



PHEOC BULLETIN #85

Tuesday 26 October 2021 14:00 Hours

This bulletin has been authorised by the A/PHEOC Coordinator, Dr Sharon Nowrojee

COVID-19 case and vaccination numbers

- **Summary:** as of **Tuesday 26 October**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
 - 1,112 confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **109** historical cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **1,102** people recovered from COVID-19
 - **1,852,141** 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](#).

- [Mandatory vaccination of critical workers in WA - 22 October 2021](#)
- [Mandatory vaccination of essential and high-risk workers in WA - 19 October 2021](#)

Queensland

Based on the latest public health advice, Queensland will transition to a 'very low risk' jurisdiction from 12:01am, Wednesday 27 October 2021, under WA's [controlled border](#) arrangement. This follows a pause in Queensland's border transition [last week](#) due to a case of COVID-19.

People who have been in Queensland 14 days before entry to WA will be allowed into the state without the requirement to quarantine, subject to certain conditions.

Refer to the [announcement](#) for additional information.

RAT for drivers

Certain drivers entering WA within 100km of the Eucla and Kununurra border crossing must receive a rapid antigen test (RAT). As of 13 October 2021, drivers entering the state under the [Transport, Freight and Logistics Directions \(No 6\)](#) and who have been in a 'medium,' 'high' or 'extreme' risk jurisdiction in the 14 days before arrival must receive a RAT in addition to the previously outlined requirements under the Directions. Further information can be found at the Transport, Freight and Logistics [page](#) of WA.gov.au.

Tasmania health advice

Public health advice was issued on 15 October 2021 after the Tasmania Government released public [exposure sites](#) associated with a positive case of COVID-19 in the community.

Refer to the [announcement](#) for additional information.

Jurisdiction risk rating

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

Community

Exposure site resource

A new document has been developed to address frequently asked questions from business owners and operators of locations identified as an exposure site. The *Owners and Operators of an Identified Exposure Site FAQ* is an addition to the suite of documents for business, industry and local government available on the Department of Health [website](#).

The resource addresses topics such as business operator/owner responsibilities, cleaning, closure, and employee testing and quarantine.

The advice provided in this document does should not replace any instructions provided directly to the premises owner/operator by Public Health.

COVID-safe Halloween

The Department of Health has released updated [advice](#) for COVID-safe Halloween activities. The resource provides tips and tricks for safe trick or treating while maintaining COVID-safe practices.

COVID-19 vaccination program

Mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy

On 20 October 2021, the State Government [announced](#) a mandatory vaccination policy for a range of occupations and workforces in WA will be introduced in a phased approach. The policy's phased approach is to apply mandatory vaccinations for more industries in WA, as well as a requirement for other critical workers to be vaccinated to attend work in the event of a lockdown or similar restrictions.

For a full breakdown of each group, see the Mandatory COVID-19 vaccination information [web page](#).

New vaccination clinics across WA

On 24 October 2021, the State Government [announced](#) a partnership with Wesfarmers to increase vaccinations across WA. Pop-up Bunnings clinics will each provide up to 250 vaccinations per day, for people to drop in without an appointment.

Carramar: Carramar Village Shopping Centre, 7 Cheriton Drive, Carramar. Opening times are 9am to 4pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; 9am to 7pm on Thursday; and 11am to 4pm on Sunday. The vaccination clinic will initially provide around 2,000 vaccinations each week but will increase depending on demand.

Armadale: Armadale Central Shopping Centre, 10 Orchard Avenue, Armadale. Opening times are 10am to 4.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; 10am to 7pm on Thursday; and 11am to 4.30pm on Sunday.

An Aboriginal Family Day **was** held at the Armadale clinic on Saturday, 23 October, where all Aboriginal people aged 12 years and above **were** welcomed to the clinic with a Welcome to Country, food and other activities.

Mirrabooka: The Square Mirrabooka, 43 Yirrigan Drive, Mirrabooka. Opening times are 9am to 4.30pm on Monday, **Tuesday**, Wednesday **and Friday**; 9am to 7pm on Thursday and 11am to 4.30pm on

Sunday. While bookings are preferred, individuals are welcome to attend the clinic without an appointment.

