COVID-19 outbreaks in Australian residential aged care facilities

# National snapshot

As at 8:00 am 16 February 2023 there are 920 active COVID-19 cases in 142 active outbreaks in residential aged care facilities across Australia. There have been 59 new outbreaks, 16 new resident deaths and 808 combined new resident and staff cases reported since 9 February 2023.

Table : Aged Care COVID-19 data as at 8.00am 16 February 2023[[1]](#footnote-2)

| Category | Active*[[2]](#footnote-3)* | Previous7 days | CumulativeTotal | Previous 7 days |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Outbreaks[[3]](#footnote-4) | 142 | 4 | 12,954 | 59 |
| Residential Aged Care Facilities affected  | 142 | 4 | 2,805 | 0 |
| Resident Cases[[4]](#footnote-5) | 666 | 118 | 128,997 | 578 |
| Resident Deaths | N/A | N/A | 5,088 | 16 |
| Staff Cases | 254 | 35 | 79,915 | 230 |

Residential aged care homes with active outbreaks are included in Appendix 1.

**Table 2: Overview of Active Outbreaks in Australia**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | Total |
| Total Facilities with outbreaks | 0 | 45 | 1 | 44 | 15 | 1 | 23 | 13 | **142** |
| *Total number of active resident cases* | 0 | 211 | 4 | 199 | 84 | 17 | 118 | 33 | **666** |
| *Total number of active staff cases* | 0 | 72 | 4 | 94 | 28 | 9 | 34 | 13 | **254** |
| Total Outbreaks Opened in Previous 7 Days | 0 | 20 | 0 | 16 | 6 | 0 | 11 | 6 | **59** |
| Total Outbreaks Closed in Previous 7 Days | 0 | 19 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 12 | **55** |

**Figure 1: National Outbreak Trends in Aged Care**

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**Figure 2: Trends in Aged Care Cases – November 2021 to Present**

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## Mortality

For the period of 1 January 2022 to 13 February 2023, COVID-19 is recorded as the cause of death in 6.0 per cent of all deaths in permanent residents in aged care facilities.

Since the beginning of the Omicron outbreak in late November 2021, there have been 74,970 deaths in residential aged care from all causes (report period from 29 November 2021 to 13 February 2023)[[5]](#footnote-6). COVID-19 deaths account for 5.6 per cent of this figure.

Over the course of the pandemic, all-cause excess mortality in Residential Aged Care was below expected numbers in 2020, and within expected range in 2021.

**Figure 3: COVID-19 Deaths in Residential Aged Care Facilities overlaid with Community deaths**



## Workforce in active residential aged care outbreaks

As at 17 February 2023, workforce surge staff have filled a total of 161,902 shifts in aged care services impacted by COVID-19, including 372 in the past 7 days. In the past 7 days (to 17 February) surge workforce providers have assisted 12 residential aged care homes. These shifts include roles for GPs, nurses, care workers, allied health workers, executive and ancillary staff. This includes:

**Table 3: Workforce resources supplied to residential aged care facilities**

| Workforce provider | Total Shifts | Previous 7 days |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Recruitment, Consulting and Staffing Association | 101,112 | 44 |
| Healthcare Australia (Workforce Surge) | 13,536 | 3 |
| Healthcare Australia (NACER) | 2,295 | N/A |
| Mable | 2,711 | N/A |
| Aspen Medical | 21,395 | 27 |
| HealthX | 16,797 | 298 |
| Torrens | 4,056 | N/A |

The Australian Defence Force provided support to a total of 542 residential aged care homes between February and September 2022. The ADF deployment ceased on 30 September 2022.

## Oral antiviral treatments

Distribution of the oral anti-viral Lagevrio (Molnupiravir) commenced on 6 February 2022 to all RACFs with outbreak sites prioritised for delivery. The National Medical Stockpile has deployed 48,269 treatment courses of Lagevrio (Molnupiravir) to aged care facilities.

