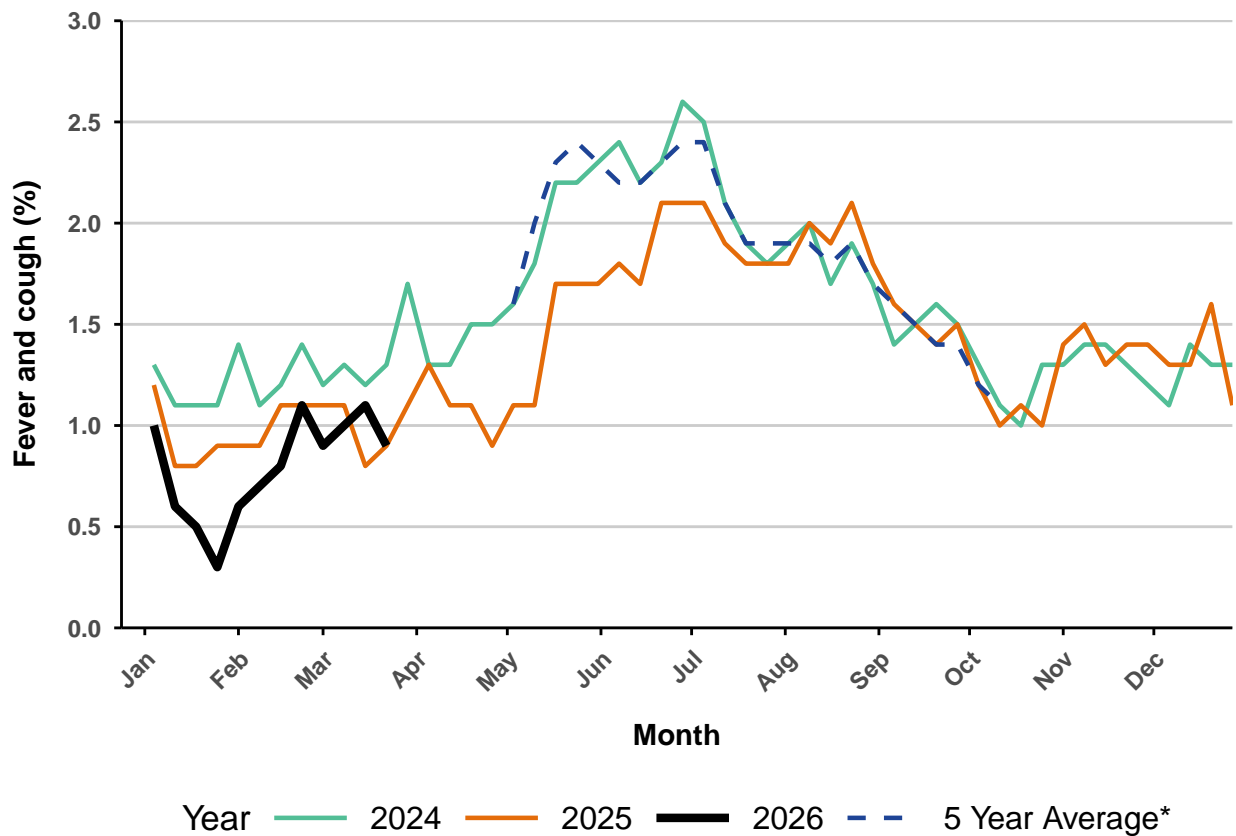


**FluTracking Australia Weekly Report**
**Reporting week Monday 16 March 2026 - Sunday 22 March 2026**
**(Data used in this report received up to 09:00 AM, Thursday 26 March 2026)**
**Respiratory illness levels have decreased this week**
**39017 participants this week**
**Figure 1 - Respiratory illness activity\* (age standardised)**

