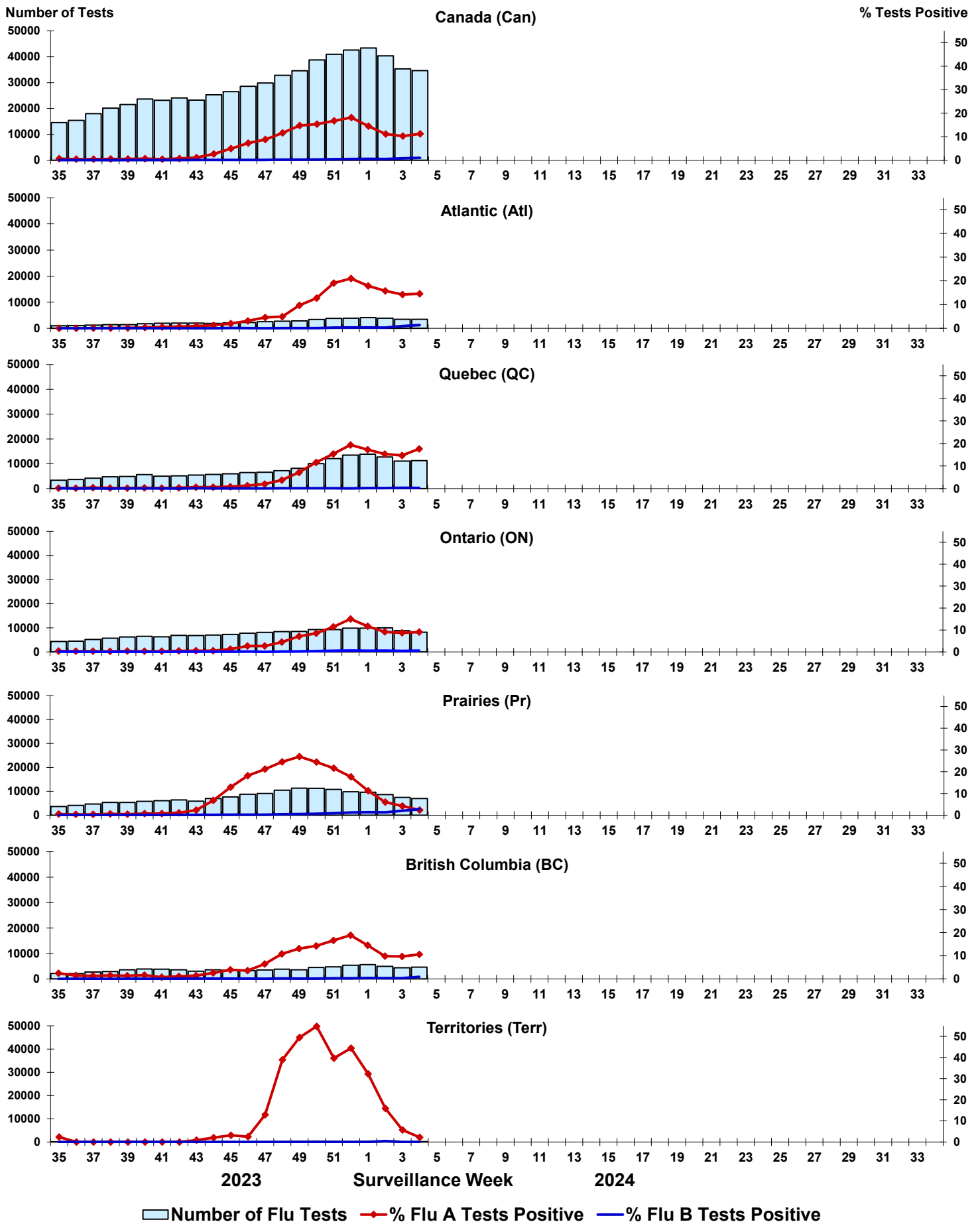


Figure 5: Positive Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) tests (%) in Canada by region by surveillance week