52,810 prescriptions for Lagevrio (Molnupiravir) have been issued to residents in residential aged care facilities, with a further 2,860 prescriptions for Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir + ritonavir) also issued since 28 February 2022 and up to 12 February 2023.

## Vaccination in Residential Aged Care Facilities

The Australian Government’s COVID-19 vaccination program is delivering in-reach vaccine services for aged care residents and workers across Australia, through Commonwealth vaccine providers, primary care and self-vaccination services by aged care providers.

The Government continues to provide all residential aged care facilities with access to COVID vaccination clinics to ensure residents have every opportunity to get their fourth dose. As at 17 February 2023, there are currently 158,126 residents eligible for fourth doses. In total 135,281residents (85.6% of eligible residents) have received a fourth dose.

As at 17 February 2023, a total of 638,492 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to residents in residential aged care facilities. Information is now received from the Australian Immunisation Register, meaning reported numbers may differ from previous reports. Information from the Australian Immunisation Register provides a more accurate representation of residents currently in residential aged care.

|  |
| --- |
| Residential aged care fourth dose vaccination summary |
|  | **National** | **NSW** | **VIC** | **QLD** | **SA** | **WA** | **TAS** | **NT** | **ACT** |
| Total residents who have received a fourth dose | 135,281 | 42,880 | 36,872 | 26,233 | 11,539 | 12,179 | 3,398 | 330 | 1,850 |
| Percentage against total residents\* | 75.7% | 74.8% | 79.8% | 72.8% | 74.9% | 73.6% | 77.2% | 70.7% | 81.9% |
| Percentage against eligible residents (interval only)\*\* | 83.1% | 81.6% | 86.5% | 81.6% | 82.9% | 81.2% | 85.0% | 81.1% | 87.5% |
| Percentage against eligible residents (interval and case overlay)\*\*\* | 85.6% | 84.5% | 88.4% | 83.7% | 86.2% | 83.6% | 87.2% | 85.6% | 89.0% |

Sources: Aged care AIR data as at 16 February 2023, AIR mapping file for residents in permanent residential RACFs as at 2 September 2022, Aged care COVID-19 case data is sourced from:

1. The Aged Care COVID-19 Response and Preparedness Section of the Service Delivery Division, Ageing and Aged Care Group prior to 16 January 2022.
2. The AUS-CAIRS COVID-19 Aged Care Incidents Response System between 16 January 2022 and 15 February 2023.
3. My Aged Care Portal (MACP) from 28 February 2022 to 15 February 2023

\* Residents who have had a fourth dose of a COVID-19 vaccine *(this may include the booster dose for severely immunocompromised residents)* total residents in Commonwealth funded positions in residential aged care facilities

\*\* Residents who have had a fourth dose of a COVID-19 vaccine *(this may include the booster dose for severely immunocompromised residents)* overtotal residents who have had a third dose of a COVID-19 vaccine over 3 months ago *(this may include the third primary course dose for severely immunocompromised residents)*

\*\*\*Residents who have had a fourth dose of a COVID-19 vaccine *(this may include the booster dose for severely immunocompromised residents)* overtotal residents who have had a third dose of a COVID-19 vaccine over 3 months ago with case overlay applied *(this may include the third primary course dose for severely immunocompromised residents)*. Eligible residents have been reduced by an estimate of the number of COVID cases in the facility. The number of cases is calculated by the number of cases self-reported through AUS-CAIRS over the last 90 days adjusted by the fourth dose vaccination rate in a facility (percentage by eligible residents).

## Infection control and audits

The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Commission) conducts a range of site and non-site activities to monitor and assess residential aged care services, including site audits and assessment contacts (site and non-site) (see Table 5 below). In August 2020, the Commission commenced an infection control monitoring (ICM) spot check program in all Australian jurisdictions.

