



COVID-19 outbreaks in Australian residential aged care homes

National snapshot

As at 8:00 am 22 August 2024, there are 1,159 active COVID-19 cases reported in 164 active outbreaks in residential aged care homes (RACHs) across Australia. There have been 78 new outbreaks, 22 new resident deaths and 971 combined new resident and staff cases reported since 15 August 2024.

Table 1: Aged Care COVID-19 data as at 8.00am 22 August 2024¹

Category	Active ²	Change in active (7 days)	Cumulative Total	Cumulative increase (7 days)
Outbreaks ³	164	-23	22,713	78
RACHs affected	164	-23	2,897	1
Resident cases ⁴	865	-125	221,637	751
Resident deaths	N/A	N/A	6,974	22
Staff cases	294	-51	119,984	220

Residential aged care homes with active outbreaks are included in [Appendix](#).

Table 2: Overview of active outbreaks in Australia

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Total
Total RACHs with outbreaks	3	45	0	40	17	1	47	11	164
Total number of active resident cases	18	275	0	104	90	2	320	56	865
Total number of active staff cases	3	86	0	72	31	8	78	16	294
Total outbreaks opened in previous 7 days	0	14	0	20	9	0	28	7	78
Total outbreaks closed in previous 7 days	1	32	0	31	6	1	28	3	102

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

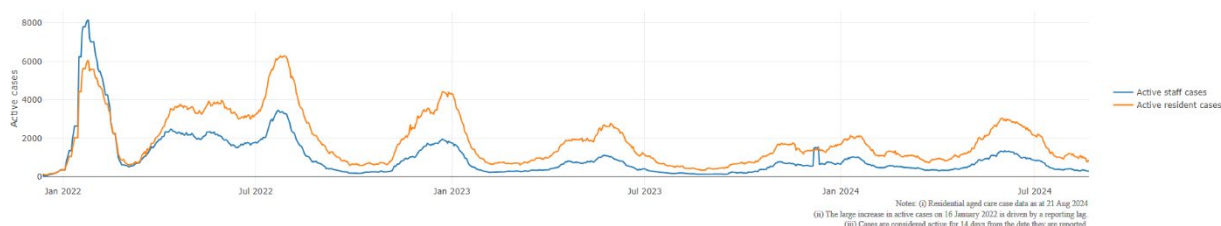
³ An outbreak is considered to be active pending advice from the relevant Public Health Unit. An outbreak is defined as at least 1 (one) positive case in a resident or 2+ cases in staff.

⁴ Case numbers and numbers of deaths are dependent upon reporting from RACHs. 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 – December 2021 to present



Mortality

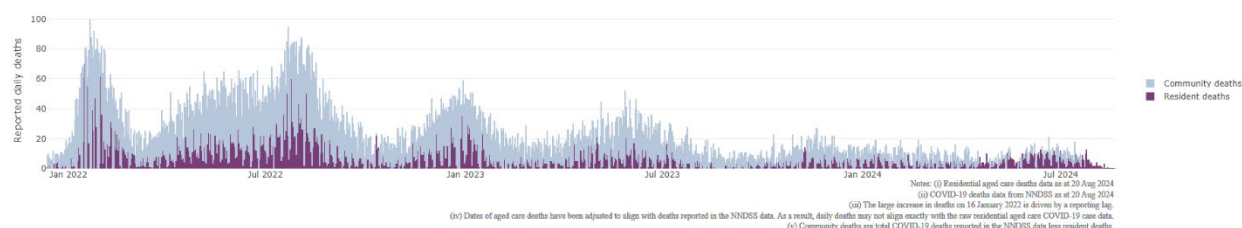
For the period of 1 January 2024 to 27 June 2024, COVID-19 is recorded as the cause of death in 2.2% of all deaths in permanent residents in aged care homes.