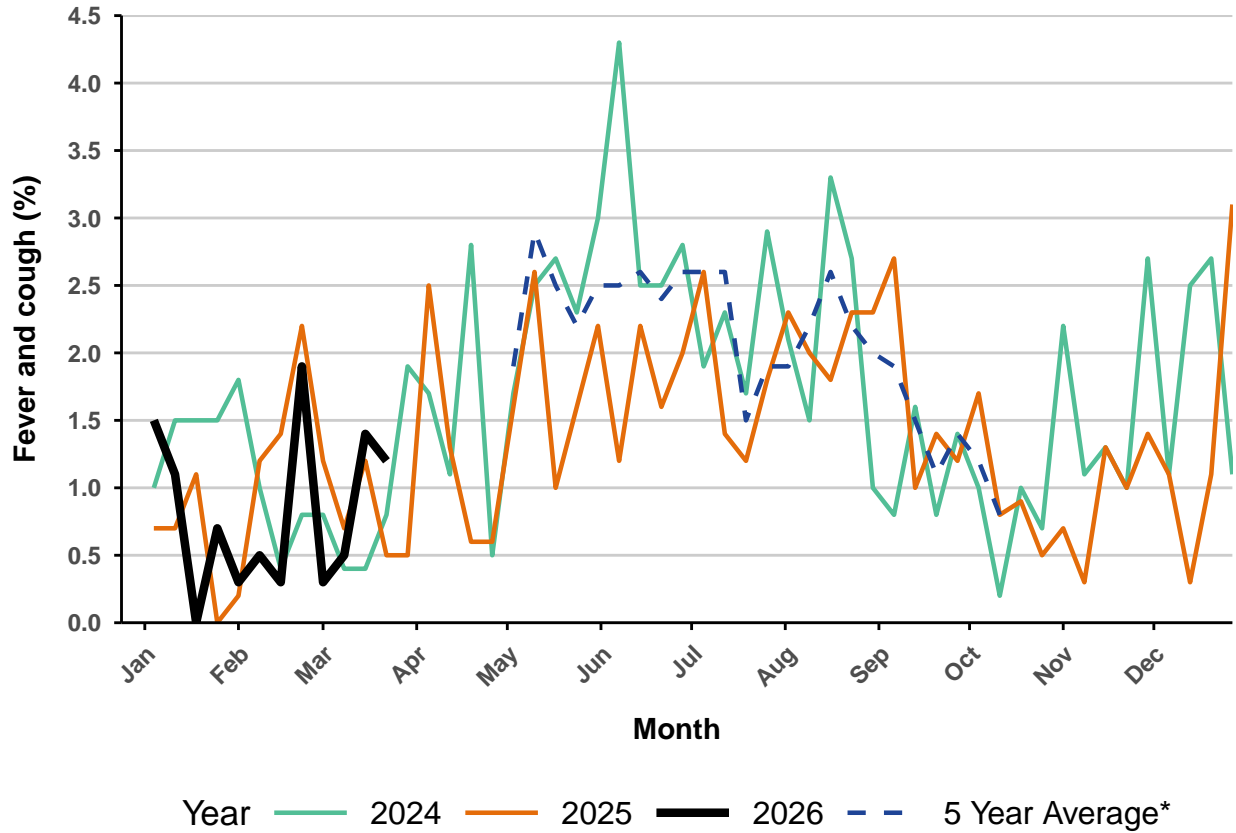
\* Respiratory illness activity is defined as fever &amp; cough for this report.

