Victorian Respiratory Surveillance Report

25 July 2025

Contents

VICTORIA State Government | Department of Health

About this report

The Victorian Respiratory Surveillance Report summarises the latest surveillance information on COVID-19, influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in Victoria. This report provides an overview of the current levels and trends of acute respiratory illness from these conditions in the community. Please see the section on How to use this report for more information.

Measurements of the greatest value for summarising respiratory illness in Victoria are presented in this report. Other systems are also reviewed by the Department of Health to understand patterns of respiratory disease in Victoria which inform the overall summaries presented.

Data are presented as at 23 July 2025 for the week ending 19 July 2025.

Each report reflects the data available at the time the report was prepared. Information may differ from previous reports as new data is received or updated.

Summary

In Victoria, COVID-19, influenza and RSV remain at high levels of activity, with recent indications of stabilisation and decline.

COVID-19 activity indicators have declined from a peak in June, whilst influenza activity stabilised from late June and is recently likely declining. RSV activity has also recently stabilised. High respiratory disease activity is typical for this time of year in Victoria.

COVID-19

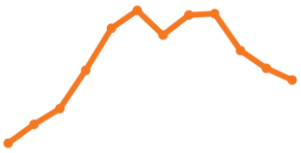
CASE TREND

Notifications have continued to decrease

TEST POSITIVITY

The percentage of tests that were positive continued to decrease

NOTIFICATIONS LAST 12 WEEKS



Influenza

CASE TREND

Notifications have decreased

TEST POSITIVITY

The percentage of tests that were positive decreased

NOTIFICATIONS LAST 12 WEEKS

RSV

CASE TREND

Notifications have decreased

TEST POSITIVITY

The percentage of tests that were positive decreased

NOTIFICATIONS LAST 12 WEEKS

Laboratory surveillance

Case notifications

Laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19, influenza and respiratory syncytial virus are notified to the Victorian Department of Health. Notified infections that are diagnosed through laboratory testing are only a subset of the total number of infections in the community. Trends in notifications may be impacted by changes in testing.

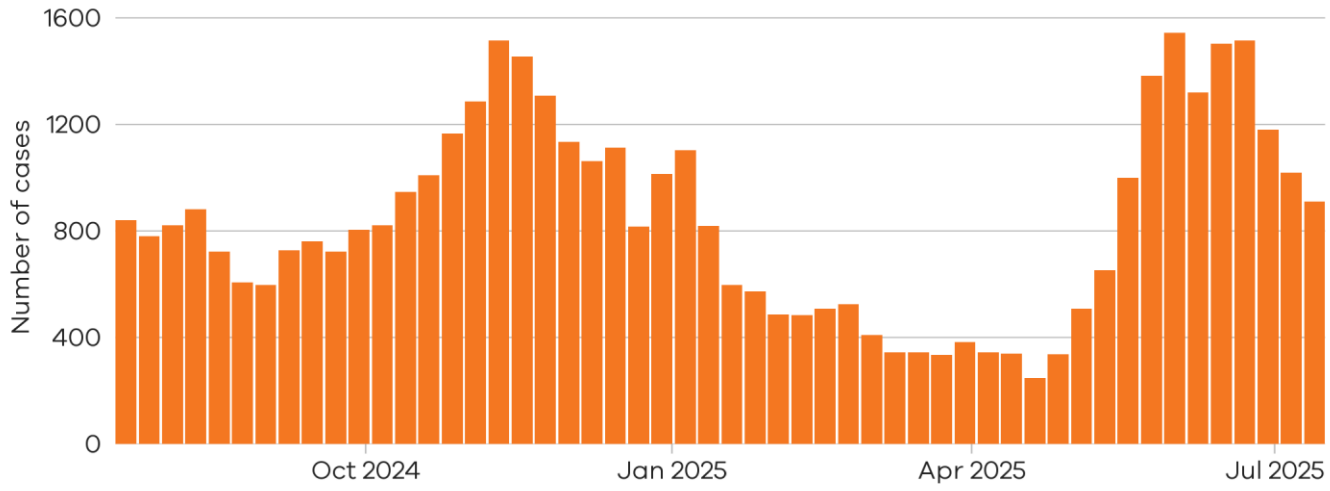
Summary

In the past week, COVID-19 notifications decreased (-10.5%), influenza notifications decreased (-21.4%) and RSV notifications decreased (-10.3%).

