

Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2014–15

Published February 2016

Information in this report has been updated in June 2017. See www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

This report on child immunisation rates presents updated information on the percentages of children aged 1, 2 and 5 years who were fully immunised in 2014–15, reporting for each of the 31 areas covered by Primary Health Networks as well as smaller geographic areas.

In 2014–15, 90.9% of all children aged 1, 2 and 5 years were fully immunised and 9.1% (84,571) were not fully immunised. Across the three age groups:

- **1 year olds** – Immunisation rates ranged across Primary Health Network (PHN) areas from 93.6% to 87.7%. A total of 26,671 children were not fully immunised nationally
- **2 year olds** – Immunisation rates ranged across PHN areas from 92.3% to 86.7%. A total of 33,681 children were not fully immunised nationally
- **5 year olds** – Immunisation rates ranged across PHN areas from 95.6% to 89.2%. A total of 24,219 children were not fully immunised nationally

(Figures 1, 3 and 5).

In 2014–15, 89.2% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 1, 2 and 5 years were fully immunised and 10.8% or 4,922 were not fully immunised, though rates vary across local areas (Figures 1 and 4).

This report focuses on variation in immunisation rates for **1 year olds** at different levels of geography including changes in immunisation rates over time (pages 6 to 11). Detailed results by PHN, local area (SA3 and SA4) and postcode for 1, 2 and 5 year olds are available at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

Highest and lowest immunisation rates for 1 year olds

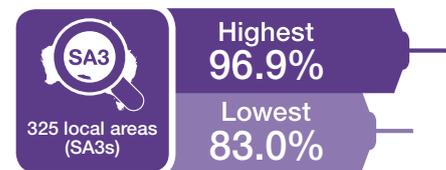
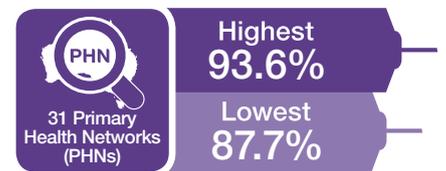
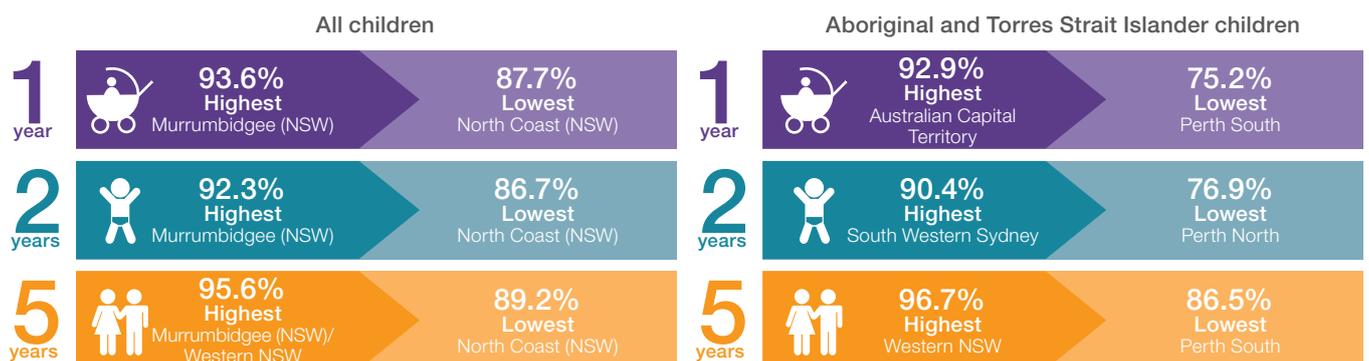


Figure 1: Primary Health Network areas with the highest and lowest child immunisation rates, 2014–15



Key findings

Overview

Immunisation programs are a safe and effective way of reducing transmission of vaccine-preventable diseases in the community and protecting against potentially serious health problems. All Australian children are expected to have received specific immunisations before they turn 1, 2 and 5 years of age, according to the National Immunisation Program Schedule (Figure 2).

In late 2014, the Australian Chief Medical Officer and all state and territory chief health officers agreed to an aspirational target for 95% of children to be fully immunised in line with the Schedule.

Figure 2: Vaccinations required for fully immunised status for children aged 1, 2 and 5 years in 2014–15

Age due	Vaccinations	Fully immunised status
2 mths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis B (hepB) Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (DTPa) <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) Polio (IPV) Pneumococcal 	
4 mths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis B (hepB) Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (DTPa) <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) Polio (IPV) Pneumococcal 	
6 mths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis B (hepB) Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (DTPa) <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) Polio (IPV) Pneumococcal 	1 year
12 mths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) Meningococcal C 	2 years
18 mths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measles, mumps, rubella and varicella (chickenpox) (MMRV) (NEW) 	
4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (DTPa) Polio (IPV) Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) (to be given only if MMRV vaccine was not given at 18 months) 	5 years

Source: Australian Government Department of Health, National Immunisation Program Schedule, www.immunise.health.gov.au

This report presents variation in child immunisation rates across Australia for all children and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 1, 2 and 5 years (pages 1 to 5). It also provides detailed results for 1-year-old children, the age when many children start being exposed to high-risk environments such as child care (pages 6 to 11).

All children

Comparing the three age groups, the percentages of all children fully immunised were higher among children aged 5 years than 1 and 2 year olds across most PHNs.

Across PHN areas:

- 1 year olds** – None of the 31 PHN areas had immunisation rates of 95% or higher
- 2 year olds** – None of the 31 PHN areas had immunisation rates of 95% or higher. **A recent change to the definition of ‘fully immunised’ for 2 year olds has caused a decrease in rates in this age group***
- 5 year olds** – Only two of the 31 PHN areas had immunisation rates of 95% or higher.

