



COVID-19 outbreaks in Australian residential aged care facilities

National snapshot

As at 8:00 am 23 March 2023 there are 1,306 active COVID-19 cases in 205 active outbreaks in residential aged care facilities across Australia. There have been 92 new outbreaks, 18 new resident deaths and 1,017 combined new resident and staff cases reported since 16 March 2023.

Table 1: Aged Care COVID-19 data as at 8.00am 23 March 2023¹

Category	Active ²	Previous 7 days	Cumulative Total	Previous 7 days
Outbreaks ³	205	44	13,395	92
Residential Aged Care Facilities affected	205	44	2,812	3
Resident Cases ⁴	953	236	132,056	729
Resident Deaths	N/A	N/A	5,167	18
Staff Cases	353	45	81,198	288

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	2	56	1	60	25	3	39	19	205
Total number of active resident cases	5	296	1	284	135	12	168	52	953
Total number of active staff cases	3	96	0	139	33	3	55	24	353
Total Outbreaks Opened in Previous 7 Days	0	27	1	22	13	2	17	10	92
Total Outbreaks Closed in Previous 7 Days	2	17	0	11	3	0	10	5	48

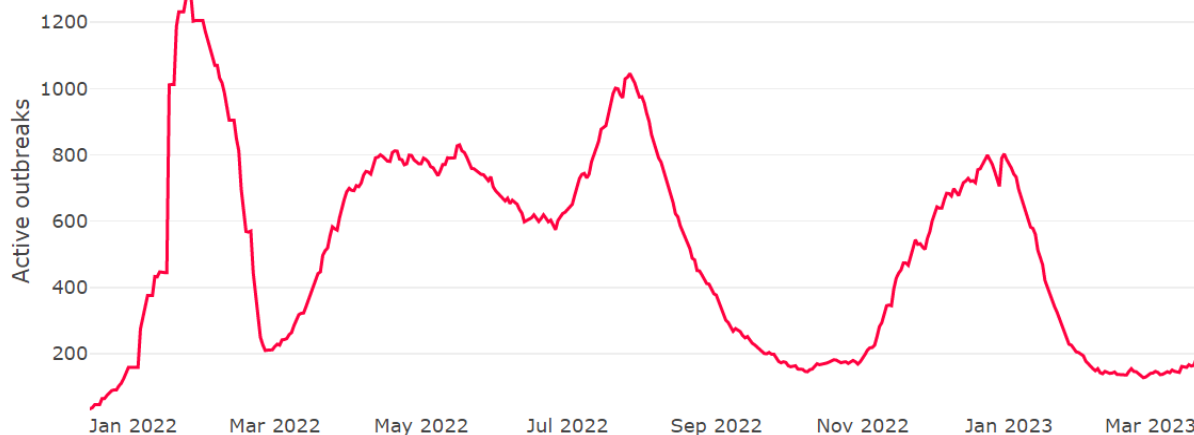
¹ Outbreak opening and closure includes changes in the status of exposure sites to outbreaks (and vice versa), which are applied retrospectively to facility records. New case information can also change the status of a recovered site back to an active outbreak site. As a result, changes in active outbreak 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.

² Active residents and staff cases are the total currently positive cases in active outbreaks

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.

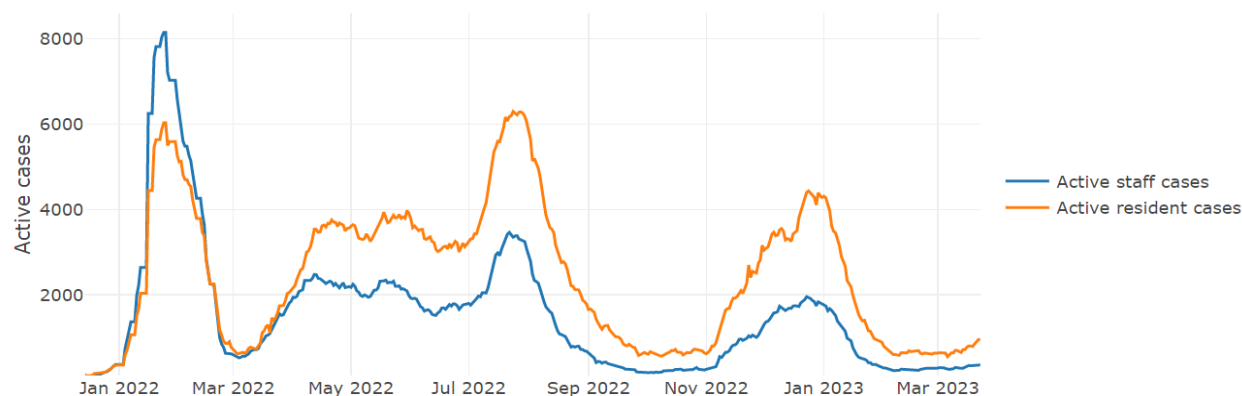
⁴ Case numbers and numbers of deaths are dependent upon reporting from facilities and validation of deaths from state and territory governments. This is subject to change as further information is provided.

