

Acute Respiratory Infections Weekly Report
Week-ending 5 May 2024

Issued 6 May 2024

Key messages for local services

COVID-19

COVID-19 activity remains at low-moderate level. Laboratory notifications increased last week. Those over 80 years of age continue to have the most notifications, but otherwise notifications are spread fairly evenly across age groups. The positivity rate of PCR tests decreased from 5.6% to 4.4%. ED presentations and admissions remained low, and the number of aged care outbreaks decreased.

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, teens, and young adults. Influenza A remains the predominant influenza strain detected. Influenza test positivity increased slightly from 3.9% to 4.1%. ED presentations for influenza-like illness increased last week and are now at the usual range seen at this time of year. Pneumonia and ILI admissions remained stable this week and above the range seen at this time of the year, but are probably mainly due to non-influenza infections.

Respiratory syncytial virus

RSV activity remains at a high level. RSV PCR positivity increased slightly from 7.3% to 7.5% last week. Bronchiolitis ED presentations also 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 | 30 | 51 | 109 | 17 |
| Georges River | 29 | 52 | 110 | 19 |
| Randwick | 35 | 53 | 90 | 25.9 |
| Sutherland Shire | 45 | 92 | 173 | 19.5 |
| Sydney | 23 | 32 | 53 | 32.1 |
| Waverley | 22 | 44 | 86 | 31.7 |
| Woollahra | 21 | 48 | 81 | 39 |
| SESLHD | 205 | 372 | 702 | 23.1 |

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 | 18 | 45 | 87 | 10.2 |
| Georges River | 20 | 44 | 98 | 13.1 |
| Randwick | 17 | 25 | 80 | 12.6 |
| Sutherland Shire | 63 | 108 | 183 | 27.3 |
| Sydney | 11 | 21 | 36 | 15.4 |
| Waverley | 12 | 22 | 76 | 17.3 |
| Woollahra | 8 | 12 | 50 | 14.8 |
| SESLHD | 149 | 277 | 610 | 16.7 |

