

Uncommon rise of RSV

The most common respiratory virus now circulating in the community is RSV (respiratory syncytial virus).

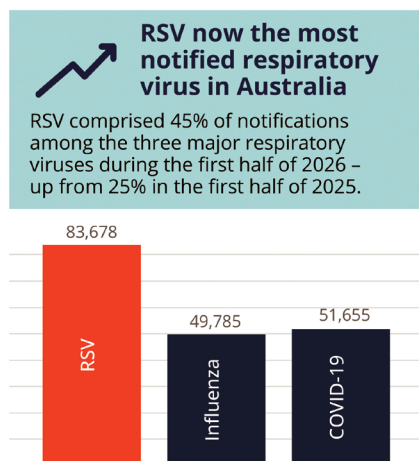
More than 100,000 cases of RSV have already been recorded in Australia this year, far outnumbering both influenza and COVID-19. This is the first time RSV has dominated mid-year infectious respiratory disease notifications since becoming nationally reportable in 2021. With about 890 confirmed notifications of RSV each day since the start of winter, Australia is on track to record more than 127,000 cases of this unpredictable virus by the end of the season. Infants, expectant mothers, adults aged 75 years and over, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 60 years and over can now receive free RSV immunisation throughout Australia.

Data sources

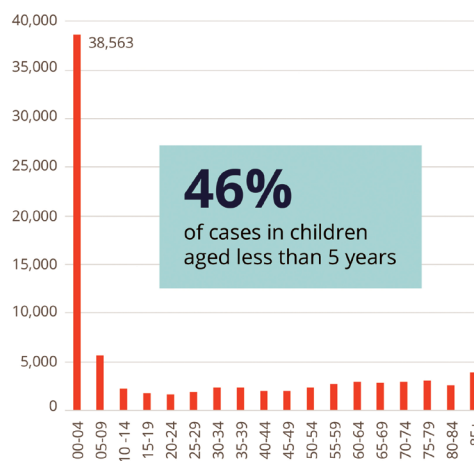
1. Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System public dashboard. wJuly 2026.
2. Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. Australian Immunisation Register, Respiratory Vaccine Dashboard. July 2026.

RSV notifications to date in 2026¹

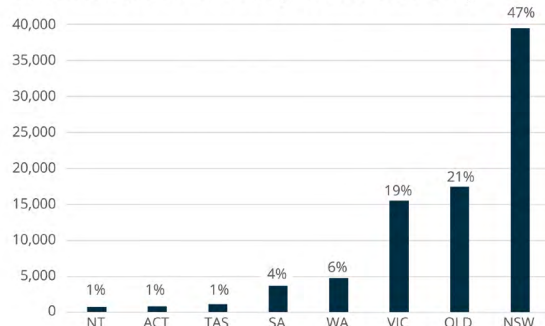
Confirmed RSV cases compared to influenza and COVID-19



Confirmed RSV cases by age



Confirmed RSV cases by state/territory



RSV cases spreading rapidly during winter

RSV notifications have surged by more than **37,000** since the start of winter.

127,000+

RSV cases anticipated by the end of winter

~890

RSV cases a day reported

National Notification Disease Surveillance System data, at 13 July 2026.

RSV Vaccination Uptake in Older Adults²

RSV vs influenza vaccination uptake among RSV-eligible older adults, 2026

RSV-eligible older adults: All aged 75 years and older, plus Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 60–74 years.



720,000+

eligible older adults protected against RSV in Australia this year.