Figure 1: National Outbreak Trends in Aged Care



Notes: (i) Residential aged care case data as at 23 Mar 2023
 (ii) The large increase in outbreaks on 16 January 2022 is driven by a reporting lag.

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



Notes: (i) Residential aged care case data as at 23 Mar 2023
 (ii) The large increase in active cases on 16 January 2022 is driven by a reporting lag.
 (iii) Cases are considered active for 14 days from the date they are reported.

Mortality

For the period of 1 January 2022 to 21 March 2023, COVID-19 is recorded as the cause of death in 5.6 per cent of all deaths in permanent residents in aged care facilities.

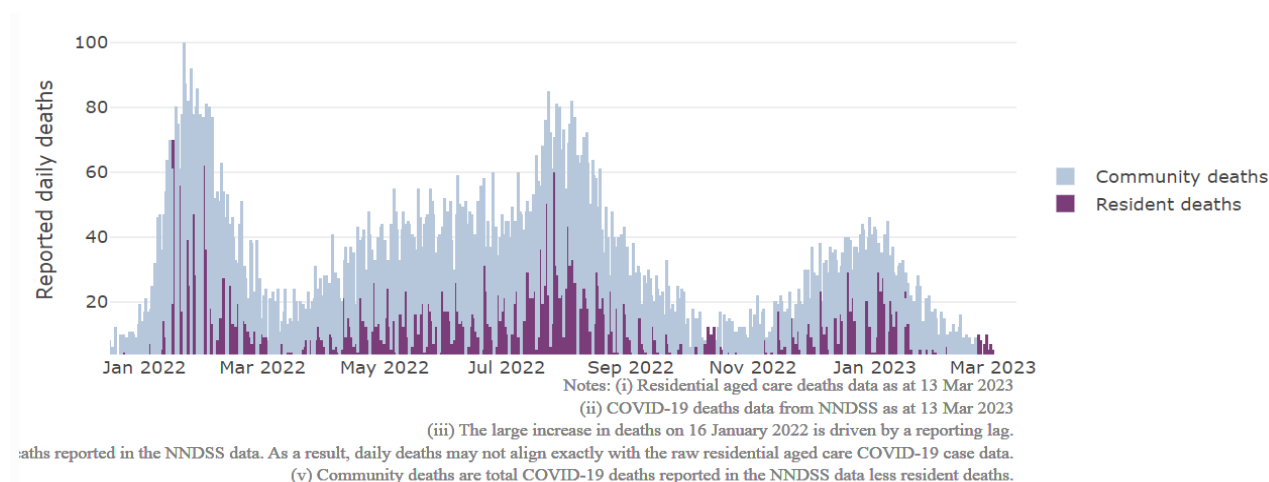
Since the beginning of the Omicron outbreak in mid December⁵ 2021, there have been 78,117 deaths in residential aged care from all causes (report period from 15 December 2021 to 21 March 2023)⁶. COVID-19 deaths account for 5.5 per cent of this figure.

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.

⁵ The Omicron outbreak start date has been redefined from late November 2021 to mid December 2021. Changes have been made to align reporting with the start date of Omicron published in the Department’s external facing Epidemiology report.

⁶ 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.

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



Workforce in active residential aged care outbreaks

As at 24 March 2023, workforce surge staff have filled a total of 164,855 shifts in aged care services impacted by COVID-19, including 777 in the past 7 days. In the past 7 days (to 24 March) surge workforce providers have assisted 41 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	101,799	210
Healthcare Australia (Workforce Surge)	13,684	47
Healthcare Australia (NACER)	2,295	N/A
Mable	2,711	N/A
Aspen Medical	21,843	150
HealthX	18,467	370
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.

55,452 prescriptions for Lagevrio (Molnupiravir) have been issued to residents in residential aged care facilities, with a further 3,224 prescriptions for Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir + ritonavir) also issued since 28 February 2022 and up to 19 March 2023.

