

Acute Respiratory Infections Weekly Summary

Public Health Unit

Data as of: 13 November 2022

Key messages for local services

New cases: In the past 7 days **3,120** new COVID-19 cases were notified in SESLHD residents, which is a **55% increase** compared to the previous report. COVID-19 notifications continue mainly in adults. The number of influenza cases remains low with only 17 cases.

Deaths: There were 3 COVID-19 related deaths reported among SESLHD residents (median age 81 years). Two were vaccinated and one was unvaccinated. The total number of COVID-19 related deaths in SESLHD is 667.

Aged & Disabled Care Facilities: Twenty nine aged care facilities are under surveillance following recent COVID-19 exposure, with 16 experiencing an outbreak. There are currently 3 aged care facilities under surveillance for other respiratory viruses: 2 with an RSV outbreak and 1 with a rhinovirus exposure. There are no disability services with recent exposure to COVID-19.

Boarding Houses & Temporary Accommodation: There are no temporary accommodation facilities with recent exposures.

Testing: COVID-19 PCR testing rates increased across most LGAs in SESLHD this week, except for Woollahra which saw a decrease and Sydney where it remains steady. Testing rates increased mostly in 50-59, 70-79 and 80+ age groups with testing steady or decreasing in other age groups. Positivity rate increased from 15.9% last week to a peak of 18.8% on 8 November; all LGAs had notable increases in positivity. PCR tests represented 66% of all notifications.

The most recent NSW data indicates that newer Omicron subvariants continue to emerge and increase, with BA.2 derived subvariants making up 49% of cases.

Data summary

1. Case numbers

Table 1: SESLHD COVID PCR and RAT positive cases by LGA of residence and notification week

| LGA | 7 days | 14 days | 28 days | Total | 7 day crude rate per 100,000* | Total crude rate per 100,000* |
|------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bayside | 511 | 879 | 1,297 | 70,674 | 257 | 35,525 |
| Georges River | 555 | 924 | 1,329 | 65,106 | 344 | 40,308 |
| Randwick | 545 | 886 | 1,232 | 68,192 | 354 | 44,288 |
| Sutherland Shire | 886 | 1,493 | 2,095 | 105,535 | 370 | 44,116 |
| Sydney | 264 | 386 | 585 | 32,880 | 334 | 41,640 |
| Waverley | 210 | 342 | 464 | 31,722 | 287 | 43,275 |
| Woollahra | 149 | 251 | 361 | 22,600 | 260 | 39,399 |
| SESLHD | 3,120 | 5,161 | 7,363 | 396,709 | 322 | 40,882 |

Table 2: SESLHD influenza positive cases by LGA of residence and notification week

| LGA | 7 days | 14 days | 28 days | Total for 2022 | 7 day crude rate per 100,000* | 2022 total crude rate per 100,000 |
|------------------|--------|---------|---------|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Bayside | • | 2 | 10 | 2,090 | | 1,051 |
| Georges River | 1 | 3 | 9 | 1,372 | 0.6 | 849 |
| Randwick | 4 | 8 | 9 | 1,717 | 2.6 | 1,115 |
| Sutherland Shire | 5 | 10 | 25 | 4,202 | 2.1 | 1,757 |
| Sydney | 1 | 3 | 9 | 644 | 1.3 | 816 |
| Waverley | 3 | 7 | 9 | 1,044 | 4.1 | 1,424 |
| Woollahra | 3 | 3 | 6 | 914 | 5.2 | 1,593 |
| SESLHD | 17 | 36 | 77 | 11,983 | 1.8 | 1,235 |

^{*}based on DPIE LGA projections data 2021.