A second pop-up clinic is open at the Herb Graham Recreation Centre, **38 Ashbury Crescent, Mirrabooka**. **Opening times are 10am to 3.30pm on Mondays and Tuesdays. Interpreters are available at this vaccination clinic.**

Additional vaccination clinics are being planned for Mandurah, Ellenbrook and Canning Vale and are expected to open from early November.

Primary and community health workers

Primary and community health workers must have at least their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine to access their workplace from the 1 November 2021. The deadline to be fully vaccinated will be 1 December 2021. This workforce will include approximately 10,000 staff in private provider facilities including general practitioners, private nurse offices and consulting offices, pharmacies, dental centres, allied health facilities and private pathology centres. Health workers in community settings work closely with vulnerable groups, including the elderly and those with chronic disease or who are immunocompromised and are at increased risk of serious complications from COVID-19 infection.

Refer to the [announcement](#) and **Primary Health Care Worker (Restrictions on Access) Directions** for additional information.

Third dose for severely immunocompromised

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recently released new [recommendations](#) on the use of a third primary dose of COVID-19 vaccine in individuals who are severely immunocompromised. Individuals are encouraged to discuss the need for a third dose with a GP or treating specialist who best understands your health history.

Eligible people wanting to receive a third dose at a State-run community vaccination clinic will need to provide proof of eligibility (i.e. the immunocompromised condition). For more information about how to show evidence of eligibility visit the Australian Government [website](#).

At this point in time it is not possible to book via VaccinateWA or 13COVID for your third dose. As such, please attend the clinic without an appointment and staff will ensure eligible people are able to receive their third dose vaccination. **Individuals who wish to receive a third dose of Spikevax (Moderna) vaccine will need to have it administered at a participating community [pharmacy](#), however it is recommended that a third dose is discussed with their GP or health provider in the first instance.**

Additional clinics

The COVID-19 vaccination clinic at Perth Airport **is open to provide** COVID-19 vaccinations to resource sector workers. The airport clinic is open weekdays between 10am and 8pm for anyone working in the sector, whether they work for Rio Tinto or another company.

All State-run community vaccination clinics are now open for people to attend without an appointment. Some regional clinics also offer the opportunity to be vaccinated without appointments. **Please check the community vaccination clinic list [online](#) for further information and opening times.**

Community vaccination clinics

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 Midland, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Claremont Showgrounds, Joondalup, Kwinana, and Bunbury.

The Comirnaty (Pfizer) COVID-19 vaccine is now being rolled out to, and administered by, GPs in WA. Approved pharmacies can also now administer the Spikevax (Moderna) and AstraZeneca

COVID-19 vaccines 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:

- Requests for [alternative COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- 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](#)
- [Rollup for WA](#) and [Rollup 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

[Primary Health Care Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions](#)
[Regulated Entry of Higher Risk Vessels into Western Australia Directions](#)
[Designation by the Chief Health Officer under Regulated Entry of Higher Risk Vessels into Western Australia Directions](#)
[Authorisation by the State Emergency Coordinator](#)
[Authorisation of Security Officers as Authorised Officers](#)
[Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 10\)](#)
[Chief Health Officer Approval to Request COVID-19 Testing on Persons who are Presenting to be Tested under the Transport, Freight and Logistics Directions \(No 6\)](#)
[Transport, Freight and Logistics Directions \(No 6\)](#)

Updated fact sheets

[Owners and Operators of an Identified Exposure Site \(New\)](#)
[COVID-safe Halloween Advice](#)
[Clinician Alert #69](#)
[Principles for Health Care and Residential Aged Care Facilities](#)

Testing

General population [testing criteria](#)

The *Testing criteria for SARS-CoV-2 in Western Australia #33* has been published. Refer to the Department of Health [website](#) for further information.

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 8 October 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.

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](#)

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
- 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 2 November 2021**.

Last updated **26 October 2021**

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

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