

Acute Respiratory Infections Weekly Report

Public Health Unit

Data as of: 18 August 2023

Key messages for local services

New cases: In the 7 days to August 18 there were **245** new COVID-19 cases notified in SESLHD residents which is similar to the previous week. Notifications were predominantly in females aged 20-49 years. COVID-19 hospital presentations and admissions remain low and steady.

Influenza notifications increased by 11% this week with **295** notifications, the highest numbers being amongst children and teenagers. Presentations to ED for influenza-like illness (ILI) decreased but remain higher than usual for this time of year. Admissions for pneumonia and ILI and presentations for bronchiolitis remain steady.

Deaths: There has been 1 death among people with COVID-19 reported in the past week. The total number of deaths among people with COVID-19 in SESLHD is 897.

Aged & Disabled Care Facilities: The number of aged care facilities under surveillance for COVID-19 is the same as last week, with only 2 facilities experiencing an outbreak. There is currently no outbreak due to other respiratory viruses. There are no disability services with a recent COVID-19 or influenza exposure.

Testing: Just under half of notifications this week were via PCR (48%). The estimated COVID-19 positivity rate* for the week ending 20 August is 2.5% (-1.1%).

Influenza positivity was 5.1% (-0.6%). Influenza B remains the predominant strain detected (59%).

* SESLHD SARS-CoV-2 PCR positivity is based on SEALS testing data that mainly reflects patients presenting to District hospitals, including SCH.

Data summary

1. Case numbers

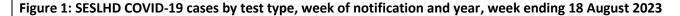
Table 1: SESLHD COVID PCR and RAT positive cases by LGA of residence and notification week

LGA	7 days	14 days	28 days	Total (Since 03/2020)	7-day crude rate per 100,000*	Total crude rate per 100,000*
Bayside	28	52	115	80,399.0	14.1	40,413.1
Georges River	37	72	115	75,281.0	22.9	46,607.9
Randwick	42	88	157	78,049.0	27.3	50,690.1
Sutherland Shire	87	154	285	121,572.0	36.4	50,819.7
Sydney	19	39	68	36,644.0	24.1	46,406.7
Waverley	16	33	62	35,034.0	21.8	47,792.8
Woollahra	16	28	50	25,380.0	27.9	44,245.3
SESLHD	245	466	852	452,359.0	25.2	46,617.2

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

LGA	7 days	14 days	28 days	Total for 2023 YTD	7-day crude rate per 100,000*	2023 total crude rate per 100,000*
Bayside	36	79	205.0	1,227.0	18.1	616.8
Georges River	45	95	202.0	1,039.0	27.9	643.3
Randwick	47	85	193.0	1,008.0	30.5	654.7
Sutherland Shire	90	168	335.0	1,748.0	37.6	730.7
Sydney	12	20	68.0	362.0	15.2	458.4
Waverley	41	70	128.0	619.0	55.9	844.4
Woollahra	24	44	105.0	511.0	41.8	890.8
SESLHD	295	561	1,236.0	6,514.0	30.4	671.6

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



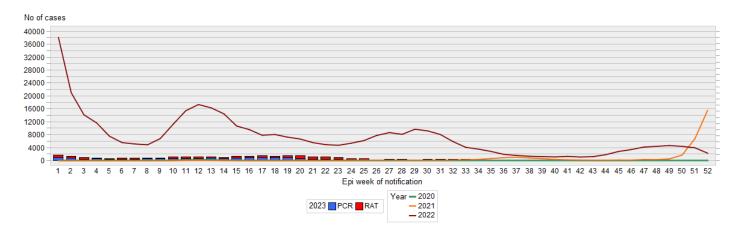


Figure 2: SESLHD influenza cases by week of notification and year, week ending 18 August 2023

