



National Health Performance Authority

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Healthy Communities:

Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13





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Paper-based publications

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Please check www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au for any amendments.

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Summary

Immunisation programs help protect the community against the spread of potentially serious illness and disease but their success depends on maintaining high rates. Measuring immunisation rates allows us to identify the communities where programs have achieved success and those where improvement is needed.

Although the percentage of children fully immunised in Australia is high, there is still a large number of children who have not had any vaccinations, or have only received some doses. Children who are not fully immunised are spread unevenly across the country. Illnesses like measles and whooping cough can more easily spread in areas of low coverage.

This is the second report from the National Health Performance Authority (the Authority) on childhood immunisation rates in Australia. The percentages of children fully immunised are measured at three different ages: 1 year, 2 years and 5 years.

‘Fully immunised’ is a term that is defined by legislation and means that a child has received specified scheduled vaccinations according to their age (**Figure 1, page 2**). The National Immunisation Program Schedule lists these vaccinations and can be found at www.immunise.health.gov.au

Data in this report are presented for all Australian children at three geographic levels: Medicare Local catchment, Australian Bureau of Statistics Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) and postcode.

Data for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are provided at Medicare Local catchment level. Where possible, data are provided at SA3 level.

The report shows data for child immunisation for the period July 2012 to June 2013, and compares results with the previous 12-month period.

For the first time, the report provides data on the number of children in each Medicare Local catchment who have a parent recorded as a conscientious objector.

New also to this report is information about uptake of a vaccine designed to protect against human papillomavirus (HPV) which causes cervical cancer and some other diseases.

Key findings

The report is divided into four sections:

- The variation across local areas in the **percentages** of all children aged 1, 2 and 5 years fully immunised and the **numbers** not fully immunised
- The variation across local areas in the **percentages** of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised and the **numbers** not fully immunised
- **Changes over time** in immunisation rates from 2011–12 to 2012–13
- **HPV vaccination rates** for girls turning 15 in 2012.

Local level reporting

Australia has 61 Medicare Locals and 333 SA3s. An SA3 is a geographic region defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics generally with a population of 30,000–130,000 people. One Medicare Local catchment may contain anywhere from two to 17 SA3s.

Percentages of all children fully immunised

All Australian children should have completed their childhood immunisations in the National Immunisation Program Schedule before they turn 5. The aim is to ensure they have maximum protection appropriate for their age if they come into contact with harmful viruses and bacteria.

Nationally the percentage of children fully immunised is just above 90%. For some illnesses such as measles, it is recommended that 95% of children should be immunised.¹

This report shows many local areas had **less than 90%** of children aged 5 fully immunised:

- Thirteen of 61 Medicare Local catchments
- Just over one-quarter of SA3s
- Almost one-third of reportable postcodes.

The percentage of 5 year olds fully immunised across Medicare Local catchments ranged from:

Highest at 95.4% – Great South Coast (Vic)

Lowest at 86.2% – Eastern Sydney

(Figure 3, page 9).

Across SA3s, the percentage of 5 year olds fully immunised ranged from:

Highest at 96.8% – Tumut-Tumbarumba (NSW)

Lowest at 78.8% – Richmond Valley-Coastal (NSW)

(pages 28 to 31).

Comparing the three age groups, the percentages of all children fully immunised were highest among 2 year olds across most local areas **(Figure 3, page 9 and pages 20 to 31).**

Numbers of all children not fully immunised

Medicare Local catchments vary substantially in population size. In a Medicare Local catchment with a large population, a high **percentage** of children who are fully immunised can conceal a high **number** of children who are not fully immunised.

Nationally there were 75,002 children aged 1, 2 or 5 years not fully immunised in 2012–13. The number of children not fully immunised ranged from 146 children in Far West NSW to 3,594 children in Western Sydney Medicare Local catchment.

There were 35 Medicare Local catchments with more than 1,000 children not fully immunised **(Figure 3, page 9).**

Conscientious objectors

Parents or guardians who register with the Australian Government an objection to their child being immunised are described as conscientious objectors.

Nationally there were 14,869 children aged 1, 2 or 5 years with a conscientious objection recorded in 2012–13. The **number** of children aged 1, 2 and 5 years combined with a conscientious objection recorded ranged from fewer than six in Far West NSW to 761 in North Coast NSW.

In 2012–13 the percentage of children aged 1, 2 or 5 years with a conscientious objection recorded varied across Medicare Local catchments. Among 5 year olds, the **percentage** of children with a conscientious objection recorded ranged from close to 0.0% in Far West NSW to 7.1% in Sunshine Coast (Qld).

Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised

In 13 of the 58 reported Medicare Local catchments, **95% or more** of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were fully immunised in at least one age group, compared with four Medicare Local catchments for all children.

Many local areas had **less than 90%** of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 5 fully immunised:

- Eighteen of 58 reported Medicare Local catchments
- Eight of 34 reported SA3s

The percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised ranged from:

- **1 year of age**
Highest at 91.9% – Hunter (NSW)
Lowest at 68.7% – Central Adelaide & Hills
- **2 years of age**
Highest at 97.0% – Far North Qld
Lowest at 81.6% – Central Adelaide & Hills
- **5 years of age**
Highest at 97.0% – Gippsland (Vic)
Lowest at 80.6% – Central Adelaide & Hills

In 51 of the 58 reported Medicare Local catchments, **less than 90%** of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were fully immunised in at least one age group. Of these, 13 recorded less than 80%, all in the 1-year-old age group. By comparison, no Medicare Local catchment returned results below 80% for all children (**Figure 4, page 13**).

The gap between the percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised and all children was greatest among the 1-year-old age group in most Medicare Local catchments. The gap in percentages between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and all children narrowed in many Medicare Local catchments when the rates for the 2-year-old age group were compared (**Figure 3, page 9 and Figure 4, page 13**).

Numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children not fully immunised

The five Medicare Local catchments with the greatest number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children not fully immunised aged 1, 2 and 5 years combined were Northern Territory (272), Far North Qld (263), Townsville-Mackay (Qld) (235), North Coast NSW (198) and Western NSW (192).

Changes in child immunisation rates from 2011–12 to 2012–13

The Authority's previous report on child immunisation identified 23 Medicare Local catchments where **less than 90%** of children aged 5 years were fully immunised. In 2012–13, this had dropped to 13 Medicare Local catchments.

Across Medicare Local catchments changes in the percentages of children fully immunised from 2011–12 to 2012–13 were greatest among 5-year-old children.

Across almost all Medicare Local catchments, there were improvements in the percentages of 5-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children between 2011–12 and 2012–13. Of the 55 Medicare Local catchments reported for both years, the number with more than 90% of children fully immunised increased from 17 to 38 Medicare Local catchments across the two years.

Changes over time since the release of the first Authority report on child immunisation rates

The release of the Authority's first report on child immunisation rates in April 2013 generated extensive media coverage in support of high immunisation rates that led to considerable community interest. Data presented in this report were collected before the release of the first report. To find out if there were any shifts in immunisation rates following the release of the report in April 2013, the Authority compared rates in 2012–13 (the data in this report) with rates in the subsequent six-month period (1 April to 30 September 2013). Some small changes were seen in areas of lower rates among 1 and 2 year olds.

Percentages of girls fully immunised against HPV

The percentage of girls turning 15 years in 2012 who were fully immunised against HPV ranged across Medicare Local catchments from 92% in Great South Coast (Vic) to 59% in Country North SA and Eastern Sydney (**pages 54 to 55**).

Next steps

The National Immunisation Program Schedule has been expanded since the data in this report were collected. To ensure fair comparisons can continue to be made, for a limited time the Authority will report data using the definition of fully immunised applied in this report but also include data on the revised definition of fully immunised, which will include essential vaccines added to the definition.

The Authority is aware of issues with measuring percentages of children fully immunised in some urban areas, such as population mobility and

What is the immunisation rate for my postcode?

The National Health Performance Authority has released 2012–13 data on immunisation rates for approximately 1,500 of 3,000 postcodes, covering 96% of all children aged 1, 2 and 5 years registered on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register, and included in this report.

For information about postcodes, see **Table 4, page 35** or go to **www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au**

large immigrant populations. These factors may make tracking childhood immunisation rates more difficult.

A better understanding is also needed of the level of identification of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children in national immunisation data, and the impact for reporting immunisation rates for these children.

The Authority will consider ways to address these issues in the future.

In July 2012 the Australian Government announced the extension of the HPV vaccination program to boys. Future reports will include information on vaccination rates for adolescent boys as well as girls.

Introduction

About this report

The National Health Performance Authority (the Authority) bases its performance reports on indicators agreed by the Council of Australian Governments. This report focuses on one indicator: Vaccination rates for children.

The report shows variation in child immunisation rates across local areas not seen when reporting at national or state and territory level. It provides the **percentages** fully immunised and the **numbers** not fully immunised for all children, and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children at three different ages: 1 year, 2 years and 5 years (**Figure 2, page 3**).

Information is provided for three levels of geography, including the Medicare Local catchment level. There are 61 Medicare Locals across Australia that are responsible for planning and funding primary health services, including child immunisation. Data are also provided at Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) and postcode level to allow Medicare Locals, health managers and providers to see where targeted efforts are needed. SA3s are used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. There are 333 SA3s covering the whole of Australia. A single Medicare Local catchment may contain as few as two SA3s, or as many as 17. Data are for the period July 2012 to June 2013.

Immunisation programs are important because they help reduce the risk of spread of potentially serious illness and disease in the community. Australian governments and experts endorse achieving high immunisation rates to protect individuals and those not immunised or too young to be immunised.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), measles is a potentially serious and

highly contagious disease (with a single infected person able to infect up to 17–20 other people).² The WHO has advocated an immunisation rate of greater than 93–95% for all districts within a country to ensure measles elimination.¹ The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers whooping cough to be so infectious (with a single infected person able to infect up to 12–15 other people) that it is important everyone gets the recommended vaccine.³

In 2013, the Australian Government released the National Immunisation Strategy for Australia 2013–2018, which notes that although our national coverage of just over 90% meets international goals set by the WHO, many countries report coverage rates around 95%. The Strategy also emphasises the need to ensure high coverage rates at the local level, and observes that for measles the rate should be 95% in order to interrupt disease transmission.⁴

Under the terms of the National Partnership Agreement on Essential Vaccines agreed in 2009, states and territories are expected to maintain or improve their respective immunisation rates.

This report is divided into four sections:

- The variation across local areas in the **percentages** of all children aged 1, 2 and 5 years fully immunised and **numbers** not fully immunised
- The variation across local areas in the **percentages** of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised and **numbers** not fully immunised
- **Changes over time** in immunisation rates from 2011–12 to 2012–13
- **HPV vaccination rates** for girls turning 15 in 2012.

For the first time, the report also provides information at the Medicare Local catchment level on the number of children with a parent or guardian who has registered as a conscientious objector to immunisation.

HPV immunisation rates for girls aged 15 years in 2012

New in this report is information about the percentages of girls who turned 15 years in 2012 who were immunised against the human papillomavirus (HPV).

The human papillomavirus (HPV) is highly contagious. It is estimated that four out of five people will have an HPV infection at some point in their lives. Although infection is often asymptomatic it can cause cervical cancer and other conditions, including genital warts. The immunisation of girls against HPV is a school-based program. Medicare Locals may support the program, with GPs and other immunisation providers delivering vaccinations, including missed doses.

Why information on immunisation matters

Child immunisation programs protect children and the whole community against the spread of illness and potentially serious disease such as measles, polio, tetanus and whooping cough (pertussis).

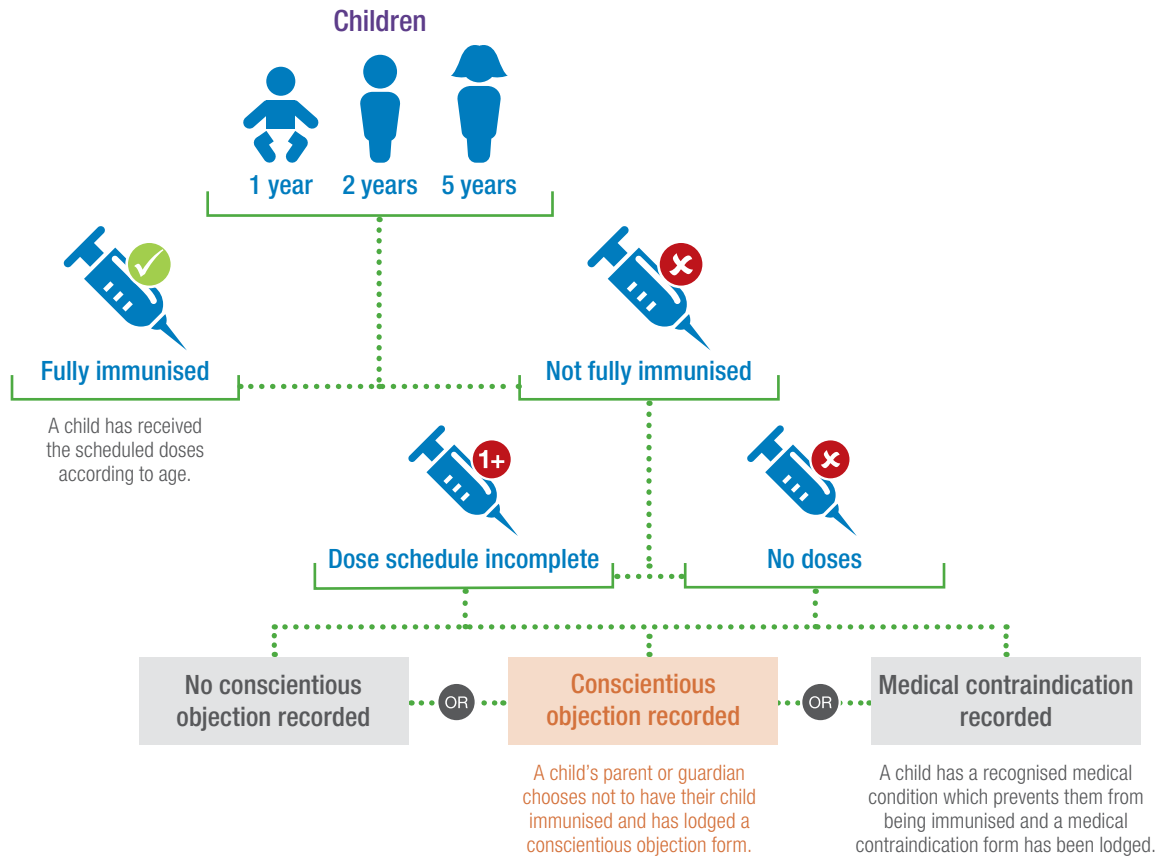
When immunisation rates are high, diseases have less opportunity to spread because there are fewer people who can be infected.

Figure 1: Vaccinations measured for fully immunised status for children aged 1, 2 and 5 years

Age due	Vaccinations	Measured for fully immunised at
2 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis B (hepB) Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (DTPa) <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) Polio (IPV) 	
4 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis B (hepB) Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (DTPa) <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) Polio (IPV) 	
6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis B (hepB) Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (DTPa) <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) Polio (IPV) 	1 year
12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) 	2 years
4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (DTPa) Polio (IPV) Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) 	5 years

Note: For the purposes of reporting the data, fully immunised means a child receives the vaccinations due at or immediately prior to the age at which the measurement occurs. It is assumed that all previous vaccinations were received. Four vaccinations on the full Schedule are excluded for the purposes of measuring fully immunised status: chicken pox (varicella), pneumococcal, meningococcal C and rotavirus.

Figure 2: Classification of all children and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children *fully immunised* or *not fully immunised* in this report



From 1 July 2012, Medicare Locals assumed responsibility for ensuring high immunisation rates are maintained across their catchments.⁵ The report provides information about child immunisation broken down by Medicare Local catchment as well as smaller geographic areas.

Providing information at more local levels of geography within a Medicare Local allows further insight into patterns of health and care. Where possible, information is reported at SA3 level. Information is also available for approximately 1,500 postcodes of the total number of 3,000 postcodes across Australia covering 96% of children aged 1, 2 and 5 years on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register.

About the data

The data used to calculate performance measures in this report were derived 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 close to 99% of children in Australia.⁶

The data for children fully immunised at 1, 2 and 5 years cover the period July 2012 to June 2013.

For a child to be fully immunised at the age of 1, 2 or 5 years, they must have received the vaccinations that are detailed in the National Immunisation Program Schedule for their age.

Fully immunised for age means a child has received the most recent vaccination for each disease, and assumes all previous vaccinations were administered (**Figure 1, page 2**). Four vaccinations on the full Schedule are excluded for the purposes of measuring fully immunised status: chicken pox (varicella), pneumococcal, meningococcal C and rotavirus.

Results for children who were identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in the ACIR are based on Medicare enrolment records. Levels of identification being recorded may vary between local areas.

For more information, see *Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13, Technical Supplement* at **www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au**

The National HPV Vaccination Program Register (HPV Register), which is funded by the Australian Government and operated by Victorian Cytology Service, was used to measure immunisation rates against HPV among girls aged 15 years. These data are for girls who turned 15 years in the period 1 January to 31 December 2012.

Data collected on HPV immunisation rates are from a different information source than for child immunisation. Information from school immunisation forms on whether a person is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander were incompletely recorded in the period covered by this report. Therefore HPV immunisation rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls were not available to report.

All data have been mapped to the Medicare Local catchments in which people live rather than the areas where services were provided. This means that if a child living in one Medicare Local catchment receives immunisations at a school or from a GP located in a different Medicare Local catchment, the child's status will influence the immunisation rates in the catchment where they live.

Australian Childhood Immunisation Register

The Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) is a national register that records immunisations given to children up to the age of 7 years.

The ACIR helps parents and guardians keep track of children's immunisations. It also enables

governments and health managers to monitor immunisation coverage in Australia.

The ACIR provides immunisation history statements that can be used as proof of immunisation status for childcare and school enrolments.

National HPV Vaccination Program Register

The National HPV Vaccination Program Register (HPV Register) is a national register that records immunisations against human papillomavirus (HPV).

The HPV vaccination program is a school-based program that was introduced in 2007 for adolescent girls to protect against cervical cancer and some other diseases. The program has since been extended to adolescent boys. Parents or guardians are required to complete a consent form and

return it to their child's school to participate in the program. The program involves a three-dose schedule, with the second and third doses being delivered two months and six months after the first dose, to provide the best protection against HPV.

While the HPV vaccination program is a school-based program, primary health care providers may be involved in delivering vaccinations including missed doses and providing information.

Key findings: All children

All Australian children should have completed their childhood immunisations in the National Immunisation Program Schedule before they turn 5. The aim is to ensure that by the time children start school, they have maximum protection if they come into contact with harmful viruses and bacteria.

The **percentages** of children fully immunised and the **numbers** of children not fully immunised can be broken down as follows:

- **1 year of age**
91.2% of children fully immunised
26,456 children not fully immunised
- **2 years of age**
92.5% of children fully immunised
22,495 children not fully immunised
- **5 years of age**
91.5% of children fully immunised
26,051 children not fully immunised.

Comparing the three age groups, across most local areas the percentages of children fully immunised were higher at 2 years of age than at 1 year or 5 years, and generally lower at 5 years **(Figure 3, page 9 and pages 20 to 31)**.

Information is shown at three geographic levels. Immunisation rates are provided for the 61 Medicare Local catchments across Australia. The rates have also been provided for more than 300 local areas called Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3) and for approximately 1,500 of 3,000 postcodes where there are sufficient numbers of children in the relevant age group to allow reliable reporting.

These postcodes account for more than 96% of children aged 1, 2 and 5 years on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register.

Percentages of 1 year olds fully immunised

The percentage of 1 year olds fully immunised across Medicare Local catchments ranged from:

Highest at 94.5% – Great South Coast (Vic)

Lowest at 86.1% – North Coast NSW

(Figure 3, page 9).

Across SA3s, the percentage of 1 year olds fully immunised ranged from:

Highest at 96.1% – Whitsunday (Qld)

Lowest at 79.7% – Richmond Valley-Coastal (NSW)

(Figure 20, page 23)

About one-quarter of SA3s recorded immunisation rates for 1 year olds below 90%.

The distribution can be summarised as follows:

- **95% or higher**
Recorded in seven SA3s
- **90% to 94.9%**
Recorded in 237 SA3s
- **85% to 89.9%**
Recorded in 75 SA3s
- **Less than 85%**
Recorded in six SA3s.

About one in three reportable postcodes recorded immunisation rates for 1 year olds below 90%.

The distribution can be summarised as follows:

- **95% or higher**
Recorded in 202 postcodes

- **90% to 94.9%**
Recorded in 794 postcodes
- **85% to 89.9%**
Recorded in 364 postcodes
- **Less than 85%**
Recorded in 126 postcodes.

Percentages of 2 year olds fully immunised

The percentage of 2 year olds fully immunised across Medicare Local catchments ranged from:

Highest at 95.4% – Gippsland (Vic)

Lowest at 89.0% – North Coast NSW

(Figure 3, page 9).

Across SA3s, the percentage of 2 year olds fully immunised ranged from:

Highest at 97.5% – Katherine (NT)

Lowest at 81.6% – Richmond Valley-Coastal (NSW)

(Figure 24, page 27).

About one in 10 SA3s recorded immunisation rates for 2 year olds below 90%. The distribution can be summarised as follows:

- **95% or higher**
Recorded in 41 SA3s
- **90% to 94.9%**
Recorded in 242 SA3s
- **85% to 89.9%**
Recorded in 40 SA3s
- **Less than 85%**
Recorded in two SA3s

One in five reprobable postcodes recorded immunisation rates for 2 year olds below 90%. The distribution can be summarised as follows:

- **95% or higher**
Recorded in 409 postcodes
- **90% to 94.9%**
Recorded in 772 postcodes
- **85% to 89.9%**
Recorded in 240 postcodes
- **Less than 85%**
Recorded in 75 postcodes.

Percentages of 5 year olds fully immunised

The percentage of 5 year olds fully immunised across Medicare Local catchments ranged from:

Highest at 95.4% – Great South Coast (Vic)

Lowest at 86.2% – Eastern Sydney

(Figure 3, page 9).

Across SA3s, the percentage of 5 year olds fully immunised ranged from:

Highest at 96.8% – Tumut-Tumbarumba (NSW)

Lowest at 78.8% – Richmond Valley-Coastal (NSW)

(Figure 28, page 31).

About one-quarter of SA3s recorded immunisation rates for 5 year olds below 90%. The distribution can be summarised as follows:

- **95% or higher**
Recorded in 25 SA3s
- **90% to 94.9%**
Recorded in 213 SA3s

- **85% to 89.9%**
Recorded in 80 SA3s
- **Less than 85%**
Recorded in seven SA3s

Almost one in three reportable postcodes recorded immunisation rates for 5 year olds below 90%. The distribution can be summarised as follows:

- **95% or higher**
Recorded in 293 postcodes
- **90% to 94.9%**
Recorded in 748 postcodes
- **85% to 89.9%**
Recorded in 367 postcodes
- **Less than 85%**
Recorded in 124 postcodes

(Table 4, page 35).

For more information including interactive results by statistical area and postcode see www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

Numbers of children not fully immunised

Medicare Local catchments vary substantially in population size. In a Medicare Local catchment with a large population, a high **percentage** of children who are fully immunised can conceal a high **number** of children who are not fully immunised. There were 75,002 children aged 1, 2 and 5 years nationally who were not fully immunised in 2012–13.

The number of all children not fully immunised for the three age groups combined across Medicare Local catchments ranged from:

Lowest – 146 children in Far West NSW

Highest – 3,594 children in Western Sydney.

There were 35 Medicare Local catchments with more than 1,000 children not fully immunised for the three age groups combined.

The five Medicare Local catchments with the greatest number of children not fully immunised for the three age groups combined were Western Sydney (3,594 children), South Western Sydney (3,387), Greater Metro South Brisbane (3,196), Metro North Brisbane (2,644) and Inner West Sydney (2,175) (Figure 3, page 9).

Conscientious objectors

Parents or guardians who register with the Australian Government an objection to their child being immunised are described as conscientious objectors. There were 14,869 children aged 1, 2 and 5 years nationally with a conscientious objection recorded.