Since the beginning of the Omicron outbreak in mid-December⁵ 2021, there have been 160,717 deaths in residential aged care from all causes (report period from 15 December 2021 to 17 August 2024)⁶. COVID-19 deaths account for 3.8% of this figure.

There has been a decrease year on year for the rate of case fatality⁷, from a 33% case fatality rate in resident COVID-19 cases in 2020 to 3.3% in 2022 and 1.8% currently.

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. In the first half of 2022, all-cause excess mortality in residential aged care was above the expected range. Excess mortality for the second half of the 2022 is yet to be finalised.

Figure 3: COVID-19 deaths in RACHs overlaid with community deaths



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.

⁷ Case fatality calculated as total reported resident COVID-19 deaths divided by total resident COVID-19 cases.

Workforce in active residential aged care outbreaks

As at 21 August 2024, surge workforce providers report a total of 196,949 shifts in aged care services impacted by COVID-19. These shifts include roles for GPs, nurses, care workers, allied health workers, executive and ancillary staff. In the past week surge workforce providers have reported assisting 5 residential aged care homes and filled 82 shifts in aged care services.

Table 3: Workforce resources supplied to RACHs

Workforce provider	Total shifts	Previous 7 days
Aspen Medical ⁸	31,159	34
HealthX ⁹	36,168	48
Randstad ¹⁰	878	0
Previous contracted providers ¹¹	128,744	N/A
Total	196,949	82

⁸Aspen Medical shift data as at 21 August 2024, reported fortnightly.

⁹HealthX shift data as at 21 August 2024, reported weekly.

¹⁰Randstad shift data as at 21 August 2024, reported weekly.

¹¹Previous contracted providers include RCSA, HealthCare Australia, Mable and Torrens.

Oral antiviral treatments

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

133,476 prescriptions for Lagevrio (Molnupiravir) have been issued to residents in RACHs, with a further 17,088 prescriptions for Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir + ritonavir) also issued since 28 February 2022 and up to 31 July 2024.

**Note: Oral antiviral data is only being updated monthly.*

Vaccination in RACHs

On 29 February 2024, recommendations for 2024 COVID-19 vaccinations were released. Recommended doses for the program in 2024 are based on an individual's age and level of severe immunocompromise.

In 2024, those aged 75 years and over are recommended to get a COVID-19 vaccine dose every 6 months. Those aged over 65 years of age, and adults with severe immunocompromise are recommended to receive a COVID-19 vaccine dose every 12 months and are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine dose every 6 months based on individual risk-benefit assessments. All other adults can receive a single dose this year.

Recommendations can be found on the Department of Health and Aged Care (department) website at:

<https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/covid-19-vaccines/getting-your-vaccination/booster-doses>.

People are encouraged to seek vaccination advice from their healthcare providers, specific to their circumstances.

People living in residential aged care are a high priority for the Government's COVID-19 vaccination program.

Older age remains the biggest risk factor for severe COVID-19 disease. Vaccination offers added protection to help reduce the risk of severe illness or hospitalisation of aged care residents.

The department is working with both the aged care and primary care sectors to ensure residents have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. The department continues to target support for RACHs to arrange COVID-19 vaccinations with local primary care providers such as GPs, community pharmacists and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services.

As at 21 August 2024:

- 69.6% of aged care residents have received a booster dose in the last 12 months.
- For residents over the age of 75:
 - 86,648 (52.7%) aged care residents received a booster dose in the last 6 months.
- 18,831 aged care residents have received a vaccination in the last 28 days (compared to 27,072 in the 28 days prior).

Table 4: Aged care COVID-19 Booster Doses (data as at 21 August 2024)

Jurisdiction	75+ with booster in last 6 months	
	Residents vaccinated	% of residents vaccinated
National	86,648	52.7%
NSW	27,512	51.8%
VIC	23,708	55.7%
QLD	16,007	48.5%
WA	8,504	55.7%
SA	7,606	52.9%
TAS	1,917	51.7%
ACT	1,191	56.3%
NT	203	56.4%

Data in this report is sourced from Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) data of residents in permanent residential aged care homes.

