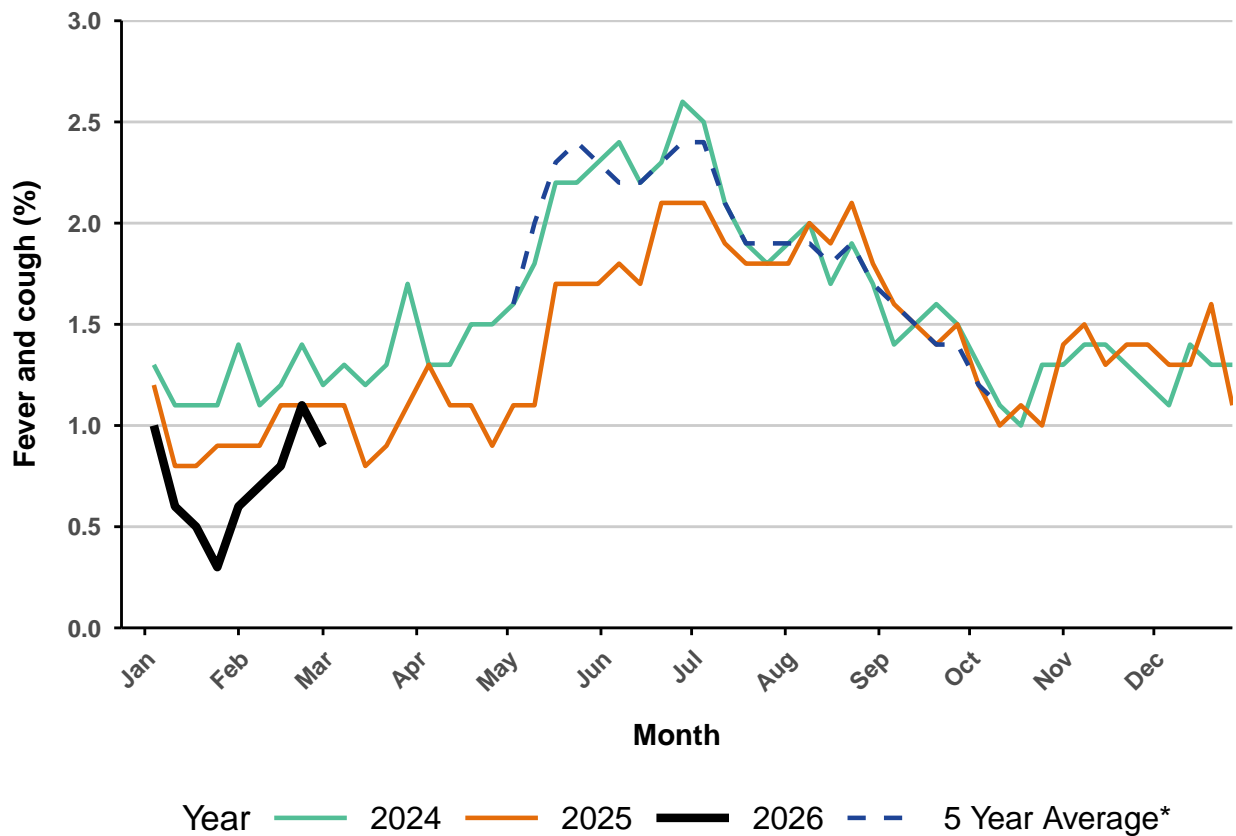


**FluTracking Australia Weekly Report**
**Reporting week Monday 23 February 2026 - Sunday 01 March 2026**
**(Data used in this report received up to 09:00 AM, Thursday 05 March 2026)**
**Respiratory illness levels have decreased this week**
**38936 participants this week**
**Figure 1 - Respiratory illness activity\* (age standardised)**