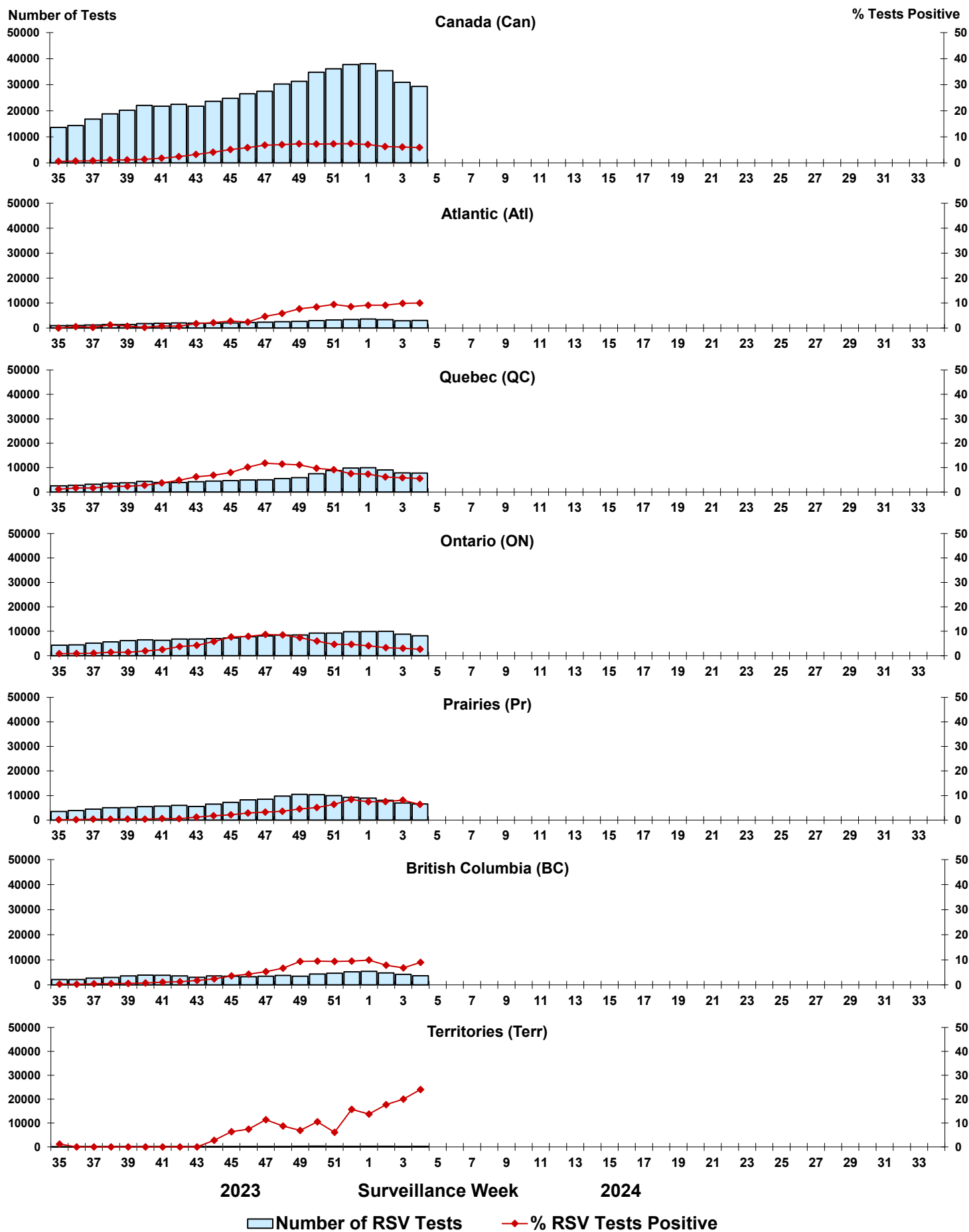


Figure 6: Positive Human parainfluenza virus (HPIV) tests (%) in Canada by region by surveillance week

