

## Respiratory illness levels have increased this week

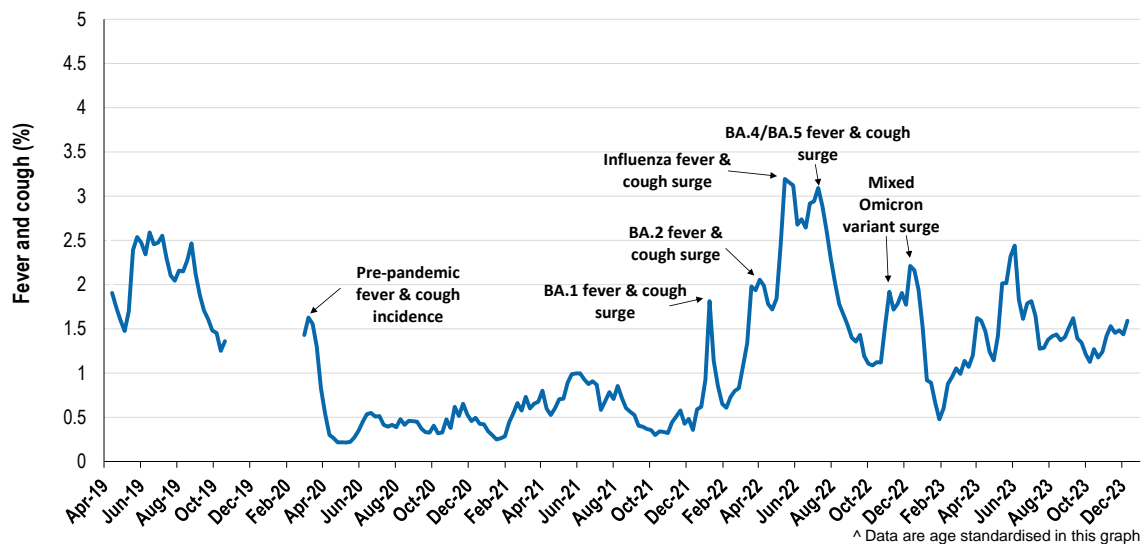
**34,494 participants this week**

Please note over the summer period there will be a reduced sample size for FluTracking, as participants have been given the option to opt-out until April 2024.

### Figure 1- Respiratory illness activity\*

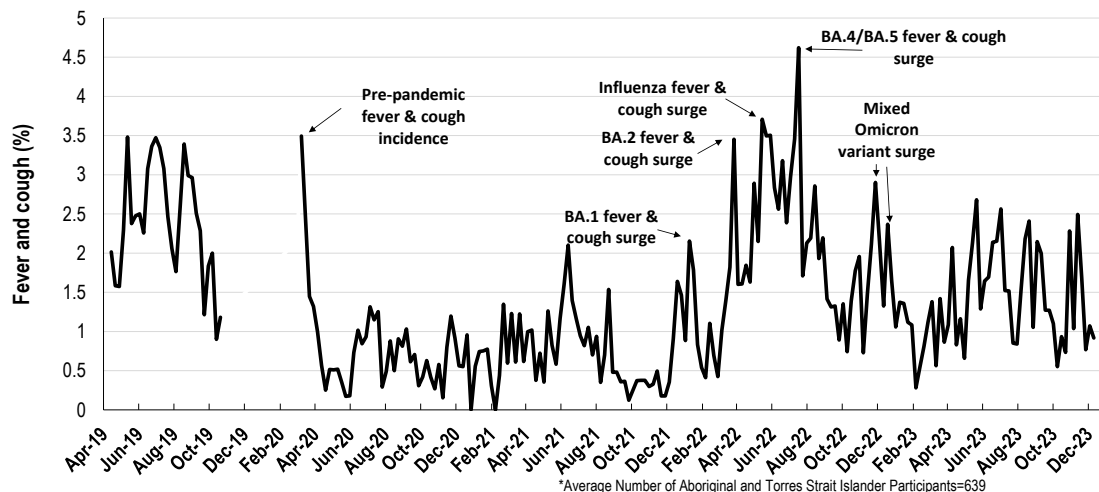
\*Respiratory illness activity is defined as fever & cough for this report