COVID-19	**11%** decrease	↘
Influenza	**21%** decrease	↘
RSV	**10%** decrease	↘

COVID-19

Figure 1: COVID-19 notified cases by week, Victoria, 21 July 2024 to 19 July 2025



There were **1019** notified COVID-19 cases two weeks ago

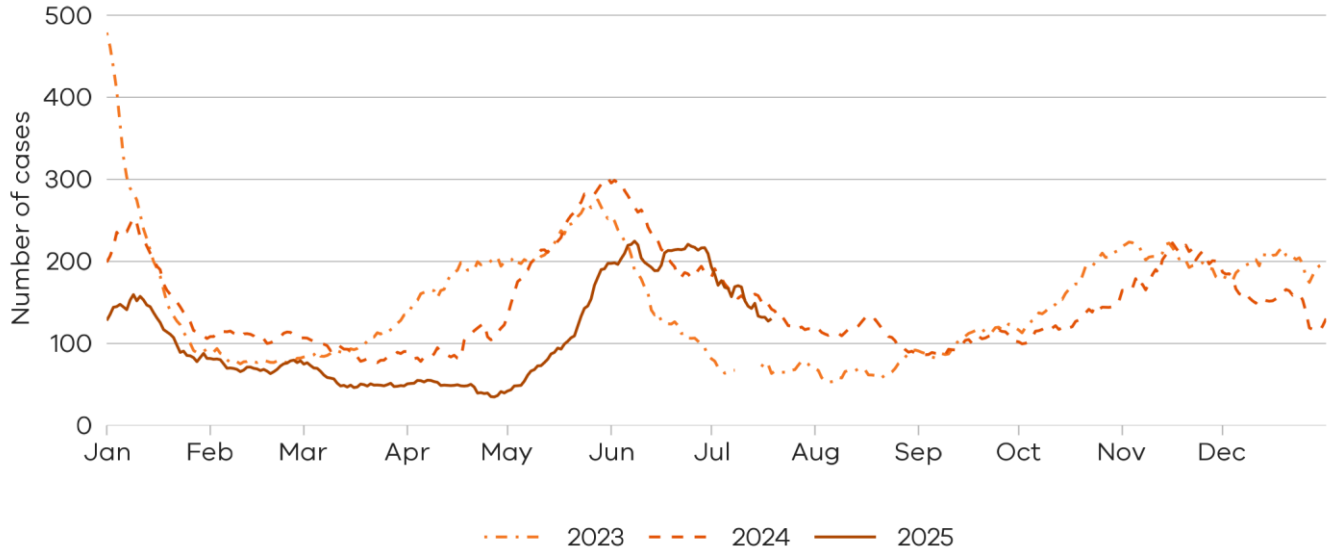
6 Jul 2025 to 12 Jul 2025

There were **912** notified COVID-19 cases last week

13 Jul 2025 to 19 Jul 2025

11% decrease

Figure 2: COVID-19 trends in notified cases (7-day rolling average), Victoria, 1 January 2023 to 19 July 2025

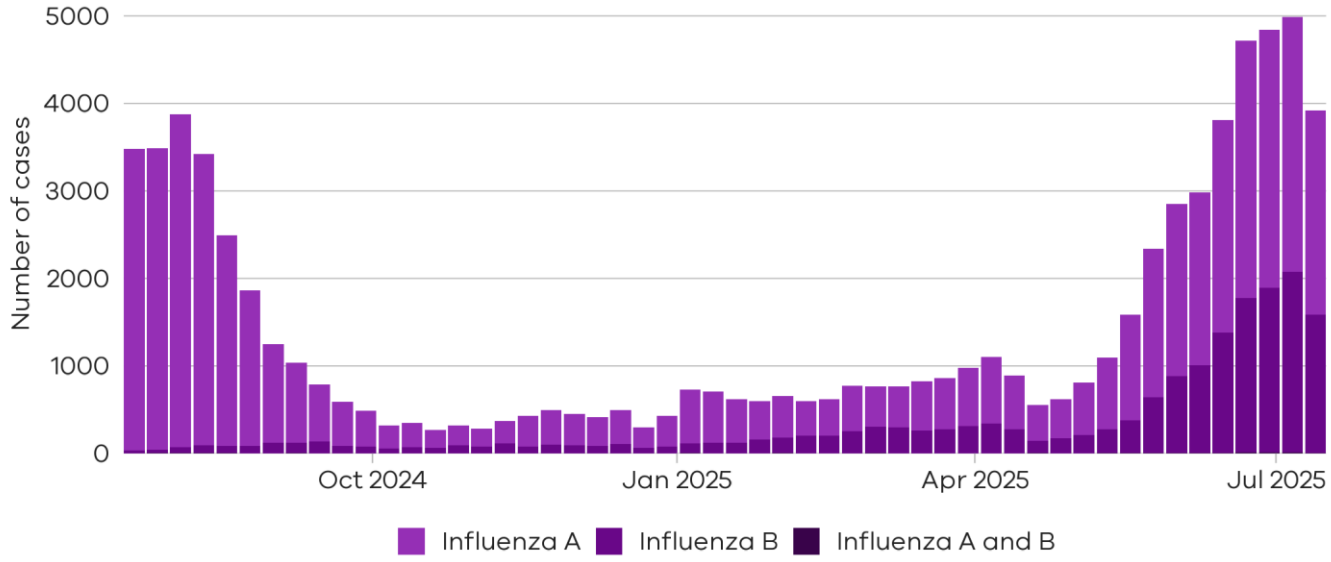


Notified COVID-19 cases are at similar levels compared to the same time last year

Influenza

Influenza notifications presented in this report are reported from a subset of laboratories in Victoria, generally comprising around 85% of total influenza notifications.