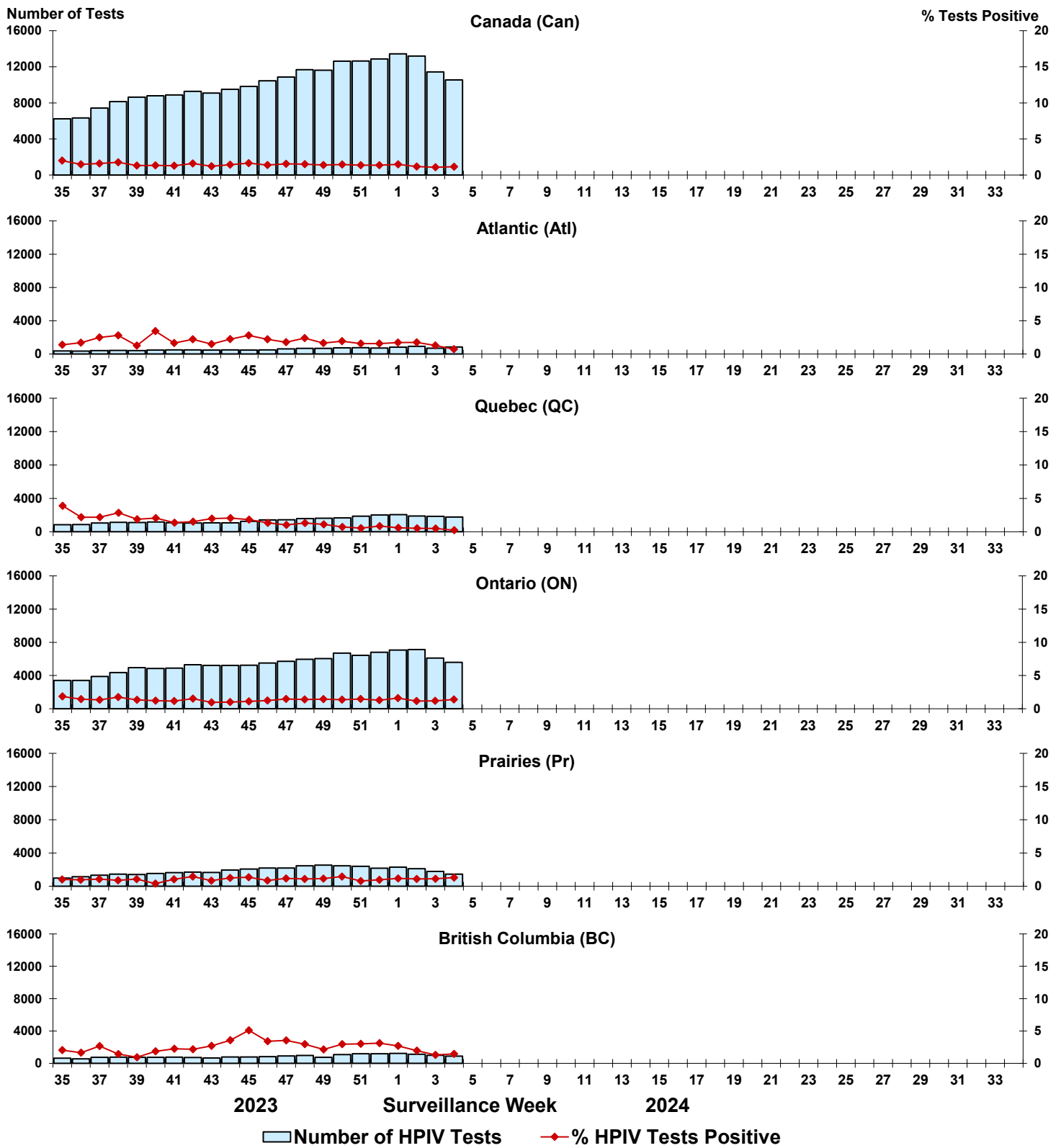


Figure 7: Positive Adenovirus (ADV) tests (%) in Canada by region by surveillance week

