aspren | ASPREN UPDATE

Reporting period: Week 27–28, 2026
(29 June – 12 July 2026)

Summary: Influenza activity is increasing. RSV activity has increased.

Influenza-like-illness levels are decreasing. Rates are slightly lower than seen during the same period in previous years.

11% Influenza positivity during the reporting period.

76 Case of influenza have been detected this year:
67 x Influenza A
9 x Influenza B

19 Case of influenza have been detected in this reporting period:
18 x Influenza A
1 x Influenza B

Key messages

- ILI rates have slightly decreased since last reporting period are currently at baseline levels (see Figure 1).
- Influenza activity has increased since the last report (see Table 2), however it is lower than seen in previous years for the same reporting period (see figure 5).
- RSV activity has seen a further increased since last reporting period, with highest rates seen in the 1 – 4 years and 20 – 49 years age groups.
- COVID-19 activity remains steady, noting high rates in persons ages >=75 years, and low vaccination uptake overall.

This report is based on data available as at 27 July 2026. Delays in the reporting of data may cause data to change retrospectively.

Participation

330 reporters have submitted data to ASPREN this fortnight (386 YTD), throughout all 8 jurisdictions. Reporters undertook a total of 44,217 patient consultations during the reporting period.

Table 1. ASPREN reporter participation, weeks 27-28, 2026.

Jurisdiction	Reporters	Consultations	Proportion	ABS population proportion
ACT	21	2,017	6.4%	1.76%
NSW	73	11,807	22.1%	31.1%
NT	35	2,597	10.6%	0.96%
QLD	30	5,553	9.1%	20.5%
SA	39	5,748	11.8%	6.89%
TAS	23	2,546	7%	2.09%
VIC	48	6,398	14.5%	25.6%
WA	61	7,551	18.5%	11%
Australia	330	44,217	100%	100%

Syndromic Surveillance

Influenza-like illness (ILI)

Figure 1. ASPREN ILI rate per 100,000 consultations, 1 January 2024 – 12 July 2026.

