



SHICC PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN #7

Monday, 10 January 2022 16:00 Hours

This bulletin has been authorised by the Deputy Incident Controller - Public Health,
Dr Revle Bangor-Jones

COVID-19 case and vaccination numbers

- **Summary:** as of **Monday, 10 January**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
 - **1,239** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **121** historical cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **1,141** people recovered from COVID-19
 - **2,134,916** COVID-19 tests conducted
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot & Vaccination dashboard](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status & Australia's vaccine roll-out](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports & WHO Dashboard](#)

Living with COVID

Chief Health Officer advice

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

- [Updated advice: Reduction in restrictions in response to COVID-19 risk in Perth and Peel regions - 7 January 2022](#)
- [Hotel Quarantine Arrangements - Release of travellers at day 12 with two days in self quarantine - 6 January 2022](#)
- [Updated advice: Restrictions in response to COVID-19 risk in Perth and Peel Regions – 3 January 2022](#)
- [Controlled border arrangements – Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory to move to 'high risk' jurisdictions - 1 January 22](#)
- [Controlled border arrangements – South Australia and Queensland – 30 December 2021](#)
- [Updated advice: Restrictions in response to Perth outbreak – 27 December 2021](#)
- [Updated advice: Restrictions in response to Perth outbreak – 24 December 2021](#)
- [Controlled border arrangements - Queensland and South Australia – 24 December 2021](#)
- [Implementation of restrictions in response to a community case of COVID-19 – 23 December 2021](#)
- [Mandatory Vaccination of Critical Workers - Booster Vaccines – 21 December 2021](#)
- [Controlled Border Arrangements – Queensland and Tasmania – 17 December 2021](#)

Public health advice for Western Australians

Everyone is encouraged to check the [exposure sites](#) page regularly for updates.

Anyone who has visited a listed exposure site at the specified time and date must follow the health advice published online, unless directly advised otherwise by the Department of Health.

Western Australians are encouraged to stay vigilant and get [tested](#) immediately if they develop COVID-19 symptoms, and use SafeWA and mandatory contact registers to check into businesses and venues.

For information on public health measures including mask wearing and proof of vaccination, see the [announcement](#). More information is also available in the [media statement](#).

Rapid Antigen Test kits approved in Western Australia

The prohibition on the use of rapid antigen tests (RATs) was lifted on 10 January 2022, allowing time for the purchase and distribution of RATs by industry and the community in WA, before border restrictions are relaxed.

Rapid antigen testing is not recommended for general use where there is no, or low, community transmission, as is currently the case in WA.

COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing remains the gold standard for confirming a COVID-19 diagnosis. Anyone experiencing symptoms should present for a PCR test at a [COVID testing clinic](#).

Anyone who returns a positive RAT test is also advised to present immediately for a PCR test.

More information on RATs will be made available on the Department of Website shortly.

Updated Northern Territory advice

Based on the latest health advice, Northern Territory (NT) transitioned from a 'medium risk' jurisdiction to a 'high risk' jurisdiction on 12.01am, Sunday, 9 January 2022.

Travel is not be permitted from the NT to WA unless a person is an [approved traveller](#), with applications made through the [G2G Pass](#) system.

The entry requirements from a 'high risk' jurisdiction are available on [WA.gov.au](#).

More information is available in the [announcement](#) and [media release](#).

Extreme risk jurisdictions

Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory were elevated to 'extreme risk' jurisdictions from 12:01am, Saturday, 8 January 2022.

Travel from these jurisdictions into WA is not permitted unless approved under the strictest of conditions.

Entry requirements from 'extreme risk' jurisdictions are available on [WA.gov.au](#).

Information on the transitions is available in the [NSW announcement](#), the [NSW media release](#), the [QLD and SA announcement](#), and the [QLD and SA media release](#) as well as the [Tasmania and ACT announcement](#) and the [Tasmania and ACT media release](#).

Jurisdiction risk rating

New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, **Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory are considered 'extreme risk'**. Northern Territory is considered **'high risk'**. For more information on WA's border arrangement, see the WA Government's controlled border [webpage](#).

The WA Chief Health Officer continues to monitor and review border controls.