In 2012–13 the range in the percentages of children with a conscientious objection recorded for children aged 5 years was as follows:

Lowest at close to 0.0% – Far West NSW

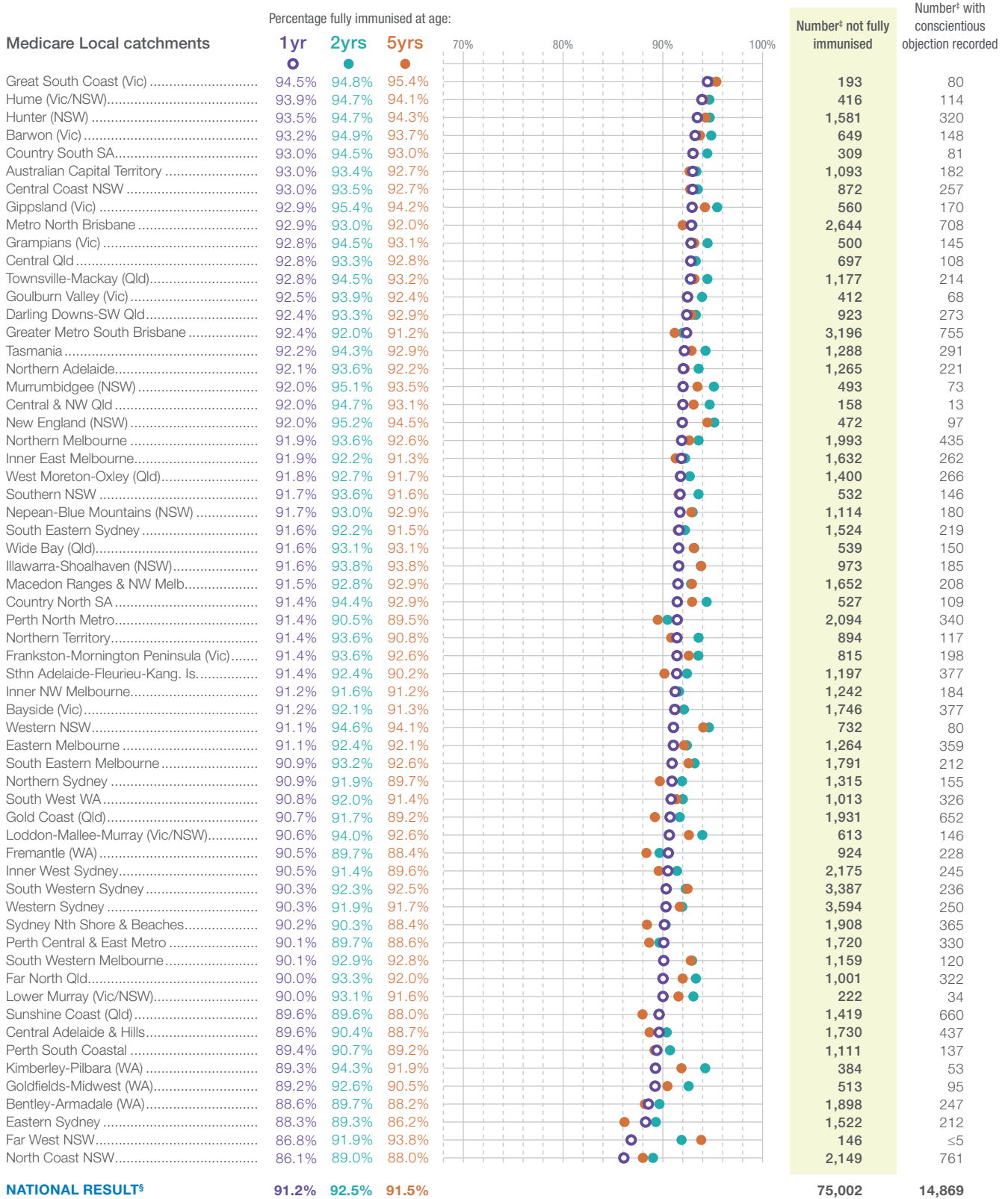
Highest at 7.1% – Sunshine Coast (Qld).

The five Medicare Local catchments with the greatest number of children registered with a conscientious objection in 2012–13 were:

- North Coast NSW – 761
- Greater Metro South Brisbane – 755
- Metro North Brisbane – 708
- Sunshine Coast (Qld) – 660
- Gold Coast (Qld) – 652

(Figure 3, page 9).

Figure 3: Percentages of all children fully immunised*, numbers not fully immunised and numbers with conscientious objection† recorded, by Medicare Local catchment, 2012–13



* A child has received the scheduled vaccinations according to age. See Figure 1, page 2 or this report's Technical Supplement.
 † A child's parent or guardian chooses not to have their child immunised and has lodged a signed conscientious objection form, also signed by a recognised immunisation provider, with the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register that declares immunisation of their child should not take place.
 ‡ Number of all children aged 1, 2 or 5 years combined.
 § Components may not add to totals because of unallocated postcodes.
 Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Key findings: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

The results for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are positive. For each age group, immunisation rates are provided for up to 58 Medicare Local catchments across Australia.

In 13 of the 58 reported Medicare Local catchments, 95% or more of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were fully immunised in at least one age group, compared with four Medicare Local catchments for all children.

In 51 Medicare Local catchments, less than 90% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were fully immunised in at least one age group. Thirteen of these were less than 80%, all among the 1-year-old age group. By comparison, no Medicare Local catchment returned results below 80% for all children (**Figure 4, page 13**).

Comparing the three age groups, the percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised were higher among children at 2 years and 5 years. Percentages were lowest for children aged 1 year across most Medicare Local catchments and SA3s (**Figure 4, page 13 and Table 5, page 44**).

The rates have also been provided for 38 of the 333 local areas called Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3) that have a large enough population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in at least one age group. This represents 48% of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 1, 2 and 5 years on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register.

Percentages of 1 year olds fully immunised

The percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 1 year fully immunised ranged across Medicare Local catchments from:

Highest at 91.9% – Hunter (NSW)

Lowest at 68.7% – Central Adelaide & Hills.

The majority of Medicare Local catchments (49 out of 57 reported) had immunisation rates for 1 year olds below 90%. The distribution can be summarised as follows:

- **95% or higher**
One Medicare Local catchment
- **90% to 94.9%**
Seven Medicare Local catchments
- **85% to 89.9%**
22 Medicare Local catchments
- **Less than 85%**
27 Medicare Local catchments

(**pages 38 to 39**).

In the 34 SA3s reported for this age group, the percentage of 1 year olds fully immunised ranged from:

Highest at 94.7% – East Arnhem (NT)

Lowest at 74.5% – Eyre Peninsula and South West (SA)

(**Figure 5, page 44**).

Percentages of 2 year olds fully immunised

The percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 2 years fully immunised ranged across Medicare Local catchments from:

Highest at 97.0% – Far North Qld

Lowest at 81.6% – Central Adelaide & Hills.

About one-third of the 54 reported Medicare Local catchments had immunisation rates for 2 year olds below 90%. The distribution can be summarised as follows:

- **95% or higher**
Five Medicare Local catchments
- **90% to 94.9%**
32 Medicare Local catchments
- **85% to 89.9%**
13 Medicare Local catchments
- **Less than 85%**
Four Medicare Local catchments

(pages 40 to 41).

In the 34 reported SA3s for this age group, the percentage of 2 year olds fully immunised ranged from:

Highest at 98.1% – Katherine (NT)

Lowest at 82.9% – Richmond Valley-Hinterland (NSW)

(Figure 5, page 44).

Percentages of 5 year olds fully immunised

The percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 5 years fully immunised ranged across Medicare Local catchments from:

Highest at 97.0% – Gippsland (Vic)

Lowest at 80.6% – Central Adelaide & Hills.

About one-third of the 58 reported Medicare Local catchments had immunisation rates for 5 year olds below 90%. The distribution can be summarised as follows:

- **95% or higher**
Nine Medicare Local catchments
- **90% to 94.9%**
31 Medicare Local catchments
- **85% to 89.9%**
13 Medicare Local catchments
- **Less than 85%**
Five Medicare Local catchments

(pages 42 to 43).

In the 34 reported SA3s for this age group, the percentage of 5 year olds fully immunised ranged from:

Highest at 95.8% – East Arnhem (NT), Katherine (NT), Outback North (Qld), Tablelands (East)-Kuranda (Qld) and Tamworth-Gunnedah (NSW)

Lowest at 87.1% – Moree-Narrabri (NSW)

(Figure 5, page 44).

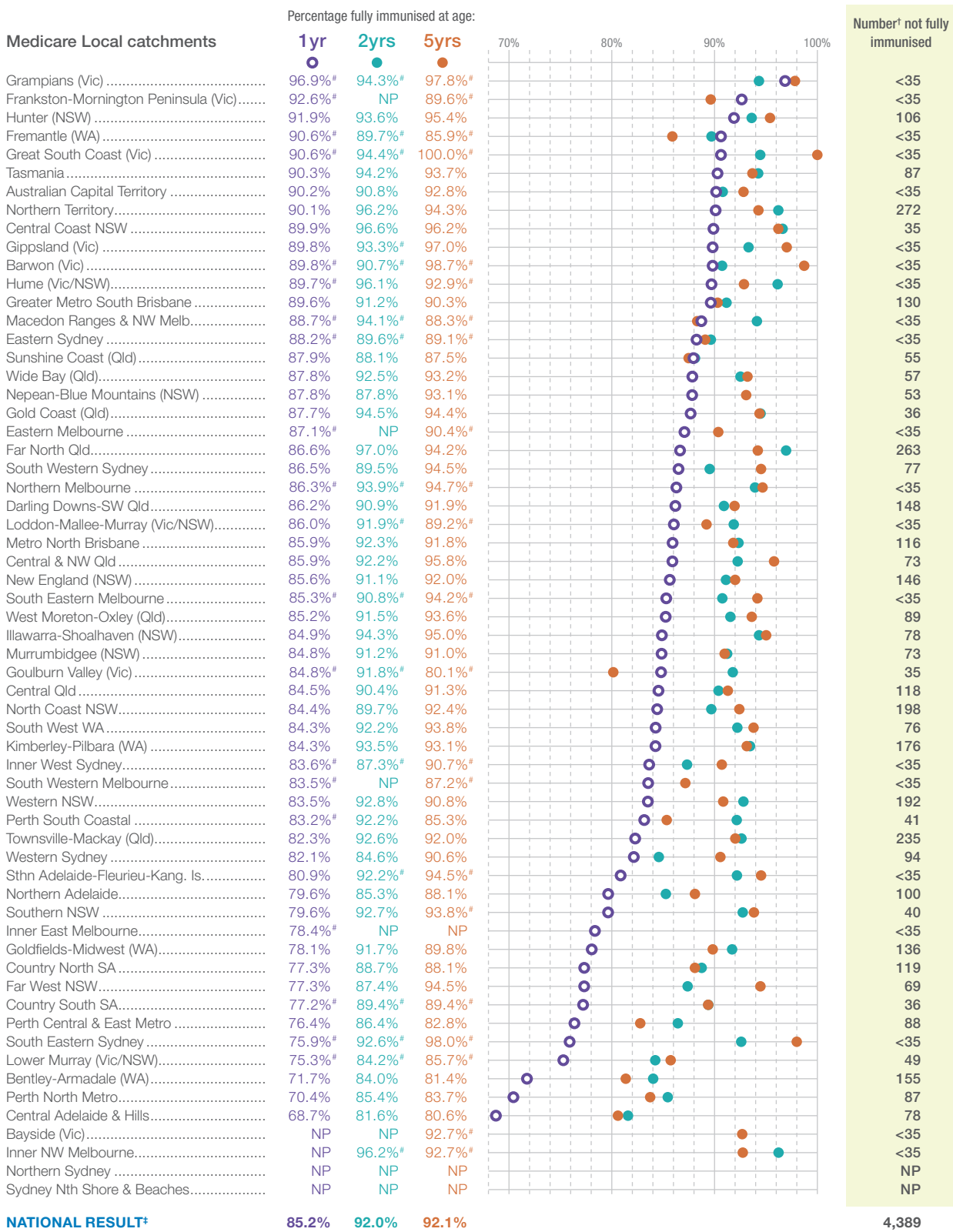
Numbers of children not fully immunised

The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children for the three age groups combined who were not fully immunised was 4,389. Across Medicare Local catchments, the numbers ranged from fewer than six children in Bayside (Vic), Great South Coast (Vic), Northern Sydney and Sydney North Shore and Beaches, to 272 children in the Northern Territory.

The five Medicare Local catchments with the greatest number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children not fully immunised for the three age groups combined were:

- Northern Territory – 272
- Far North Qld – 263
- Townsville-Mackay (Qld) – 235
- North Coast NSW – 198
- Western NSW – 192.

Figure 4: Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised* and numbers not fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2012–13



* A child has received the scheduled vaccinations according to age. See Figure 1, page 2 or this report's Technical Supplement.

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

‡ Components may not add to totals because of unallocated postcodes.

Interpret with caution as the eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, so small data errors can affect results.

NP Not published as fewer than 26 registered children in age group.

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Key findings: Changes in coverage from 2011–12 to 2012–13

The Authority's previous report on childhood immunisation rates identified that nationally there were 76,769 or 8.5% of children aged 1, 2 and 5 years not fully immunised in 2011–12. This report shows a slight decrease to 75,002 or 8.2% of children not fully immunised in 2012–13.

The greatest change in the percentages of all children fully immunised, and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, was seen among children aged 5 years. Nationally the percentage of all children aged 5 years fully immunised increased by 1.5 percentage points between 2011–12 and 2012–13. There was little change among children aged 1 year or 2 years.

Results describing changes in the percentages of children fully immunised between 2011–12 and 2012–13 are only reported for geographic areas where the number of children is greater than 100 and the percentage change is at least 3 percentage points, which indicates a threshold of change that can be considered meaningful.* Smaller changes may still represent a large number of children, particularly in Medicare Local catchments with large populations.

Change in the percentages of 1 year olds fully immunised

Between 2011–12 and 2012–13, there were no Medicare Local catchments where the percentage of 1 year olds fully immunised increased or decreased by 3 percentage points or more (**Figure 5, page 46**).

Across SA3s, the percentage of 1 year olds fully immunised increased by 3 percentage points or more in seven statistical areas and decreased by 3 percentage points or more in 20.

Largest increases (SA3):

- Snowy Mountains (NSW) from 89.9% to 94.6%
- Great Lakes (NSW) from 87.7% to 92.1%
- Granite Belt (Qld) from 89.0% to 93.0%

Largest decreases (SA3):

- Botany (NSW) from 94.3% to 88.4%
- Prospect-Wakerville (SA) from 94.3% to 90.0%
- Lower North (SA) from 95.9% to 92.1%.

Across postcodes, the percentage of 1 year olds fully immunised increased by 3 percentage points or more in 70 postcodes and decreased by 3 percentage points or more in 139 postcodes.

For the postcodes that reported the highest and lowest percentages of children fully immunised in 2011–12 and the changes in 2012–13, see **Table 6, page 52**.

For more information including interactive results by statistical areas and postcodes for 2011–12 and 2012–13 see **www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au**

* For more information see *Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13, Technical Supplement* at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

Change in the percentages of 2 year olds fully immunised

Between 2011–12 and 2012–13, there were no Medicare Local catchments where the percentage of 2 year olds fully immunised increased or decreased by 3 percentage points or more (**Figure 6, page 47**).

Across SA3s, the percentage of 2 year olds fully immunised increased by 3 percentage points or more in seven statistical areas and decreased by 3 percentage points in nine.

Largest increases (SA3):

- Port Douglas-Daintree (Qld) from 88.3% to 93.0%
- Meander Valley-West Tamar (Tas) from 90.9% to 95.5%
- Sorrell-Dodges Ferry (Tas) 90.7% to 94.8%.

Largest decreases (SA3):

- Loddon-Elmore (Vic) from 97.1% to 91.2%
- Kwinana (WA) from 93.2% to 89.1%
- Outback-North and East (SA) from 94.3% to 90.3%.

Across postcodes, the percentage of 2 year olds fully immunised increased by 3 percentage points or more in 83 postcodes and decreased by 3 percentage points or more in 88 postcodes (**Table 6, page 52**).

Change in the percentages of 5 year olds fully immunised

Between 2011–12 and 2012–13, the percentage of 5 year olds fully immunised increased by 3 percentage points or more in nine Medicare Local catchments and decreased by 3 percentage points or more in none (**Figure 7, page 48**).

Across SA3s, the percentage of 5 year olds fully immunised increased by 3 percentage points or more in 69 statistical areas and decreased in four.

Largest increases (SA3):

- Lower Murray (NSW) from 86.2% to 93.9%
- Broken Hill and Far West (NSW) from 89.1% to 95.6%
- Kempsey-Nambucca (NSW) from 84.6% to 91.1%.

Largest decreases (SA3):

- Stonnington-West (Vic) from 89.9% to 85.7%
- Huon-Bruny Island (Tas) from 88.5% to 84.7%
- Port Douglas-Daintree (Qld) from 91.1% to 87.5%.

Across postcodes, the percentage of 5 year olds fully immunised increased by 3 percentage points or more in 230 postcodes and decreased by 3 percentage points or more in 44 postcodes (**Table 6, page 52**).

Change in the percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised

Between 2011–12 and 2012–13, the following changes in the percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children fully immunised were recorded:

- **Aged 1 year (29 Medicare Local catchments reported)**
 - Six increased by 3 percentage points or more
 - Six decreased by 3 percentage points or more**(Figure 8, page 49)**
- **Aged 2 years (34 Medicare Local catchments reported)**
 - Three increased by 3 percentage points or more
 - Two decreased by 3 percentage points or more**(Figure 9, page 50)**
- **Aged 5 years (31 Medicare Local catchments reported)**
 - 23 increased by 3 percentage points or more
 - One decreased by 3 percentage points or more**(Figure 10, page 51).**

Changes over time since the release of the previous Authority report on child immunisation

Many activities contribute to changes in the percentages of children fully immunised. Measuring change over time at the local level is therefore important for monitoring the impact of these activities.

New laws requiring children to be immunised to enrol in childcare, government rebates to parents, state and territory government programs and local action by healthcare professionals all contribute to change. Public reporting of immunisation rates at the local level may also encourage

improvements in the percentages of children fully immunised. The previous report by the Authority on child immunisation rates released in April 2013 generated extensive media coverage and community interest including a pro-vaccination campaign by a major metropolitan newspaper.

The 2012–13 data in this report are for children who were 1, 2 and 5 years between 1 April 2012 and 31 March 2013 which was before the release of the previous report. To find out if there were any shifts in immunisation rates following the release of the report in April 2013, the Authority compared rates in 2012–13 (the data in this report) with rates in the subsequent six-month period (1 April to 30 September 2013). Some small changes were seen in areas of lower rates among 1 and 2 year olds.

For a number of reasons, the Authority decided it was too early to say if there had been any changes in immunisation rates that might have resulted from the publicity around the previous report. One is that it is likely that new activities, such as public reporting by the Authority at the local level, will take time to be reflected in changes in the percentages of children fully immunised, particularly if cohorts of children are followed over time across the three age groups.

Another reason why it is not yet possible to speculate on the impact of last year's report is seasonal patterns in immunisation rates may render a comparison between a 12-month period (1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013) with a six-month period (1 April to 30 September 2013) premature, particularly if rates improve in the months before school entry (October 2013 to February 2014).

The Authority's next report on immunisation rates will provide further insight into the impact of activities that contribute to changes in rates.

Key findings: Girls immunised against HPV

The percentage of girls who turned 15 years in the calendar year 2012 who were fully immunised against human papillomavirus (HPV) was 70% nationally.

While the HPV vaccination program is a school-based program, Medicare Locals may support the program, with GPs and other immunisation providers delivering vaccinations, including missed doses. Providing local level data will assist school-based programs and health system managers to determine where improvement in rates is needed.

Immunisation rates for 15-year-old girls against HPV

There was considerable variation across Medicare Local catchments in the percentages of girls turning 15 in 2012 who were fully immunised against HPV.

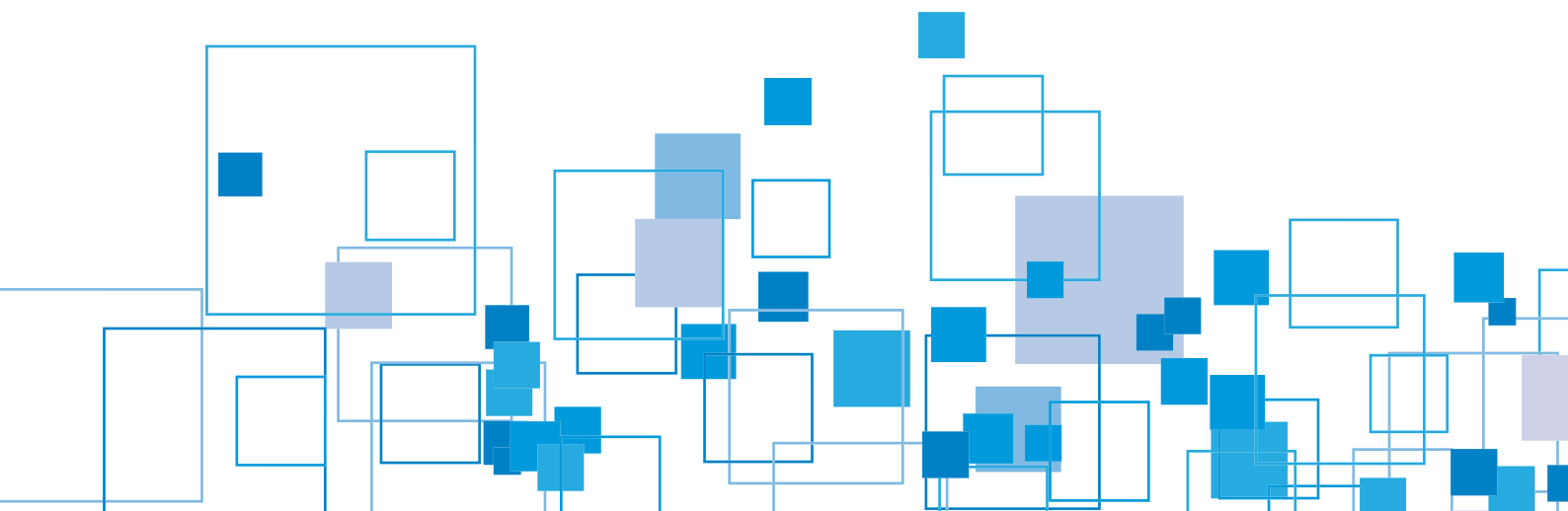
The percentage of girls fully immunised ranged across Medicare Local catchments from:

Highest at 92% – Great South Coast (Vic)

Lowest at 59% – Country North SA and Eastern Sydney.

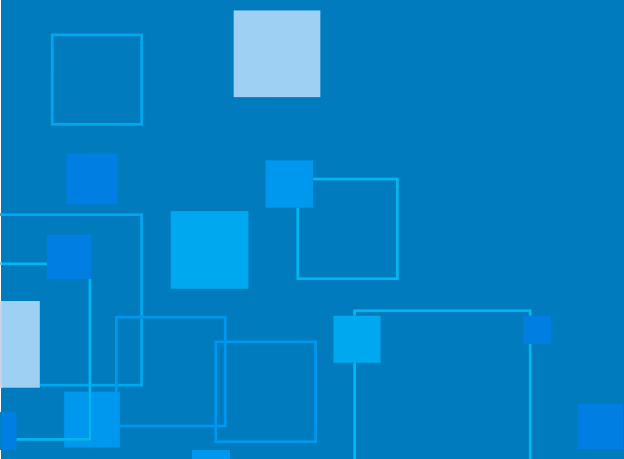
In 2012, there were 23 Medicare Local catchments with less than 70% of girls turning 15 who were fully immunised against HPV. Of these, six were lower than 65% (**pages 54 to 55**).

This measure is unable to be reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status because information from school immunisation forms on whether a person is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander was incompletely recorded in the period covered by this report..



All children

Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13



Children aged 1 year who were fully immunised, by statistical area, 2012–13

Variation *within* Medicare Local catchments

The maps on these pages show the percentages of children aged 1 year who were fully immunised by geographic areas referred to as Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3).¹ The numbers of children not fully immunised for each statistical area are also shown.

There was large variation in the number of children aged 1 year not fully immunised across statistical areas, ranging from fewer than 25 children to around 390.

Findings

In 2012–13, the percentages of children aged 1 year who were fully immunised varied across statistical areas, ranging from 79.7% to 96.1%.

The statistical area with the highest percentage was Whitsunday (Qld).

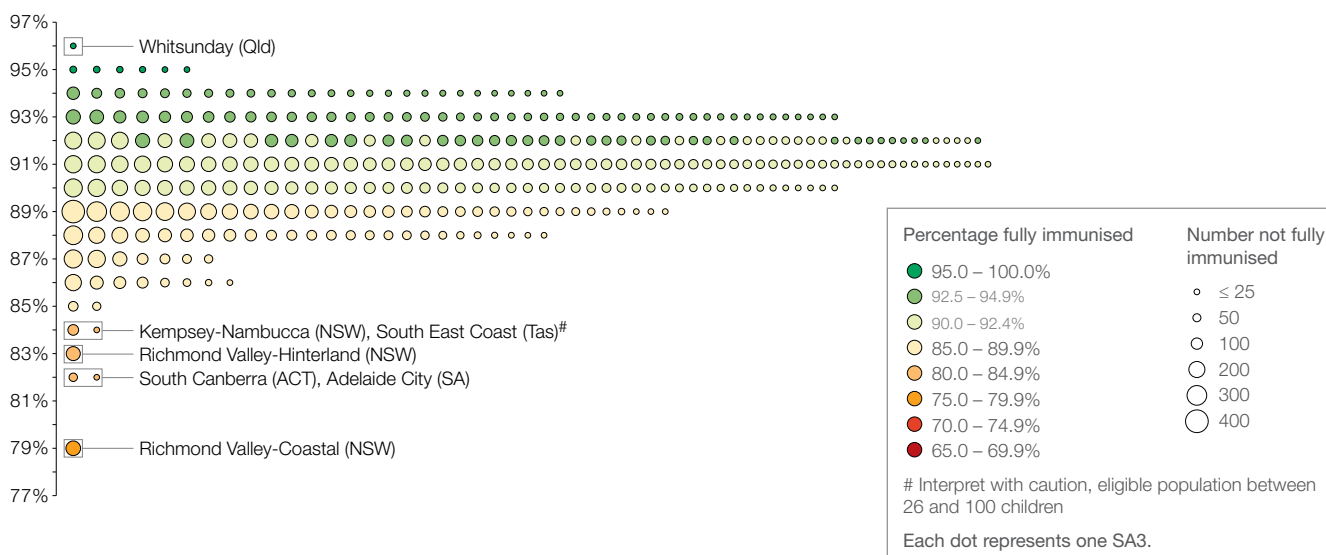
The statistical area with the lowest percentage was Richmond Valley-Coastal (NSW).

