

Acute Respiratory Infections Weekly Report
 Week-ending 12 May 2024

Issued 13 May 2024

Key messages for local services

COVID-19

COVID-19 activity remains at low-moderate level. While laboratory notifications increased last week and the positivity rate of PCR tests increased sharply from 4.4% to 8.3%, ED presentations and admissions remained low, and the number of aged care outbreaks increased only slightly. Those over 80 years of age continue to have the most notifications, but otherwise notifications are spread fairly evenly across age groups.

Influenza

Influenza activity is at a low level. Laboratory notifications increased last week but remain within the usual inter-seasonal baseline. Notifications are predominantly from children. Influenza A remains the predominant influenza strain detected. Influenza test positivity increased from 4.1% to 4.9%. ED presentations for influenza-like illness remained steady and are at the usual range seen at this time of year. Pneumonia and ILI admissions increased this week and are above the range seen at this time of the year but are likely mostly due to non-influenza infections.

Respiratory syncytial virus

RSV activity remains at a high level. RSV PCR positivity remained steady last week at 7.4%. Bronchiolitis ED presentations increased and are slightly above the range experienced at 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	39	69	128	22.1
Georges River	64	93	147	41.9
Randwick	34	70	101	25.1
Sutherland Shire	76	121	202	32.9
Sydney	31	55	76	43.3
Waverley	45	67	105	64.8
Woollahra	19	40	89	35.2
SESLHD	308	515	848	34.7

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	60	80	129	34
Georges River	34	54	108	22.3
Randwick	35	53	91	25.9
Sutherland Shire	61	126	215	26.4
Sydney	19	30	50	26.5
Waverley	19	35	65	27.4
Woollahra	10	20	32	18.5
SESLHD	238	398	690	26.7

* Per 100,000 population based on estimated resident population 2021.

