



COVID-19 outbreaks in Australian residential aged care facilities

National snapshot

As at 8:00 am 12 October 2023 there are 1,002 active COVID-19 cases in 149 active outbreaks in residential aged care facilities across Australia. There have been 72 new outbreaks, 14 new resident deaths and 894 combined new resident and staff cases reported since 5 October 2023.

Table 1: Aged Care COVID-19 data as at 8.00am 12 October 2023¹

Category	Active ²	Previous 7 days	Cumulative Total	Previous 7 days
Outbreaks ³	149	7	16,508	72
Residential Aged Care Facilities affected	149	7	2,843	0
Resident Cases ⁴	730	27	160,649	651
Resident Deaths	N/A	N/A	5,895	14
Staff Cases	272	73	92,747	243

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	30	0	17	17	5	71	7	149
Total number of active resident cases	4	130	0	56	91	23	401	25	730
Total number of active staff cases	1	53	0	22	30	6	147	13	272
Total Outbreaks Opened in Previous 7 Days	0	11	0	5	9	2	39	6	72
Total Outbreaks Closed in Previous 7 Days	0	17	0	4	10	0	29	5	65

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

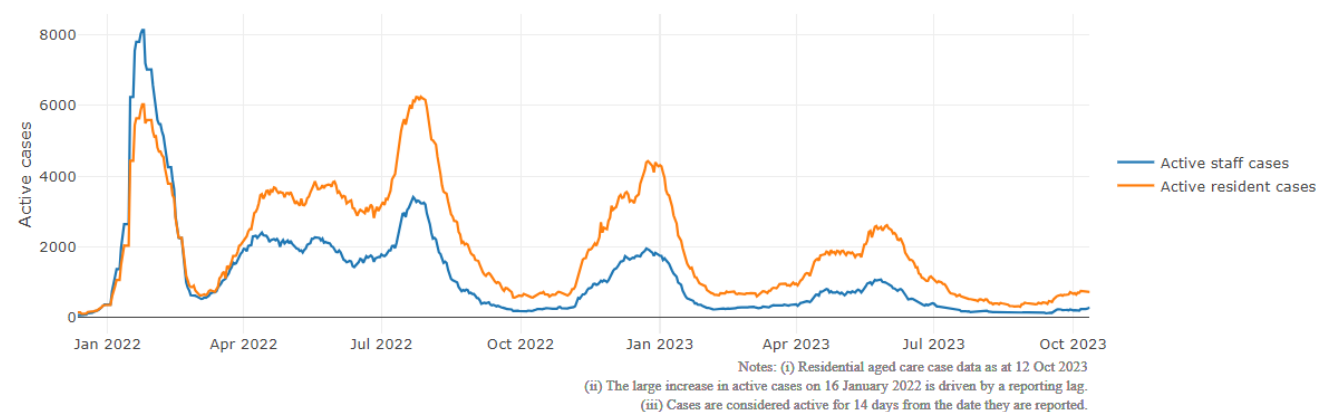
³ An outbreak is considered to be active pending advice from the relevant Public Health Unit. An outbreak is defined as at least 1 positive case in a resident or 2+ cases in staff.

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 – December 2021 to Present



Mortality

For the period of 1 January 2023 to 15 September 2023, COVID-19 is recorded as the cause of death in 2.7 percent of all deaths in permanent residents in aged care facilities.

Since the beginning of the Omicron outbreak in mid December⁵ 2021, there have been 106,446 deaths in residential aged care from all causes (report period from 15 December 2021 to 15 September 2023)⁶. COVID-19 deaths account for 4.7 percent of this figure.

