COVID-19 outbreaks in Australian residential aged care homes

# National snapshot

As at 8:00 am 20 February 2025, there are 592 active COVID-19 cases reported in 99 active outbreaks in residential aged care homes (RACHs) across Australia. There have been 54 new outbreaks, 5 new resident deaths and 535 combined new resident and staff cases reported since 13 February 2025.

**Table 1: Aged Care COVID-19 data as at 8.00am 20 February 2025[[1]](#footnote-2)**

| Category | Active*[[2]](#footnote-3)* | Change in active (7 days) | CumulativeTotal | Cumulative increase (7 days) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outbreaks[[3]](#footnote-4)** | 99 | -2 | 25,005 | 54 |
| **RACHs affected**  | 99 | -2 | 2,910 | 1 |
| **Resident cases** | 434 | -55 | 240,495 | 397 |
| **Resident deaths** | N/A | N/A | 7,308 | 5 |
| **Staff cases** | 158 | 2 | 127,006 | 138 |

Residential aged care homes with active outbreaks are included in [Appendix](#_Appendix_1:_National).

Data collected from 31 March 2020 including retrospective data on outbreaks and cases from 18 February 2020.

Table 2: Overview of active outbreaks in Australia

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | Total |
| Total RACHs with outbreaks | 0 | 24 | 2 | 23 | 15 | 0 | 22 | 13 | **99** |
| *Total number of active resident cases* | 0 | 136 | 5 | 79 | 74 | 0 | 72 | 68 | **434** |
| *Total number of active staff cases* | 0 | 41 | 4 | 47 | 26 | 0 | 18 | 22 | **158** |
| Total outbreaks opened in previous 7 days | 1 | 11 | 1 | 11 | 6 | 0 | 16 | 8 | **54** |
| Total outbreaks closed in previous 7 days | 1 | 14 | 1 | 13 | 6 | 0 | 14 | 6 | **55** |

**Figure 1: National outbreak trends in aged care – December 2021 to present**



 **Figure 2: Trends in aged care cases – December 2021 to present**



## Mortality

For the period of 1 January 2024 to 15 February 2025, COVID-19 is recorded as the cause of death in 1.7% of all deaths in permanent residents in aged care homes.

Since the beginning of the Omicron outbreak in mid-December[[4]](#footnote-5) 2021, there have been 195,674 deaths in residential aged care from all causes (report period from 15 December 2021 to 15 February 2025)[[5]](#footnote-6). COVID-19 deaths account for 3.3% of this figure.

There has been a decrease year on year for the rate of case fatality[[6]](#footnote-7), from a 33% case fatality rate in resident COVID-19 cases in 2020 to 3.3% in 2022 and 1.8% in 2024.

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**



## Workforce in active residential aged care outbreaks

As at 19 February 2025, surge workforce providers report a total of 200,535 shifts delivered 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 2 residential aged care home(s) and filled 4 shifts in aged care services.

Table 3: Workforce resources supplied to RACHs

| Workforce provider | Total shifts | Previous 7 days |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Aspen Medical8 | 33,040 | 0 |
| HealthX9 | 37,738 | 0 |
| Randstad10 | 1,013 | 4 |
| Previous contracted providers11 | 128,744 | N/A |
| **Total** | **200,535** | **4** |

8Aspen Medical shift data as at 19 February 2025, reported fortnightly.

9HealthX shift data as at 19 February 2025, reported weekly.

10Randstad shift data as at 19 February 2025, 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.

152,770 prescriptions for Lagevrio (Molnupiravir) have been issued to residents in RACHs, with a further 21,983 prescriptions for Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir + ritonavir) also issued since 28 February 2022 and up to 31 January 2025.­

*\*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 are based on an individual's age and level of severe immunocompromise.

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 19 February 2025:

* 70.2% of aged care residents have received a booster dose in the last 12 months.
* For residents over the age of 75:
	+ 72,206 (42.4%) aged care residents received a booster dose in the last 6 months.
* 18,683 aged care residents have received a vaccination in the last 28 days (compared to 9,102 in the 28 days prior).