An updated data methodology was implemented on 7 August 2024. Aged Care AIR data as at 21 August 2024; Matched AIR data uses a snapshot of permanent residents in residential aged care homes as at 31 May 2024. The Residential Aged Care Home (RACH) Recipient ID to Medicare PIN linkage file was loaded into Health Enterprise Data Warehouse on 11 July 2024 which linked Medicare Consumer Directory data as at 11 October 2023 and RACH recipient data as at 31 January 2024.

Note: Booster doses in this report refer to any dose 2 or above administered to an individual.

Infection control and audit

The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Commission) conducts site audits and assessment contacts (site and non-site) to monitor and assess residential aged care services against the Aged Care Quality Standards (see Table 5 below). This may include conducting infection control monitoring (ICM) spot checks.

An ICM spot check involves an on-site visit to residential aged care services, without an outbreak, to observe infection control practices, to ensure that staff, management, and visitors are adhering to safe personal protective equipment protocols and to safe infection control arrangements, as required under the Quality Standards.

As at 22 August 2024, the Commission had conducted 6,050 ICM spot checks to observe infection control practices and PPE protocols in RACHs.

Table 5: Total quality assessment and monitoring activities with residential services (including IPC), by type and month 1 March 2020 to 22 August 2024

Regulatory Activities	2019-20 (1 Mar - 30 Jun 2020)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25 (to 22 Aug 2024)	Total
Site visits	318	3,452	1,732	3,814	2,855	388	12,559
Non-site activities	3,709	8,381	6,665	1,413	489	120	20,787
Total activities	4,027	11,833	8,397	5,227	3,344	508	33,346

Appendix: National residential aged care homes (RACHs) with active outbreaks COVID-19

Please note, information reported in this table has been directly reported to the department by RACHs.

'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, RACHs are able to correct these in the COVID-19 Support Portal through My Aged Care.

Where a RACH 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).

Data below for individual services is as at 22 August 2024.

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Cases
BaptistCare Griffith	Australian Capital Territory	0	13	<6	n/p
Goodwin Monash	Australian Capital Territory	0	30	<6	n/p
Villaggio Sant Antonio Hostel	Australian Capital Territory	0	12	<6	n/p
Anglican Care Warnervale Gardens	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Anglicare Brian King Gardens	New South Wales	0	14	<6	n/p
Anglicare Woodberry Village	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Avalon House	New South Wales	0	10	<6	n/p
Bangalor Retreat	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
BaptistCare Kularoo Centre	New South Wales	0	<6	6	n/p
BaptistCare Warabrook Centre	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
BaptistCare Warena Centre	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Bayview Treetops Care Community	New South Wales	0	9	0	9
Belmore Place Care Community	New South Wales	0	22	<6	n/p
Bolton Clarke Beechwood (PKA - Beechwood Aged Care)	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Bolton Clarke Darlington	New South Wales	0	13	<6	n/p
Bolton Clarke Greenwood	New South Wales	0	11	<6	n/p
Bolton Clarke Raffles	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	7
Bolton Clarke Willowdale	New South Wales	<6	29	8	37
Bupa Banora Point	New South Wales	0	16	6	22