Community

COVID-19 Test Isolation Payment

The WA Government will introduce a \$320 COVID-19 Test Isolation Payment from Saturday 5 February 2022. This coincides with [WA's safe transition](#) and easing of interstate and international borders, which will result in community cases and transmission of COVID-19 throughout WA.

The WA COVID-19 Test Isolation Payment is a single \$320 payment for workers living in WA who have been directed to quarantine while awaiting a COVID-19 test result, are unable to work from home and do not have access to paid leave or other income.

For more information on the payment, including eligibility and how to apply, visit [WA.gov.au](https://www.wa.gov.au)

Medicare subsidised telehealth services

From 1 January 2022, those subject to a COVID-19 public health order requiring quarantine or isolation are able to access Medicare subsidised telehealth services without needing to demonstrate an established relationship with the GP providing the telehealth support.

More information is available at [MBS Online](#).

Testing for work purposes

Asymptomatic testing for work purposes cannot be performed at a public COVID-19 clinic. Testing for this purpose can occur only at a private pathology provider with a GP referral or pathology form.

Proof of vaccination requirements

Proof of vaccination requirements has been introduced for the following venues:

- Nightclubs
- Music festivals and major events (above 500 people)
- Pubs, taverns, hotels (hospitality) and Special Facility Licenses with a capacity of more than 500 people or these specific licensed venues that trade after midnight
- Events with an Occasional Liquor Licence
- The Crown gaming floor.

People will be required to show proof of their COVID-19 vaccination, either in a digital or paper-based form, along with approved identification. See the [Proof of COVID-19 vaccinations](#) page for more information.

The WA Government has released social media tiles and posters to help businesses communicate the proof of [vaccination requirements](#).

Both venues and patrons will have a shared responsibility when it comes to proof of vaccination, with venues required to take reasonable steps to ensure all patrons are double dose vaccinated, or exempt.

The WA Government is developing a mobile app and more information will be provided soon. Everyone is encouraged to sign-up to [myGov](#) in preparation for the new app.

Mandatory vaccination FAQs

Frequently asked questions (FAQs) about mandatory COVID-19 vaccination are available at the Department of Health [website](#) to address common queries relevant to all people affected by the vaccination requirement. In consultation with stakeholders, industry-specific FAQs are in development to provide more nuanced advice for different sectors. The building, maintenance or construction services industry [FAQs](#) are now available at the Department of Health website.

All mandatory vaccination [Directions](#) (and supporting documents) are published on the WA.gov.au website and the general mandatory COVID-19 vaccination [FAQs](#) **which continue to be updated**, are on the Department of Health website.

Third dose requirement for workforce mandatory COVID-19 vaccination

Based on the latest health advice, from 5 February 2022 Western Australian workers who come under an existing vaccine mandate will now be required to have a third dose as part of the [mandatory COVID-19 vaccination](#) policy.

All employees required to be vaccinated for work purposes under the mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy must receive their third dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine within one month of becoming eligible.

All mandatory vaccination [Directions](#) (and supporting documents) are published on the WA.gov.au website and [frequently asked questions](#) are published on Department of Health website.

More information is available in the [media release](#) and [announcement](#).

COVID-19 vaccination program

5 to 11-year-old children can roll up

Children aged 5 to 11 years are now eligible to roll up for a COVID-19 vaccine.

The paediatric Pfizer vaccine will be administered in two doses, with the recommended interval between first and second dose being eight weeks.

Bookings are required. Parents can book their child in for a vaccination at a State-run clinic through [VaccinateWA](#). Children will also be able to get their vaccination at participating GPs and pharmacies across metropolitan Perth and regional WA. Parents are encouraged to call their GP clinic to make an appointment. For further information or to book an appointment visit the [RollupforWA](#) or [Vaccine Clinic Finder](#) websites.

Bookings encouraged

As WA heads towards its transition to living with COVID-19, the demand for vaccinations and boosters is increasing, which is great to see.

Our clinics have the capacity to provide the vaccinations, however, people are strongly encouraged to make a booking via [VaccinateWA](#), which enables the clinics to spread the demand across clinic operating hours to avoid excessive wait times. During times when clinics have reached full capacity, people without bookings may be turned away.

Vaccinations are also available at GPs and pharmacies and at hundreds of locations across the State. Visit the [Roll up for WA](#) site or [Vaccine Clinic Finder](#) for details.