**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**

1.2% this week and 1.4% last week

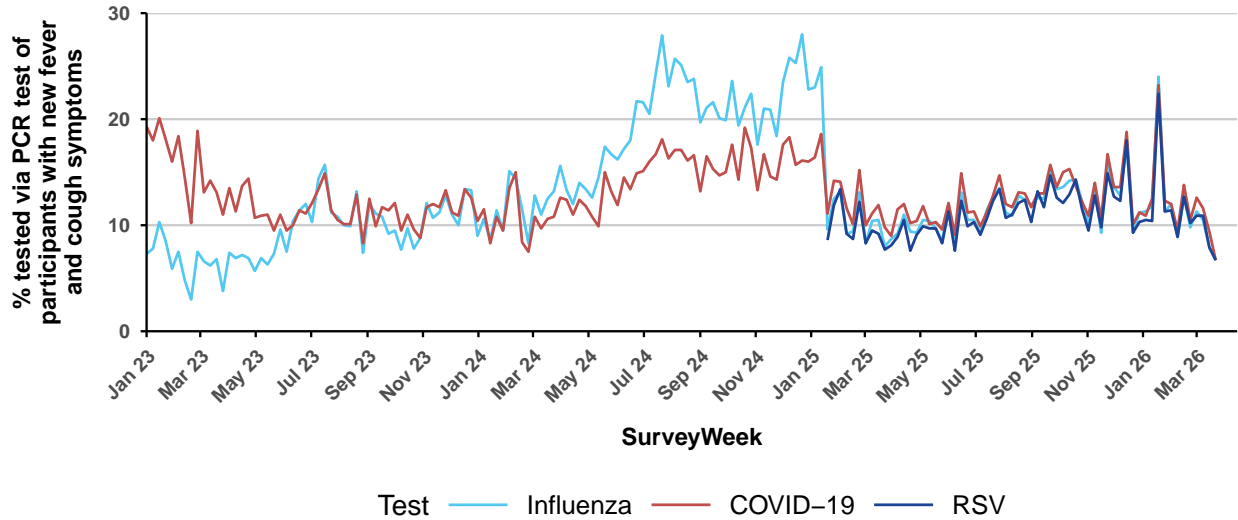


- Total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants this week = 333.

- Average number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants in 2026 = 340.

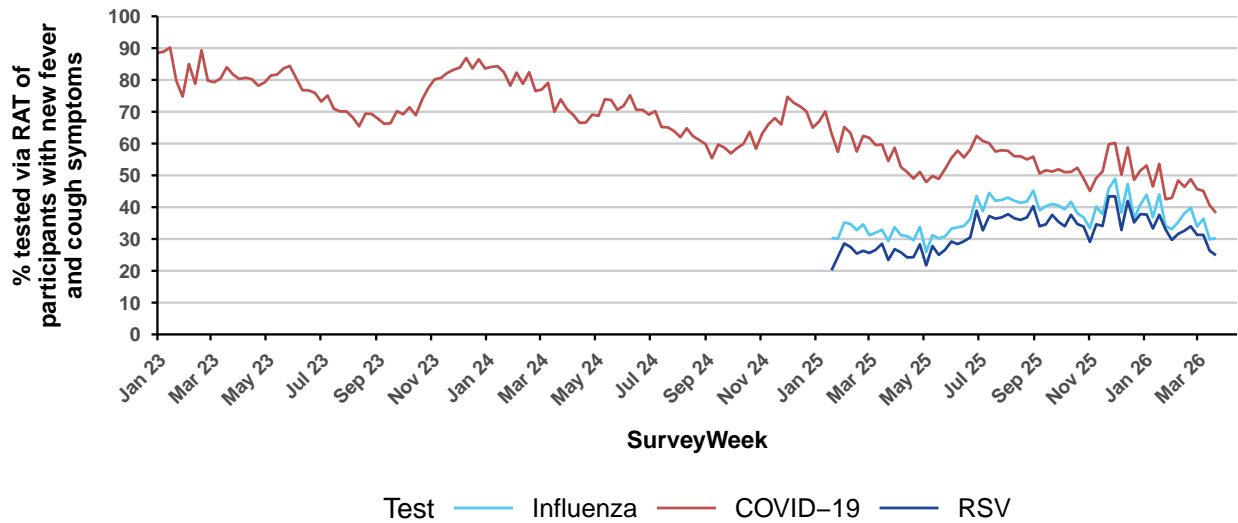
\* 5 year average is calculated using 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 data.

