



COVID-19 Risk Monitoring Dashboard – Healthcare settings

Date of release:
01 September 2021

This dashboard provides an assessment of transmission risk in healthcare settings – it is not an assessment of risk in the community.

Overall status

Red

For the week ending 31 August, 7511 locally acquired cases, 5761 of which are from an unknown source/under investigation. Sewage testing has been prioritised in areas of concern and 49 catchments detected COVID-19 fragments, none of which include quarantine hotels. The percentage of full interviews completed within one day of notification has decreased; text messages are being sent to alert positive cases and shorter preliminary interviews are used to ensure a timely response.

Assessment category key

- Green
- Amber
- Red

Local transmission



	Week ending 31 Aug 2021	Previous week
Number of locally-acquired cases	7511	5475
Number of overseas/interstate-acquired cases	20	21
Proportion of sequenced local cases that were Delta VOC	100%	100%
Average growth factor, locally-acquired cases	1.04	1.08
Active cases	19,040	12,366
Average % of tests that were positive	0.99%	0.68%
Number of LHDs with locally-acquired cases	13	14
Number of catchments with COVID-19 fragments detected in sewage	49	59

Public health



	Week ending 29 Aug 2021	Last week's report
% of cases with time from test to notification within one day	67%	64%
% of cases with time from symptom onset to isolation within one day	60%	61%
% of cases interviewed within one day of notification	32%	46%
	As at 30 Aug 2021	Previous week
Australia vaccine doses	19,362,666	17,440,596
NSW vaccine doses	6,869,640	6,030,074
New cases in neighbour jurisdictions	Week ending 30 Aug 2021	% change from previous week
	VIC	494 ↑28%
	QLD	7 ↓53%
	SA	1 ↓50%
	ACT	107 ↓12%

Healthcare setting



	As at 31 Aug 2021	Previous week	
Number of cases on wards / hospitals	758 cases 35 hospitals	530 25	
Number of cases in ICU / hospitals	150 cases 16 hospitals	113 15	
Number of cases in hospital in the home	2248	1644	
Number of cases in out of hospital care	567	601	
Cases in residential care facilities	7 cases* 4 facilities*	17 5	
<i>*week ending 30 August</i>			
Healthcare workers affected 93			
<i>week ending 30 Aug #facilities</i>			
	NSW Health	Aged care (i.e. nursing home)	Other healthcare settings (i.e. private hospital, GP)
Potentially healthcare acquired	4 4	0 0	5 5
Not acquired in healthcare setting	6	3	5
Under investigation	23	16	31
Number of healthcare workers in isolation	1429	1273 previous week	
<i>31 Aug</i>			



Indicators are updated and reviewed weekly by the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Emergency Operations Centre, NSW Health Workforce, the Agency for Clinical Innovation and the Clinical Excellence Commission. The indicators cover virus spread and containment, capacity of laboratory services to respond, capacity within the health system, impact of COVID-19 on workforce, effectiveness of the public health system response, and an indication of the community response to public health messaging. For information please see the [CEC COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Response and Escalation Framework](#).

Explanatory notes

Local transmission

- The number of locally-acquired and overseas-acquired cases is sourced from the Notifiable Conditions Information Management System (NCIMS). This week includes data for the 7 days ending 8pm on the date indicated. Active cases are defined as people who have tested positive for COVID-19, are in isolation and are being clinically monitored by NSW Health. A person will no longer be an active case when they are clinically released from isolation. Variants of concern include Alpha (B.1.1.7), Beta (B.1.351), Gamma (P.1), Kappa (B.1.617.1) and Delta (B.1.617.2).
- The growth factor is defined as the number of locally-acquired cases for the 7 days ending 8pm on the date indicated divided by the number of locally acquired cases for the 7 days ending 8pm the day before. The average growth factor is the average of the growth factor for each of the past 7 days.
- The average percent of tests that are positive is defined as the total number of cases for the 7 days ending 8pm on the date indicated divided by the total number of tests for the 7 days ending 8pm on the same date, expressed as a percentage. Note this is an estimate as not all test results for the week will have been received by the time the dashboard is prepared.
- A cluster is two or more cases with an epidemiological link. A cluster becomes inactive after 28 days have elapsed with no linked cases.
- The number of local health districts (LHDs) with locally-acquired cases is the number of LHDs with at least one locally-acquired case among its residents for the 7 days ending 8pm on the date indicated.
- The number of catchments with COVID-19 fragments detected in sewage is sourced from The NSW Sewage Surveillance Program. Each week, sewage samples are tested for fragments of the COVID-19 virus at about 70 sewage treatment plants across NSW.

*Additional sewage sampling sites continue to change, interpretation over time should be done with care. Reported data can be affected by backlogged information being processed

Public health

- The percent of COVID-19 cases with: time from test to notification within one day; time from symptom onset to isolation within one day; interview within one day of notification, is also available in the [NSW Health COVID-19 weekly surveillance reports](#). The percent of cases with time from symptom onset to isolation within one day excludes cases already in isolation at the time of symptom onset. Data on case interviews reflect the time for complete interviews and does not include shorter preliminary interview that initiate the case isolation and contact testing. Data reflect the full 24 hour period following notification of a positive test, when reporting on the percentage of cases with complete interviews. Weekly comparisons are based on results at same time, previous week.
- Vaccine data sourced from www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/australias-covid-19-vaccine-rollout
- New cases in neighbouring jurisdictions is sourced from Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center available at: coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html

Healthcare setting

- The number of cases on wards, in intensive care units (ICU), hospital in the home ([definition](#)), and out of hospital care, is sourced from the NSW Health patient flow portal at 7pm on the date indicated. Out of hospital care includes medi-hotels (i.e. special health accommodation) or collaborative care-private hospital (i.e. where the care of the patient is outsourced to a private hospital).
- Residential care facilities include aged care, disability, alcohol and other drugs, and mental health facilities.
- Healthcare workers (HCWs) includes individuals who work within a hospital or other healthcare settings, including staff in direct or indirect contact with patients or infectious materials. HCWs affected is the number of HCWs with COVID-19 in the week ending on the date indicated. The data reflect a mix of transmission pathways.
- COVID-19 leave is for use by staff who are in isolation or caring for a family member with COVID-19.