

Acute Respiratory Infections Weekly Report
Week-ending 10 March 2024

Issued 11 March 2024

Key messages for local services

COVID-19

COVID-19 activity decreased last week. Laboratory notifications were 24% lower than the week before and were predominantly from older age groups and young children. The positivity rate of PCR tests decreased from 9% the previous week to 6.8%. ED presentations and admissions continued to slowly decline. Numbers of aged care outbreaks decreased last week.

Influenza

Influenza case notifications decreased by 18% last week, and overall remained at low-moderate levels, slightly above the usual inter-seasonal baseline. Case notifications are predominantly from children and young adults. Influenza A remains the predominant influenza strain detected. Influenza test positivity is stable at 2.6%. ED presentations for influenza-like illness remain stable at the top of the expected range for this time of year. Pneumonia and ILI admissions decreased last week but remain above the expected range for this time of the year.

Respiratory syncytial virus

RSV PCR positivity remains high at 7.5%. Bronchiolitis ED presentations decreased but remain well above the expected range for this time of year.

Data Summary

1. Case numbers

Table 1: SESLHD COVID confirmed cases by LGA of residence

LGA	Last 7 days	Last 14 days	Last 28 days	Last 7 days crude rate*
Bayside	46	104	198	26.1
Georges River	23	49	156	15.1
Randwick	18	64	170	13.3
Sutherland Shire	49	106	245	21.2
Sydney	11	22	43	15.4
Waverley	12	27	68	17.3
Woollahra	12	25	64	22.3
SESLHD	171	397	944	19.2

Table 2: SESLHD influenza confirmed cases by LGA of residence

LGA	Last 7 days	Last 14 days	Last 28 days	Last 7 days crude rate*
Bayside	23	53	79	13.1
Georges River	15	37	62	9.8
Randwick	13	33	72	9.6
Sutherland Shire	31	55	99	13.4
Sydney	16	33	51	22.4
Waverley	13	30	53	18.7
Woollahra	6	19	44	11.1
SESLHD	117	260	460	13.3

*based on estimated resident population 2021.