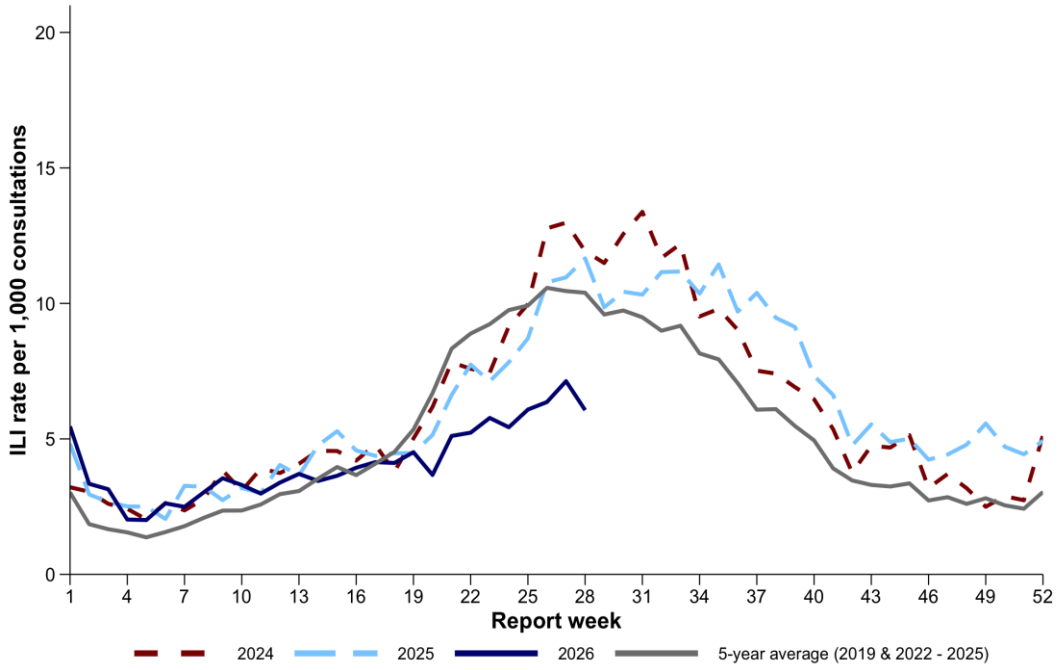
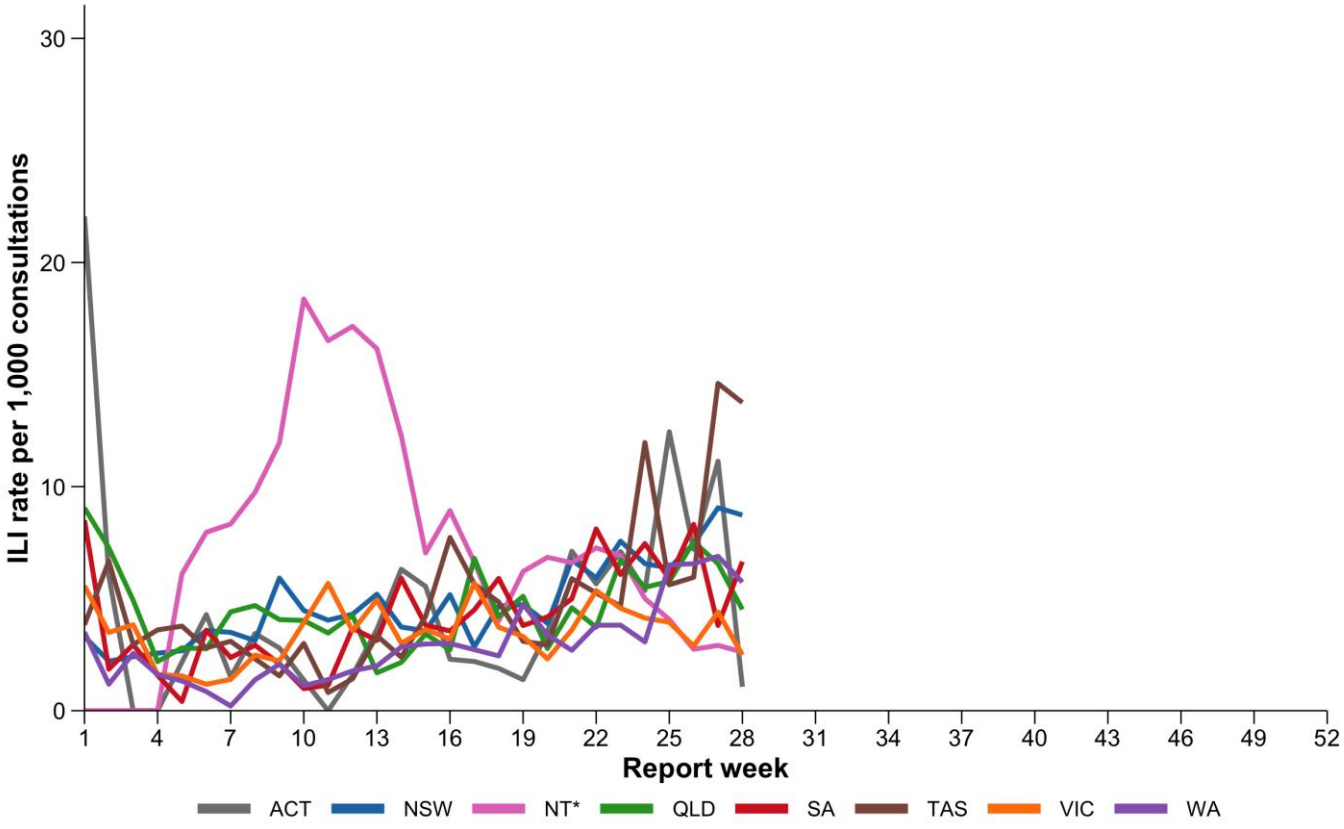


Figure 2. ASPREN ILI rate by jurisdiction, 1 January 2026 – 12 July 2026.



