

COVID-19 WEEKLY SURVEILLANCE IN NSW

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 32, ENDING 14 August 2021

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Overview

Table 1. Number and proportion of COVID-19 cases in NSW by likely source of infection to week ending 14 August 2021

	2020		2021			
	Jan – Jun	July – Dec	Jan – Jun	last 4 weeks	last 7 days	year to date
Locally acquired	1,236 (39 %)	808 (52 %)	255 (27 %)	6,480 (99 %)	2,521 (>99 %)	7,781 (91 %)
Interstate acquired	67 (2 %)	23 (1 %)	1 (<1 %)	0	0	1 (0 %)
Overseas acquired	1,892 (59 %)	714 (46 %)	673 (72 %)	53 (1 %)	10 (<1%)	777 (9 %)
Total	3,195 (100 %)	1,545 (100 %)	929 (100 %)	6,533 (100 %)	2,531 (100 %)	8,559 (100 %)
Deaths	51	5	0	46	21	50

Summary for the week ending 14 August 2021

- There were 2,521 locally acquired cases reported in the week ending 14 August 2021. Of these:
 - 486 (19%) cases were residents of Canterbury-Bankstown LGA
 - 373 (15%) cases were residents of Cumberland LGA
 - 366 (15%) cases were residents of Blacktown LGA
 - 912 (36%) cases were from other 9 LGAs of concern
 - 384 (15%) cases were residents across 35 other LGAs
- There were 10 cases reported in overseas returned travellers in the last week (up 25%).
- There were 21 deaths as a result of COVID-19 reported this week including a male in his 30s (un-vaccinated), two females in their 40s (both un-vaccinated), a female in her 50s (un-vaccinated), two males (one fully vaccinated, one un-vaccinated) and three females (one fully vaccinated, two partially vaccinated) in their 70s, two females (one fully vaccinated, one un-vaccinated) and five males (all un-vaccinated) in their 80s, and two females (both un-vaccinated) and three males (one partially vaccinated, two fully vaccinated) in their 90s.
- In the four weeks ending 14 August 2021, 100% (2,481 out of 2,481) of the locally acquired cases sequenced were the delta variant of concern. For overseas-acquired cases, 95% (21/22) of sequenced cases were COVID-19 variants of concern.
- Since March 2021, 194 (2.5%) locally acquired cases have reported being fully vaccinated. 24 (4.2%) of overseas acquired COVID-19 cases self-reported being fully vaccinated prior to arrival in Australia.
- Testing rates increased compared to the previous week (up 24%) with continued high testing rates in the South Western Sydney, Nepean Blue Mountains, South Western Sydney, and Sydney LHDs, as well as a marked increase in Hunter New England, Northern NSW, Southern NSW, and Western NSW LHDs in response to targeted public health messaging.
- In recent weeks there have been declines in lab diagnoses of several common respiratory viruses as well as emergency presentations for pneumonia and bronchiolitis.
- In the week ending 14 August, 197 sewage samples were tested for fragments of SARS-CoV-2- and there were 75 detections of fragments of SARS-CoV-2. The sewage treatment plants at Uralla, Guyra, Walgett, Oberon, Nimbin and Casino were added as new sites. Detections from Broken Hill, Bathurst, Castle Hill-Cattai, Dubbo, Mannering Park, Lennox Head, Bourke, Ballina, Wallacia, Parkes, West Hornsby, Brooklyn, Hornsby Heights and Tamworth occurred with no known or recent cases in the catchment. Subsequently cases were identified in the Broken Hill, Bathurst, Castle Hill-Cattai, Dubbo, Bourke, Wallacia, Parkes, West Hornsby and Hornsby Heights catchment areas.

Indicators of effective prevention for COVID-19 in NSW for the week ending 14 August 2021

Cases' community risk

A case is assigned a community exposure risk level based on an initial assessment of their opportunity to transmit the infection in the community during their infectious period. Their infectious period is two days before symptom onset (or specimen collection date if asymptomatic) until the date NSW Health is notified of the infection.

- **Low risk** indicates that the case was in isolation during their infectious period or had stayed at home (with or without household members) with no community exposures.
- **Medium risk** indicates that the case was isolating for part of their infectious period, or only had low risk community exposures and no venue exposures for their entire infectious period.
- **High risk** indicates that the case was active in the community with venue exposures during their infectious period

Locally acquired cases by risk of community exposure during their infectious period

Community exposure risk	14-Aug	13-Aug	12-Aug	11-Aug	10-Aug	09-Aug	08-Aug	Total Week Ending 14 Aug
Low risk	162	236	194	179	173	181	138	1263 (50.1%)
Medium risk	49	72	62	63	48	71	49	414 (16.4%)
High risk	83	124	109	118	104	107	65	710 (28.2%)
Risk not determined	38	28	37	9	10	7	5	134 (5.3%)
Total	332	460	402	369	335	366	257	2521 (100.0%)

Interpretation: In the week ending 14 August, 50% of total cases had low risk community exposures, 16% had medium risk, and 28% had high risk community exposures. Five percent (134/2521) of cases have a risk status that has not yet been identified.

Measures of Public Health Action

	Week ending 14 Aug	Week ending 07 Aug
Proportion locally acquired cases notified to NSW Health by the laboratory within 1 day of specimen collection	72%	73%
Locally acquired cases interviewed by public health staff within 1 day of notification to NSW Health	80%	91%
Close contacts (identified by the case) contacted by public health staff within 2 days of case notification	100%	100%

Interpretation: In the week ending 14 August, 72% of cases were notified to NSW Health within a day of test and 80% of cases were interviewed within one day of notification. All close contacts were contacted by public health staff within two days of case notification. NSW Health has been working closely with laboratory providers to minimise the turn-around times for test results.

Where there are many cases, NSW Health may conduct a shorter preliminary interview with some patients upon confirmation of a positive COVID-19 result. In this preliminary interview the patient's result is confirmed, their welfare and medical needs are assessed, their need to isolate is reinforced, and their close contacts are identified to arrange urgent testing.

For those cases who have a short preliminary interview, further details are collected in a follow up interview. Only once the follow up interview is completed will cases be considered interviewed for the measures described in the table above.

In addition, short delays in conducting interviews may be as a result of cases being moved to a different location for the purpose of isolation or deteriorating health, incorrect contact details, or not being able to be reached by phone, in which case escalation processes are put in place.

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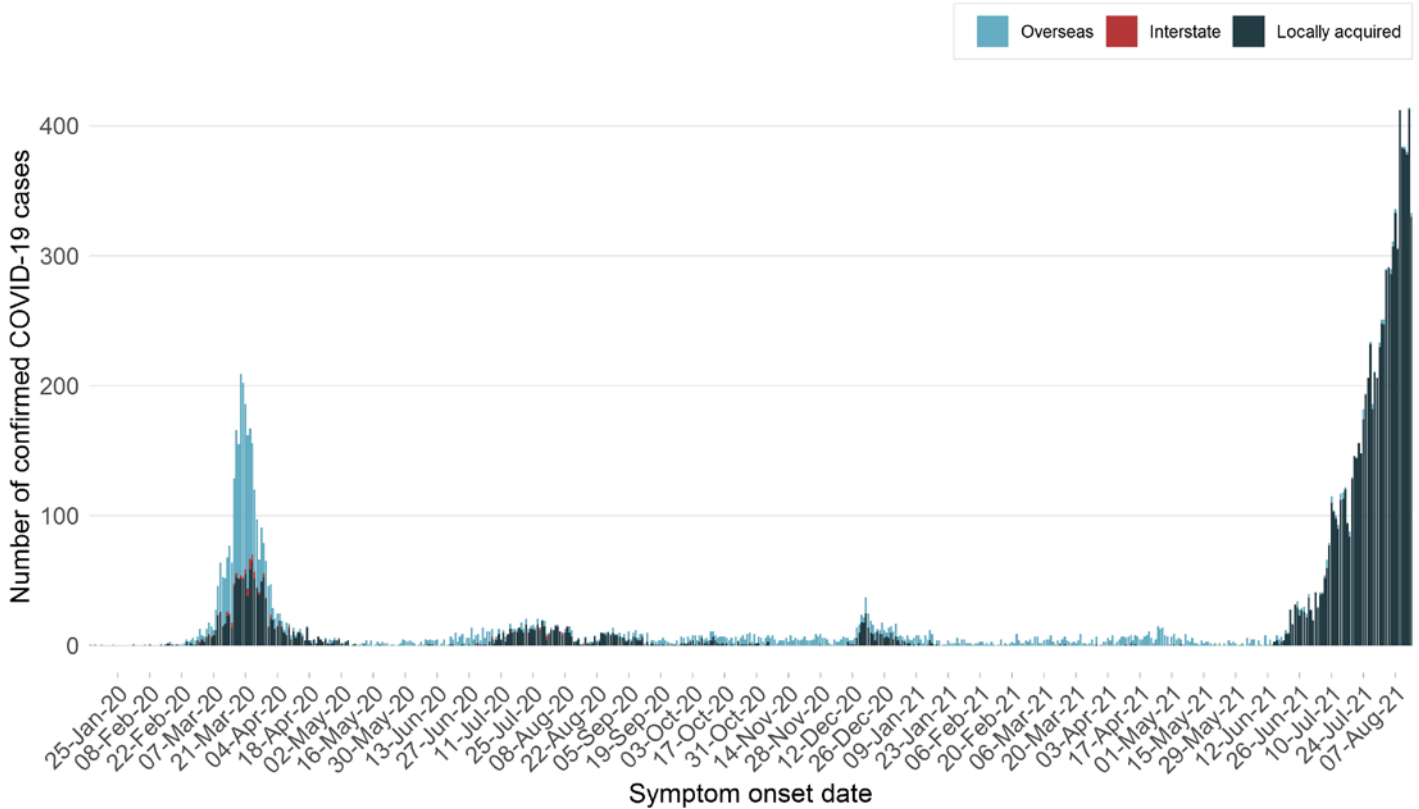
COVID-19 Vaccination program

- Australian Government Department of Health reports the number of vaccine doses administered across Australia — [Daily COVID-19 vaccine rollout numbers](#)
- Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) report data on received reports of suspected side effects (also known as adverse events) and other safety information from Australia and overseas — [Weekly COVID-19 vaccine safety report](#)
- AusVaxSafety is conducting active vaccine safety surveillance of the vaccines in use. Surveillance data have been provided by Vaxtracker, SmartVax and the Victorian Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccine Management System based on surveys sent on Day 3 after the vaccination — [Weekly COVID-19 vaccine safety surveillance report](#)

Section 1: How is the outbreak tracking in NSW?

To understand how the outbreak is tracking we look at how many new cases are reported each day and the number of people being tested. Each bar in the graph below represents the number of new cases based on the date of symptom onset.

Figure 1. COVID-19 cases by likely infection source and illness onset, NSW, from 25 January 2020 to 14 August 2021



The date of the first positive test is used for cases who did not report symptoms.

Interpretation: Between 13 January 2020 and 14 August 2021, there were 13,299 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Of those, 3,383 (25%) were overseas acquired, 91 (1%) were interstate acquired, and 9,825 (74%) were locally acquired.

COVID-19 cases reported in 2020

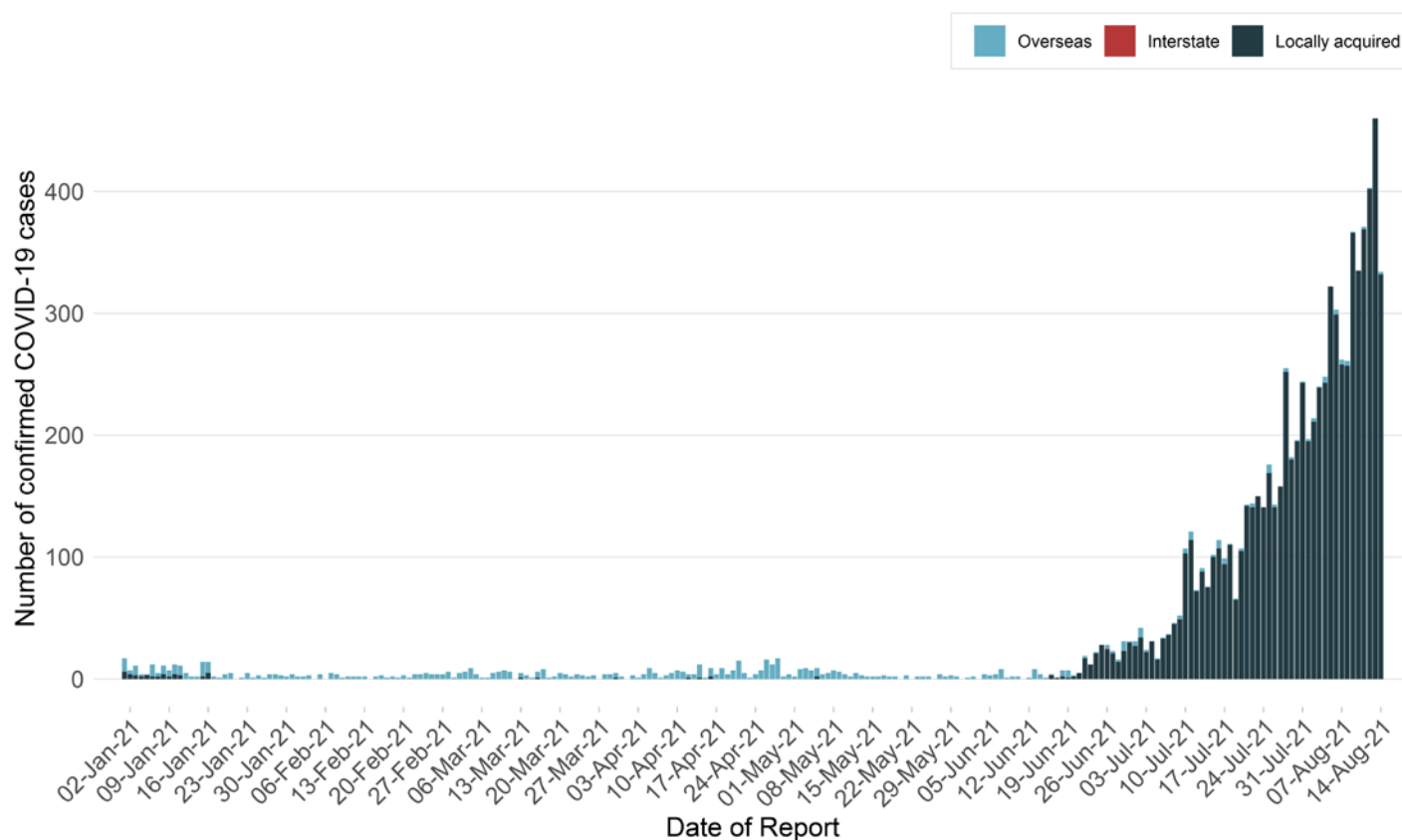
The epidemiology of COVID-19 in NSW continued to evolve since the first three cases were reported in NSW on 25 January 2020 in people who acquired their infection in China. The first locally acquired COVID-19 case in NSW was reported on 2 March 2020 and by mid-March case numbers had increased rapidly in overseas returned travellers and their contacts and within localised community outbreaks. In NSW, the number of reported daily cases peaked on 27 March 2020 at 213 cases. Public health action and the introduction of a range of stringent control measures, including the closure of international borders, 14-day mandatory quarantine for returned travellers and restrictions of movement within NSW lead to a decline in cases. Community transmission was interrupted by the end of May 2020.

In early July seeding of SARS-CoV-2 into South Western Sydney from an outbreak in Melbourne led to a second wave of infection. Following intensive public health action community transmission was again interrupted by the end of November 2020.

In December 2020 two new introductions of SARS-CoV-2 caused outbreaks in Sydney's Northern Beaches and Berala in Sydney's West. Community transmission was again interrupted by the end of January 2021.

COVID-19 cases reported in 2021

Figure 2. COVID-19 cases by likely infection source and reporting date, NSW, from 1 January 2021 to 14 August 2021



Information from cases who were diagnosed in the last four weeks is used to understand where COVID-19 is spreading in the community. This considers the incubation period and the time it takes for people to seek testing and for the laboratory to perform the test. This section summarises cases based on the date the case was reported to NSW Health.

Table 2. COVID-19 cases and tests reported, NSW, from 1 January 2021 to 14 August 2021

	Week ending 14 Aug	Week ending 07 Aug	% change	Total 2021
Number of cases	2,531	1,786	42 %	8,559
Locally acquired	2,521	1,767	43 %	7,781
Known epidemiological links to other cases or clusters	1,298	1,037	25 %	4,921
No epidemiological links to other cases or clusters	1,223	730	68 %	2,860
Overseas acquired	10	19	-47 %	777
Interstate acquired	0	0	-	1
Number of tests	974,478	782,901	24 %	6,949,198

Note: The case numbers reported for previous weeks is based on the most up to date information from public health investigations.

Interpretation: Almost all cases reported in the last four weeks in NSW were locally acquired (6,480 cases, or 99.2%). Of the 2,521 locally acquired cases associated with the outbreak reported in the week ending 14 August 2021

- 486 (19%) cases were residents of Canterbury-Bankstown LGA
- 373 (15%) cases were residents of Cumberland LGA
- 366 (15%) cases were residents of Blacktown LGA
- 912 (36%) cases were from other 9 LGAs of concern
- 384 (15%) cases were residents across 35 other LGAs

In the week ending 14 August, the majority of cases with no epidemiological links were residents of metropolitan LHDs (1,152/1,223 94%). There were 10 cases that acquired their infection overseas.