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Cases
CASS Residential Aged Care Facility	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Catholic Healthcare McQuoin Park	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Coffs Harbour Grange Care Community	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Denhams Beach Care Community	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Emily Gardens at the Rock	New South Wales	0	17	8	25
Estia Health Bankstown	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Estia Health Epping - The Poplars	New South Wales	0	31	12	43
Estia Health Kilbride	New South Wales	0	24	9	33
Grace Munro Centre	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Green Hills Residential Care Service	New South Wales	0	17	9	26
HammondCare - Cardiff	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	6
Hawkesbury Living Pty Limited	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Heritage Botany	New South Wales	0	39	<6	n/p
IRT Berala on the Park	New South Wales	<6	9	0	9
IRT Tarrawanna Care Centre	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Oran Park House Aged Care Facility	New South Wales	0	40	0	40
Orange Grove Care Community	New South Wales	<6	13	6	19
Randwick Montefiore Home	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Russian Relief Association of St Sergius of Radonezh	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
St Elizabeth Home	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
SummitCare Liverpool-173	New South Wales	0	8	<6	n/p
The Whiddon Group - Glenfield - Easton Park	New South Wales	0	23	8	31
The Whiddon Group - Kelso	New South Wales	0	6	<6	n/p
Tumbarumba Multi-Purpose Service	New South Wales	0	16	6	22
Uniting Aldersgate Lilyfield	New South Wales	0	9	<6	n/p
Uniting Bruce Sharpe Rockdale	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	6

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Cases
Uniting Carroona Yamba	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Uniting Garden Suburb	New South Wales	0	22	18	40
Uniting Kingscliff	New South Wales	0	12	<6	n/p
Anam Cara	Queensland	0	0	<6	<6
Anglicare SQ Kirami Home for the Aged	Queensland	0	<6	11	n/p
Arcare Eight Mile Plains	Queensland	<6	18	<6	n/p
Arcare Seven Hills	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Blue Care Kallangur Pilgrim Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Blue Care Kenmore Aged Care Facility	Queensland	<6	11	<6	n/p
Blue Care Kingaroy Canowindra Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	10	<6	n/p
Blue Care Rothwell Nazarene Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Bolton Clarke Baycrest	Queensland	0	<6	<6	8
Bolton Clarke Buderim Views	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Bolton Clarke Fernhill	Queensland	0	6	<6	n/p
Bolton Clarke Glendale	Queensland	0	<6	<6	7
Bolton Clarke Moreton Shores	Queensland	0	6	<6	n/p
Burpengary Manor Aged Care	Queensland	0	12	<6	n/p
Carramar Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Central & Upper Burnett District Home for the Aged Nursing Home	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Churches of Christ Warwick Aged Care Service	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
De Paul Villa Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Estia Health Mount Coolum	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Harbour Quays Residential Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Infinite Care Cornubia	Queensland	<6	28	<6	n/p
Jimboomba Community Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Lorocco	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Cases
Lutheran Services - Cooina Aged Care Centre	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Lutheran Services - Orana	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Lutheran Services - St Pauls	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
MiCare Prins Willem Alexander Lodge	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Morayfield Grove Care Community	Queensland	0	10	0	10
Mundubbera Multipurpose Health Service	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Newstead Grand Care Community	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Ozcare Parkwood Gardens	Queensland	0	13	<6	n/p
Palm Lake Bethania Aged Care Facility	Queensland	0	24	35	59
Palm Lake Care Caloundra	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Paradise Lakes Care Centre	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Regis Home Hill	Queensland	<6	<6	<6	6
Regis Sandgate - Musgrave	Queensland	0	14	<6	n/p
Seabrae Manor	Queensland	0	10	<6	n/p
St Paul de Chartres Residential Aged Care	Queensland	0	19	20	39
Sunnymeade Park Aged Care Community	Queensland	0	14	11	25
Wheller Gardens - Emmaus Village	Queensland	0	8	<6	n/p
ACH Group Residential Care - Colton Court	South Australia	0	<6	<6	7
ACH Group Residential Care - Milpara	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
ACH Group Residential Care - Perry Park (high care)	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
AnglicareSA Brompton	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Bolton Clarke Carinya	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Bucklands Residential Care	South Australia	0	12	0	12
Estia Health Encounter Bay	South Australia	0	27	12	39
Estia Health Flagstaff Hill	South Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Estia Health Valley View	South Australia	<6	16	8	24