The percentages of children fully immunised in each PHN area for 1, 2 and 5 year olds are presented in Figure 3.

Change over time

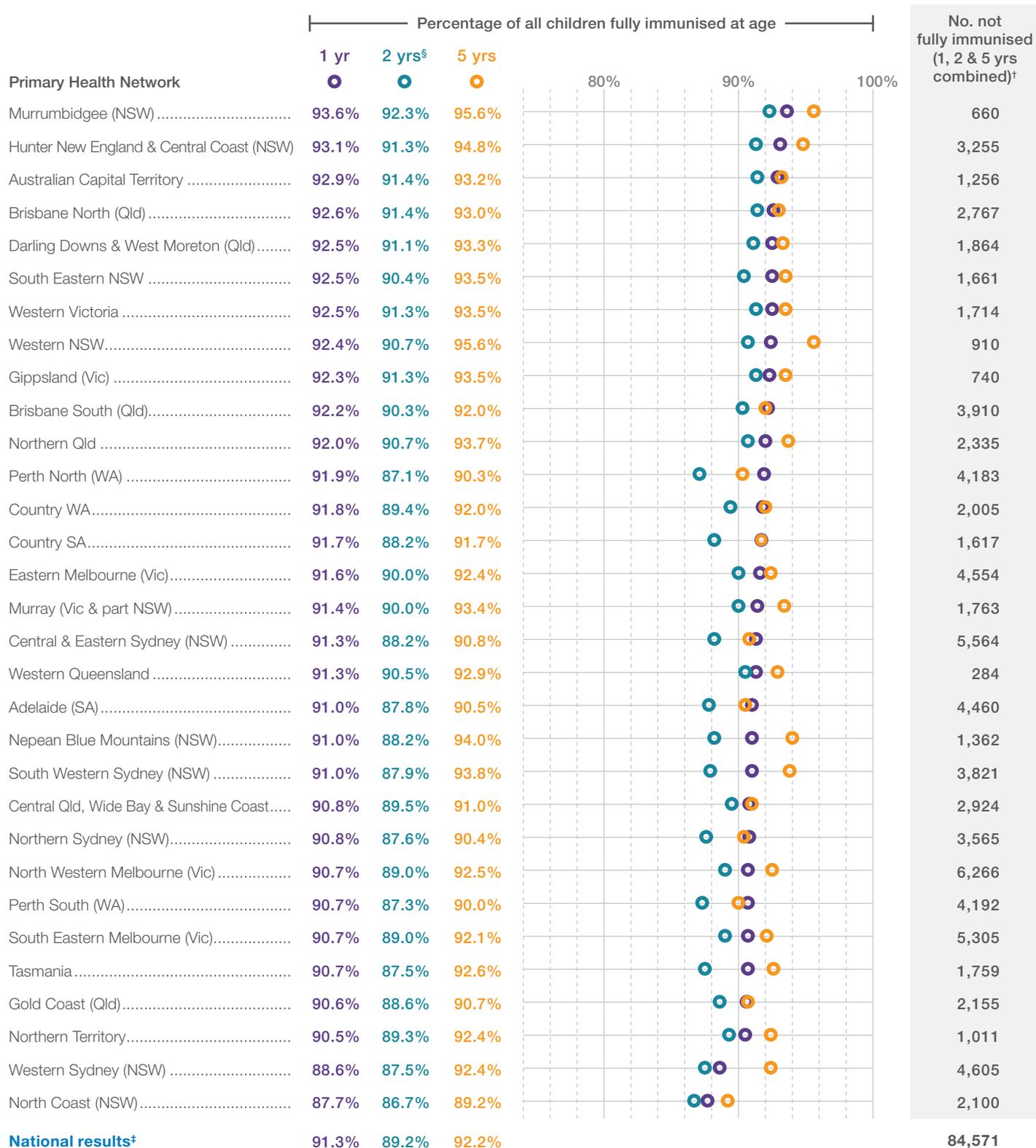
Between 2013–14 and 2014–15, the number of **local areas (SA3s)** nationally in which the percentages of children fully immunised changed **significantly†** were:

	Number of local areas (SA3s) experiencing a change		
	1 YEAR	2 YEARS*	5 YEARS
Significant increase (+)	39	0*	16
Significant decrease (-)	1	194*	6
No significant change	284	129*	300
Total no. local areas†	324	323	322

* An increase in the number of vaccines counted in the definition of ‘fully immunised’ for 2 year olds (Figure 2) has resulted in a decrease in rates in this age group. See page 12 of this report.

† Changes over time were only calculated for local areas (SA3s) which have more than 100 registered children. Changes were considered to be statistically significant with 95% confidence.

Figure 3: Percentages of all children fully immunised* and numbers not fully immunised, by Primary Health Network area, 2014–15



* A child has received the scheduled vaccinations according to age. See Figure 2 or the Technical Note at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications

† Number of all children, aged 1, 2 or 5 years combined, who are not fully immunised.

‡ Components may not add to totals because of rounding.

§ A change in the definition of 'fully immunised' for 2 year olds occurred on 31 Dec 2014 with the inclusion of three additional vaccines. This caused a decrease in the reported immunisation coverage rates which are measured at 2 years of age, see page 12 for further information.

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2014–15, data supplied 10 November 2015.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

In 2014–15, the percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised were highest among 5-year-old children compared to 1 and 2 year olds, across most Primary Health Network (PHN) areas (Figure 4).