Section 2: Locally acquired COVID-19 transmission in NSW in the last four weeks

Table 3. Locally acquired COVID-19 cases by LHD of residence and week reported, NSW, 18 July to 14 August 2021

Local Health District	Week ending				Total	Days since last case reported
	14-Aug	7-Aug	31-Jul	24-Jul		
Western Sydney	861	522	349	221	1,953	0
South Western Sydney	716	659	586	409	2,370	0
Sydney	281	306	268	112	967	0
Nepean Blue Mountains	257	117	14	4	392	0
South Eastern Sydney	180	94	78	82	434	0
Hunter New England	89	22	0	0	111	0
Western NSW	61	0	1	1	63	0
Northern Sydney	59	32	32	15	138	0
Central Coast	12	12	2	4	30	0
Illawarra Shoalhaven	5	3	7	6	21	0
Southern NSW	0	0	1	0	1	19
Northern NSW	0	0	0	0	0	137
Murrumbidgee	0	0	0	0	0	341
Mid North Coast	0	0	0	0	0	480
Far West	0	0	0	0	0	499
NSW*	2,521	1,767	1,338	854	6,480	0

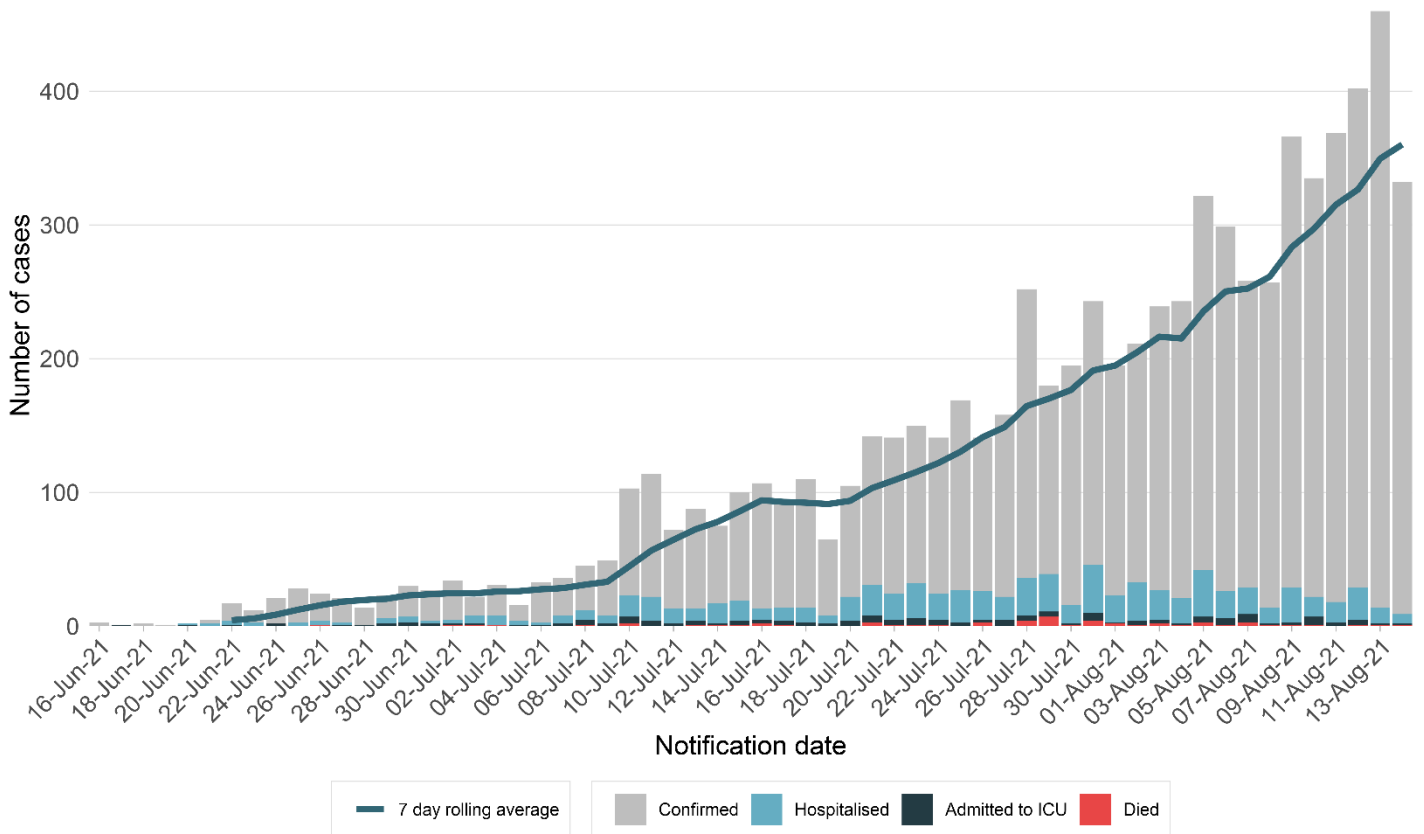
*Includes people with a usual place of residence outside of NSW

Interpretation: There were 2,521 locally acquired cases reported in the week ending 14 August 2021. Most cases were residents of Western Sydney LHD (861, 34%) followed by South Western Sydney LHD (716, 28%), and Sydney LHD (281, 11%).

Section 3: Epidemiology of local cases with COVID-19 from 16 June 2021 to 14 August 2021

Since 16 June 2021, NSW has experienced a cluster of COVID-19 infections caused only by the delta variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This section describes some of the epidemiological features of this cluster.

Figure 3. COVID-19 cases by outcome and notification date with 7 day backward rolling average, NSW, from 16 June 2021 to 14 August 2021

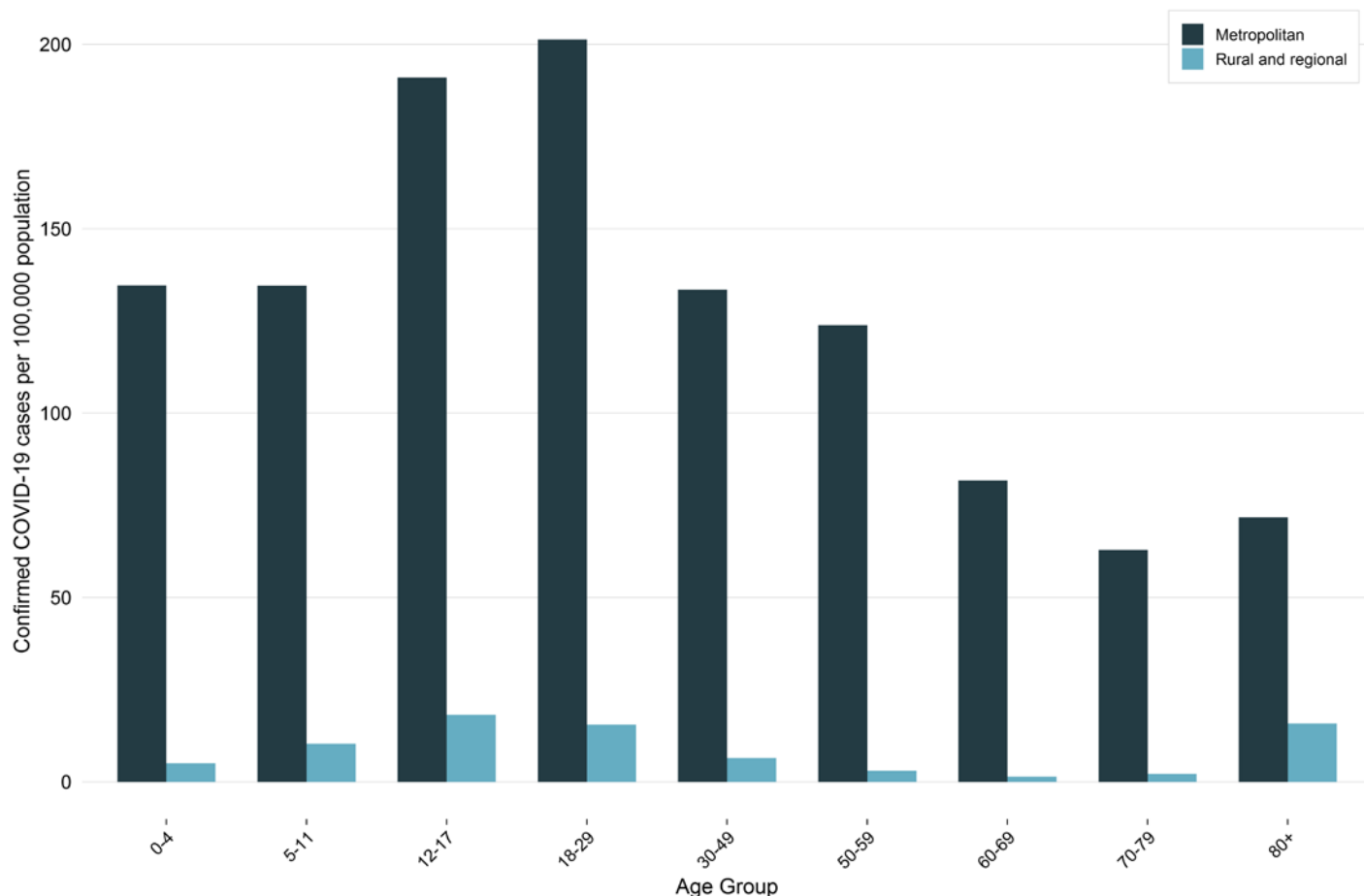


Interpretation: Between 16 June and 14 August 917 local cases have been hospitalised due to COVID-19, of these 154 were admitted to an ICU and 57 have died. Cases are graphed by the notification date, but are grouped by colour on whether they died or required hospitalisation at any time up until 14 August. Because there can be a delay between a person becoming ill with COVID-19 and subsequently requiring a hospitalisation, and because cases in the current outbreak have a median of 11 days between onset and death, hospitalisations and deaths are under-reported for the most recently notified cases.

Age breakdown of locally acquired cases

Since 16 June 2021, 7,730 locally acquired cases have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in NSW with 7,618 cases residing in eight metropolitan LHD areas*. The rate of COVID-19 diagnosed in each age group allows the risk of infection by age to be compared between areas. The largest number of cases were reported in South Western Sydney LHD (40%, 3,068/7,730). Overall rates of infection in metropolitan LHDs are 137.2 per 100,000 people compared with 7.8 per 100,000 people in rural and regional LHDs.

Figure 4. Rates of COVID-19 infection by age group, Metropolitan and rural and regional LHDs, NSW, 16 June to 14 August 2021



Interpretation: From 16 June to 14 August, the age group with the highest rates of COVID-19 in metropolitan LHDs was 18-29 years, while for rural and regional LHDs the age group with the highest rate was 12-17 years.

*Metropolitan LHDs include: Central Coast LHD, Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD, Nepean Blue Mountains LHD, Northern Sydney LHD, South Eastern Sydney LHD, South Western Sydney LHD, Sydney LHD and Western Sydney LHD.

Source of infection for locally acquired cases in NSW

In the week ending 14 August, 39% of cases diagnosed with COVID-19 acquired their infection in a household setting (974/2,521) compared with 43% the previous week. Of the 2371 cases reported this week in metropolitan LHDs, 937 (40%) were household contacts, 282 (12%) were epidemiologically linked but not household contacts and 1152 (49%) were not currently linked to a case or cluster.

There were 150 cases reported this week in rural and regional LHDs. Of these 37 (25%) are household contacts, 42 (28%) are epidemiologically linked but not household contacts and 71 (47%) have not currently been linked to a case or cluster.

Figure 5a. Source of infection for locally acquired cases, Metropolitan LHDs, week ending 19 June to 14 August 2021

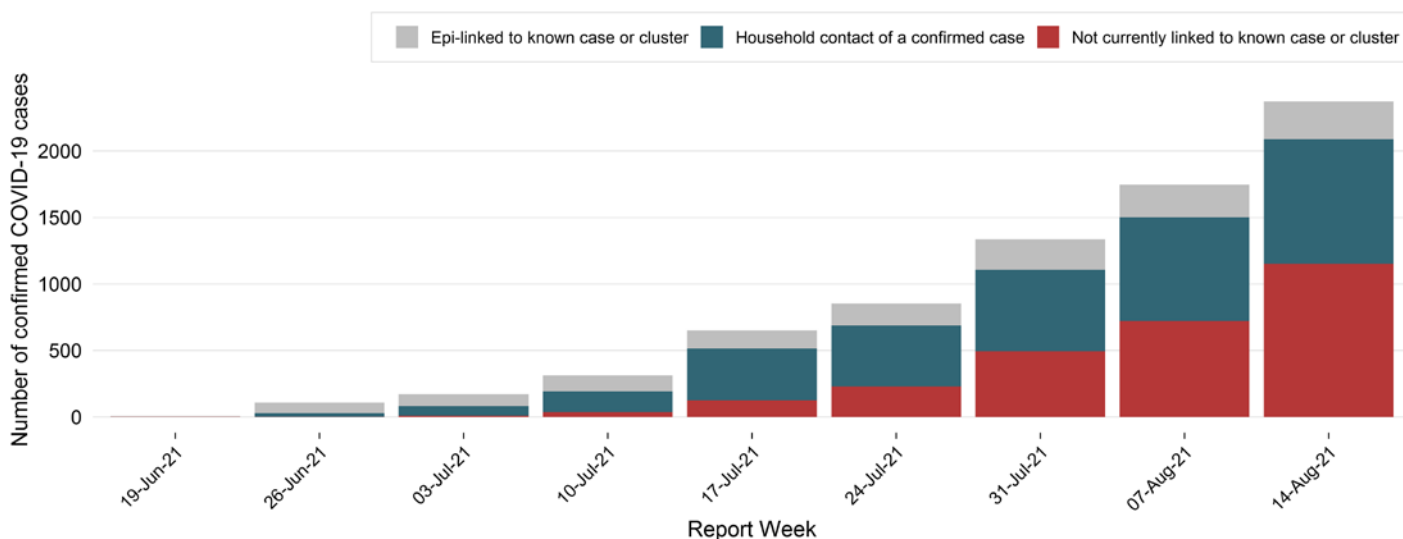
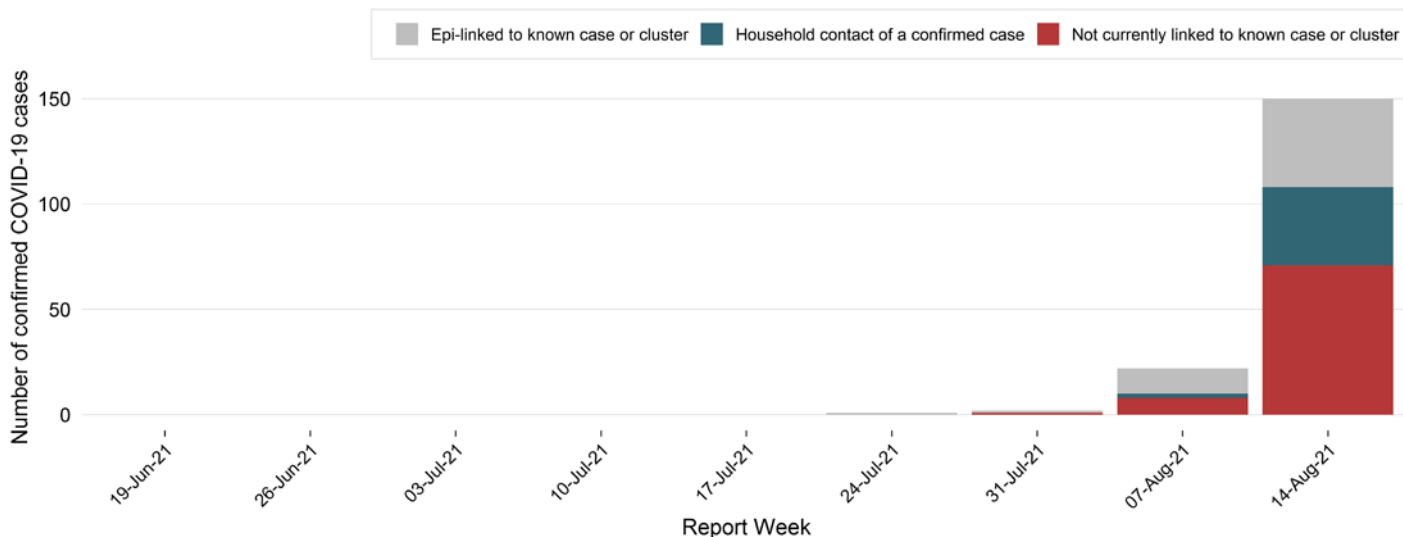


Figure 5b. Source of infection for locally acquired cases, rural and regional LHDs, week ending 19 June to 14 August 2021



Note: Different scales have been used in Figure 5a and 5b.

Interpretation: In the week ending 14 August, cases increased significantly across rural and regional LHDs (150 compared to 22 the previous week), and continued to increase in metropolitan LHDs.

Measurement of risk of community exposure by LHD

In the week ending 14 August 1199 (54%) cases were classified as low risk, 396 (18%) as medium risk and 636 (29%) as high risk in metropolitan LHDs. This compares to 55 (40%) classified as low risk, 14 (10%) as medium risk and 69 (50%) as high risk in rural LHDs.