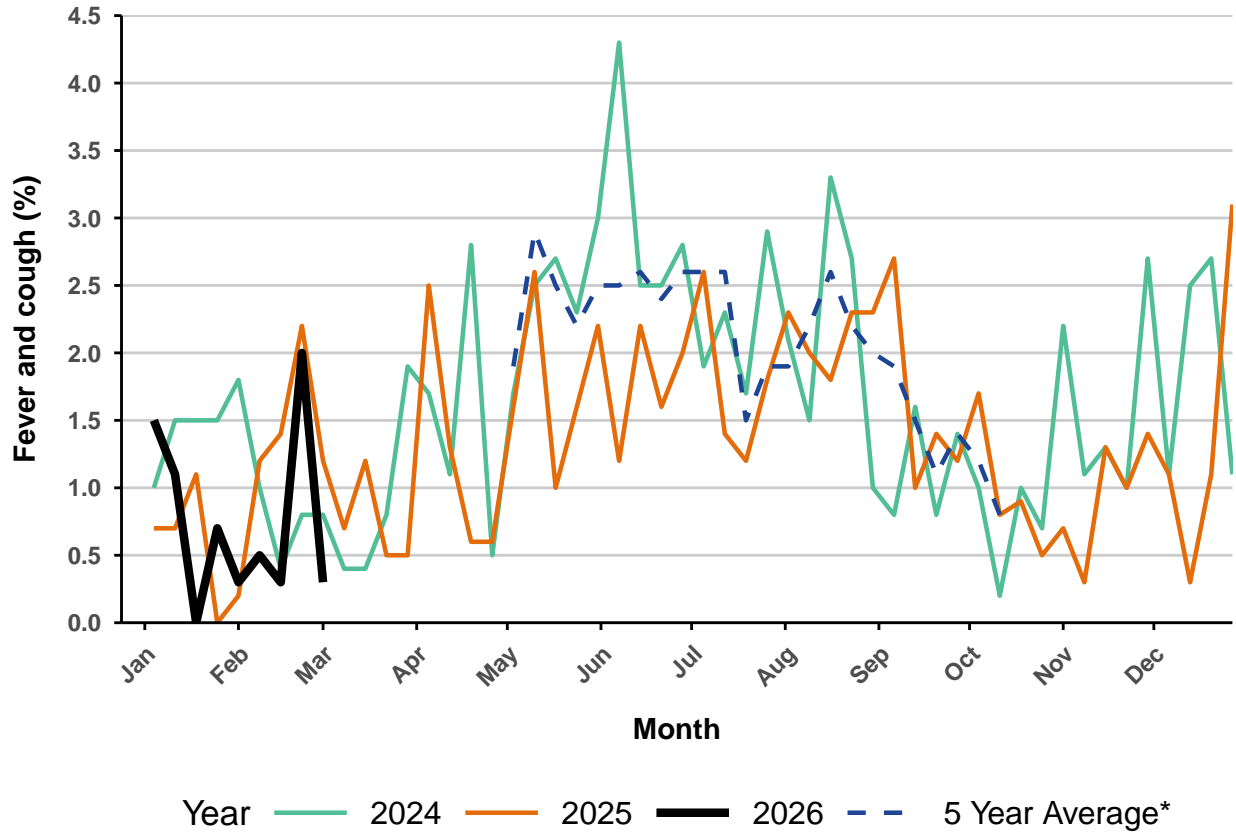
\* Respiratory illness activity is defined as fever &amp; cough for this report.

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


\* 5 year average is calculated using 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 data.