* NT data are presented as a 5 week rolling average due to sparse data.

Figure 3. Map of ILI activity by jurisdiction, week 28, 2026

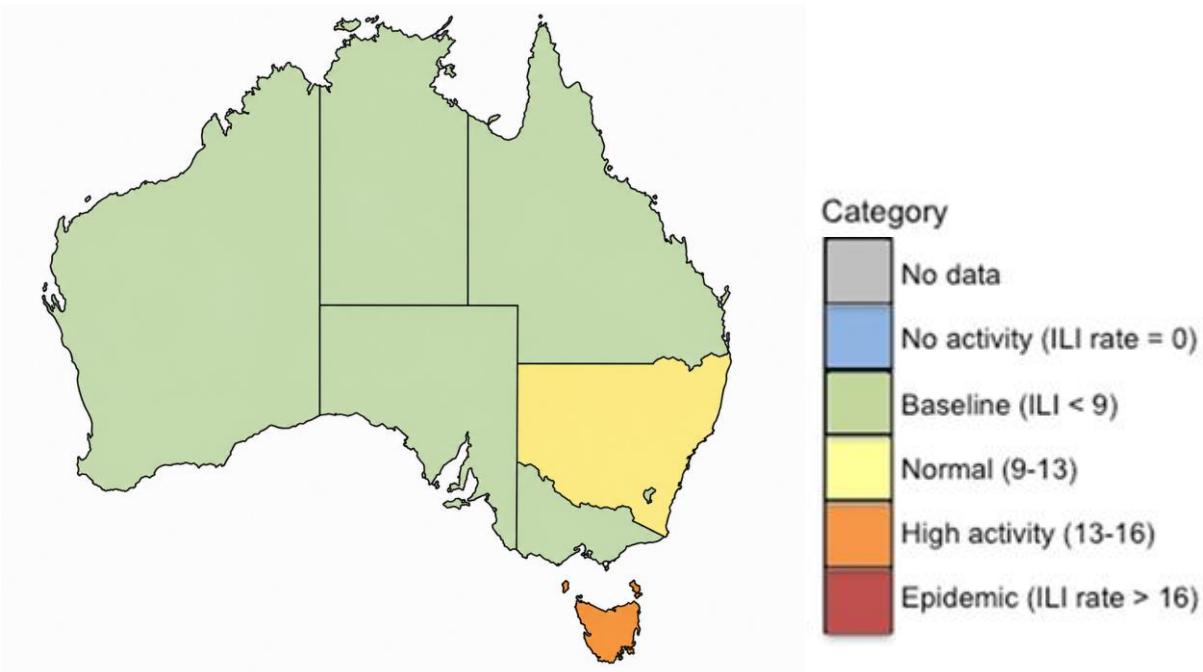
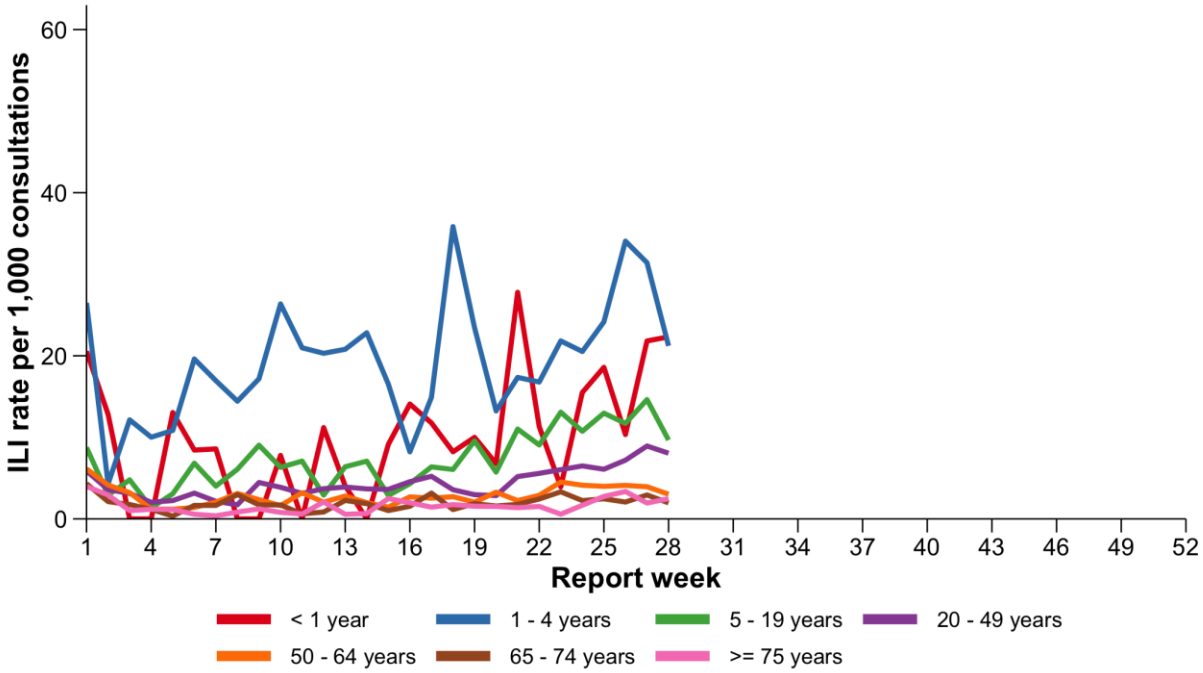