Figure 1: SESLHD COVID-19 cases 2024, by week of notification

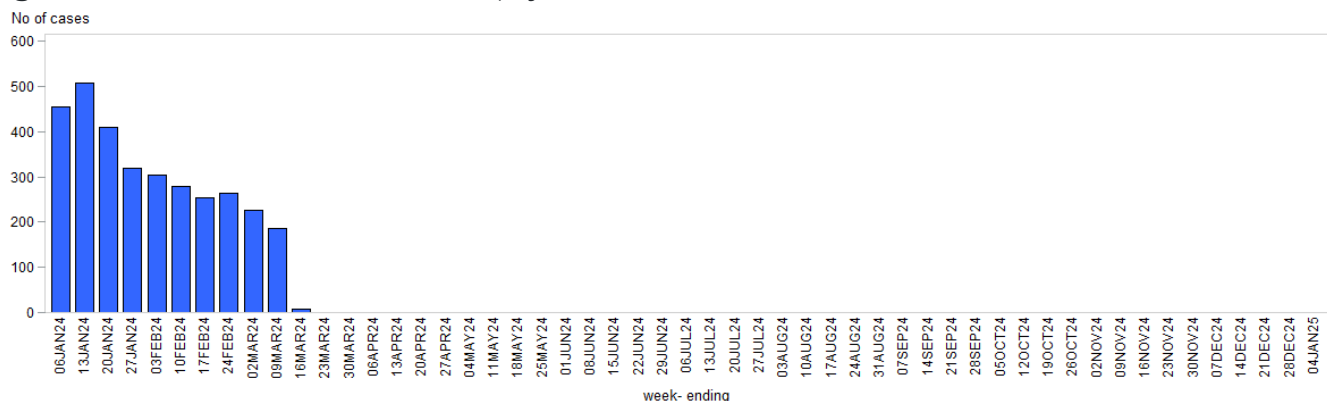


Figure 2: SESLHD influenza cases 2024 by subtype*

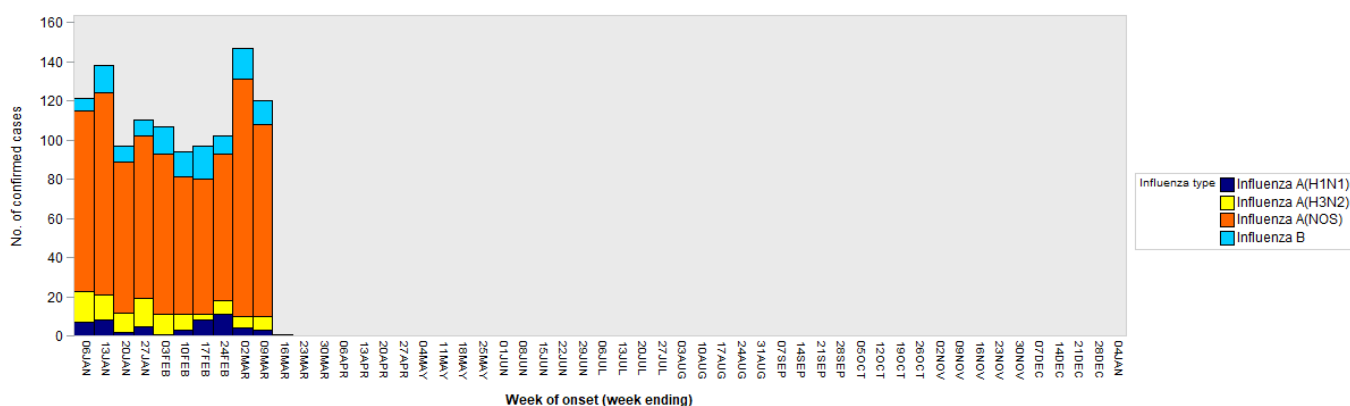
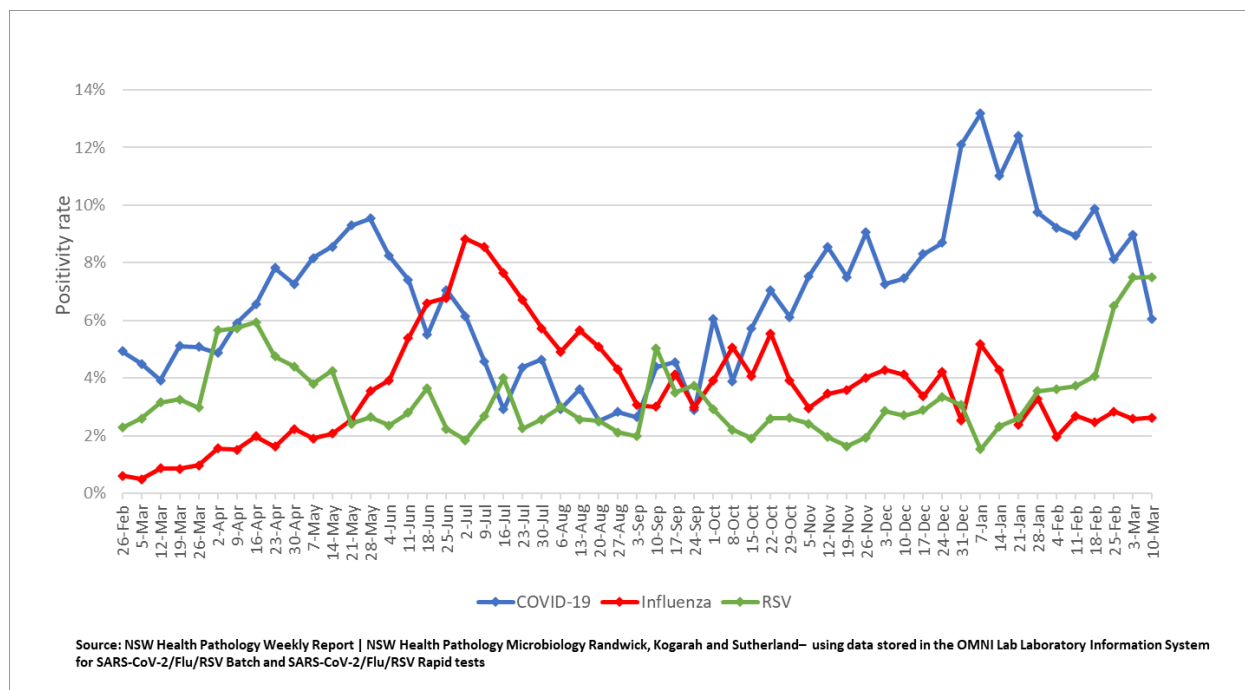