The location of the statistical areas with the highest and lowest percentages are shown on the maps.

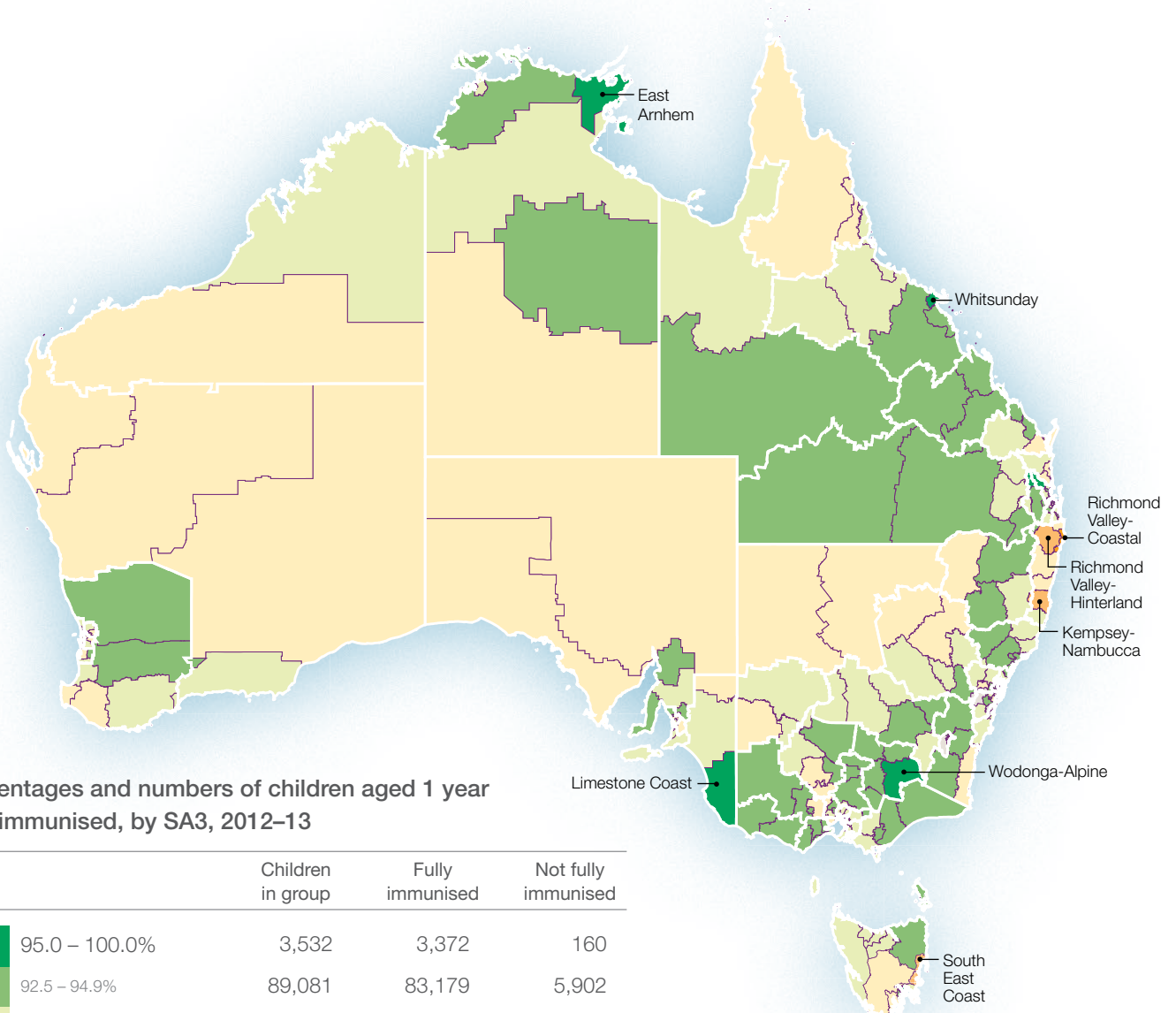
What does fully immunised at 1 year mean?

Fully immunised at 1 year means that a child aged 12 months to less than 15 months received their third vaccination for diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and polio, and either their second or third vaccination (dependent on the type of vaccine used) for hepatitis B and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, all prior to the age of 1 year. It is assumed that all previous vaccinations were received.

Percentages of children aged 1 year who are fully immunised and numbers not fully immunised, by SA3, 2012–13



Percentages of children aged 1 year fully immunised, by SA3, 2012–13



Percentages and numbers of children aged 1 year fully immunised, by SA3, 2012–13

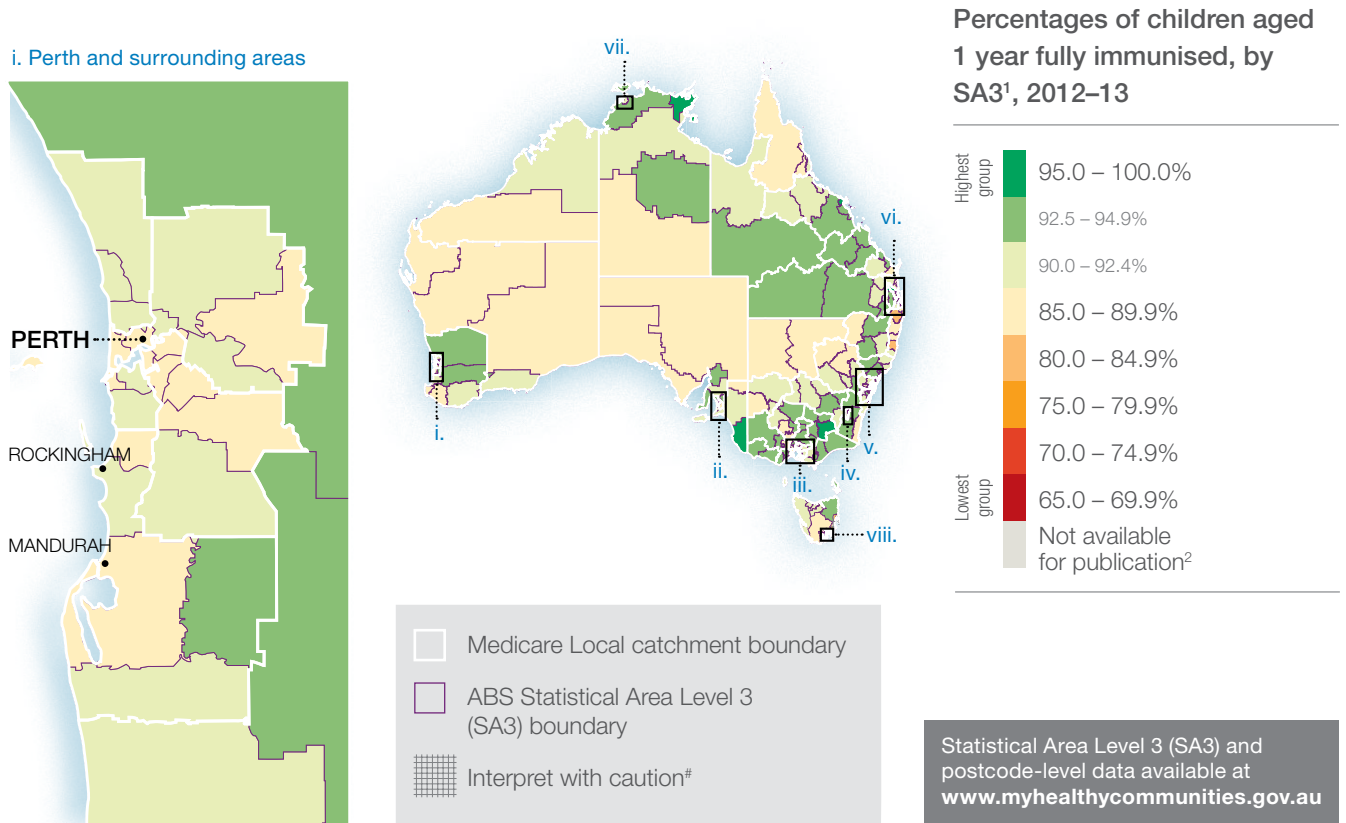
		Children in group	Fully immunised	Not fully immunised
Highest group	95.0 – 100.0%	3,532	3,372	160
	92.5 – 94.9%	89,081	83,179	5,902
	90.0 – 92.4%	133,949	122,278	11,671
	85.0 – 89.9%	70,775	62,762	8,013
	80.0 – 84.9%	2,004	1,674	330
	75.0 – 79.9%	824	657	167
Lowest group	70.0 – 74.9%			
	65.0 – 69.9%			
	Not available for publication ²	2,102	1,889	213
Total		302,267	275,811	26,456

Medicare Local catchment boundary
 ABS Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) boundary
 Interpret with caution[#]

Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
 1. For more information about SA3s see Australian Bureau of Statistics (2010) Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 – Main Structure and Greater Capital Cities Statistical Areas, July 2011. www.abs.gov.au Accessed 24 February 2014.
 2. SA3 data exclude a number of invalid and unallocated postcodes. SA3s with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported. For more information see *Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13, Technical Supplement* at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Children aged 1 year who were fully immunised, by statistical area, 2012–13

Variation *within* Medicare Local catchments



ii. Adelaide and surrounding areas



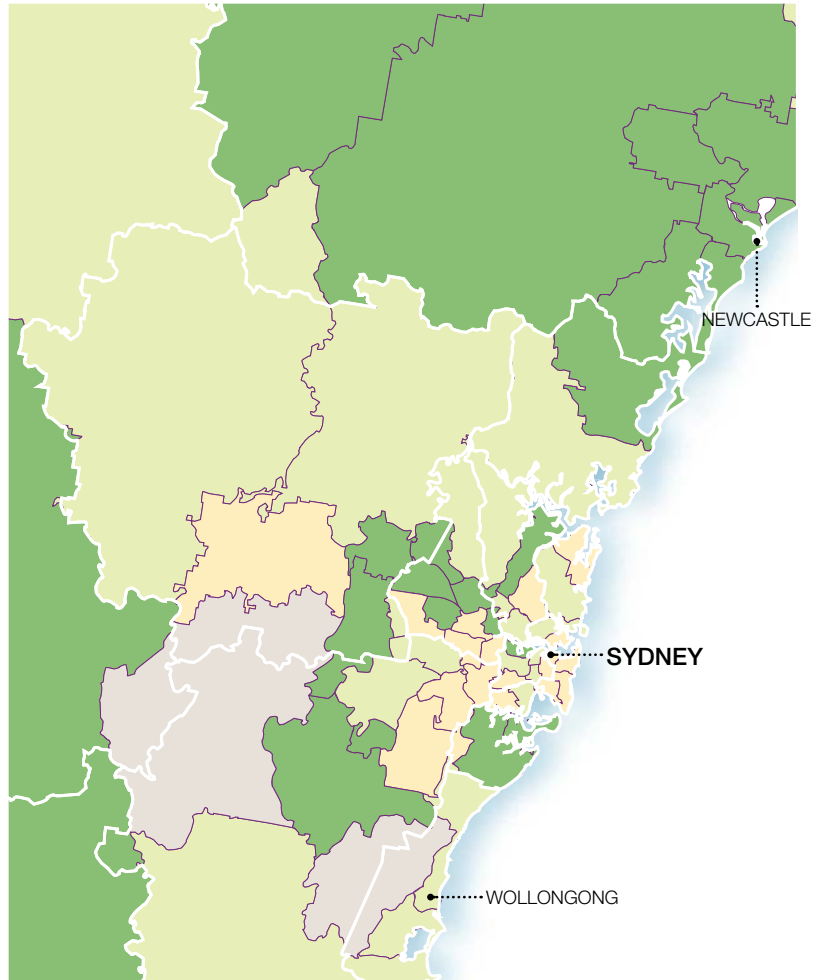
iii. Melbourne and surrounding areas



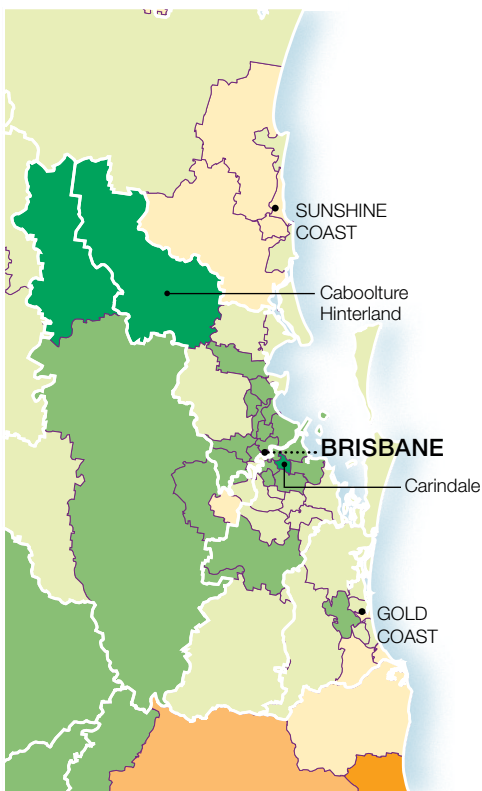
iv. Canberra and surrounding areas



v. Sydney and surrounding areas



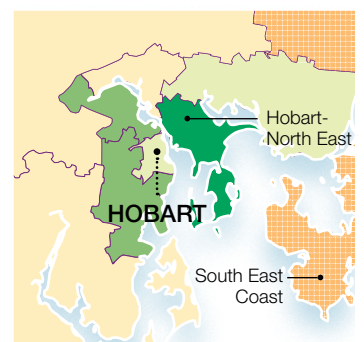
vi. Brisbane and surrounding areas



vii. Darwin and surrounding areas



viii. Hobart and surrounding areas



Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
 1. For more information about SA3s see Australian Bureau of Statistics (2010) Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 – Main Structure and Greater Capital Cities Statistical Areas, July 2011. www.abs.gov.au Accessed 24 February 2014.
 2. SA3 data exclude a number of invalid and unallocated postcodes. SA3s with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported. For more information see *Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13, Technical Supplement* at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Children aged 2 years who were fully immunised, by statistical area, 2012–13

Variation *within* Medicare Local catchments

The maps on these pages show the percentages of children aged 2 years who were fully immunised by geographic areas referred to as Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3).¹ The numbers of children not fully immunised for each statistical area are also shown.

There was large variation in the number of children aged 2 years not fully immunised across statistical areas, ranging from fewer than 25 children to around 280.

Findings

In 2012–13, the percentages of children aged 2 years who were fully immunised varied across statistical areas, ranging from 81.6% to 97.5%.

The statistical area with the highest percentage was Katherine (NT).

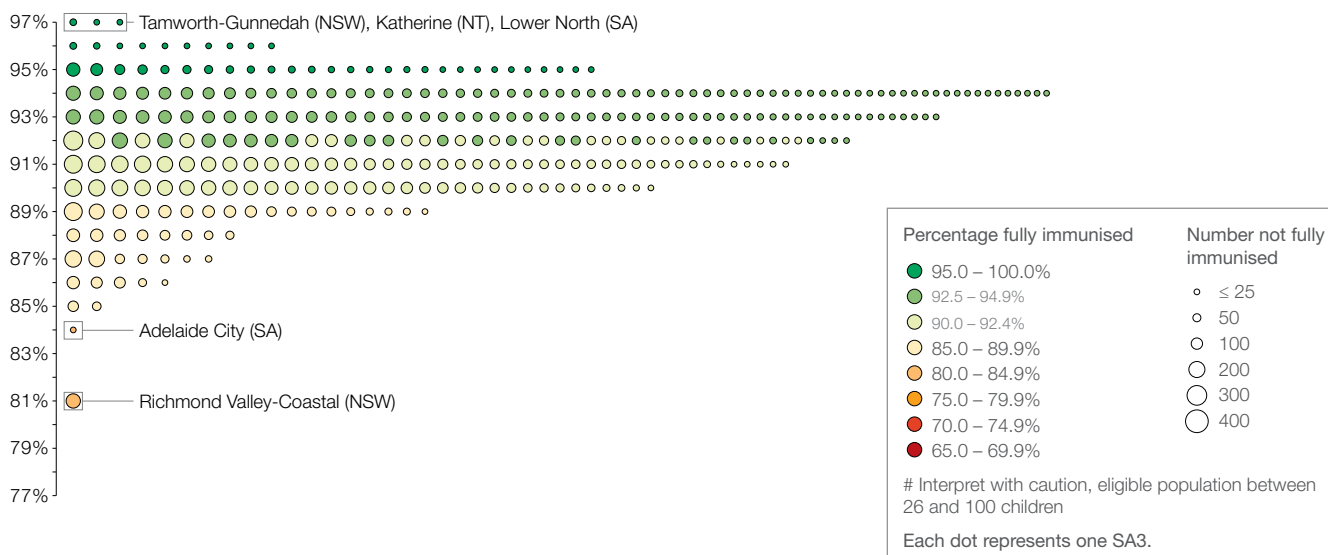
The statistical area with the lowest percentage was Richmond Valley-Coastal (NSW).

The location of the statistical areas with the highest and lowest percentages are shown on the maps.

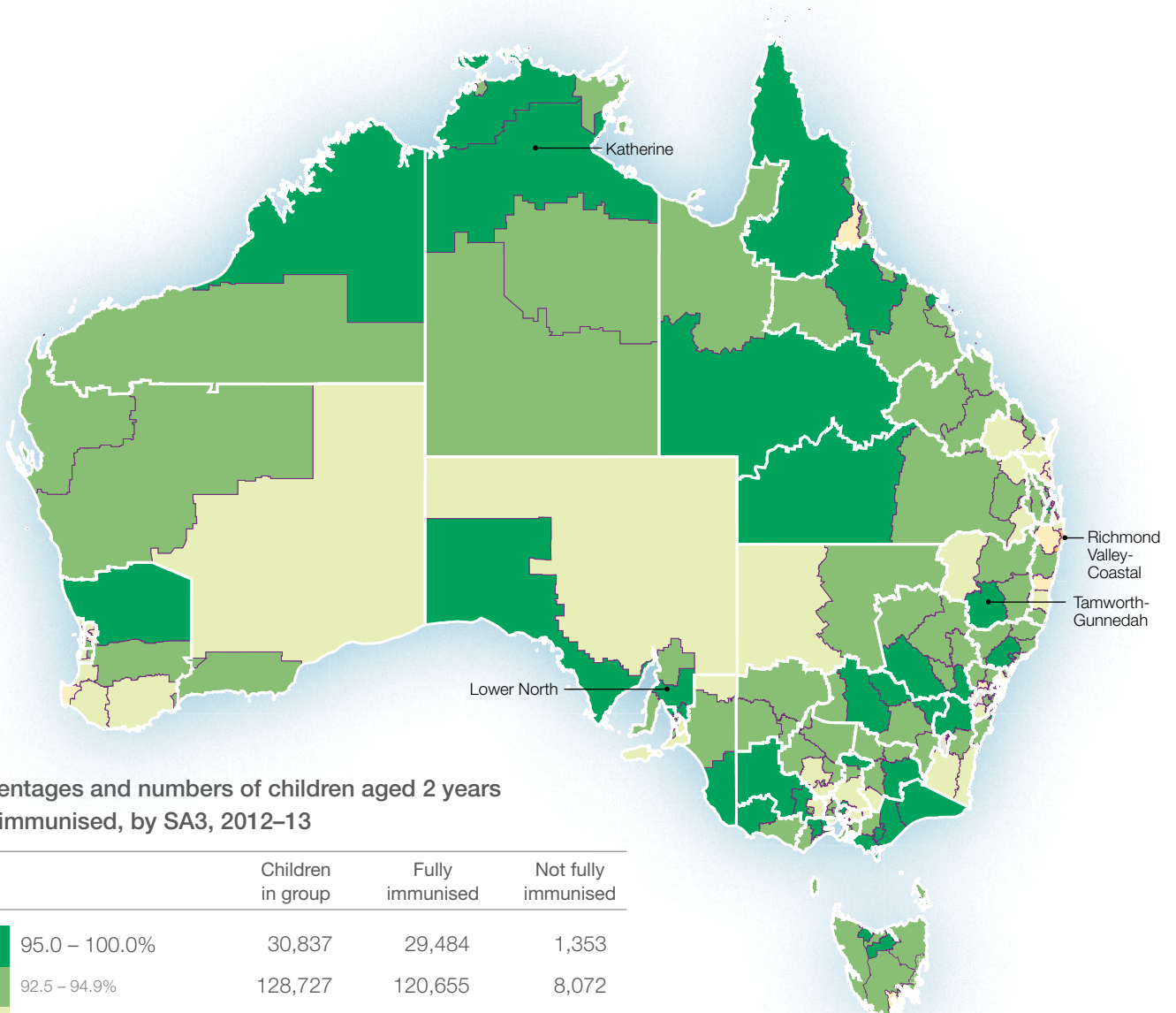
What does fully immunised at 2 years mean?

Fully immunised at 2 years means that a child aged 24 months to less than 27 months received their third or fourth vaccination (dependent on the type of vaccine used) for diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, their third vaccination for polio and hepatitis B, and their first vaccination for measles, mumps and rubella, all prior to the age of 2 years. It is assumed that all previous vaccinations were received.

Percentages of children aged 2 years who are fully immunised and numbers not fully immunised, by SA3, 2012–13



Percentages of children aged 2 years fully immunised, by SA3, 2012–13



Percentages and numbers of children aged 2 years fully immunised, by SA3, 2012–13

		Children in group	Fully immunised	Not fully immunised
Highest group	95.0 – 100.0%	30,837	29,484	1,353
	92.5 – 94.9%	128,727	120,655	8,072
	90.0 – 92.4%	106,393	97,226	9,167
	85.0 – 89.9%	31,087	27,562	3,525
	80.0 – 84.9%	1,000	820	180
	75.0 – 79.9%			
Lowest group	70.0 – 74.9%			
	65.0 – 69.9%			
	Not available for publication ²	2,020	1,822	198
Total		300,064	277,569	22,495

- Medicare Local catchment boundary
- ABS Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) boundary
- Interpret with caution[#]

Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.

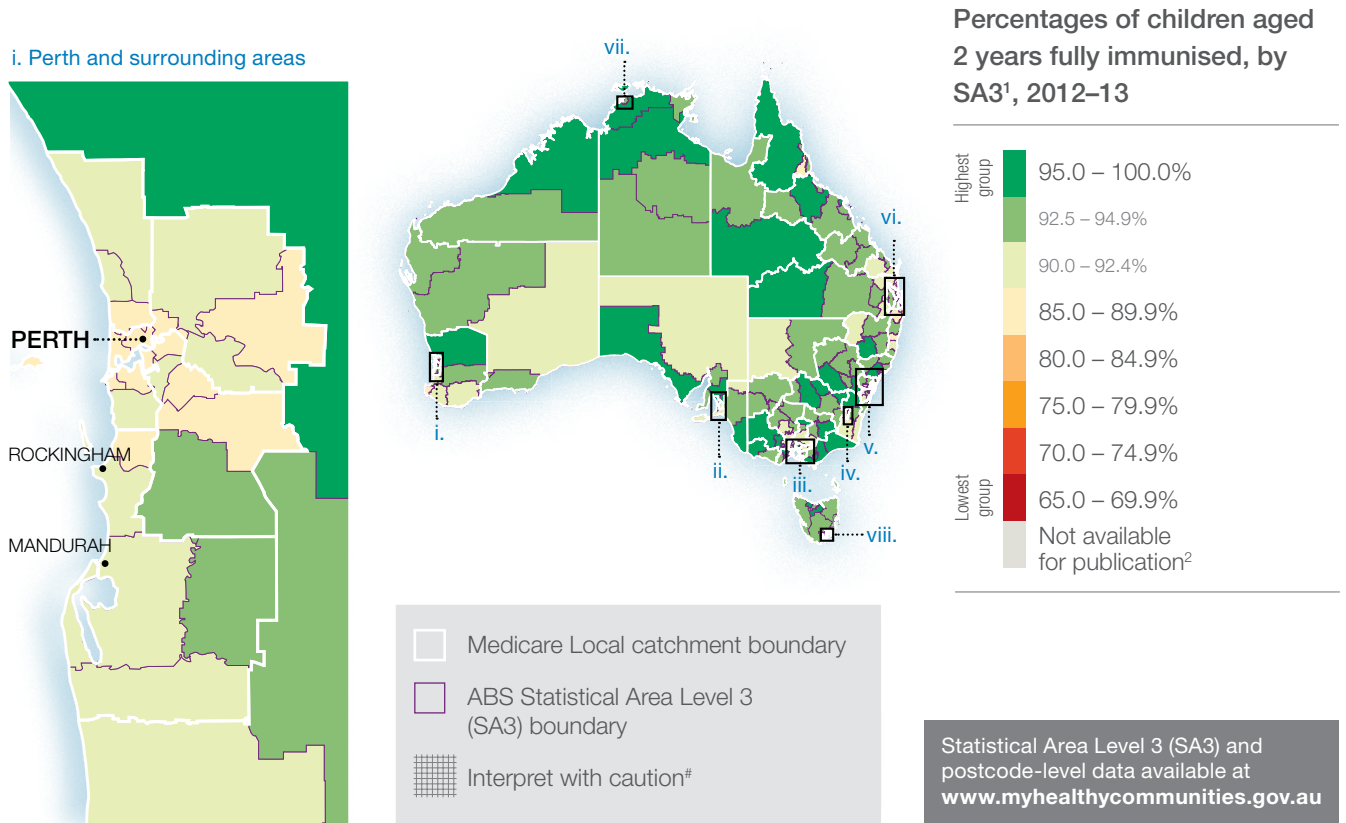
1. For more information about SA3s see Australian Bureau of Statistics (2010) Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 – Main Structure and Greater Capital Cities Statistical Areas, July 2011. www.abs.gov.au Accessed 24 February 2014.