Figure 4. ASPREN ILI rate by age, 1 January 2026 – 12 July 2026.



Summary ILI activity

- ASPREN reporters saw 315 ILI patients in week 27 – 28, 2026.
- Nationally, ILI rates are lower than seen at this time of year compared to previous seasons. They have slightly decreased since the last reporting period and sit at baseline level.
- ILI activity has increased in NSW and Tasmania this reporting period.
- ILI rates are highest in the 1 – 4 years age group, followed by the <1 year and 5 – 19 years age groups.

Virological Surveillance

Respiratory pathogen activity

Table 2: ASPREN virological surveillance summary, 2026.

Indicator	Current fortnight 29 June – 12 July 2026	Previous fortnight 15 June – 28 June 2026	YTD 29 December 2025 – 12 July 2026
Number of ILI notifications	315	286	2,514
Number of swab tests performed	170	143	1,394
Proportion of swab tests positive for influenza	11%	4%	5%
Proportion of swab tests positive for influenza A	4%	3%	5%
Proportion of swab tests positive for influenza B	1%	0%	1%
Proportion of swab tests positive for COVID-19	3%	3%	4%
Proportion of swab tests positive for RSV	12%	10%	6%
Proportion of swab tests positive for any pathogen	65%	65%	58%

Figure 5. ASPREN weekly virological detection of respiratory pathogens, 2026.