Boosters recommended from 4 months

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) [recommends](#) a COVID-19 booster vaccination for anyone aged 18 and older who completed their primary course of COVID-19 vaccination 4 or more months ago, given the likelihood of ongoing transmission of both Omicron and Delta variants. The receipt of a booster dose is particularly important for people with increased exposure risk (e.g. occupational risk or outbreak areas) or who have risk factors for severe disease. A third (primary) dose of COVID-19 vaccine is also recommended for anyone with immunocompromising conditions, a minimum of two months after their second dose.

Immunocompromised individuals who have received 3 primary doses of a COVID-19 vaccine are also recommended to have a booster dose in line with the timing for the general population, (4 or

more months after their primary course). People who are severely immunocompromised are encouraged to speak to their GP or treating specialist about a booster dose.

Community vaccination clinics

Please check the community vaccination clinic list [online](#) for further information and opening times. To avoid extended queues, people are encouraged to make a booking at [VaccinateWA](#) or 13COVID, as people with bookings will be prioritised.

There will be numerous regional pop-up clinics available for walk-ins in the coming weeks. Visit the [COVID-19 vaccine](#) webpage for a list of these clinics and their opening times.

Existing [Community vaccination clinics](#) in WA include Armadale, Mirrabooka, Carramar, Mandurah, Canning Vale, Midland, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Claremont Showgrounds, Joondalup, Kwinana, and Bunbury.

The Comirnaty (Pfizer), Spikevax (Moderna) and Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca) COVID-19 vaccines are being administered at participating GPs and pharmacies for eligible populations. Participating GPs and pharmacies can be found by using the COVID-19 [Vaccine Clinic Finder](#).

Vaccine information and resources

Please visit the sources below for more information and resources related to vaccines:

- 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](#) and [Roll up for WA posters](#)
- KAMS – [Get vaccinated against COVID-19 TVC Campaign](#)

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

- [COVID-19 Testing Directions \(No 4\)](#)
- [DFES \(Fire Season\) Aerial Tanker Crew Directions](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 59\)](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 58\)](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 57\)](#)
- [Booster Vaccination \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No.2\)](#)
- [COVID Restrictions \(Gatherings and Related Measures\) Directions \(No 5\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Testing Directions \(No 4\)](#)
- [Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 19\)](#)
- [Presentation for Testing Directions \(No 37\)](#)
- [Prohibition on the Use of Rapid Antigen Test Directions \(No 2\) Revocation Directions](#)
- [Beach Energy Ocean Onyx Workers Directions](#)
- [Transport, Freight and Logistics Directions \(No 9\)](#)
- [Authorisation \(No 6\) to Supply or Prescribe a Poison](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 56\)](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 55\)](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 54\)](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 53\)](#)
- [Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 18\)](#)

- [Building and Construction Industry Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No.3\)](#)
- [Ministerial Staff Member \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions](#)
- [Public and Commercial Transport Workers \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No.2\)](#)
- [DFES \(Fire Season\) Crew Directions](#)
- [Chief Health Officer Approval to Request COVID-19 Testing on Persons who are Presenting to be Tested under the Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 15\)](#)
- [Approval for Flight Crew pursuant to the Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 15\)](#)
- [Approval for Travellers under a Specified Arrangement pursuant to the Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 15\)](#)
- [Approval for Transport Freight and Logistics Drivers pursuant to the Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 15\)](#)

Updated fact sheets

- [Mandatory Vaccination – General Frequently Asked Questions Version 4](#)
- [Clinician Alert #75](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Travellers from a Medium Risk Jurisdiction](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Travellers from a Low Risk Jurisdiction Version](#)

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 [HealthyWA](#).

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 24 December 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. AHPPC has recently released the following statements:

- [10 January - AHPPC interim guidance on permissions and restrictions for workers in food and grocery supply](#)
- [30 December](#) – AHPPC statement on testing, tracing, isolating and quarantining in high levels of COVID-19 community transmission
- [22 December](#) – AHPPC statement on the Omicron public health implications and response options

Business and industry

Resources for more information

- [WA Department of Health](#) and [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
- [Contact register](#) information
- [SafeWA user guide](#)
- [Mandatory vaccination](#) Directions and supporting documents
- Mandatory vaccination general and industry-specific [FAQs](#)

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
- 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 Bulletin is issued weekly. Next issue: **18 January 2022**.

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

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