

Influenza Report Card

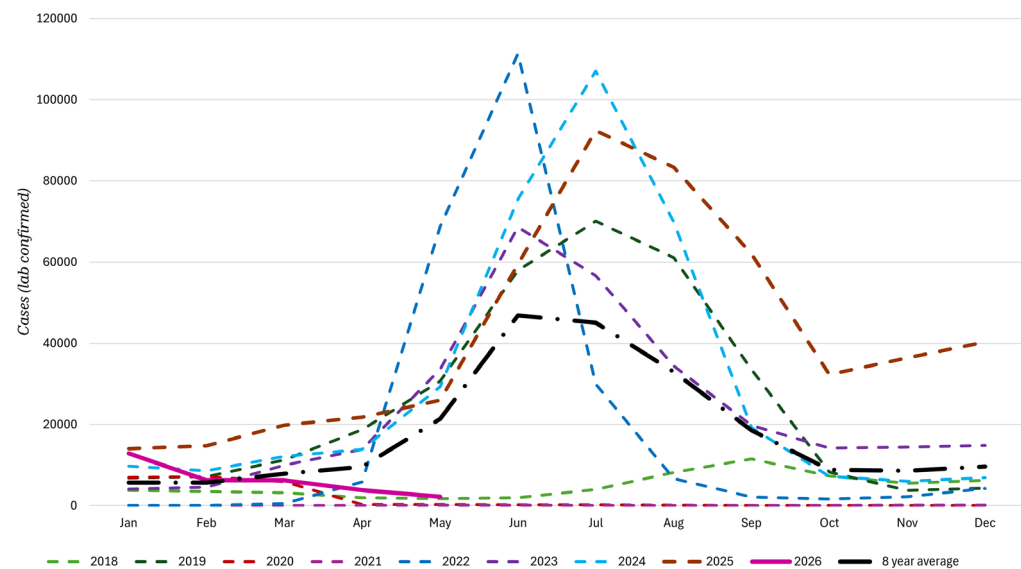
Edition #4 June 24 2026

Influenza in Australia

	2021*	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 (up to 24 June) [†]
Number of cases ²	751 ²	233,445 ²	289,128 ²	324,485 ²	502,905 ²	39,054 ²
Number of cases in older adults 50+ ²	344 (45.8%)	37,489 (16.1%)	52,710 (18.2%)	73,936 (22.8%)	97,489 (28.3%)	11,483 (29.4%)
Total number of hospitalisations**	~7 ³	1,832 ³	3,696 ¹	4,709 ⁵	8,418 ⁶	580 ⁷
Number of deaths ^{1,4,7}	0 ¹	308 ¹	421 ⁴	807 ⁷	1,455 ⁷	136 ⁷

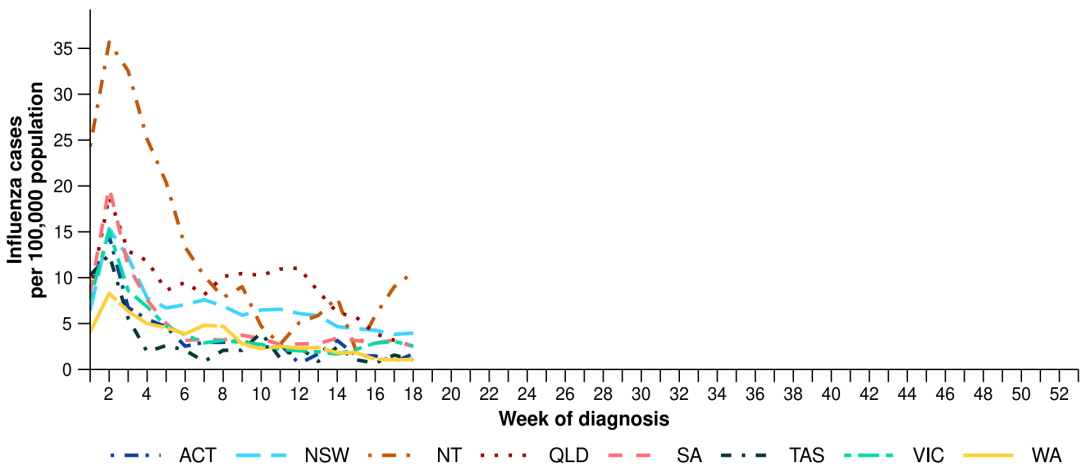
* Low number of cases due to international border closures, social distancing and increased hygiene due to COVID-19.
** For 2025 and 2026, this is reported hospitalisations live during season reporting within sentinel hospitals between 1st January – 10th August
[†] Number of deaths is calculated from 1 January to 30 April 2026.

Influenza cases in Australia 2018-2026 by month of diagnosis²



* Up to August 2025. 2020-2021 Low number of cases due to international border closures, social distancing and increased hygiene due to COVID-19. 2020-2021 case numbers excluded from 9 year average

Notification rates per 100,000 population for influenza cases notified to the NNDSS*⁷



*By state or territory and week of diagnosis, Australia, 1 January to 14 June 2026. Rate per 100,000 population for the given time period. Population data are based on the ABS ERP as at June 2024.