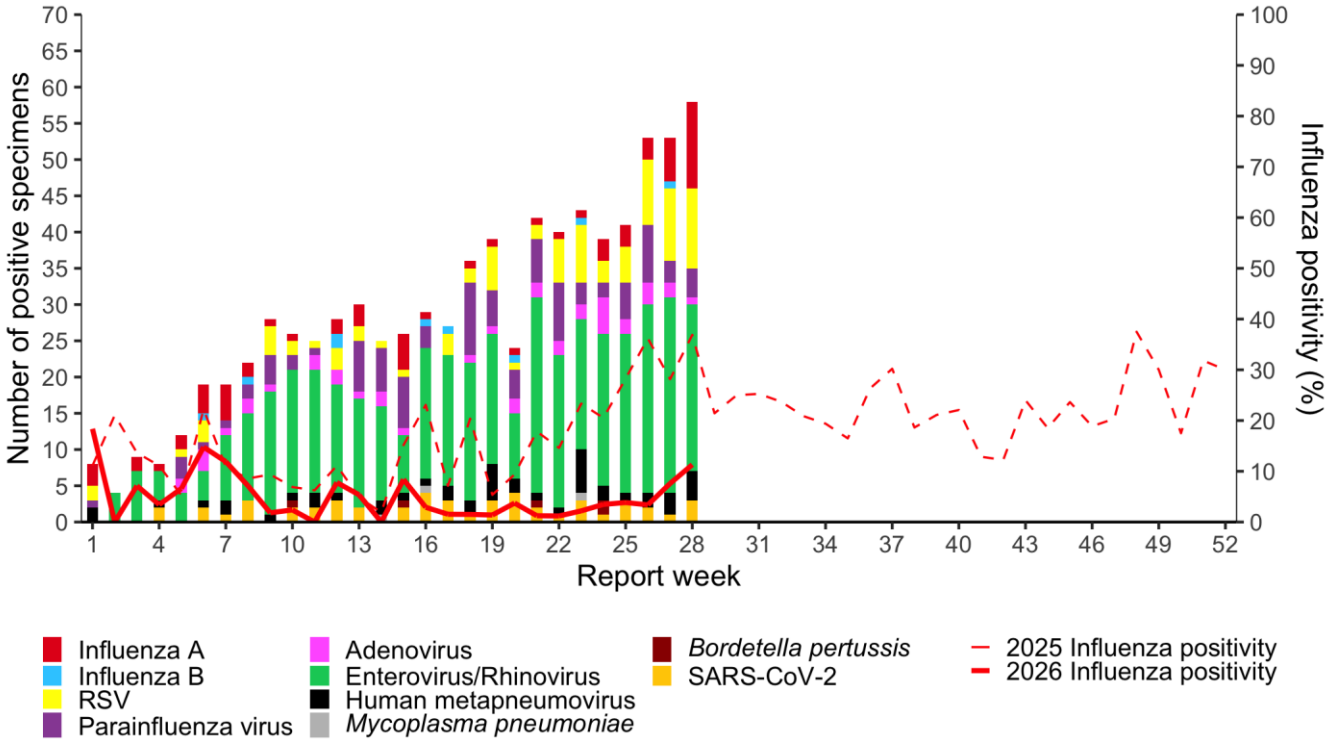


Figure 6: ASPREN weekly virological detection of influenza by type and subtype, RSV and COVID-19, 2026.

