



COVID-19 outbreaks in Australian residential aged care facilities

National snapshot

As at 8:00 am 2 March 2023 there are 937 active COVID-19 cases in 153 active outbreaks in residential aged care facilities across Australia. There have been 73 new outbreaks, 17 new resident deaths and 842 combined new resident and staff cases reported since 23 February 2023.

Table 1: Aged Care COVID-19 data as at 8.00am 2 March 2023¹

Category	Active ²	Previous 7 days	Cumulative Total	Previous 7 days
Outbreaks ³	153	7	13,118	73
Residential Aged Care Facilities affected	153	7	2,807	1
Resident Cases ⁴	647	20	130,106	578
Resident Deaths	N/A	N/A	5,114	17
Staff Cases	290	15	80,433	264

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	43	1	45	16	0	36	12	153
Total number of active resident cases	0	169	8	204	54	0	150	62	647
Total number of active staff cases	0	67	0	109	37	0	47	30	290
Total Outbreaks Opened in Previous 7 Days	0	18	0	23	7	0	20	5	73
Total Outbreaks Closed in Previous 7 Days	0	20	0	16	10	1	11	8	66

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

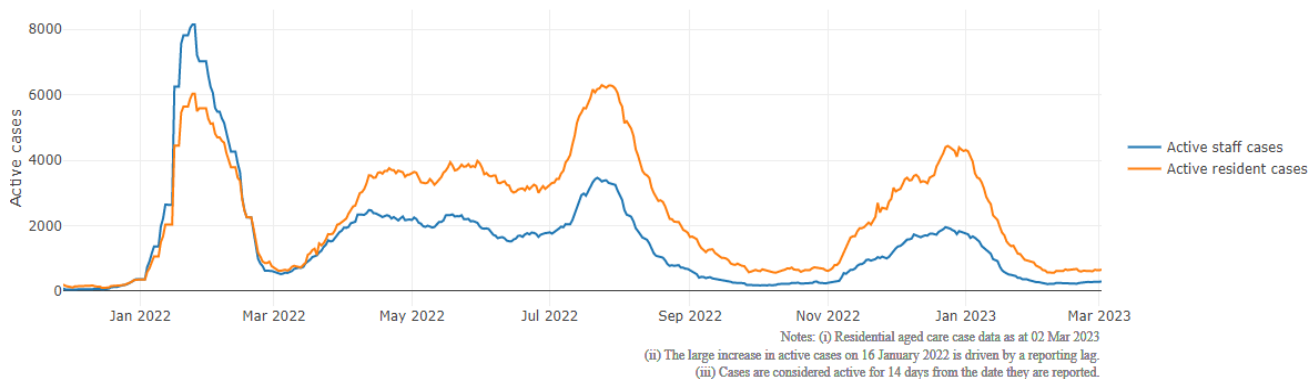
³ An outbreak is considered to be active pending advice from the relevant Public Health Unit. An outbreak is defined as at least 1 positive case in a resident or 2+ cases in staff.

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



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



Mortality

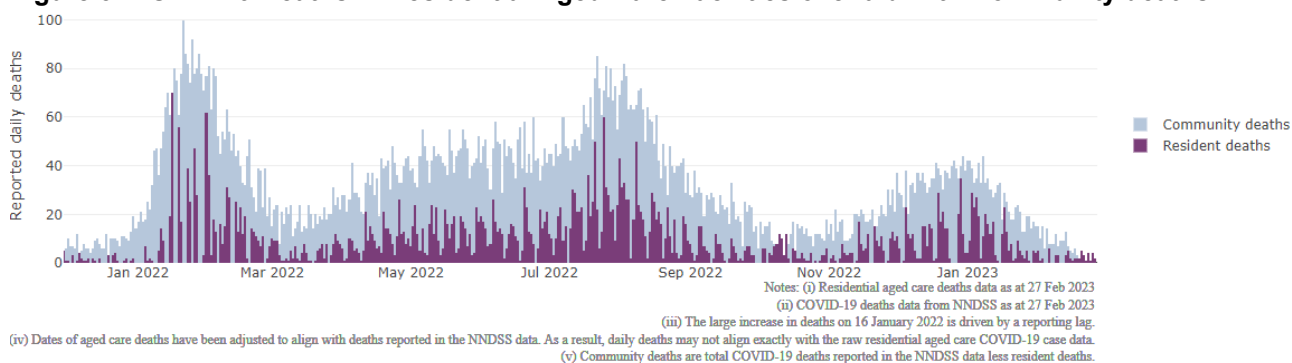
For the period of 1 January 2022 to 27 February 2023, COVID-19 is recorded as the cause of death in 5.9 per cent of all deaths in permanent residents in aged care facilities.

