



PHEOC BULLETIN #61

Tuesday 12 May 2021 14:00 Hours

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

COVID-19 case and vaccination numbers

- **Summary:** as of **Wednesday 12 May**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
 - **1015** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **87** historical cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **993** people recover from COVID-19
 - **1,128,153** COVID-19 tests conducted
 - **119,871** total vaccine doses administered including **27,681** people who have received both doses and are now fully vaccinated
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot & COVID-19 updates](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports & WHO Dashboard](#)

Living with COVID

Chief Health Officer advice

The latest advice from the Chief Health Officer is available [here](#).

- [6 May 2021](#) – Easing of restrictions
- [5 May 2021](#) – Review of quarantine hotels

Restrictions further eased for Perth and Peel

Restrictions eased further in Perth and Peel as planned from 12.01am, Saturday 8 May. Some restrictions remain in place until 12.01am, Saturday 15 May. For more information, see the [announcement](#).

Make sure you keep up to date on [what you can and can't do](#).

WA Health advice for recent New South Wales and Victoria travellers

Advice has been issued for travellers who have recently been in New South Wales following a public health alert issued for parts of Sydney, as well as travellers who have recently been in Victoria following a public health alert issued for parts of Melbourne.

Anyone who has been in an [exposure site in New South Wales](#) or an [exposure site in Victoria](#) during the relevant times should get tested immediately for COVID-19 and quarantine for 14 days from their date of exposure.

For more information on the New South Wales advice, see the [announcement](#).

For more information on the Victoria advice, see the [announcement](#).

Jurisdiction risk rating

All jurisdictions, including New Zealand, are considered 'very low risk' and arrivals from these jurisdictions are permitted to enter WA without COVID-19 testing or self-quarantine requirements.

They are still required to complete a G2G PASS declaration and undergo a health screening upon arrival into WA. For more information, see the WA Government's controlled interstate border [webpage](#).

COVID-19 wastewater testing online dashboard and wastewater testing in response to recent community cases

The Department of Health has developed an [online dashboard](#) which shows the most recent wastewater testing results for the metropolitan and regional areas.

The Wastewater Surveillance Program tests untreated sewage from treatment plants for fragments of SARS-CoV-2 across the State.

Samples are taken from six metropolitan locations: Alkimos, Beenyup, Gordon Rd, Point Peron, Subiaco and Woodman Point. In addition, there are also 10 regional localities where testing is conducted: Albany, Broome, Bunbury, Busselton, Esperance, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Karratha, Northam, South Hedland.

In addition, Western Australia's COVID-19 wastewater surveillance program has responded to the recently reported community cases of COVID-19 in Perth with additional sampling in locations for a two-week period in metropolitan Perth.

Targeted surveillance locations have been identified based on the movements of the cases during their infectious periods

A wastewater detection of viral fragments in an area that is unexpected will trigger a public health response.

For more information, see the [Media Statement](#).

Community

Financial relief for small businesses impacted by ANZAC Day weekend lockdown

The Small Business Lockdown Assistance Grants program will provide support to small businesses to cover some direct costs associated with cancellations and closures because of the ANZAC Day weekend lockdowns.

The one-off targeted program will provide \$2,000 grants to eligible businesses with an Australia-wide payroll of less than \$4 million and registered for GST purposes.

Businesses must be able to demonstrate losses incurred for perishable goods, cancellations or other unforeseen costs because of the lockdown.

For more information, see the [announcement](#).

COVID-19 vaccination program

Adults aged 50 years and over across both metropolitan and regional WA continue to be provided with a range of options to access the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccination, with available clinics listed on the [HealthyWA website](#). Eligible people can call 13COVID (13 26843) to book an appointment at both metropolitan and regional locations. Eligible people are also able to access COVID-19 vaccinations through participating GP, GP Respiratory Clinics or Aboriginal Medical

Services (AMS). Visit the [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker](#) to check on availability in your location.

The Department of Health continues to focus on vaccinating health care workers, critical and high-risk workers and quarantine and border workers as part of the 1A and 1B priority populations. Eligible people aged under 50 years have access to the Pfizer vaccination and have been invited to register via their employers.

ATAGI Update

Following their weekly meeting on 4 May 2021, the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) have **advised** that there is no update to the [ATAGI statement](#) from 23 April 2021 in relation to the use of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

Mandatory COVID vaccination of hotel quarantine workers

As of Monday 10 May 2021 COVID-19 vaccinations **are now** mandatory in the hotel quarantine system to help protect WA from an outbreak. Any hotel quarantine worker who **is not** vaccinated will be prevented from entering quarantine facilities. This includes security personnel, cleaners and hotel staff who have contact with guests and guest's rooms, medical and health staff, ADF personnel and WA Police who work within the hotel quarantine system.

Please visit the trusted sources below for more information:

- **HealthyWA** - [COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (for WA community) including [FAQs](#)
- **WA Health** - [COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#) (for WA health providers)
- **Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC)** - [workplace information about the COVID-19 vaccine FAQs](#) (general information for businesses and employers)
- **The Australian Government** - [COVID-19 Vaccines hub](#)
- [Roll up for WA](#)

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:

[Victorian Limited Self-Quarantine and Presentation for Testing \(May 2021 Outbreak\) Directions](#)

[New South Wales Limited Self-Quarantine and Presentation for Testing \(May 2021 Outbreak\)](#)

[Directions](#)

[Safe transition for Western Australia Directions \(No 4\)](#)

[Visitors to Residential Aged Care Facilities \(Stay at Home and Closure \(Perth, Peel and Rottne\)\)](#)

[Directions \(No 4\)](#)

[Face Covering Directions \(No 5\)](#)

Updated fact sheets

[Clinician Alert #57](#)

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** acute respiratory symptoms (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 **11 May 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:

- [14 April 2021](#) - Statement on continuous learning in managed quarantine for international arrivals

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 18 May 2021**.

Last updated **12 May 2021**

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

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