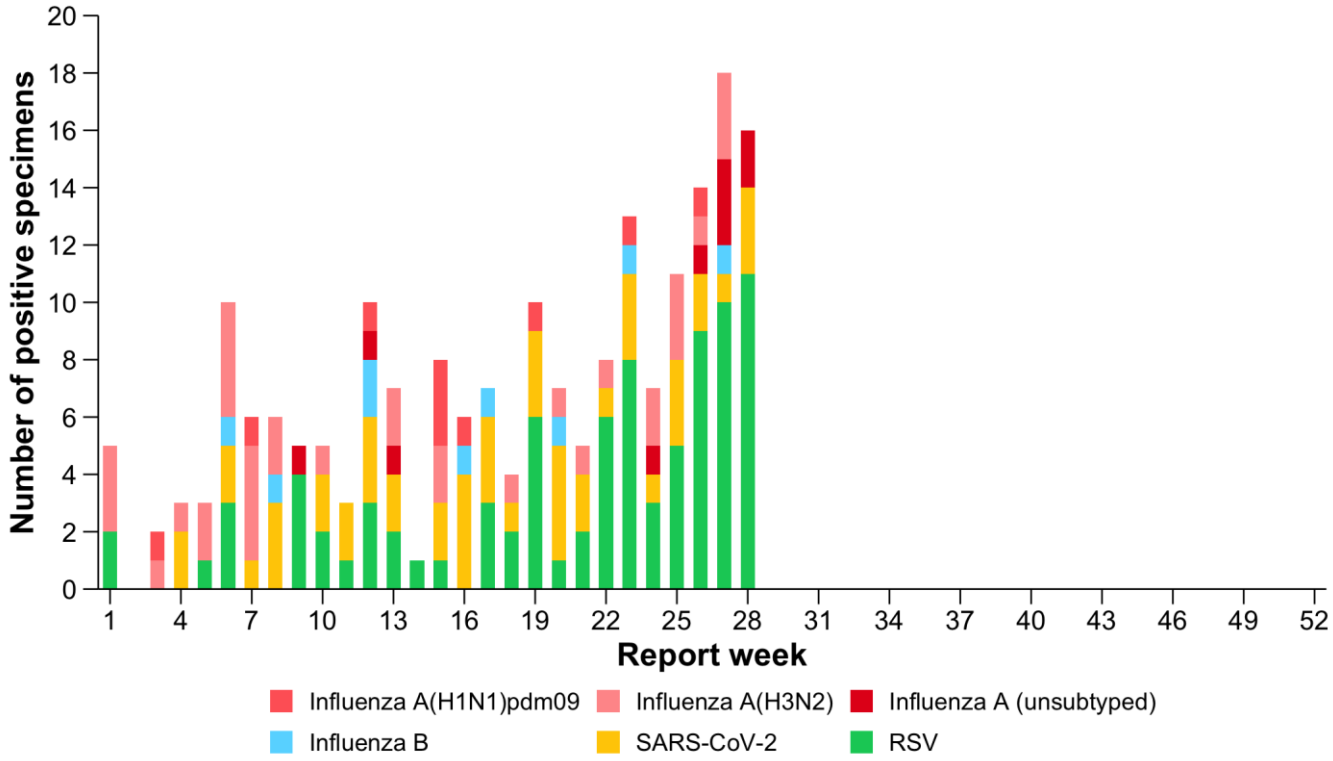


Figure 7: ASPREN virological detection by jurisdiction, 2026.