In late 2014, the Australian Chief Medical Officer and all state and territory chief health officers agreed to an aspirational target for 95% of children to be fully immunised in line with the Schedule's recommendations relevant for their age.

To calculate local-level information, Statistical Areas Level 4 (SA4s) were used instead of SA3s. SA4s are larger than SA3s – there are 88 SA4s across Australia, as opposed to 333 SA3s. The larger sizes of SA4s are better suited to reporting child immunisation rates in population subsets such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and allow more reliable reporting.

1 year olds

Across PHN areas, immunisation rates for 1-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children ranged from:

Highest – 92.9% in Australian Capital Territory

Lowest – 75.2% in Perth South.

None of the 30 reported* PHN areas had immunisation rates of 95% or higher.

Across 88 local areas (SA4s) – rates ranged from 95.2% in Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven (NSW) to 70.0% in Perth-South East.

2 year olds

Across PHN areas, immunisation rates for 2-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children ranged from:

Highest – 90.4% in South Western Sydney

Lowest – 76.9% in Perth North.

None of the 30 reported* PHN areas had immunisation rates of 95% or higher. A recent change to the definition of 'fully immunised' for 2 year olds has contributed to a decrease in rates in this age group.†

Across 88 local areas (SA4s) – rates ranged from 92.6% in Sydney-Outer South West to 75.6% in Perth-North East.

5 year olds

Across PHN areas, immunisation rates for 5-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children ranged from:

Highest – 96.7% in Western NSW

Lowest – 86.5% in Perth South.

Nine (30%) of the 30 reported* PHN areas had immunisation rates of 95% or higher.

Across 88 local areas (SA4s) – rates ranged from 97.4% in Central Coast (NSW) to 85.5% in Melbourne-West.

Compared to immunisation rates among all children, rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were lower among 1 and 2-year-old children across nearly all PHN areas.

However, immunisation rates for 5-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were higher in 60% of PHNs (18 of 30 reported) than rates for all children (Figures 3 and 4).

Change over time

Between 2013–14 and 2014–15, the number of **local areas (SA4s)** in which the percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised changed **significantly**‡ were:

	Number of local areas (SA4s) experiencing a change		
	1 YEAR	2 YEARS†	5 YEARS
Significant increase (+)	7	0†	4
Significant decrease (-)	0	25†	2
No significant change	42	22†	36
Total no. local areas‡	49	47	42

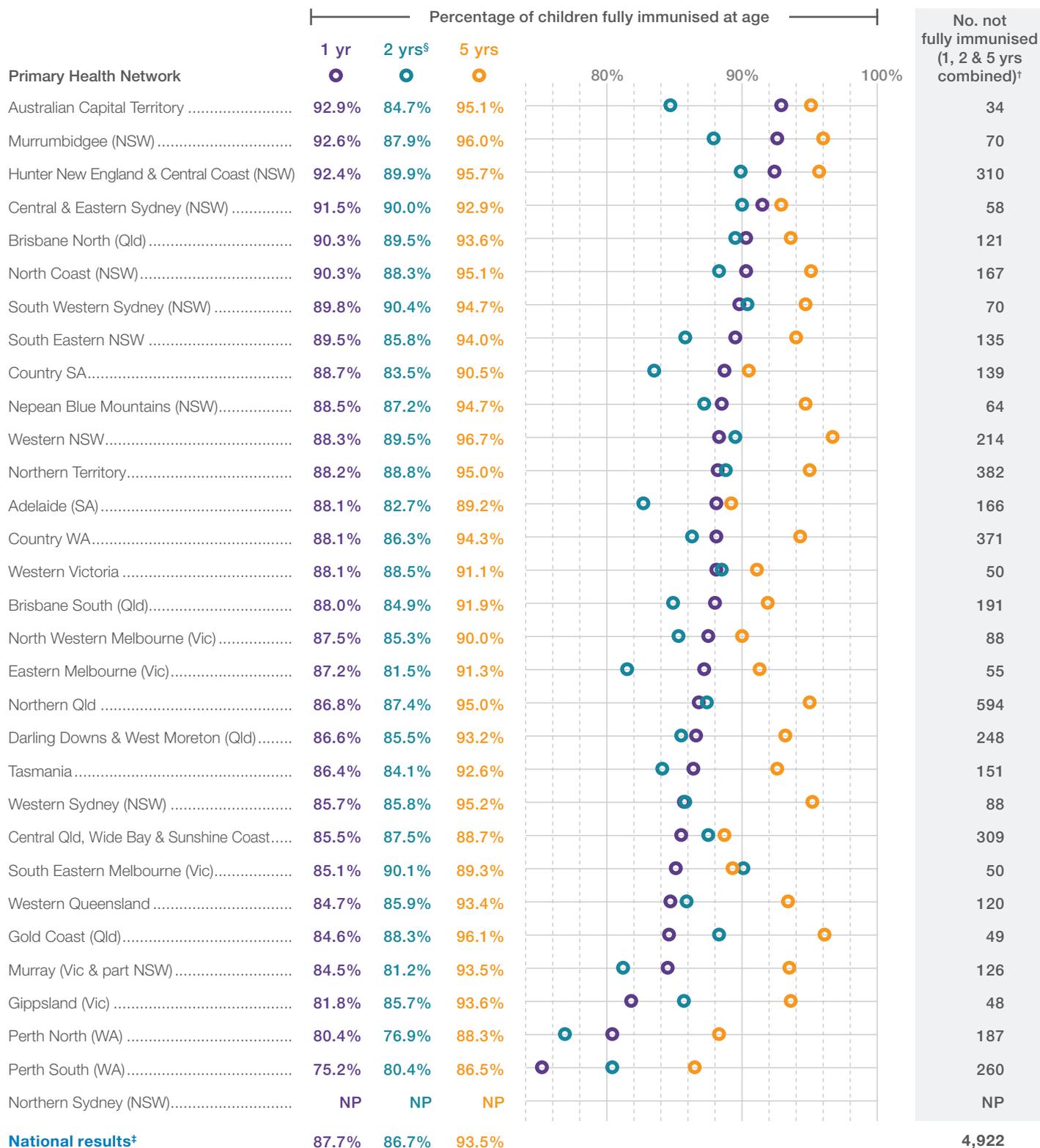
* Geographic areas with 26 or more registered children were included.