Vaccination in Residential Aged Care Facilities

People living in residential aged care homes remain a high priority for the Government's COVID-19 vaccination program, with continued ongoing targeted support and increasing communications to maintain the high level of vaccination within this group.

The Government continues to provide all residential aged care facilities with access to COVID vaccination clinics to ensure residents have every opportunity to get vaccinated. As at 2 March 2023, with the 'Winter dose' program from 2022 finalised 85.2% of aged care residents estimated to be eligible for fourth doses have received a fourth dose.

The Department of Health and Aged Care is proactively working with Primary Health Networks to support residential aged care homes that may need assistance with facilitating COVID-19 vaccinations.

The 2023 COVID-19 vaccine booster program started on 20 February 2023. The new program has moved away from dose numbers and focusses on ensuring protection for aged care residents is topped up if it has been more than six months since the last immunising event (an infection or a vaccine dose), regardless of the number of doses.

In the initial phase of the 2023 booster rollout, the Government is targeting residential aged care homes that were early adopters of the fourth dose. In parallel, support is provided to individual aged care homes seeking assistance, linking them to their local Primary Health Network. The Department continues to monitor low dose sites and communicate to facilities there is no minimum number of residents required for COVID-19 vaccination clinics.

The Department is finalising reporting arrangements for the new booster program, moving away from dose numbers and focussing on recency of coverage. Specific information on national and state/territory vaccination uptake for the 2023 COVID-19 booster dose will be available soon.

As at 2 March 2023, a total of 638,705 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to residents in residential aged care homes. 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.

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 23 March 2023, the Commission had conducted 4,536 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 23 March 2023

Regulatory Activities	2019-20 (1 Mar - 30 Jun 2020)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (to 23 March 2023)	Total
Site visits	318	3,452	1,733	2,351	7,854
Non-site activities	3,709	8,382	6,645	1,222	19,958
Total activities	4,027	11,834	8,378	3,573	27,812