Figure 6a. Daily number of locally acquired cases by community risk level, Metropolitan LHDs, 18 July to 14 August 2021

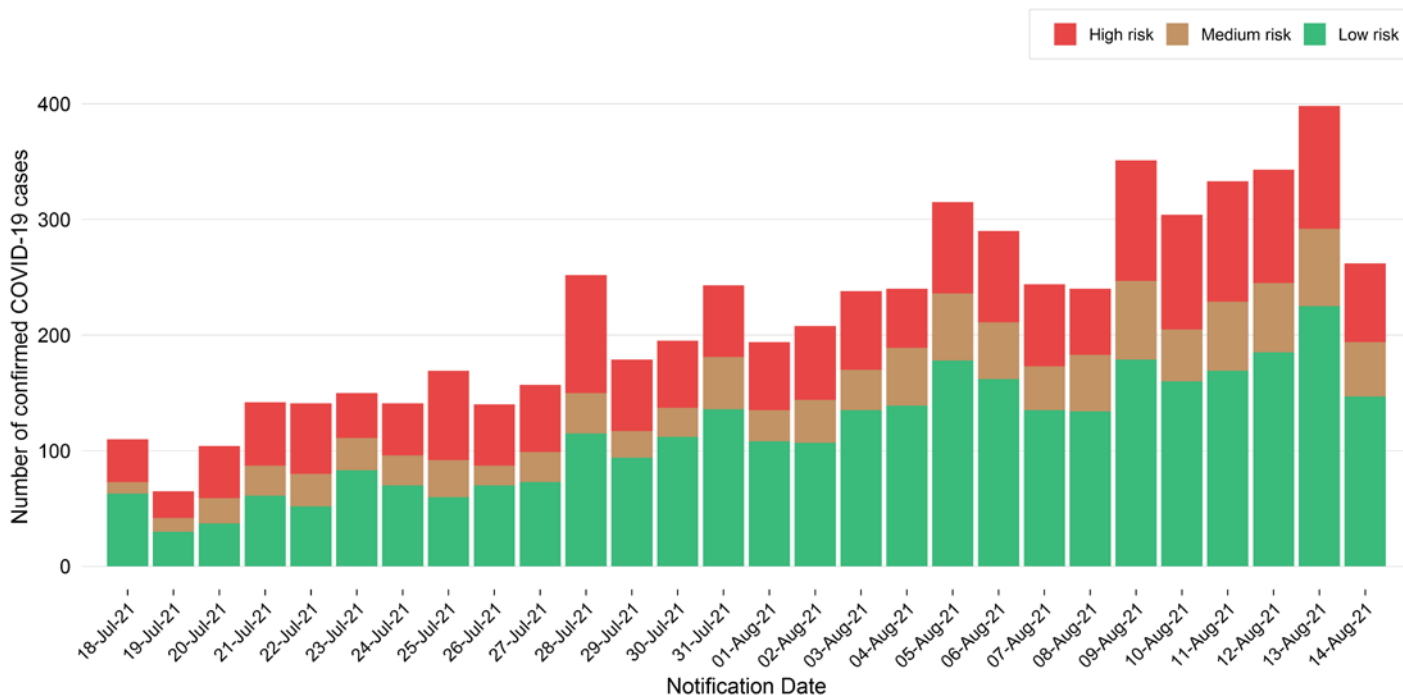
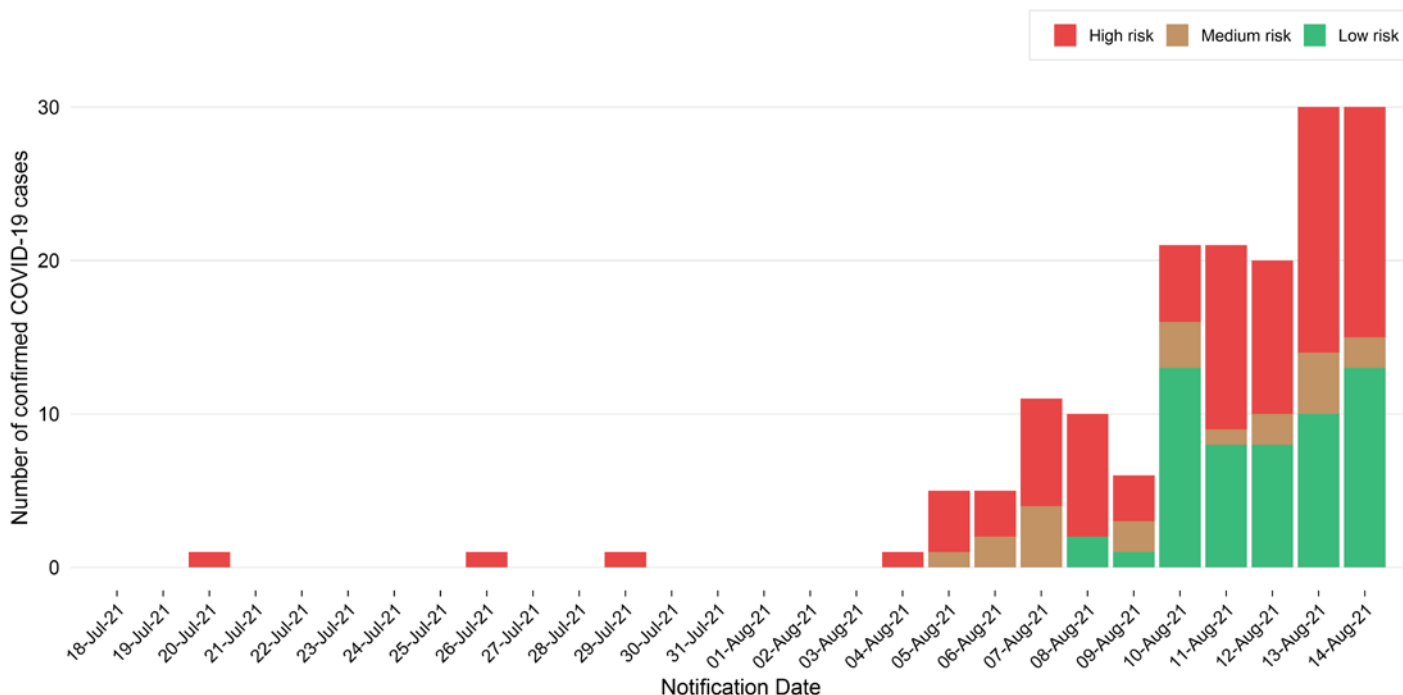


Figure 6b. Daily number of locally acquired cases by community risk level, rural and regional LHDs, 18 July to 14 August 2021



Note: Graph does not include cases where risk has not yet been identified (10 cases (7%) in rural and regional LHDs, and 119 cases (5%) in metropolitan LHDs), and 23 cases that were not assigned to an LHD at the time of data extraction. Different scales have been used in Figure 6a and 6b.

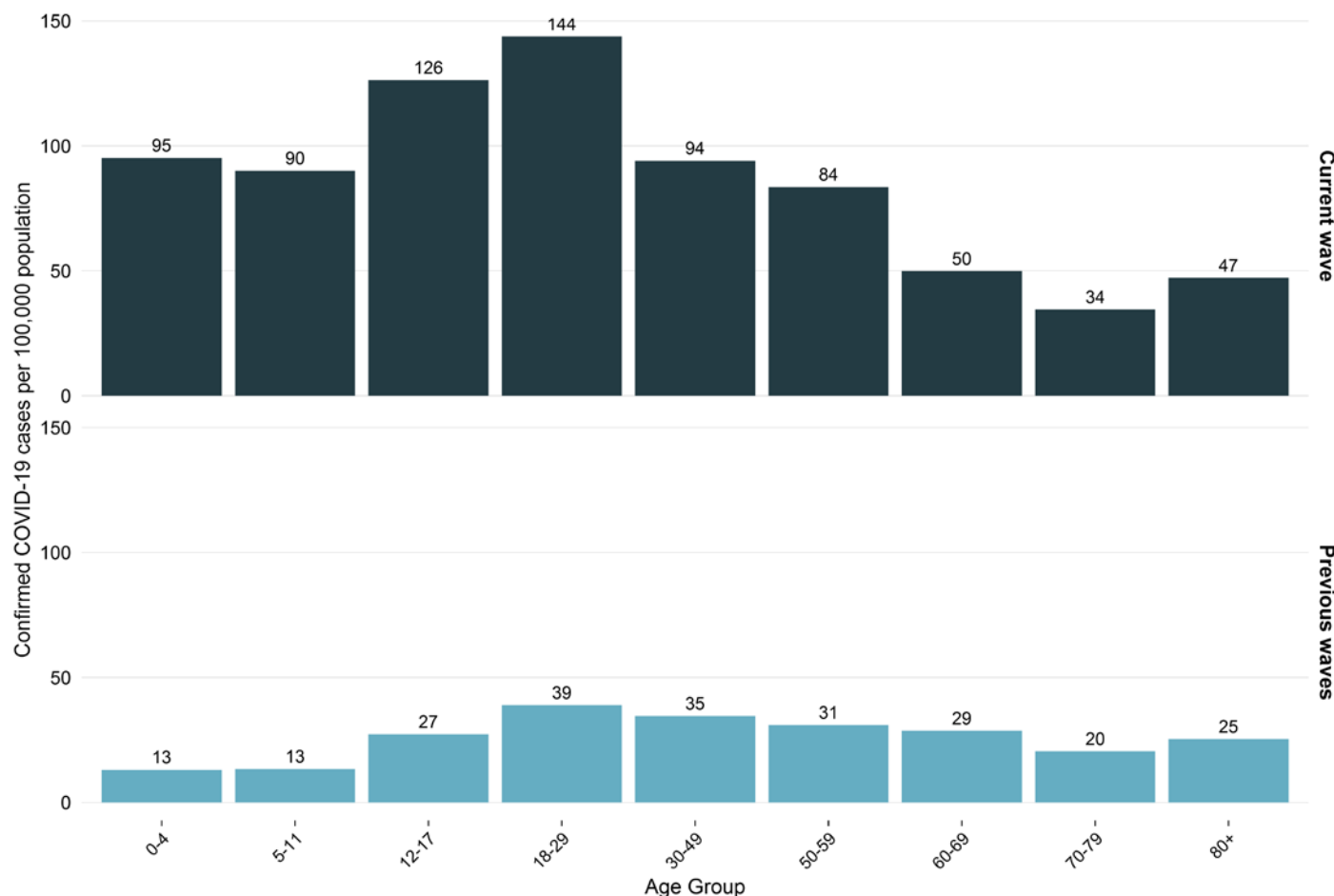
Interpretation: While 50% (1,263/2,521) of cases reported in NSW were considered low risk in the community, 45% were infectious in the community for at least part of their infectious period.

Age breakdown of locally acquired cases across four waves, NSW, from 1 January 2020 - 14 August 2021

There have been four distinct waves in reported cases of COVID-19 in NSW since 1 January 2020, with periods of very few or no cases between waves (see Figure 1). There have been four distinct waves in reported cases of COVID-19 in NSW since 1 January 2020, characterised by a sharp rise in cases after a prolonged period with very few or no cases. The first wave represents the early 2020 period with residents of South Eastern Sydney LHD mainly affected; the second wave represents outbreaks in mid-2020 with cases mainly in South Western Sydney LHD and Western Sydney LHD. The third wave occurred in December 2020-January 2021 and affected mainly residents of Northern Sydney LHD. The median age of cases to 15 June 2021 was 37 years (IQR = 25-55 years).

The current fourth wave is considered the period between 16 June to present. To 14 August there have been 7,730 locally acquired cases in this period with 66% (5,116 / 7,730) of cases residing in South Western Sydney and Western Sydney. The median age was 29 years (IQR = 18-46 years).

Figure 7. Rates of COVID-19 infection by age group, current wave and previous waves, NSW, from 25 January 2020 to 14 August 2021



Interpretation: The fourth wave of COVID-19 which has been driven by the more transmissible delta variant has had significantly higher rates of infections across all age groups when compared with previous waves. In this fourth wave the age group with the highest rates of people diagnosed with COVID-19 is those aged 18-29 years (144 per 100,000 people) and high rates are also seen in people aged 12-17 years of age (126 per 100,000 people).

Figure 8a. Current wave locally acquired case percentage (n = 7,696) by age and gender, NSW, from 16 June to 14 August 2021

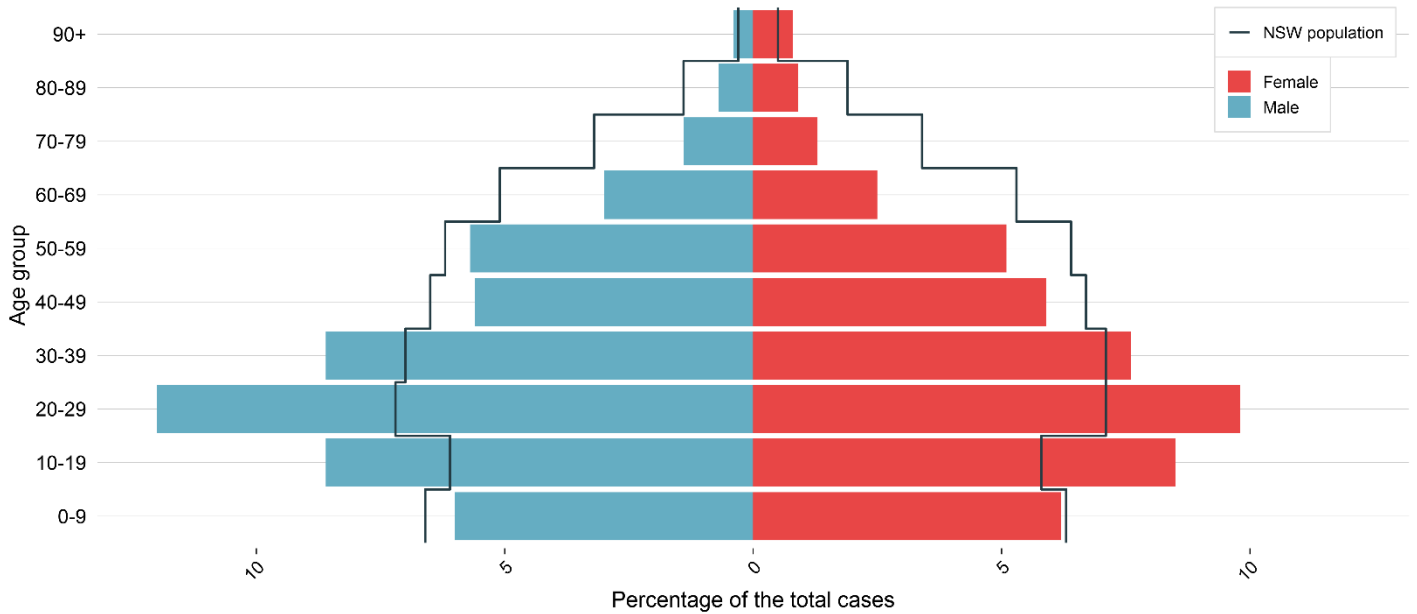
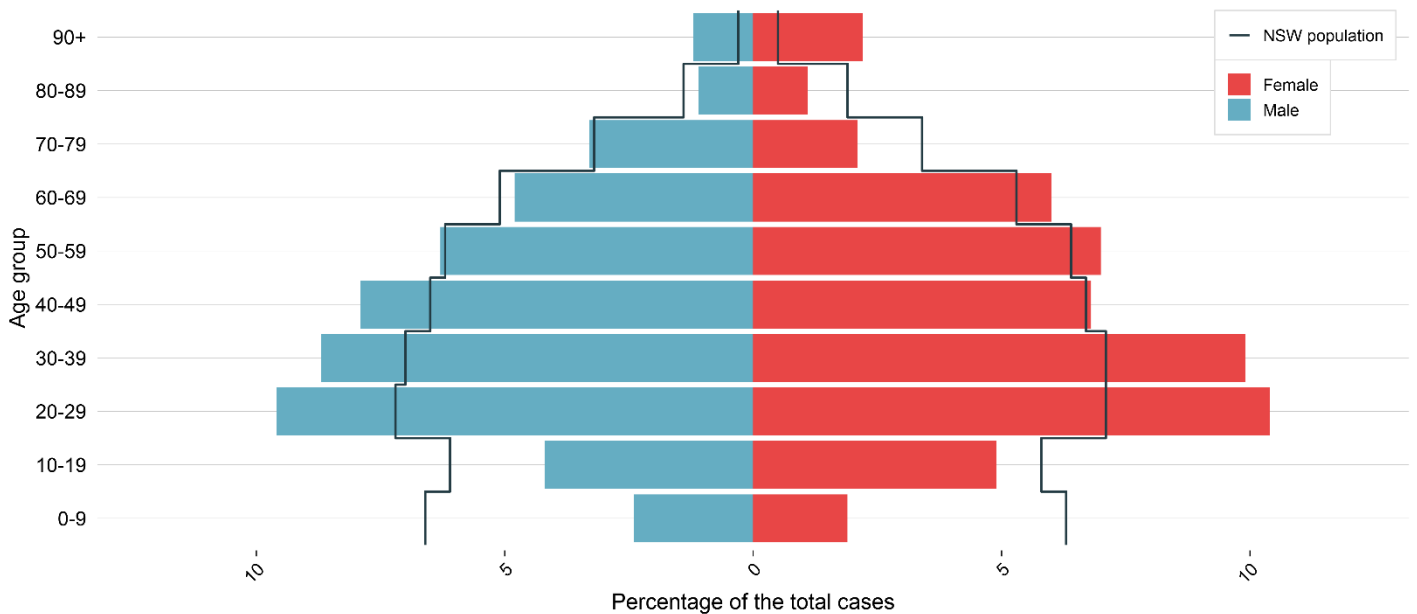


Figure 8b. Previous waves locally acquired case percentage (n = 2,095) by age and gender, NSW, before 16 June 2021



Interpretation: In the previous waves prior to 16 June 2021, women and particularly those aged over 90 years, were over-represented in the case numbers compared to in the general population, while those aged under 20 years were under-represented. In the current fourth wave from 16 June 2021, people aged 10-39 are over-represented among the cases, while those aged 40-89 and 0-9 years are under-represented. People aged under 20 are approximately double the proportion compared to the previous waves. This may be due to vaccination programs targeted towards elderly and aged care residents.

Section 4: COVID-19 in specific populations

Aboriginal people

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are recognised as a priority group due to key drivers of increased risk of transmission and severity of COVID-19 which include mobility, remoteness, barriers to access including institutional racism and mistrust of mainstream health services, crowded and inadequate housing, and burden of disease.

There were 77 locally acquired cases of COVID-19 reported in Aboriginal people in the week ending 14 August 2021. Of the 77 cases, none was fully vaccinated. In total there have been 127 Aboriginal people diagnosed with COVID-19 in the current Greater Sydney outbreak.

Since the beginning of the pandemic in January 2020, there have been 176 Aboriginal people diagnosed with COVID-19, representing 1% of all cases in NSW. This compares to 3.4% of Aboriginal people residing in NSW.

Healthcare workers

The following describes infections of COVID-19 in healthcare workers (HCWs). HCWs in this section includes roles such as doctor, nurse, orderly, paramedic, laboratory technician, pharmacist, administrative staff, cleaners, and other support staff. Public health units routinely undertake investigations of COVID-19 cases in healthcare workers to identify ongoing risks in healthcare settings.

In the week ending 14 August, there were 54 healthcare workers diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 3 (6%) were potentially infected in a healthcare setting, 20 (37%) were social or household contacts of previously reported cases and 31 (57%) are currently not linked. Nineteen (35%) cases were fully vaccinated and 16 (30%) were partially vaccinated.

In total there have been 236 cases of COVID-19 in health care workers since August 2020. Of these, 53 were potentially infected in healthcare settings. A further 95 cases were linked to social or household contacts, and for 88 cases the source of infection is either unknown or under investigation. Prior to August 2020, there were 35 cases identified in HCWs who had worked in a health facility in the 14 days prior to symptom onset or date of testing (see [COVID-19 in healthcare workers in NSW](#)).

Table 4. Number of healthcare worker infections by source of infection and proportion fully vaccinated

Healthcare workers	Last 7 days			Current Greater Sydney outbreak (16 Jun-14 Aug 2021)		
	Number of HCWs	Fully vaccinated	Partially vaccinated	Number of HCWs	Fully vaccinated	Partially vaccinated
Healthcare acquired	3	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	28	8 (29%)	9 (32%)
Community acquired	20	8 (40%)	6 (30%)	78	20 (26%)	17 (22%)
Not currently linked	31	11 (35%)	7 (23%)	82	21 (26%)	20 (24%)
Total	54	19 (35%)	16 (30%)	188	49 (26%)	46 (24%)

Interpretation: Since 16 June, most healthcare workers associated with the Greater Sydney outbreak have been infected in the community and outside of a healthcare setting (160/188, 85%). Of the 188 healthcare workers that have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the current outbreak, 49 (26%) have been fully vaccinated and 46 (24%) have been partially vaccinated.

Aged care workers

There were 19 locally acquired cases in aged care workers in the week ending 14 August 2021. Four cases acquired their infection while working in an aged care facility, seven cases were social or household contacts of a known case and for eight cases the source of infection is under investigation. Of the four cases who acquired their infection at work, three (75%) were partially vaccinated and one (25%) was fully vaccinated.