**Table 4: Aged care COVID-19 Booster Doses (data as at 19 February 2025)**

| Jurisdiction | 75+ with booster in last 6 months |
| --- | --- |
| Residents vaccinated | % of residents vaccinated |
| **National** | **72,206** | **42.4%** |
| NSW |  22,856 | 41.5%  |
| VIC | 20,454 | 46.3% |
| QLD | 12,589 | 36.9% |
| WA |  6,439 | 40.6% |
| SA | 6,666 | 45.2% |
| TAS | 1,987 | 51.9% |
| ACT | 1,111 | 50.7% |
| NT | <200 |  26.7% |

*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 January 2025. Aged Care AIR data as at 19 February 2025; Matched AIR data uses a snapshot of permanent residents in residential aged care homes as at 30 November 2024. The Residential Aged Care Home {RACH) Recipient ID to Medicare PIN linkage file was loaded into Health Enterprise Data Warehouse on
20 December 2024 which linked Medicare Consumer Directory data as at 11 October 2023 and RACH recipient data as at
15 September 2025.*

*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 20 February 2025, the Commission had conducted 6,067 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 20 February 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Regulatory Activities | 2019-20 (1 Mar - 30 Jun 2020) | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25(to 20 Feb 2025) | Total |
| ****Site visits**** | 318 | 3,452 | 1,732 | 3,814 | 2,840 | 1,200 | **13,356** |
| ****Non-site activities**** | 3,704 | 8,396 | 6,665 | 1,413 | 486 | 498 | **21,163** |
| Total activities | 4,022 | 11,848 | 8,397 | 5,227 | 3,326 | 1,698 | **34,519** |