2. SA3 data exclude a number of invalid and unallocated postcodes. SA3s with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported. For more information see *Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13, Technical Supplement* at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

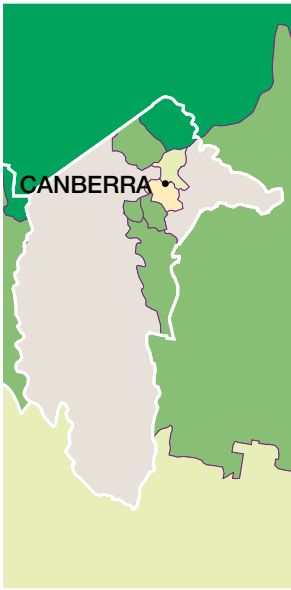
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Children aged 2 years who were fully immunised, by statistical area, 2012–13

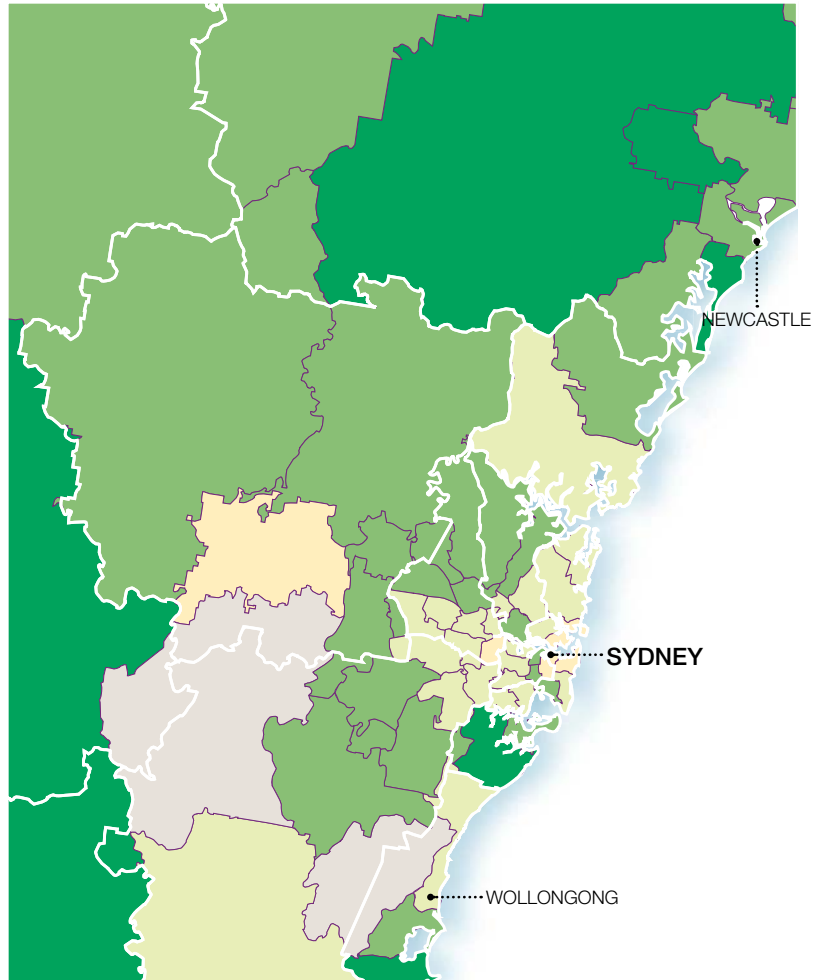
Variation *within* Medicare Local catchments



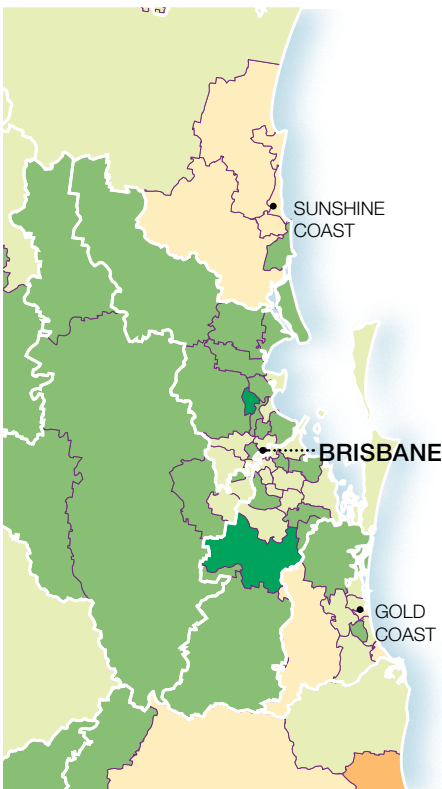
iv. Canberra and surrounding areas



v. Sydney and surrounding areas



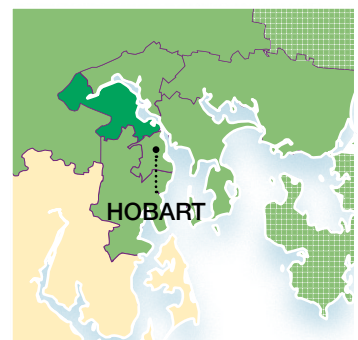
vi. Brisbane and surrounding areas



vii. Darwin and surrounding areas



viii. Hobart and surrounding areas



Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
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Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Children aged 5 years who were fully immunised, by statistical area, 2012–13

Variation *within* Medicare Local catchments

The maps on these pages show the percentages of children aged 5 years who were fully immunised by geographic areas referred to as Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3).¹ The numbers of children not fully immunised for each statistical area are also shown.

There was large variation in the number of children aged 5 years not fully immunised across statistical areas, ranging from fewer than 25 children to around 300.

Findings

In 2012–13, the percentages of children aged 5 years who were fully immunised varied across statistical areas, ranging from 78.8% to 96.8%.

The statistical area with the highest percentage was Tumut-Tumbarumba (NSW).

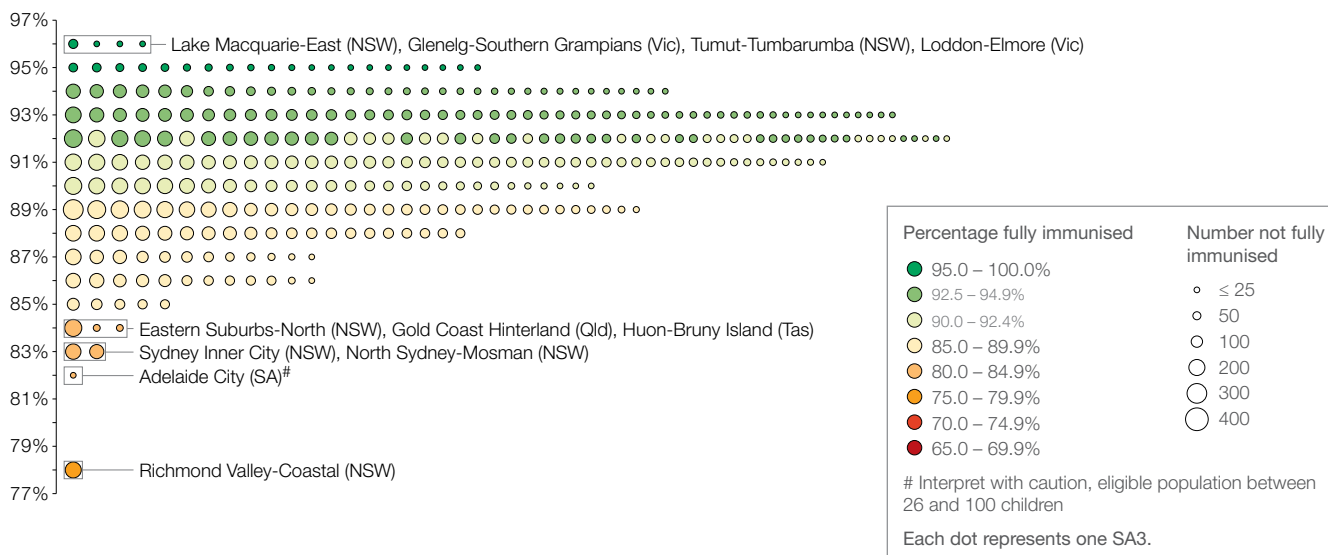
The statistical area with the lowest percentage was Richmond Valley-Coastal (NSW).

The location of the statistical areas with the highest and lowest percentages are shown on the maps.

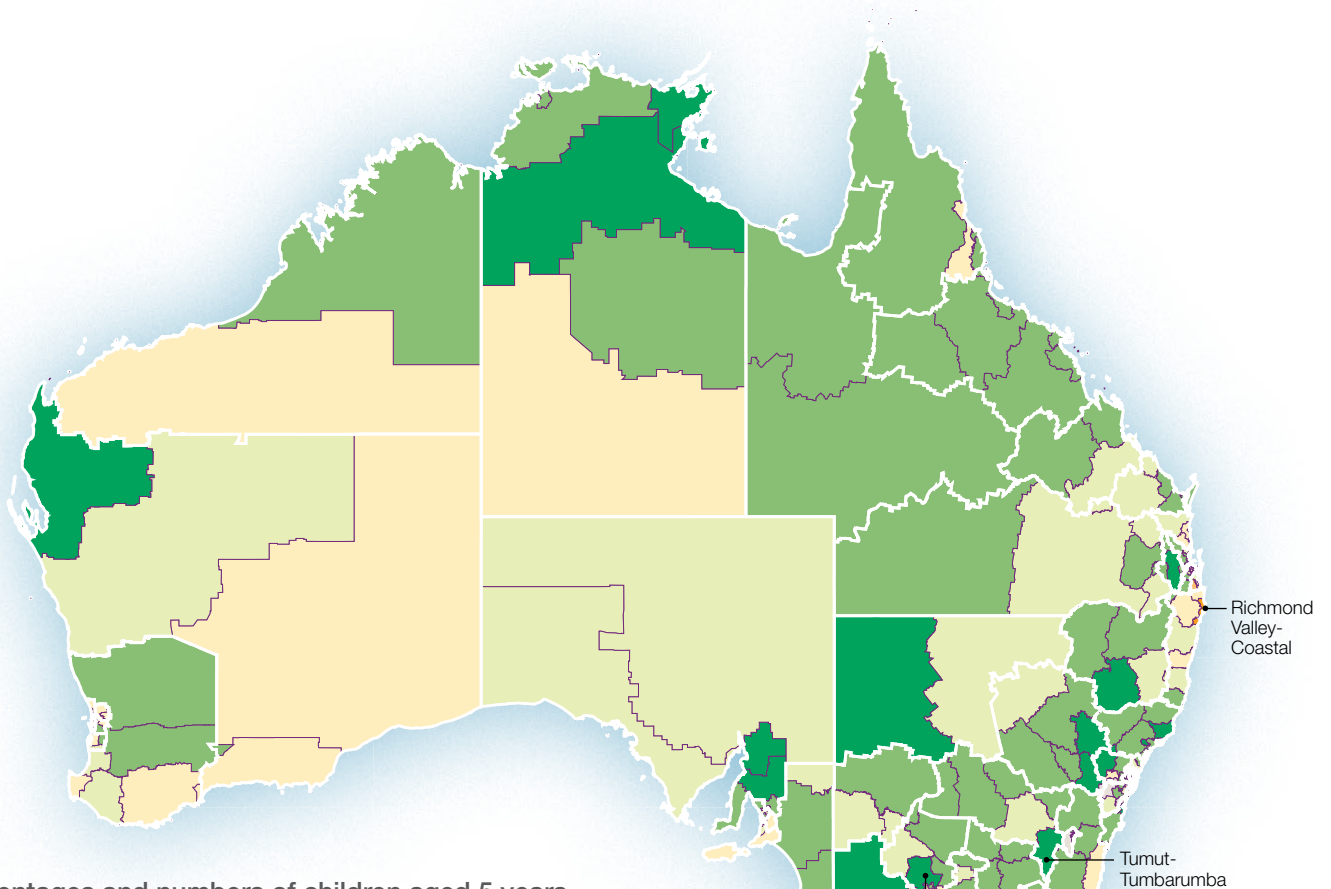
What does fully immunised at 5 years mean?

Fully immunised at 5 years means that a child aged 60 months to less than 63 months received their fourth or fifth vaccination (dependent on the type of vaccine used) for diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, their fourth vaccination for polio, and their second vaccination for measles, mumps and rubella, all prior to the age of 5 years. It is assumed that all previous vaccinations were received.

Percentages of children aged 5 years who are fully immunised and numbers not fully immunised, by SA3, 2012–13



Percentages of children aged 5 years fully immunised, by SA3, 2012–13



Percentages and numbers of children aged 5 years fully immunised, by SA3, 2012–13

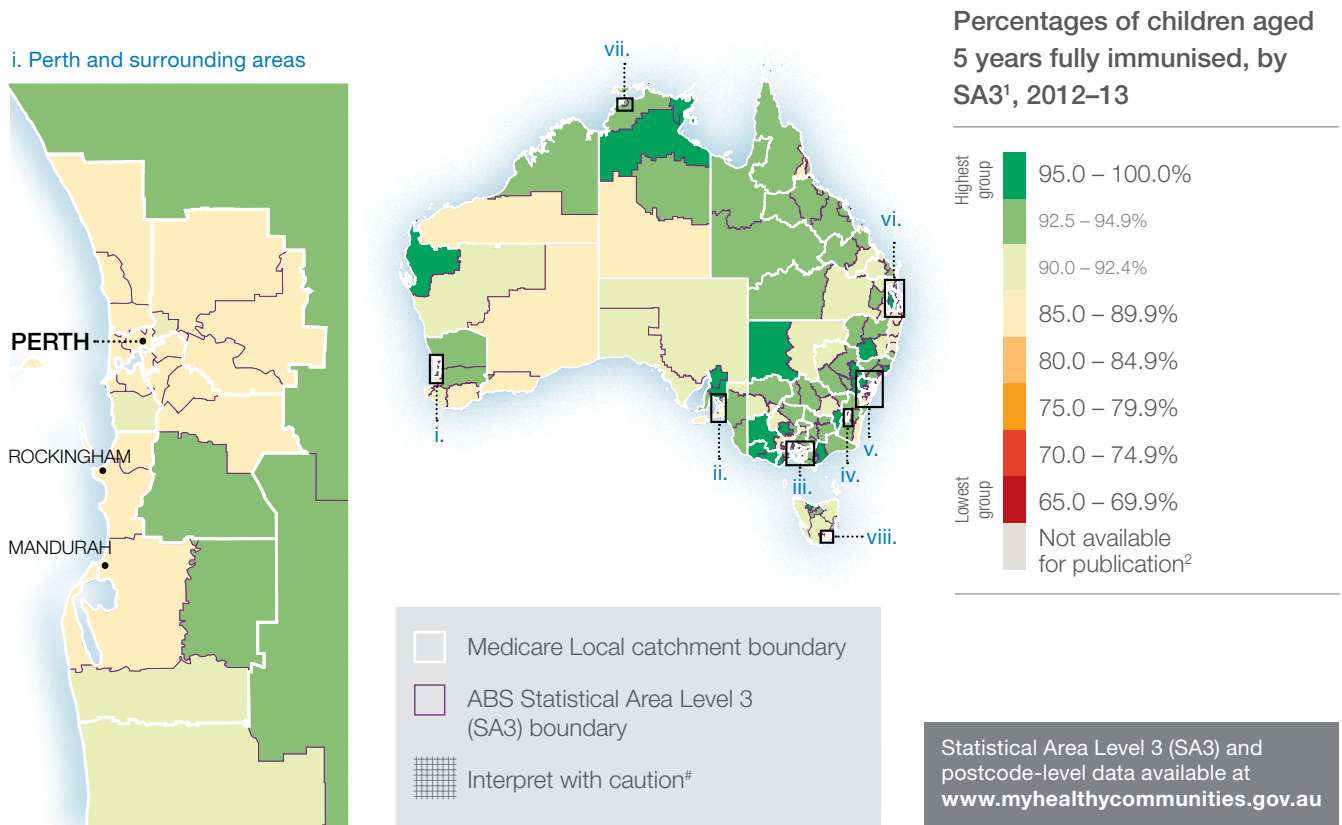
		Children in group	Fully immunised	Not fully immunised
Highest group	95.0 – 100.0%	15,619	14,906	713
	92.5 – 94.9%	118,229	110,440	7,789
	90.0 – 92.4%	94,599	86,380	8,219
	85.0 – 89.9%	71,952	63,719	8,233
	80.0 – 84.9%	4,063	3,406	657
	75.0 – 79.9%	940	740	200
Lowest group	70.0 – 74.9%			
	65.0 – 69.9%			
	Not available for publication ²	2,241	2,001	240
Total		307,643	281,592	26,051

- Medicare Local catchment boundary
- ABS Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) boundary
- Interpret with caution[#]

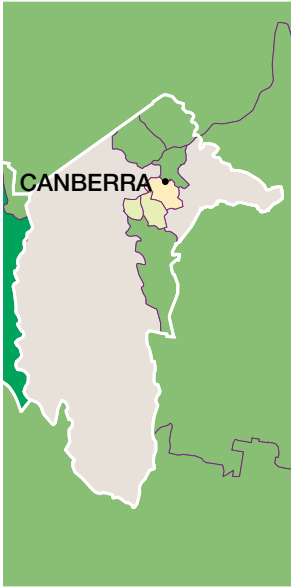
Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
 1. For more information about SA3s see Australian Bureau of Statistics (2010) Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 – Main Structure and Greater Capital Cities Statistical Areas, July 2011. www.abs.gov.au Accessed 24 February 2014.
 2. SA3 data exclude a number of invalid and unallocated postcodes. SA3s with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported. For more information see *Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13, Technical Supplement* at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Children aged 5 years who were fully immunised, by statistical area, 2012–13

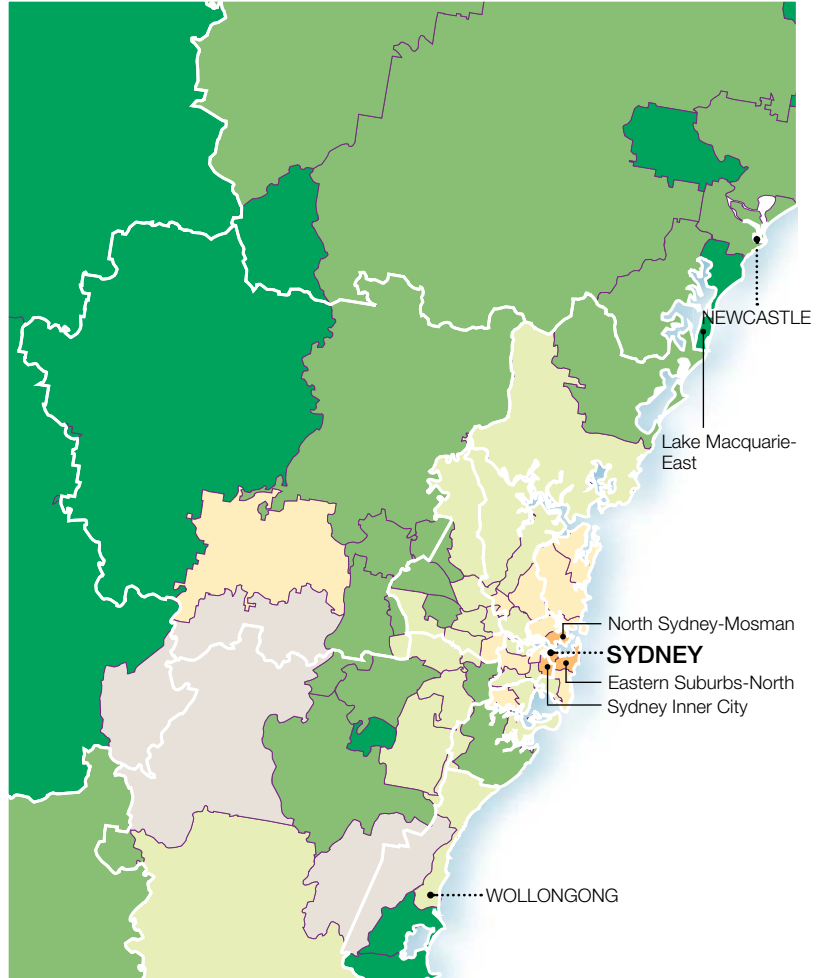
Variation *within* Medicare Local catchments



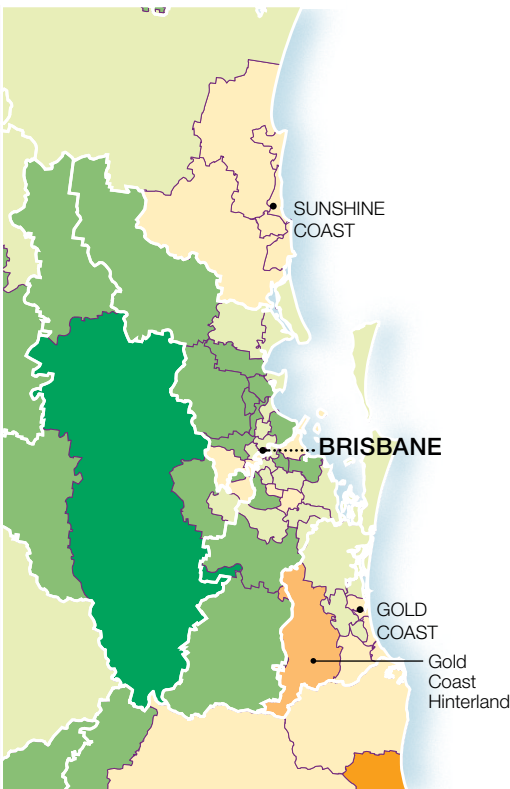
iv. Canberra and surrounding areas



v. Sydney and surrounding areas



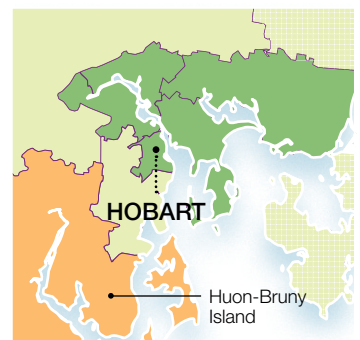
vi. Brisbane and surrounding areas



vii. Darwin and surrounding areas



viii. Hobart and surrounding areas



Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
 1. For more information about SA3s see Australian Bureau of Statistics (2010) Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 – Main Structure and Greater Capital Cities Statistical Areas, July 2011. www.abs.gov.au Accessed 24 February 2014.
 2. SA3 data exclude a number of invalid and unallocated postcodes. SA3s with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported. For more information see *Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13, Technical Supplement* at www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Table 1: Statistical areas (SA3) with the highest and lowest percentages of all children aged 1 year fully immunised, 2012–13

State/ Territory	Statistical area	Medicare Local catchments ¹	Percentage fully immunised	Number not fully immunised
Qld	Whitsunday	Townsville-Mackay	96.1%	10
SA	Limestone Coast	Country South SA	95.7%	34
NT	East Arnhem	Northern Territory	95.5%	11
Vic/NSW	Wodonga-Alpine	Hume	95.4%	36
Tas	Hobart-North East	Tasmania	95.3%	30
Qld	Carindale	Greater Metro South Brisbane	95.1%	32
Qld	Caboolture Hinterland	Metro North Brisbane, West Moreton-Oxley	95.0%	7
Vic	Latrobe Valley	Gippsland	94.9%	49
Qld	Bald Hills-Everton Park	Metro North Brisbane	94.8%	29
ACT	Weston Creek	Australian Capital Territory	94.8%	18
NSW	Camden	South Western Sydney	94.8%	44
NSW	Upper Hunter	Hunter	94.7%	26
SA	Barossa	Country North SA, Northern Adelaide	94.6%	21
NSW	Queanbeyan	Southern NSW	94.6%	38
NSW	Snowy Mountains	Southern NSW	94.6%	11
ACT	Belconnen	Australian Capital Territory	94.6%	76
Qld	Strathpine	Metro North Brisbane	94.6%	31
Vic	Sunbury	Macedon Ranges & NW Melb	94.5%	29
Vic	Warrnambool-Otway Ranges	Great South Coast, Barwon	94.4%	61
Vic	Grampians	Grampians	94.4%	36
WA	Augusta-Margaret River-Busselton	South West WA	87.3%	75
Qld	Tablelands (East)-Kuranda	Far North Qld	87.2%	62
NSW	Sydney Inner City	Inner West Sydney, Eastern Sydney	87.1%	232
WA	Canning	Bentley-Armadale	87.1%	156
NSW	Mount Druitt	Western Sydney	87.0%	256
Vic	Melbourne City	Inner NW Melbourne, Bayside	86.7%	109
WA	Manjimup	South West WA	86.7%	32
WA	Gascoyne	Goldfields-Midwest	86.6%	21
WA	Mundaring	Perth Central & East Metro	86.3%	58
NSW	Auburn	Western Sydney	86.2%	206
NSW	Tweed Valley	North Coast NSW	86.2%	131
NSW	South Coast	Southern NSW	86.1%	93
SA	Burnside	Central Adelaide & Hills	86.1%	46
Qld	Sunshine Coast Hinterland	Sunshine Coast	85.8%	72
WA	Fremantle	Fremantle	85.6%	53
NSW	Kempsey-Nambucca	North Coast NSW	84.5%	89
NSW	Richmond Valley-Hinterland	North Coast NSW	83.5%	153
ACT	South Canberra	Australian Capital Territory	82.5%	55
SA	Adelaide City	Central Adelaide & Hills	82.1%	25
NSW	Richmond Valley-Coastal	North Coast NSW	79.7%	167

1. Any Medicare Local catchment containing at least 5% of the SA3 estimated resident population as at 30 June 2011 is listed.