Since 1 January 2021, there have been 60 cases reported in aged care workers. Of these, 33 (55%) people have reported being partially vaccinated. There have been seven aged care workers diagnosed with COVID-19 who have been fully vaccinated.

Table 5. Number of aged care worker infections by source of infection and proportion fully vaccinated

Aged care workers	Last 7 days			Current Greater Sydney outbreak (16 Jun-14 Aug 2021)		
	Number of ACWs	Fully vaccinated	Partially Vaccinated	Number of ACWs	Fully vaccinated	Partially Vaccinated
Acquired at aged care facility	4	1 (25%)	3 (75%)	15	1 (7%)	10 (67%)
Community acquired	7	1 (14%)	3 (43%)	27	3 (11%)	11 (41%)
Not currently linked	8	3 (38%)	5 (62%)	18	3 (17%)	12 (67%)
Total	19	5 (26%)	11 (58%)	60	7 (12%)	33 (55%)

Interpretation: In the week ending 14 August there were 19 aged care workers diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, four (21%) were infected in an aged care facility, seven (37%) were social or household contacts of previously reported cases and eight (42%) are not currently linked.

Pregnant women

There were 49 cases in a pregnant woman in the week ending 14 August. Since January 2020, 151 pregnant women have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in NSW. As those who test negative are not interviewed, testing rates among pregnant women are not available.

Section 5: COVID-19 vaccination status

COVID-19 vaccinations began in Australia on 22 February 2021. The first people to receive the COVID-19 vaccines were priority groups at a higher risk of COVID-19 infection, including quarantine and border workers, frontline healthcare workers, and aged and disability care residents and staff.

There are a range of vaccines available worldwide. People receiving vaccines are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after they complete the recommended course for that vaccine. Both vaccines being administered in Australia, Pfizer-BioNTech and AstraZeneca, and many from overseas such as Moderna and Sinovac, recommend a two-dose course. In the United States of America, there is one single dose vaccine available, the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

The tables below show the number of COVID-19 cases by their COVID-19 vaccination status. Definitions of status are as follows:

- Cases reported as **fully vaccinated** completed the recommended vaccine course greater than 14 days prior to known exposure to COVID-19 or arrival in Australia.
- Cases reported as **partially vaccinated**:
 - received their first dose of a two-dose vaccination prior to known exposure to COVID-19 or arrival in Australia, or
 - completed their second dose of a two-dose vaccination within 14 days prior to known exposure to COVID-19 or arrival in Australia, or
 - completed a single-dose vaccination course (currently only Johnson & Johnson vaccine) within 14 days prior to known exposure to COVID-19 or arrival in Australia.

Table 6a. Locally acquired COVID-19 cases by vaccination status and week reported, NSW, 1 March to 14 August 2021

Vaccination Status	Week ending				01 Mar to 17 Jul 2021	Total from 1 Mar 2021
	14 Aug 21	07 Aug 21	31 Jul 21	24 Jul 21		
Total locally acquired cases	2,521	1,767	1,338	854	1,259	7,739
Fully Vaccinated	95 (3.8%)	43 (2.4%)	30 (2.2%)	10 (1.2%)	16 (1.3%)	194 (2.5%)
Partially Vaccinated	272 (10.8%)	174 (9.8%)	133 (9.9%)	50 (5.9%)	58 (4.6%)	687 (8.9%)
None	1,864 (73.9%)	1,349 (76.3%)	1,071 (80%)	789 (92.4%)	1,176 (93.4%)	6,249 (80.7%)
Under investigation	290 (11.5%)	201 (11.4%)	104 (7.8%)	5 (0.6%)	9 (0.7%)	609 (7.9%)

Table 6b. Overseas acquired COVID-19 cases by vaccination status and week reported, NSW, 1 March to 14 August 2021

Vaccination Status	Week ending				01 Mar to 17 Jul 2021	Total from 1 Mar 2021
	14 Aug 21	07 Aug 21	31 Jul 21	24 Jul 21		
Total overseas acquired cases	10	19	16	8	515	568
Fully Vaccinated	0 (0%)	1 (5.3%)	0 (0%)	2 (25%)	21 (4.1%)	24 (4.2%)
Partially Vaccinated	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (12.5%)	1 (12.5%)	33 (6.4%)	36 (6.3%)
None	1 (10%)	4 (21.1%)	4 (25%)	5 (62.5%)	440 (85.4%)	454 (79.9%)
Not reported	9 (90%)	14 (73.7%)	10 (62.5%)	0 (0%)	21 (4.1%)	54 (9.5%)

Interpretation: In the past week 3.8 % of locally acquired cases were fully vaccinated. This compares with around 27% of the NSW population who had received two doses of vaccine by 14 August. Since 1 March 2021, there have been 194 (2.5%) locally acquired cases reported as being fully vaccinated and 687 (8.9%) partially vaccinated. Twenty-four (4.2%) overseas acquired cases have reported being fully vaccinated prior to arrival in Australia, although they may not have been fully vaccinated prior to being exposed to COVID-19.

Section 6: COVID-19 hospitalisations and deaths

How many people are in hospital as a result of COVID-19?

In the week ending 14 August 2021, of the 2,521 locally acquired cases, there were 134 people admitted to hospital as a result of being diagnosed with COVID-19. In total, there have been 917 people hospitalised as a result of the current Greater Sydney outbreak.

Table 7. Hospitalisations as a result of COVID-19, by age group, NSW

Age-group (years)	Current outbreak since 16 June (Locally acquired only)			Total since January 2020	
	Hospitalised	Case Hospitalised (%)	Hospitalised per 100,000 population	Hospitalised	Case Hospitalised (%)
0-4	19	4%	3.8	22	3%
5-11	13	2%	1.8	15	2%
12-17	23	3%	4.1	27	3%
18-29	156	8%	11.4	189	6%
30-49	253	12%	11.5	347	9%
50-59	158	19%	16.3	238	15%
60-69	110	26%	13.1	230	21%
70-79	92	44%	15.8	184	30%
80+	93	56%	27.1	161	49%
Total	917	12%	11.3	1413	11%

Interpretation: The highest number of cases hospitalised are aged 30-49 years (253, 12%), followed by those aged 50-59 years (158, 19%). In NSW, cases aged 80 years and over have the highest rate of hospitalisation (27.1 per 100,000 people).

How many people are in ICU as a result of COVID-19?

Table 8. ICU hospitalisations as a result of COVID-19, by age group, NSW

Age-group (years)	Current outbreak since 16 June (Locally acquired only)			Total since January 2020	
	Admitted to ICU	Case admitted to ICU (%)	ICU admission per 100,000 population	Admitted to ICU	Case admitted to ICU (%)
0-4	0	0%	0.0	0	0%
5-11	0	0%	0.0	0	0%
12-17	2	<1%	0.4	2	<1%
18-29	19	1%	1.4	24	1%
30-49	29	1%	1.3	56	1%
50-59	36	4%	3.7	64	4%
60-69	30	7%	3.6	72	7%
70-79	29	14%	5.0	63	10%
80+	9	5%	2.6	22	7%
Total	154	2%	1.9	303	2%

Interpretation: The highest number of cases in ICU are aged 50-59 years (36, 4%). The highest rate of admission to ICU is for those aged 70-79 years (29 cases, 14%).

How many people have died as a result of COVID-19?

Since the start of the pandemic, 1% of cases (106 people) have died as a result of COVID-19, most of whom were 80 years of age or older, including 27 residents of aged care facilities with known COVID-19 outbreaks. Approximately 12% (13/106) of the deaths were in overseas acquired cases.

There were 21 deaths as a result of COVID-19 reported this week including a male in his 30s (un-vaccinated), two females in their 40s (both un-vaccinated), a female in her 50s (un-vaccinated), two males (one fully vaccinated, one un-vaccinated) and three females (one fully vaccinated, two partially vaccinated) in their 70s, two females (one fully vaccinated, one un-vaccinated) and five males (all un-vaccinated) in their 80s, and two females (both un-vaccinated) and three males (one partially vaccinated, two fully vaccinated) in their 90s.

Table 9. Deaths as a result of COVID-19, by age group

Age-group (years)	Current outbreak since 16 June (Locally acquired only)			Total since January 2020	
	Number of deaths	Case fatality rate	Fatality rate per 100,000 population	Number of deaths	Case fatality rate
0-4	0	0%	0.0	0	0%
5-11	0	0%	0.0	0	0%
12-17	0	0%	0.0	0	0%
18-29	1	<1%	0.1	1	<1%
30-49	4	<1%	0.2	4	<1%
50-59	2	<1%	0.2	3	<1%
60-69	6	1%	0.7	10	1%
70-79	8	4%	1.4	23	4%
80+	28	17%	8.1	65	20%
Total	49	1%	0.6	106	1%

Interpretation: Cases older than 80 years of age had both the highest number of deaths and the highest case fatality rate.

How many people in hospital with COVID-19 are vaccinated?

Of the 923 people hospitalised as a result of COVID-19 in the current outbreak, 155 (17%) people were in ICU of which 135 (87.1%) were unvaccinated or whose vaccination status is unknown and 20 (12.9%) were partially vaccinated or had a single dose within 14 days. There were no fully vaccinated cases in ICU.

Table 10. Hospitalisations and ICU admissions due to COVID-19, by vaccination status, NSW, from 16 June to 14 August 2021

Vaccination status	Hospitalised (%)	Hospitalised and in ICU (%)	Death (%)
Fully Vaccinated	27 (2.9%)	0 (0.0%)	5 (10.0%)
Partially vaccinated	102 (11.1%)	20 (12.9%)	6 (12.0%)
None	765 (82.9%)	127 (81.9%)	38 (76.0%)
Not stated	29 (3.1%)	8 (5.2%)	1 (2.0%)
Total	923 (100.0%)	155 (100.0%)	50 (100.0%)

Interpretation: Of the 923 people hospitalised, 27 (2.9%) are fully vaccinated, 102 (11.1%) were partially vaccinated and 794 (86.0%) were either not vaccinated or vaccination status has not yet been determined. Ten percent of the deaths were among fully vaccinated individuals, however, this is an over-estimate of risk, since the people most likely to be fully vaccinated are those already identified at most risk of death (e.g., the elderly, those with other complicating conditions). Of the five who died two were in their 70's, one was in their 80's and two were in their 90's.

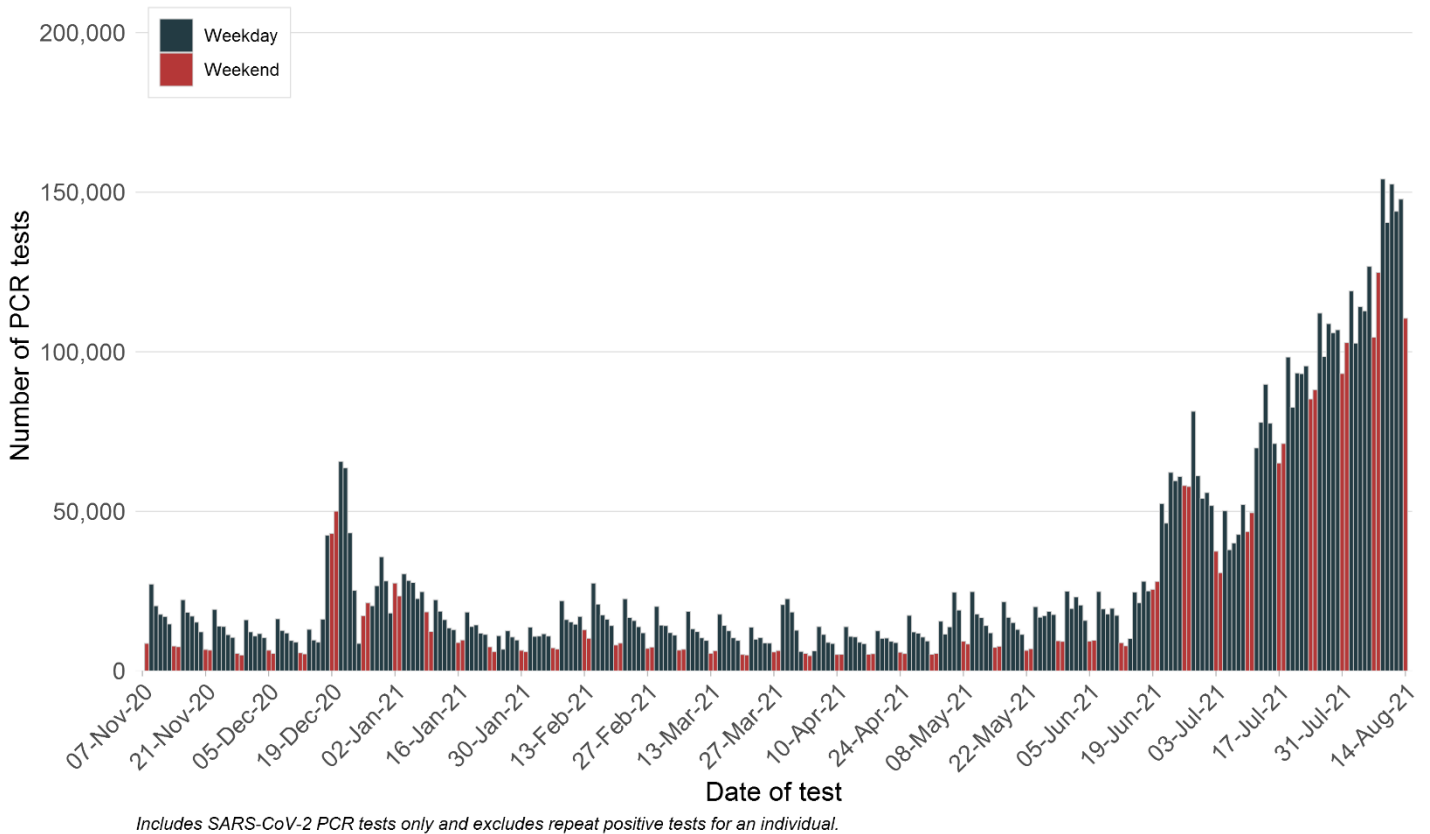
Section 7: COVID-19 testing in NSW

How much testing is happening?

The bars on the graph below show the number of tests by the date a person presented for the test.¹ While public health facilities are generally open seven days a week, there may be less demand and availability for testing through GPs and private collection centres on weekends and public holidays. This likely explains lower testing numbers on weekends.

The PCR testing numbers reported are for tests performed on nose and throat swabs. Saliva PCR tests are not included, these are reported in the “Border and quarantine workers – saliva testing screening program” section.

Figure 9. Number of PCR tests per day, NSW, 31 October 2020 to 14 August 2021

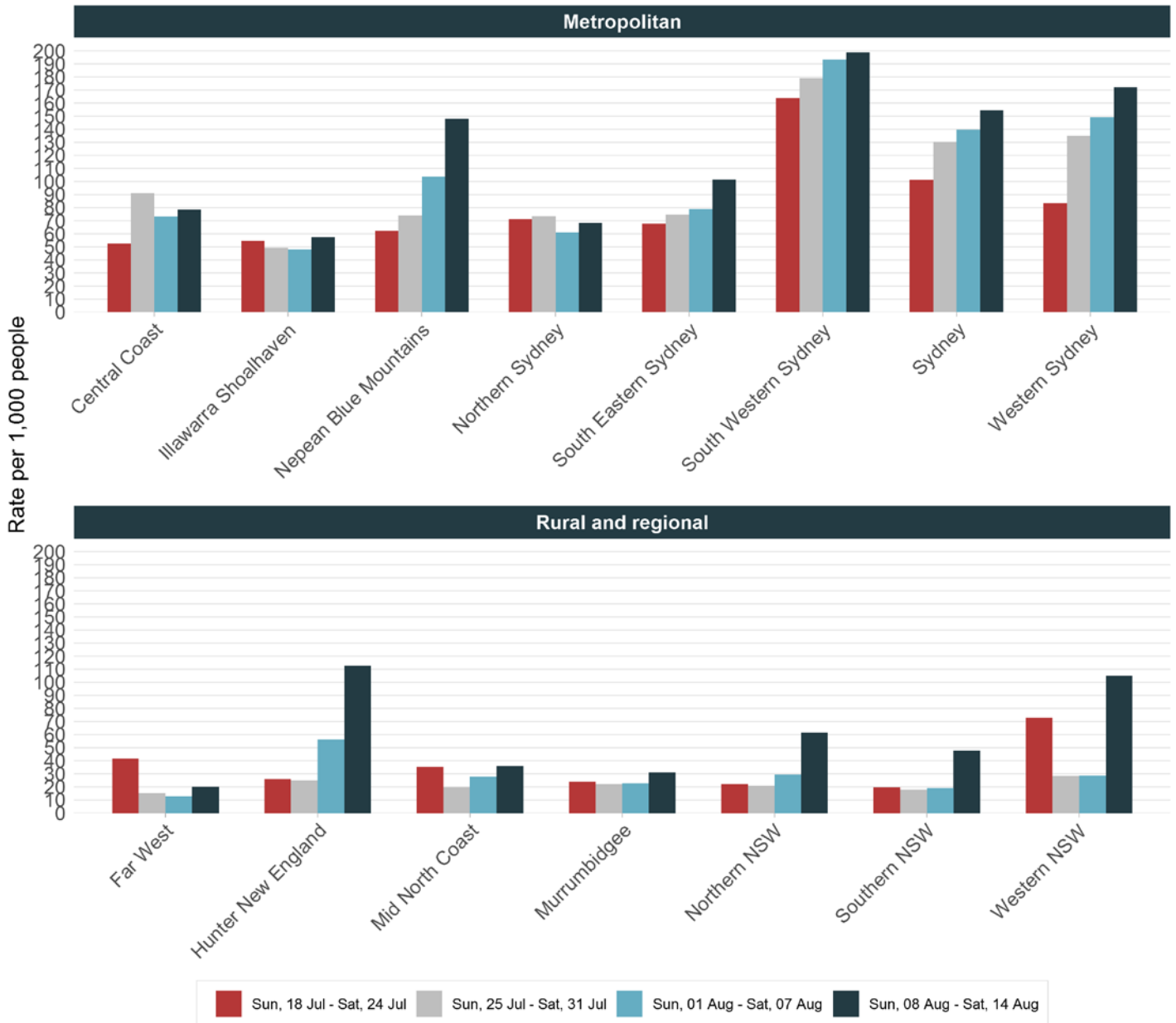


Interpretation: Testing numbers increased in the week ending 14 August 2021 (up 24%) compared to the previous week. The average daily testing rate of 17.2 per 1,000 people in NSW each day increased compared to the previous week of 13.8 per 1,000 people.