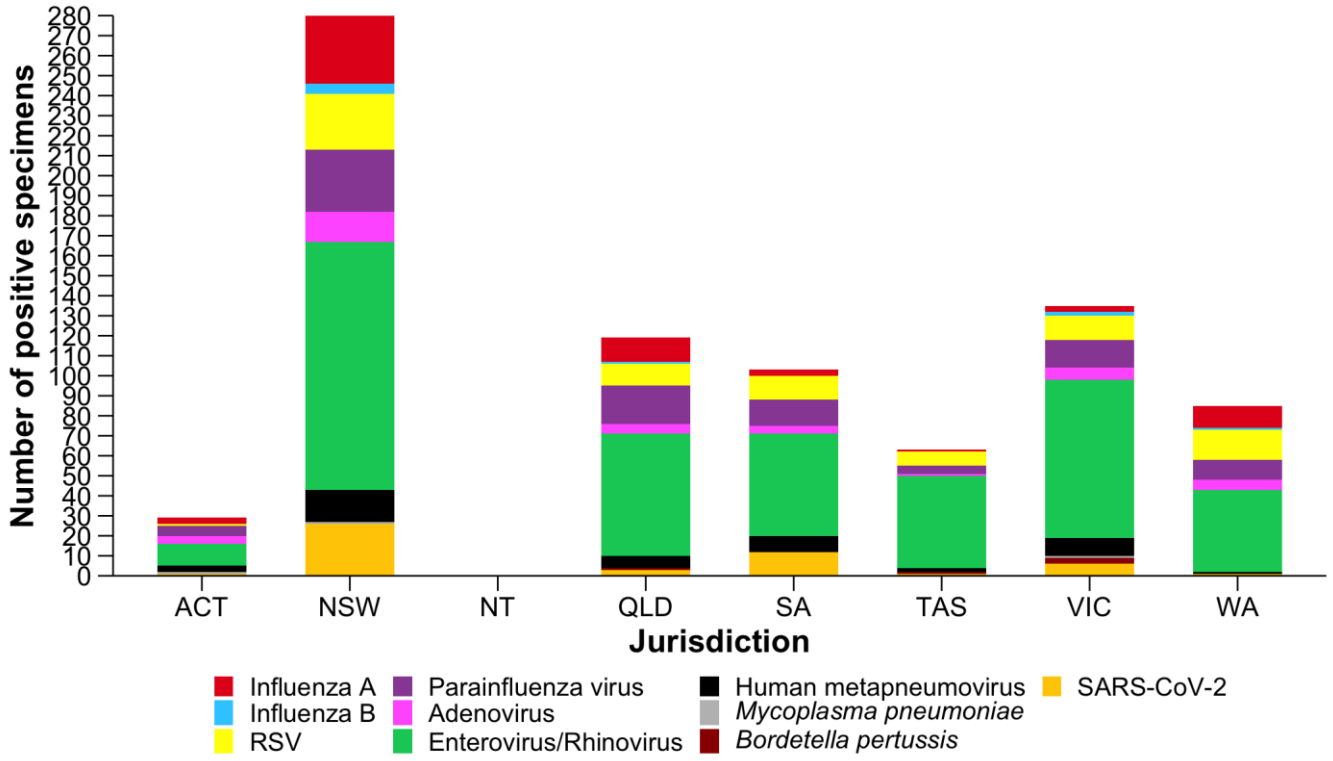


Table 3: ASPREN respiratory pathogen positivity* by age group, 2026.

Pathogen	<1 year	1 – 4 years	5 – 19 years	20 – 49 years	50 – 64 years	65 – 74 years	>= 75 years
Influenza A	1%	14%	28%	32%	9%	12%	4%
Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09	0%	20%	0%	40%	20%	10%	10%
Influenza A (H3N2)	2%	19%	30%	28%	9%	11%	2%
Influenza A (H3N2) subclade K	3%	24%	38%	21%	6%	6%	3%
Influenza B	0%	0%	44%	33%	0%	22%	0%
COVID-19	2%	16%	16%	32%	16%	6%	12%
RSV	7%	36%	12%	22%	7%	10%	6%
NIRV positive	4%	22%	16%	26%	13%	9%	9%
Positive for other respiratory pathogen#	4%	22%	17%	27%	13%	9%	9%
Negative for all pathogens	1%	8%	13%	35%	18%	12%	12%

* Proportion positivity was calculated as the number of specimens detected in each age group divided by the total number of specimens detected.
# Other respiratory pathogens are parainfluenza virus 1, 2, 3, human metapneumovirus, adenovirus, enterovirus / rhinovirus, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*, and *Bordetella pertussis*.

Summary virological activity

- Enterovirus / rhinovirus is the most commonly circulating pathogen in this reporting period and year to date throughout all jurisdictions (see Figures 5 and 7).
- 18 cases of influenza were detected – 13 x influenza A H3N2 subclade K and 5 x awaiting subtyping results and 1 x influenza B.
- RSV detections increased since the last reporting period at 12% positivity. Year to date, the majority of RSV presentations are in persons aged 1 –4 years (36%) followed by adults aged 20 – 49 years.
- COVID-19 detections remained steady this period with 4 cases detected (3% positivity). The >= 75 years age group is over-represented with only one case in this age group receiving a COVID=19 vaccination in the past 6 months.

