



PHEOC BULLETIN #48

Thursday 11 February 2021 14:00 Hours

This bulletin has been authorised by the PHEOC Coordinator, Dr Revle Bangor-Jones

COVID-19 Case numbers

- As of **Thursday 11 February**, there have been **910** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Western Australia (WA) and **50** historical cases. **893** people have recovered.
- To date a total of **818,788** COVID-19 tests have been conducted in WA.
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports](#) & [WHO Dashboard](#)

Living with COVID

Out of lockdown

At 6:01pm on 5 February, Perth, Peel and South West regions came out of lockdown. Some restrictions remain in place for Perth and Peel until 12.01am Sunday 14 February. **For people in the South West regions, the current Perth and Peel region restrictions do not apply.** However, general restrictions and controlled interstate borders still apply as they did before the lockdown.

Perth metropolitan area and the Peel region

For the Perth metropolitan area and the Peel region, masks are still mandatory outside the home, including in the workplace. [The HealthyWA website](#) provides more information on mask use. A 4sqm rule will apply to all gatherings up to a maximum of 150 patrons (excluding staff) for hospitality, entertainment, public and fitness venues. A 150-person capacity limit will apply at all events, including weddings, funerals and community sport (including players, officials and spectators) and a 20-person limit for private gatherings.

Only essential travel is permitted in and out of the Perth and Peel regions to other parts of WA.

See the WA Government website for more information about [current restrictions](#).

If you have been at any of the exposure locations at the times specified, you need to attend a COVID clinic for testing and isolate at home until you receive a negative result. The list of exposure locations is available [here](#).

Continue to monitor for symptoms for 14 days following your visit. If you experience any COVID symptoms at any time – fever, recent history of fever, coughing, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, loss of smell or taste – go to a COVID clinic to be retested.

Queensland travellers

Following the latest public health advice, Queensland moved to the 'very low risk' category at 12.01am, Monday 1 February.

Under the 'very low risk' category, safe travel is permitted into WA, subject to the following updated conditions:

- completion of a [G2G PASS](#) prior to travel, stipulating:

- they do not have any COVID-19 symptoms;
- which jurisdictions the traveller has been in over the previous 14 days;
- undergoing a health screening and temperature test if arriving at Perth Airport
- being prepared to take a COVID-19 test at the airport COVID clinic, if deemed necessary by a health clinician;
- undergoing a health screening if arriving by land.

Based on the health advice, the small number of recent arrivals from Queensland who were serving their 14 days of self-quarantine were permitted to end their period of quarantine on the same day the state transitioned to 'very low risk'.

Victorian travellers

Following the latest public health advice, there is no change to entry conditions for travellers from Victoria who remain subject to 14 days of self-quarantine and Day 11 COVID-19 testing.

State-by-state risk rating

Jurisdictions currently in the 'low risk' category include New South Wales and Victoria.

Jurisdictions currently in the 'very low risk' category include the Australian Capital Territory, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania.

For more information, see the WA Government's [controller interstate border](#) webpage.

SafeWA

There has been an expansion of the list of businesses and venues required to maintain a contact register. As of 6am on 2 February 2021, places added to the list include:

- Retail venues (including supermarkets, department stores, shopping centres, pharmacies, hardware and department stores) and retail components of other businesses where customers are physically present such as bank branches;
- Commercial buses or vessels that can carry 12 or more people where different groups of people interact (party buses, wine and food tour buses, hop on/hop off tour buses, sightseeing tours, party/function boats, sightseeing/tour boats, private charter buses/boats);
- Public and private hospitals (visitors only - persons visiting patients, or attending meetings/lectures, couriers, and contractors);
- Takeaway food and beverage services;
- Events with a COVID Event Plan (500+ patrons), and certain outdoor functions and gatherings of under 500 people (e.g. weddings, corporate functions, fetes, festivals).

Under the Contact Register Directions, there is now specific provision that a person who fails to provide their contact information at a relevant place in accordance with the direction must not remain at the relevant place.

If a business displays a business QR code, they must also display the 'Safe WA' QR code in a way which clearly identifies it as the 'Safe WA' QR code and ensures that the person entering the relevant place can use the 'Safe WA' app instead.

COVID-19 Vaccination Program

The Director General of the WA Department of Health has [announced details](#) of WA's COVID-19 vaccination program, including the location of WA managed vaccination hubs.

Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government, the vaccination program is being implemented in a phased approach, with the first eligible group (phase 1a) expected to receive the vaccine from the week beginning February 22, 2021. The first state administered vaccines will be allocated to quarantine hotel workers, including hotel staff, police, security and medical support, international airport workers with face-to-face contact with travellers, security and clinical staff at the international airport, transport staff involved in flight crew and quarantine hotel transfers, defined staff at sea ports who board and spend time on vessels with crew, and identified emergency and ward staff of Fiona Stanley and Royal Perth Hospitals who receive and treat the bulk of international arrivals. Also included in phase 1a will be high risk frontline health care workers.

As more vaccine doses become available the program will be expanded to include additional priority groups.

The Commonwealth government will be responsible for delivering COVID vaccinations to residents and staff of aged and disability residential care facilities.

More information is available on the following sites:

- WA Health: [COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (for consumers) and [COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#) (for health professionals) including a link to subscribe to the WA COVID-19 Vaccine Update.
- The Australian Government [COVID-19 vaccines hub](#) to find out more about the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) provisional approval of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, Australia's COVID-19 vaccine national roll-out strategy and where to subscribe to the Australian Government COVID-19 vaccines update.

Directions updates

COVID-19 [State of Emergency Declarations](#) and [Community Advice](#) summarises the latest COVID-19 Directions that are in place in WA. Further information can be found on [WA Government website](#).

New Directions:

[Safe Transition for Western Australia Directions](#)

[Closure and Restriction \(Limit the Spread\) Directions \(No 13\)](#)

[Contact Register Directions](#)

[Visitors to Residential Aged Care Facilities Directions \(No 6\)](#)

[Designation of an Essential, Community or Human Service and Supply Under Remote Aboriginal Communities Directions \(No 3\) \(Members of Parliament and Electoral Candidates\)](#)

Relationship between the Safe Transition for Western Australia Directions and the Closure and Restrictions (Limit the Spread) Directions #13 - It is imperative that the two Directions are read side by side. Please refer to paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Safe Transition Directions for specific details on their application.

Amended Directions:

[Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 12\)](#)

Updated fact sheets

[Clinician alert #45 – all clinicians](#)

[Clinician alert #44 – all clinicians](#)

[Testing Criteria for SARS-CoV-2 in WA #25](#)

Testing

General population testing criteria

Any person may be tested if they have any one of the following clinical criteria: fever ($\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$) OR history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills), without a known source **OR** an acute respiratory infection (e.g. shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, runny nose) **OR** acute loss of smell or taste.

Testing locations

Testing locations are listed on [Healthy WA](#).

Reporting

Notify suspected COVID-19 cases by completing the notification form either [ONLINE](#) or by printing out the notification form.

Series of National Guidelines (SoNG)

The [latest iteration](#) was released on 29 January 2021.

Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)

The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) is the key decision-making committee for health emergencies. It is comprised of all state and territory Chief Health Officers and is chaired by the Australian Chief Medical Officer.

The AHPPC has an ongoing role to advise the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) on health protection matters and national priorities. AHPPC is also tasked with the role of mitigating emerging health threats related to infectious diseases, the environment as well as natural and human made disasters. The latest statement from AHPPC statement is:

- [3 February 2021](#) – Updated statement on minimising the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools

Business and Industry

Resources for more information

- Latest [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\) News](#)
- [WA Department of Health; HealthyWA](#)
- [Department of Health Media Releases](#)
- [Australian Government Health Department](#)
- [Advice for the public \(WHO\)](#)
- [Advice in other languages](#) and [Translated Resources](#)
- [Advice for Aboriginal people](#)
- [Covid Clinic walkthrough](#) – in multiple languages

Who to contact for more information

- COVID-19 Clinic ONLY Test Results Enquiry Line: [1800 313 223](#) (Note: **NOT** for GP referred testing or private pathology clinic tests)
- COVID-19 WA Public Information Line: [132 6843 \(13 COVID\)](#)
- COVID-19 Travel Restrictions Exemption Application: Visit the [G2G PASS](#) website or complete the [exemption application form](#)
- COVID-19 WA Police Line: [131 444](#) To report breaches of: self-quarantine, business activities, border controls and other State of Emergency Directions.

Next advice - The PHEOC Bulletin is issued weekly. Next issue: **Tuesday 16 February 2021**.

Last updated 11 February 2021

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

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