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

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

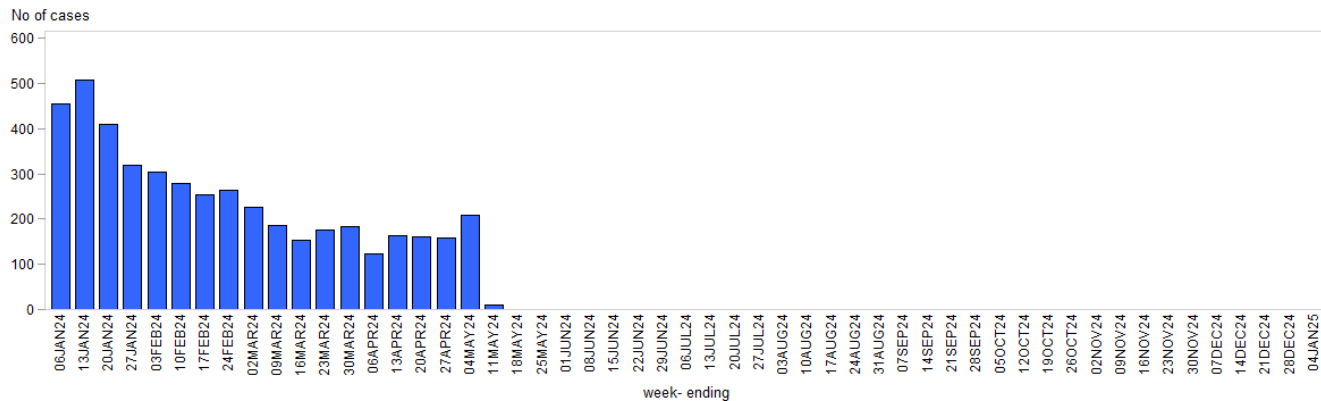


Figure 2: SESLHD influenza cases 2024 by subtype

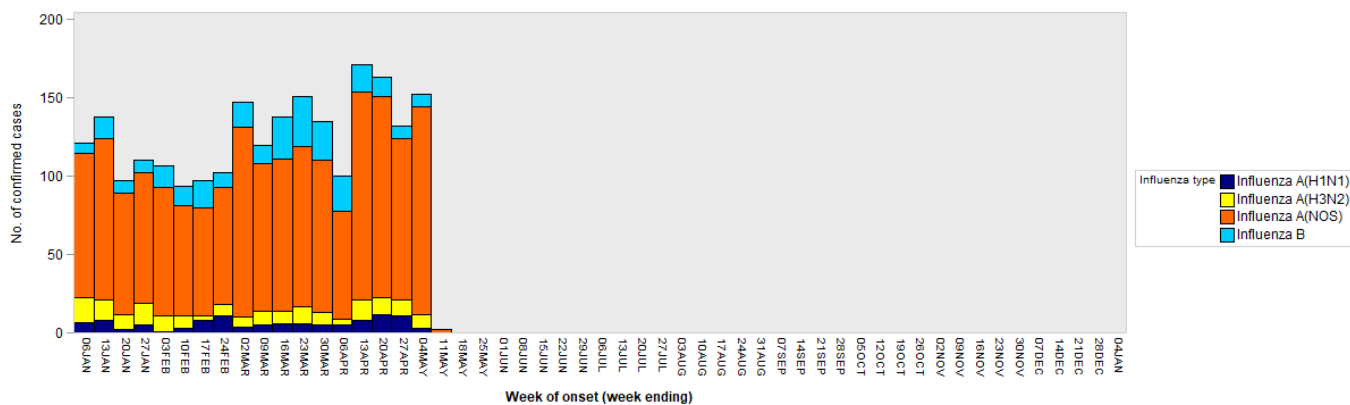
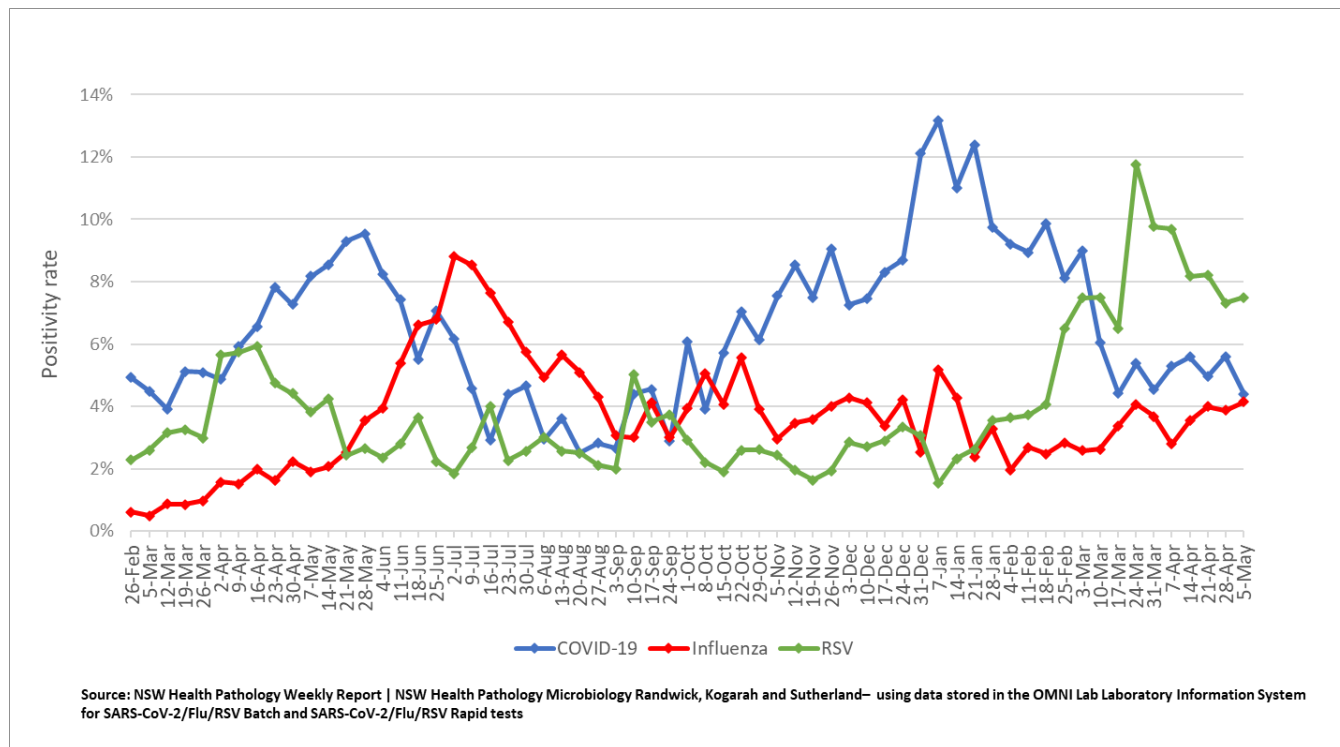