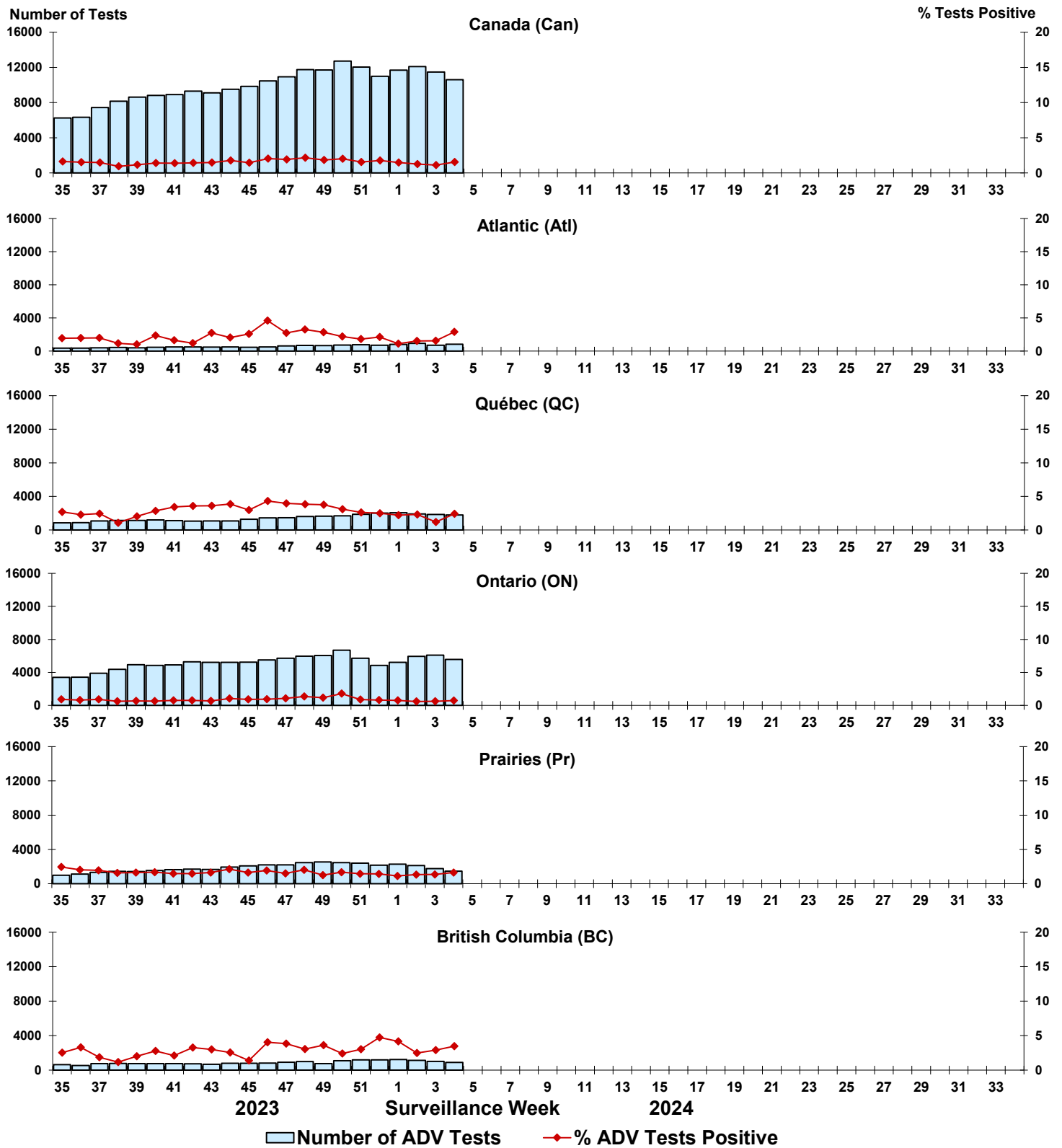


Figure 8: Positive Human metapneumovirus (HMPV) tests (%) in Canada by region by surveillance week

