



# PHEOC BULLETIN

**Tuesday 7 July 2020 14:00 Hours**

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

## COVID-19 case numbers

- As of **6 July 2020**, there have been **621** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Western Australia (WA). **600** people have recovered.
- To date **197,884** COVID-19 tests have been conducted in WA.
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports](#) & [WHO Dashboard](#)

## Living with COVID

### Covid-19 media campaign

The Department of Health will commence an intense media campaign this week reinforcing the key messages of:

- Continue to physical distance where possible
- Continue to wash hands often and practise good personal hygiene e.g. cover coughs
- Stay home if unwell. If you are experiencing flu-like symptoms get tested
- Download the COVIDSafe app.

### COVIDSafe App

The Australian Government's COVIDSafe app is voluntary and is available in 63 languages. For further information and to get the app see [COVIDSafe App](#).

## Latest updates

### AHPPC statement on managing vulnerable workers

The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) has revised the previous AHPPC statement. As the current level of COVID-19 cases is low, even people at higher risk of becoming severely ill from COVID-19, can return to work and other settings with appropriate precautions in place. Australians should monitor current public health advice and continue physical distancing, using hand and respiratory hygiene and stay home if acutely unwell. The full statement can be found [here](#).

### COVID-19 advice in other languages

A list of resources regarding COVID-19 in languages other than English is available on the WA Government website [here](#). The resources include fact sheets, guidelines and other useful publications.

### Resources for Aboriginal people

The [COVID-19 for Aboriginal people website](#) has many resources suitable for a variety of settings.

## WA ready for the next phase of the COVID-19 [Roadmap](#)

Due to the world-leading response to COVID in WA, COVID-19 restrictions were further relaxed on Saturday 27 June as WA's roadmap was updated.

Further details of PHASE 4 can be found on [WA Government website](#).

### Next phases

Phase 5 is planned to be introduced on Saturday 18 July and will result in the removal of the 2sqm rule. It is also expected to see the removal of all gathering restrictions, other COVID-related rules introduced by the State Government, and the 50 per cent capacity limit for major venues. [Next Phases](#)

### Victoria Update

The increase in locally-acquired cases in Victoria is driven by multiple epidemiologically linked outbreaks, across a range of settings. Cases of COVID-19 have been reported across all ages. The median age of all COVID-19 cases is 44 years (range: 0 to 101 years). WA continues to support Victoria by providing expert advice and remote contact tracing. WA's former Chief Health Officer, Tarun Weeramanthri, has been seconded to Victoria's Department of Health and Human Services to assist.

## Community

### Department of Premier and Cabinet

The [FAQs](#) provide the latest community updates about Phase 4 easing of restrictions and what it means for community and business.

### DETECT schools' program

The school research project forms part of the [DETECT program](#). View the complete list of participating schools [here](#).

To date 4,499 tests have been performed on school staff and students with no positive cases.

## 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](#). The Direction providing approval for COVID-19 testing on patients undergoing aerodigestive procedures was revoked on 6 July 2020.

## 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).

People may also be considered for testing if they have acute loss of smell or taste **and** meet one of the following criteria:

- close contact of a confirmed or probable case
- healthcare, aged, or residential care workers with direct patient contact
- persons who have returned from overseas or have lived/ travelled through an area in

- Australia with elevated risk of community transmission
- where there is no alternative cause of symptoms

## 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.

## Testing of asymptomatic patients

The purpose of the [Testing Directions](#) is to prohibit a person from requesting or conducting testing for COVID-19 except in accordance with these directions. Testing asymptomatic patients is permitted in several settings, approval for each of these scenarios can be found [here](#). Asymptomatic testing should not be performed for return to work purposes or fit for work purposes, unless requested or approved by Public Health.

## Series of National Guidelines (SoNG)

The latest iteration was released on **1 July 2020**.

## Business and industry

See latest updates about how the Western Australian Government is supporting business and industry economic recovery through COVID-19 [HERE](#).

## Resources for more information

- Series of National Guidelines, [SoNG](#)
- Latest [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\) News](#)
- [WA Department of Health](#)
- [HealthyWA](#)
- [Australian Government Health Department](#)
- [Advice for the public \(WHO\)](#)
- [Advice in other languages](#)
- [Aboriginal sector updates, planning](#)
- [Advice for Aboriginal people](#)

## 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-isolation, business closures, border controls and other State of Emergency Directions.

**Next advice** - The PHEOC Bulletin is issued weekly. The next issue will be **Tuesday 21 July 2020**.

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

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