Note: Results are provided for the 20 SA3s with the highest and lowest percentages of children aged 1 year fully immunised which have more than 100 registered children. For interactive results at SA3 level see www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Table 2: Statistical areas (SA3) with the highest and lowest percentages of all children aged 2 years fully immunised, 2012–13

State/ Territory	Statistical area	Medicare Local catchments ¹	Percentage fully immunised	Number not fully immunised
NT	Katherine	Northern Territory	97.5%	10
SA	Lower North	Country North SA	97.0%	7
NSW	Tamworth-Gunnedah	New England	97.0%	35
Qld	Outback-South	Central & NW Qld, Darling Downs-SW Qld	96.7%	11
Vic	Grampians	Grampians	96.6%	22
NSW	Maitland	Hunter	96.5%	36
Vic	Barwon-West	Barwon	96.4%	8
Vic	Glenelg-Southern Grampians	Great South Coast	96.4%	14
Vic	Wellington	Gippsland	96.4%	18
Vic	Gippsland-East	Gippsland	96.3%	17
NSW	Goulburn-Yass	Southern NSW, Murrumbidgee	96.2%	32
Tas	Burnie-Ulverstone	Tasmania	96.1%	23
Qld	Whitsunday	Townsville-Mackay	96.1%	10
NSW	Bathurst	Western NSW	95.9%	25
NSW	Lower Hunter	Hunter	95.9%	52
NSW	Lachlan Valley	Western NSW, Murrumbidgee	95.8%	29
Vic	Moira	Goulburn Valley	95.8%	13
NT	Daly-Tiwi-West Arnhem	Northern Territory	95.7%	17
Tas	Hobart-North West	Tasmania	95.7%	31
Vic	Lalor Valley	Gippsland	95.7%	43
Qld	Tablelands (East)-Kuranda	Far North Qld	88.8%	57
WA	Perth City	Perth Central & East Metro, Perth North Metro	88.5%	119
WA	Melville	Fremantle	88.5%	126
NSW	Manly	Sydney Nth Shore & Beaches	88.4%	73
Qld	Sunshine Coast Hinterland	Sunshine Coast	87.9%	69
ACT	South Canberra	Australian Capital Territory	87.7%	33
NSW	Sydney Inner City	Inner West Sydney, Eastern Sydney	87.7%	192
NSW	Eastern Suburbs-North	Eastern Sydney	87.5%	209
Qld	Surfers Paradise	Gold Coast	87.4%	33
WA	South Perth	Bentley-Armadale	87.3%	52
Vic	Stonnington-West	Bayside	87.1%	65
Tas	Huon-Bruny Island	Tasmania	86.9%	24
Vic	Melbourne City	Inner NW Melbourne, Bayside	86.7%	95
WA	Fremantle	Fremantle	86.6%	49
NSW	Richmond Valley-Hinterland	North Coast NSW	86.6%	119
Qld	Nambour-Pomona	Sunshine Coast	86.3%	93
Qld	Brisbane Inner	Metro North Brisbane, Greater Metro South Brisbane	85.9%	58
WA	Cottesloe-Claremont	Perth Central & East Metro	85.4%	85
SA	Adelaide City	Central Adelaide & Hills	84.4%	21
NSW	Richmond Valley-Coastal	North Coast NSW	81.6%	159

1. Any Medicare Local catchment containing at least 5% of the SA3 estimated resident population as at 30 June 2011 is listed.

Note: Results are provided for the 20 SA3s with the highest and lowest percentages of children aged 1 year fully immunised which have more than 100 registered children. For interactive results at SA3 level see www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Table 3: Statistical areas (SA3) with the highest and lowest percentages of all children aged 5 years fully immunised, 2012–13

State/ Territory	Statistical area	Medicare Local catchments ¹	Percentage fully immunised	Number not fully immunised
NSW	Tumut-Tumbarumba	Murrumbidgee	96.8%	6
Vic	Glenelg-Southern Grampians	Great South Coast	96.4%	16
Vic/NSW	Loddon-Elmore	Loddon-Mallee-Murray	96.2%	≤5
NSW	Lake Macquarie-East	Hunter	96.0%	65
NSW	Camden	South Western Sydney	95.9%	40
NSW	Tamworth-Gunnedah	New England	95.8%	47
NT	East Arnhem	Northern Territory	95.7%	10
Vic	Wellington	Gippsland	95.6%	20
NSW	Broken Hill and Far West	Far West NSW	95.6%	12
NSW	Maitland	Hunter	95.5%	46
Vic	Macedon Ranges	Macedon Ranges & NW Melb	95.4%	18
NSW	Bathurst	Western NSW	95.3%	28
NT	Katherine	Northern Territory	95.3%	17
Qld	Ipswich Hinterland	West Moreton-Oxley	95.2%	40
NSW	Dapto-Port Kembla	Illawarra-Shoalhaven	95.2%	49
Vic	Sunbury	Macedon Ranges & NW Melb	95.2%	25
Vic	Grampians	Grampians	95.1%	35
SA	Mid North	Country North SA	95.1%	17
NSW	Great Lakes	Hunter	95.1%	15
NSW	Lithgow-Mudgee	Western NSW, Nepean-Blue Mountains	95.1%	30
Vic	Port Phillip	Bayside	86.7%	116
WA	Canning	Bentley-Armadale	86.7%	159
WA	Mundaring	Perth Central & East Metro	86.7%	67
Qld	Coolangatta	Gold Coast	86.6%	78
WA	Melville	Fremantle	86.4%	164
NT	Darwin City	Northern Territory	86.2%	26
Qld	Noosa	Sunshine Coast	86.1%	66
NT	Darwin Suburbs	Northern Territory	86.1%	112
Qld	Surfers Paradise	Gold Coast	86.0%	36
Vic	Stonnington-West	Bayside	85.7%	67
WA	Fremantle	Fremantle	85.6%	64
Vic	Melbourne City	Inner NW Melbourne, Bayside	85.4%	76
Qld	Sunshine Coast Hinterland	Sunshine Coast	85.3%	88
Qld	Nambour-Pomona	Sunshine Coast	85.3%	111
Tas	Huon-Bruny Island	Tasmania	84.7%	36
Qld	Gold Coast Hinterland	Gold Coast	84.5%	37
NSW	Eastern Suburbs-North	Eastern Sydney	84.4%	227
NSW	North Sydney-Mosman	Sydney Nth Shore & Beaches	83.4%	156
NSW	Sydney Inner City	Inner West Sydney, Eastern Sydney	83.3%	184
NSW	Richmond Valley-Coastal	North Coast NSW	78.8%	200

1. Any Medicare Local catchment containing at least 5% of the SA3 estimated resident population as at 30 June 2011 is listed.

Note: Results are provided for the 20 SA3s with the highest and lowest percentages of children aged 5 years fully immunised which have more than 100 registered children. For interactive results at SA3 level see www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

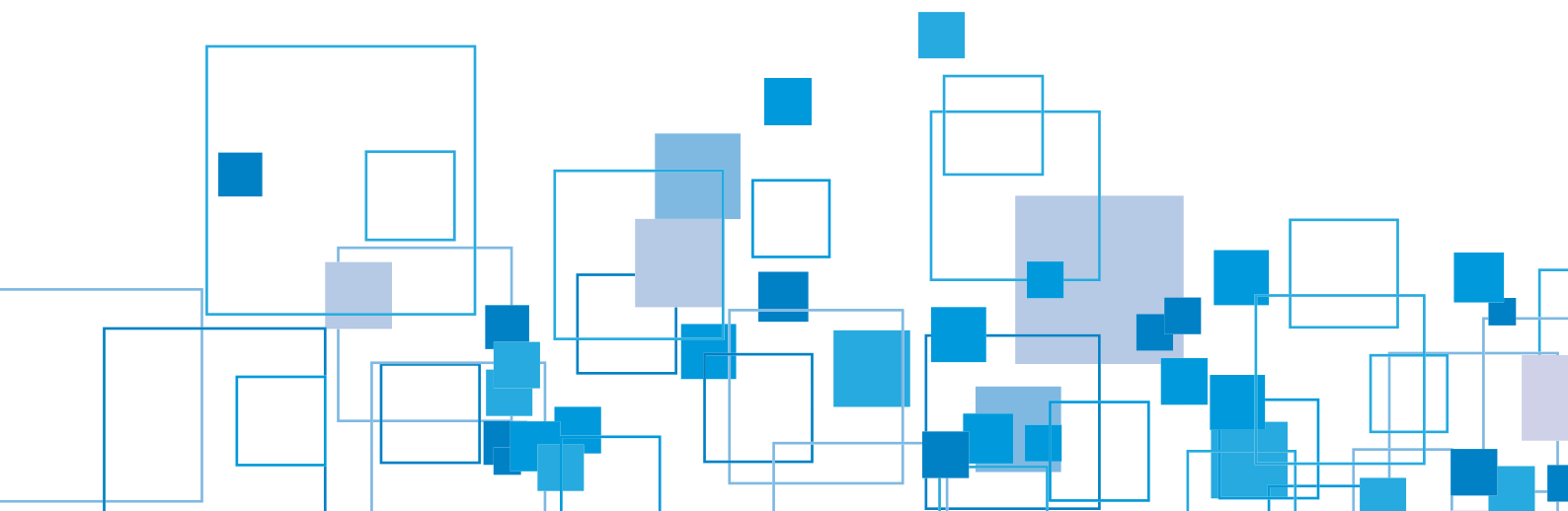
Table 4: Postcodes with the highest and lowest percentages of all children aged 5 years fully immunised, 2012–13

Postcode	Suburbs	Medicare Local catchments ¹	Percentage fully immunised
3730	Bundalong, Yarrowonga (Vic) and eight others	Goulburn Valley (Vic)	99.0%
2517	Woonona, Woonona East and Russell Vale (NSW)	Illawarra-Shoalhaven (NSW)	98.4%
3756	Chintin, Darraweit Guim, Wallan (Vic) and one other	Goulburn Valley (Vic), Macedon Ranges & NW Melb	98.1%
5126	Fairview Park, Surrey Downs and Yatala Vale (SA)	Northern Adelaide	98.1%
0852	Daly River, Mataranka, Victoria River (NT) and 47 others	Northern Territory	98.0%
3250	Colac, Elliminyt (Vic) and two others	Barwon (Vic)	98.0%
2769	The Ponds (NSW)	Western Sydney	97.7%
2390	Back Creek, Narrabri, Turravan (NSW) and 13 others	New England (NSW)	97.3%
5093	Para Vista and Valley View (SA)	Northern Adelaide	97.1%
2282	Eleebana, Lakelands and Warners Bay (NSW)	Hunter (NSW)	97.1%
3224	Leopold and Moolap (Vic)	Barwon (Vic)	97.1%
3042	Airport West, Keilor Park, Niddrie and Niddrie North (Vic)	Inner NW Melbourne, Macedon Ranges & NW Melb	97.0%
3305	Allestree, Gorae, Portland (Vic) and nine others	Great South Coast (Vic)	97.0%
2281	Blacksmiths, Nords Wharf, Swansea (NSW) and eight others	Hunter (NSW)	96.9%
3400	Horsham (Vic)	Grampians (Vic)	96.9%
2337	Belltrees, Moobi, Scone (NSW) and 22 others	Hunter (NSW)	96.9%
7018	Bellerive, Howrah, Rosny, Warrane (Tas) and four others	Tasmania	96.9%
4037	Eatons Hill (Qld)	Metro North Brisbane	96.8%
3840	Hazelwood, Jeeralang, Morwell (Vic) and five others	Gippsland (Vic)	96.8%
3049	Attwood and Westmeadows (Vic)	Northern Melbourne	96.7%
4567	Castaways Beach, Noosa Heads (Qld) and two others	Sunshine Coast (Qld)	83.1%
2089	Kurraba Point, Neutral Bay and Neutral Bay Junction (NSW)	Sydney Nth Shore & Beaches	83.0%
2071	East Killara and Killara (NSW)	Northern Sydney	83.0%
3141	South Yarra (Vic)	Bayside (Vic)	82.9%
6076	Kalamunda, Lesmurdie, Walliston (WA) and eight others	Perth Central & East Metro	82.8%
2135	Strathfield (NSW)	Inner West Sydney	82.6%
2131	Ashfield (NSW)	Inner West Sydney	82.5%
2017	Waterloo and Zetland (NSW)	Inner West Sydney	82.4%
5076	Athelstone and Castambul (SA)	Central Adelaide & Hills	82.1%
6148	Ferndale, Riverton, Shelley (WA) and one other	Bentley-Armadale (WA)	81.9%
2021	Centennial Park, Moore Park and Paddington (NSW)	Eastern Sydney	81.8%
5066	Beaumont, Burnside, Erindale (SA) and four others	Central Adelaide & Hills	81.7%
0810	Casuarina, Jingili, Wanguri (NT) and 13 others	Northern Territory	81.7%
2150	Harris Park and Parramatta (NSW)	Western Sydney	81.2%
2038	Annandale (NSW)	Inner West Sydney	81.1%
2484	Cedar Creek, Murwillumbah (NSW) and 55 others	North Coast NSW	80.6%
2095	Manly and Manly East (NSW)	Sydney Nth Shore & Beaches	80.4%
2000	Haymarket, Sydney, The Rocks (NSW) and five others	Eastern Sydney	72.1%
2483	Brunswick Heads, Ocean Shores (NSW) and 12 others	North Coast NSW	70.2%
2481	Broken Head, Byron Bay (NSW) and seven others	North Coast NSW	66.7%

1. Any Medicare Local catchment containing at least 5% of the postcode's estimated resident population as at 30 June 2011 is listed.

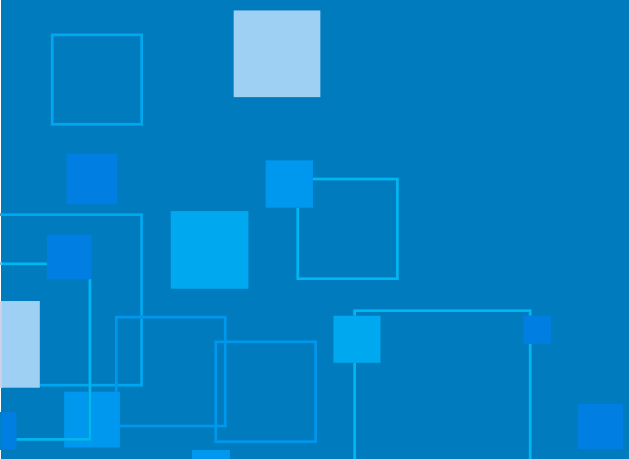
Note: Results are provided for the 20 postcodes with the highest and lowest percentages of children aged 5 years fully immunised which have more than 100 children registered. For interactive results at postcode level see www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

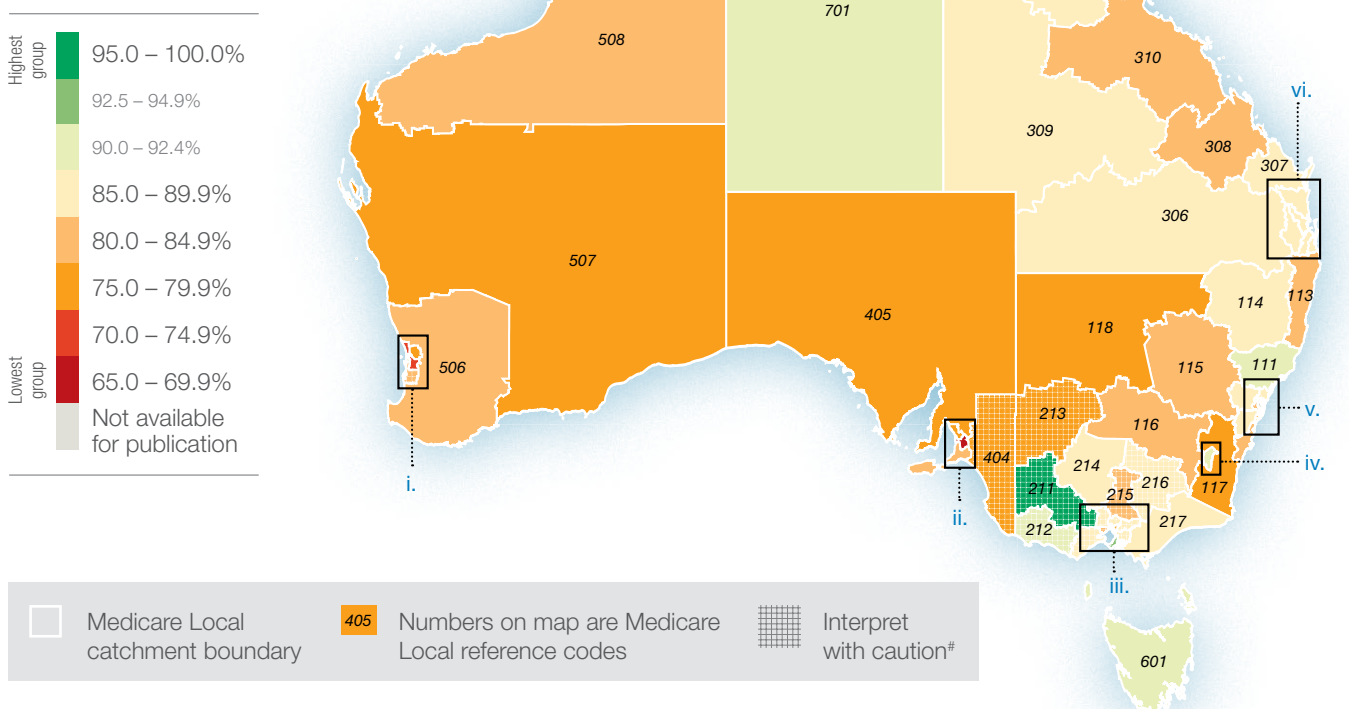
Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13



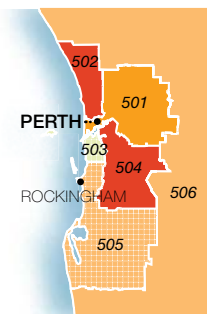
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 1 year who were fully immunised, 2012–13

Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 1 year fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2012–13

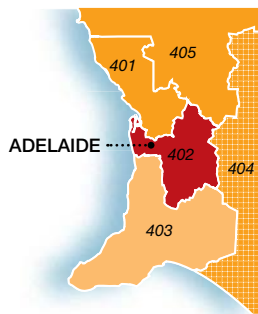
Fully immunised at 1 year means that a child aged 12 months to less than 15 months received their third vaccination for diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and polio, and either their second or third vaccination (dependent on the type of vaccine used) for hepatitis B and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b¹, all prior to the age of 1 year. It is assumed that all previous vaccinations were received.



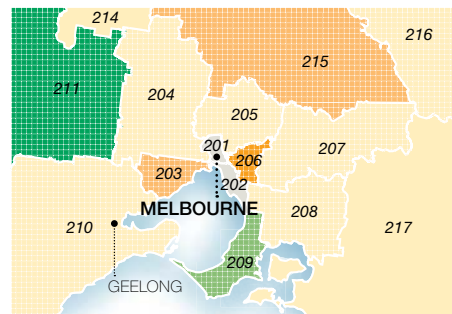
i. Perth and surrounding areas



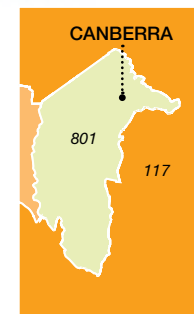
ii. Adelaide and surrounding areas



iii. Melbourne and surrounding areas

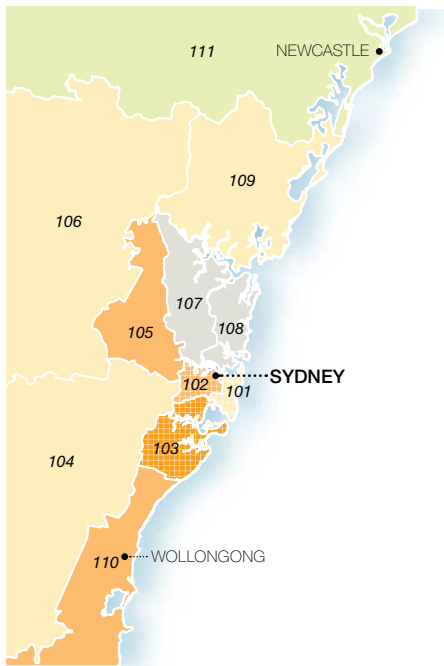


iv. Canberra and surrounding areas

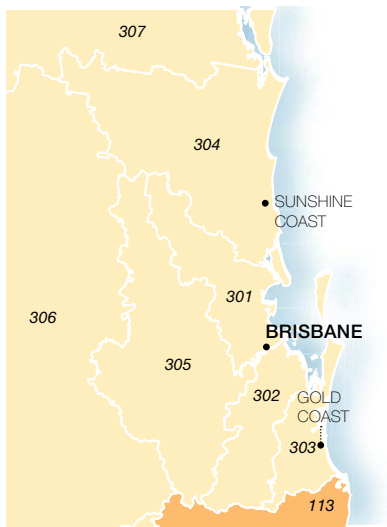


[#] Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
 1. For more details on the diseases and immunisations see Immunise Australia Program. Diseases and Programs A–Z, www.immunise.health.gov.au Accessed 27 February 2014.
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.
 Data can be downloaded from www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

v. Sydney and surrounding areas



vi. Brisbane and surrounding areas



Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) and postcode-level data available at www.myhealthyclimate.gov.au

Medicare Local catchments

National fully immunised rate

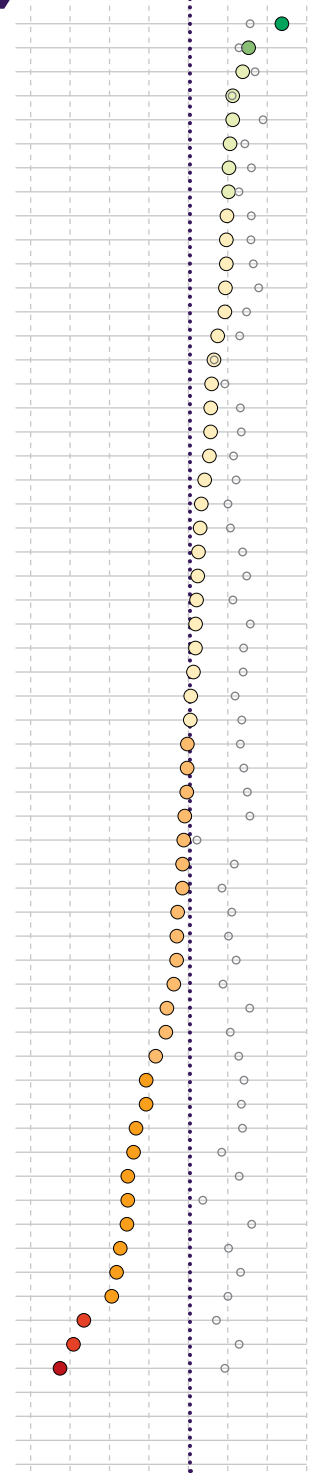
Medicare Local catchment	Number of children	Fully immunised rate
Grampians (Vic)#	211	96.9%
Frankston-Mornington Peninsula (Vic)#	209	92.6%
Hunter (NSW)	111	91.9%
Fremantle (WA)#	503	90.6%
Great South Coast (Vic)#	212	90.6%
Tasmania	601	90.3%
Australian Capital Territory	801	90.2%
Northern Territory	701	90.1%
Central Coast NSW	109	89.9%
Gippsland (Vic)	217	89.8%
Barwon (Vic)#	210	89.8%
Hume (Vic/NSW)#	216	89.7%
Greater Metro South Brisbane	302	89.6%
Macedon Ranges & NW Melb#	204	88.7%
Eastern Sydney#	101	88.2%
Sunshine Coast (Qld)	304	87.9%
Wide Bay (Qld)	307	87.8%
Nepean-Blue Mountains (NSW)	106	87.8%
Gold Coast (Qld)	303	87.7%
Eastern Melbourne#	207	87.1%
Far North Qld	311	86.6%
South Western Sydney	104	86.5%
Northern Melbourne#	205	86.3%
Darling Downs-SW Qld	306	86.2%
Loddon-Mallee-Murray (Vic/NSW)	214	86.0%
Metro North Brisbane	301	85.9%
Central & NW Qld	309	85.9%
New England (NSW)	114	85.6%
South Eastern Melbourne#	208	85.3%
West Moreton-Oxley (Qld)	305	85.2%
Illawarra-Shoalhaven (NSW)	110	84.9%
Murrumbidgee (NSW)	116	84.8%
Goulburn Valley (Vic)#	215	84.8%
Central Qld	308	84.5%
North Coast NSW	113	84.4%
South West WA	506	84.3%
Kimberley-Pilbara (WA)	508	84.3%
Inner West Sydney#	102	83.6%
South Western Melbourne#	203	83.5%
Western NSW	115	83.5%
Perth South Coastal#	505	83.2%
Townsville-Mackay (Qld)	310	82.3%
Western Sydney	105	82.1%
Sthn Adelaide-Flourieu-Kang. Is.	403	80.9%
Northern Adelaide	401	79.6%
Southern NSW	117	79.6%
Inner East Melbourne#	206	78.4%
Goldfields-Midwest (WA)	507	78.1%
Country North SA	405	77.3%
Far West NSW	118	77.3%
Country South SA#	404	77.2%
Perth Central & East Metro	501	76.4%
South Eastern Sydney#	103	75.9%
Lower Murray (Vic/NSW)#	213	75.3%
Bentley-Armadale (WA)	504	71.7%
Perth North Metro	502	70.4%
Central Adelaide & Hills	402	68.7%
Northern Sydney	107	NP
Sydney Nth Shore & Beaches	108	NP
Inner NW Melbourne	201	NP
Bayside (Vic)	202	NP

Map Ref.