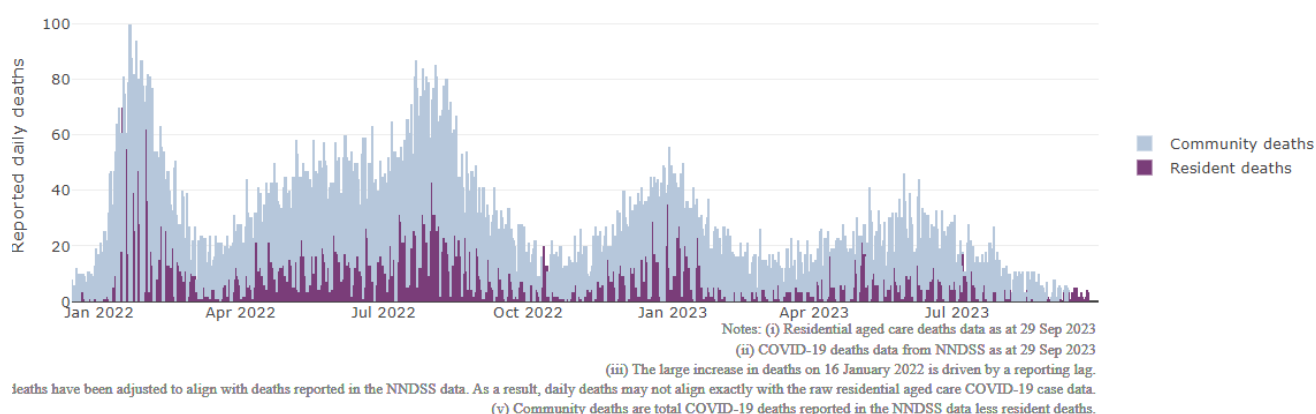
Over the course of the pandemic, all-cause excess mortality in Residential Aged Care was below expected numbers in 2020, and within expected range in 2021.

Due to internal annual reporting cycle updates there is no updated mortality comparison data this week.

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 13 October 2023, workforce surge staff have filled a total of 180,403 shifts in aged care services impacted by COVID-19, including 411 in the past 7 days. In the past 7 days (to 13 October) surge workforce providers have assisted 22 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	103,852	0
Healthcare Australia (Workforce Surge)	14,870	0
Healthcare Australia (NACER)	2,295	N/A
Mable	2,711	N/A
Aspen Medical	26,189	187
HealthX	26,430	224
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.

79,346 prescriptions for Lagevrio (Molnupiravir) have been issued to residents in residential aged care facilities, with a further 6,618 prescriptions for Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir + ritonavir) also issued since 28 February 2022 and up to 8 October 2023.

Vaccination in Residential Aged Care Facilities

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. It continues to target support for residential aged care facilities to arrange COVID-19 vaccinations with local primary care providers such as GPs, community pharmacists and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services.

As at 11 October 2023:

- 85,730 (50.2%) aged care residents received a booster dose in the last 6 months.
- 513 aged care residents received a booster dose in the last week.

Table 4: Aged care COVID-19 2023 Booster Doses (data as at 11 October 2023)

Jurisdiction	Received booster in last 6 months	
	Residents vaccinated	% of residents vaccinated
National	85.7k	50.2%
ACT	1.1k	51.3%
NSW	27k	49.1%
NT	<200	39.7%
QLD	16.6k	48.1%
SA	7.6k	50.9%
TAS	2.2k	54.6%
VIC	23.4k	53.0%
WA	7.6k	49.0%

Source: Matched Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) data of residents in permanent residential aged care.

For reporting accuracy, the total aged care resident population only includes residents who have been linked with their vaccination records. As residential aged care populations are fluid, the total population for vaccination are an estimate only and there is an administrative lag with the aged care recipient data which is linked to AIR data. Counts may fluctuate due to enhancements to data over time.

Key: k= thousand

Infection control and audit

People living in residential aged care homes remain a high priority for the Government's COVID-19 vaccination program. The Department is continuing to communicate with both the aged care and primary care sectors, reinforcing the importance of uptake and promoting the 2023 booster dose via regular newsletters, bulletins, social media videos and webinars.

All aged care residents who have not had a COVID-19 vaccination, or a COVID-19 infection within the last 6 months, continue to be offered a 2023 booster dose. The added protection from vaccination is especially important for aged care residents and will help reduce the risk of severe illness or hospitalisation.

The Department continues to work with Primary Health Networks to support residential aged care homes across Australia to arrange COVID-19 vaccination in-reach clinics with local primary care providers such as GPs, pharmacists, and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services.