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

0.3% this week and 2% last week

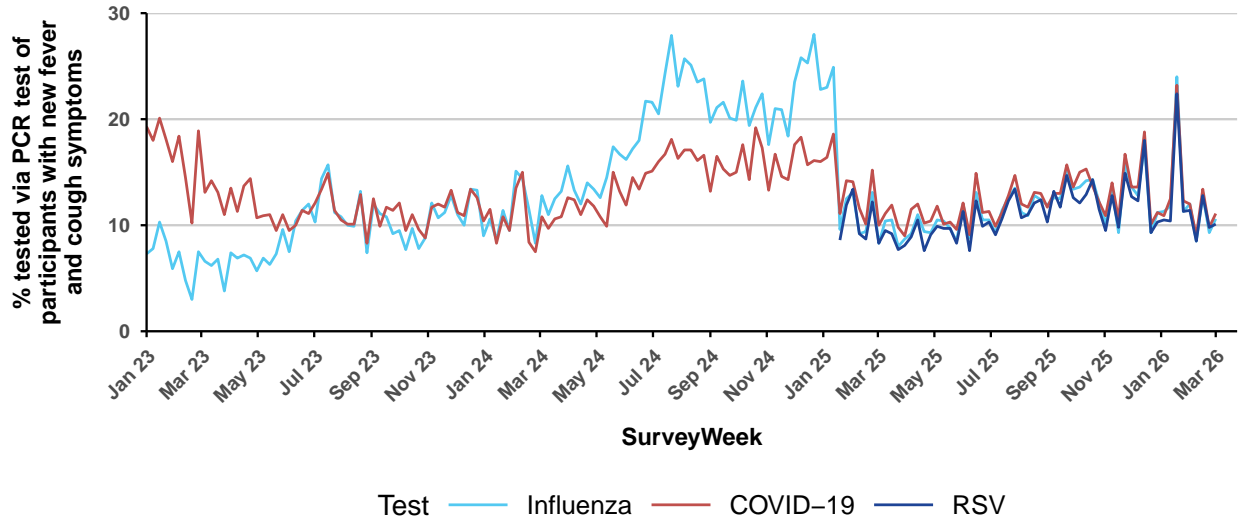


- Total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants this week = 338.

- Average number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants in 2026 = 326.

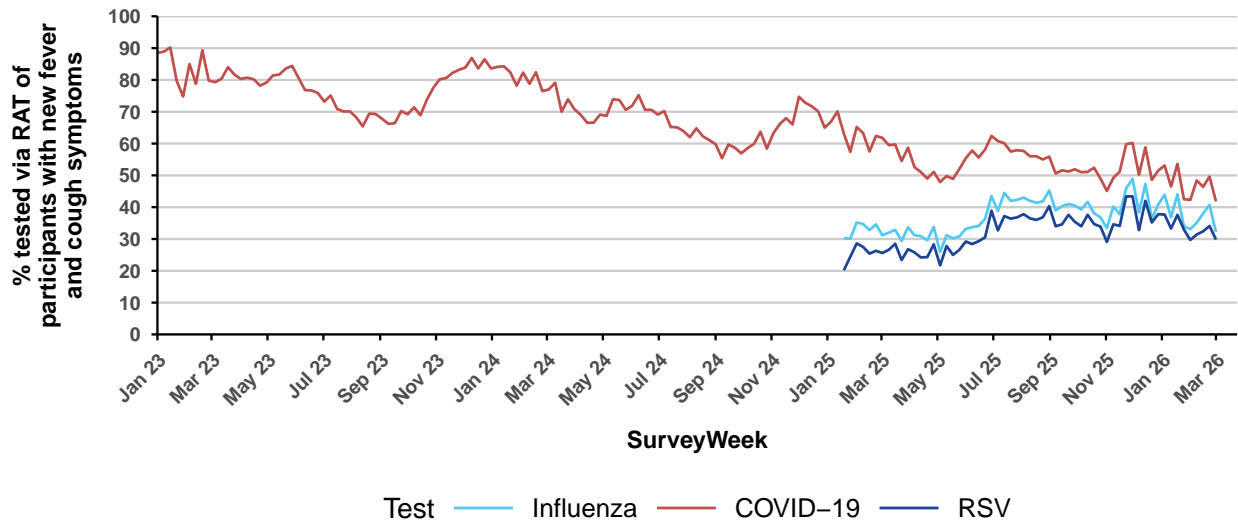
\* 5 year average is calculated using 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 data.

**Figure 3a - Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing among participants reporting fever and cough symptoms**