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

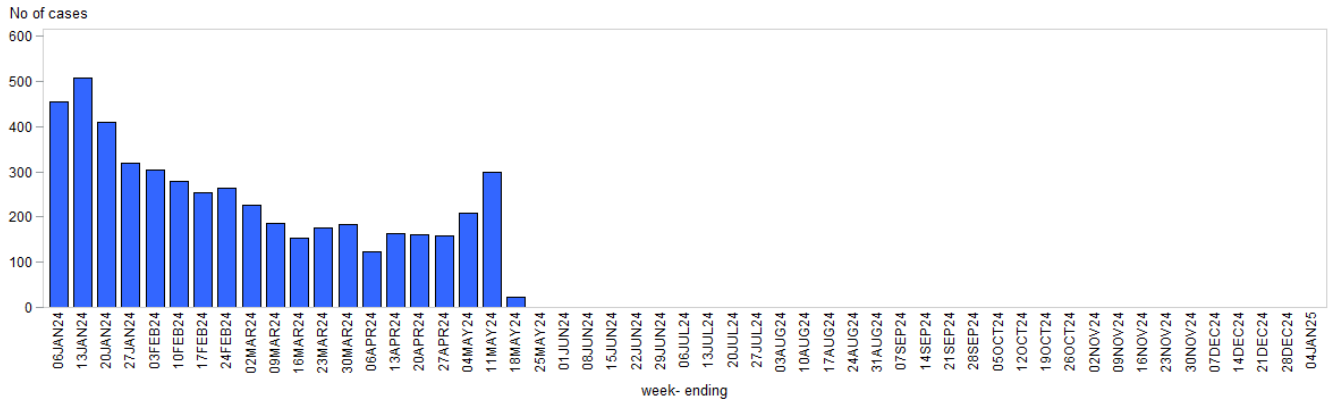


Figure 2: SESLHD influenza cases 2024 by subtype

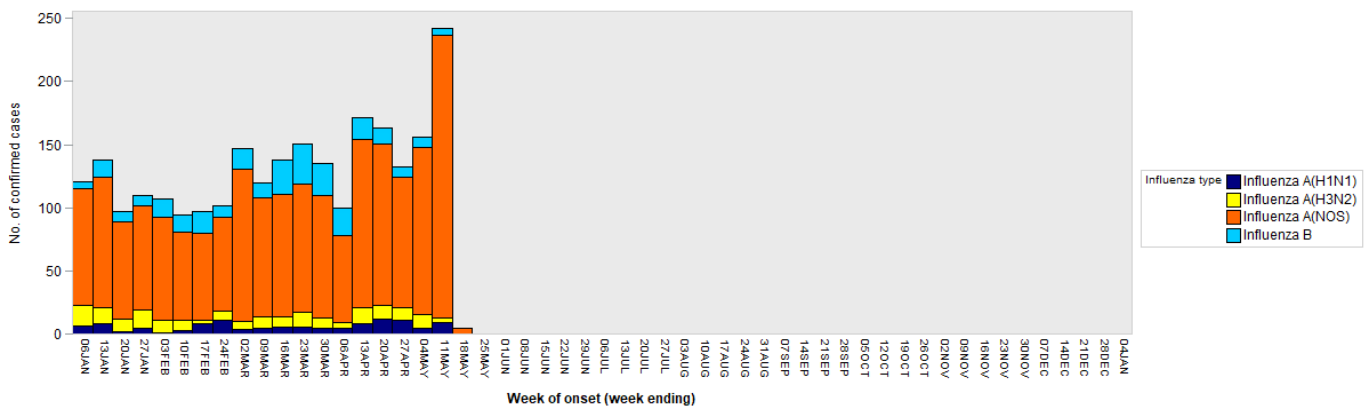
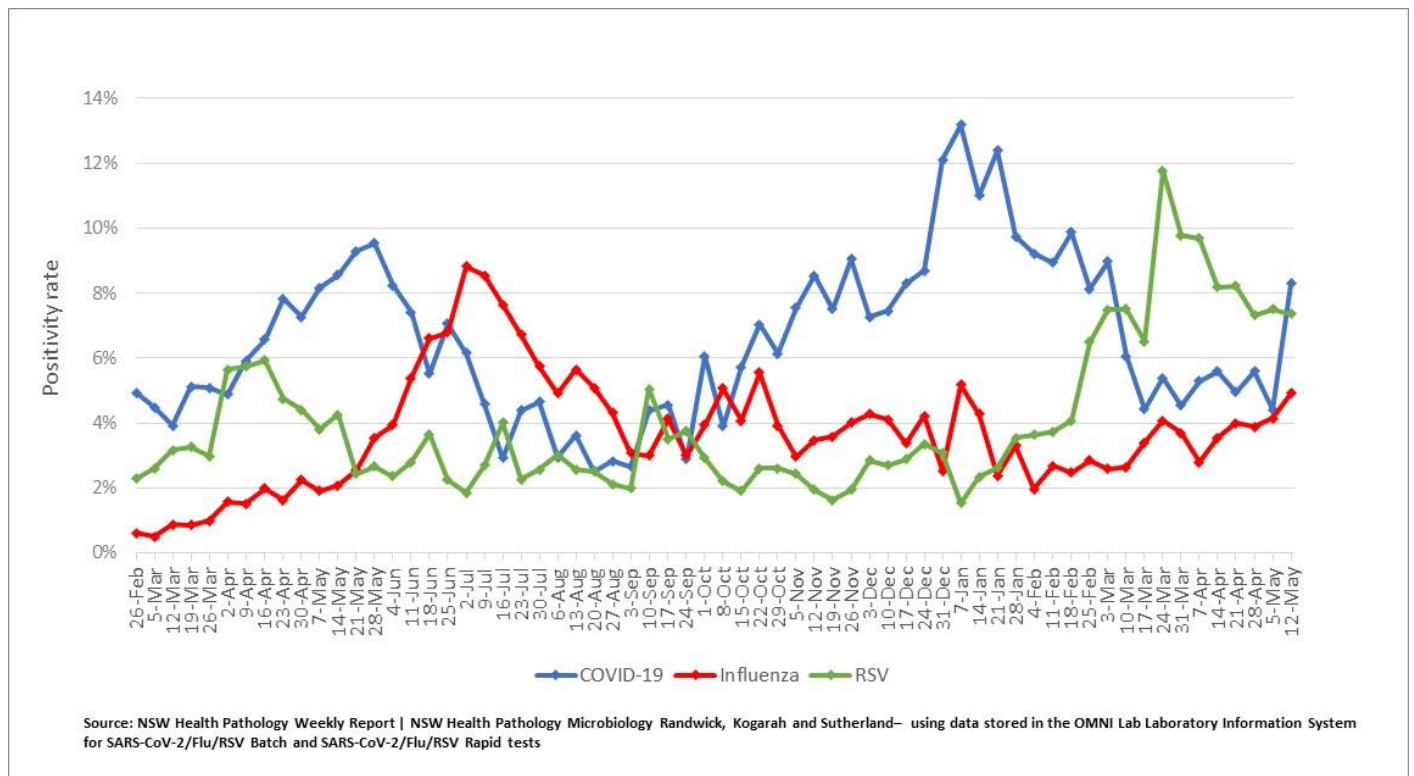