¹ The number of tests per day displayed below is different to the 24 hour increase in tests reported each day as there are delays in some laboratories providing negative results to NSW Health.

Testing by Local Health District and Local Government Areas

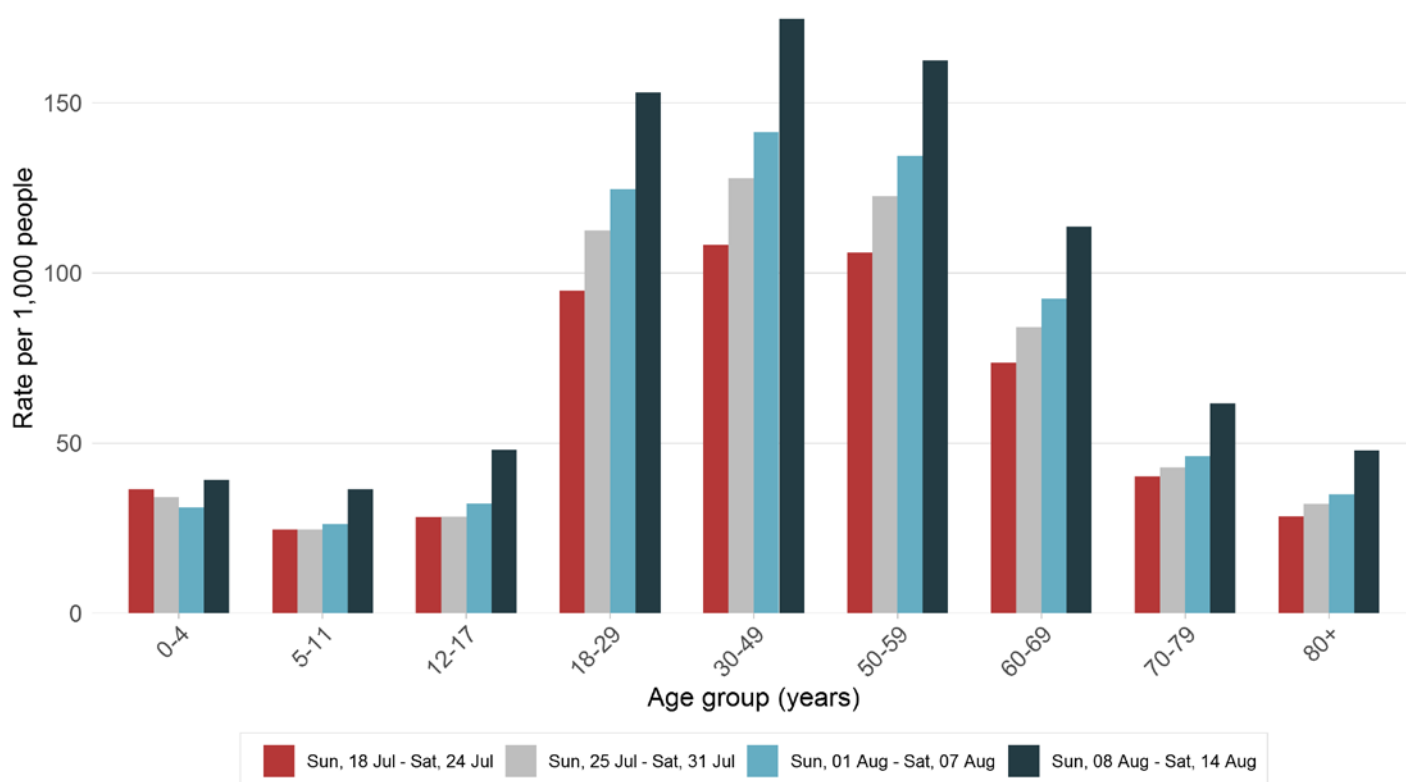
Figure 10. Rates of COVID-19 testing by LHD of residence, NSW, 18 July to 14 August 2021



Interpretation: State-wide weekly testing rates in the week ending 14 August increased across all LHDs compared to the previous week (120.5 per 1,000 people compared to 96.8 per 1,000 people). Testing rates more than doubled in several regional LHDs, including Hunter New England, Northern NSW, Southern NSW and Western NSW.

Testing by age group

Figure 11. Rates of COVID-19 testing by age group and week, NSW, 18 July to 14 August 2021



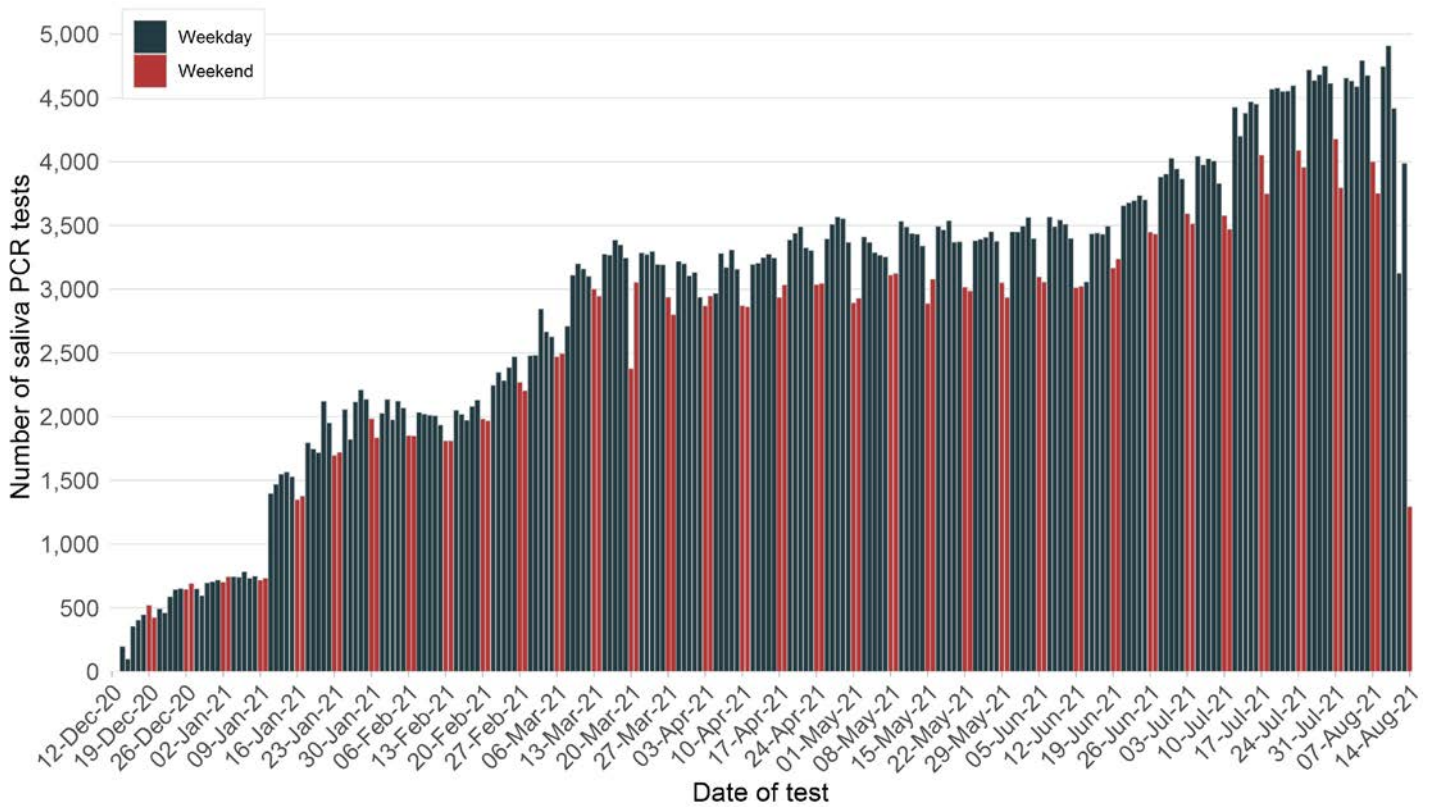
Includes SARS-CoV-2 PCR tests only and excludes notifications with age missing.

Interpretation: In the week ending 14 August 2021, testing rates increased across all age groups with the greatest increase seen in adults aged 18-59.

Border and quarantine workers – saliva testing screening program

The number of COVID-19 infections in people returning to Australia from overseas reflects the number of cases in other parts of the world. Cases in returned overseas travellers are then detected in quarantine facilities. Routine screening of quarantine workers is implemented out of care and caution for staff members who work in NSW quarantine facilities. Screening involves a daily SARS-CoV-2 saliva PCR testing, which is painless and quick (see [NSW hotel quarantine worker surveillance and testing program](#)).

Figure 12. Daily numbers of saliva PCR test results reported for border and quarantine workers, NSW, 12 December 2020 to 14 August 2021



* The number of saliva PCR tests in the most recent days may be incomplete due to delays in reporting negative results.

Interpretation: Since screening of quarantine workers began in December 2020, a total of 692,523 saliva PCR tests have been conducted to 14 August 2021. The number of saliva PCR tests increased significantly on 11 January 2021, which corresponds to the expansion of the NSW quarantine hotel worker surveillance and testing program. Two confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported through saliva PCR testing, reported on 13 March and 16 June 2021. The daily number of saliva PCR tests is not included in the total PCR testing numbers reported.

Section 8: Variants of Concern (VoC)

Like other viruses, the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 acquires mutations over time. Some of these mutations affect parts of the virus, such as the spike protein on the surface of the virus, which play an important role in infection. The spike protein allows the virus to enter human cells during infection. That is why it plays an important role in our own immune response to the virus and is the immune mechanism targeted by many COVID-19 vaccines. Global surveillance is done to monitor the prevalence of mutations in the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The surveillance particularly focuses on mutations affecting the spike protein that may reduce vaccine effectiveness or enable re-infection.

This report reflects the recommendations of [Australia's Communicable Diseases Genomics Network \(CDGN\)](#) for reporting of Variants of Concern (VoC) in NSW. The CDGN reports on four internationally recognised VoCs:

- Alpha (B.1.1.7) first identified in the United Kingdom in September 2020 and recognised as a VoC on 18 December 2020.
- Beta (B.1.351) first identified in South Africa in December 2020 and recognised as a VoC on 18 December 2020.
- Gamma (P.1) first identified in Japan among a group of Brazilian travellers in December 2020 and recognised as a VoC on 11 January 2021.
- B.1.617 sub-lineages, including Kappa (B.1.617.1) and Delta (B.1.617.2). The B.1.617 lineage was first detected in India in October 2020. The Delta lineage (B.1.617.2) was internationally recognised as a VoC on 11 May 2021.

In the week ending 14 August 2021:

- 782 locally acquired cases diagnosed with a VOC. All of these cases have been diagnosed with infection by the Delta variant.
- 3 returned travellers were diagnosed with a VoC, all of the delta variant.
- In the four weeks ending 14 August, the countries of likely acquisition of the 19 returned travellers diagnosed with a VoC are: France (3), Fiji (2), USA (2), 10 from 10 other countries, and 2 cases not recorded at the time of data extraction.

Table 11a. Variants identified among locally acquired COVID-19 cases by week reported, NSW, 29 November 2020 to 14 August 2021

Variant	Week ending				29 Nov to 17 Jul	Total since 29 November
	14 Aug*	7 Aug*	31 Jul	24 Jul		
Total variants identified	782	157	981	561	1002	3483
Alpha (B.1.1.7)	0	0	0	0	6	6
Beta (B.1.351)	0	0	0	0	1	1
Gamma (P.1)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kappa (B.1.617.1)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delta (B.1.617.2)	782	157	981	561	995	3476

***Note:** identification of variants of concern is through whole genome sequencing. Results for reported cases in the most recent week may not be available at the time of reporting. 100% of locally acquired cases sequenced in the week ending 14 August have been the Delta variant of concern

Interpretation: Only the delta variant has been detected in recent weeks among locally acquired cases, and this is associated with the cluster that emerged in Sydney from 16 June 2021.

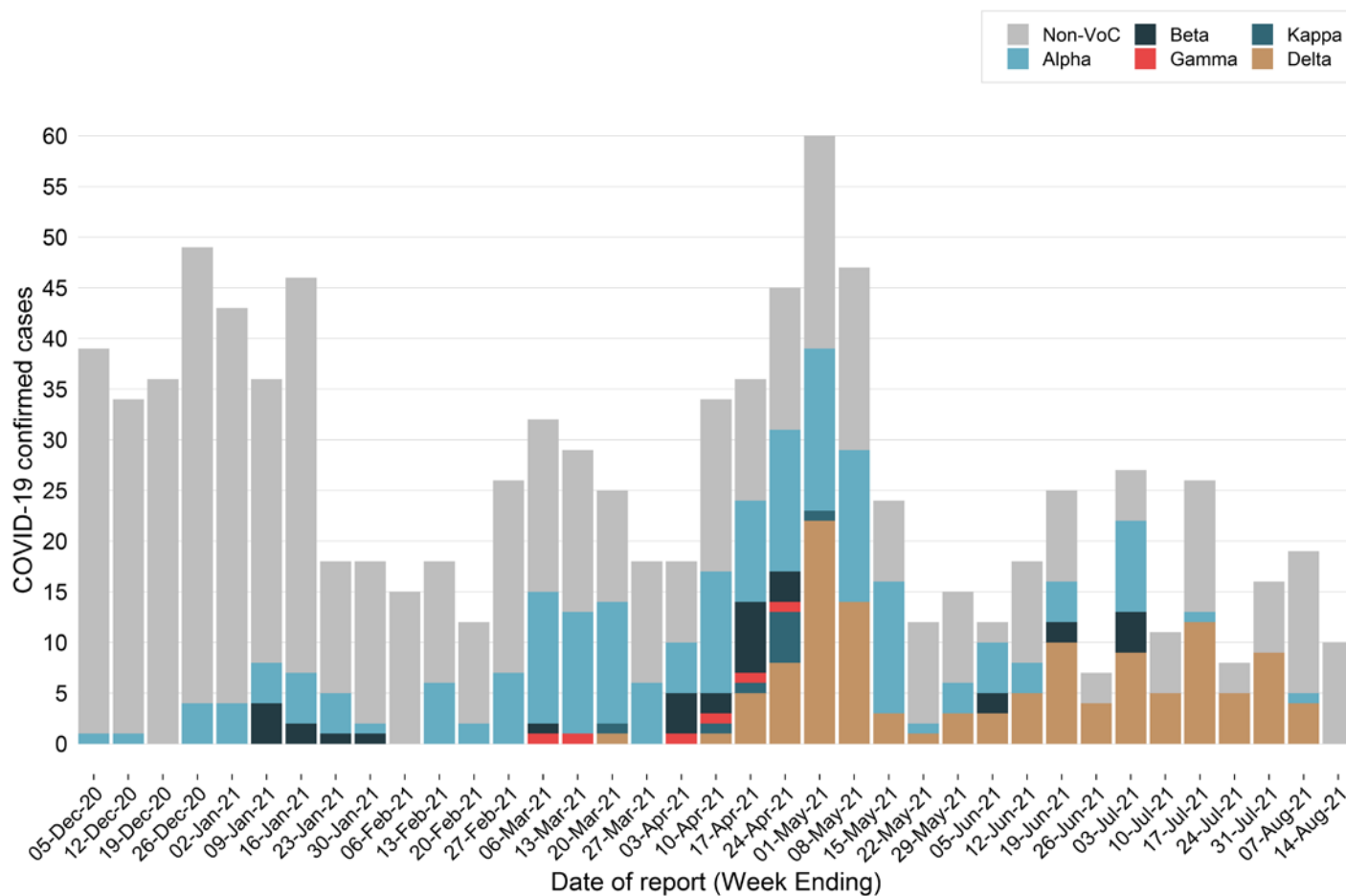
Table 11b. Variants identified among overseas acquired COVID-19 cases by week reported, NSW, 29 November 2020 to 14 August 2021

Variant	Week ending				29 Nov to 17 Jul	Total since 29 November
	14 Aug*	7 Aug*	31 Jul	24 Jul		
Total variants identified	3	5	9	5	347	369
Alpha (B.1.1.7)	0	1	0	0	193	194
Beta (B.1.351)	0	0	0	0	33	33
Gamma (P.1)	0	0	0	0	6	6
Kappa (B.1.617.1)	0	0	0	0	9	9
Delta (B.1.617.2)	3	4	9	5	106	127

***Note:** identification of variants of concern is through whole genome sequencing. Results for reported cases in the most recent weeks may not be available at the time of reporting.

Interpretation: In the last four weeks, the delta variant has been the most commonly detected variant among cases who acquired a variant infection overseas (21/22, 95%). These results are consistent with the increasing incidence of infections caused by the delta variant in many countries.

Figure 13. Overseas acquired COVID-19 cases by VoC and week reported, NSW, 29 November 2020 to 14 August 2021



*Note: identification of variants of concern is through whole genome sequencing. Results for reported cases in the most recent week may not be available at the time of reporting.

Interpretation: Since 29 November 2020 there have been 366 returned travellers diagnosed with a COVID-19 VoC. In the four weeks ending 14 August 2021, 36% (19/53) of overseas acquired cases have been identified as having COVID-19 variants of concern.

Section 9: NSW Sewage Surveillance Program

The NSW Sewage Surveillance Program tests untreated sewage for fragments of the COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) virus at sewage treatment plant locations across NSW. In Sydney, testing is undertaken from both the sewage treatment plant (inlet sites) and sites within the network (network sites). Testing sewage can help track infections in the community and provide early warning of an increase in infections. These tests provide data to support NSW Health’s response to COVID-19.

An infected person can shed virus in their faeces even if they do not have symptoms, and shedding can continue for several weeks after they are no longer infectious. The NSW sewage surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 is in the preliminary stages of analysis and work is progressing to assess the significance of the results. For example, it is not currently known the minimum number of cases that can be detected in a catchment. A small number of cases in a large sewage catchment may not be detected by sewage surveillance due to factors such as dilution, inhibition, reduction in shedding over the infection period or movement of cases.

The table below shows results for the last 10 weeks for sites that have had detections. The results from all sites across NSW are available in Appendix D.