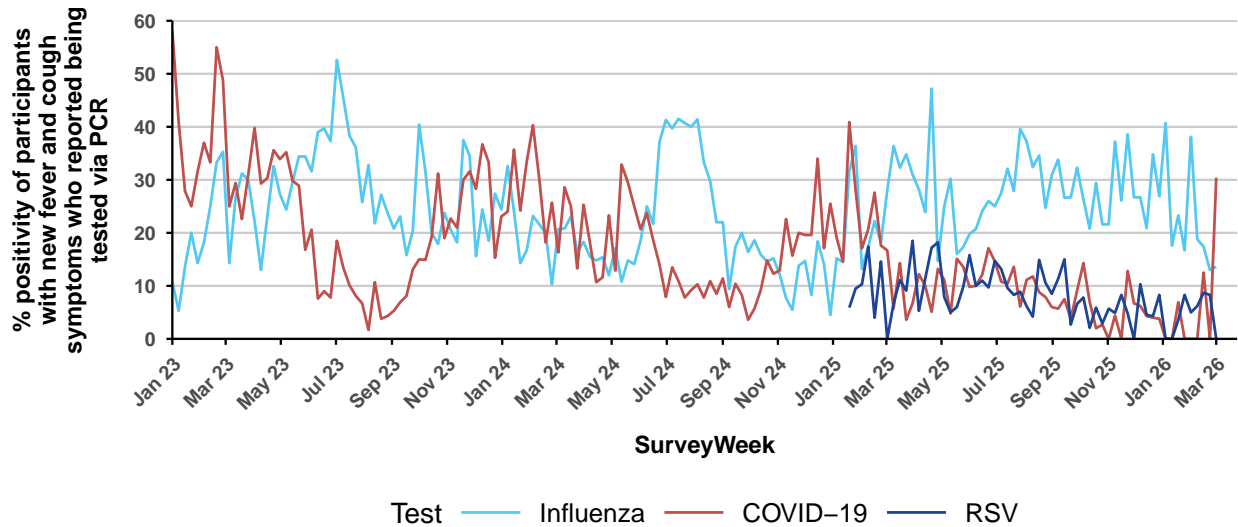
- Influenza PCR: **10.6% (22/208)** this week compared to **9.3%** last week.
- COVID-19 PCR: **11.1% (23/208)** this week compared to **9.8%** last week.
- RSV PCR: **10.1% (21/208)** this week compared to **9.8%** last week.

**Figure 3b - Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) among participants reporting fever and cough symptoms**



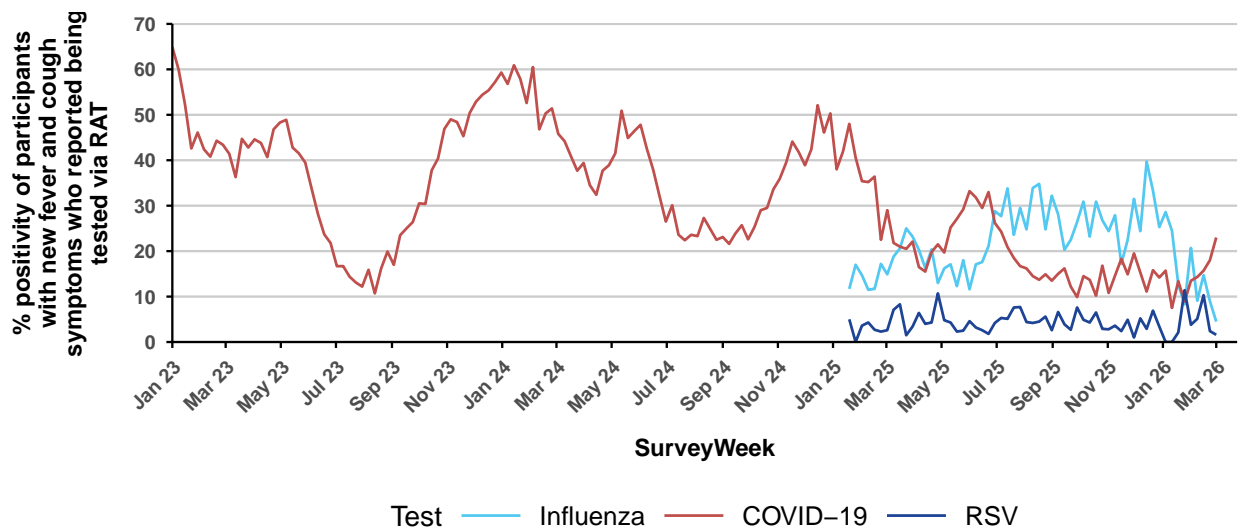
- Influenza RAT: **32.2% (67/208)** this week compared to **40.7%** last week.
- COVID-19 RAT: **41.8% (87/208)** this week compared to **49.6%** last week.
- RSV RAT: **29.8% (62/208)** this week compared to **34.1%** last week.