As at 12 October 2023, the Commission had conducted 5,761 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 12 October 2023

Regulatory Activities	2019-20 (1 Mar - 30 Jun 2020)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (to 12 Oct)	Total
Site visits	318	3,452	1,732	3,814	1,111	10,427
Non-site activities	3,709	8,382	6,665	1,411	117	20,283
Total activities	4,027	11,834	8,397	5,225	1,228	30,710

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
Goodwin Monash	Australian Capital Territory	<6	20	8	28
Jindalee Aged Care Residence	Australian Capital Territory	0	7	<6	n/p
Alstonville Adventist Aged Care Facility	New South Wales	0	13	6	19
Anthem	New South Wales	0	10	6	16
Aurum Wyoming	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Bankstown Terrace Care Community	New South Wales	0	33	<6	n/p
BaptistCare Caloola Centre	New South Wales	0	10	6	16
BaptistCare Warabrook Centre	New South Wales	<6	14	6	20
Benjamin Short Grove	New South Wales	0	18	<6	n/p
Berkeley Vale Care Community	New South Wales	0	11	<6	n/p
Catholic Healthcare Our Lady of Loreto Gardens	New South Wales	<6	26	12	38
Crowley Retirement Village	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	6
Dellacourt	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Elizabeth Lodge (Rushcutters Bay)	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
Fairlea Aged Care Penshurst	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Hawkesbury Living Pty Limited	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Horton House	New South Wales	<6	8	0	8
Jesmond Aged Care	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Lansdowne Gardens on Wycombe	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Mildred Symons House	New South Wales	0	12	0	12
Navorina Nursing Home	New South Wales	0	0	<6	<6
Our Lady Of Consolation Nursing Home	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Paling Court Residential Aged Care	New South Wales	0	6	6	12
Regis Rose Bay	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Shoalhaven Place Care Community	New South Wales	0	<6	<6	<6
St Hedwig Village	New South Wales	0	14	7	21
Tweed River Care Community	New South Wales	0	8	<6	n/p
Uniting Hawkesbury Richmond	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Uniting Narla Belmont North	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Uniting Northaven Turramurra	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
William Cape Gardens	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Winston Hillside Care Community	New South Wales	0	<6	0	<6
Beuaraba Lodge	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Bolton Clarke Rows Bay	Queensland	0	50	14	64
Calvary Gympie Views	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Carinity Kepnock Grove	Queensland	0	<6	<6	7
Churches of Christ Fair Haven Aged Care Service Maryborough	Queensland	0	22	12	34
De Paul Villa Aged Care	Queensland	0	<6	<6	7
Eventide Home Rockhampton	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Glasshouse Views	Queensland	0	0	<6	<6
Infinite Care Cleveland	Queensland	0	0	<6	<6
Ozcare - Hervey Bay	Queensland	0	7	<6	n/p
Parkview	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
Peninsula Palms Retirement Village	Queensland	0	19	11	30
Regis Chelmer	Queensland	0	17	<6	n/p
Seasons Living Mango Hill Care Suites	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
Southern Cross Care Nanango - Karinya	Queensland	0	<6	<6	<6
St Vincent's Care Services Toowoomba - Nursing Home	Queensland	0	12	<6	n/p
Villa Maria Centre	Queensland	0	<6	0	<6
ACH Group Residential Care - Perry Park (high care)	South Australia	0	8	0	8