Figure 3: Influenza notified cases by week, Victoria, 21 July 2024 to 19 July 2025



There were **2919** cases of influenza A notified two weeks ago

6 Jul 2025 to 12 Jul 2025

There were **2337** cases of influenza A notified last week

13 Jul 2025 to 19 Jul 2025

20% decrease

There were **2060** cases of influenza B notified two weeks ago

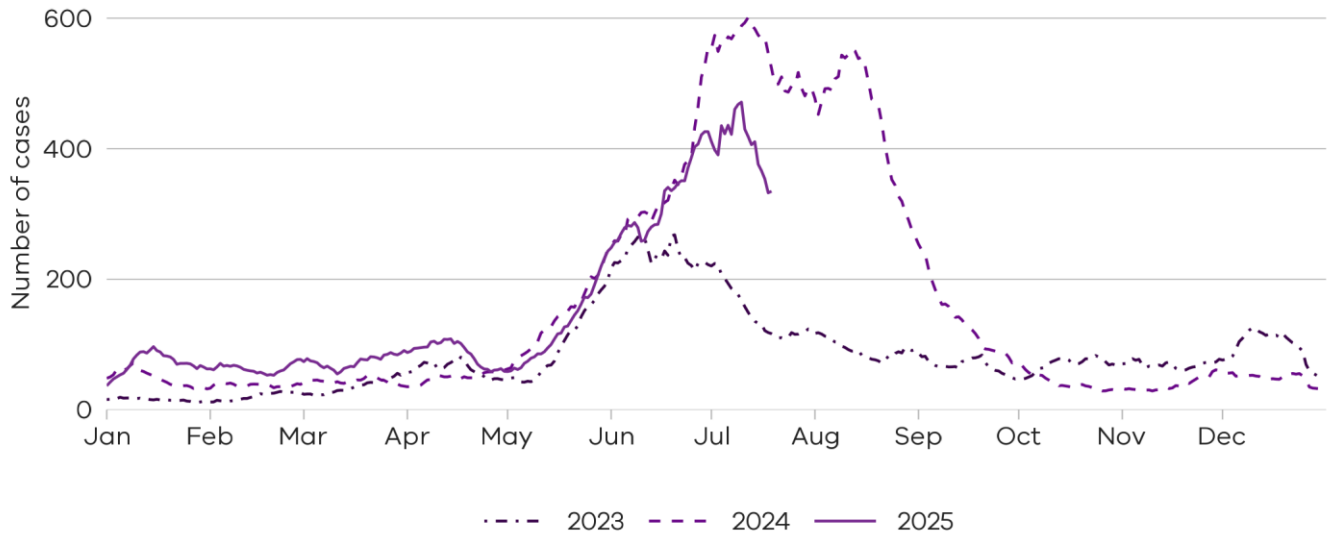
6 Jul 2025 to 12 Jul 2025

There were **1577** cases of influenza B notified last week

13 Jul 2025 to 19 Jul 2025

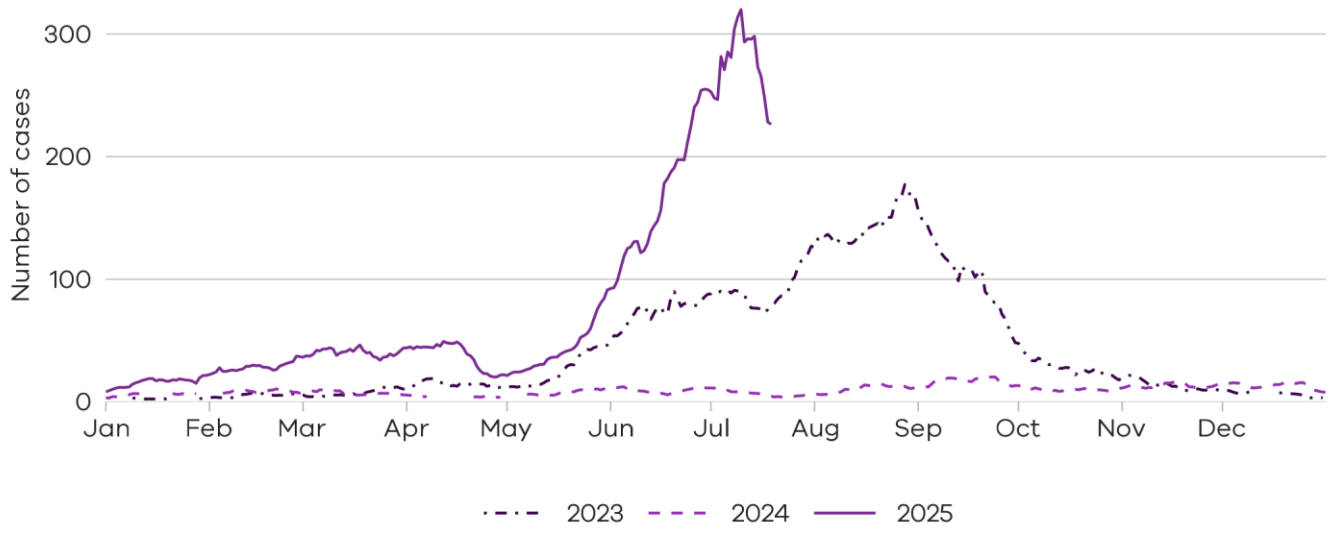
23% decrease