Since the beginning of the Omicron outbreak in late November 2021, there have been 76,679 deaths in residential aged care from all causes (report period from 29 November 2021 to 27 February 2023)⁵. 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 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 3 March 2023, workforce surge staff have filled a total of 162,783 shifts in aged care services impacted by COVID-19, including 518 in the past 7 days. In the past 7 days (to 3 March) surge workforce providers have assisted 8 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	101,274	162
Healthcare Australia (Workforce Surge)	13,554	16
Healthcare Australia (NACER)	2,295	N/A
Mable	2,711	N/A
Aspen Medical	21,461	11
HealthX	17,432	329
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.

53,784 prescriptions for Lagevrio (Molnupiravir) have been issued to residents in residential aged care facilities, with a further 2,992 prescriptions for Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir + ritonavir) also issued since 28 February 2022 and up to 2 March 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 vaccinated. In total 135,527 residents (85.2% of eligible residents) have received a fourth dose.

As at 2 March 2023, a total of 638,705 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.

The 2023 COVID-19 vaccine booster program started on 20 February 2023. The 2023 booster dose is recommended for eligible people if their last COVID-19 vaccine dose or confirmed infection was 6 months ago or longer, regardless of the number of prior doses received. For some people this booster will be a fifth dose, for others a fourth, or a third. For people with severe immunocompromise for whom a primary course was three doses, this booster could be a sixth dose. Because of this, we are no longer numbering booster doses and focusing on uptake of boosters consistent with the updated advice from ATAGI.

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.

Future reporting will focus on the 2023 booster dose program and will no longer report on the fourth dose. Updates to COVID-19 Vaccine data reports are currently underway, and specific information on national and state/territory vaccination uptake for the 2023 COVID-19 booster dose will be available soon.

Residential aged care fourth dose vaccination summary									
	National	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT
Total residents who have received a fourth dose	135,527	42,980	36,919	26,311	11,546	12,185	3,402	330	1,854
Percentage against total residents*	75.9%	75.0%	79.9%	73.0%	75.0%	73.6%	77.3%	70.7%	82.1%
Percentage against eligible residents (interval only)**	83.2%	81.7%	86.5%	81.7%	82.8%	81.1%	84.8%	81.1%	87.6%
Percentage against eligible residents (interval and case overlay)***	85.2%	84.1%	88.1%	83.6%	85.6%	83.5%	86.5%	85.4%	88.7%

Sources: Aged care AIR data as at 23 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:

- (a) The Aged Care COVID-19 Response and Preparedness Section of the Service Delivery Division, Ageing and Aged Care Group prior to 16 January 2022.
- (b) The AUS-CAIRS COVID-19 Aged Care Incidents Response System between 16 January 2022 and 1 March 2023.
- (c) My Aged Care Portal (MACP) from 28 February 2022 to 1 March 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*) over total 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*) over total 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 2 March 2023, the Commission had conducted 4,451 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 2 March 2023

Regulatory Activities	2019-20 (1 Mar - 30 Jun 2020)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (to 2 March 2023)	Total
Site visits	318	3,452	1,733	2,036	7,539
Non-site activities	3,709	8,382	6,643	1,171	19,905
Total activities	4,027	11,834	8,376	3,207	27,444

