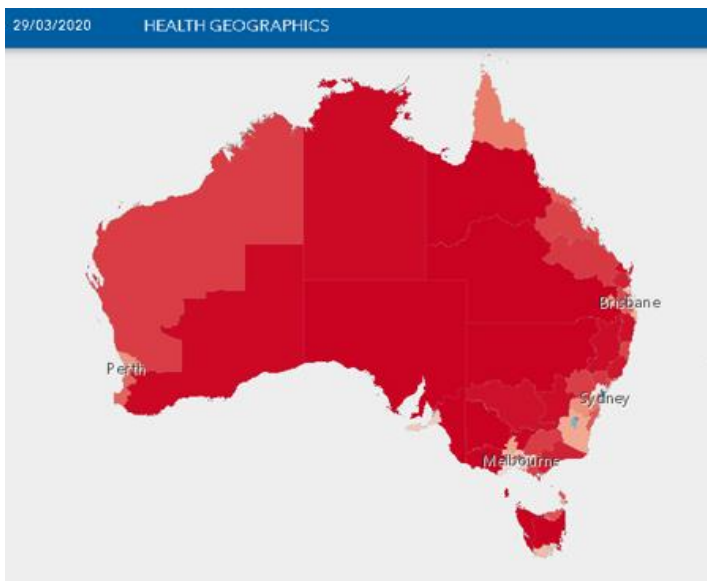




A demographic profile of Covid-19 begins to emerge from the chaos of the first wave of tests.

Dear Colleagues, this is our second update on Covid-19, based on the data we've been able to assemble so far, compiled from spatial profiles of LGA testing results in New South Wales and Victoria. More states providing this LGA data to the public would be greatly appreciated.

Click image: [Link to Covid 19 Map published in the Australian today 31/3/2020.](#)



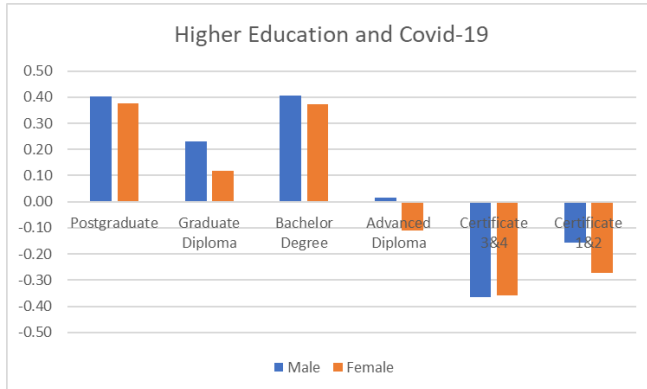
It's important to acknowledge that what we're looking at with this data is the result of the first wave of testing, mainly centred on Australians returning from overseas holidays.

Many of the older members of this group returned on cruise ships, so much so, that cruise ships have been identified by the Commonwealth as a

country in their own right, when it comes to overseas sources of the virus.

The layperson's profile of this group would say it's the 60 years and over group, wealthier, retired and the layperson would be pretty right. I guess we all know a bit more about this group, because it's the one at most risk from serious illness and this justifiably gets the most attention.

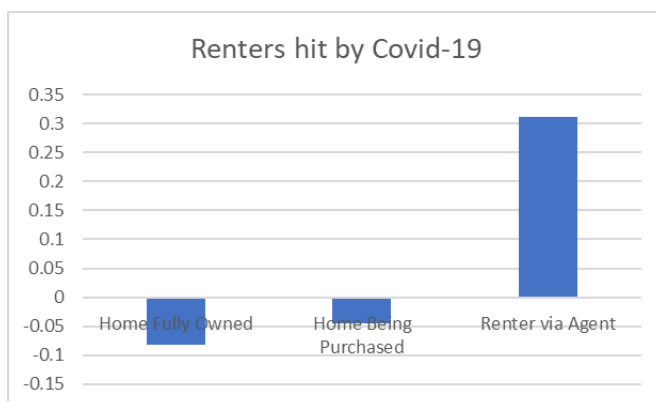
When we drilled down a bit more, the profile got more complicated. The age pyramids produced by the Australian Government confirm, by far the biggest ten-year age group when it comes to positive tests are twenty somethings, especially young women.



But these groups feel themselves to be relatively low risk from serious illness. Recent pictures from Bondi Beach come to mind here. So, we're looking for a Coming of Age profile as well among the positives profile. And we found that too.

So now we have a group of older and wealthier retirees, extremely vulnerable to Covid-19, who caught the virus themselves from an overseas trip and twenty-somethings, carrying the virus, but suffering less drastic outcomes.

As far as the kids go, the groups aged 0 to 20 years, the advice from medical officers has consistently been that they tend to catch very low doses of the virus and suffer little risk of serious illness. Let's assume that's correct for now and that Covid-19 continues to cooperate with this assessment.

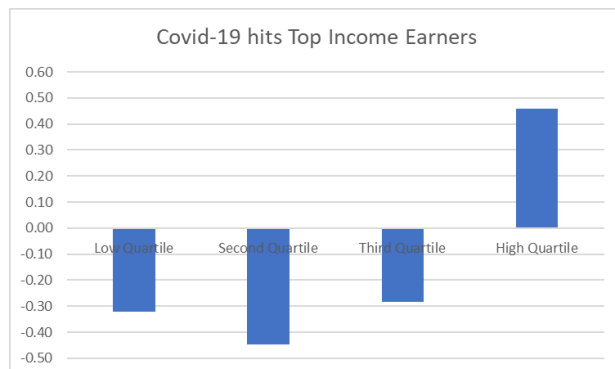


Finally, there's one other very big group still outstanding here and that's persons aged 30 to 60 years, many of whom are raising kids or desperately trying to get them to fly the nest, but perhaps not so much now.

The common factor that emerges with the 30 to 60 group when it comes to positive tests is income or wealth, followed by proximity to the CBDs of our major cities or regional Universities.

Covid-19 is a virus that now has a foothold among the higher income, professional, inner urban Australians catching taxis or public transport to CBD or inner urban jobs in Media, Finance Real Estate and Professional Consulting.

At the other end of this spectrum, the Australians with lower incomes and less wealth, with blue-collar or middle white-collar jobs – especially if they live a long way from the inner cities or University towns – have had far lower chances of testing positive.



Not being able to afford an expensive overseas holiday does have its benefits. Here we are looking at our stereotypical middle to outer suburban Working Families and the Digitally Disrupted we find on the urban fringes and across rural and provincial Australia.

The challenge now facing Australian Health Authorities is how to stop the virus spreading from the rich to the poor and from the densely settled inner urban flats and hostels, to the more sparsely populated outer suburbs and country towns.

The linkages could come from a professional meeting their clients, from a wholesaler delivering to many retailers, from a home delivery driver to their many customers, or from recently unemployed CBD baristas getting a job picking fruit in a country farm.

The current lockdowns have attacked many of these linkages, but others may yet emerge. For the moment, schools are effectively closed, we're all working from home, the kids are driving us crazy, but things could be a lot worse.

So stay safe. Stay home. And wash your hands.

31/3/2020