† An increase in the number of vaccines counted in the definition of 'fully immunised' for 2 year olds (Figure 2) has resulted in a decrease in rates in this age group. See page 12 of this report.

‡ Changes over time were only calculated for local areas (SA4s) which have more than 100 registered children. Changes were considered to be statistically significant with 95% confidence.

Results, including changes over time, are available at Primary Health Network, ABS Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4), Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) and postcode at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

Figure 4: Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised* and numbers not fully immunised, by Primary Health Network area, 2014–15



* A child has received the scheduled vaccinations according to age. See Figure 2 or the Technical Note at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications

† Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, aged 1, 2 or 5 years, combined.

‡ Components may not add to totals because of rounding.

§ A change in the definition of 'fully immunised' for 2 year olds occurred on 31 Dec 2014 with the inclusion of three additional vaccines. This caused a decrease in the reported immunisation coverage rates which are measured at 2 years of age, see page 12 for further information.

NP Not available for publication as the area has fewer than 26 registered children, or the number of children not fully immunised is between one and five inclusive.

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2014–15, data supplied 10 November 2015.

Explore more online!

Use the latest interactive tool on the MyHealthyCommunities website to explore additional child immunisation rates for:

- **Geographies**
 - 31 Primary Health Networks, more than 300 local areas (SA3s), more than 1,500 postcodes
- **Age groups**
 - 1, 2 and 5-year-old children
- **Years**
 - 2011–12, 2012–13, 2013–14, 2014–15.



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One-year-old children

The following information focuses on immunisation rates for 1-year-old children when many children start to be exposed to high-risk environments such as child care.

Across PHN areas nationally, the percentage of 1 year olds fully immunised ranged from 93.6% in Murrumbidgee (NSW) to 87.7% in North Coast (NSW). Results were as follows:

95% and above	0 (0.0%) of 31 PHN areas
90% to <95%	29 (93.5%) of 31 PHN areas
85% to <90%	2 (6.5%) of 31 PHN areas
<85%	0 (0.0%) of 31 PHN areas.

Across more than 300 local areas (SA3s), the percentage of 1 year olds fully immunised ranged from 96.9% in Snowy Mountains (NSW) to 83.0% in Richmond Valley – Coastal (NSW). Results were as follows:

95% and above	4 (1.2%) of 325* local areas
90% to <95%	244 (75.1%) of 325* local areas
85% to <90%	76 (23.4%) of 325* local areas
<85%	1 (0.3%) of 325* local areas.

Across postcodes, the percentage of 1 year olds fully immunised ranged from 98.2% in postcode 7050 (Kingston, Tasmania) to 73.3% in postcode 2483 (Brunswick Heads and surrounds, North Coast NSW). Results were as follows:

95% and above	207 (13.9%) of 1,493* postcodes
90% to <95%	820 (54.9%) of 1,493* postcodes
85% to <90%	351 (23.5%) of 1,493* postcodes
<85%	115 (7.7%) of 1,493* postcodes.

