

Paediatric Respiratory Pathogen Report

Week 33, 16th August 2021 – 22nd August 2021

Please note, an abridged version of this report will be circulated whilst influenza activity is low

- The most common respiratory viruses detected in paediatric patients this week were parainfluenza virus 3 (75 cases) and human metapneumovirus (60 cases).
- There were 12 paediatric cases of RSV this week. Nine were from the Metro area and three were from regional WA.
- There were no paediatric influenza cases detected at PathWest this week.
- The total number of paediatric cases of COVID-19 detected by PCR at PathWest is 63, as of 25th of August.

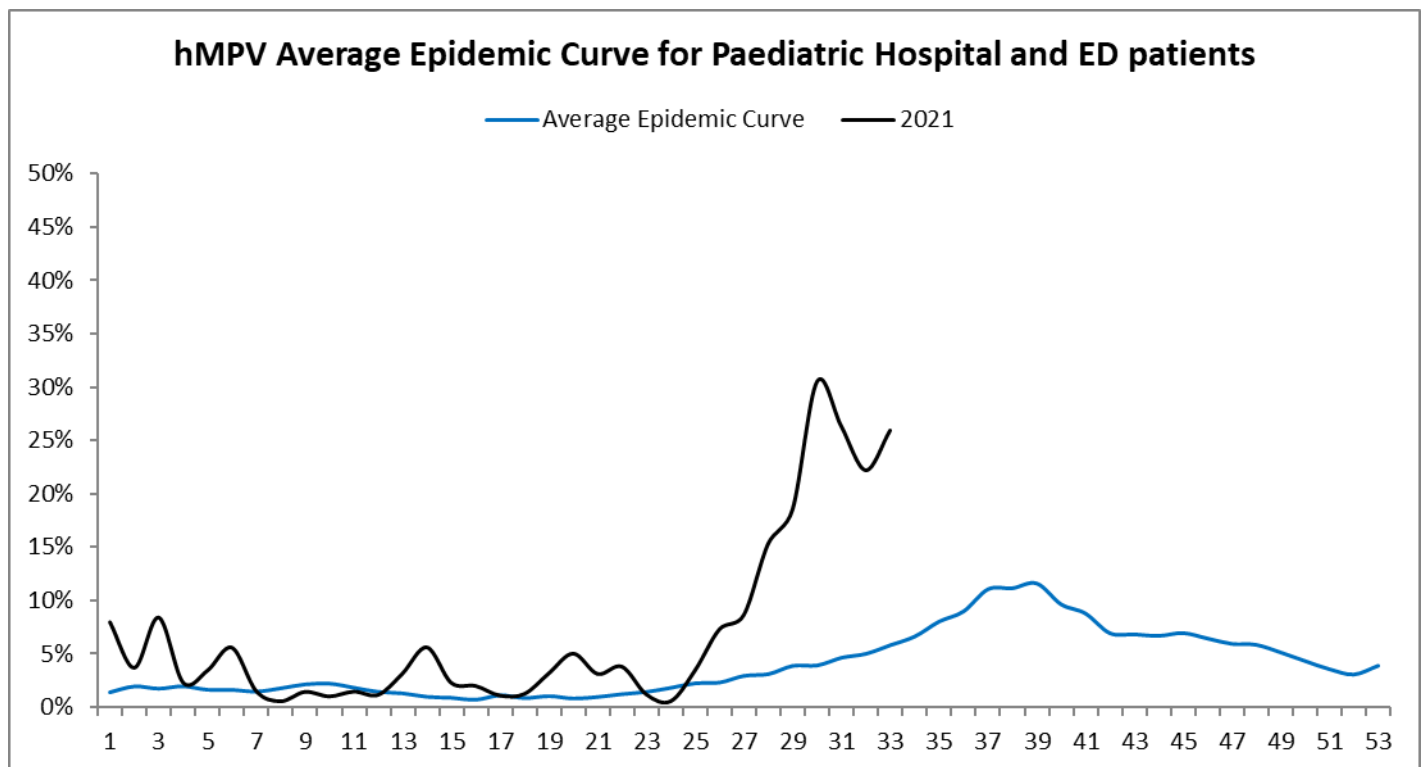


Figure 1: The current season plotted against the Paediatric HMPV Average Epidemic Curve. The average epidemic curve was constructed by averaging all seasons measured at PathWest QE2 from 2007-2019. Data represents all WA hospitalised and ED paediatric patients tested by PathWest

HMPV proportion positive (26%) is considerably higher than levels historically observed at this time of year.

Data is representative of all patients attending a hospital (public or private) in Western Australia, for which a respiratory sample was collected and tested at a PathWest laboratory.