**Figure 4a - PCR test percent positivity among participants reporting fever and cough symptoms**



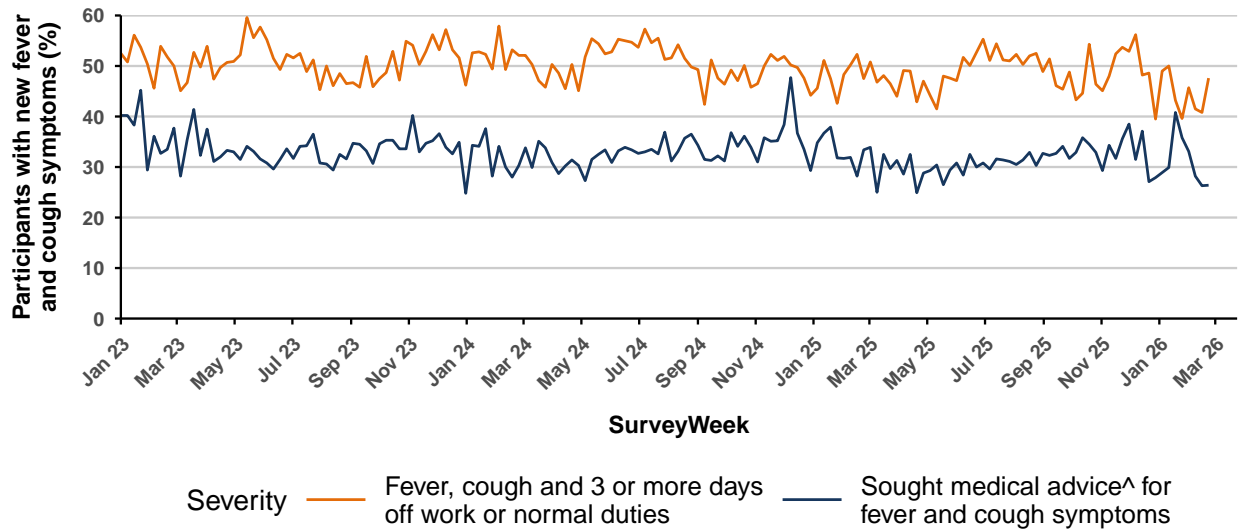
- Influenza PCR: **13.6% (3/22)** this week compared to **13%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via influenza PCR).
- COVID-19 PCR: **30.4% (7/23)** this week compared to **0%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via COVID-19 PCR).
- RSV PCR: **0% (0/21)** this week compared to **8.3%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via RSV PCR).

**Figure 4b - RAT percent positivity among participants reporting fever and cough symptoms**



- Influenza RAT: **4.5% (3/67)** this week compared to **9%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via influenza RAT).
- COVID-19 RAT: **23% (20/87)** this week compared to **18%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via COVID-19 RAT).
- RSV RAT: **1.6% (1/62)** this week compared to **2.4%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via RSV RAT).

**Figure 5 - Severity of respiratory illness activity**



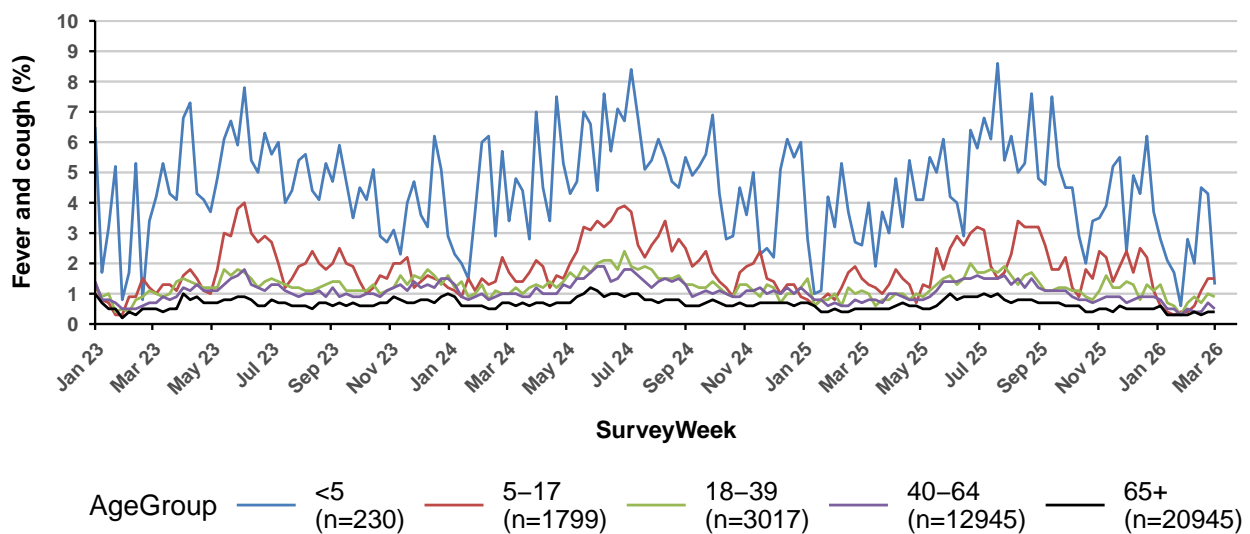
- Fever and cough with an absence of  $\geq 3$  days: **47.6% (117/246)** this report\* compared to **40.8%** last report.