Figure 4: Influenza A trends in notified cases (7-day rolling average), Victoria, 1 January 2023 to 19 July 2025



Notified influenza A cases are at levels in between those at the same time in the past two years

Figure 5: Influenza B trends in notified cases (7-day rolling average), Victoria, 1 January 2023 to 19 July 2025

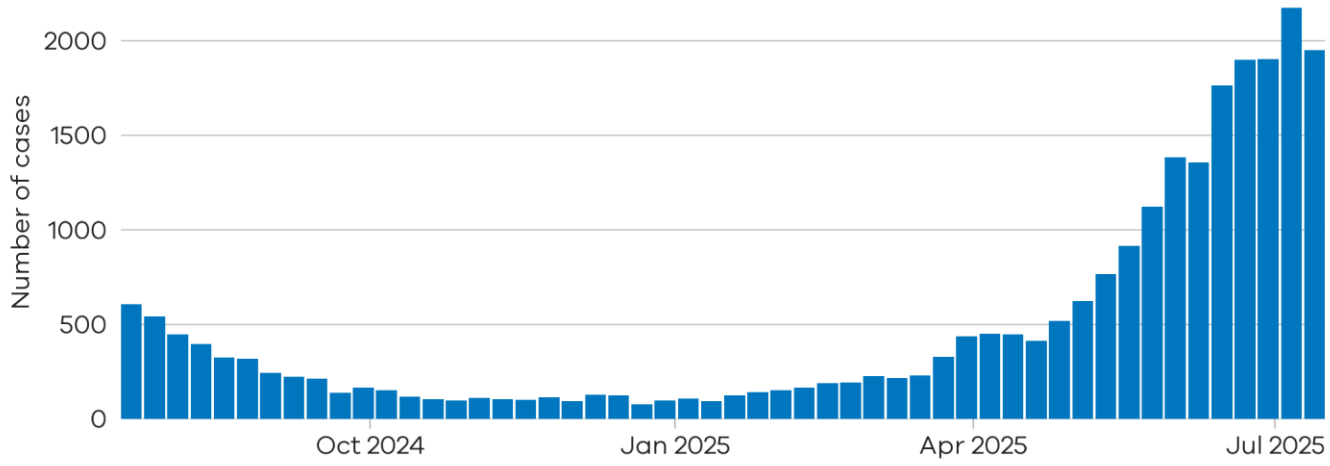


Notified influenza B cases are at higher levels compared to the same time in the past two years

Respiratory Syncytial virus (RSV)

RSV notifications presented in this report are reported from a subset of laboratories in Victoria, generally comprising around 85% of total RSV notifications.