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



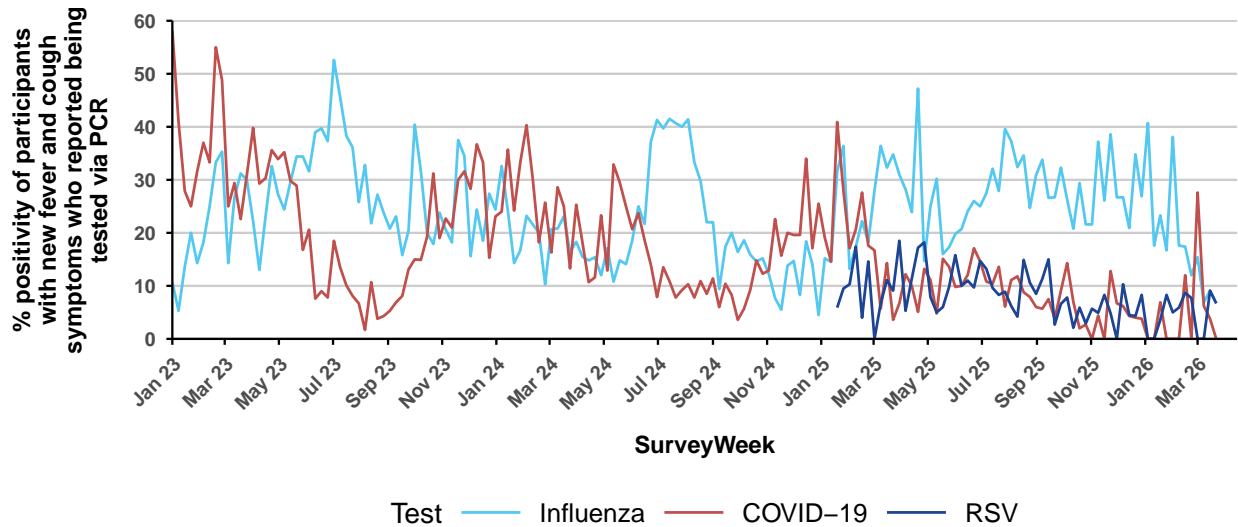
- Influenza PCR: **6.7% (15/225)** this week compared to **7.9%** last week.
- COVID-19 PCR: **6.7% (15/225)** this week compared to **9.4%** last week.
- RSV PCR: **6.7% (15/225)** this week compared to **7.9%** last week.

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



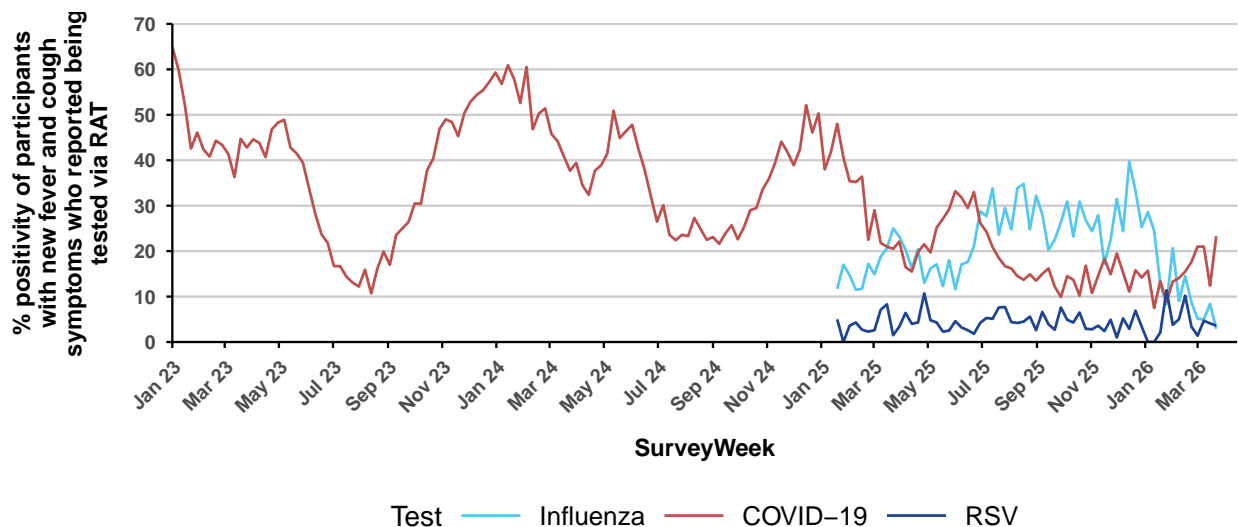
- Influenza RAT: **30.2% (68/225)** this week compared to **29.9%** last week.
- COVID-19 RAT: **38.2% (86/225)** this week compared to **40.6%** last week.
- RSV RAT: **24.9% (56/225)** this week compared to **26.3%** last week.