Table 12. Locations with SARS-CoV-2 detections in sewage samples in the last 10 weeks, NSW, week ending 12 Jun to 14 August 2021

		12 June	19 June	26 June	3 July	10 July	17 July	24 July	31 July	7 August	14 August
Pop.	Location	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
60,514	Blue Mountains (Winmalee)										
13,052	Richmond										
110,114	Penrith										
19,000	South Windsor										
8,000	McGraths Hill										
69,245	Warriewood										
1,241	Brooklyn										
31,924	Hornsby Heights										
57,933	West Hornsby										
318,810	Bondi										
233,176	Cronulla										
1,857,740	Malabar 1										
	Malabar 2										
181,005	Liverpool										
98,743	West Camden										
6,882	Wallacia										
161,200	Glenfield										
1,341,986	North Head										
26,997	Castle Hill Cattai										
	Castle Hill Glenhaven										
163,147	Quakers Hill										
119,309	Rouse Hill										
37,061	Riverstone										
163,147	St Marys										
73,686	Shellharbour										
55,000	Wollongong										
68,000	Port Kembla										
93,000	Bellambi										

(Continued). Locations with SARS-CoV-2 detections in sewage samples in the last 10 weeks, NSW, 12 Jun to 14 August 2021

		12 June	19 June	26 June	3 July	10 July	17 July	24 July	31 July	7 August	14 August
Catchment	Location	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Bondi	Paddington	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	White	Red	White	White
Bondi	Rozelle	White	Green	White	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Green	Red
Cronulla	Caringbah	White	White	Red	White	Red	Red	White	White	White	White
Cronulla	Miranda	White	Green	White	White	Green	White	White	Green	Red	Red
Malabar	Earlwood	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
Malabar	Marrickville 1	White	Green	White	Green	Red	Red	White	Red	White	Red
Malabar	Marrickville 2	White	Green	White	Green	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
Malabar	Arncliffe 1	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
Malabar	Arncliffe 2	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	Red	White	Red
Malabar	Blakehurst	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
Malabar	Padstow 1	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
Malabar	Padstow 2	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	Red	White	Red
Malabar	Fairfield SPS 1	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
Malabar	Fairfield SPS 2	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
Malabar	Homebush SPS	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	Red	White	Red
Malabar	Croydon	White	Green	White	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red
Malabar	Dulwich Hill	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
Malabar	Canterbury	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	Red	White	White
Malabar	Botany	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	White	Red	White	White
Malabar	Maroubra	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
North Head	Camellia SPS - North	White	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
North Head	Camellia SPS - South	White	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
North Head	Auburn	White	Green	White	White	Green	White	White	Red	White	Red
North Head	Northmead SPS	White	Green	White	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	White	Red
North Head	Northmead	White	Green	White	White	Green	White	Red	Red	White	Red
North Head	Tunks Park	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
North Head	Vineyard Creek	White	Green	White	Red	Red	Red	White	Red	White	Red
North Head	Boronia	White	Green	White	Red	Green	White	Red	White	White	Red
North Head	West Lindfield	White	Green	White	White	Green	White	White	Green	Red	Red
North Head	Lane Cove West Sewage Network	White	Green	White	White	White	White	Green	Red	White	White
North Head	Allambie Heights	White	Green	White	White	White	White	Red	Red	White	Red
North Head	Buffalo Creek Reserve	White	Green	White	White	White	White	Green	Red	Red	White
Glenfield	Minto	White	Green	White	White	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White
Liverpool	Ireland Park	White	Green	Red	Red	Red	White	White	Red	White	White
Quakers Hill	Eastern Creek	White	Green	White	White	Green	White	Red	White	Red	White
St Marys	Ropes Creek	White	Green	White	White	Green	White	White	White	Red	White
14,700	Bowral	White	Green	White	White	White	Green	White	Red	White	Red
14,000	Mittagong	White	Green	White	White	White	White	Green	Green	Red	Green
9,000	Moss Vale	White	Green	White	White	White	White	Red	Green	Green	Green
18,000	Bomaderry	White	Green	White	White	White	White	Green	White	Red	Red
139,500	Gosford-Kincumber	White	Green	White	White	White	White	White	Green	Green	Red
59,060	Charmhaven	White	Green	White	White	White	White	White	Green	Red	White
29,300	Wyong-Toukley	White	Green	White	White	White	White	White	Red	White	Green
9,000	Manning Park	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	Red
38,900	Bateau Bay	White	Green	White	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green
41,300	Woy Woy	White	Green	White	White	Green	White	White	Green	Red	Green

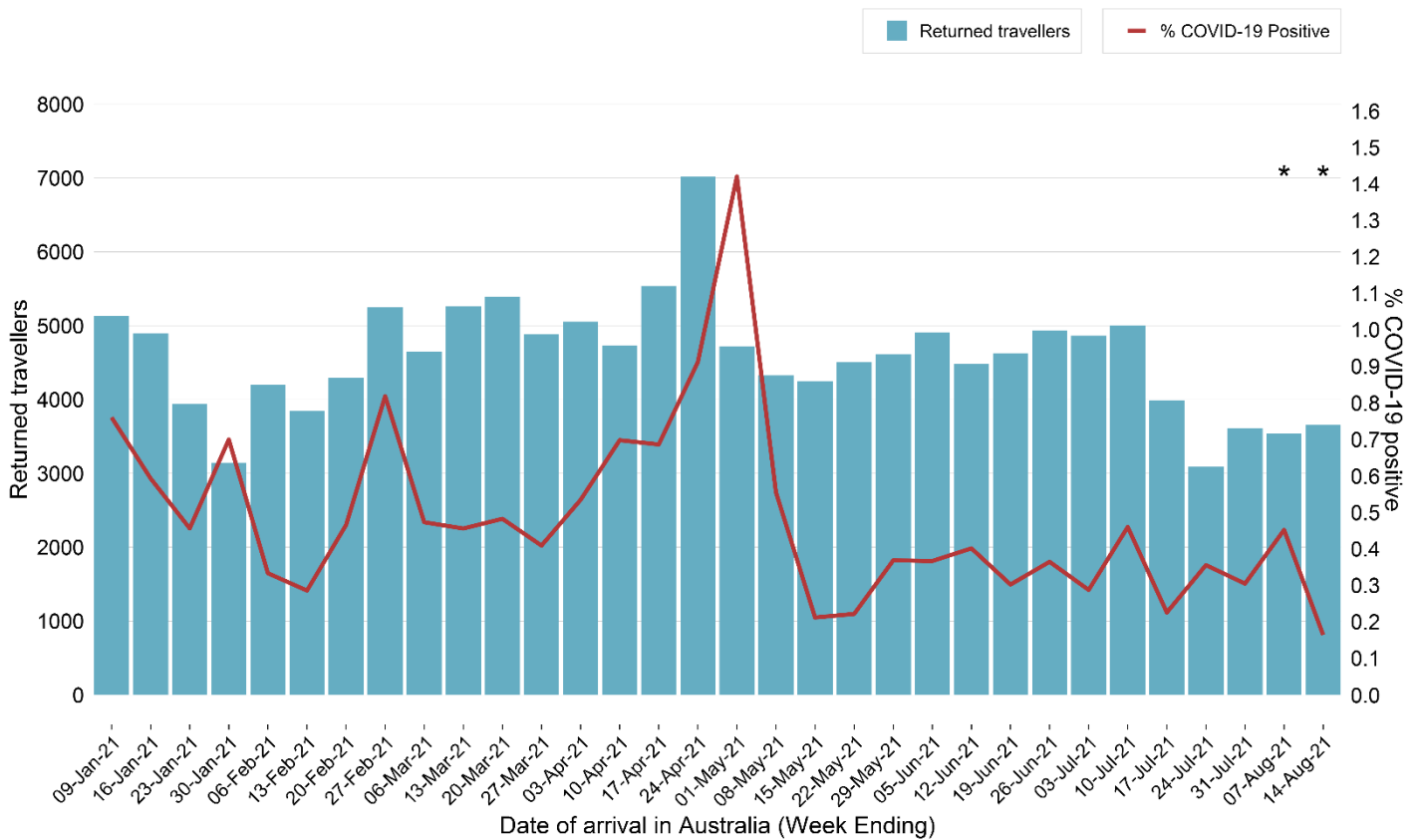
Section 10: COVID-19 in returned travellers

To limit the spread of COVID-19 into NSW, travel restrictions were introduced for all non-Australian citizens and permanent residents in mid-March 2020. In addition:

- From 29 March 2020 returned travellers have been quarantined in hotels for a 14-day period and travellers who develop symptoms are isolated until no longer infectious. Returned travellers are screened on entry and exit from quarantine and following release from quarantine.
- From 22 January 2021 (local time at departure point) all people travelling to Australia on flights must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test result at the time of check-in.

The figure below shows the number of returned travellers screened at Sydney International Airport since 2021. Returned travellers include international flight crew who are required to be tested before leaving the airport.

Figure 14. Returned travellers screened at Sydney International Airport by week of arrival and percent COVID-19 positive, NSW, 3 January 2021 to 14 August 2021



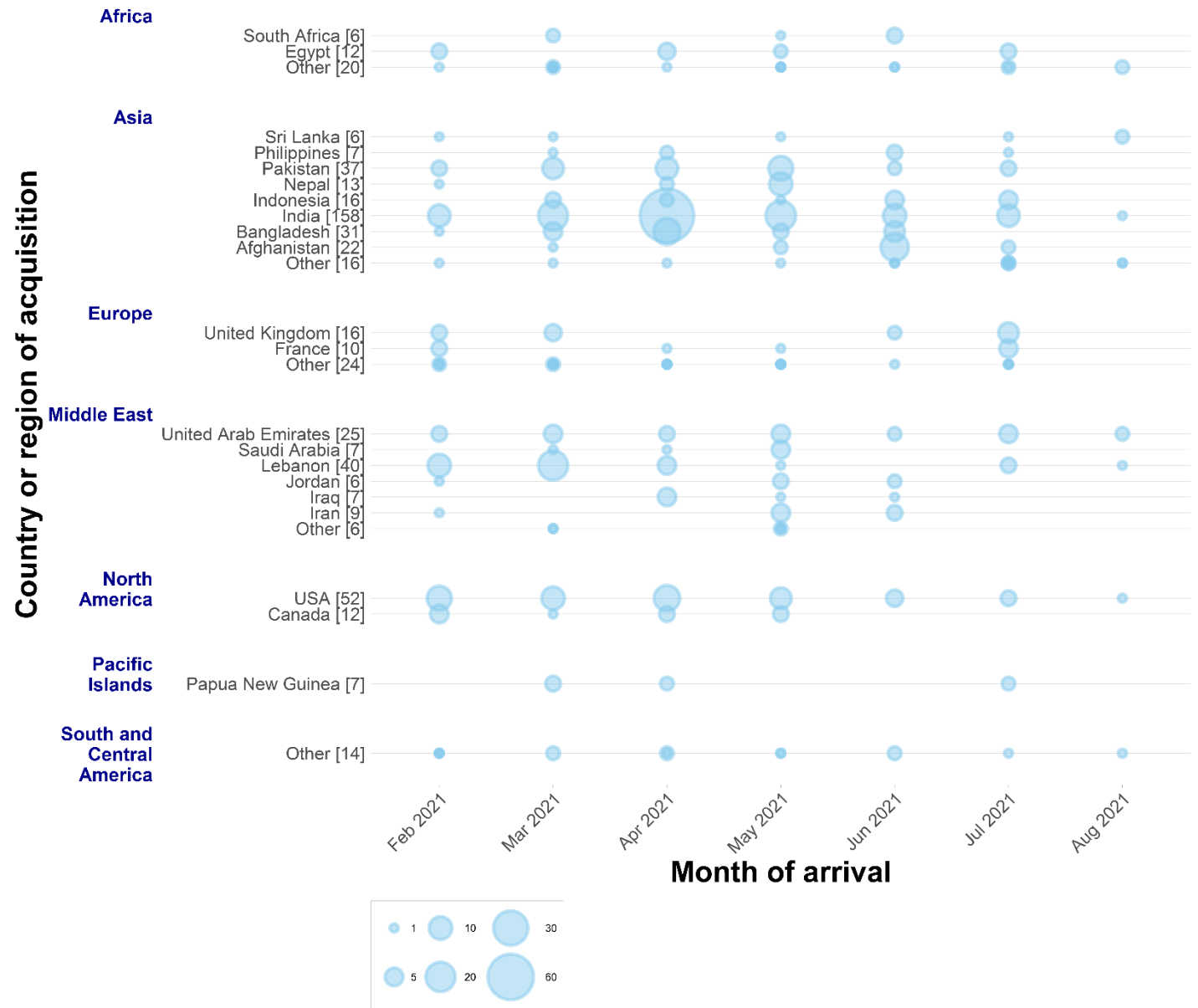
*Returned travellers entering Australia in the past 14 days are still in quarantine and may return a positive result prior to the end of their hotel quarantine period.

Interpretation: Since 3 January 2021, there has been on average 650 people screened on arrival through Sydney International Airport daily. In the last four weeks, 44 returned travellers have subsequently tested positive for COVID-19 while completing quarantine. The proportion of returned travellers who test positive for COVID-19 has been low. In the week ending 1 May 2021 the proportion increased to over 1% (1.4%) of returned travellers testing positive, but this has subsequently fallen back to lower levels.

Country of acquisition of COVID-19 for returned travellers

The following figure displays the countries and regions with the greatest numbers of returned international travellers diagnosed with COVID-19 in NSW.

Figure 15. Overseas acquired COVID-19 cases by country of acquisition and arrival month, NSW, 1 February 2022 to 14 August 2021*



* Data for current month is incomplete

Interpretation: In April 2021, there was a significant increase in detections of COVID-19 in travellers from India, which subsided following travel restrictions introduced in May. The pattern seen in COVID-positive returned travellers over time reflects the evolving nature of the pandemic in those areas and the country of origin of returned travellers, as well as travel requirements enacted by the Australian Government.

In the last four weeks, there have been 53 COVID-positive returned travellers in NSW. The table below lists countries of acquisition for these travellers.

Table 13. Top countries of acquisition for overseas acquired cases that have tested positive in the last four weeks, 11 July 2021 to 14 August 2021

Country of acquisition of COVID-19	Number (%) of cases in the last four weeks
France	5 (9%)
India	4 (8%)
United Kingdom	4 (8%)
Fiji	2 (4%)
Lebanon	2 (4%)
Sri Lanka	2 (4%)
United Arab Emirates	2 (4%)
USA	2 (4%)
Zimbabwe	2 (4%)
Other	28 (53%)
Total	53 (100%)

Interpretation: In the four weeks to 14 August 2021, travellers returning from France accounted for the largest number of overseas acquired cases (5, 9%).

Cases among returned travellers in quarantine

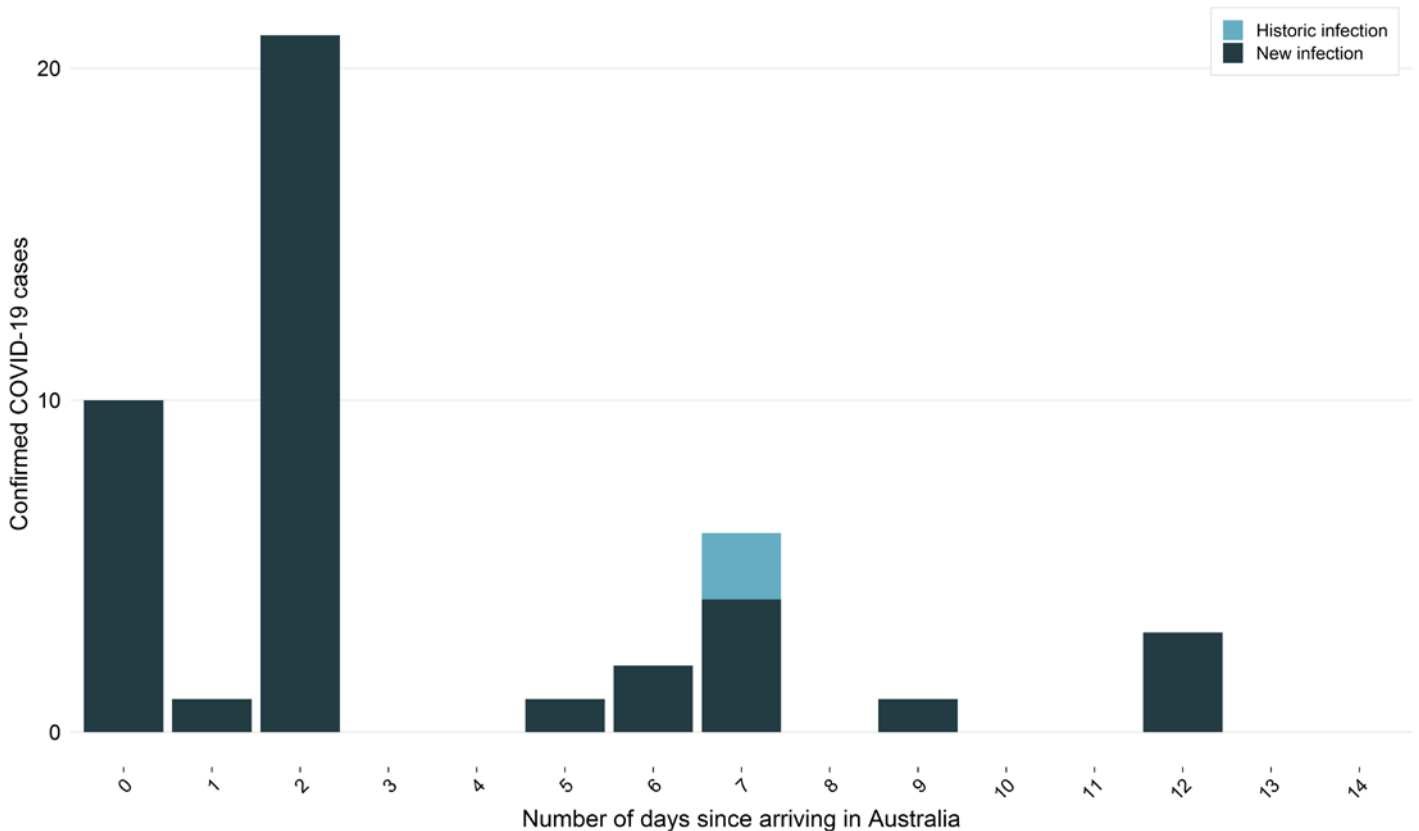
The program of screening all overseas travellers after arrival in NSW commenced on 15 May 2020. From 30 June 2020, the program was extended to include screening of travellers on entry to quarantine, day 2 after arrival, and exit of quarantine. On 11 January 2021, exit screening of travellers was moved from day 10 to day 12 of quarantine. Routine day 7 screening was introduced on 2 June 2021. In addition to these three routine tests, individuals that become symptomatic, or who are symptomatic on arrival, are also tested.

Overseas returned travellers complete their quarantine in several facilities, with the majority in hotels managed by police or hotels managed by NSW Health (known as Special Health Accommodation). Since September 2020 international flight crew are also required to quarantine in police-managed hotels.

