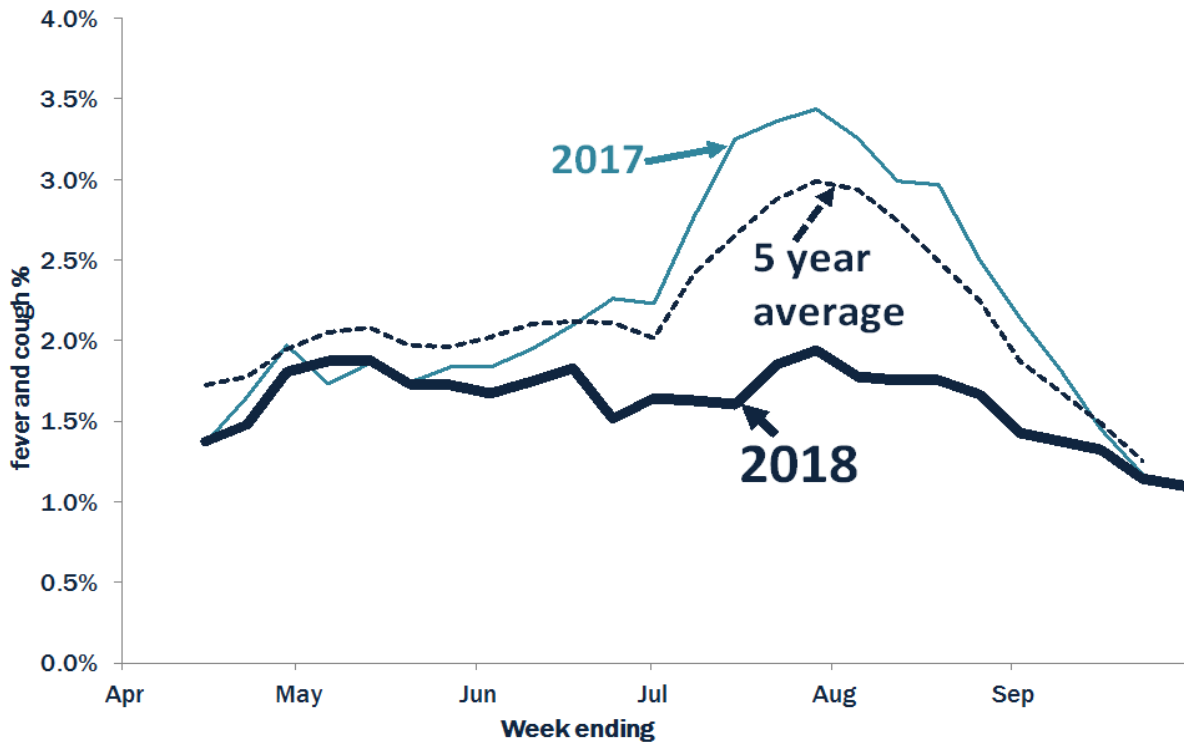


Australia Annual Participant Report 2018

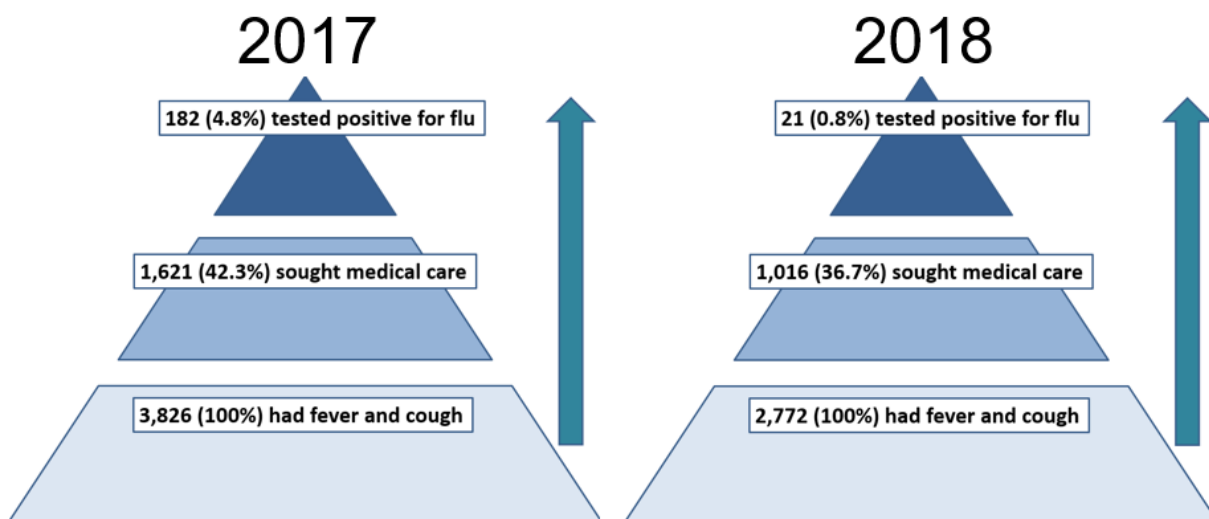
2018 fever and cough levels for Australia were the lowest on record in FluTracking data.