65% 70% 75% 80% 85% 90% 95% 100%

85.2%



Number not fully immunised

1 year

Number not fully immunised
≤5
≤5
47
6
≤5
37
11
143
21
11
≤5
9
51
7
6
19
30
20
20
≤5
155
33
13
68
17
58
36
73
10
42
50
36
12
56
95
39
95
16
6
107
16
126
42
20
45
24
6
71
62
39
20
38
10
22
76
40
32

TOTAL* 2,172

* Components may not add to totals because of unallocated postcodes.

NP Not available for publication. Medicare Local catchments with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported.

Notes: Data exclude a number of invalid and unallocated postcodes – for more information see this report's Technical Supplement.

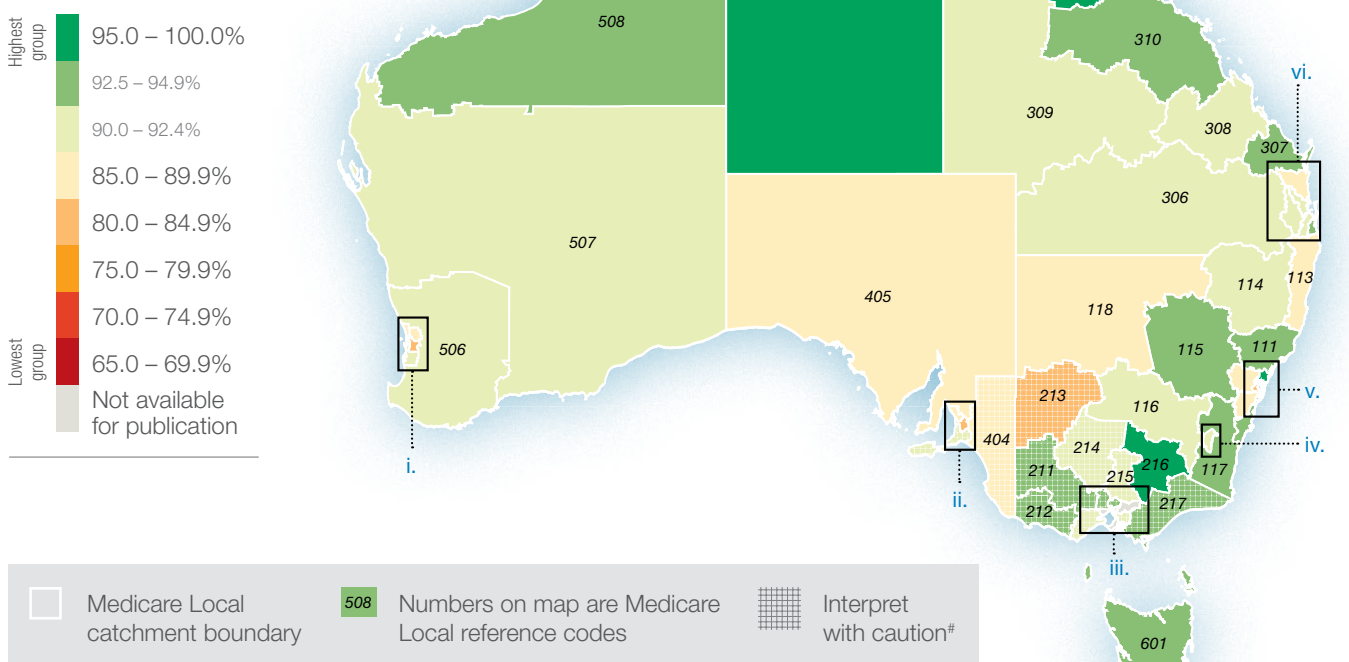
These data reflect the results for children identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in the ACIR in 2012–13. Levels of identification may vary between Medicare Local catchments.

More information can be found at www.myhealthyclimate.gov.au and in this report's Technical Supplement.

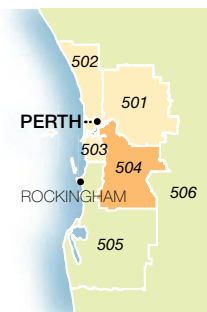
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 2 years who were fully immunised, 2012–13

Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 2 years fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2012–13

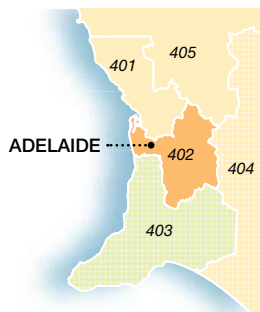
Fully immunised at 2 years means that a child aged 24 months to less than 27 months received their third or fourth vaccination (dependent on the type of vaccine used) for diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, their third vaccination for polio and hepatitis B, and their first vaccination for measles, mumps and rubella¹, all prior to the age of 2 years. It is assumed that all previous vaccinations were received.



i. Perth and surrounding areas



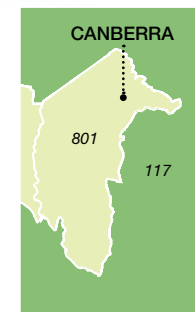
ii. Adelaide and surrounding areas



iii. Melbourne and surrounding areas



iv. Canberra and surrounding areas

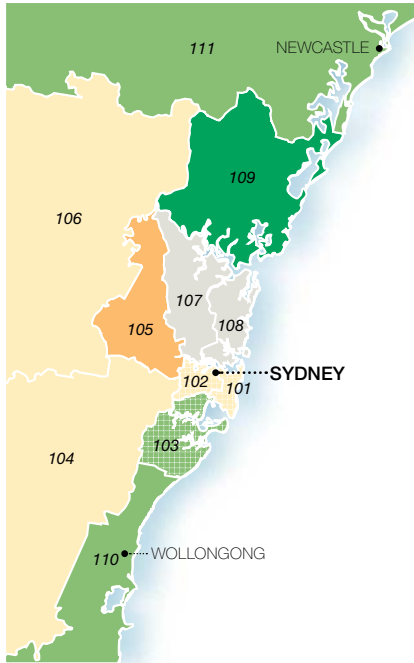


[#] Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
¹ For more details on the diseases and immunisations see Immunise Australia Program. Diseases and Programs A–Z, www.immunise.health.gov.au Accessed 27 February 2014.

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Data can be downloaded from www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

v. Sydney and surrounding areas



vi. Brisbane and surrounding areas

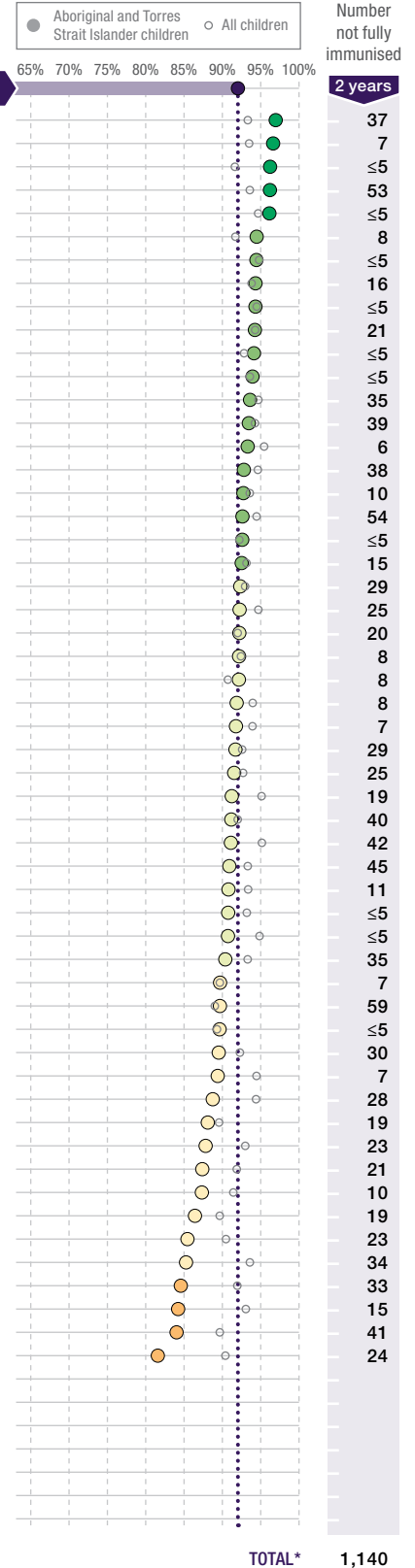


Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) and postcode-level data available at www.myhealthyclimate.gov.au

Medicare Local catchments

National fully immunised rate 92.0%

Medicare Local catchment	Population	Rate
Far North Qld	311	97.0%
Central Coast NSW	109	96.6%
Inner NW Melbourne#	201	96.2%
Northern Territory	701	96.2%
Hume (Vic/NSW)	216	96.1%
Gold Coast (Qld)	303	94.5%
Great South Coast (Vic)#	212	94.4%
Illawarra-Shoalhaven (NSW)	110	94.3%
Grampians (Vic)#	211	94.3%
Tasmania	601	94.2%
Macedon Ranges & NW Melb#	204	94.1%
Northern Melbourne#	205	93.9%
Hunter (NSW)	111	93.6%
Kimberley-Pilbara (WA)	508	93.5%
Gippsland (Vic)#	217	93.3%
Western NSW	115	92.8%
Southern NSW	117	92.7%
Townsville-Mackay (Qld)	310	92.6%
South Eastern Sydney#	103	92.6%
Wide Bay (Qld)	307	92.5%
Metro North Brisbane	301	92.3%
Central & NW Qld	309	92.2%
South West WA	506	92.2%
Sthn Adelaide-Fleurieu-Kang. Is.#	403	92.2%
Perth South Coastal	505	92.2%
Loddon-Mallee-Murray (Vic/NSW)#	214	91.9%
Goulburn Valley (Vic)#	215	91.8%
Goldfields-Midwest (WA)	507	91.7%
West Moreton-Oxley (Qld)	305	91.5%
Murrumbidgee (NSW)	116	91.2%
Greater Metro South Brisbane	302	91.2%
New England (NSW)	114	91.1%
Darling Downs-SW Qld	306	90.9%
Australian Capital Territory	801	90.8%
South Eastern Melbourne#	208	90.8%
Barwon (Vic)#	210	90.7%
Central Qld	308	90.4%
Fremantle (WA)#	503	89.7%
North Coast NSW	113	89.7%
Eastern Sydney#	101	89.6%
South Western Sydney	104	89.5%
Country South SA#	404	89.4%
Country North SA	405	88.7%
Sunshine Coast (Qld)	304	88.1%
Nepean-Blue Mountains (NSW)	106	87.8%
Far West NSW	118	87.4%
Inner West Sydney#	102	87.3%
Perth Central & East Metro	501	86.4%
Perth North Metro	502	85.4%
Northern Adelaide	401	85.3%
Western Sydney	105	84.6%
Lower Murray (Vic/NSW)#	213	84.2%
Bentley-Armadale (WA)	504	84.0%
Central Adelaide & Hills	402	81.6%
Northern Sydney	107	NP
Sydney Nth Shore & Beaches	108	NP
Bayside (Vic)	202	NP
South Western Melbourne	203	NP
Inner East Melbourne	206	NP
Eastern Melbourne	207	NP
Frankston-Mornington Peninsula (Vic)	209	NP

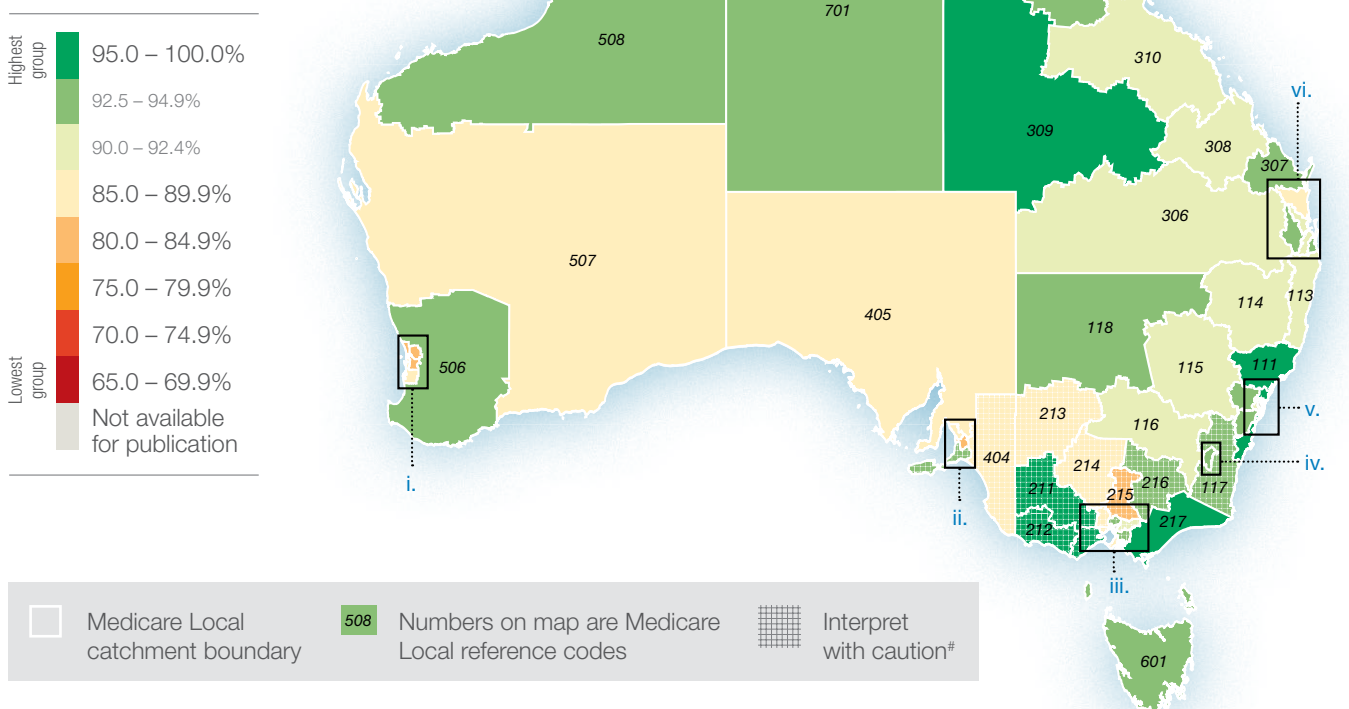


* Components may not add to totals because of unallocated postcodes.
 NP Not available for publication. Medicare Local catchments with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported.
 Notes: Data exclude a number of invalid and unallocated postcodes – for more information see this report's Technical Supplement.
 These data reflect the results for children identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in the ACIR in 2012–13. Levels of identification may vary between Medicare Local catchments.
 More information can be found at www.myhealthyclimate.gov.au and in this report's Technical Supplement.

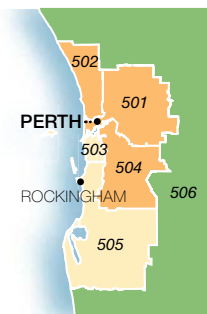
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 5 years who were fully immunised, 2012–13

Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 5 years fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2012–13

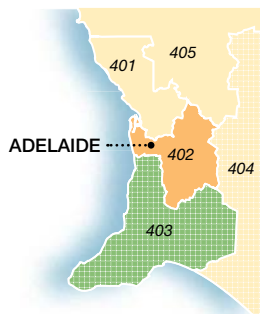
Fully immunised at 5 years means that a child aged 60 months to less than 63 months received their fourth or fifth vaccination (dependent on the type of vaccine used) for diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, their fourth vaccination for polio, and their second vaccination for measles, mumps and rubella¹, all prior to the age of 5 years. It is assumed that all previous vaccinations were received.



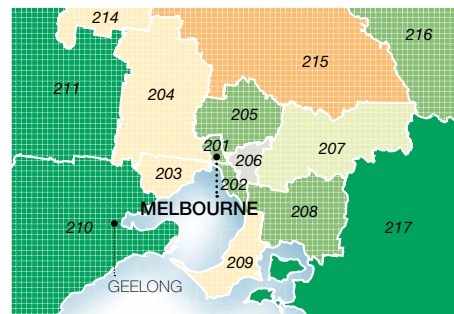
i. Perth and surrounding areas



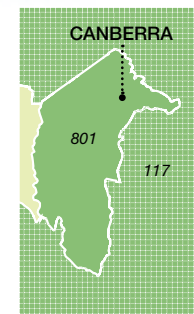
ii. Adelaide and surrounding areas



iii. Melbourne and surrounding areas

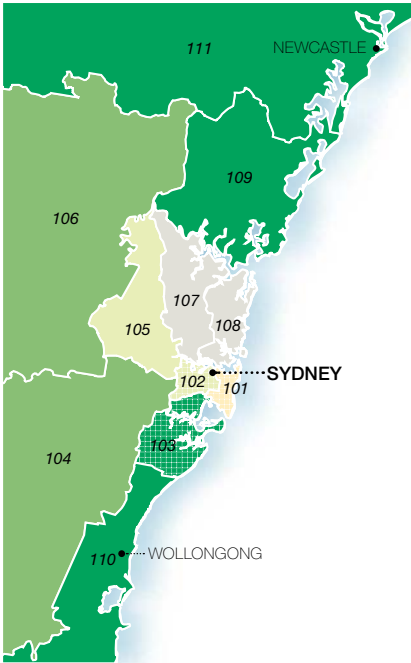


iv. Canberra and surrounding areas



Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
 1. For more details on the diseases and immunisations see Immunise Australia Program. Diseases and Programs A–Z, www.immunise.health.gov.au Accessed 27 February 2014.
 Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.
 Data can be downloaded from www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au

v. Sydney and surrounding areas



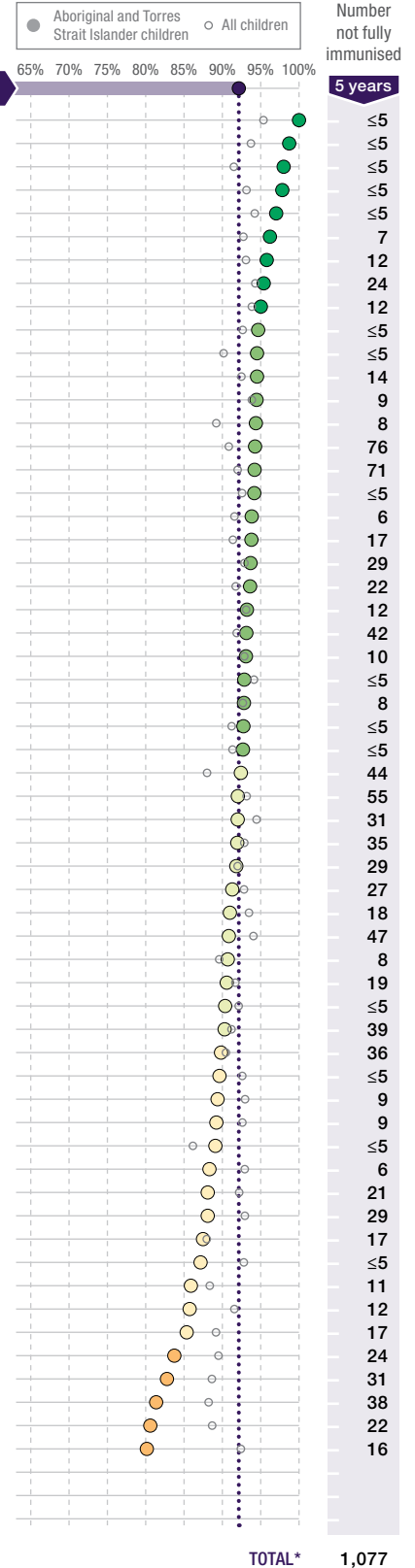
vi. Brisbane and surrounding areas



Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) and postcode-level data available at www.myhealthcommunities.gov.au

Medicare Local catchments

Medicare Local catchment	Population	National fully immunised rate
Great South Coast (Vic)#	212	100.0%
Barwon (Vic)#	210	98.7%
South Eastern Sydney#	103	98.0%
Grampians (Vic)#	211	97.8%
Gippsland (Vic)	217	97.0%
Central Coast NSW	109	96.2%
Central & NW Qld	309	95.8%
Hunter (NSW)	111	95.4%
Illawarra-Shoalhaven (NSW)	110	95.0%
Northern Melbourne#	205	94.7%
Sthn Adelaide-Flourieu-Kang. Is.#	403	94.5%
South Western Sydney	104	94.5%
Far West NSW	118	94.5%
Gold Coast (Qld)	303	94.4%
Northern Territory	701	94.3%
Far North Qld	311	94.2%
South Eastern Melbourne#	208	94.2%
Southern NSW#	117	93.8%
South West WA	506	93.8%
Tasmania	601	93.7%
West Moreton-Oxley (Qld)	305	93.6%
Wide Bay (Qld)	307	93.2%
Kimberley-Pilbara (WA)	508	93.1%
Nepean-Blue Mountains (NSW)	106	93.1%
Hume (Vic/NSW)#	216	92.9%
Australian Capital Territory	801	92.8%
Inner NW Melbourne#	201	92.7%
Bayside (Vic)#	202	92.7%
North Coast NSW	113	92.4%
Townsville-Mackay (Qld)	310	92.0%
New England (NSW)	114	92.0%
Darling Downs-SW Qld	306	91.9%
Metro North Brisbane	301	91.8%
Central Qld	308	91.3%
Murrumbidgee (NSW)	116	91.0%
Western NSW	115	90.8%
Inner West Sydney#	102	90.7%
Western Sydney	105	90.6%
Eastern Melbourne#	207	90.4%
Greater Metro South Brisbane	302	90.3%
Goldfields-Midwest (WA)	507	89.8%
Frankston-Mornington Peninsula (Vic)#	209	89.6%
Country South SA#	404	89.4%
Loddon-Mallee-Murray (Vic/NSW)#	214	89.2%
Eastern Sydney#	101	89.1%
Macedon Ranges & NW Melb#	204	88.3%
Northern Adelaide	401	88.1%
Country North SA	405	88.1%
Sunshine Coast (Qld)	304	87.5%
South Western Melbourne#	203	87.2%
Fremantle (WA)#	503	85.9%
Lower Murray (Vic/NSW)#	213	85.7%
Perth South Coastal	505	85.3%
Perth North Metro	502	83.7%
Perth Central & East Metro	501	82.8%
Bentley-Armadale (WA)	504	81.4%
Central Adelaide & Hills	402	80.6%
Goulburn Valley (Vic)#	215	80.1%
Northern Sydney	107	NP
Sydney Nth Shore & Beaches	108	NP
Inner East Melbourne	206	NP



* Components may not add to totals because of unallocated postcodes.
 NP Not available for publication. Medicare Local catchments with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported.
 Notes: Data exclude a number of invalid and unallocated postcodes – for more information see this report's Technical Supplement.
 These data reflect the results for children identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in the ACIR in 2012–13. Levels of identification may vary between Medicare Local catchments.
 More information can be found at www.myhealthcommunities.gov.au and in this report's Technical Supplement.