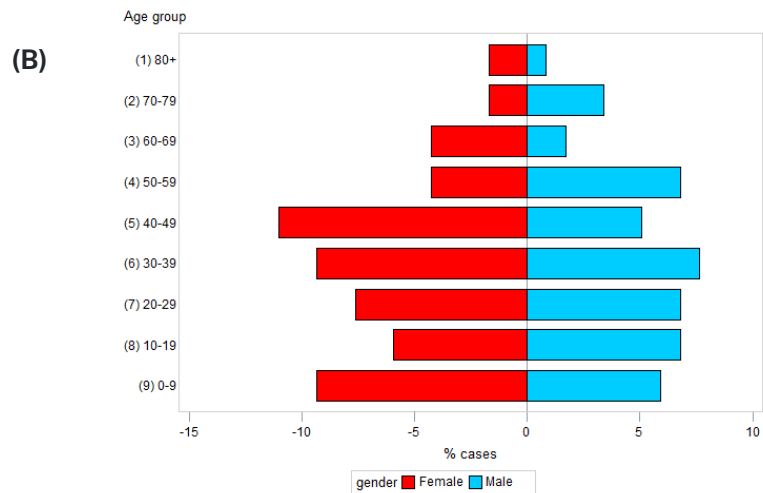
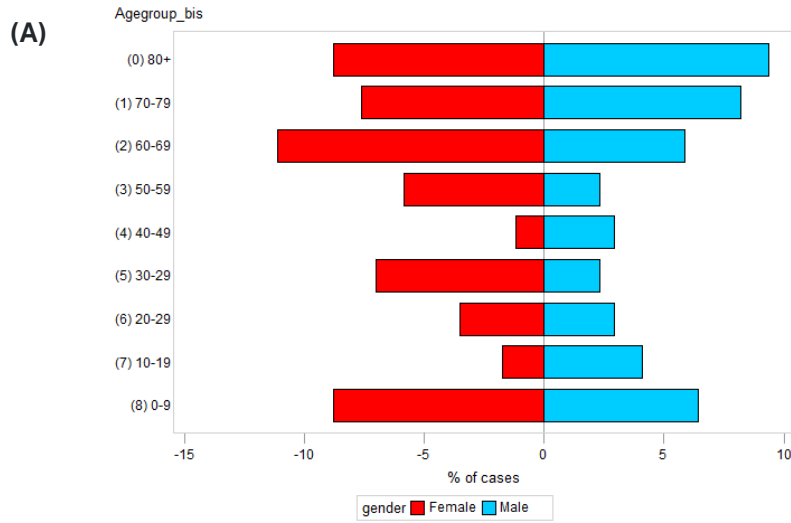
Figure 3: NSW Health Pathology respiratory PCR positivity rate by week, 26 February 2023 - 10 March 2024