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



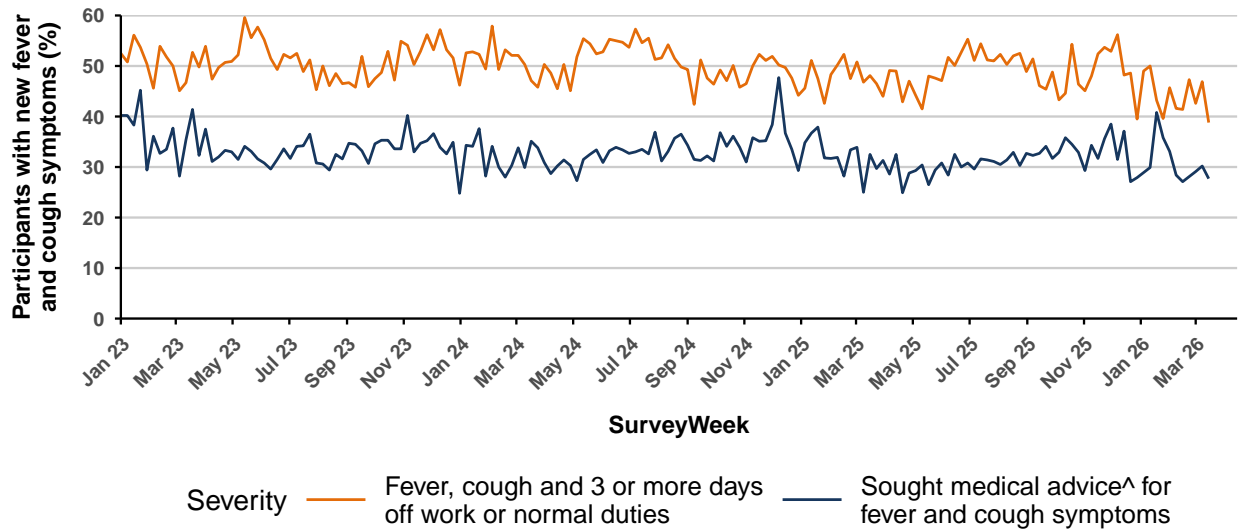
- Influenza PCR: **6.7% (1/15)** this week compared to **9.1%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via influenza PCR).
- COVID-19 PCR: **0% (0/15)** this week compared to **3.8%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via COVID-19 PCR).
- RSV PCR: **6.7% (1/15)** this week compared to **9.1%** 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: **2.9% (2/68)** this week compared to **8.4%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via influenza RAT).
- COVID-19 RAT: **23.3% (20/86)** this week compared to **12.4%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via COVID-19 RAT).
- RSV RAT: **3.6% (2/56)** this week compared to **4.1%** last week.  
(Denominator is participants who self-reported fever and cough symptoms and tested via RSV RAT).

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



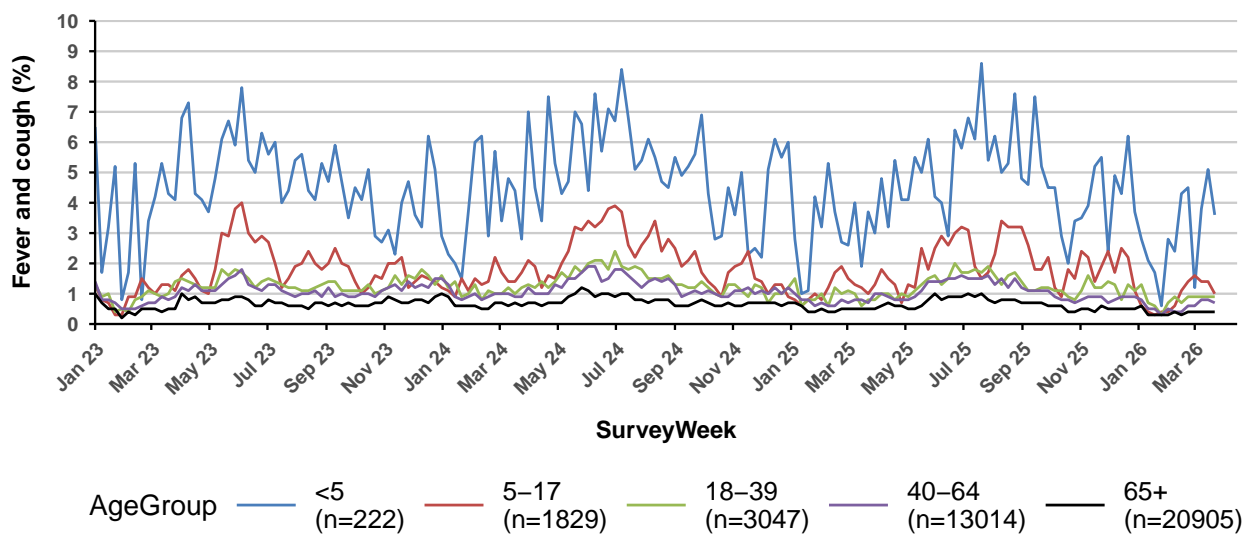
- Fever and cough with an absence of  $\geq 3$  days: **38.8% (108/278)** this report\* compared to **46.9%** last report.