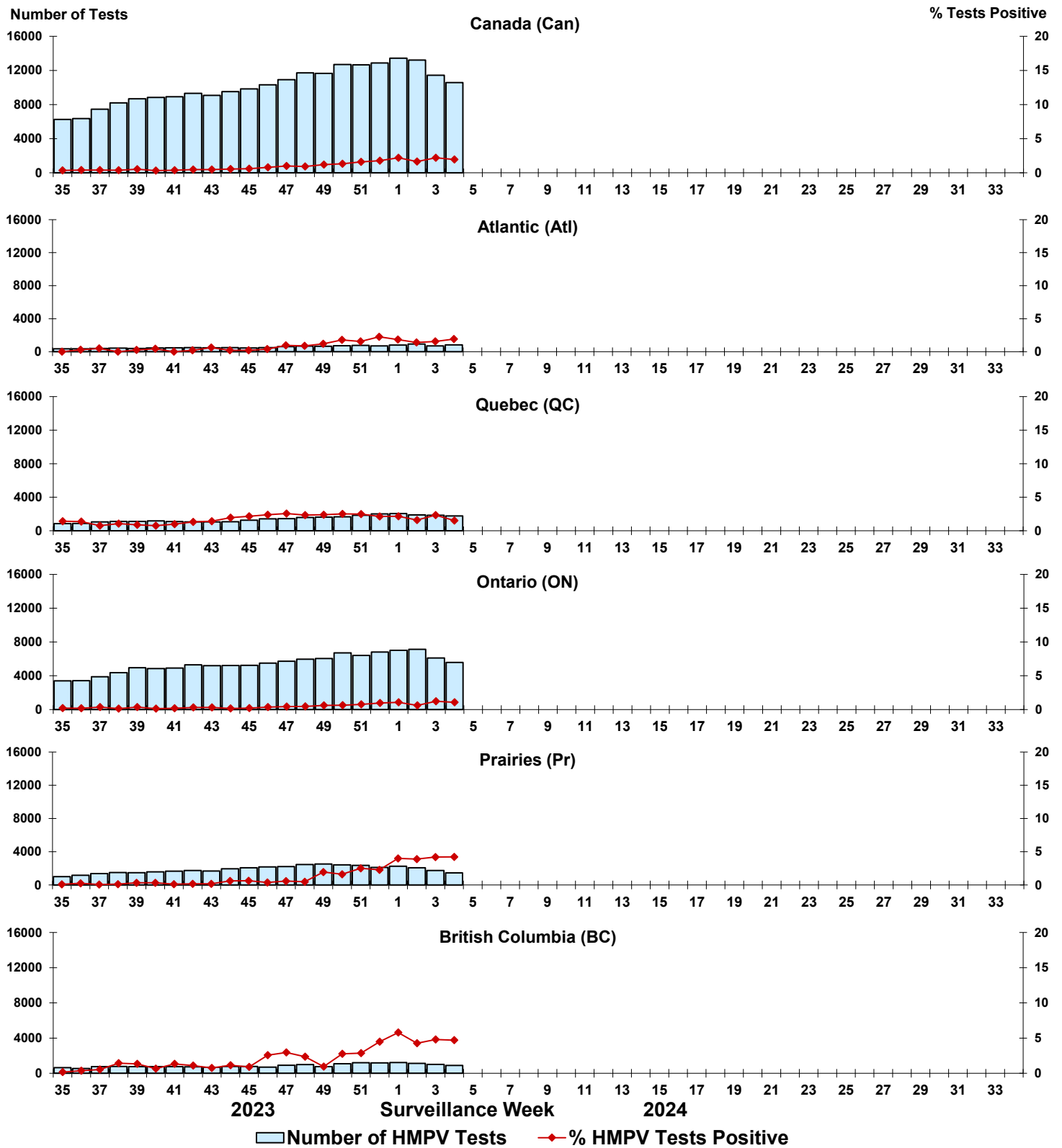


Figure 9: Positive Enterovirus/Rhinovirus (EV/RV) tests (%) in Canada by region by surveillance week