- Sought medical advice<sup>^</sup> for fever and cough symptoms: **26.4% (65/246)** this report\* compared to **26.3%** last report.

\* Data in this figure is from participants reporting incident fever and cough symptoms commencing last week who were absent  $\geq 3$  days or sought medical advice last week OR this week due to their ongoing symptoms. Please visit <https://info.flutracking.net/insights/> for more information.

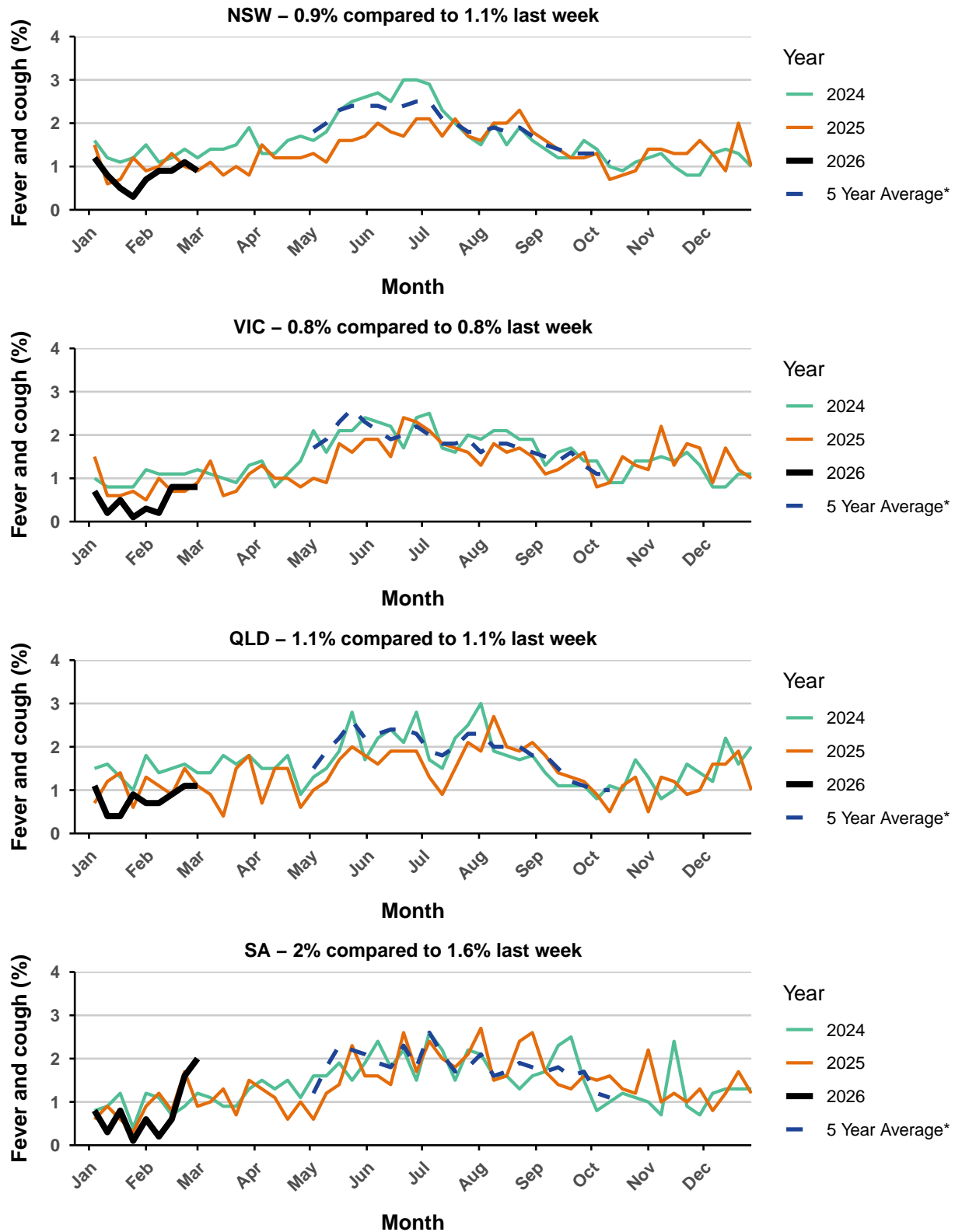
<sup>^</sup> Includes those who sought medical advice from a general practitioner, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health clinic, COVID-19 clinic, emergency department, or were admitted to hospital for fever and cough.