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Alwyndor Aged Care	South Australia	0	17	13	30
AnglicareSA Westbourne Park	South Australia	0	7	<6	n/p
Belalie Lodge	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Bupa Enfield	South Australia	0	32	12	44
Calvary Oaklands	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Clayton Church Homes - Onkaparinga Valley	South Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Edenfield Family Care - Ramsay	South Australia	<6	13	<6	n/p
Eldercare The Lodge	South Australia	0	6	<6	n/p
Helping Hand Aged Care - Golden Grove	South Australia	0	<6	<6	7
Ira Parker Nursing Home	South Australia	0	<6	<6	6
Oakwood Aged Care	South Australia	0	19	<6	n/p
Resthaven Malvern	South Australia	0	18	<6	n/p
Resthaven Paradise	South Australia	0	37	<6	n/p
Resthaven Port Elliot	South Australia	<6	<6	<6	<6
Restvale Hostel	South Australia	0	8	<6	n/p
Yeltana Nursing Home	South Australia	0	18	8	26
Barrington Lodge	Tasmania	0	9	<6	n/p
Coroneagh Park	Tasmania	0	10	<6	n/p
Kanangra Hostel	Tasmania	0	<6	0	<6
Regis Tasmania - Norwood	Tasmania	0	8	<6	n/p
Uniting AgeWell Aldersgate	Tasmania	<6	21	11	32
Allawah Special Care Hostel	Victoria	0	8	<6	n/p
Arcare Balnarring	Victoria	0	6	0	6
Arcare Brighton	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Arcare Carnegie	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Arcare Castlemaine	Victoria	0	34	13	47
Arcare Caulfield	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
Arcare Parkview Malvern East	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Arcare Waterview	Victoria	0	6	<6	n/p
Bairnsdale Parklands Care Community	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Baptcare The Orchards Community	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Baptcare Wattle Grove Community	Victoria	0	15	7	22
BlueCross Darnlee	Victoria	0	10	<6	n/p
BlueCross Hansworth	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
BlueCross Highgrove	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
BlueCross Scotchmans Creek	Victoria	0	16	6	22
BlueCross The Gables	Victoria	0	11	<6	n/p
BlueCross The Mews	Victoria	0	12	<6	n/p
BlueCross Western Gardens	Victoria	0	6	<6	n/p
BSL Aged Care - Clifton Hill	Victoria	0	10	<6	n/p
Bupa Berwick	Victoria	<6	31	9	40
Bupa Clayton	Victoria	0	<6	<6	8
Bupa Kyneton	Victoria	0	12	<6	n/p
Bupa South Morang	Victoria	0	<6	<6	6
Bupa Windsor	Victoria	0	11	<6	n/p
Campbell Place	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Clarinda on the Park	Victoria	<6	<6	<6	6
Clifton Views	Victoria	0	18	0	18
Corangamarah	Victoria	0	0	<6	<6
Croydon Grove Care Community	Victoria	0	16	<6	n/p
Diamond Creek Care Community	Victoria	0	12	<6	n/p
Doutta Galla Footscray Aged Care Facility	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Edgarley Home	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Emerald Hill Residence	Victoria	0	7	<6	n/p
Estia Health Heidelberg West	Victoria	0	18	10	28
Froniditha Anesi Aged Care Services - Thornbury	Victoria	0	22	<6	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Havilah on Palmerston	Victoria	<6	11	6	17
Heathcote Health High Care Service	Victoria	0	<6	<6	7
Heathcote Health Low Care Service	Victoria	0	<6	<6	7
Heritage Northcote	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Jacaranda Village	Victoria	0	15	6	21
James Barker House	Victoria	0	8	0	8
John Flynn Retirement Village	Victoria	0	<6	<6	7
Karinya	Victoria	0	8	7	15
Kowree Nursing Home Unit	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Mercy Place Boronia	Victoria	0	9	0	9
Mercy Place East Melbourne	Victoria	0	14	<6	n/p
MiCare Margriet Manor	Victoria	0	11	6	17
Mornington Bay Care Community	Victoria	0	20	0	20
Morrie Evans Wing Nursing Home	Victoria	0	9	<6	n/p
Napier Street Aged Care Services	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Newmans on the Park	Victoria	0	7	<6	n/p
Park Lane Croydon	Victoria	0	22	<6	n/p
Regis Armadale	Victoria	0	9	<6	n/p
Regis Dandenong North	Victoria	0	11	0	11
Regis East Malvern	Victoria	0	11	0	11
Regis Macleod	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Riddell Gardens Hostel	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
RM Begg	Victoria	<6	21	19	40
Somerville Gardens Care Community	Victoria	0	31	<6	n/p
St Vincent's Care Services Hawthorn	Victoria	0	0	<6	<6
Tabulam & Templer Home for the Aged	Victoria	0	10	7	17
Twin Parks Aged Care Centre	Victoria	0	<6	<6	<6
Uniting AgeWell Manor Lakes	Victoria	0	12	<6	n/p

Service Name	State	Resident Deaths	Resident Cases	Staff Cases	Total Incidents
Vasey RSL Care Brighton East	Victoria	0	8	<6	n/p
Villa Maria Catholic Homes St Catherine's Aged Care Residence	Victoria	<6	20	<6	n/p
Village Glen Aged Care Residences - Capel Sound	Victoria	0	10	<6	n/p
Walmsley Aged Care	Victoria	0	26	12	38
Wantirna Views Care Community	Victoria	<6	55	10	65
Warrnambool Place Care Community	Victoria	<6	12	0	12
Woods Point Aged Care	Victoria	0	10	<6	n/p
Yarraman Nursing Home	Victoria	0	<6	0	<6
Augusta MPS	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	<6
Bethanie Geneff	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Juniper Sarah Hardey	Western Australia	0	<6	<6	6
Juniper St David's	Western Australia	0	12	<6	n/p
MercyCare Maddington	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
Murdoch Gardens Care Community	Western Australia	0	<6	0	<6
ValleyView Residence	Western Australia	0	<6	7	n/p