



Wastewater Modelling Report: Forecasting the State of the Pandemic using Wastewater Data

Published on: 2023-03-24

Public Health Agency of Canada has developed a [mathematical model](#) for conducting wastewater based forecasting that describes infections of COVID-19 in the community and also considers how infected people shed the COVID-19 virus into the sewer systems and how that shed virus signal is detected and reported. The clinical case and wastewater surveillance data are used to generate forecasts and help understand what is happening in the community.

The next figures show clinical case and wastewater surveillance data for each city during the Omicron wave. In each figure, the top panel shows the traditional reported human clinical case data (solid black line) and model forecasts using only wastewater data (blue shaded area).

As of November 22, 2022, model forecasts use only wastewater data.

The model uses clinical surveillance and wastewater data with the following last observation dates for each site:

City	wastewater
Winnipeg	2023-03-13

Winnipeg

Both the clinical (black curve) and wastewater signals suggest that after the first Omicron wave in January 2022, SARS-CoV-2 has circulated at a low level in Winnipeg until October 2022, where infections began to increase until November 2022 where they began to decrease. Wastewater-based forecasts indicate infections will decline in the next few weeks.