Vaccination Coverage

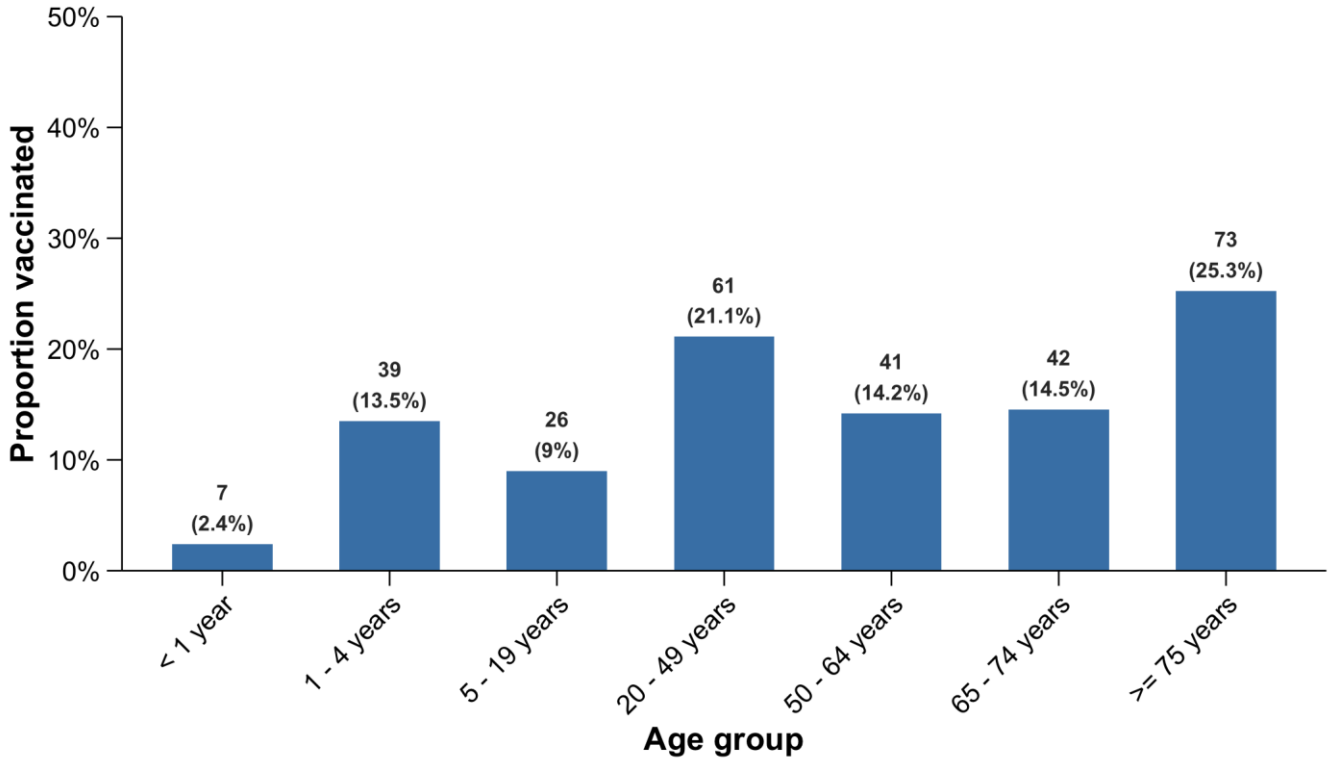
Vaccination coverage

Table 4: ASPREN vaccination coverage by year, 2024 – 2026.

Vaccine	Vaccinated	Not vaccinated	Unknown vaccination status	% vaccinated 2026 YTD (n)	% vaccinated 2025 (n)	% vaccinated 2024 (n)
Influenza*	289	609	15	32% (289)	36% (1,147)	36% (975)
COVID-19	72	1,264	58	5% (72)	8% (251)	N/A
RSV < 6 months	8	1	2	89% (8)	49% (18)	20% (8)
Maternal RSV	23	3	2	88% (23)	N/A	N/A
RSV > 6 months	63	1,095	209	5% (63)	4% (98)	1% (11)

*Influenza vaccination coverage is calculated on test-negative patients presenting from when the influenza vaccine became available (week 15, 2026). Patients are classified as vaccinated if they received an influenza vaccination in the 2026 calendar year.

Figure 8: Influenza vaccination coverage by age and influenza status, 2026.



Summary vaccination coverage and vaccine effectiveness

- Influenza vaccination coverage is increasing. Vaccination coverage is currently 32% compared to 28% at the last reporting period.
- It is too early in the season to estimate vaccine effectiveness (VE). Due to low influenza circulation in 2026, interim VE estimates are unlikely.