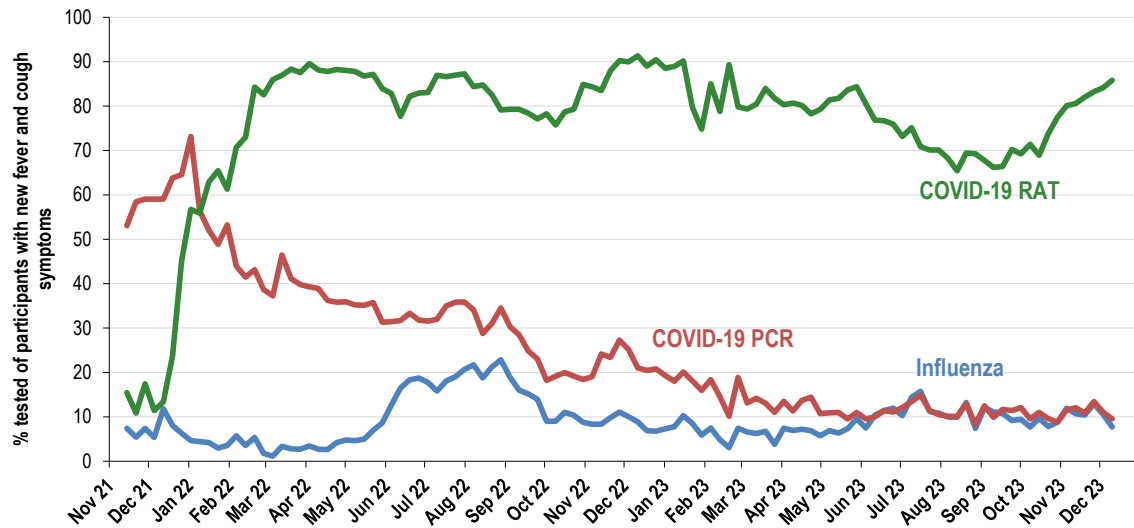
**1.6% this week and 1.4% last week**



### Figure 2- Respiratory illness activity among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants

**0.9% this week and 1.1% last week**

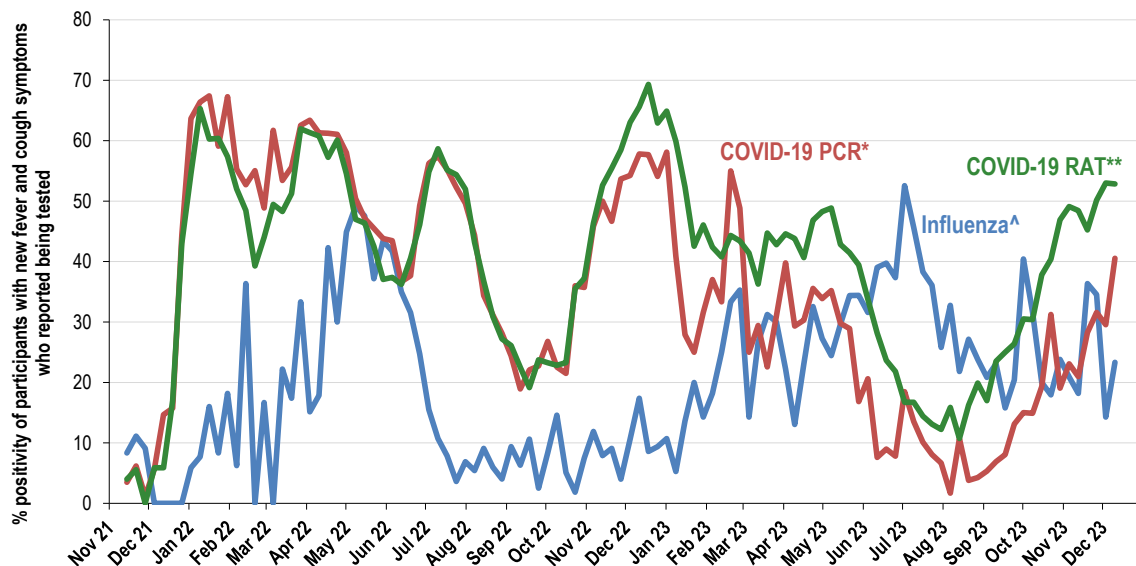


**Figure 3- Fever, cough and reported testing for COVID-19 or influenza**


Flu testing: 7.7% (30/388) this week compared to 10.6% last week

COVID-19 RAT testing: 85.8% (333/388) this week compared to 84.1% last week

COVID-19 PCR testing: 9.5% (37/388) this week compared to 11.1% last week

**Figure 4- Fever, cough and reported a positive test result for COVID-19 or influenza**

<sup>^</sup>Denominator= participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and had an influenza test