The ICM spot check program involves on-site visits to residential aged care services, without an outbreak, to check compliance with personal protective equipment (PPE) and infection control arrangements. The purpose of the ICM spot check is to observe infection control practices, to ensure that staff, management and visitors were adhering to safe personal protective equipment protocols and to safe infection control arrangements as required under the quality standards.

As at 16 Febraury 2023, the Commission had conducted 4,397 ICM spot checks to observe infection control practices and PPE protocols in residential aged care facilities.

Table 5: Total Quality Assessment and Monitoring Activities with residential services (including IPC), by type and month 1 March 2020 to 16 February 2022

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Regulatory Activities | 2019-20(1 Mar - 30 Jun 2020) | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 (to 16 Feb 2023) | Total |
| Site visits | 318 | 3,452 | 1,733 | 1,878 | **7,381** |
| Non-site activities | 3,709 | 8,382 | 6,609 | 1,176 | **19,876** |
| Total activities | **4,027** | **11,834** | **8,342** | **3,054** | **27,257** |

# Appendix 1: National residential aged care services with Active outbreaks COVID-19

Please note, information reported in this table has been directly reported to the Department of Health and Aged Care by residential aged care facilities. Total cases refers to all staff and resident cases associated with the active outbreak and may not reflect the count of currently active cases. Where numbers have been incorrectly reported, facilities are able to correct these in the COVID-19 Support Portal through My Aged Care. Where a facility is reporting less than six resident or staff cases or less than six deaths, data has been suppressed to protect the privacy of affected individuals (note that “n/p” indicates data is not provided to protect privacy).