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influenza
season



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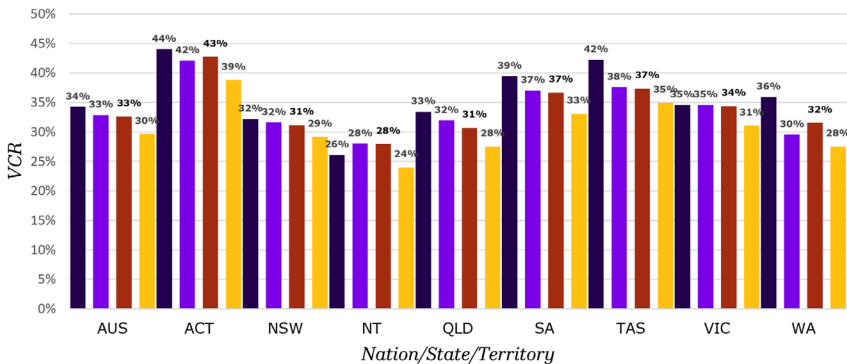
Influenza vaccination in Australia

	2021 ^{8,9}	2022 ⁹	2023 ⁹	2024 ¹⁰	2025 ¹⁰	2026 ¹¹ (up to 21 June)
Number of vaccinations	8,858,610	11,081,916	9,300,129	8,802,819	8,999,125	7,989,510
Vaccination coverage rate (VCR)*	34%	42%	35%	33%	33%	29%

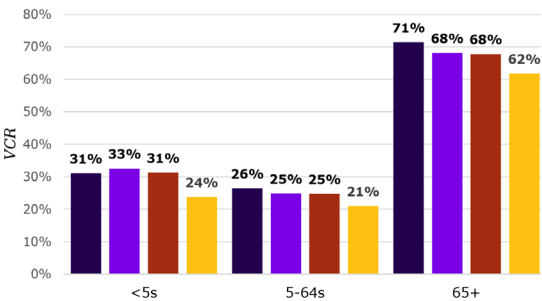
* VCR – vaccination coverage rate is estimated percentage of people in Australia who received an influenza vaccine that year. The VCR calculation is as follows: number of vaccinations^{2,12} divided by population⁸, multiplied by 100. For example, 8,720,316 / 25,738,142 x 100 = 34% in 2021.

Influenza vaccination rates (VCR) by jurisdiction, age group & Indigenous status⁸⁻¹¹

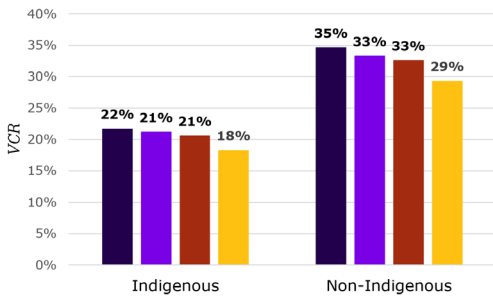
National/State/Territory VCRs



National Flu VCR by Age



National Flu VCR by Indigenous Status



■ 2023 ■ 2024 ■ 2025 ■ 2026

ATAGI* emphasises the importance of influenza vaccination. "Healthcare provider recommendation is the strongest predictor of a person's decision to vaccinate."¹²

Refer to the Immunisation Handbook for further information on available vaccine options.

*Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation

References: 1. Australian Influenza Surveillance Report and Activity Updates 2019-2023, Australian Government Department of Health. 2. National Notifiable Disease Surveillance System Dashboard (NNDSS) 3. Estimate based on FluCAN calculation methods, Sanofi Australia. 4. Deaths due to Acute Respiratory Infections in Australia - 2022 - March 2024, Australian Bureau of Statistics. 5. 2024 Annual Respiratory Surveillance Report, Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. 6. Australian Respiratory Surveillance Report 1 to 28 December 2025, Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. 7. Australian Respiratory Surveillance Report 1 June to 14 June 2026, Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. 8. National, State and Territory Population, 2020-2021, Australian Bureau of Statistics. 9. Influenza Immunisation data 1 March to 3 October 2020-2023, Australian Government Department of Health. 10. Influenza Immunisation data 1 March to 5 October 2021-2025, Australian Government Department of Health. 11. Influenza Immunisation data 1 March to 21 June 2026, Australian Government Department of Health. 12. Statement on the administration of seasonal influenza vaccines in 2026, Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI). 13. Kubale J et al. Clin Inf Dis 2021;73(11):e4288-95. 14. Warren-Gash C et al. Eur Respir J 2018;51(3):1701794. 15. Public Health England. Influenza: The green book, Chapter 19. 16. Kytomaa S et al. JAMA Cardiol 2019;4(4):363-369.

Complications of influenza

Influenza can trigger a range of serious complications, including:



Up to 8 times higher chance of pneumonia in the week following infection.¹³



10-fold relative risk of dying from influenza complications for people with coronary heart disease compared to people without coronary heart disease.¹⁵



Up to 10-fold increase in the risk of heart attack in the days following an influenza infection.¹⁴



Approximately 19% of heart failure hospitalisations may be influenza related (in a month of high influenza activity).¹⁶

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