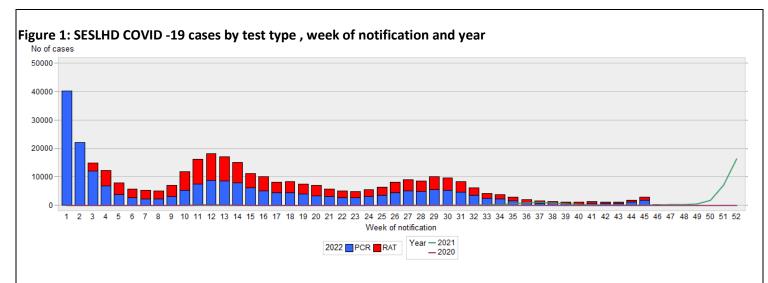
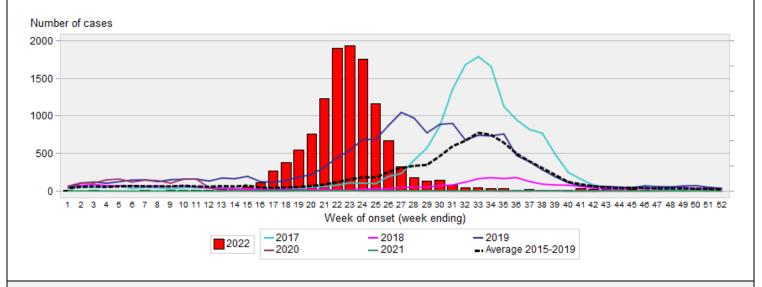


Figure 2: SESLHD influenza cases by week of notification and year



2. Demographic Data

Figure 3: Percentage of COVID cases in the last 7 days by age group and gender

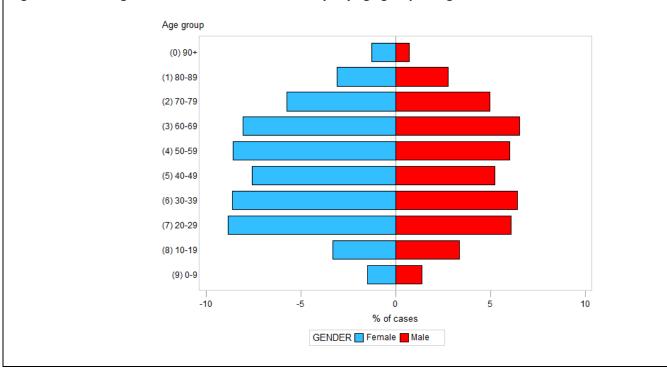




Figure 4: COVID-19 PCR weekly testing rate per 100,000 population and LGA of residence since July 2022

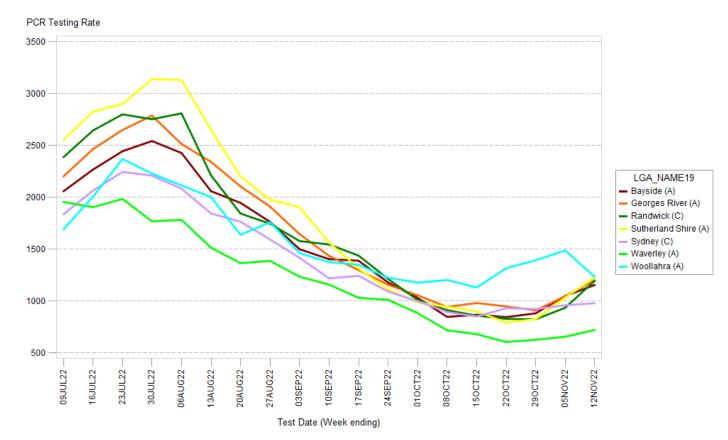


Figure 5: COVID-19 weekly testing rates per 100,000 population by age group since July 2022