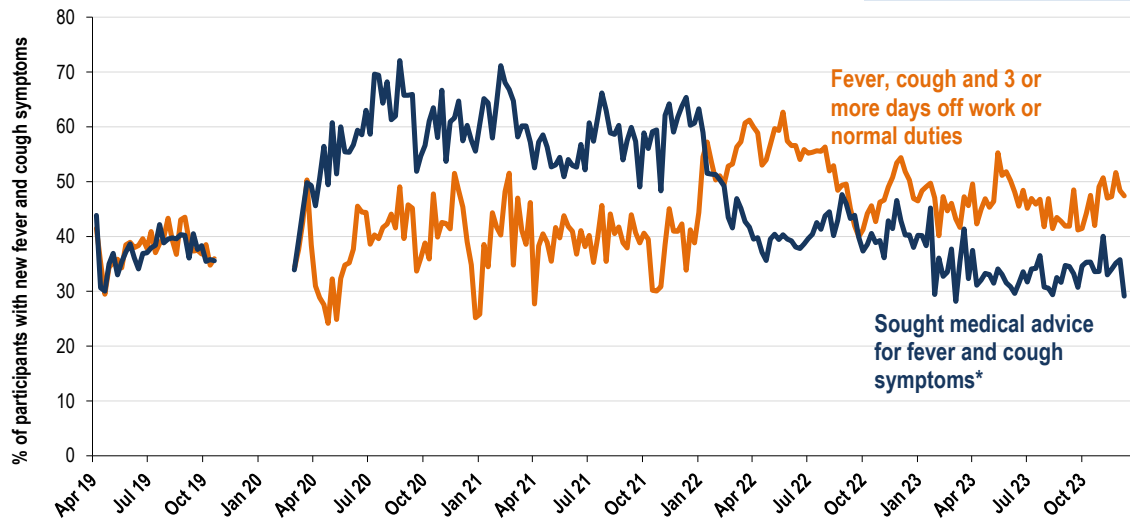
<sup>\*</sup>Denominator= participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and had a COVID-19 PCR test

<sup>\*\*</sup>Denominator= participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and has a COVID-19 RAT test

Flu % positivity: 23.3% (7/30) this week compared to 14.3% last week

COVID-19 RAT % positivity: 52.9% (176/333) this week compared to 53% last week

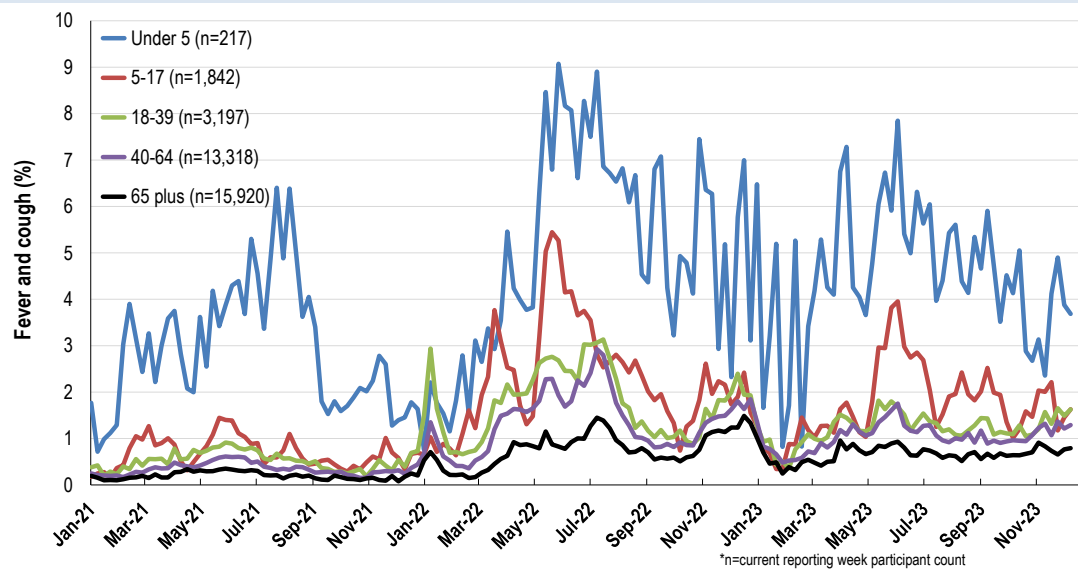
COVID-19 PCR % positivity: 40.5% (15/37) this week compared to 29.5% last week