Figure 6: RSV notified cases by week, Victoria, 21 July 2024 to 19 July 2025



There were **2176** notified RSV cases two weeks ago

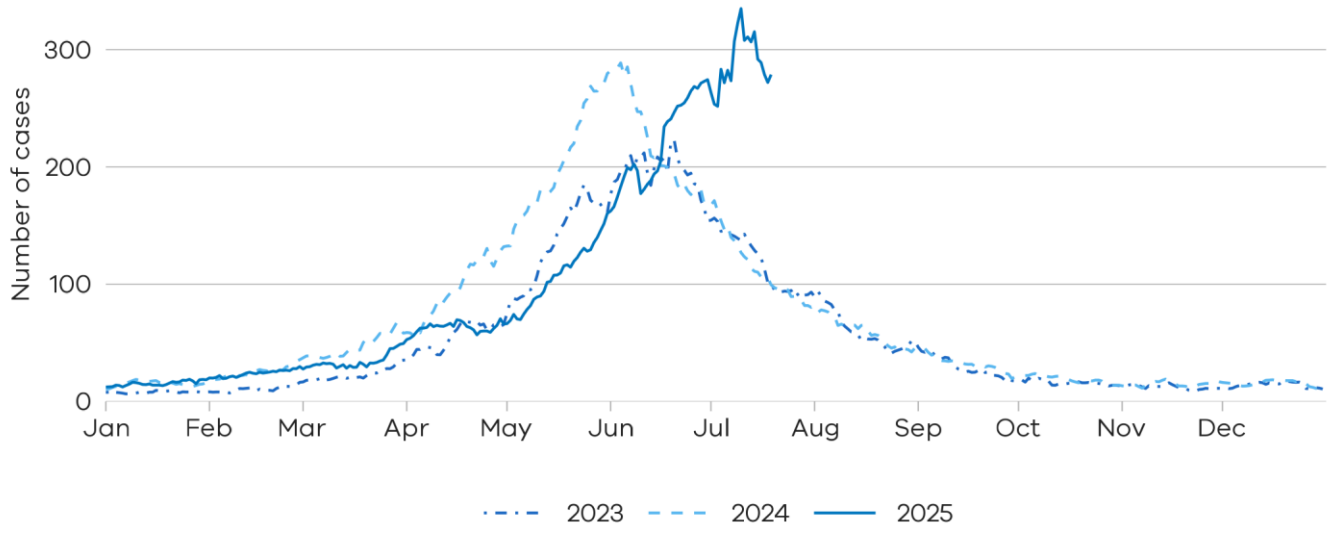
6 Jul 2025 to 12 Jul 2025

There were **1951** notified RSV cases last week

13 Jul 2025 to 19 Jul 2025

10% decrease

Figure 7: RSV trends in notified cases (7-day rolling average), Victoria, 1 January 2023 to 19 July 2025

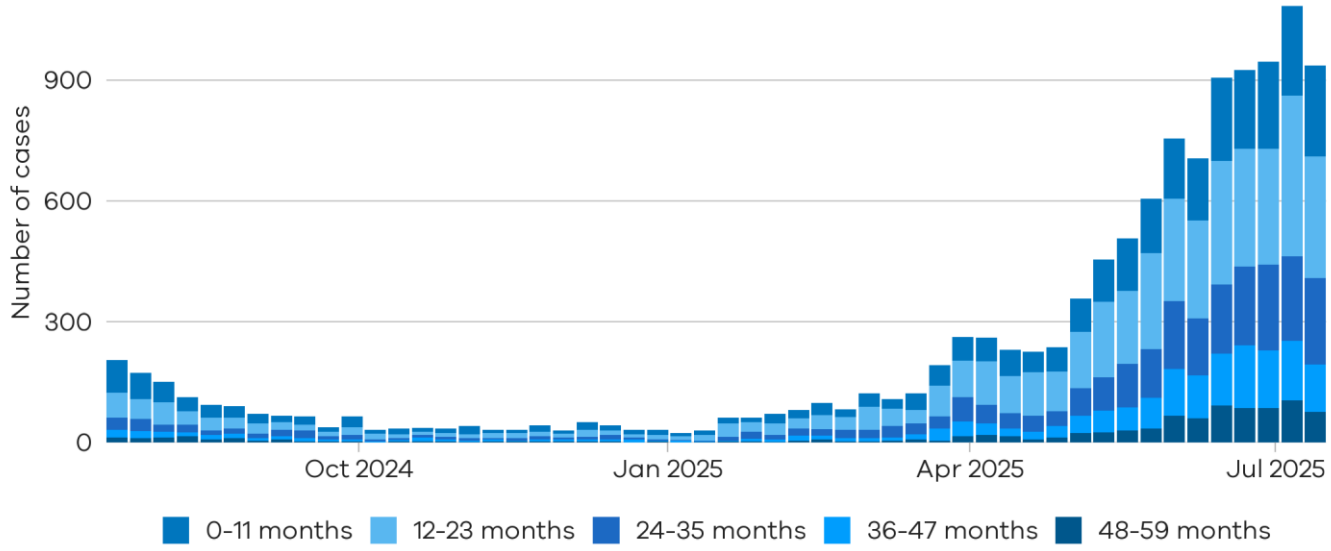


Notified RSV cases are at higher levels compared to the same time in the past two years

Young children and older adults

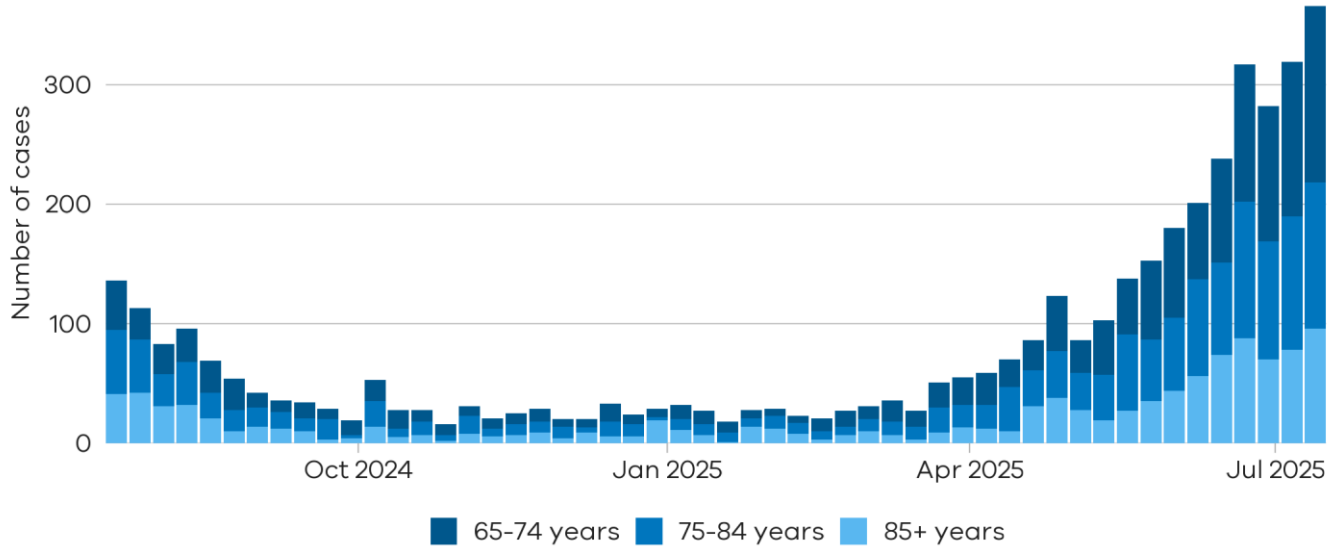
Young children and older adults are at greater risk of severe disease from RSV.