| Service Name | State | Resident Deaths | Resident Cases | Staff Cases | Total Incidents |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Alexander Aged Care | New South Wales | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Ashburn House Aged Care Facility | New South Wales | 0 | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| Aurrum Erina | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Aurrum Kincumber | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| BaptistCare Cooinda Court | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Bayview Treetops Care Community | New South Wales | 0 | 11 | <6 | n/p |
| Bupa Waratah | New South Wales | 0 | 18 | 8 | 26 |
| Catholic Healthcare George Mockler Hostel | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Catholic Healthcare St Joseph's Aged Care | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 6 | n/p |
| Chamberlain Gardens Aged Care | New South Wales | 0 | 11 | <6 | n/p |
| Cooee Lodge | New South Wales | 0 | 8 | <6 | n/p |
| Denhams Beach Care Community | New South Wales | 0 | 9 | <6 | n/p |
| Dougherty Villa | New South Wales | 0 | 28 | 27 | 55 |
| Estia Health Epping - The Poplars | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Estia Health Taree | New South Wales | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Estia Health Tuncurry | New South Wales | 0 | 9 | <6 | n/p |
| Fairlea Aged Care @ Penshurst | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Feros Village Bangalow | New South Wales | 0 | 10 | <6 | n/p |
| Florence Price Gardens | New South Wales | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| HammondCare - Horsley | New South Wales | 0 | 8 | 6 | 14 |
| HammondCare - Leighton Lodge | New South Wales | <6 | 24 | <6 | n/p |
| Haydays Retirement Hostel | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Heritage Queanbeyan | New South Wales | 0 | 16 | 6 | 22 |
| Hill View House Aged Care Facility | New South Wales | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Illawarra Multi-Cultural Village Hostel | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Mareeba Aged Care | New South Wales | 0 | 13 | <6 | n/p |
| Mary Potter Nursing Home | New South Wales | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Our Lady Of Consolation Nursing Home | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Pembroke Lodge | New South Wales | 0 | 19 | <6 | n/p |
| Peninsula Villages Ltd | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Randwick Montefiore Home | New South Wales | 0 | 32 | 6 | 38 |
| Regis Hurstville | New South Wales | 0 | 29 | 7 | 36 |
| Remembrance Village | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | 6 |
| RFBI Berry Masonic Village | New South Wales | <6 | <6 | <6 | 8 |
| RFBI Moonbi Masonic Village - Moonby | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | 7 |
| Southern Cross Care Marian Nursing Home | New South Wales | 0 | 14 | 11 | 25 |
| St Basil's Lakemba | New South Wales | 0 | 8 | <6 | n/p |
| St Lukes Nursing Home | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| St Vincent's Care Services Haberfield | New South Wales | <6 | 14 | 6 | 20 |
| The Whiddon Group - Grafton | New South Wales | 0 | 8 | <6 | n/p |
| Uniting St Columba's Lane Cove | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Wahroonga House | New South Wales | <6 | <6 | 15 | n/p |
| Wenonah Lodge | New South Wales | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Flynn Lodge | Northern Territory | 0 | 13 | <6 | n/p |
| Arcare North Lakes | Queensland | 0 | 8 | <6 | n/p |
| Arcare Parkwood | Queensland | 0 | 20 | <6 | n/p |
| Arcare Peregian Springs | Queensland | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Arcare Taigum | Queensland | 0 | 8 | <6 | n/p |
| Ashmore Gardens Care Community | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Blue Care Redcliffe Aged Care Facility | Queensland | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Bolton Clarke Cazna Gardens | Queensland | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Bolton Clarke Westhaven | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | 6 |
| Bupa Cairns | Queensland | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Carinity Kepnock Grove | Queensland | <6 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Carinity Shalom | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Churches of Christ Gracehaven Aged Care Service | Queensland | 0 | 17 | 22 | 39 |
| Churches of Christ Lady Small Haven Aged Care Service | Queensland | 0 | 6 | 9 | 15 |
| Estia Health Albany Creek | Queensland | 0 | 41 | 0 | 41 |
| Estia Health Pacific Paradise | Queensland | <6 | 21 | 9 | 30 |
| Francis Of Assisi Home | Queensland | 0 | 15 | <6 | n/p |
| Good Shepherd Lodge | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Immanuel Gardens | Queensland | 0 | 12 | <6 | n/p |
| Infinite Care Mount Lofty | Queensland | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Lions Haven For The Aged | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Lodges on George | Queensland | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| NewDirection Care at Bellmere | Queensland | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 |
| Newstead Grand Care Community | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| North Lakes Terrace Care Community | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| North Rockhampton Nursing Centre | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Ozcare Malanda | Queensland | 0 | 11 | <6 | n/p |
| Parklands Aged Care Facility & Retirement Village | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | 6 |
| Parkview | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Peninsula Palms Retirement Village | Queensland | <6 | <6 | <6 | 6 |
| Pyramid Residential Care Centre | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | 8 |
| Redland Residential Care Facility | Queensland | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Regis Ferny Grove | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Regis Gatton | Queensland | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Riverview Gardens Aged Care Plus Centre | Queensland | 0 | 16 | 7 | 23 |