You showed us that the 2018 influenza season had lower levels of influenza-like illness activity than in recent years, as well as lower levels of associated absenteeism. Collectively FluTrackers had 40,850 days (112 years!) off work or normal duties due to fever and cough symptoms. However, this was much lower than the 2017 absenteeism levels.

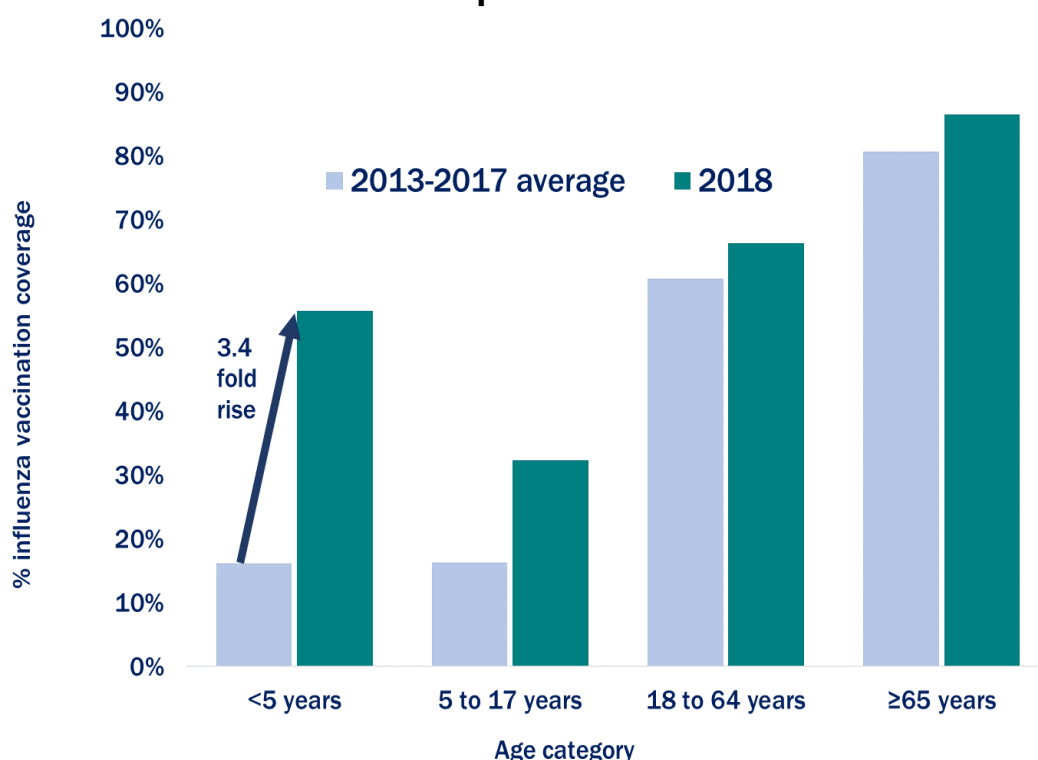
A burden of illness pyramid is a method for estimating the relationship between influenza-like illness at the community level with national influenza laboratory reports. The figure below describes surveillance levels from cough and fever through to positive laboratory tests for influenza (self-reported) among FluTracking participants across Australia, for the four weeks of peak influenza activity beginning week ending 06/08/2017 to 27/08/2017 and 12/08/2018 to 02/09/2018.

One sixth as many FluTrackers tested positive for influenza in 2018, as compared to 2017.



Of our participants that reported fever and cough in 2017 and 2018, there was a lower proportion of participants seeking medical advice for flu-like illness in 2018, as compared to 2017, and a lower proportion of FluTrackers testing positive for influenza in 2018, as compared to 2017.

More than 3 times as many young children were vaccinated in 2018, as compared to 2017.



Vaccination coverage in 2018 was 55.7% in participants aged under five compared to a five year average of 16.2%. Vaccination coverage in 2018 was also higher in older participants, and markedly so in the 5 to 17 year age group (32.2% for 2018 compared to a five year average of 16.2%).