Figure 8: RSV trends in notified cases by week in young children (under 5 years), Victoria, 21 July 2024 to 19 July 2025



Children under 2 years comprise the majority of notified RSV cases

Figure 9: RSV trends in notified cases by week in older adults (65+ years), Victoria, 21 July 2024 to 19 July 2025



Notified cases of RSV in adults aged over 65 years increased to late June, then stabilised

Testing

Laboratory testing for respiratory illnesses changes over time. Tracking the percentage of tests with the notifiable condition detected (i.e. test positivity) is a useful measure to understand trends in disease surveillance over time.

Test results presented in this report are from selected laboratories. These include private and hospital laboratories and represent tests completed across Victoria.

Summary

In the past week, the percentage of COVID-19 tests that were positive decreased (5.06% to 3.57%), the percentage of influenza tests that were positive decreased (12.95% to 10.42%) and the percentage of RSV tests that were positive decreased (11.44% to 11.11%).

Figure 10: Weekly test positivity for COVID-19, Influenza and RSV, Victoria, 21 July 2024 to 19 July 2025

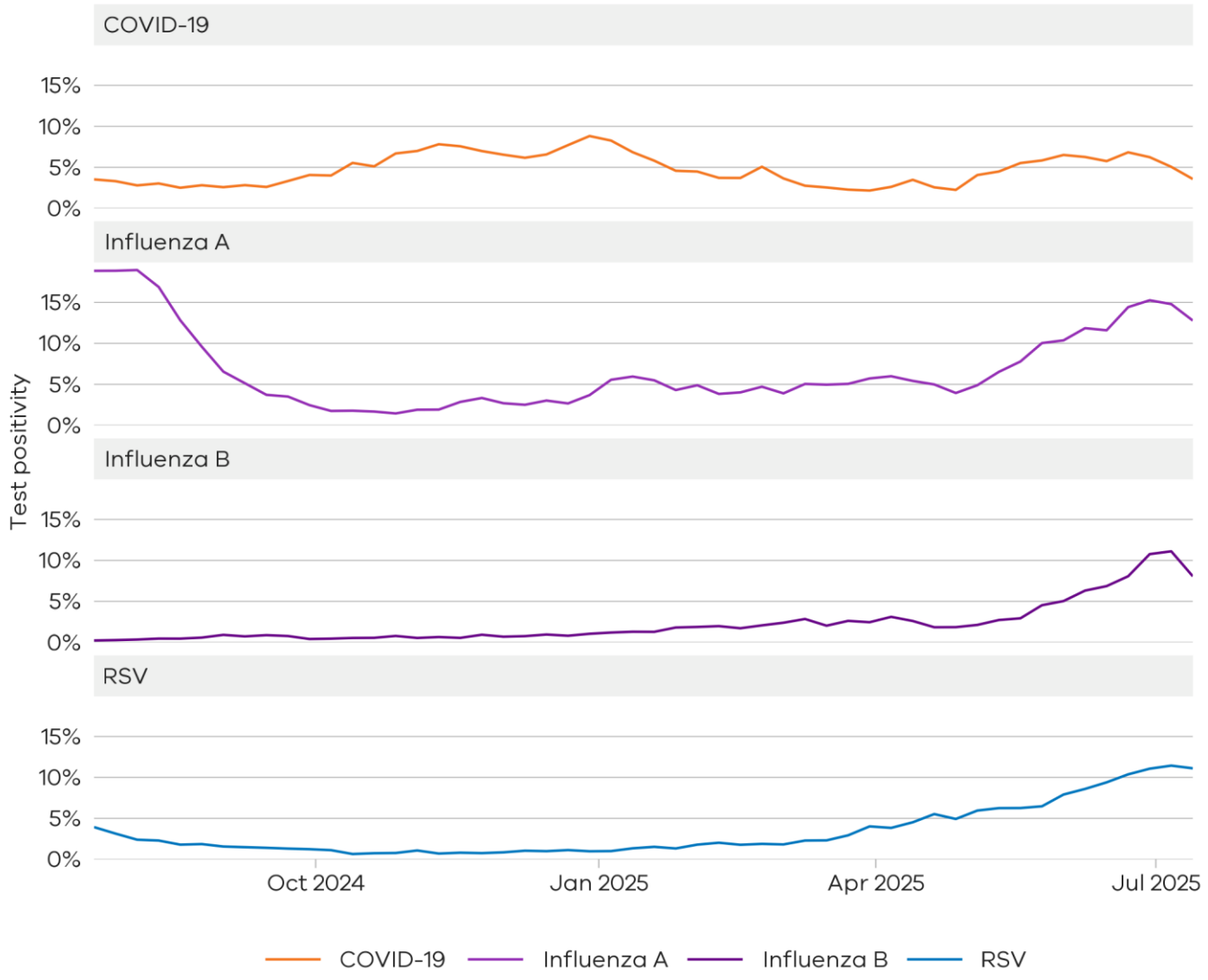
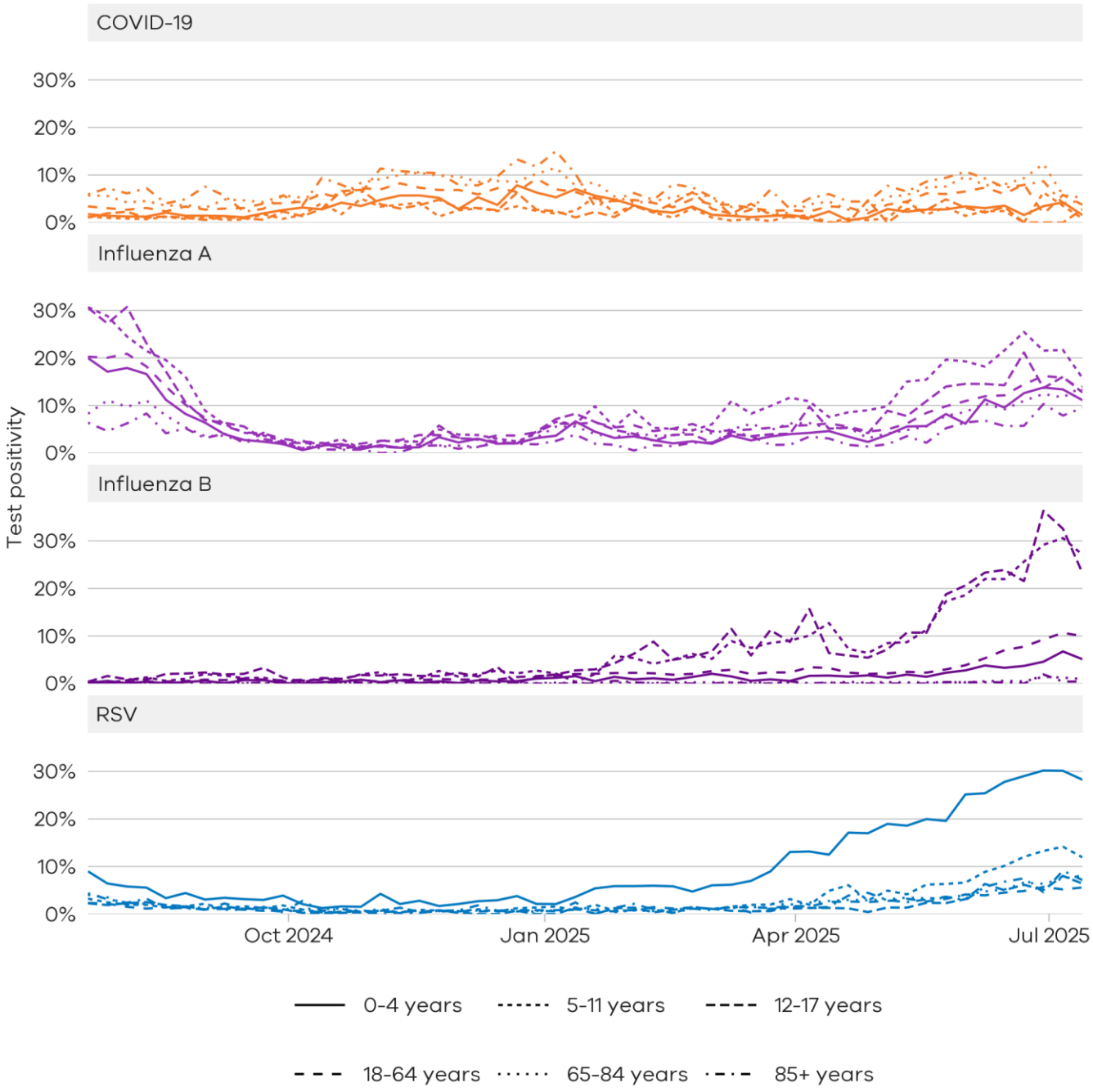


Figure 11: Weekly test positivity by age groups for COVID-19, Influenza and RSV, Victoria, 21 July 2024 to 19 July 2025



Community surveillance

Respiratory illnesses are not limited to the notifiable conditions presented above. Understanding the overall burden of respiratory illness in the community is useful to understand broader trends in illness over time.