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

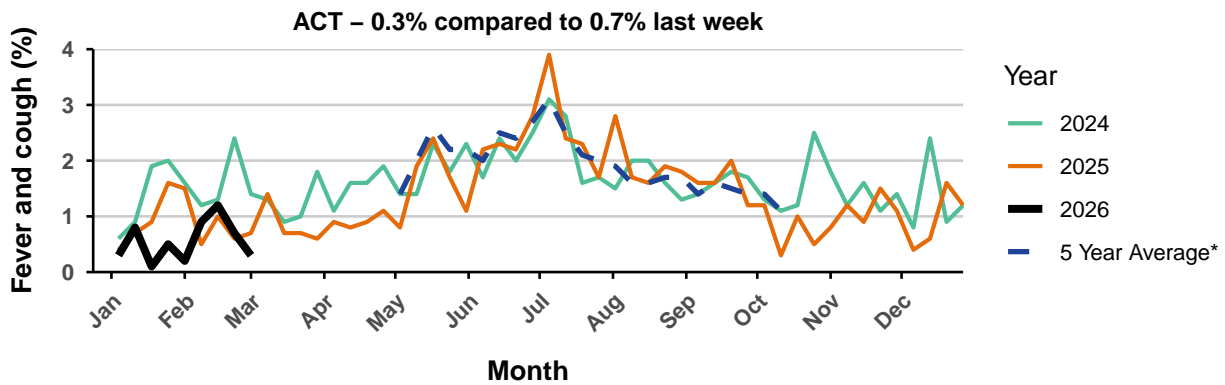
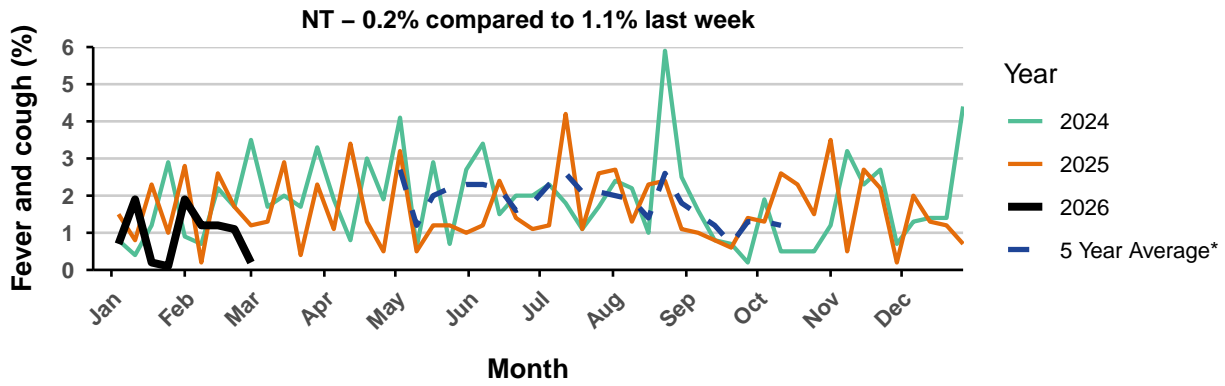
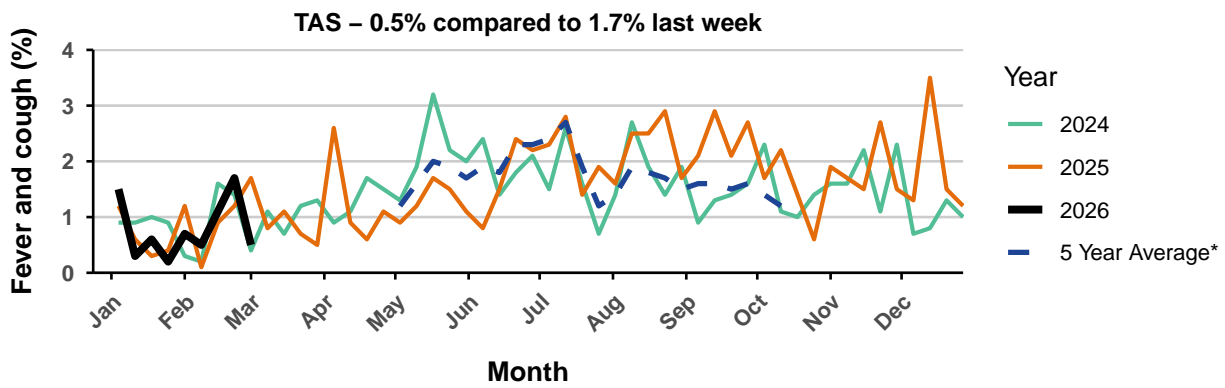
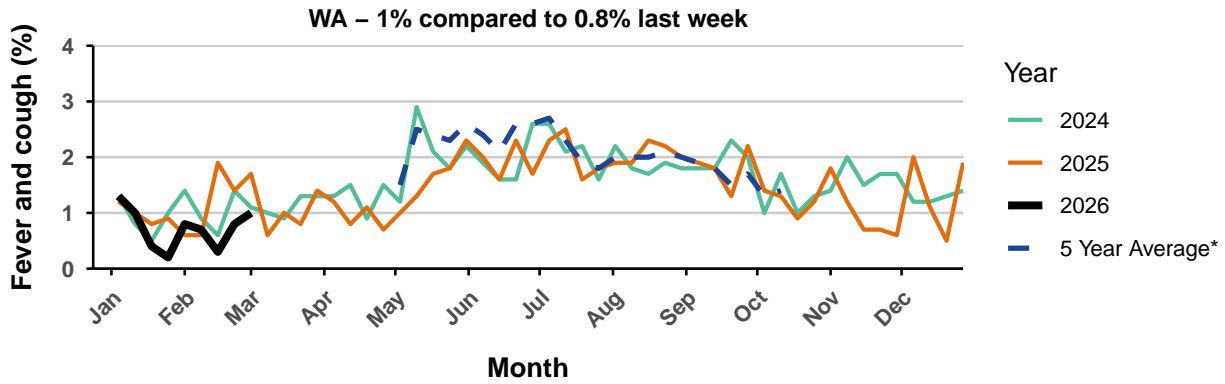