- Sought medical advice<sup>^</sup> for fever and cough symptoms: **27.7% (77/278)** this report\* compared to **30.2%** 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.

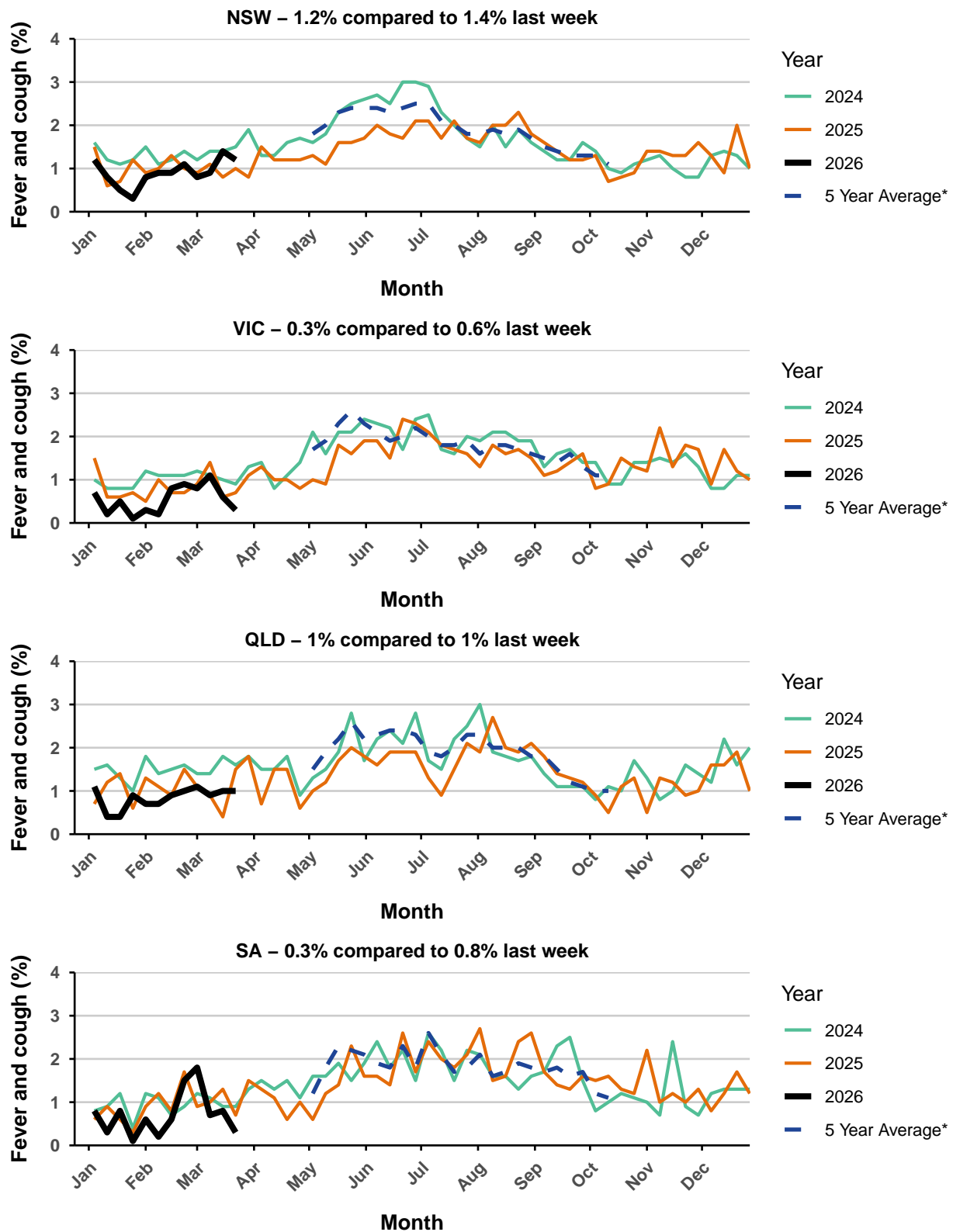
<sup>^</sup> Includes those who sought medical advice from a general practitioner, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health clinic, COVID-19 clinic, emergency department, or were admitted to hospital for fever and cough.