Figure 3: NSW Health Pathology respiratory PCR positivity rate* by week, 26 February 2023 – 12 May 2024

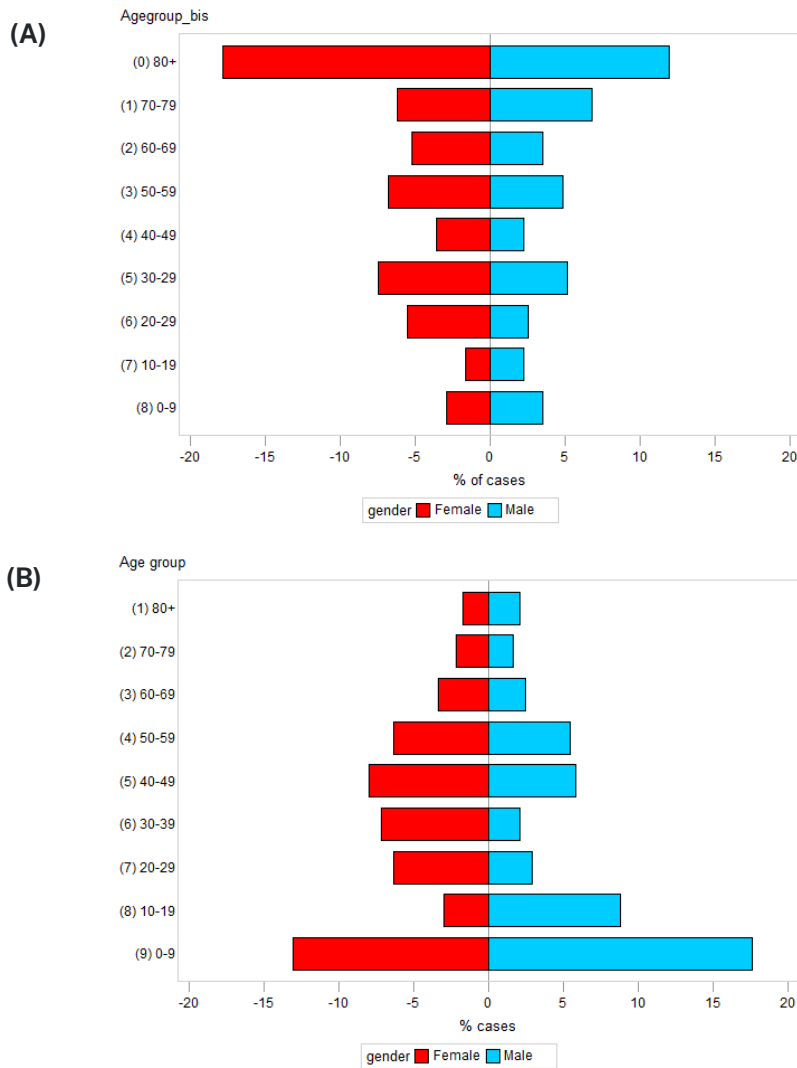


Source: NSW Health Pathology Weekly Report | NSW Health Pathology Microbiology Randwick, Kogarah and Sutherland– using data stored in the OMNI Lab Laboratory Information System for SARS-CoV-2/Flu/RSV Batch and SARS-CoV-2/Flu/RSV Rapid tests

* SESLHD 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 COVID-19 and flu/ILI exposures and outbreaks, 1 Jan 2023 to 12 May 2024