# 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 20 February 2025.

| Service Name | State | Resident Deaths | Resident Cases | Staff Cases | Total Cases |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Alton Lodge | New South Wales | 0 | 11 | <6 | n/p |
| BaptistCare The Gracewood Centre | New South Wales | 0 | 9 | <6 | n/p |
| Bathurst Riverview Care Community | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Beresford Hall | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Bolton Clarke Pendle Hill | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Calvary Tanilba Shores Retirement Community | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | 9 |
| Emmaus | New South Wales | 0 | 13 | <6 | n/p |
| Estia Health Albury | New South Wales | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Estia Health Epping - The Poplars | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Frederic House | New South Wales | 0 | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| Gallipoli Home | New South Wales | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Highfields Manor Port Macquarie | New South Wales | 0 | 20 | 7 | 27 |
| Hunters Hill Montefiore Home | New South Wales | 0 | 18 | 8 | 26 |
| John Goodlet Manor | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | 6 |
| Norah Head Care Community | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Northcourt Nursing Home | New South Wales | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Our Lady Of Consolation Nursing Home | New South Wales | 0 | 12 | <6 | n/p |
| Peninsula Villages Ltd | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| St Hedwig Village | New South Wales | 0 | 13 | <6 | n/p |
| St Patrick's Green | New South Wales | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| The Whiddon Group - Glenfield - Arthur Webb | New South Wales | 0 | 8 | <6 | n/p |
| Uniting Starrett Lodge Hamlyn Terrace | New South Wales | 0 | 13 | <6 | n/p |
| Warrigal Care Shell Cove | New South Wales | 0 | 16 | 0 | 16 |
| Yallambee Village | New South Wales | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Juninga Centre | Northern Territory | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Pearl Supported Care | Northern Territory | <6 | 24 | <6 | n/p |
| Anglicare SQ Symes Grove Home for the Aged | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | 7 |
| Arcare Noosa | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 8 | n/p |
| Arcare Sanctuary Manors | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Blue Care Flinders View Nowlanvil Aged Care Facility | Queensland | 0 | 29 | 12 | 41 |
| Blue Care Kallangur Pilgrim Aged Care Facility | Queensland | 0 | 15 | <6 | n/p |
| Blue Care Toowoomba Residential Aged Care Facility | Queensland | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Bolton Clarke Capella Bay | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Bolton Clarke Centaur | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Bolton Clarke Galleon Gardens | Queensland | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Bolton Clarke Seabrook | Queensland | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Bolton Clarke Sunset Ridge | Queensland | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Bolton Clarke The Ormsby | Queensland | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Dalrymple Villa | Queensland | 0 | <6 | <6 | 8 |
| Francis Of Assisi Home | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Infinite Care Cornubia | Queensland | 0 | 13 | <6 | n/p |
| Infinite Care Mount Lofty | Queensland | 0 | 9 | <6 | n/p |
| Lutheran Services - Wahroonga | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Milton House | Queensland | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Ozcare - Hervey Bay | Queensland | 0 | 15 | <6 | n/p |
| Palmwoods Care Centre | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Regis Ayr | Queensland | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| St Vincent's Care Carina | Queensland | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Torbay | Queensland | 0 | 8 | 7 | 15 |
| Ananda Aged Care Findon | South Australia | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| AnglicareSA Elizabeth - Dutton Court | South Australia | 0 | 9 | <6 | n/p |
| AnglicareSA Westbourne Park | South Australia | 0 | 10 | <6 | n/p |
| Bolton Clarke Ross Robertson | South Australia | 0 | 33 | 14 | 47 |
| Eldercare Seaford | South Australia | <6 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Eldercare The Lodge | South Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Estia Health Burton | South Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Estia Health Lockleys | South Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Helping Hand Aged Care - Lightsview | South Australia | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Regis Kingswood | South Australia | 0 | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| St Basil's at Croydon Park | South Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| St Basil's at St Peters | South Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| The Philip Kennedy Centre Residential Care | South Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| UnitingSA Wesley House Aged Care | South Australia | <6 | 25 | 6 | 31 |
| UnitingSA Westminster Village Aged Care | South Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | 8 |
| BlueCross Livingstone Gardens | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Bolton Clarke Greenview | Victoria | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Bupa Woodend | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Carrum Downs Aged Care | Victoria | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Cheltenham Parkside Care Community | Victoria | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Churches of Christ Arcadia Aged Care Service | Victoria | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Cyril Jewell House | Victoria | 0 | 9 | 0 | 9 |
| Embracia Moonee Valley | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Estia Health Dandenong | Victoria | 0 | 9 | 0 | 9 |
| Ferndale Gardens Aged Care Services | Victoria | 0 | 11 | 0 | 11 |
| Meadow Heights Care Community | Victoria | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| Melville Grange Hostel | Victoria | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Mercy Place Ballarat | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Mercy Place Lynbrook | Victoria | 0 | 0 | <6 | <6 |
| MiCare Overbeek Lodge | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Peninsula Grange Aged Care | Victoria | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Prague House | Victoria | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Princes Court Homes Hostel | Victoria | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Somerville Gardens Care Community | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| The Oaks Nursing Home-Gisborne | Victoria | 0 | 10 | <6 | n/p |
| Twin Parks Aged Care Centre | Victoria | 0 | 6 | <6 | n/p |
| Victoria by the Park | Victoria | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Aegis Anchorage | Western Australia | 0 | 16 | 7 | 23 |
| Aegis Lakeside | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | 7 |
| Aegis Shorehaven | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Alfred Cove Care Community | Western Australia | <6 | 21 | <6 | n/p |
| Dalwallinu MPS | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Germanus Kent House | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Juniper Hayloft | Western Australia | 0 | 7 | <6 | n/p |
| Midland Nursing Home | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Mosman Park Care Centre | Western Australia | 0 | 17 | <6 | n/p |
| MYVISTA Mirrabooka | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Regis Bunbury | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | <6 | <6 |
| Rosewood Care Leederville | Western Australia | 0 | <6 | 0 | <6 |
| Wanneroo Community Nursing Home | Western Australia | 0 | 9 | <6 | n/p |

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 (one) positive case in a resident or 2+ cases in staff. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. 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. [↑](#footnote-ref-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)
6. Case fatality calculated as total reported resident COVID-19 deaths divided by total resident COVID-19 cases. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)