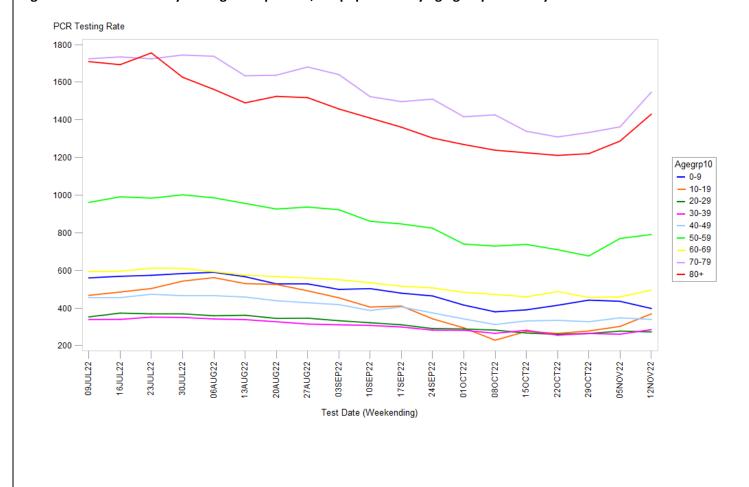
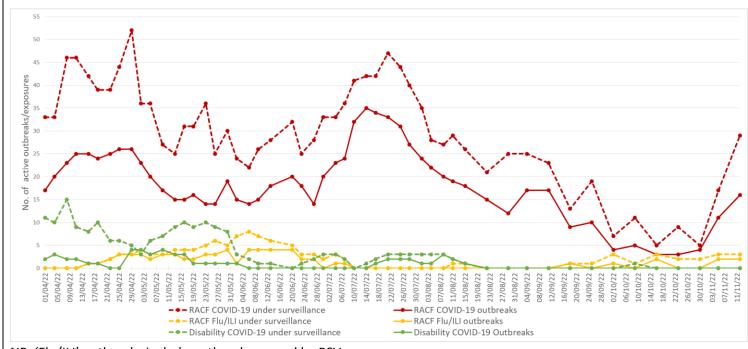


Table 3: COVID-19 weekly PCR positivity rate by LGA of residence

| LGA | Week ending November 5 positivity rate (%) | Week ending November 12 positivity rate (%) |
|------------------|--|---|
| Bayside | 13.1 | 17.3 |
| Georges River | 15.9 | 21.0 |
| Randwick | 13.2 | 16.5 |
| Sutherland Shire | 14.8 | 18.4 |
| Sydney | 8.6 | 16.7 |
| Waverley | 11.8 | 16.0 |
| Woollahra | 4.2 | 10.1 |

4. Residential facility outbreaks reported to the Public Health Unit

Figure 5: SESLHD aged care facility and disability exposures and outbreaks managed by the PHU, April to 13 November 2022



NB. 'Flu/ILI' outbreaks include outbreaks caused by RSV.

5. Emergency department presentations

Table 4: Emergency presentations within SESLHD

| Diagnosis / Category | Trend since last week | Compared to average for time of year (2017-2021) | Comment |
|--|-----------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Respiratory, fever and unspecified infection presentations | Similar | Similar | |
| Influenza like illness (ILI) presentations | Higher | Above | 1.7x higher than usual* |
| Coronaviruses/SARS | Similar | N/A | |
| Bronchiolitis presentations | Similar | Similar | |

Data is from NSW Public Health Rapid Emergency Department Surveillance System. Increase or decrease indicates change >20% compared to previous week *very small numbers

Figure 6: Presentations to ED due to influenza like illness

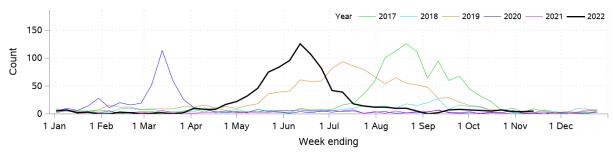


Figure 7: Presentations to ED due SARS coronavirus

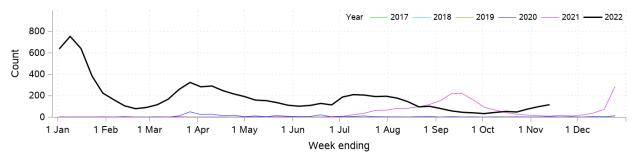


Figure 8: SARS coronavirus hospital admissions

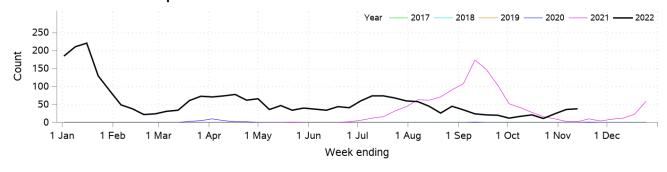


Figure 9: Pneumonia and ILI admissions