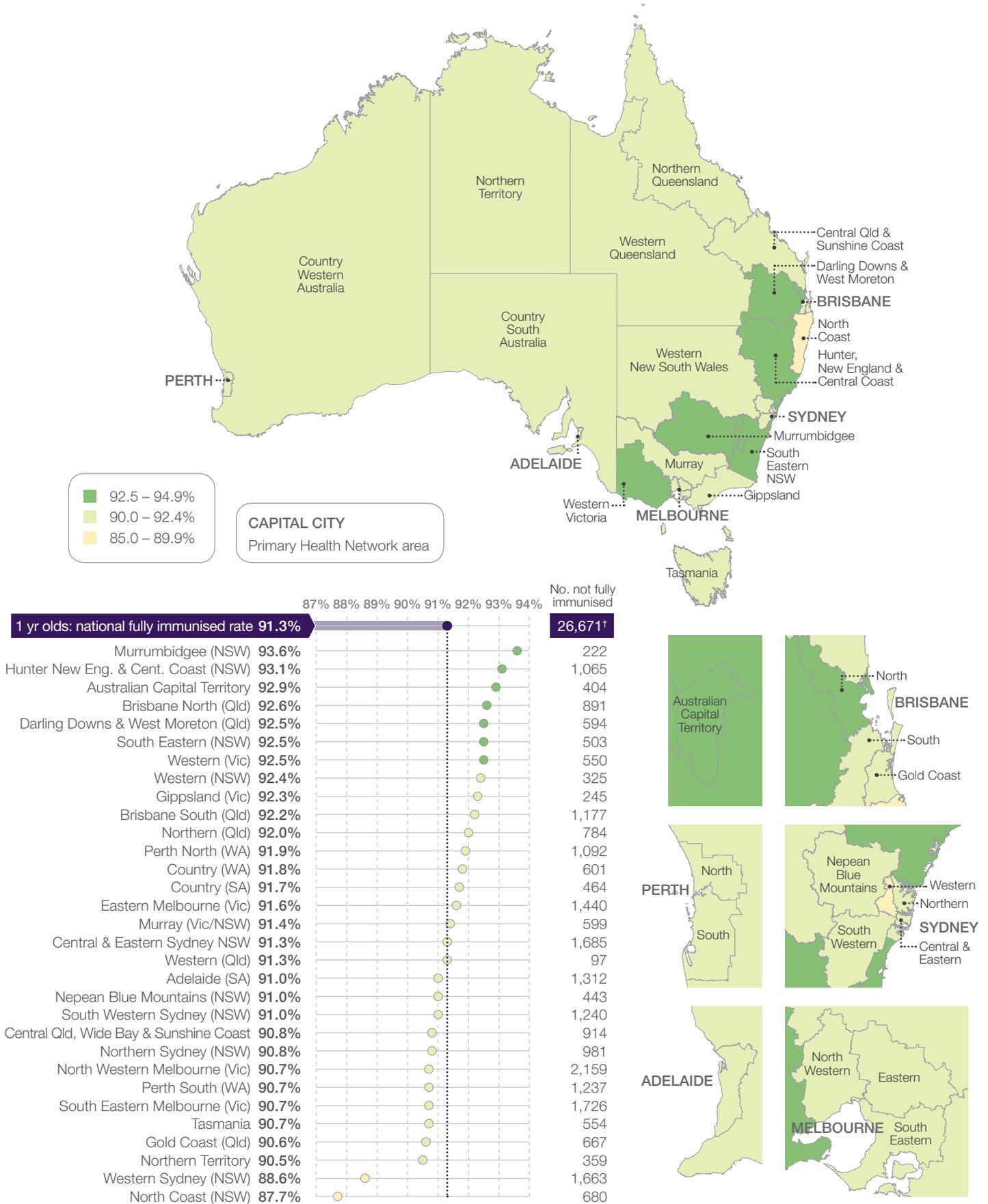
Change over time

Between 2013–14 and 2014–15, there were 40 **local areas (SA3s)** in which the percentages of 1-year-old children fully immunised changed **significantly**[†], with 39 showing a significant increase and one a significant decrease in immunisation rates, ranging from 8.2 percentage points to -3.8 percentage points (**Table 3 and Figure 6**).

* Geographic areas with 26 or more registered children were included.

† Changes over time were only calculated for local areas (SA3s) which have more than 100 registered children. Changes were considered to be statistically significant with 95% confidence.

Figure 5: Percentages of all children aged 1 year fully immunised* by Primary Health Network (PHN) area, 2014–15



* A child has received the scheduled vaccinations according to age. See Figure 2 or the Technical Note at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications

† Components may not add to totals due to rounding.

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2014–15, data supplied 10 November 2015.

Results by local areas (SA3s) for 1 year olds



Table 1: Local areas (SA3s) with the 10 highest and 10 lowest percentages of all children aged 1 year fully immunised*, 2014–15

Local area (SA3)	Primary Health Network area	% Fully immunised
Highest percentages		
Snowy Mountains	South Eastern NSW	96.9
Esperance	Country WA	95.3
Grampians	Western Victoria	95.1
Wagga Wagga	Murrumbidgee (NSW)	95.0
Centenary	Brisbane South	94.8
Limestone Coast	Country SA	94.6
Tamworth - Gunnedah	Hunter New England & Central Coast (NSW)	94.5
Tea Tree Gully	Adelaide	94.4
Gungahlin	Australian Capital Territory	94.4
Albury	Murray / Murrumbidgee (NSW)	94.4
Broken Hill and Far West	Western NSW	94.4
Belconnen	Australian Capital Territory	94.3
Outback - South	Western Queensland	94.3
Shoalhaven	South Eastern NSW	94.2
Hobart - North East	Tasmania	94.2
Wangaratta - Benalla	Murray (Vic)	94.2
Orange	Western NSW	94.2
Gosford	Hunter New England & Central Coast (NSW)	94.2
All other local areas (SA3s) that were rated lower than the local areas listed above and higher than those below are available on www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au		
Lowest percentages		
Central Highlands	Tasmania	87.1
Tablelands (East) - Kuranda	Northern Queensland	87.1
Sorell - Dodges Ferry	Tasmania	87.1
Tweed Valley	North Coast (NSW)	87.1
Noosa	Central Queensland, Wide Bay & Sunshine Coast	86.9
Heathcote - Castlemaine - Kyneton	Murray (Vic)	86.9
Nambour - Pomona	Central Queensland, Wide Bay & Sunshine Coast	86.6
Fremantle	Perth South	86.6
Mount Druitt	Western Sydney	86.2
Sunshine Coast Hinterland	Central Queensland, Wide Bay & Sunshine Coast	86.2
Parramatta	Western Sydney	85.7
Adelaide City	Adelaide	85.6
Auburn	Western Sydney	85.4
Huon - Bruny Island	Tasmania	85.2
Mundaring	Perth North	85.1
Richmond Valley - Coastal	North Coast (NSW)	83.0

* A child has received the scheduled vaccinations according to age. See Figure 2 or the Technical Note at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2014–15, data supplied 10 November 2015.