Table 5: Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in selected statistical areas (SA3)* that were fully immunised† and numbers not fully immunised, 2012–13

Selected local areas	Percentage fully immunised at age			Number‡ not fully immunised
	1 year	2 years	5 years	
East Arnhem (NT)	94.7%	97.0%	95.8%	19
Wyong (NSW)	93.8%	95.6%	95.6%	19
Daly-Tiwi-West Arnhem (NT)	93.4%	97.2%	95.1%	28
Darling Downs (West)-Maranoa (Qld)	90.8%#	95.0%	91.1%#	24
Katherine (NT)	89.9%	98.1%	95.8%	44
Alice Springs (NT)	89.6%	96.3%	93.9%	72
Tamworth-Gunnedah (NSW)	89.1%	93.4%	95.8%	45
Kimberley (WA)	89.0%	95.6%	94.9%	83
Far North (Qld)	88.8%	97.2%	95.1%	76
Campbelltown (NSW)	88.1%#	91.7%	95.5%	25
Mackay (Qld)	88.0%	94.2%	94.2%	37
Innisfail-Cassowary Coast (Qld)	87.3%	96.8%	93.7%	37
Outback-North (Qld)	86.9%	91.7%	95.8%	66
Wagga Wagga (NSW)	86.8%	90.0%	90.2%#	35
Burnett (Qld)	86.4%	86.6%	84.0%#	42
Ipswich Inner (Qld)	86.2%	92.3%	95.6%	31
Palmerston (NT)	85.7%	89.9%	91.2%	38
Tablelands (East)-Kuranda (Qld)	85.5%	96.5%	95.8%	25
Cairns-South (Qld)	85.2%	96.9%	93.9%	94
Darwin Suburbs (NT)	84.3%	95.3%	91.5%	42
Kempsey-Nambucca (NSW)	83.2%	88.3%	88.2%	52
Goldfields (WA)	83.2%	87.9%	87.9%	48
Shoalhaven (NSW)	82.9%	92.3%	95.2%	40
Cairns-North (Qld)	82.7%#	96.4%#	94.0%	26
Rockhampton (Qld)	82.4%	88.3%	92.8%	79
Lachlan Valley (NSW)	80.9%	93.0%#	94.5%	36
Townsville (Qld)	80.8%	91.8%	92.3%	136
Bourke-Cobar-Coonamble (NSW)	80.8%	90.3%	91.8%	64
Mount Druitt (NSW)	80.6%	86.2%#	91.3%	44
Outback-North and East (SA)	80.6%	88.7%	89.2%	45
Dubbo (NSW)	80.3%	92.4%	91.0%	102
Toowoomba (Qld)	79.4%	91.7%	95.6%	52
Moree-Narrabri (NSW)	79.2%	86.8%	87.1%	62
Mid West (WA)	75.6%	93.9%	90.4%	67
Richmond Valley-Hinterland (NSW)	75.3%	82.9%	90.0%	59
Charters Towers-Ayr-Ingham (Qld)	75.2%#	90.8%	88.0%	49
Pilbara (WA)	75.0%	89.3%	88.8%	92
Eyre Peninsula and South West (SA)	74.5%	86.7%#	88.0%#	51

* Data are reported for 38 of 333 statistical areas defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3). These 38 SA3s have a sufficiently high number ($n > 100$ for at least one age group) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to allow reliable and confidential reporting of child immunisation rates, and represent 48% of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 1, 2 and 5 years in the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR).

† A child has received the scheduled vaccinations according to age. See **Figure 1, page 2** or this report's Technical Supplement.

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

Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Changes in coverage from 2011–12 to 2012–13

Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13

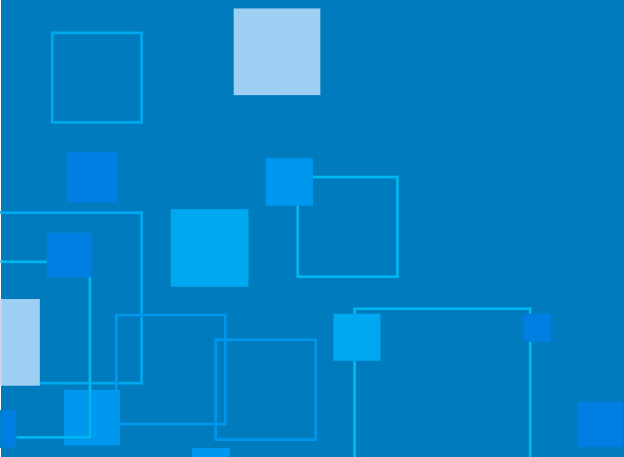
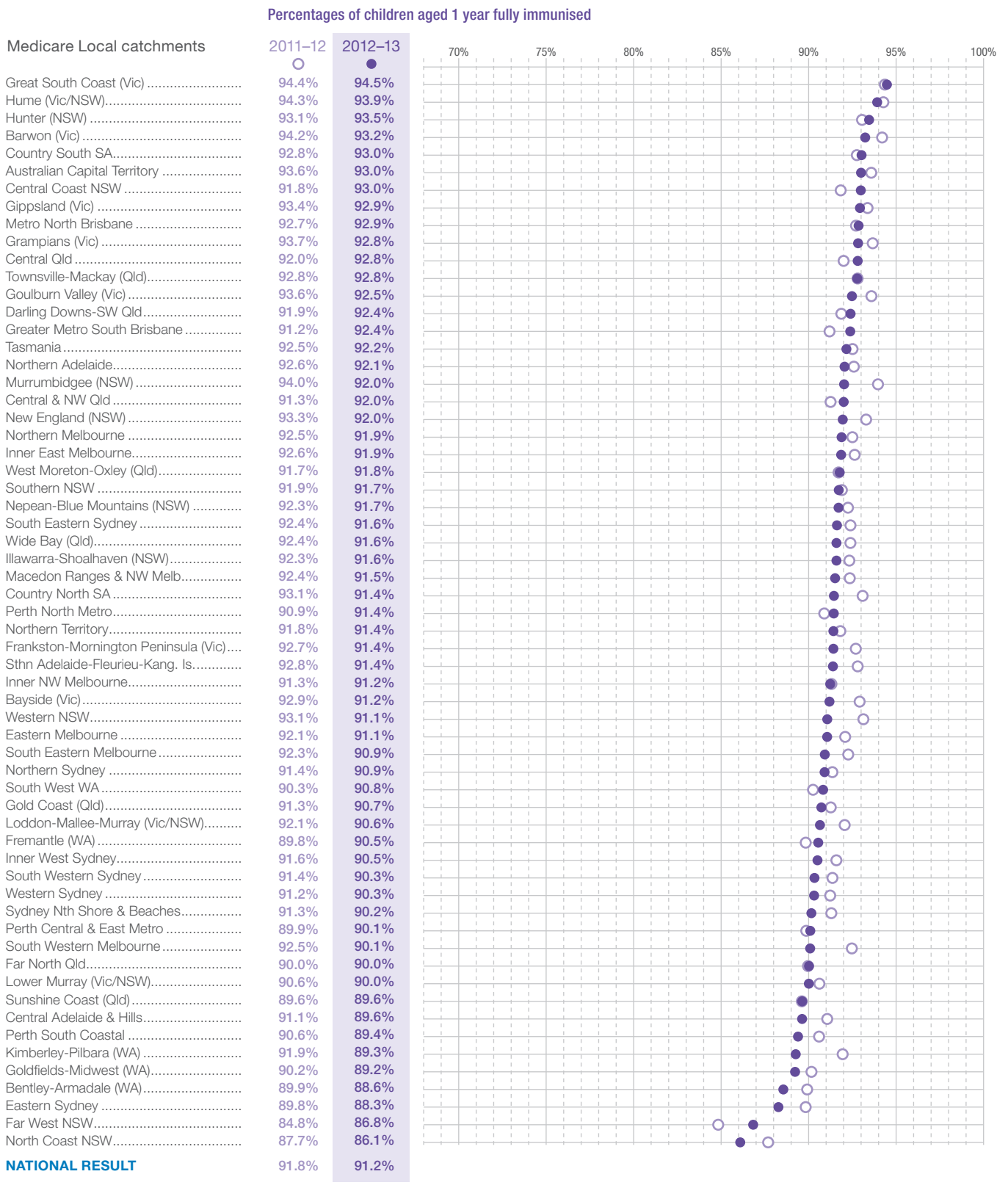
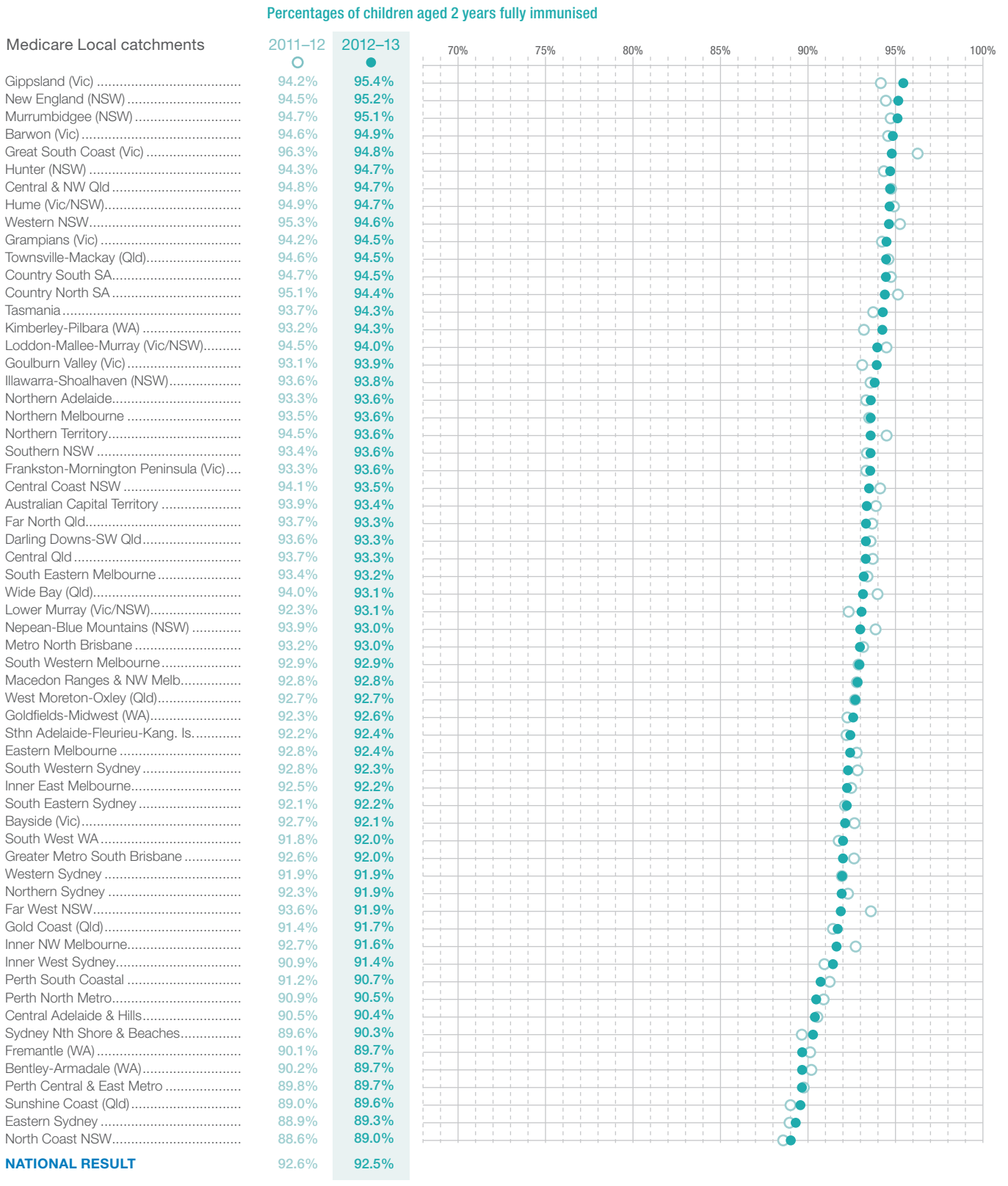


Figure 5: Percentages of all children, aged 1 year, who were fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2011–12 and 2012–13



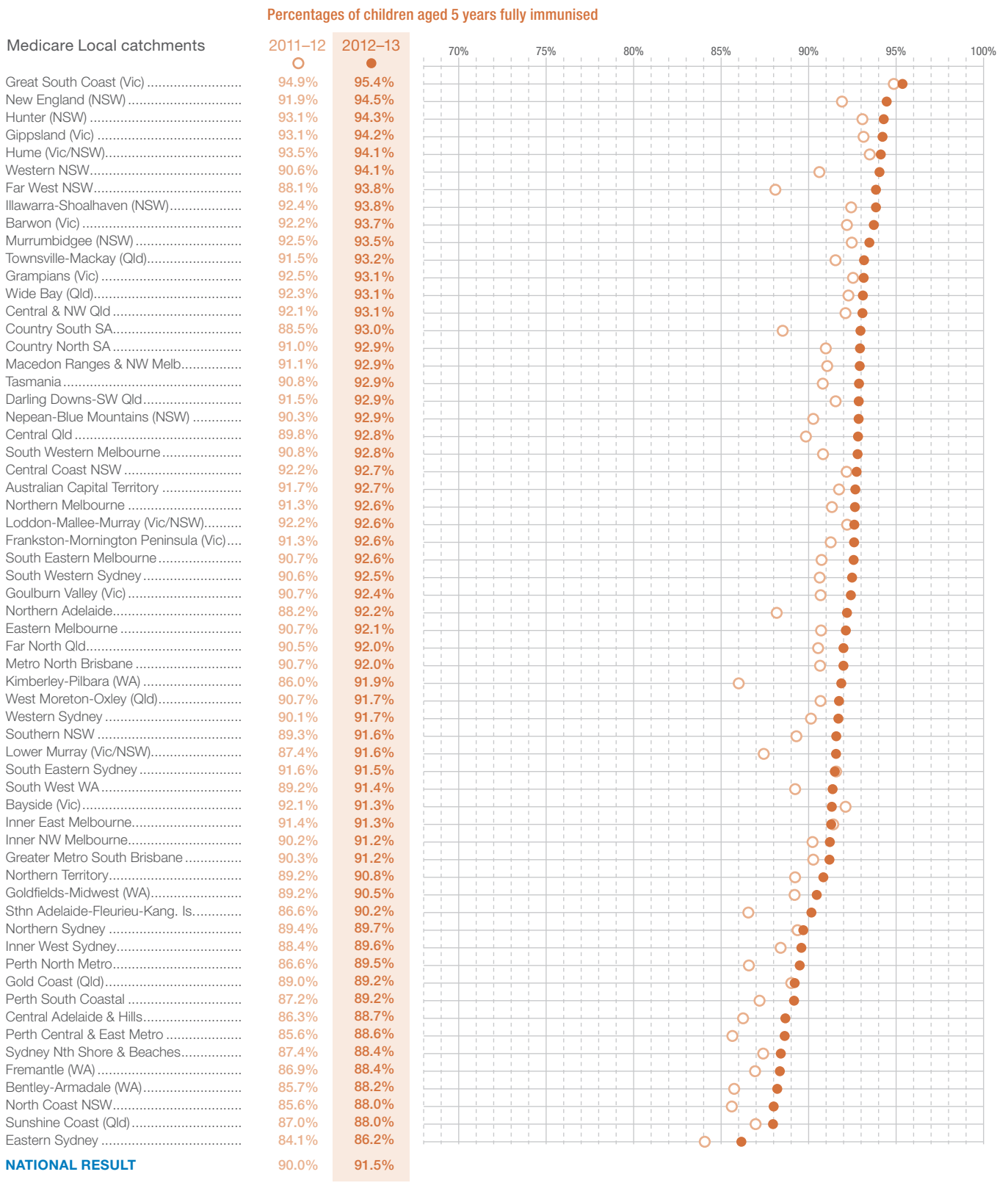
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2011–12, data supplied 14 January 2013, and 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Figure 6: Percentages of all children, aged 2 years, who were fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2011–12 and 2012–13



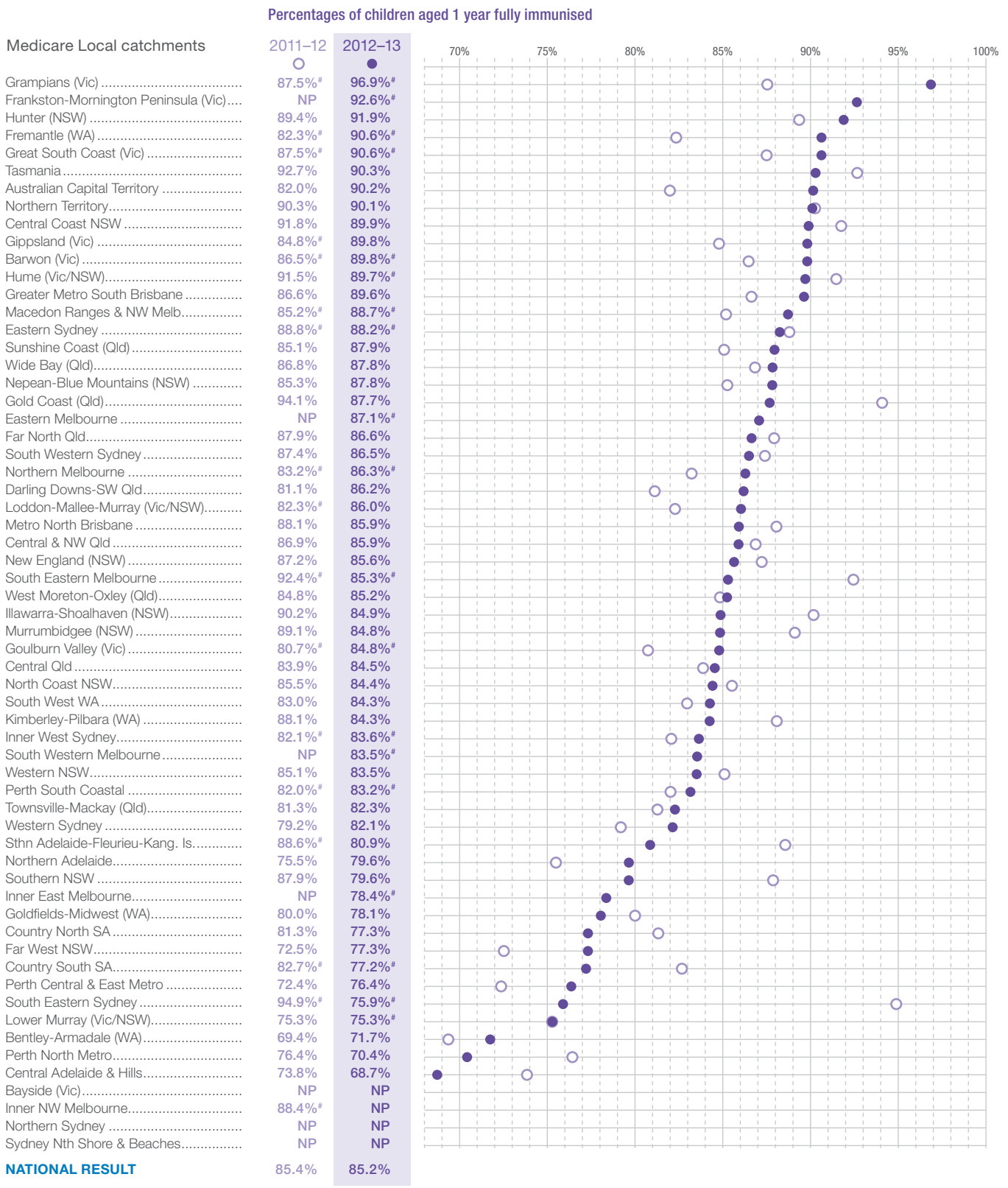
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2011–12, data supplied 14 January 2013, and 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Figure 7: Percentages of all children, aged 5 years, who were fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2011–12 and 2012–13



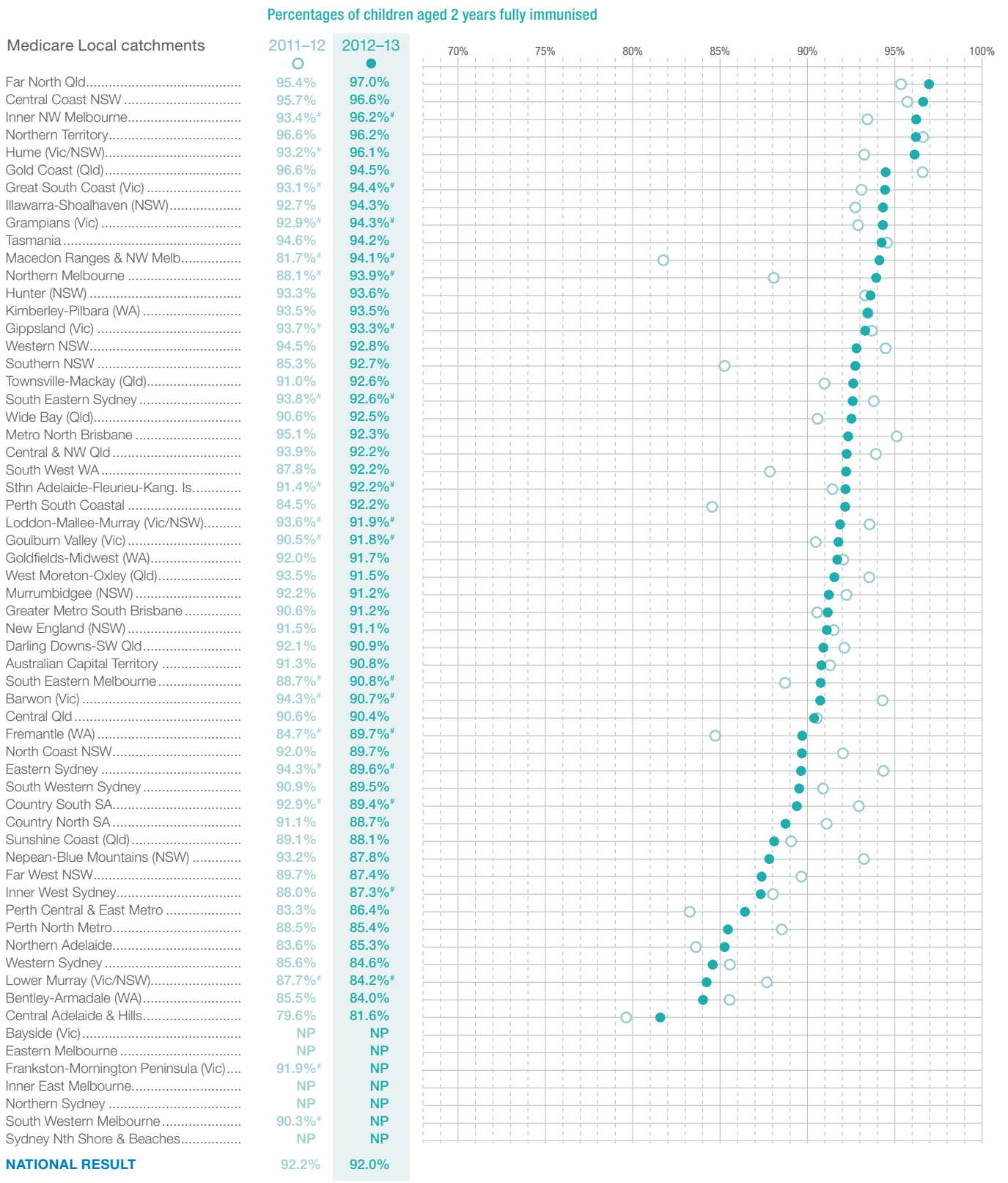
Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2011–12, data supplied 14 January 2013, and 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Figure 8: Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, aged 1 year, who were fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2011–12 and 2012–13