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Cases
Healthia	South Australia	0	6	0	6
Helping Hand Aged Care - Lealholme Port Pirie	South Australia	0	16	8	24
Lourdes Valley The Lodge Residential Care	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
McCracken Views Residential Care	South Australia	0	8	<6	n/p
St Anna's Residential Care Facility	South Australia	0	13	<6	n/p
St Louis Nursing Home	South Australia	<6	8	<6	n/p
St Raphaels Home For The Aged	South Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
UnitingSA Hawksbury Gardens Aged Care	South Australia	0	23	11	34
Uniting AgeWell Strathdevon	Tasmania	0	<6	8	n/p
Anzac Lodge Private Nursing Home	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Arcare Templestowe	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Banksia Lodge Residential Aged Care Service	Victoria	<6	16	<6	n/p
Baptcare Abbey Gardens Community	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Belvedere Aged Care	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Benetas St Laurence Court - Eaglehawk	Victoria	0	9	<6	n/p
BlueCross Box Hill	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
BlueCross Cresthaven	Victoria	0	18	<6	n/p
BlueCross The Mews	Victoria	<6	17	<6	n/p
Bolton Clarke Charlesbrook	Victoria	0	15	<6	n/p
Bolton Clarke Princeton View	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Bolton Clarke Trevi Court	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Bupa Echuca	Victoria	0	10	<6	n/p
Bupa Mildura	Victoria	0	6	0	6
Bupa Wodonga	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Coppin Centre	Victoria	0	14	<6	n/p
Edgarley Home	Victoria	0	<6	7	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Cases
Emmy Monash Aged Care	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Epping Meadows Care Community	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Estia Health Bentleigh	Victoria	0	16	<6	n/p
Estia Health Yarra Valley	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Grace Villa Aged Care	Victoria	0	0	<6	<6
Havilah Hostel	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
Jewish Care (Vic) Inc. Residential Homes, Windsor	Victoria	0	8	<6	n/p
Kara Court Nursing Home	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Karana	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Kurrajong Lodge	Victoria	0	18	<6	n/p
Luson Eden Park	Victoria	0	23	6	29
Lynden Aged Care	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Mekong Vietnamese Aged Care	Victoria	0	17	6	23
Melbourne Hebrew Memorial Nursing Home	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
MiCare Avondrust Lodge	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Princes Court Homes Hostel	Victoria	<6	24	15	39
Regis Blackburn	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Sherbrooke Private Nursing Home	Victoria	0	11	<6	n/p
Tabulam & Templer Home for the Aged	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
The Oaks Nursing Home-Gisborne	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
The Views at Heidelberg	Victoria	0	20	0	20
TLC Whitewater	Victoria	0	27	0	27
Uniting AgeWell Noble Park	Victoria	0	11	<6	n/p
Vasey RSL Care Brighton East	Victoria	0	14	<6	n/p
Vermont Aged Care	Victoria	0	27	6	33
Villa Maria Catholic Homes Star of the Sea Aged Care Residence	Victoria	0	41	<6	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Cases
Villa Maria Catholic Homes Wantirna Aged Care Residence	Victoria	0	7	<6	n/p
Western Port Bay Care Community	Victoria	0	14	6	20
Willowbrae - Melton	Victoria	0	15	<6	n/p
Willowbrae-Templestowe Hostel	Victoria	0	22	9	31
Acacia Living Group Meadow Springs Aged Care Facility	Western Australia	0	8	<6	n/p
Aegis Greenfields	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Aegis Shorehaven	Western Australia	<6	60	8	68
Aegis The Pines	Western Australia	0	8	<6	n/p
Alfred Cove Care Community	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Brightwater The Cove	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	6
Italian Village Fremantle	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Margaret Hubery House	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Regents Garden Residential Aged Care Resort - Lake Joondalup	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	6
St Vincent's Aged Care	Western Australia	0	22	<6	n/p
SwanCare Ningana	Western Australia	<6	7	<6	n/p