Results by postcodes for 1 year olds



Table 2: Postcodes with the 10 highest and 10 lowest percentages of all children aged 1 year fully immunised*, 2014–15

Postcode	Suburb/town	Primary Health Network area	% Fully immunised
Highest percentages			
7050	Kingston, Kingston Beach	Tasmania	98.2
5126	Fairview Park, Surrey Downs, Yatala Vale	Adelaide	98.1
2904	Fadden, Gowrie, Macarthur, Monash	Australian Capital Territory	98.0
2571	Picton, Buxton, Balmoral, Couridjah, Wilton and three others	South Western Sydney	97.9
2871	Forbes, Fairholme, Jemalong, Mulyandry, Garema and eight others	Western NSW	97.8
2256	Woy Woy, Pearl Beach, Phegans Bay, Pearl Beach and six others	Hunter New England & Central Coast (NSW)	97.7
5097	Redwood Park, Ridgehaven, St Agnes	Adelaide	97.6
4036	Bald Hills	Brisbane North	97.5
5161	Reynella, Reynella East, Old Reynella	Adelaide	97.4
2298	Georgetown, Waratah, Waratah West	Hunter New England & Central Coast (NSW)	97.3
2262	Budgewoi, Buff Point, San Remo, Blue Haven and six others	Hunter New England & Central Coast (NSW)	97.3
4818	Burdell, Deeragun, Bushland Beach, Saunders Beach and 13 others	Northern Queensland	97.3
6016	Glendalough, Mount Hawthorn	Perth North	97.3
2203	Dulwich Hill	Central & Eastern Sydney	97.3
All other postcodes that were rated lower than the postcodes listed above and higher than those below are available on www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au			
Lowest percentages			
5045	Glenelg, Jetty Road, Glenelg North, Glenelg South and Glenelg East	Adelaide	82.1
6109	Maddington and Orange Grove	Perth South	82.1
2550	Bega, Tathra, Kalaru, Bemboka, Candelo, Cobargo and 48 others	South Eastern NSW	80.9
2484	Murwillumbah, Nunderi, Tyalgum, Uki, Chillingham and 52 others	North Coast (NSW)	80.7
3000	Melbourne CBD	North Western Melbourne	80.4
3444	Kyneton, Tylden, Edgecombe, Pastoria, Redesdale and 16 others	Murray (Vic)	79.6
2000	Sydney CBD, The Rocks, Barangaroo, Darling Harbour and Haymarket	Central & Eastern Sydney	78.1
2481	Byron Bay, Suffolk Park, Ewingsdale, Tyagarah and five others	North Coast (NSW)	78.0
2780	Katoomba, Leura and Medlow Bath	Nepean Blue Mountains	76.8
2150	Parramatta and Harris Park	Western Sydney	75.8
2483	Brunswick Heads, Ocean Shores, South Golden Beach, Burringbar and 10 others	North Coast (NSW)	73.3

* A child has received the scheduled vaccinations according to age. See Figure 2 or the Technical Note at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2014–15, data supplied 10 November 2015.

Change over time for 1 year olds by local area (SA3)



Table 3: Local areas (SA3s) with significant change* in immunisation rates among children aged 1 year