Figure 3: NSW Health Pathology respiratory PCR positivity rate* by week, 26 February 2023 – 5 May 2024

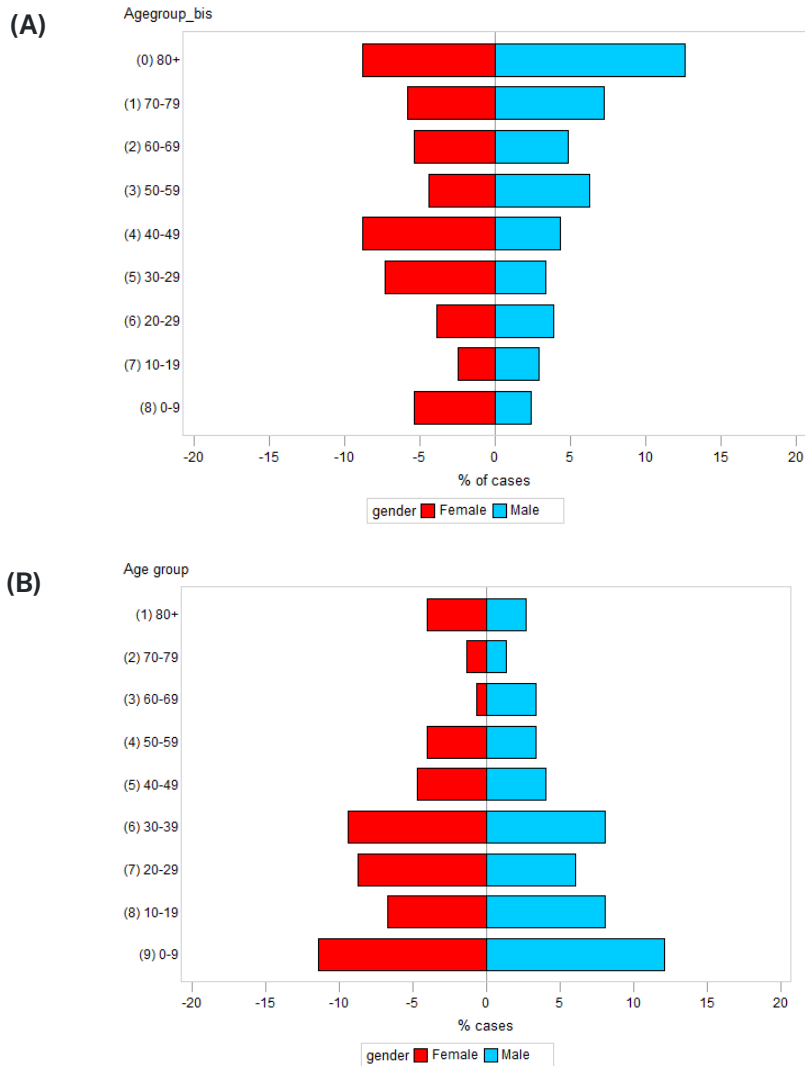


Source: NSW Health Pathology Weekly Report | NSW Health Pathology Microbiology Randwick, Kogarah and Sutherland– using data stored in the OMNI Lab Laboratory Information System for SARS-CoV-2/Flu/RSV Batch and SARS-CoV-2/Flu/RSV Rapid tests

* 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 5 May 2024