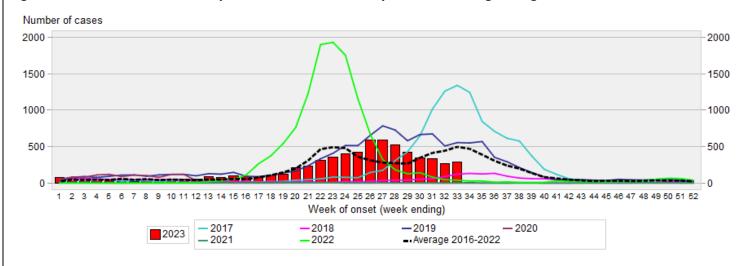
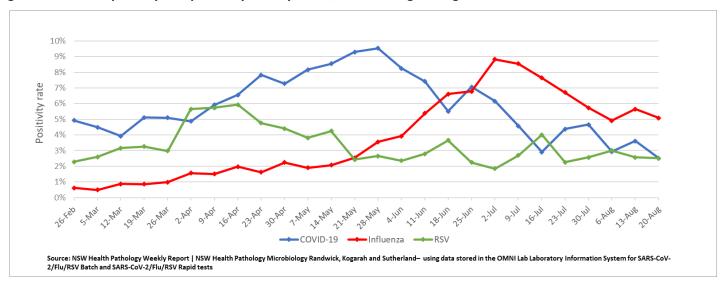
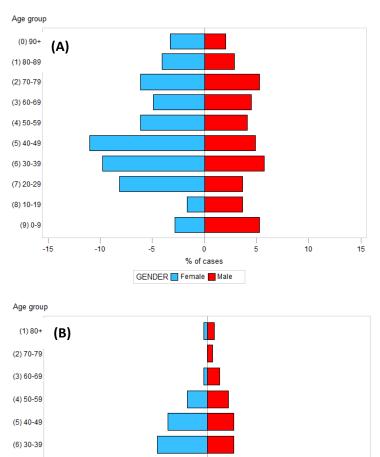


Figure 3: SEALS respiratory test positivity rate by week, week ending 20 August 2023



2. Demographic Data

Figure 4: Percentage of (A) COVID and (B) influenza cases in the last 7 days by age group and gender, to 18 August 2023



3. Residential facility outbreaks reported to the Public Health Unit

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(7) 20-29 (8) 10-19 (9) 0-9

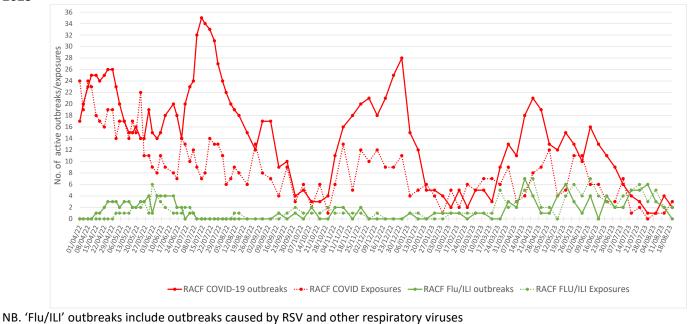
Figure 5: SESLHD aged care facility & disability COVID and Flu/ILI exposures and outbreaks, 1 April 2022 to 20 August 2023

gender 🔲 Female 📕 Male

15

30

-10



4. Emergency department presentations and admissions

Table 3: Emergency Department presentations within SESLHD week ending 20 August 2023

Diagnosis / Category	Trend since last week	Compared to average for time of year (2018-2022)	Comment
Respiratory, fever and unspecified infection presentations	Steady	Similar	
Influenza like illness (ILI) presentations	Decreased	Higher	1.3x higher than usual
Coronaviruses/SARS presentations	Steady	N/A	
Bronchiolitis presentations	Steady	Similar	

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

Figure 6: Presentations to ED due to influenza like illness

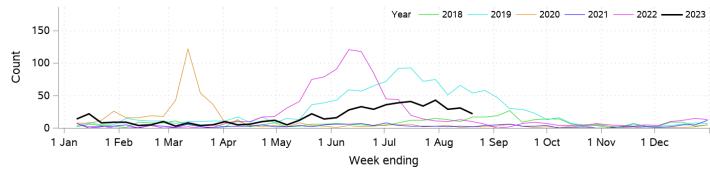


Figure 7: Presentations to ED due to coronaviruses/SARS

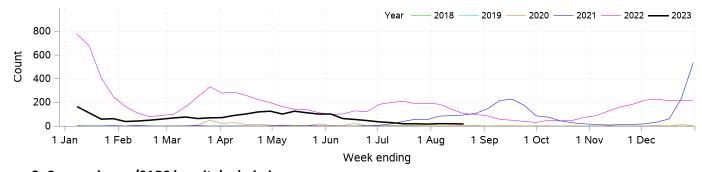


Figure 8: Coronaviruses/SARS hospital admissions

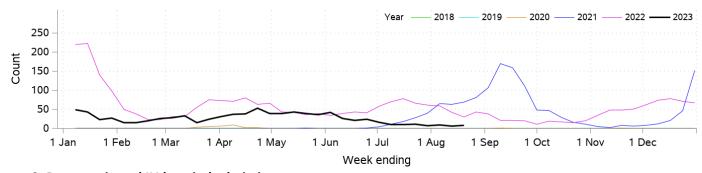


Figure 9: Pneumonia and ILI hospital admissions