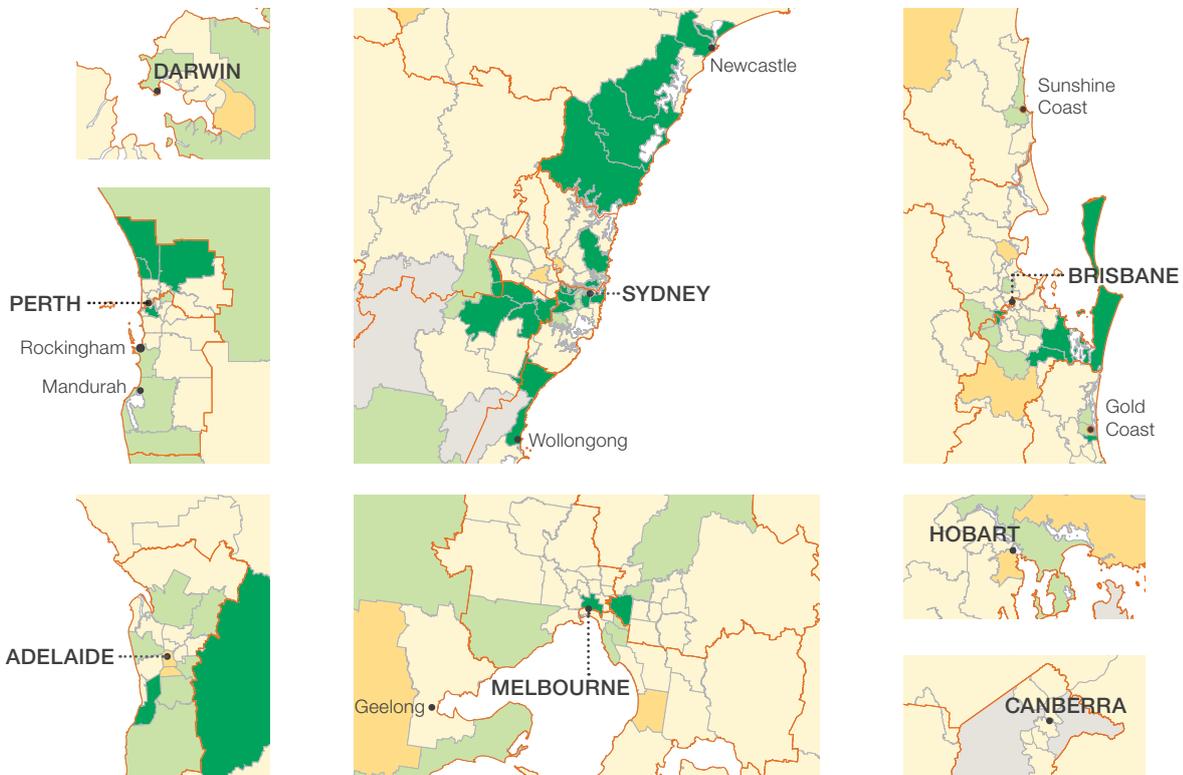
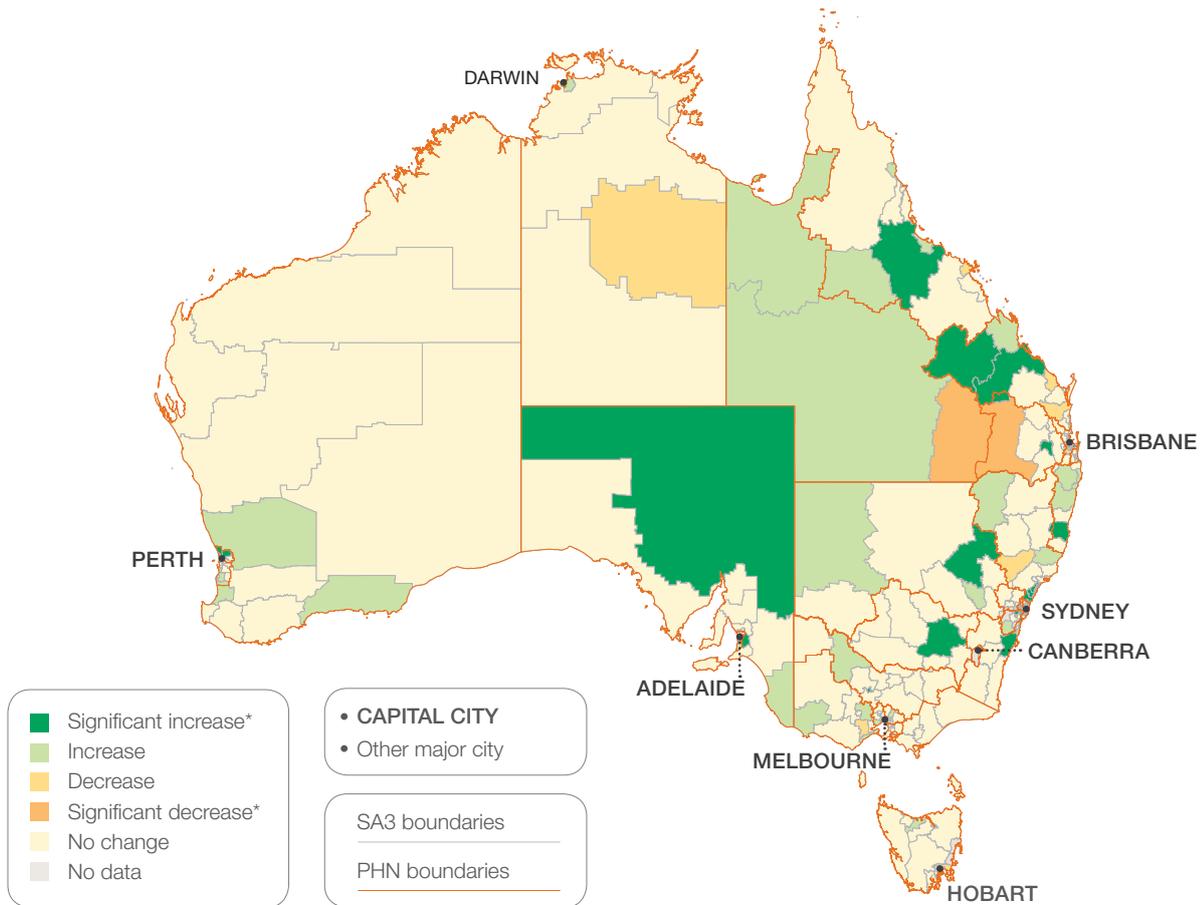
Local area (SA3)	Primary Health Network areas	2013–14		2014–15		Change (Pctg point)
		% fully immunised	No. regist'd children†	% fully immunised	No. regist'd children†	
Outback - North and East	Country SA	84.8%	388	93.0%	388	+8.2
Surfers Paradise	Gold Coast (Qld)	83.8%	309	89.7%	319	+5.9
Eastern Suburbs - North	Central & Eastern Sydney	85.9%	1,826	91.3%	1803	+5.4
Central Highlands (Qld)	Central Queensland, Wide Bay & Sunshine Coast	88.7%	615	93.5%	627	+4.8
Kempsey - Nambucca	North Coast (NSW)	83.2%	523	87.5%	562	+4.3
Sydney Inner City	Central & Eastern Sydney	86.5%	1,985	90.7%	1,908	+4.2
Sherwood - Indooroopilly	Brisbane North/Brisbane South	89.1%	470	93.1%	435	+4.0
Charters Towers - Ayr - Ingham	Northern Queensland	89.1%	542	92.7%	497	+3.6
Canterbury	Central & Eastern Sydney	86.6%	2,285	90.1%	2,184	+3.5
Melbourne City	North Western Melbourne	85.5%	1,007	89.0%	1,008	+3.5
Wagga Wagga	Murrumbidgee (NSW)	91.5%	1,199	95.0%	1,199	+3.5
Strathfield - Burwood - Ashfield	Central & Eastern Sydney	88.7%	2,047	92.2%	1,790	+3.5
Liverpool	South Western Sydney	88.1%	1,905	91.5%	1,924	+3.4
Melville	Perth South	87.7%	1,113	91.1%	1,089	+3.4
Fairfield	South Western Sydney	87.5%	2,717	90.8%	2,473	+3.3
Gladstone - Biloela	Central Queensland, Wide Bay & Sunshine Coast	89.5%	1,207	92.8%	1,234	+3.3
Adelaide Hills	Country SA	86.5%	763	89.7%	818	+3.2
Lake Macquarie - West	Hunter New England & Central Coast (NSW)	88.9%	870	92.1%	914	+3.2
Loganlea - Carbrook	Brisbane South	89.6%	913	92.8%	848	+3.2
Dubbo	Western NSW	87.1%	1,041	90.2%	1,022	+3.1
St Marys	Nepean Blue Mountains (NSW)	87.2%	913	90.1%	959	+2.9
Cleveland - Stradbroke	Brisbane South	89.5%	848	92.3%	858	+2.8
Marion	Adelaide	89.5%	1,081	92.3%	1,032	+2.8
Canada Bay	Central & Eastern Sydney	89.1%	1,211	91.9%	1,226	+2.8
Bankstown	South Western Sydney	87.2%	2,836	89.9%	2,850	+2.7
Gosford	Hunter New England & Central Coast (NSW)	91.5%	2,008	94.2%	1,977	+2.7
North Sydney - Mosman	Northern Sydney	88.1%	1,257	90.7%	1,221	+2.6
Wollongong	South Eastern NSW	90.6%	1,489	93.2%	1,502	+2.6
Joondalup	Perth North	91.0%	1,920	93.6%	1,864	+2.6
Newcastle	Hunter New England & Central Coast (NSW)	90.8%	2,212	93.4%	2,086	+2.6
Wanneroo	Perth North	90.3%	2,871	92.9%	3,025	+2.6
Swan	Perth North	89.6%	1,778	92.1%	1,874	+2.5
Warringah	Northern Sydney	90.2%	2,135	92.7%	2,031	+2.5
Boroondara	Eastern Melbourne	90.7%	1,579	93.1%	1,495	+2.4
Bendigo	Murray (Vic)	90.3%	1,167	92.6%	1,279	+2.3
Bringelly - Green Valley	South Western Sydney	89.0%	1,337	91.3%	1,434	+2.3
Shoalhaven	South Eastern NSW	92.0%	1,028	94.2%	1,049	+2.2
Toowoomba	Darling Downs & West Moreton (Qld)	91.3%	2,053	93.5%	2,014	+2.2
Wyong	Hunter New England & Central Coast (NSW)	92.3%	1,943	93.9%	2,073	+1.6
Darling Downs (West) - Maranoa	Darling Downs & West Moreton/Western Qld	93.9%	728	90.1%	666	-3.8