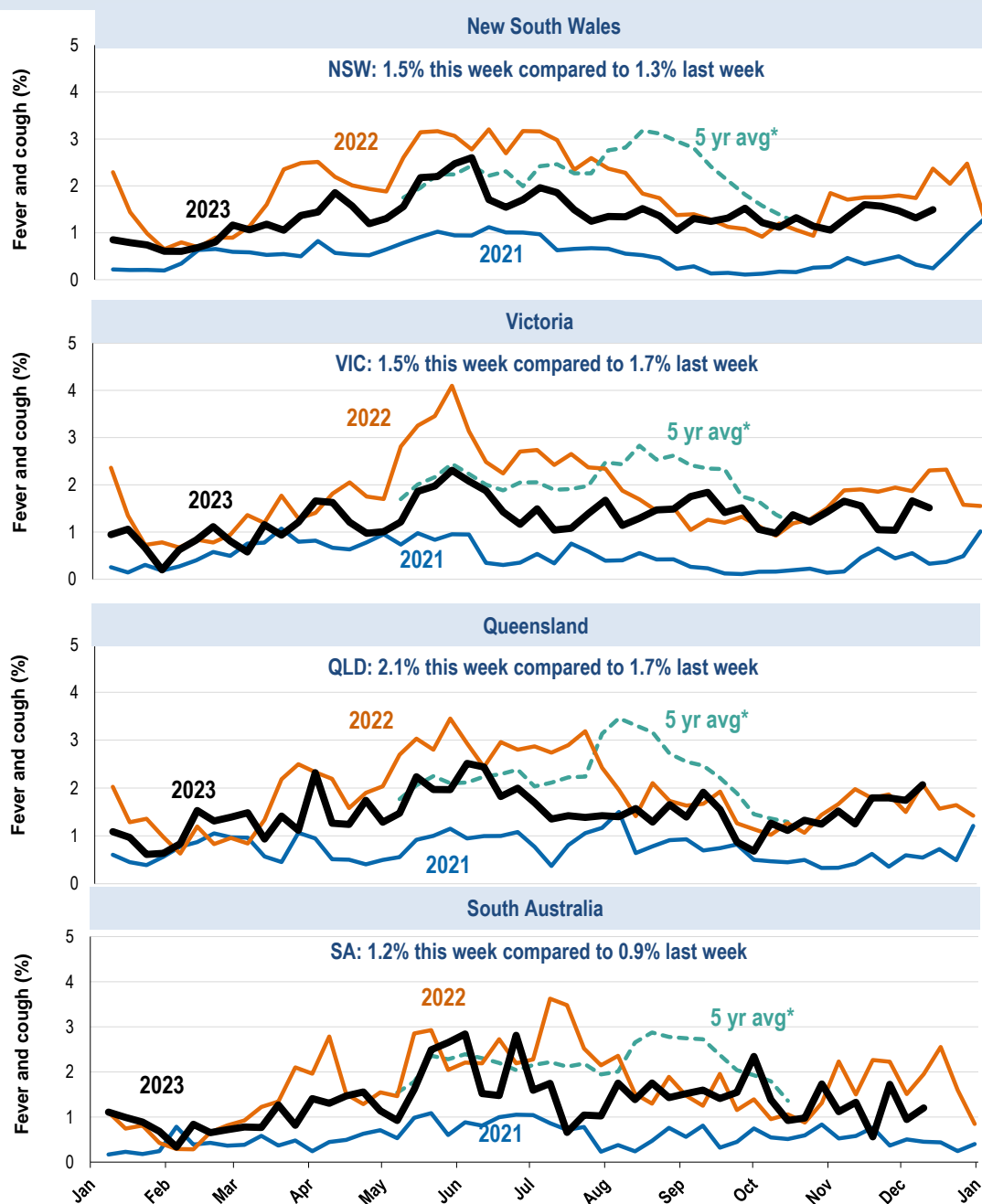
**Figure 5- Severity of Respiratory Illness Activity**


\* Includes those who sought medical advice from a general practitioner, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Clinic, COVID-19 clinic, emergency department, or were admitted to hospital for fever & cough.