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

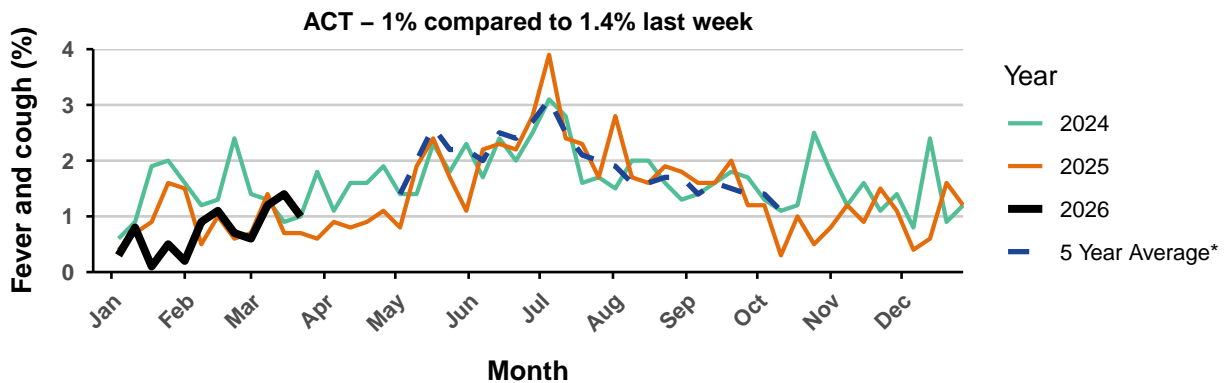
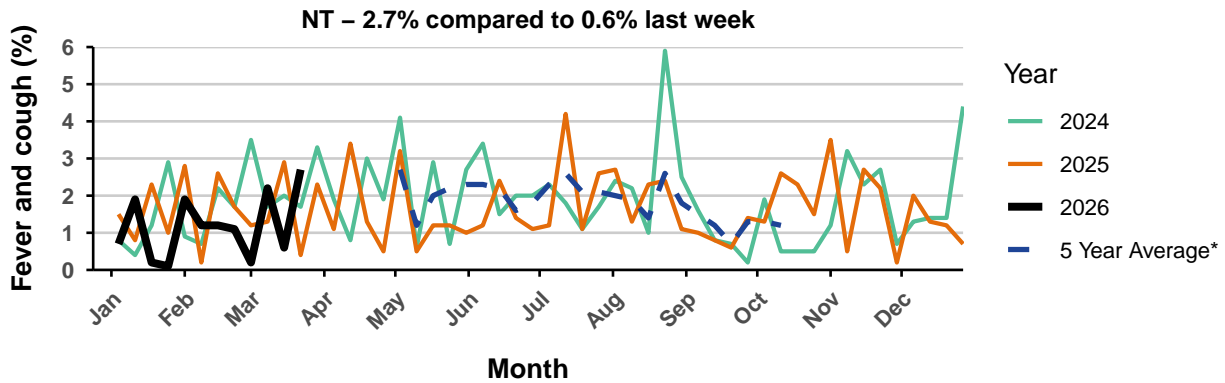
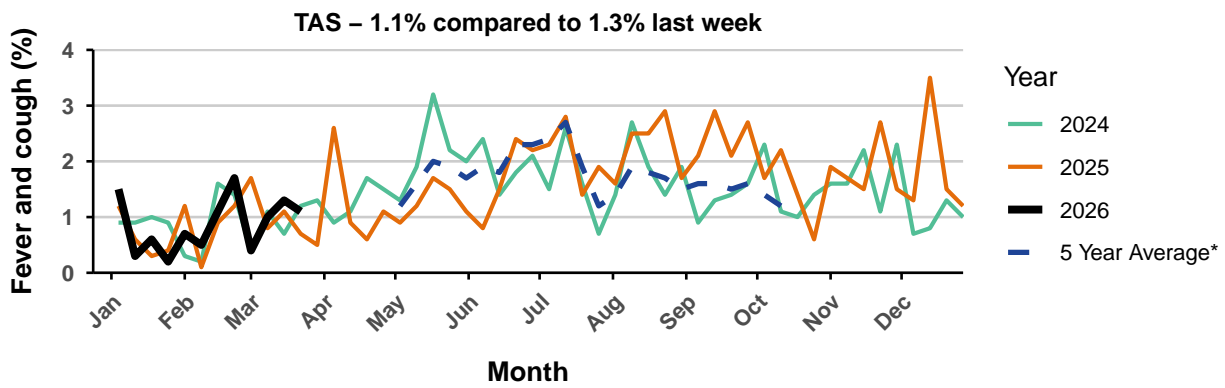
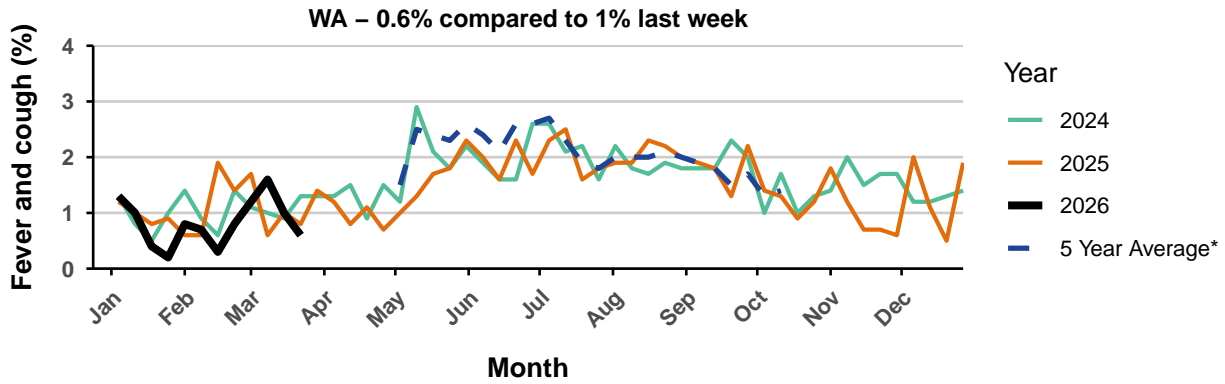


\* n = current reporting week participant count. Use caution when interpreting chart where n is low (e.g. less than 1000).

**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**

**39017** participants (**41224** last week)

Jurisdiction	Participants	Percent (%)	Participation Rate/ 100,000 Population
<b>NSW</b>	13,992	35.9	162.2
<b>VIC</b>	7,722	19.8	108.7
<b>QLD</b>	4,723	12.1	83.0
<b>SA</b>	3,377	8.7	177.0
<b>WA</b>	3,570	9.1	116.6
<b>TAS</b>	2,665	6.8	462.1
<b>NT</b>	568	1.5	213.9
<b>ACT</b>	2,400	6.2	493.6
<b>AUS</b>	39,017	100.0	140.7

**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	0.0	0.5	98.6
5-17 years	0.5	3.2	20.9
18-64 years	5.5	29.5	0.9
65-74 years	14.1	55.5	0.4
75+ years	22.1	61.2	0.4
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	6.6	26.1	5.7
Working with patients	7.5	34.2	0.6
Overall	11.6	43.3	2.2

\* 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)	35.6
<2 years (via child after birth)	20.3
<2 years (both via mother and via child after birth)	5.1
50-59 years	0.8
60-74 years	10.5
75+ years	20.3
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (60+ years)	16.1