* The results above are only reported for those local areas (SA3s) where the number of children was greater than 100 and the percentage change was larger than may be expected from natural variation in results from one year to the next. Change was considered to be statistically significant with 95% confidence. Smaller changes may still represent a large number of children, particularly in local areas with large populations. See the Technical Note at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications

† The total number of 1-year-old children registered on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register in a local area (SA3).

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2014–15, data supplied 10 November 2015.

Figure 6: Change in immunisation rates of all children aged 1 year by local area (SA3), 2013–14 to 2014–15



* The results above are only reported for those local areas (SA3s) where the number of children was greater than 100 and the percentage change was larger than may be expected from natural variation in results from one year to the next. Change was considered to be statistically significant with 95% confidence. Smaller changes may still represent a large number of children, particularly in local areas with large populations. See the Technical Note at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au/publications

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2014–15, data supplied 10 November 2015.

About the data

Data were sourced from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) which is administered by the Australian Government Department of Human Services (Medicare). It has been estimated that the ACIR covers 99% of children in Australia. The data reported are for children aged 1, 2 and 5 years for the period from July 2014 to June 2015. Data were supplied on 10 November 2015. All data have been mapped to the area in which children live rather than the areas where services were provided.

For the purposes of reporting the data, 'fully immunised' means a child receives specified scheduled vaccinations due at, or immediately prior, to the age at which the measurement occurs. It is assumed that all previous vaccinations were received. Rotavirus, which is on the current schedule, is excluded for the purposes of measuring 'fully immunised' status.

A change in the definition of 'fully immunised' for 1 year olds occurred from 31 December 2013 when the pneumococcal vaccination was included in the definition of 'fully immunised'. This means that from 1 January 2014, children had to receive an extra vaccine to be considered fully immunised.

A change in the definition of fully immunised for 2 year olds occurred on 31 December 2014 when meningococcal C vaccination (given at 12 months), dose 2 measles, mumps, rubella (MMR), and dose 1 varicella vaccination were included in the definition of 'fully immunised'. The inclusion of these three additional vaccines has caused a decrease in the reported immunisation coverage rates which are measured at 2 years of age. See this report's Technical Note for further information at: www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au



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Acknowledgements

The National Health Performance Authority would like to acknowledge the technical advice and input to this report received from staff at the National Centre for Immunisation Research & Surveillance, the Immunisation Branch, Office of Health Protection, Department of Health and the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register, Department of Human Services.

The Authority also received advice from the Child Immunisation Report Advisory Committee; see this report's Technical Note for a list of members.

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This report is produced for health research, health care and health advocacy purposes. This report is not intended to provide guidance on particular health care choices. You should contact your medical advisors on particular health care choices.

ISSN: 2202-9184

Print ISBN: 978-1-76007-207-0

Online ISBN: 978-1-76007-208-7

Suggested citation: National Health Performance Authority 2016, *Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2014–15 (In Focus)*

Please note that there is the potential for minor revisions of this document.