\* n = current reporting week participant count. Use caution when interpreting chart where n is low (e.g. less than 1000).

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



\* 5 year average is calculated using 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 data.



\* 5 year average is calculated using 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 data.

**Table 1 - Participation**

**38936** participants (**41282** last week)

Jurisdiction	Participants	Percent (%)	Participation Rate/ 100,000 Population
<b>NSW</b>	14,078	36.2	163.8
<b>VIC</b>	7,826	20.1	110.6
<b>QLD</b>	4,721	12.1	83.3
<b>SA</b>	3,362	8.6	176.7
<b>WA</b>	3,467	8.9	113.9
<b>TAS</b>	2,589	6.6	449.5
<b>NT</b>	557	1.4	210.7
<b>ACT</b>	2,336	6.0	481.8
<b>AUS</b>	38,936	100.0	141.0

**Table 2 - Influenza vaccination rates**

- Published April to December. Please see over the page for further immunisation tables.

**Table 3 - COVID-19 vaccination rates**

Group	Past 6 months	Past 12 months*	Never Vaccinated
<5 years	0.4	0.9	98.3
5-17 years	0.8	3.3	20.6
18-64 years	5.2	29.8	0.9
65-74 years	13.0	56.7	0.4
75+ years	21.7	62.4	0.5
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	6.5	26.9	5.0
Working with patients	7.5	35.1	0.4
Overall	11.1	44.2	2.1

\* Those with a vaccination in the past 6 months are also included in the past 12 months column.

- Table does not include those with a COVID-19 vaccination greater than 12 months ago (ie: row totals will not add to 100%).

**Table 4 - Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) immunisation rates**

Group	Immunised (%)
<2 years (via mother)	40.0
<2 years (via child after birth)	18.3
<2 years (both via mother and via child after birth)	5.0
50-59 years	0.8
60-74 years	10.2
75+ years	20.5
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (60+ years)	13.7