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

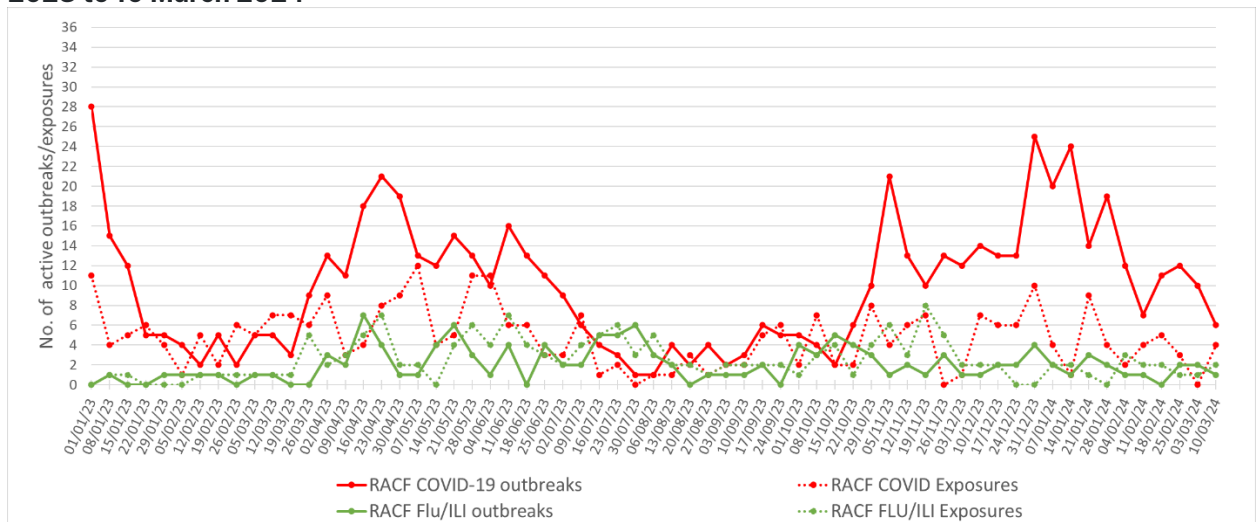
2. Demographic data

Figure 4: Percentage of (A) COVID and (B) influenza cases in the last 7 day by age group and gender



3. Residential facility outbreaks reported to SESLHD Public Health Unit

Figure 5: SESLHD aged care facility & disability COVID and Flu/ILI exposures and outbreaks, 01 Jan 2023 to 10 March 2024



4. SESLHD emergency department presentations and admissions

Figure 6: Presentations to ED due to respiratory, fever and unspecified infection