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
Arcare Warriewood	New South Wales	0	6	<6	n/p
BaptistCare Maranoa Centre - Alstonville	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Bupa Waratah	New South Wales	0	20	8	28
Calvary Ryde Retirement Community - Mary Potter Residential Care	New South Wales	0	19	8	27
Carinya House	New South Wales	0	9	<6	n/p
Carpenter Court Aged Care Plus Centre	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Catholic Healthcare St Francis Aged Care	New South Wales	0	8	<6	n/p
Catholic Healthcare St John's Villa	New South Wales	0	19	<6	n/p
Catholic Healthcare The Sister Anne Court Aged Care	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	7
Catholic Healthcare Villa Maria Centre	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Chamberlain Gardens Aged Care	New South Wales	0	16	<6	n/p
Charingfield	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Chiswick Manor Care Community	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Cooee Lodge	New South Wales	0	17	13	30
Coinda Hostel	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Dougherty Villa	New South Wales	0	29	28	57
Dural House Aged Care	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Emmaus	New South Wales	<6	22	9	31
Estia Health Kilbride	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Frederic House	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Karingal Gardens	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Killarney Vale Care Community	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Lake Haven Court Aged Care Facility	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Maroba Nursing Home	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Maroubra Shores	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Paling Court Residential Aged Care	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Pembroke Lodge	New South Wales	0	23	<6	n/p
Randwick Montefiore Home	New South Wales	<6	34	9	43
Rathgar Lodge	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Regis Port Stephens	New South Wales	0	14	9	23
RFBI Berry Masonic Village	New South Wales	<6	9	11	20
RFBI Dubbo Masonic Village	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	7
RFBI Moonbi Masonic Village - Moonby	New South Wales	0	12	7	19
Rutherford Park Care Community	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Southern Cross Care Daceyville Residential Aged Care	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
St Basil's Lakemba	New South Wales	0	18	9	27
The Manor Fairfield East	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
The Whiddon Group - Grafton	New South Wales	<6	13	<6	n/p
Uniting Thomas Roseby Lodge Marrickville	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Uniting Tumut	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Wahroonga House	New South Wales	<6	7	15	22
Warrigal Care Shell Cove	New South Wales	0	14	<6	n/p
William Cape Gardens	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Tjilpi Pampaku Ngura Aged Care Service	Northern Territory	0	8	0	8
Anam Cara	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Arcare North Lakes	Queensland	0	26	13	39
Arcare Parkinson	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Ashmore Gardens Care Community	Queensland	0	<6	<6	7
Blue Care Elanora Pineshaven Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Blue Care Redland Bay Yarrabee Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	<6	<6	8
Bolton Clarke Westhaven	Queensland	0	20	8	28
Bupa Glenvale	Queensland	0	14	<6	n/p
Calvary Gympie Views	Queensland	<6	30	14	44
Camp Hill Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Caravonica Waters	Queensland	0	0	<6	<6
Carinity Shalom	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Churches of Christ Clive Burdeu Aged Care Service	Queensland	0	15	<6	n/p
Cooinda House	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Esida	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Estia Health Albany Creek	Queensland	<6	52	7	59
Francis Of Assisi Home	Queensland	0	16	9	25
Infinite Care Edmonton Gardens	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Keperra Sanctuary Hostel	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Lodges on George	Queensland	0	28	<6	n/p
Maranatha Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	<6	7
Marebello	Queensland	0	13	<6	n/p
Millmerran Multipurpose Health Service	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Narangba Community Aged Care	Queensland	0	13	21	34
Newstead Grand Care Community	Queensland	<6	6	<6	n/p
North Rockhampton Nursing Centre	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Ozcare Ozanam Villa - Clontarf	Queensland	<6	<6	0	<6
Regis Gatton	Queensland	0	28	19	47
Regis Home Hill	Queensland	0	20	12	32
Regis Kirwan	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Regis Salisbury	Queensland	0	22	<6	n/p
Residency by Dillons Tin Can Bay	Queensland	0	<6	7	n/p
Sinnamon Village - Kentish Court	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Southern Cross Care Chinchilla - Illoura Village	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