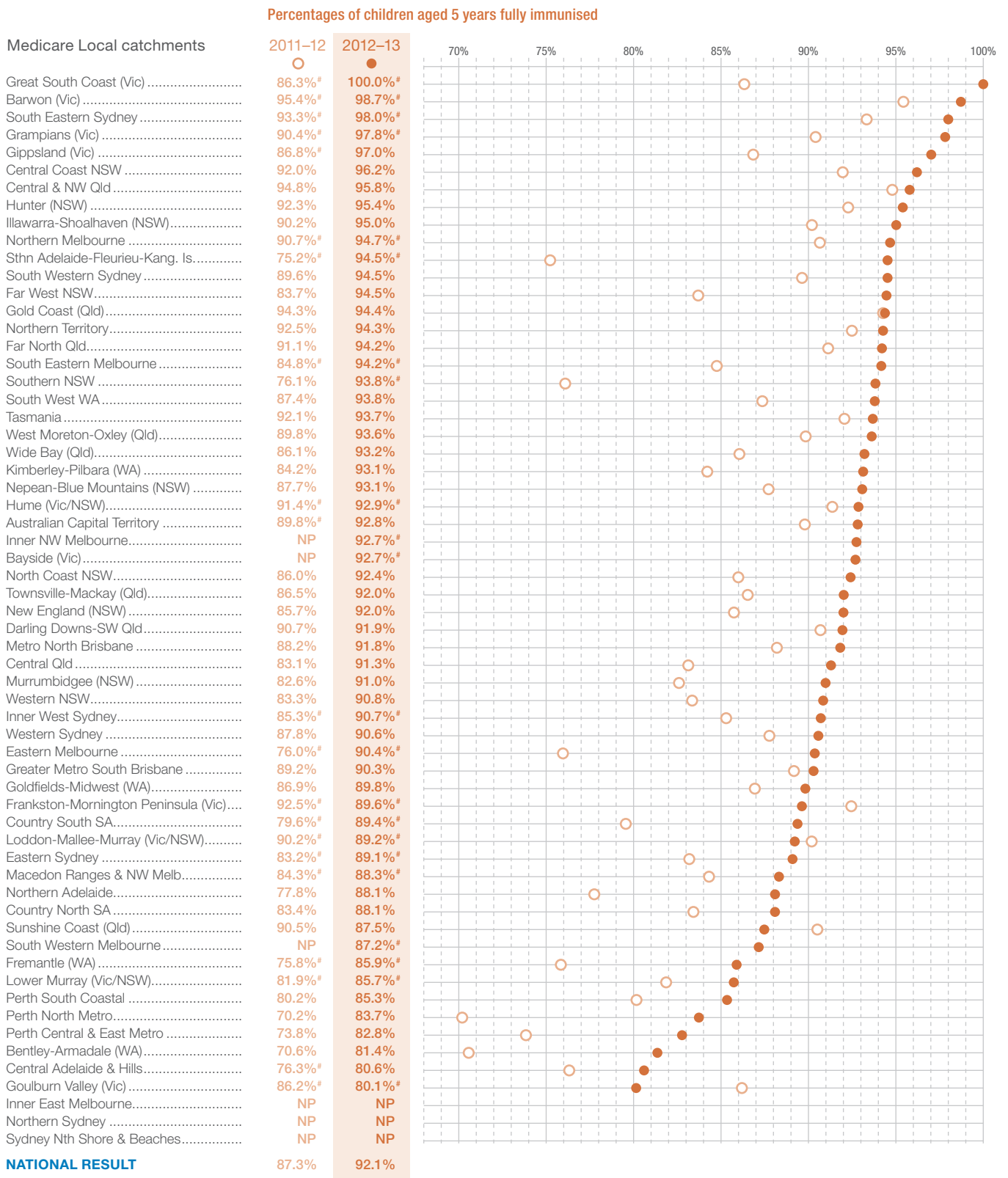
Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
 NP Not available for publication. Medicare Local catchments with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported.
 Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2011–12, data supplied 14 January 2013, and 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Figure 9: Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, aged 2 years, who were fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2011–12 and 2012–13



Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
 NP Not available for publication. Medicare Local catchments with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported.
 Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2011–12, data supplied 14 January 2013, and 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Figure 10: Percentages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, aged 5 years, who were fully immunised, by Medicare Local catchment, 2011–12 and 2012–13



Interpret with caution. The eligible population is between 26 and 100 children, therefore small data errors can affect results.
 NP Not available for publication. Medicare Local catchments with fewer than 26 registered children in the age group are not reported.
 Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2011–12, data supplied 14 January 2013, and 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

Table 6: Postcodes with the highest and lowest percentages of all children fully immunised in 2011–12, and change in 2012–13

Children aged 1 year

	Postcode	Suburbs	Percentage fully immunised		Change
			2011–12	2012–13	
Highest rates 2011-12	3206	Albert Park and Middle Park (Vic)	99.3%	92.6%	-6.7
	2619	Jerrabomberra (NSW)	98.7%	96.8%	-1.9
	2912	Gungahlin (ACT)	98.4%	97.4%	-1.0
	3033	Keilor East (Vic)	98.0%	94.0%	-4.0
	4073	Seventeen Mile Rocks and Sinnamon Park (Qld)	97.5%	94.1%	-3.4
Lowest rates 2011-12	6162	Beaconsfield, South Fremantle and White Gum Valley (WA)	81.7%	87.0%	+5.3
	2780	Katoomba, Leura and Medlow Bath (NSW)	78.3%	80.7%	+2.4
	2483	Brunswick Heads, Ocean Shores (NSW) and 12 others	77.2%	72.4%	-4.8
	2481	Broken Head, Byron Bay (NSW) and seven others	76.3%	68.9%	-7.4
	2000	Haymarket, Sydney, The Rocks (NSW) and five others	73.1%	78.0%	+4.9

Children aged 2 years

	Postcode	Suburbs	Percentage fully immunised		Change
			2011–12	2012–13	
Highest rates 2011-12	4820	Charters Towers (Qld) and 20 others	98.9%	96.0%	-2.9
	0822	Acacia Hills (NT) and 101 others	98.9%	96.5%	-2.4
	7010	Glenorchy (Tas) and four others	98.6%	96.0%	-2.6
	0872	Ngaanyatjarra-Giles, Nyapari, Yulara (NT, SA and WA) and 71 others	98.4%	95.9%	-2.5
	2327	Kurri Kurri, Pelaw Main and Stanford Merthyr (NSW)	98.2%	95.5%	-2.7
Lowest rates 2011-12	2780	Katoomba, Leura and Medlow Bath (NSW)	80.9%	77.3%	-3.6
	2095	Manly and Manly East (NSW)	80.2%	86.6%	+6.4
	2000	Haymarket, Sydney, The Rocks (NSW) and five others	78.1%	73.4%	-4.7
	2483	Brunswick Heads, Ocean Shores (NSW) and 12 others	71.8%	74.8%	+3.0
	2481	Broken Head, Byron Bay (NSW) and seven others	69.4%	73.6%	+4.2

Children aged 5 years

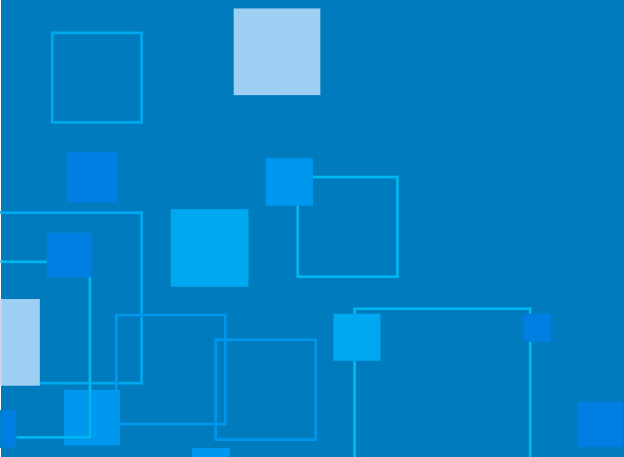
	Postcode	Suburbs	Percentage fully immunised		Change
			2011–12	2012–13	
Highest rates 2011-12	3807	Beaconsfield and Guys Hill (Vic)	99.1%	96.4%	-2.7
	3300	Byaduk North and Hamilton (Vic)	98.4%	95.9%	-2.5
	2590	Bethungra, Cootamundra and Illabo (NSW)	98.0%	94.1%	-3.9
	3059	Greenvale (Vic)	97.6%	95.3%	-2.3
	4865	Gordonvale (Qld) and five others	97.4%	94.9%	-2.5
Lowest rates 2011-12	2483	Brunswick Heads, Ocean Shores (NSW) and 12 others	74.6%	70.2%	-4.4
	2780	Katoomba, Leura and Medlow Bath (NSW)	74.3%	85.2%	+10.9
	6102	Bentley, Bentley South and St James (WA)	73.3%	88.0%	+14.7
	2000	Haymarket, Sydney, The Rocks (NSW) and five others	67.0%	72.1%	+5.1
	2481	Broken Head, Byron Bay (NSW) and seven others	63.3%	66.7%	+3.4

Note: Results are provided for postcodes with more than 100 children registered in both 2011–12 and 2012–13.

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Human Services, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics 2011–12, data supplied 14 January 2013, and 2012–13, data supplied 6 February 2014.

HPV immunisation

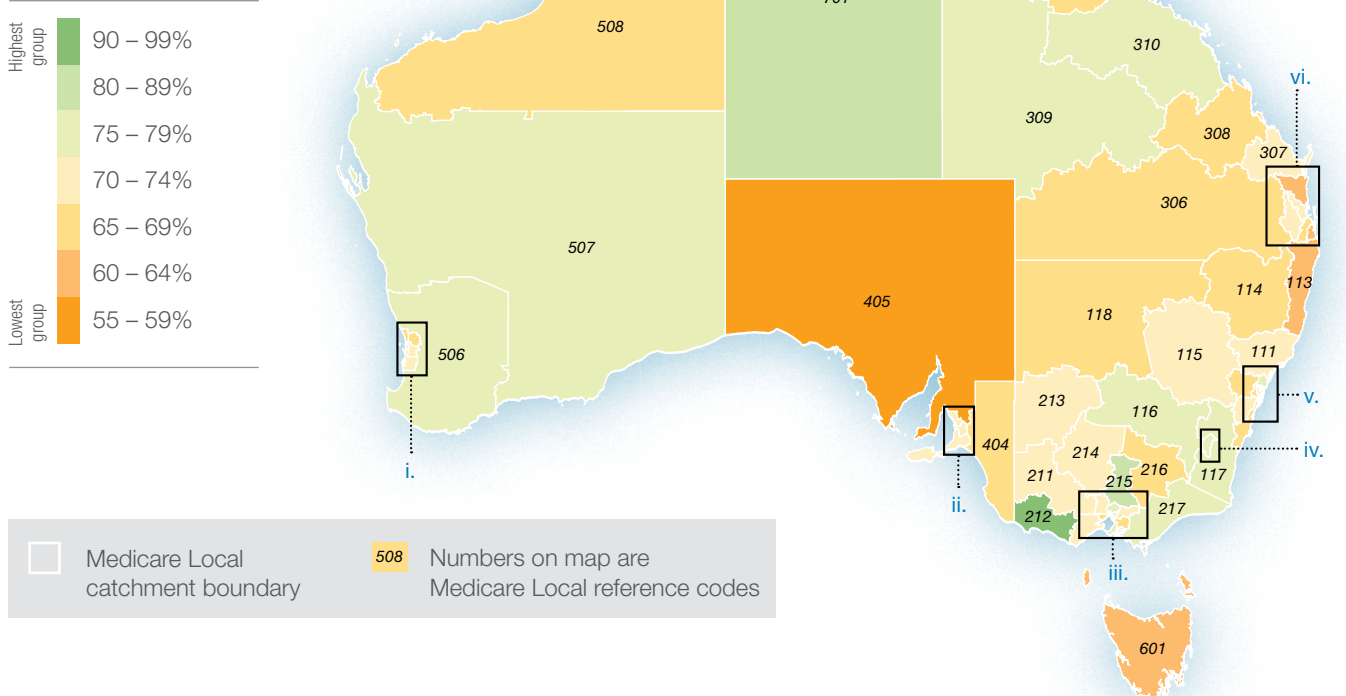
Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13



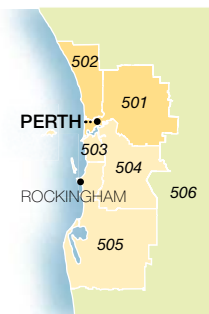
Girls turning 15 years in 2012 who were fully immunised against HPV

The percentage of girls who turned 15 years in 2012 who had received all three doses of the human papillomavirus (HPV)¹ vaccine according to the recommended schedule varied across Medicare Local catchments, ranging from 92% in Great South Coast (Vic) to 59% in Eastern Sydney and Country North SA.

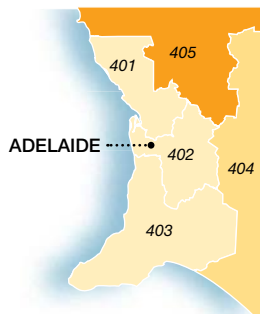
Percentage of girls who turned 15 years in 2012 who had received all three doses of HPV vaccine according to schedule



i. Perth and surrounding areas



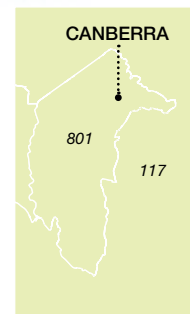
ii. Adelaide and surrounding areas



iii. Melbourne and surrounding areas



iv. Canberra and surrounding areas

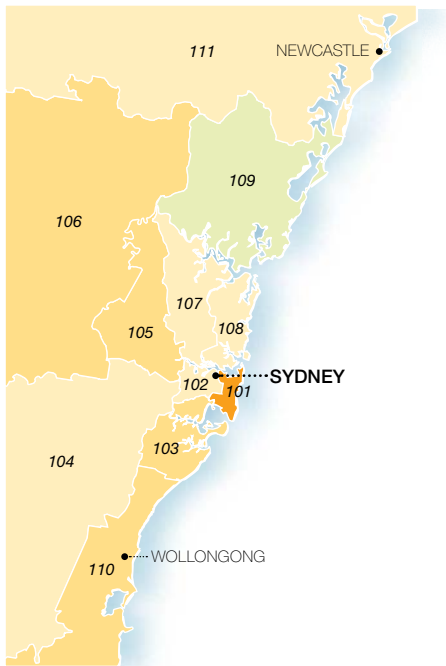


1. Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common sexually transmitted virus that can cause genital warts as well as cancers of the cervix, vagina, vulva, penis and anus.

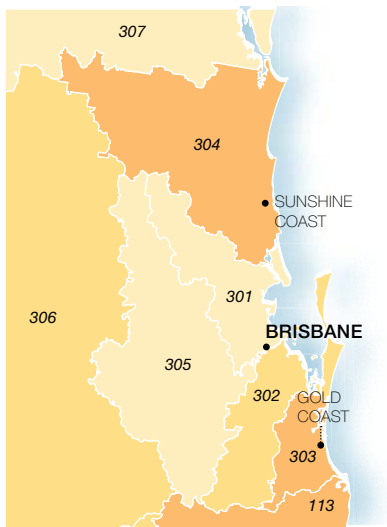
Note: These data include girls turning 15 years in 2012 whose year of birth is 1997 and who have completed the recommended three-dose course of HPV vaccination. Only vaccinations reported to the National HPV Vaccination Program Register (HPV Register) are included. Girls whose courses are considered to be incomplete according to the Chief Medical Officer guidelines (<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/cmo-full-advice-hpv-cnt>) and girls who do not wish their details to be recorded on the HPV Register are excluded.

Source: National Health Performance Authority analysis of Department of Health, National HPV Vaccination Program Register, data extracted 8 January 2014.

v. Sydney and surrounding areas



vi. Brisbane and surrounding areas



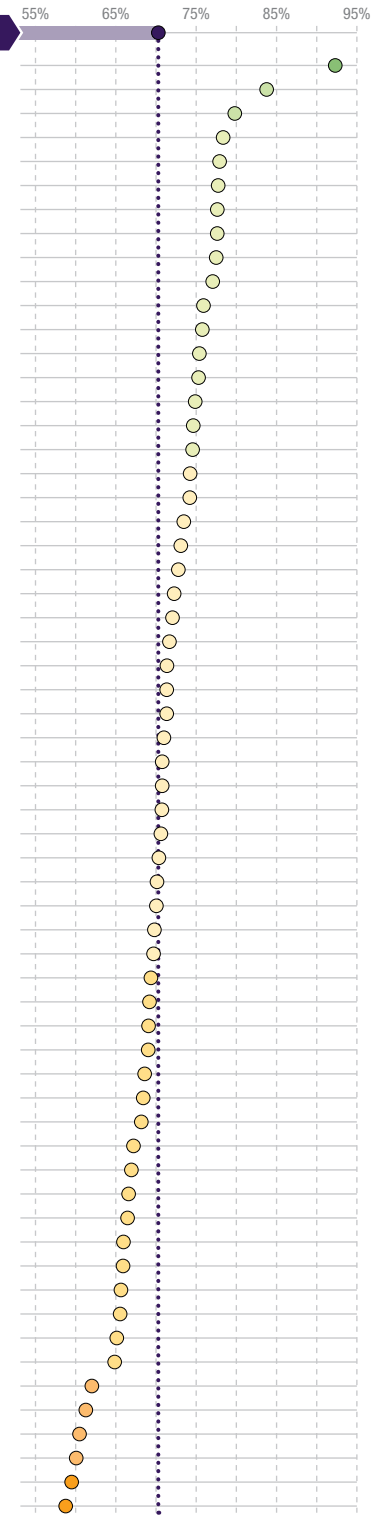
Map
Ref.

Medicare Local catchments

National fully immunised rate

70%

Great South Coast (Vic).....	212	92%
Northern Territory	701	84%
Goulburn Valley (Vic).....	215	80%
Frankston-Mornington Peninsula (Vic).....	209	78%
Bayside (Vic).....	202	78%
South West WA.....	506	78%
Townsville-Mackay (Qld)	310	78%
Central & NW Qld.....	309	78%
Inner East Melbourne	206	77%
Goldfields-Midwest (WA)	507	77%
Southern NSW	117	76%
Gippsland (Vic)	217	76%
Murrumbidgee (NSW).....	116	75%
Northern Melbourne	205	75%
Inner NW Melbourne	201	75%
Central Coast NSW	109	75%
Australian Capital Territory	801	75%
Barwon (Vic).....	210	74%
Wide Bay (Qld)	307	74%
Bentley-Armadale (WA).....	504	73%
Grampians (Vic)	211	73%
Western NSW	115	73%
Central Adelaide & Hills.....	402	72%
Northern Adelaide	401	72%
Sydney Nth Shore & Beaches.....	108	72%
Loddon-Mallee-Murray (Vic/NSW)	214	71%
Perth South Coastal	505	71%
Metro North Brisbane	301	71%
South Western Sydney	104	71%
Hunter (NSW)	111	71%
Eastern Melbourne	207	71%
Inner West Sydney	102	71%
Sthn Adelaide-Fleurieu-Kang. Is.....	403	71%
Fremantle (WA).....	503	70%
Macedon Ranges & NW Melb	204	70%
Northern Sydney	107	70%
West Moreton-Oxley (Qld).....	305	70%
Lower Murray (Vic/NSW)	213	70%
New England (NSW).....	114	69%
Greater Metro South Brisbane	302	69%
Perth North Metro	502	69%
Kimberley-Pilbara (WA)	508	69%
South Eastern Sydney	103	69%
Far West NSW.....	118	68%
Far North Qld	311	68%
Perth Central & East Metro	501	67%
Central Qld	308	67%
Darling Downs-SW Qld.....	306	67%
Nepean-Blue Mountains (NSW)	106	66%
South Western Melbourne.....	203	66%
Hume (Vic/NSW)	216	66%
Country South SA	404	66%
Western Sydney	105	66%
Illawarra-Shoalhaven (NSW).....	110	65%
South Eastern Melbourne.....	208	65%
North Coast NSW	113	62%
Sunshine Coast (Qld).....	304	61%
Gold Coast (Qld).....	303	60%
Tasmania.....	601	60%
Country North SA.....	405	59%
Eastern Sydney	101	59%



More information can be found at www.myhealthyclimate.gov.au and in this report's Technical Supplement. Data can be downloaded from www.myhealthyclimate.gov.au

Glossary

Conscientious objector	Parents or guardians who register with the Australian Government an objection to their child being immunised are described as conscientious objectors.
Diphtheria	Diphtheria is an acute illness caused by the bacterium <i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i> . Symptoms include severe inflammation of the nose, throat and windpipe leading to breathing and swallowing problems. Diphtheria can cause nerve and heart damage, and result in death.
Fully immunised	Fully immunised means received the scheduled vaccinations according to age for hepatitis B (hepB); diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (acellular pertussis) (DTPa); <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type B (Hib); poliomyelitis (inactivated poliomyelitis IPV); and measles, mumps and rubella (MMR). See <i>Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2012–13, Technical Supplement</i> for more information.
German measles	See rubella.
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type B (Hib)	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type B is a bacterium that causes meningitis and other serious infections in young children.
Hepatitis	Hepatitis means inflammation of the liver. The most common types of viral hepatitis are hepatitis A, hepatitis B and hepatitis C.
Human papillomavirus	Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common sexually transmitted virus that affects both men and women. There are different types of HPV that affect different parts of the body, with some types being more harmful than others. HPV can cause genital warts as well as cancers of the cervix, vagina, vulva, penis and anus.
Infection	An infection occurs when bacteria or viruses enter the human body. If the body cannot fight the infection, the person may get sick. Measles, rubella, mumps, polio and hepatitis B are examples of infections caused by viruses. Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and Hib are examples of infections caused by bacteria.
Immunisation	Immunisation means both receiving a vaccine and becoming immune to a disease as a result of being vaccinated.
Measles	Measles is a highly infectious disease caused by the <i>Morbillivirus</i> . Symptoms include rash, fever, cough, runny nose and inflammation of the eye.

Medicare Local	Medicare Locals plan and fund health services in communities across Australia. They help to ensure patients can access the care they need, particularly when a variety of health workers are involved in providing treatments.
Medicare Local catchment	A Medicare Local catchment is a population that lives in a specific geographical area defined as a Medicare Local. See Medicare Local.
Meningitis	See <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type B (Hib)
Mumps	Mumps is a salivary gland infection caused by the <i>Rubulavirus</i> . Symptoms include swelling under the jaw, fever, headache and aching muscles.
National Immunisation Program Schedule	The schedule which describes the 16 vaccinations that are provided free to Australians under childhood programs, school programs and programs for special groups.
Pertussis	See whooping cough.
Polio	Polio, also known as poliomyelitis, is caused by a highly infectious virus. Symptoms include headache, nausea and vomiting, tiredness, stiffness and muscle pain. Polio also causes paralysis and in some cases is fatal.
Rubella	Rubella, also known as German measles, is a viral illness that causes a rash and joint pains.
Statistical Area Level 3	A geographic area defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) which has a population of between 30,000 and 130,000 people. There are more than 300 Statistical Areas Level 3 in Australia.
Tetanus	Tetanus, also known as lockjaw, is a serious disease caused by the bacterium <i>Clostridium tetani</i> . Caused by a toxin made by bacteria present in soil, dust and manure, tetanus attacks the nervous system and causes severe muscle spasms leading to breathing difficulties, painful convulsions and abnormal heart rhythms.
Vaccine	A preventative health product that protects individuals against diseases by training the immune system to recognise and fight off invading organisms.
Whooping cough	Whooping cough, also known as pertussis, is a serious, contagious respiratory infection caused by the bacterium <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> .

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The National Health Performance Authority received advice from its Immunisation Report Advisory Committee. The group did not have a direct role in writing the report.

The Advisory Committee comprised:

- Ms Lisa Briggs
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 - Immunisation Manager, Queensland Health
- Ms Debra Petrys
 - Consumer representative nominated to bring a consumer perspective by the Consumers Health Forum of Australia.

The Authority also received advice from Dr Julia Brotherton and Genevieve Chappell from the National HPV Vaccination Program Register operated by the Victorian Cytology Service.

This report relies on data provided by the Australian Government Department of Health from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR), and data from the National HPV Vaccination Program Register operated by the Victorian Cytology Service. These data were used to calculate the performance measures in this report. The Authority does a number of checks to ensure data quality, and also relies on the data quality work of these data custodians.

About the Authority

The National Health Performance Authority has been set up as an independent agency under the *National Health Reform Act 2011*. It commenced full operations in 2012.

Under the terms of the Act, the Authority monitors and reports on the performance of Local Hospital Networks, public and private hospitals, primary health care organisations and other bodies that provide health care services.

The Authority's reports give all Australians access to timely and impartial information that allows them to compare fairly their local health care organisations against other similar organisations and against national standards.

The reports let people see, often for the first time, how their local health care organisations measure up against comparable organisations across Australia.

The Authority's activities are also guided by a document known as the Performance and Accountability Framework agreed by the Council of Australian Governments. The framework contains 48 indicators that form the basis for the Authority's performance reports.

The Authority's role will include reporting on the performance of health care organisations against the 48 indicators in order to identify both high performing Local Hospital Networks, Medicare Locals and hospitals (so effective practices can be shared), and Local Hospital Networks and Medicare Locals that perform poorly (so that steps can be taken to address problems).

The Authority releases reports on a quarterly basis, and also publishes performance data on the MyHospitals website (www.myhospitals.gov.au), the MyHealthyCommunities website (www.myhealthycommunities.gov.au) and on www.nhpa.gov.au

The Authority consists of a Chairman, a Deputy Chairman and five other members, appointed for up to five years. Members of the Authority are:

- Ms Patricia Faulkner AO (Chairman)
- Mr John Walsh AM (Deputy Chairman)
- Dr David Filby PSM
- Professor Michael Reid
- Professor Bryant Stokes AM RFD (on leave)
- Professor Paul Torzillo AM
- Professor Claire Jackson.

The conclusions in this report are those of the Authority. No official endorsement from any Minister, department of health or health care organisation is intended or should be inferred.

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