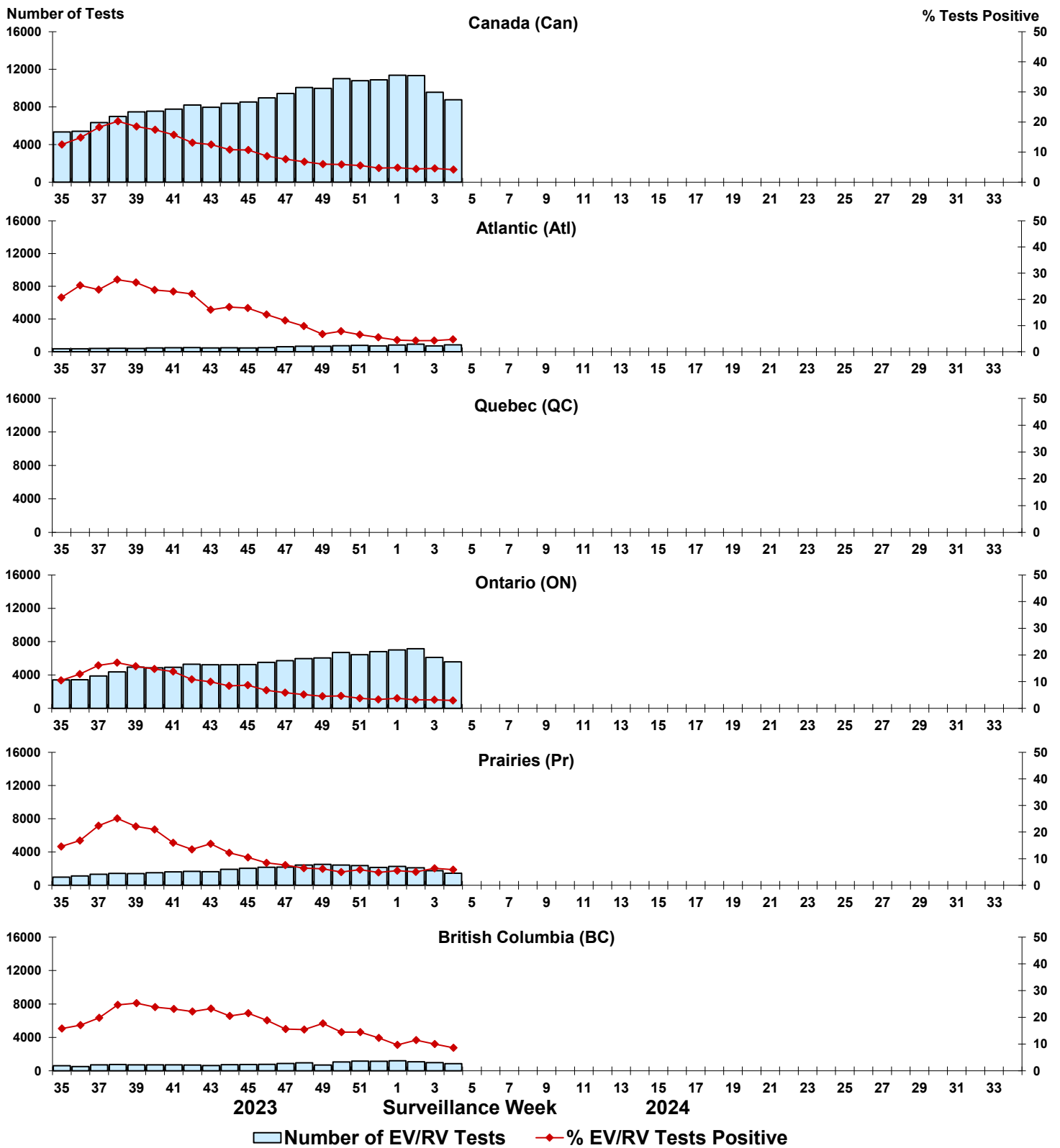


Figure 10: Positive Human coronavirus (HCoV) tests (%) in Canada by region by surveillance week