St Vincent's Care Services Bardon	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
St Vincent's Care Services Gympie	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
St Vincent's Care Services Maroochydore	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Sylvan Woods Nursing Home	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
The Good Shepherd Nursing Home	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
TriCare Pimpama Aged Care Residence	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
TriCare Stafford Lakes Aged Care Residence	Queensland	0	10	<6	n/p
Village Coorparoo Aged Care	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Wheller Gardens - John Wesley Gardens	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Whiddon Beaudesert Star	Queensland	0	10	11	21
Woodford Manor Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
ACH Group Residential Care - Highercombe	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
AnglicareSA Elizabeth - Dutton Court	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
AnglicareSA Westbourne Park	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Estia Health Salisbury	South Australia	0	16	9	25
Helping Hand Aged Care - Lightsview	South Australia	0	<6	<6	8
Japara Trevu House	South Australia	0	24	12	36
Kalyra McLaren Vale Aged Care	South Australia	0	6	0	6
Longridge Aged Care	South Australia	0	0	<6	<6
Mary Cecelia Hart Court Hostel	South Australia	0	0	<6	<6
McCracken Views Residential Care	South Australia	0	40	6	46
Morlancourt	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Regis Playford	South Australia	<6	12	<6	n/p
Ridleyton Greek Home for the Aged	South Australia	0	28	18	46
Sandpiper Lodge Residential Care	South Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Tanunda Lutheran Home	South Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Warrina Park Residential Aged Care Service	South Australia	0	8	<6	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
AdventCare Yarra Ranges	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Allawah Special Care Hostel	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Arcare Burnside	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Aurum Plenty	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Baptcare - Westhaven Community	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Baptcare Brookview Community	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
BlueCross Karinya Grove	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Cardinia Community Aged Care	Victoria	0	6	<6	n/p
Coinda Lodge Nursing Home	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Coppin Centre	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Doutta Galla Yarraville Village Aged Care Facility	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Estia Health Glen Waverley	Victoria	0	8	<6	n/p
Estia Health Melton South	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Estia Health Plenty Valley	Victoria	0	25	8	33
Estia Health South Morang	Victoria	<6	36	7	43
Forest Lodge Residential Aged Care	Victoria	0	27	0	27
GraniteHill Aged Care	Victoria	0	0	<6	<6
Havilah Hostel	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
Hope Aged Care Brunswick	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Kew Gardens Aged Care	Victoria	<6	8	7	15
Manor Court Werribee Aged Care Ltd	Victoria	0	0	<6	<6
Martin Luther Homes	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
mecwacare Calwell Manor	Victoria	<6	15	7	22
Mekong Cairnlea Vietnamese Aged Care	Victoria	0	11	<6	n/p
MiCare Overbeek Lodge	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Newmans on the Park	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Penshurst Nursing Home	Victoria	0	0	<6	<6
Regis Cranbourne	Victoria	0	11	<6	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Rosebrook	Victoria	0	0	<6	<6
Uniting AgeWell Strath-Haven	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Victoria Grange Residential Aged Care Facility	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Villa Maria Catholic Homes St Catherine's Aged Care Residence	Victoria	0	6	<6	n/p
Water Gardens	Victoria	0	20	8	28
Whittlesea Lodge	Victoria	<6	47	16	63
Woods Point Aged Care	Victoria	0	20	<6	n/p
Woorayl Lodge Hostel	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Aegis Amherst	Western Australia	<6	21	<6	n/p
Aegis Greenfields	Western Australia	<6	7	<6	n/p
Aegis Stirling	Western Australia	0	<6	7	n/p
Baptistcare Gracehaven	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Bethanie Fields	Western Australia	<6	42	16	58
Brightwater The Cove	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	7
Juniper Chrystal Halliday	Western Australia	0	0	<6	<6
Juniper Sarah Hardey	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Regents Garden Aubin Grove	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Regents Garden Four Seasons Booragoon	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	8
Regis Port Coogee	Western Australia	0	20	<6	n/p
Waratah Lodge	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	<6