The figure below shows the number of overseas acquired cases in returned travellers within the quarantine program, by the number of days since they arrived in Australia. Overseas acquired cases include people with likely exposure overseas, in flight or are co-quarantining with family members who acquired COVID-19 overseas.

Historical COVID-19 infections are a subset of confirmed cases that have been infected sometime in the past and are not considered infectious at the time of diagnosis. An historic case requires laboratory evidence to support historic infection and must be asymptomatic in the 14 days prior to the positive test.

Figure 16. Number of overseas acquired cases in the last four weeks who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 within 14 days since arrival in NSW by COVID-19 infection status, 11 Jul to 14 August 2021



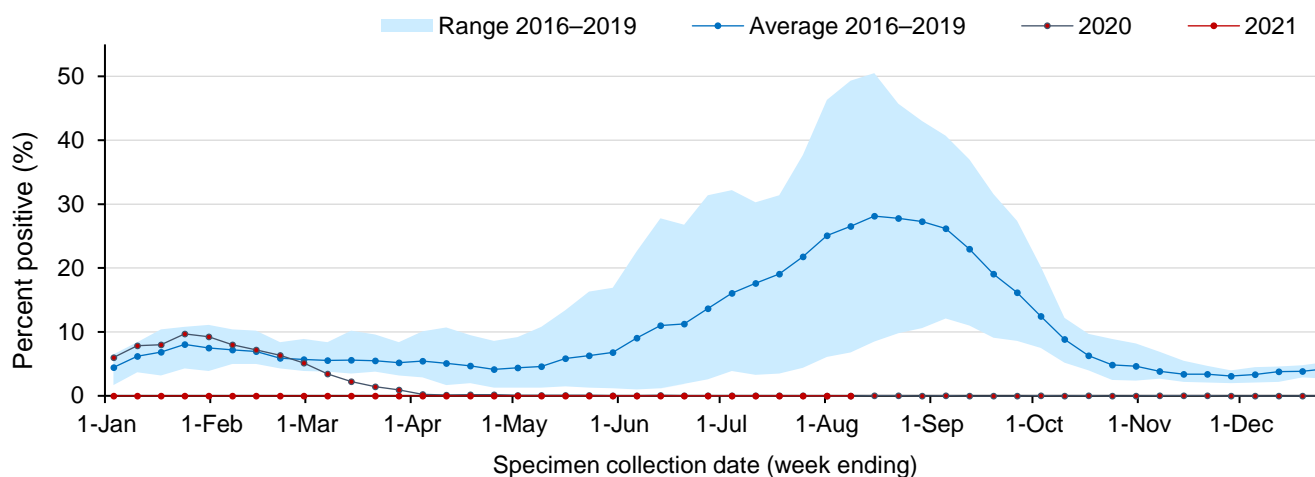
Interpretation: In the four weeks ending 14 August 2021, 60% of overseas acquired COVID-19 cases have tested positive within two days of arriving to Australia, with most people testing positive on day two screening.

Section 11: Other respiratory infections in NSW

How much influenza is circulating?

The graph below shows the proportion of tests found to be positive for influenza with the red line showing weekly counts for 2021, the dark blue line showing counts for 2020, the light blue line showing the average for 2016 to 2019 and the shaded area showing the range recorded for 2016 to 2019.

Figure 17. Proportion of tests positive for influenza, NSW, 1 January 2016 to 08 August 2021

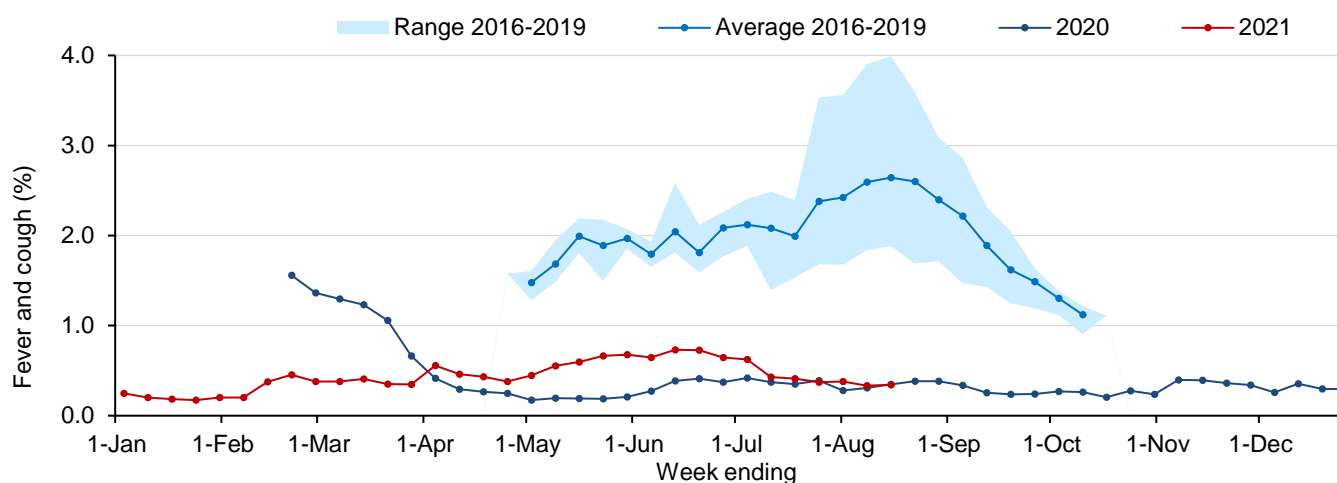


Interpretation: In the week ending 8 August, the percent of influenza tests that were positive continued to be very low (<0.01%), indicating limited influenza transmission in the community. Since early March 2020, this percentage has remained far lower than the usual range for the time of year. There have been 14 influenza cases reported in 2021.

How many people have flu-like symptoms in the community?

FluTracking is an online survey that asks participants to report flu-like symptoms, such as fever or cough, in the last week. Across NSW approximately 25,000–30,000 people participate each week. The survey usually commences at the beginning of May in line with the flu season but has continued throughout the year due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Figure 18. Proportion of FluTracker participants reporting influenza-like illness, NSW, 1 January 2016 to 15 August 2021



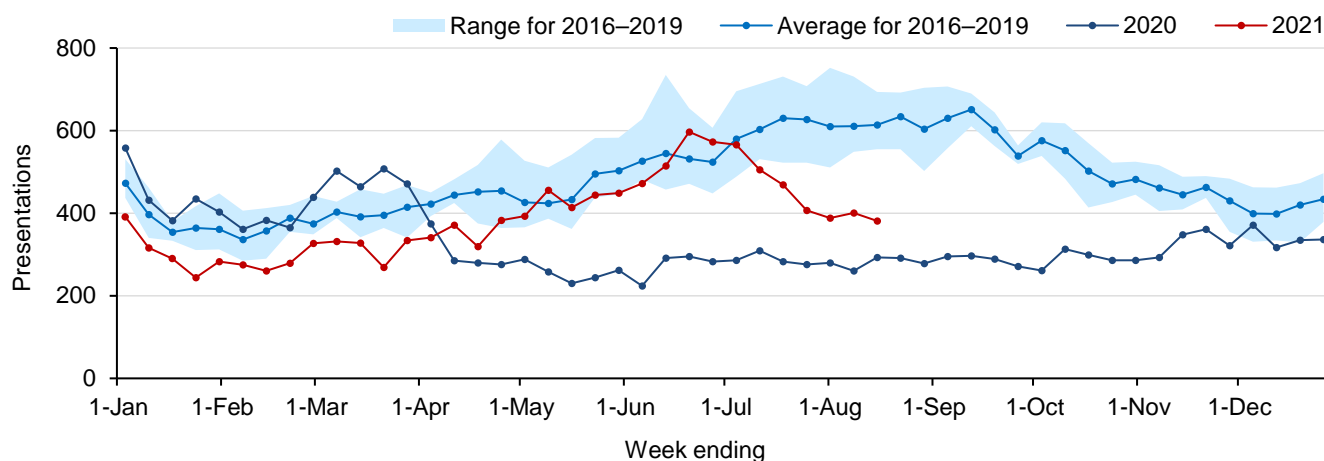
Interpretation: In NSW in the week ending 15 August 2021, of the 23,542 people surveyed, 81 people (0.34%) reported flu-like symptoms. In the last four weeks, 53% (180/337) of new cases of flu-like illness reported having a COVID-19 test. The proportion of people with flu-like symptoms being tested for COVID-19 has decreased since January 2021, when 80% reported being tested, and has remained at around 50% since early April 2021.

How are emergency department presentations tracking?

Improved hygiene and social distancing measures implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic have impacts on a broad range of other viral and bacterial infections.

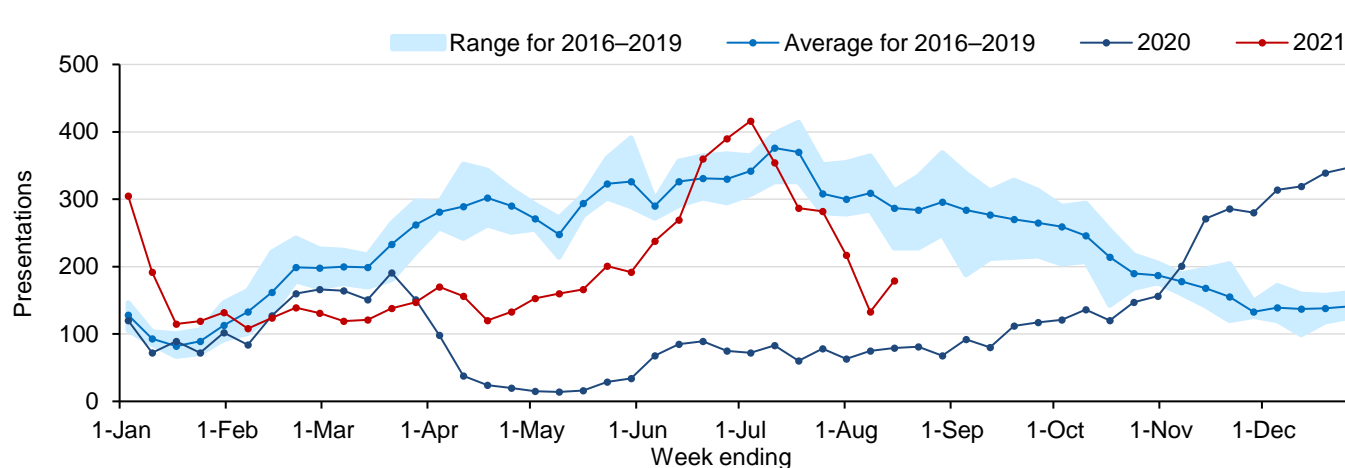
The figures below show weekly pneumonia and bronchiolitis presentations to Emergency Departments in NSW, using PHREDSS². The red line shows the weekly counts for 2021, the dark blue line showing counts for 2020, the light blue line showing the average for 2016 to 2019 and the shaded area showing the range recorded for 2016 to 2019.

Figure 19. Emergency Department pneumonia presentations, NSW, 1 January 2016 to 15 August 2021



Interpretation: Pneumonia presentations include people with diagnoses of viral, bacterial, atypical or unspecified pneumonia, and Legionnaires' disease, but excludes 'pneumonia with influenza' and provides an indicator of more severe respiratory conditions. In the week ending 15 August, pneumonia presentations remained stable relative to preceding weeks following a six week decline, and remain significantly below the seasonal range for this time of year.

Figure 20. Emergency Department bronchiolitis presentations, NSW, 1 January 2016 to 15 August 2021



Interpretation: Bronchiolitis is a common disease of infants often caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Public health measures introduced last year around social distancing and improved hygiene practices coincided with a large decrease in bronchiolitis presentations for the majority of 2020. A rise in bronchiolitis presentations in the later part of 2020 corresponds to an increase in RSV detections. In the week ending 15 August 2021, bronchiolitis presentations showed an increase but remain below the seasonal range for this time of year.

² NSW Health Public Health Rapid, Emergency Disease and Syndromic Surveillance (PHREDSS) system, CEE, NSW Ministry of Health. Comparisons are made with data for the preceding 5 years. Includes unplanned presentations to 67 NSW emergency departments (accounts for 87% of total public ED activity).

Appendix A: COVID-19 PCR tests in NSW by Local Government Area

		Week ending				Total since January 2021	
		14-Aug		07-Aug			
Local Health District	Local Government Area	No.	Tests per 1,000 population	No.	Tests per 1,000 population	No.	Tests per 1,000 population
Central Coast	<i>LHD Total</i>	27774	78.71	25839	73.23	389343	1103.38
	Balranald	29	12.40	32	13.69	1134	485.03
	Broken Hill	420	24.03	270	15.45	12786	731.51
Far West	Central Darling	84	45.68	14	7.61	838	455.68
	Wentworth	71	10.07	66	9.36	5036	714.02
	<i>LHD Total</i>	604	20.04	382	12.67	19794	656.65
	Armidale Regional	6025	195.75	1686	54.78	28233	917.28
	Cessnock	3560	59.35	2283	38.06	35347	589.26
	Dungog	670	71.10	271	28.76	5862	622.09
	Glen Innes Severn	849	95.71	210	23.67	4526	510.20
	Gunnedah	1353	106.70	397	31.31	8065	635.99
	Gwydir	296	55.30	96	17.93	1896	354.19
	Inverell	1426	84.43	538	31.85	10246	606.63
	Lake Macquarie	26825	130.28	17047	82.79	228336	1108.96
	Liverpool Plains	525	66.43	264	33.41	4759	602.18
	Maitland	13553	159.14	6989	82.06	103221	1212.00
Hunter New England	Mid-Coast	3823	40.74	2796	29.80	53633	571.56
	Moree Plains	707	53.31	345	26.02	8799	663.52
	Muswellbrook	822	50.19	591	36.09	10379	633.75
	Narrabri	897	68.29	281	21.39	6027	458.85
	Newcastle	28101	169.72	11847	71.55	211928	1279.98
	Port Stephens	6729	91.57	3176	43.22	63542	864.74
	Singleton	1639	69.86	1205	51.36	20660	880.61
	Tamworth Regional	7379	117.99	2614	41.80	54378	869.48
	Tenterfield	247	37.46	116	17.59	2475	375.34
	Upper Hunter Shire	794	55.99	547	38.58	9244	651.90
	Uralla	715	118.93	173	28.78	3427	570.03
	Walcha	470	149.97	74	23.61	2312	737.72
	<i>LHD Total</i>	107378	112.75	53531	56.21	876790	920.63
Illawarra Shoalhaven	Kiama	1709	73.08	956	40.88	25413	1086.68
	Shellharbour	6989	95.44	4204	57.41	82079	1120.79
	Shoalhaven	4087	38.69	3599	34.07	81505	771.48
	Wollongong	11326	51.93	11494	52.70	245743	1126.67
	<i>LHD Total</i>	24111	57.46	20253	48.27	434740	1036.05
Mid North Coast	Bellingen	577	44.40	311	23.93	8886	683.75
	Coffs Harbour	2900	37.53	1762	22.80	48281	624.78
	Kempsey	1053	35.40	867	29.15	19706	662.50
	Nambucca	554	27.97	366	18.48	10848	547.74
	Port Macquarie-Hastings	3036	35.92	2984	35.30	59248	700.95
	<i>LHD Total</i>	8120	35.98	6290	27.87	146969	651.27
Murrumbidgee	Albury	1439	26.48	1391	25.59	40734	749.43
	Berrigan	138	15.77	125	14.29	3477	397.37
	Bland	216	36.17	94	15.74	3052	511.05
	Carrathool	42	15.01	14	5.00	747	266.88

		Week ending				Total since January 2021	
		14-Aug		07-Aug			
Local Health District	Local Government Area	No.	Tests per 1,000 population	No.	Tests per 1,000 population	No.	Tests per 1,000 population
	Coolamon	134	30.87	115	26.49	2747	632.80
	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional	397	35.34	251	22.34	7102	632.13
	Edward River	171	18.82	175	19.26	4768	524.88
	Federation	257	20.66	249	20.02	6635	533.49
	Greater Hume Shire	327	30.38	302	28.06	7553	701.69
	Griffith	785	29.04	481	17.80	19018	703.61
	Hay	53	17.97	41	13.90	1118	379.11
	Hilltops	929	49.67	403	21.55	11843	633.18
	Junee	184	27.53	141	21.10	3223	482.27
	Lachlan ¹	225	37.04	70	11.52	2120	348.97
	Leeton	289	25.25	203	17.74	5734	501.00
	Lockhart	125	38.05	112	34.09	1867	568.34
	Murray River	34	2.81	54	4.46	1724	142.27
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	89	22.72	66	16.85	1724	440.13
	Narrandera	115	19.49	84	14.24	2262	383.45
	Snowy Valleys	383	26.45	226	15.61	8294	572.83
	Temora	117	18.55	104	16.49	2552	404.63
	Wagga Wagga	3049	46.72	2125	32.56	58197	891.80
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	9307	31.22	6775	22.73	195014	654.17
Nepean Blue Mountains	Blue Mountains	6192	78.26	4969	62.80	105307	1331.01
	Hawkesbury	8444	125.48	5596	83.16	84968	1262.60
	Lithgow	714	33.05	475	21.99	13235	612.59
	Penrith	43405	203.80	30084	141.25	312795	1468.68
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	57928	148.16	40545	103.70	510611	1305.95
Northern NSW	Ballina	2960	66.33	1647	36.91	43889	983.44
	Byron	4894	139.51	1250	35.63	37659	1073.49
	Clarence Valley	1961	37.96	1150	22.26	25876	500.87
	Kyogle	395	44.91	162	18.42	4153	472.15
	Lismore	3157	72.26	1417	32.43	35825	819.94
	Richmond Valley	1651	70.36	696	29.66	16858	718.43
	Tenterfield	247	37.46	116	17.59	2475	375.34
	Tweed	4050	41.75	2782	28.68	59200	610.30
<i>LHD Total²</i>	19103	61.55	9121	29.39	223989	721.70	
Northern Sydney	Hornsby	7442	48.94	7036	46.27	168118	1105.61
	Hunters Hill	1820	121.50	1514	101.07	39414	2631.11
	Ku-ring-gai	7369	57.95	6850	53.87	215490	1694.73
	Lane Cove	3562	88.71	3586	89.30	105542	2628.37
	Mosman	1336	43.12	1289	41.61	43906	1417.19
	North Sydney	2952	39.35	2617	34.88	84579	1127.40
	Northern Beaches	20005	73.14	15708	57.43	545124	1993.15
	Parramatta ¹	30417	118.26	26864	104.45	311670	1211.79
	Ryde	13845	105.47	13778	104.96	188817	1438.38
	Willoughby	3233	39.82	2844	35.03	85813	1056.95
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	65273	68.28	58603	61.31	1532170	1602.83