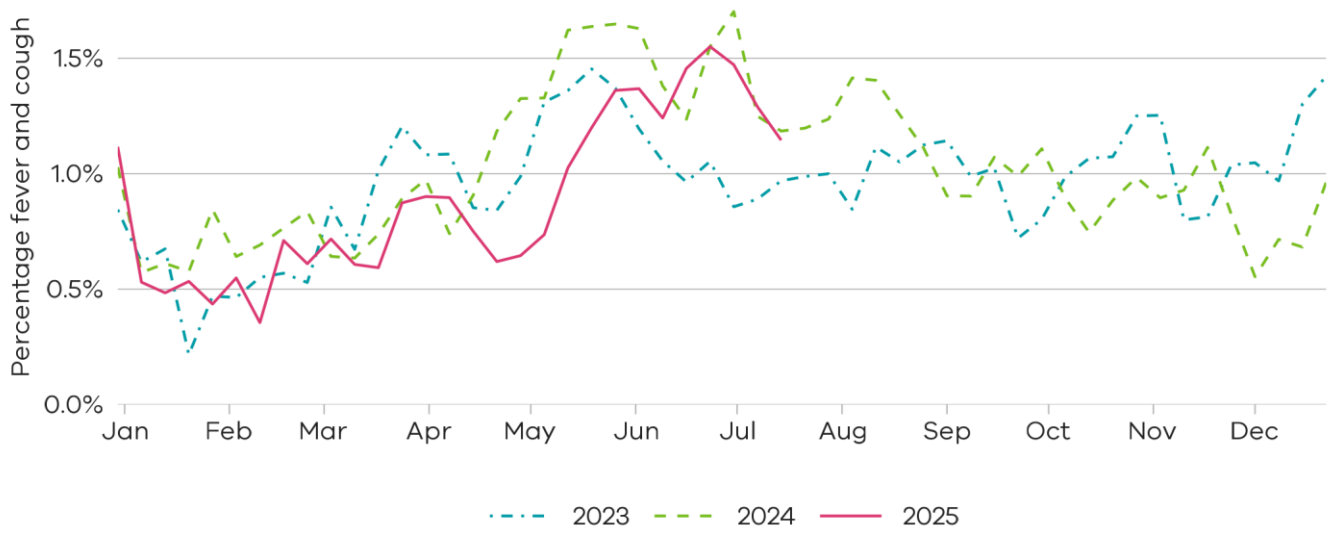
FluTracking

FluTracking is an online surveillance system across Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Fiji. Volunteer participants complete a simple weekly online survey which collects self-reported information on respiratory symptoms. More information about FluTracking and ways to be involved are available here: www.flutracking.net/

Summary

In the past week, the percentage of Victorian FluTracking participants reporting respiratory illness (fever and cough) was stable from the previous week.

Figure 12: Proportion of FluTracking participants reporting respiratory illness by week, Victoria, 1 January 2023 to 19 July 2025. Respiratory illness is defined as fever & cough.



Reported respiratory illness from FluTracking is at similar levels to last year

How to use this report

Data sources

All notified cases in Victoria are recorded in the Victorian Public Health Events Surveillance System (PHESS). Under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and *Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2019,* the Victorian Department of Health is authorised to collect information from doctors and laboratories about diagnoses of certain health-related conditions in Victoria.

The FluTracking surveillance system collects data from volunteer participants in a weekly survey. FluTracking reports are available here: https://info.flutracking.net/reports/australia-reports/

The Victorian Department of Health continually reviews surveillance methods to monitor respiratory disease in Victoria. Measurements included in this report may be updated or removed accordingly.

Definitions

Notified cases: Laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19, Influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus are reported according to the CDNA case definitions https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/cdna-surveillance-case-definitions Where multiple positive test results are received for the same person within 30 days of the initial test result they are counted as a single case.

Rapid antigen test results are not collected by the Victorian Department of Health, however, remain an important tool for individuals to access treatment and protect their community.

Notified cases represent a subset of the total number of infections for these conditions in the community. The number of notified cases is indicative of trends rather than absolute numbers of cases.

Test positivity: Test positivity is the percentage of total tests where the notifiable condition was detected.

Dates: Case notifications are based on the date the notification was first received by the Victorian Department of Health. Test positivity is based on the date of specimen collection.

Weeks: For the purposes of this report, data are aggregated by week, with the week starting Sunday and ending Saturday.

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

ISSN 2982-3161 **- Online (pdf/word)**