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
BaptistCare Griffith	Australian Capital Territory	0	<6	<6	<6
Fred Ward Gardens	Australian Capital Territory	0	6	0	6
A H Orr Lodge	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
ACDMA Aged Care Services	New South Wales	0	28	6	34
Advantaged Care at Barden Lodge	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Advantaged Care at Edensor Gardens	New South Wales	0	12	<6	n/p
Banksia Village	New South Wales	0	7	0	7
BaptistCare Bethshan Gardens Centre	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Beresford Hall	New South Wales	<6	<6	<6	<6
Calvary Albury & District	New South Wales	<6	12	<6	n/p
Calvary Ryde Retirement Community - Mary Potter Residential Care	New South Wales	0	14	0	14
Chamberlain Gardens Aged Care	New South Wales	<6	21	<6	n/p
Clelland Lodge	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Dellacourt	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Dudley Foord House	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Dural House Aged Care	New South Wales	0	10	<6	n/p
Elizabeth Lodge (Rushcutters Bay)	New South Wales	<6	<6	<6	6
Elizabeth Lodge Hostel	New South Wales	0	12	<6	n/p
Estia Health Blakehurst	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Garrawarra Centre	New South Wales	0	8	<6	n/p
Greenhill Manor	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Hawkesbury Living Pty Limited	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Heritage Illawong	New South Wales	<6	35	8	43
Hill View House Aged Care Facility	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Holbrook District Hospital	New South Wales	0	17	9	26
IBIS Care Miranda	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Indochinese Aged Care Services	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
James Milson Village North Sydney	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Lucy Chieng Aged Care Centre	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Markmoran at Vaucluse	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Mayfield Aged Care	New South Wales	0	31	7	38
Meadowbank Grove Care Community	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Mildred Symons House	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	7
Miranda Aged Care Facility	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Moyne Aged Care Plus Centre (0033)	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Narrabeen Glades Care Community	New South Wales	0	9	0	9
Paling Court Residential Aged Care	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Patrick Bugden VC Gardens	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Pemulwuy Aged Care	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Regis Elermore Vale	New South Wales	0	21	0	21
RFBI Bellingen Masonic Village	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	6
S Antonio Da Padova Nursing Home	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Scalabrini Village Allambie Heights	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
St Basil's Lakemba	New South Wales	<6	26	12	38
St Marys Villa Residential Aged Care	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	6
St Vincent's Care Services Edgecliff	New South Wales	0	6	<6	n/p
Stella Maris Aged Care Facility	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Uniting Arrunga Ermington	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Uniting Banks Lodge Peakhurst	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Uniting Caroon Yamba	New South Wales	0	10	<6	n/p
Uniting Mullauna Blacktown	New South Wales	0	12	<6	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Wahroonga House	New South Wales	0	<6	7	n/p
Wallsend Manor Aged Care	New South Wales	0	6	<6	n/p
Warrigal Care Albion Park Rail	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Warrigal Care Shell Cove	New South Wales	0	34	17	51
Weeroona Aged Care Residence	New South Wales	0	12	<6	n/p
Wesley Vickery	New South Wales	0	12	7	19
Windermere Aged Care Facility	New South Wales	0	10	0	10
Mulakunya Flexible Aged Care Service (Nguui)	Northern Territory	0	<6	0	<6
Anglicare SQ Edwin Marsden Tooth Memorial Home for Aged	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Anglicare SQ Symes Grove Home for the Aged	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Arcare Helensvale St James	Queensland	0	23	9	32
Arcare Parkinson	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Arcare Parkwood	Queensland	0	9	0	9
Arcare Seven Hills	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Arcare Slacks Creek	Queensland	0	17	9	26
Ashmore Retreat	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Benevolent Living	Queensland	0	18	16	34
Berlasco Court Caring Centre	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Blue Care Bundaberg Pioneer Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Blue Care Carbrook Wirunya Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	26	17	43
Blue Care Kenmore Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Blue Care Mackay Homefield Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	7	6	13
Blue Care Wynnum Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	6	<6	n/p
Bolton Clarke Centaur	Queensland	0	<6	<6	8
Bolton Clarke Galleon Gardens	Queensland	0	0	<6	<6
Bolton Clarke Pioneers Nursing Home	Queensland	<6	<6	0	<6
Buderim Views Assisted Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Burpengary Gardens Care Community	Queensland	0	16	0	16
Burpengary Manor Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Carinya (Atherton) Hostel	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Central & Upper Burnett District Home for the Aged Nursing Home	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Churches of Christ Clive Burdeu Aged Care Service	Queensland	0	31	6	37
Churches of Christ Fair Haven Aged Care Service Maryborough	Queensland	0	11	<6	n/p
Churches of Christ Homesteads Aged Care Service	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Churches of Christ Little Mountain Aged Care Service	Queensland	0	8	<6	n/p
Churches of Christ Moonah Park Aged Care Service	Queensland	0	0	<6	<6
Churches of Christ Stanthorpe Aged Care Service	Queensland	0	<6	<6	9
Estia Health Gold Coast	Queensland	0	17	6	23
Glenella Care	Queensland	0	18	<6	n/p
Holland Park Aged Care	Queensland	0	12	7	19
Infinite Care Edmonton Gardens	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Jeta Gardens Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	<6	<6	7
Kerrisdale Gardens	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Lutheran Services - Coinda Aged Care Centre	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Lutheran Services - Salem	Queensland	<6	13	<6	n/p
Marebello	Queensland	0	42	15	57
Maryborough Community Aged Care	Queensland	0	16	8	24
MiCare Prins Willem Alexander Lodge	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Milton House	Queensland	<6	<6	<6	<6
New Auckland Place	Queensland	0	0	<6	<6
NewDirection Care at Bellmere	Queensland	0	0	<6	<6
North Lakes Terrace Care Community	Queensland	0	40	14	54
Ozcare Villa Vincent	Queensland	0	0	<6	<6
Palm Lake Care Toowoomba	Queensland	0	9	<6	n/p
Proserpine Nursing Home	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Redcliffe Aged Care Service	Queensland	0	6	<6	n/p
Regis Birkdale	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Residency by Dillons Tin Can Bay	Queensland	0	8	10	18
Seabrae Manor	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Southern Cross Care Miles - Carinya	Queensland	0	<6	<6	6
St Vincent's Care Services Kangaroo Point - Marycrest	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
St Vincent's Care Services Maroochydore	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
St Vincent's Care Services Mitchelton	Queensland	0	24	7	31
The Good Shepherd Nursing Home	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
The Plains	Queensland	0	17	<6	n/p
TriCare Annerley Aged Care Residence	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Warrina Innisfail	Queensland	0	<6	10	n/p
ACH Group Residential Care - Colton Court	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
ACH Group Residential Care - Highercombe	South Australia	0	6	0	6
ACH Group Residential Care - Perry Park (high care)	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Alwyndor Aged Care	South Australia	0	<6	<6	6
Aminya Village Hostel	South Australia	0	27	10	37
AnglicareSA Brompton	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Belalie Lodge	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Bene Aged Care - The Italian Village	South Australia	0	7	<6	n/p
Boandik St Mary's	South Australia	0	<6	<6	7
Bucklands Residential Care	South Australia	0	9	<6	n/p
Charla Lodge	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Clayton Church Homes - Magill	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Eldercare Oxford	South Australia	0	9	<6	n/p
Estia Health Burton	South Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Estia Health Hope Valley	South Australia	0	45	10	55
Estia Health Salisbury	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Estia Health Valley View	South Australia	<6	8	<6	n/p
Lerwin Nursing Home	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Mallee - Lamerook MPS	South Australia	0	6	<6	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
McCracken Views Residential Care	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Murray Mudge	South Australia	0	9	<6	n/p
Olive Grove Aged Care	South Australia	0	<6	<6	9
The Pines Lodge Residential Care	South Australia	0	9	<6	n/p
Westminster Village Nursing Home	South Australia	0	7	<6	n/p
Huon Eldercare	Tasmania	0	<6	7	n/p
Huon Eldercare	Tasmania	0	7	0	7
Uniting AgeWell Aldersgate Village	Tasmania	0	19	<6	n/p
Arcare Balnarring	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
Arcare Caulfield	Victoria	0	7	<6	n/p
Ashleigh House Hostel	Victoria	0	14	<6	n/p
Benetas Dalkeith Gardens	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
Benetas St Laurence Court - Kangaroo Flat	Victoria	0	7	<6	n/p
Benetas St Paul's Terrace	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Bentons Lodge - Residential Aged Service	Victoria	0	20	<6	n/p
Calvary Elanora	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Calvary Kelaston	Victoria	0	9	0	9
Chaffey Aged Care	Victoria	<6	45	42	87
Cobden District Health Services	Victoria	0	8	0	8
Craigcare Moonee Ponds	Victoria	0	6	<6	n/p
Diana Street Lodge	Victoria	0	8	<6	n/p
Doutta Galla Yarraville Village Aged Care Facility	Victoria	0	15	<6	n/p
Edgarley Home	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Elderly Chinese Home	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
Estia Health Melton South	Victoria	<6	64	11	75
Estia Health Ringwood	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Glenview Community Care Nursing Home	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
GraniteHill Aged Care	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
Homewood Residential Aged Care	Victoria	0	60	0	60