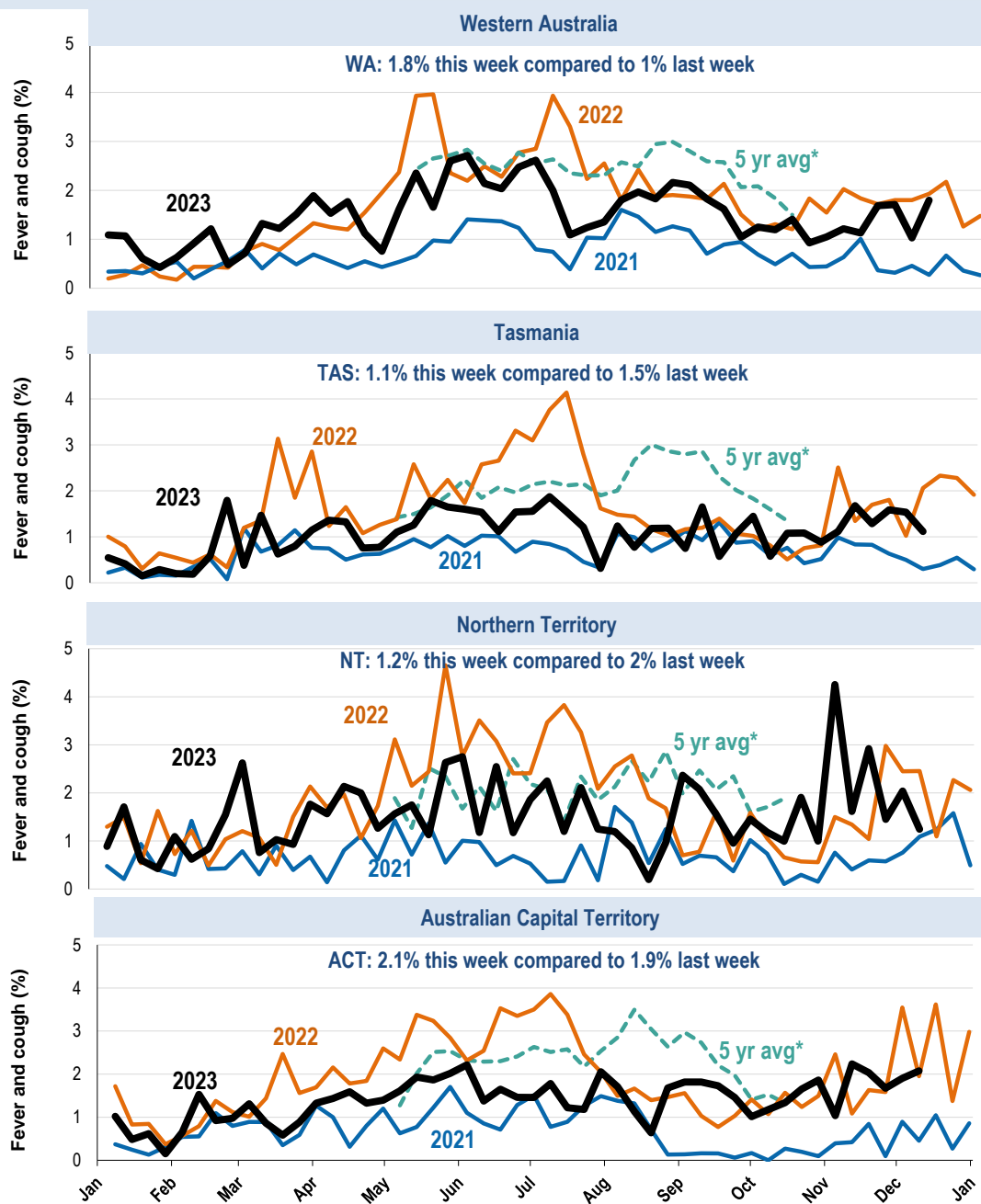
FC and 3+ days off: 47.4% (184/388) this week compared to 48.4% last week

Sought medical advice for FC: 29.1% (113/388) this week compared to 35.8% last week

**Figure 6- Respiratory illness activity by age group**


**Figure 7- Respiratory illness activity by state/territory (age standardised)**


\*5 year average is calculated using 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 data

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\*5 year average is calculated using 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 data