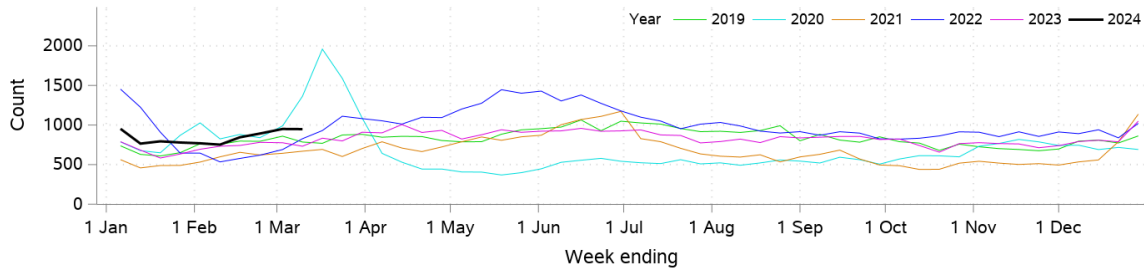


Figure 7: Presentations to ED due to influenza like illness

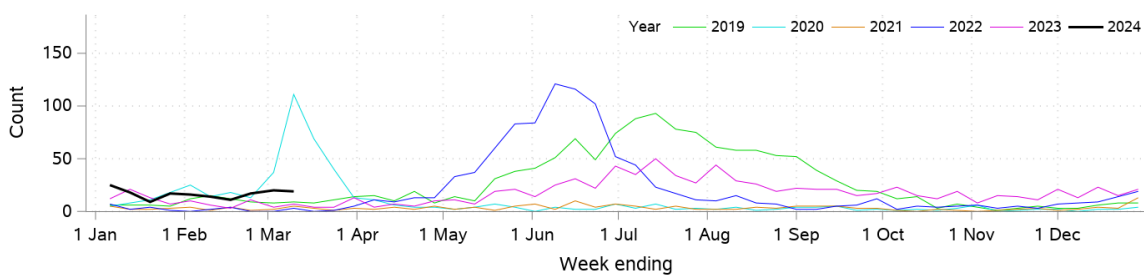


Figure 8: Pneumonia and ILI hospital admissions

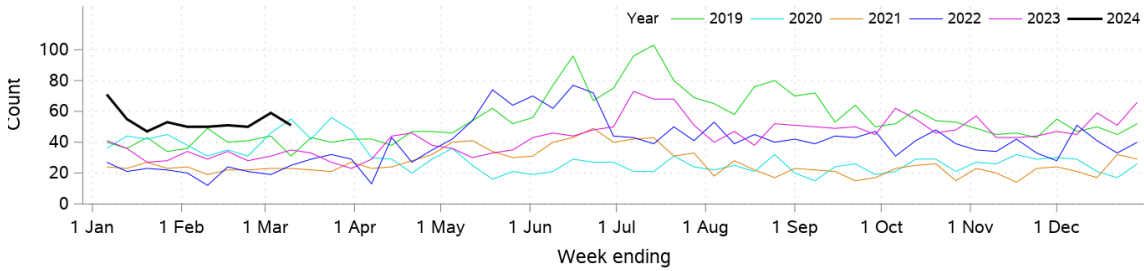


Figure 9: Presentations to ED due to COVID-19/coronaviruses

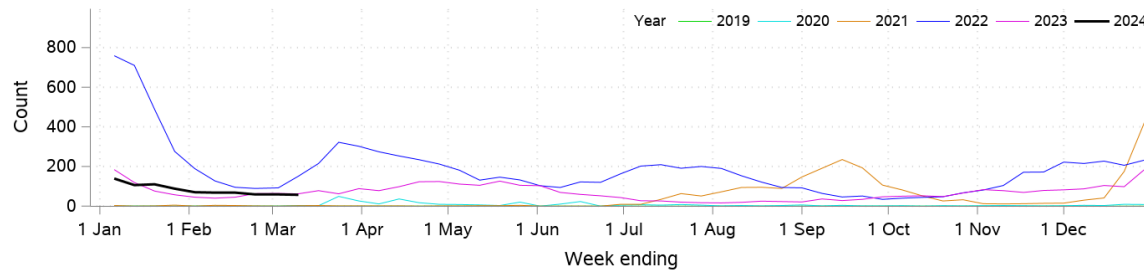


Figure 10: COVID-19/coronaviruses hospital admissions

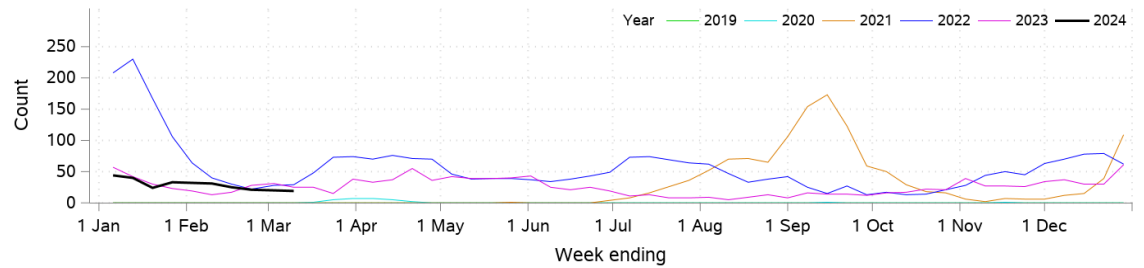


Figure 11: Presentations to ED due to bronchiolitis