| Sinnamon Village - Kentish Court | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Southern Cross Care Allora - Homestead | Queensland | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Southern Cross Care Chinchilla - Illoura Village | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Southern Cross Care Stretton Gardens | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Southern Cross Care Taroom - Leichhardt Villa | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | 7 |
| St Vincent's Care Carina | Queensland | <6 | 39 | 13 | 52 |
| St Vincent's Care Services Toowoomba - Hostel | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| The Good Shepherd Nursing Home | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 14 | n/p |
| TriCare Stafford Lakes Aged Care Residence | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Village Coorparoo Aged Care | Queensland | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Wheller Gardens - Cooper House | Queensland | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Aboriginal Elders Village | South Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Estia Health Burton | South Australia | 0 | 13 | <6 | n/p |
| Estia Health Salisbury | South Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Gaynes Park Manor | South Australia | <6 | 9 | <6 | n/p |
| Helping Hand Aged Care - Doreen Bond House | South Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Helping Hand Aged Care - Rotary House | South Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Japara Brighton | South Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Japara Trevu House | South Australia | 0 | 12 | <6 | n/p |
| LHI Hope Valley | South Australia | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| McCracken Views Residential Care | South Australia | 0 | 20 | <6 | n/p |
| Parkrose Village | South Australia | 0 | 14 | 6 | 20 |
| Rembrandt Court | South Australia | 0 | 45 | 29 | 74 |
| Ridleyton Greek Home for the Aged | South Australia | 0 | 22 | 11 | 33 |
| Warrina Court Residential Aged Care Service | South Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | 7 |
| Wesley House | South Australia | 0 | 20 | <6 | n/p |
| Uniting AgeWell Lillian Martin | Tasmania | 0 | 11 | 9 | 20 |
| Allambee Nursing Home Kingston Centre | Victoria | 0 | <6 | <6 | 6 |
| Avonlea | Victoria | 0 | 12 | 7 | 19 |
| Baptcare Abbey Gardens Community | Victoria | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Baptcare Wyndham Lodge Community | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Bethel Aged Care | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Casey Aged Care | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Centennial Lodge | Victoria | 0 | 26 | 7 | 33 |
| Churches of Christ Oak Towers Aged Care Service | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Gibson Street Complex | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| GraniteHill Aged Care | Victoria | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Hesse Rural Health Service Nursing Home | Victoria | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Highwood Court | Victoria | 0 | 9 | <6 | n/p |
| Hope Aged Care Brunswick | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Japara The Highbury | Victoria | 0 | 10 | <6 | n/p |
| Mekong Cairnlea Vietnamese Aged Care | Victoria | 0 | 11 | <6 | n/p |
| Olivet Aged Persons Home | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Outlook Gardens Aged Care | Victoria | 0 | 24 | 6 | 30 |
| R. M. Begg Kyneton Aged Care | Victoria | <6 | 29 | 6 | 35 |
| Talbot Place Aged Care Facility | Victoria | 0 | <6 | <6 | 6 |
| Uniting AgeWell Condare Court | Victoria | 0 | 12 | <6 | n/p |
| Villa Maria Catholic Homes St Catherine's Aged Care Residence | Victoria | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Water Gardens | Victoria | 0 | 8 | <6 | n/p |
| Whittlesea Lodge | Victoria | 0 | 46 | 14 | 60 |
| Woods Point Aged Care | Victoria | 0 | 17 | <6 | n/p |
| Woorayl Lodge Hostel | Victoria | 0 | 14 | <6 | n/p |
| Aegis Amherst | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Aegis Montgomery | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Alfred Cove Care Community | Western Australia | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Baptistcare Graceford | Western Australia | 0 | 18 | <6 | n/p |
| Brightwater Inglewood | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Brightwater The Cove | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Carnarvon MPS | Western Australia | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Dalwallinu MPS | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | 6 |
| Esperance Aged Care Facility | Western Australia | 0 | 12 | 19 | 31 |
| Juniper Sarah Hardey | Western Australia | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Marine Views Cottesloe | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Moline House | Western Australia | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 |
| Regis Nedlands | Western Australia | 0 | 44 | 13 | 57 |
| Regis Port Coogee | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | 6 |

1. Outbreak opening and closure includes changes in the status of exposure sites to outbreaks (and vice versa), which are applied retrospectively to facility records. New case information can also change the status of a recovered site back to an active outbreak site. As a result, changes in active outbreak status may not align with day on day variations to active totals. These adjustments will also affect the number of cases in staff and residents reported each week. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Active residents and staff cases are the total currently positive cases in active outbreaks [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. An outbreak is considered to be active pending advice from the relevant Public Health Unit. An outbreak is defined as at least 1 positive case in a resident or 2+ cases in staff. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Case numbers and numbers of deaths are dependent upon reporting from facilities and validation of deaths from state and territory governments. This is subject to change as further information is provided. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. 5 The Department is now accessing aged care deaths data from the SIEBEL dataset. Figures are live and subject to change. Source: Department of Health and Aged Care unpublished data / SIEBEL dataset. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)