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Luson Bloom	Victoria	<6	19	<6	n/p
Margery Cole Residential Care Service	Victoria	<6	6	0	6
Mayflower Reservoir	Victoria	0	7	<6	n/p
mecwacare Park Hill	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Mercy Place Ballarat	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
Mercy Place Montrose	Victoria	0	9	14	23
Monash Gardens	Victoria	0	33	<6	n/p
Murrenda Aged Care Home	Victoria	0	<6	8	n/p
Regis Macleod	Victoria	0	10	<6	n/p
St Vincent's Care Services Werribee	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Villa Maria Catholic Homes Justin Villa Aged Care Residence	Victoria	<6	<6	0	<6
Villa Maria Catholic Homes Wantirna Aged Care Residence	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Village Baxter - Manor	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Warrandyte Gardens Care Community	Victoria	0	11	<6	n/p
Wimmera Nursing Home	Victoria	0	9	10	19
Acacia Living Group Menora Gardens Aged Care Facility	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	7
Aegis Balmoral	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Aegis Hilton Park	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	6
Aegis Montgomery	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Aegis Shoreline	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Aegis The Pines	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Baptistcare Bethel	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Baptistcare Gracehaven	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Baptistcare William Carey Court	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Brightwater The Cove	Western Australia	0	0	<6	<6
Clarence Estate Residential Health and Aged Care	Western Australia	0	10	9	19
Geraldton Shore Care Community	Western Australia	<6	7	0	7
Jeremiah Donovan House	Western Australia	0	7	<6	n/p
Juniper Sarah Hardey	Western Australia	0	8	<6	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
McNamara Lodge	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Melville Parkside Care Community	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	6
MercyCare Wembley Catherine McAuley	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	9
Regents Garden Scarborough Condocare	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Regis Port Coogee	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Riversea Mosman Park	Western Australia	0	10	<6	n/p