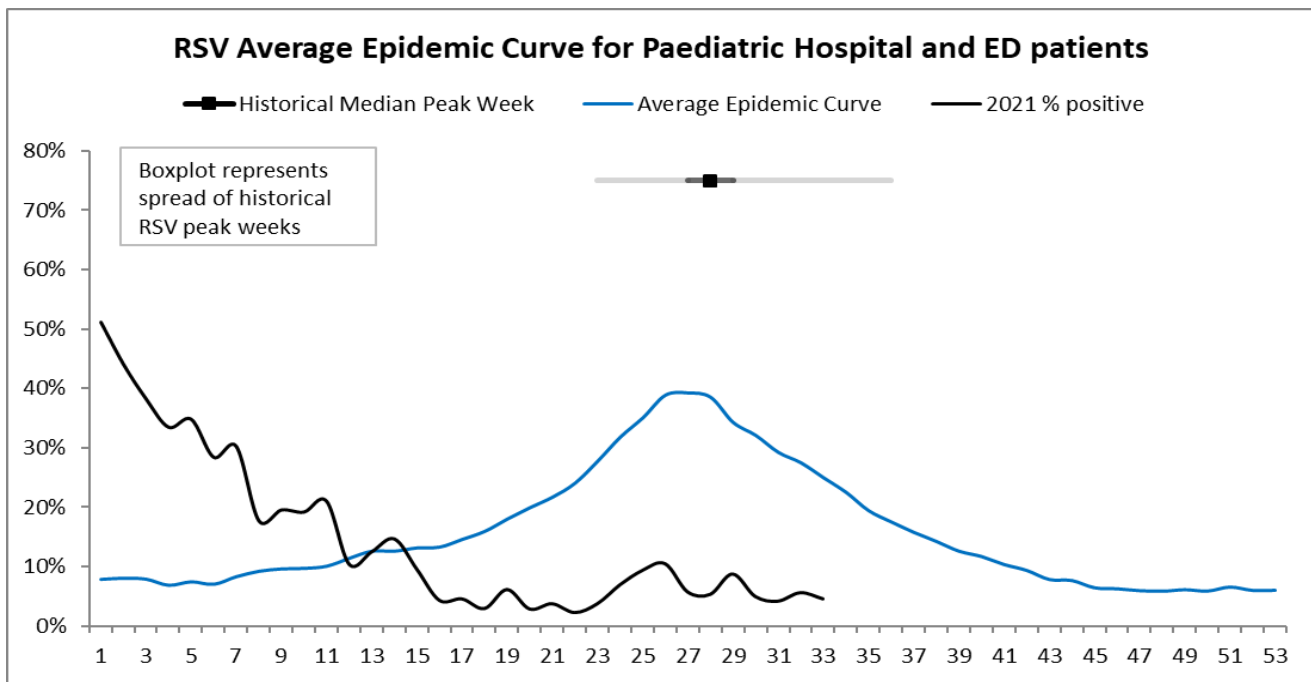


Figure 2: The current season plotted against the Paediatric RSV Average Epidemic Curve. The average epidemic curve was constructed by averaging all seasons measured at PathWest QE2 from 2007-2019. The high intensity threshold is 1.645 standard deviations above (upper 90% CI) the average epidemic curve. Data represents all WA hospitalised and ED paediatric patients tested by PathWest.

RSV proportion positive (4.6%) is lower than levels historically observed at this time of year.