		Week ending				Total since January 2021	
		14-Aug		07-Aug			
Local Health District	Local Government Area	No.	Tests per 1,000 population	No.	Tests per 1,000 population	No.	Tests per 1,000 population
South Eastern Sydney	Bayside	24622	138.02	14844	83.21	224171	1256.59
	Georges River	24466	153.42	20231	126.86	207546	1301.47
	Randwick	12690	81.53	10295	66.14	278331	1788.20
	Sutherland Shire	18977	82.29	16234	70.40	321227	1392.94
	Sydney ¹	21030	85.37	18048	73.26	414673	1683.32
	Waverley	6535	87.96	4998	67.27	162171	2182.80
	Woollahra	3905	65.76	3706	62.40	128405	2162.17
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	97413	101.57	75665	78.89	1468328	1530.94
South Western Sydney	Camden	15373	151.55	15059	148.46	186615	1839.71
	Campbelltown	32335	189.16	29678	173.61	267527	1565.01
	Canterbury-Bankstown ¹	105574	279.36	105742	279.80	682110	1804.92
	Fairfield	51765	244.53	52682	248.86	406250	1919.03
	Liverpool	45741	200.98	43663	191.85	383517	1685.16
	Wingecarribee	2991	58.49	2436	47.64	61229	1197.42
	Wollondilly	4487	84.42	4205	79.12	51809	974.79
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	206261	198.61	200550	193.11	1688686	1626.03
Southern NSW	Bega Valley	1037	30.08	515	14.94	20354	590.38
	Eurobodalla	1360	35.35	740	19.23	28996	753.67
	Goulburn Mulwaree	2045	65.69	911	29.26	25342	814.02
	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional	3137	51.34	1070	17.51	32585	533.31
	Snowy Monaro Regional	1302	62.61	444	21.35	14325	688.87
	Upper Lachlan Shire	472	58.57	201	24.94	5479	679.86
	Yass Valley	976	57.12	272	15.92	8147	476.80
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	10340	47.63	4157	19.15	135312	623.35
Sydney	Burwood	4323	106.45	3457	85.12	42162	1038.17
	Canada Bay	10537	109.68	7347	76.47	139280	1449.72
	Canterbury-Bankstown ¹	105574	279.36	105742	279.80	682110	1804.92
	Inner West	17485	87.07	14970	74.55	310047	1543.97
	Strathfield	10356	220.69	7930	168.99	81557	1737.99
	Sydney ¹	21030	85.37	18048	73.26	414673	1683.32
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	107534	154.33	97269	139.60	1179886	1693.37
Western NSW	Bathurst Regional	2732	62.63	1256	28.80	40351	925.10
	Blayney	343	46.48	181	24.53	7288	987.67
	Bogan	405	156.98	38	14.73	1789	693.41
	Bourke	318	122.78	40	15.44	1504	580.69
	Brewarrina	137	85.04	16	9.93	662	410.92
	Cabonne	533	39.09	331	24.28	8214	602.46
	Cobar	331	71.06	58	12.45	2297	493.13
	Coonamble	417	105.36	92	23.24	2149	542.95
	Cowra	408	32.02	209	16.40	7381	579.22
	Dubbo Regional	12823	238.71	1817	33.82	50935	948.17
	Forbes	389	39.27	178	17.97	5295	534.52
	Gilgandra	549	129.51	81	19.11	2348	553.90
	Lachlan ¹	225	37.04	70	11.52	2120	348.97
	Mid-Western Regional	2339	92.63	1360	53.86	19779	783.30

		Week ending				Total since January 2021	
		14-Aug		07-Aug			
Local Health District	Local Government Area	No.	Tests per 1,000 population	No.	Tests per 1,000 population	No.	Tests per 1,000 population
	Narromine	1329	203.93	182	27.93	4793	735.46
	Oberon	195	36.04	138	25.50	3345	618.19
	Orange	2759	64.99	1352	31.85	52086	1226.97
	Parkes	828	55.81	288	19.41	9243	622.97
	Walgett	929	156.06	110	18.48	3575	600.54
	Warren	842	312.20	136	50.43	3317	1229.89
	Warrumbungle Shire	997	107.46	240	25.87	6035	650.46
	Weddin	126	34.87	67	18.54	1808	500.42
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	29923	104.99	8223	28.85	235784	827.28
Western Sydney	Blacktown	66909	178.69	56788	151.66	559012	1492.88
	Cumberland	65049	269.33	56476	233.83	421583	1745.53
	Parramatta ¹	30417	118.26	26864	104.45	311670	1211.79
	The Hills Shire	19917	111.91	17799	100.01	301922	1696.49
	<i>LHD Total²</i>	181416	172.21	157188	149.21	1556538	1477.58
NSW Total³		974478	120.46	782901	96.78	6949198	859.01

Source - Notifiable condition information management System, accessed as at 8pm17 Aug 2021

1 Local Government Area (LGA) spans multiple Local Health Districts.

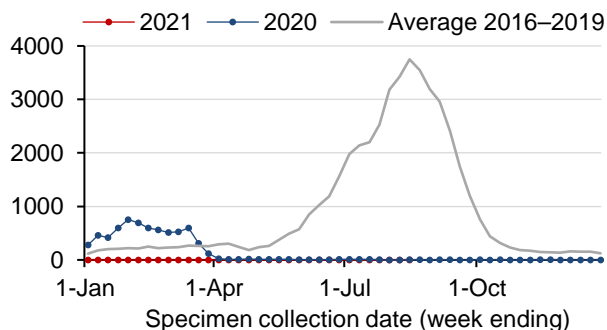
2 Local Health District total counts and rates includes tests for LHD residents only. Murrumbidgee includes Albury LGA residents.

3 NSW Total counts and rates since January 2021 include tests where residential information is incomplete. See <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/counting-tests.aspx> for detail on how tests are counted.

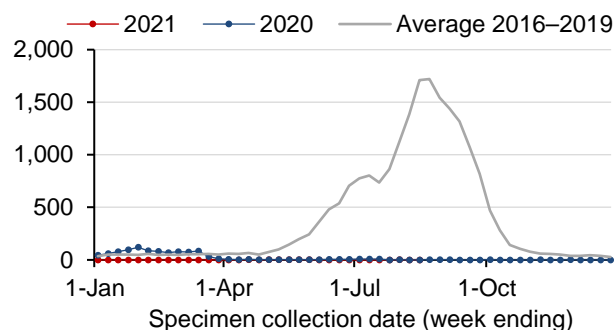
Appendix C: Number of positive PCR test results for influenza and other respiratory viruses at sentinel NSW laboratories, January 2020 to 15 August 2021

Not all samples are tested for all respiratory viruses. Therefore, data presented may tend to under-represent current respiratory virus activity in NSW.

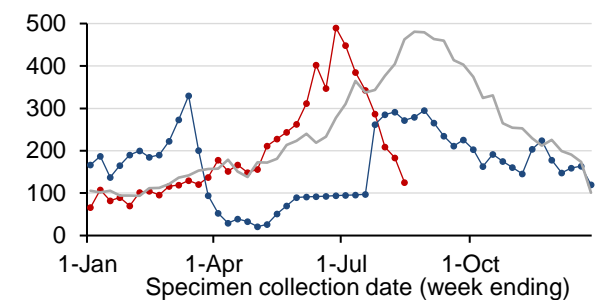
Influenza A



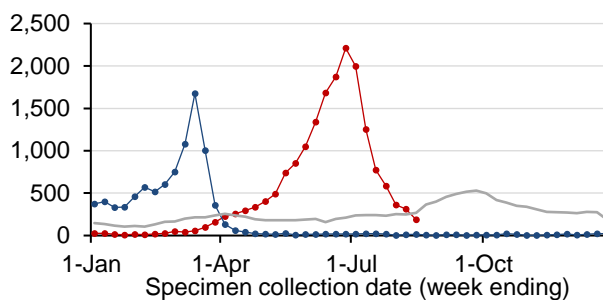
Influenza B



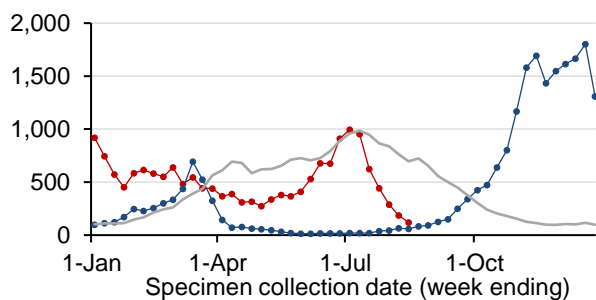
Adenovirus



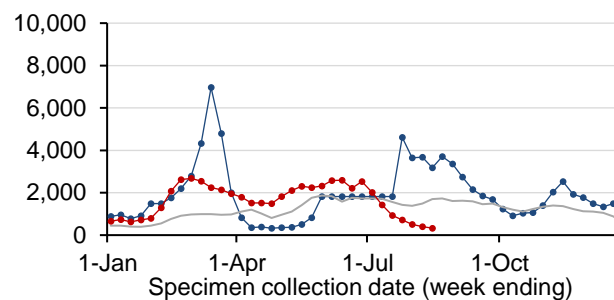
Parainfluenza



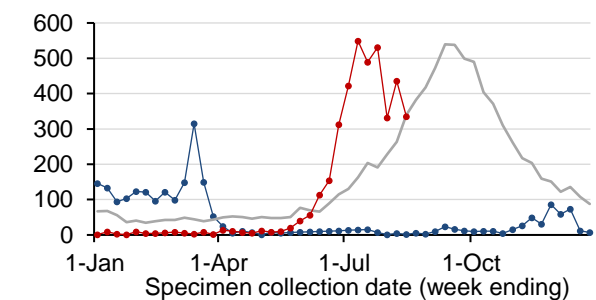
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)



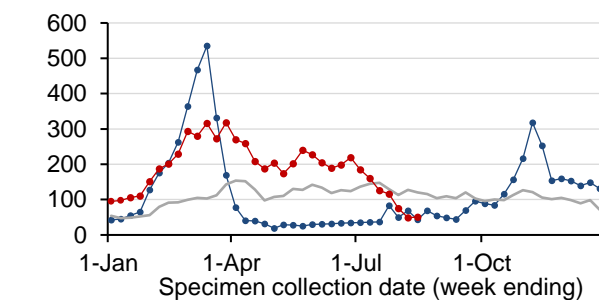
Rhinovirus



Human metapneumovirus (HMPV)



Enterovirus



Note: Preliminary laboratory data is provided by participating sentinel laboratories on a weekly basis and are subject to change. Serological diagnoses are not included.

Appendix D: SARS-CoV-2 testing in sewage samples collected in the previous 10 weeks, week ending 14 Aug 2021

The NSW Sewage Surveillance Program tests untreated sewage for fragments of the COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) virus at sewage treatment plant locations across NSW. The table below shows results for the last 10 weeks of samples collected across all sites in NSW.

Sydney Sites		12-Jun	19-Jun	26-Jun	3-Jul	10-Jul	17-Jul	24-Jul	31-Jul	7-Aug	14-Aug
Pop.	Location	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
60,514	Blue Mountains (Winmalee)	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green
4,681	North Richmond	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
13,052	Richmond	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red
110,114	Penrith	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
12,000	Lithgow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
19,000	South Windsor	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green
8,000	McGraths Hill	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green
69,245	Warriewood	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Green
1,241	Brooklyn	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red
31,924	Hornsby Heights	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Red
57,933	West Hornsby	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red
318,810	Bondi	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green
233,176	Cronulla	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
1,857,740	Malabar 1	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
	Malabar 2	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
181,005	Liverpool	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
98,743	West Camden	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red
6,882	Wallacia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red
14,600	Picton	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
161,200	Glenfield	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
1,341,986	North Head	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
26,997	Castle Hill Cattai	Red	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red
	Castle Hill Glenhaven	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
163,374	Quakers Hill	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
119,309	Rouse Hill	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
37,61	Riverstone	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red
163,147	St Marys	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
73,686	Shellharbour	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red
55,000	Wollongong	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
68,000	Port Kembla	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green
93,000	Bellambi	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red

Sydney Network Sites		12-June	19-June	26-June	3-July	10-July	17-July	24-July	31-July	7-Aug	14-Aug
Network	Location	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Bondi	Paddington Sewage Network	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey	Red	Grey	Grey
Bondi	Rozelle Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red
Cronulla	Caringbah Sewage Network	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey	Red
Cronulla	Miranda Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red
Malabar	Earlwood Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey	Red	Grey
Malabar	Marrickville Sewage Network 1	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey	Red
Malabar	Marrickville Sewage Network 2	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Malabar	Bardwell Creek Sewage Network	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Malabar	Arncliffe Sewage Network 1	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Malabar	Arncliffe Sewage Network 2	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Malabar	Blakehurst Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Malabar	Padstow Sewage Network 1	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Malabar	Padstow Sewage Network 2	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Malabar	Fairfield SPS 1	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Malabar	Fairfield SPS 2	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Malabar	Homebush SPS	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Malabar	Olympic Park	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Malabar	Croydon Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red
Malabar	Dulwich Hill Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Malabar	Canterbury Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Malabar	Botany Sewage Network	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Malabar	Maroubra Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
North Head	Camellia SPS - North	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
North Head	Camellia SPS - South	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
North Head	Auburn Sewage Network	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Grey	Red	Grey	Red
North Head	Northmead SPS	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
North Head	Northmead Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red
North Head	Tunks Park Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
North Head	Vineyard Creek Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
North Head	Boronia Park Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red
North Head	West Lindfield Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red
North Head	Lane Cove West Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red
North Head	Allambie Heights Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red
North Head	Buffalo Creek Reserve Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red
Glenfield	Minto Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Liverpool	Ireland Park Sewage Network	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Quakers Hill	Eastern Creek Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
St Marys	Ropes Creek Sewage Network	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red

Regional Sites		12-June	19-June	26-June	3-July	10-July	17-July	24-July	31-July	7-Aug	14-Aug
Pop.	Location	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
14,700	Bowral										
14,000	Mittagong										
9,000	Moss Vale										
1,000	Berrima										
2,000	Bundanoon										
900	Robertson										
16,68	Bombo										
7,200	Gerringong/Gerroa										
32,000	Ulladulla										
18,000	Bomaderry										
37,500	Nowra										
14,000	Vincentia										
16,000	St Georges Basin										
11,000	Cullburra Beach										
139,500	Gosford-Kincumber										
59,60	Charmhaven										
29,300	Wyong-Toukley										
15,800	Gwandalan-Manning										
	Gwandalan										
	Manning Park										
40,500	Wyong South										
38,900	Bateau Bay										
41,300	Woy Woy										
5,000	Perisher										
8,400	Thredbo										
3,000	Jindabyne										
8,000	Cooma										
500	Gunning										
500	Charlottes Pass										
51,750	Albury composite										
	Albury Kremer St										
	Albury Waterview										
22,419	Goulburn										
21,000	Batemans Bay										
18,000	Moruya										
17,000	Narooma										
8,000	Eden										
15,500	Merimbula										
5,000	Bermagui										
7,800	Deniliquin										
5,600	Moama										
48,000	Queanbeyan										
50,000	Wagga Wagga composite										

	Wagga Wagga- inlet 1										
	Wagga Wagga- inlet 2										
	Wagga Wagga -Koorringal STP										
2,300	Gundagai										
2,800	Hay										
5,000	Narrandera										

Regional Sites		12- June	19- June	26- June	3- July	10- July	17- July	24- July	31- July	7- Aug	14- Aug
Pop.	Location	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
2,050	Griffith										
2,050	Bourke										
2,500	Nyngan										
40,000	Orange										
12,000	Mudgee										
36,603	Bathurst										
3,300	Oberon										
3,700	Blayney										
1,700	Molong										
8,000	Forbes										
2,500	Coonabarabran										
1,100	Balranald										
	Walgett										
19,000	Broken Hill										
500	Dareton										
1,100	Buronga										
1,200	Wentworth										
11,600	Parkes										
37,000	Dubbo										
24,000	Armidale										
1,900	Guyra										
2,700	Uralla										
45,000	Tamworth										
11,000	Muswellbrook										
7,400	Narrabri										
3,300	Tenterfield										
750	Urbenville										
10,000	Moree										
26,394	Taree										
12,000	Forster										
7,582	Hallidays Point										
5,180	Harrington										
10,715	Hawks Nest										
225,834	Hunter - Burwood Beach										
60,000	Hunter - Shortland										
115,000	Hunter - Belmont										

	site moved to composite or ceased
c	composite of the separate influent samples
n	result from network sites

Glossary

Term	Description
Case	A person infected who has tested positive to a validated specific SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid test or has had the virus identified by electron microscopy or viral culture. Blood tests (serology) is only used in special situations following a public health investigation and require other criteria to be met in addition to the positive serology result (related to timing of symptoms and contact with known COVID-19 cases). Case counts include: - NSW residents diagnosed in NSW who were infected overseas or in Australia (in NSW or interstate), and - interstate or international visitors diagnosed in NSW who were under the care of NSW Health at the time of diagnosis
Health care workers	Individuals who work within a hospital or other healthcare settings, including staff in direct or indirect contact with patients or infectious materials.
Incubation period	The time in which the case was infected. The incubation period for COVID-19 is between 1 and 14 days prior to symptom onset.
Overseas acquired case	Case who travelled overseas during their incubation period. While testing rates in NSW are high and case counts are low, cases who have travelled overseas in their incubation period are considered to have acquired their infection overseas.
Interstate acquired case	Case who travelled interstate during their infection and the public health investigation concludes the infection was likely acquired interstate.
Cluster	Group of cases sharing a common source of infection or are linked to each other in some way.

Dates used in COVID-19 reporting

Event	Date name	Source
Person first starts to feel unwell	Date of symptom onset	Public health staff interview all cases at the time of diagnosis. This is the date provided to NSW Health by the case.
Person has a swab taken	Date of test	This date is provided to NSW Health by the laboratory when the test result (positive or negative) is notified.
Laboratory notifies NSW Health of result	Date of notification	This date is provided to NSW Health by the laboratory. Laboratories prioritise notification of positive results to allow prompt public health action. Positive cases: The date of notification is collected by NSW Health on the day of notification. Cases are informed of their diagnosis by their doctor or public health staff as soon as the result is available. The date of notification to NSW Health is usually the same day as the date the case finds out about the result. Negative cases: Some laboratories notify NSW Health of negative results in batches at regular intervals. For these laboratories the date of notification to NSW Health does not reflect the date the negative result was available at the laboratory. NSW Health does not collect information on the date the person was informed of the result.