### Table 1- Participation

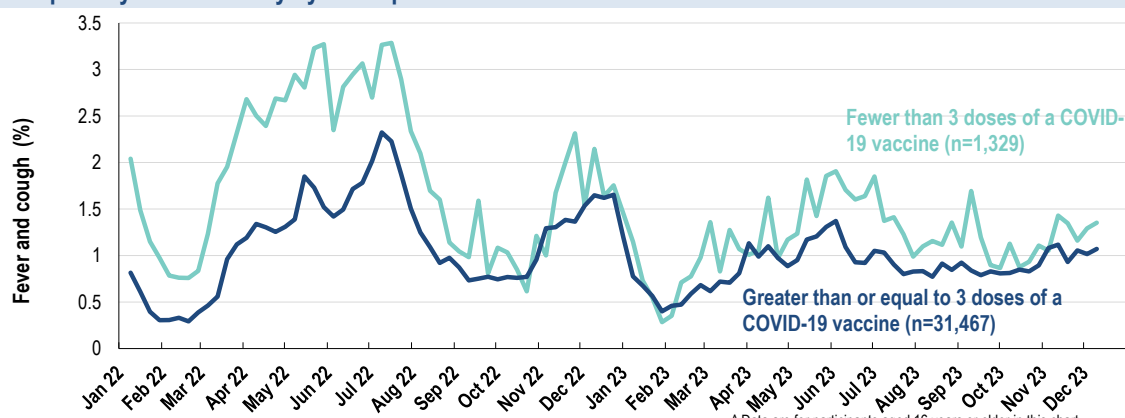
34,494 participants (34,951 last week)

State	Participants	% Rate/100,000 population
NSW	12346	35.8% <b>148.9</b>
VIC	6889	20.0% <b>101.8</b>
QLD	4175	12.1% <b>77.1</b>
SA	3071	8.9% <b>166.5</b>
WA	3310	9.6% <b>115.9</b>
TAS	2178	6.3% <b>380.3</b>
NT	597	1.7% <b>237.2</b>
ACT	1928	5.6% <b>415.0</b>
AUS	34494	100.0% <b>134.0</b>

### Table 2- Vaccination rates

Vaccinated participants:	COVID-19 vaccine						Influenza (%)
	At least 1 dose (%)	At least 2 doses (%)	At least 3 doses (%)	At least 4 doses (%)	At least 5 doses (%)	6 doses (%)	
<5 years	2.3	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	69.1
5-11 years	79.4	73.8	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	55.4
12-17 years	97.0	95.3	13.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	44.9
18-64 years	97.6	99.2	95.1	69.8	44.3	6.3	76.2
65+ years	99.5	99.4	98.4	94.5	83.6	28.2	92.5
Working with patients	99.6	99.5	97.6	77.3	52.1	9.7	87.8
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	96.0	94.8	77.1	55.4	33.0	8.6	72.2
<b>Vaccinated overall (%)</b>	<b>98.3</b>	<b>98.0</b>	<b>91.4</b>	<b>77.1</b>	<b>59.8</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>82.2</b>

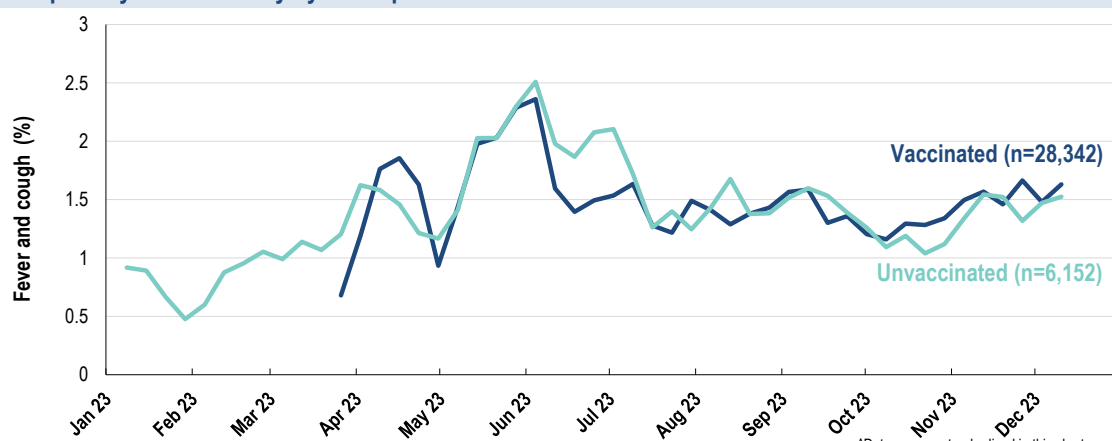
### Figure 8- Respiratory illness activity by self-reported COVID-19 vaccination status



3 or more doses of a COVID vaccine: 1.1% this week compared to 1% last week

Fewer than 3 doses of a COVID vaccine: 1.4% this week compared to 1.3% last week

### Figure 9- Respiratory illness activity by self-reported influenza vaccination status



Unvaccinated for influenza: 1.5% this week compared to 1.5% last week

Vaccinated for influenza: 1.6% this week compared to 1.5% last week