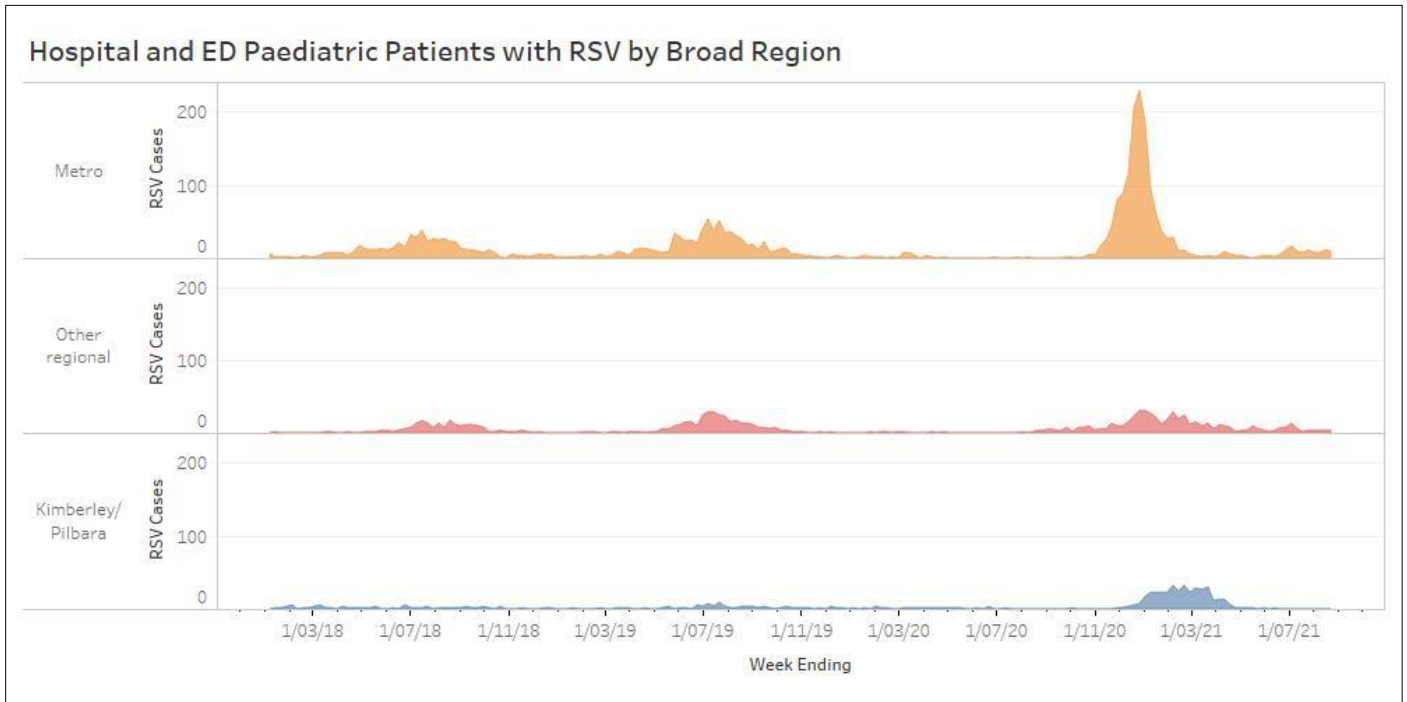


Figure 3: Hospital attending paediatric patients with RSV in Perth metropolitan region, in both Kimberley and Pilbara combined and in the remaining regions combined.

Of the 12 paediatric cases of RSV this week, nine were from the Metro area, 2 were from the Southwest and 1 was from the Midwest.

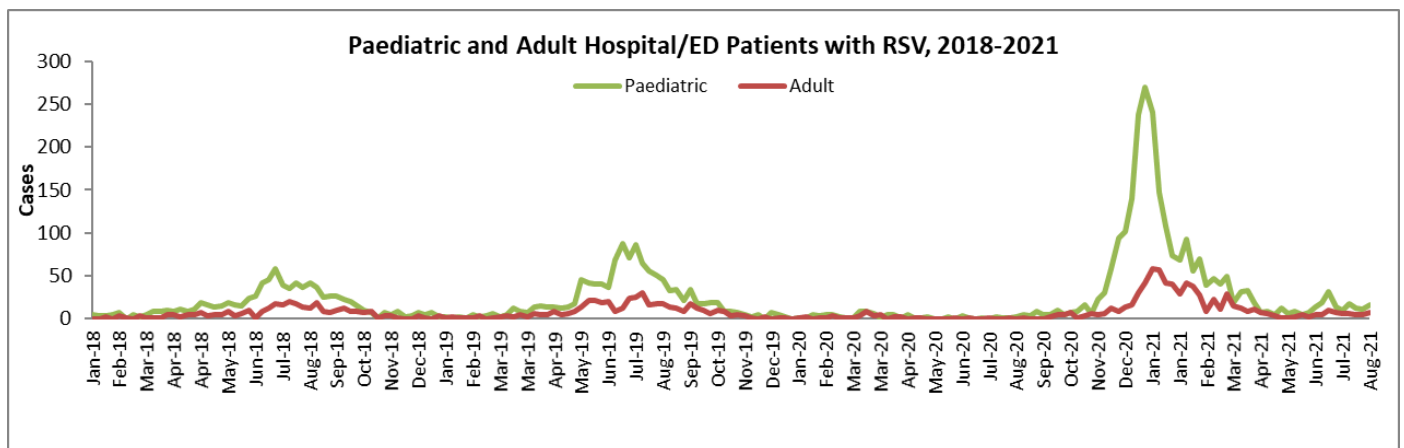


Figure 4: Paediatric and adult hospital attending patients with RSV, 2018-2021.

There were 12 children and 10 adults with RSV who attended a hospital.

Data is representative of all patients attending a hospital (public or private) in Western Australia, for which a respiratory sample was collected and tested at a PathWest laboratory.