



PHEOC BULLETIN #52

Tuesday 9 March 2021 14:00 Hours

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

COVID-19 case numbers

- As of **Tuesday 9 March**, there have been **920** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Western Australia (WA) and **53** historical cases. **903** people have recovered.
- To date a total of **889,786** COVID-19 tests have been conducted in WA.
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports](#) & [WHO Dashboard](#)

Living with COVID

The 2021 State general election

The WA Electoral Commission has prepared responses to [frequently asked questions](#) in preparation for the upcoming state election.

Victorian travellers

Victoria will transition from 'low risk' to 'very low risk' at 12.01am Monday, March 15, pending no further outbreaks.

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

- completion of a G2G Pass declaration, stipulating they do not have any COVID-19 symptoms and which jurisdictions the traveller has been in over the previous 14 days;
- all Perth Airport arrivals to undergo a health screening and temperature test;
- travellers to be prepared to take a COVID-19 test at the airport COVID clinic, if deemed necessary by a health clinician (voluntary asymptomatic testing also available); and
- land arrivals to be met at the border checkpoint, for a health screening and to have their G2G Pass declaration checked.

State-by-state risk rating

All jurisdictions except Victoria are considered 'very low risk' and are permitted to enter WA without COVID-19 testing or self-quarantine requirements.

They are still, however, required to complete a G2G PASS declaration and undergo a health screening upon arrival into WA.

The WA Chief Health Officer will continue to monitor and review border controls to determine if any further adjustments can be made in the future.

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

Venue capacity update

More people will be permitted into venues from 12.01am on Monday, March 15 pending the latest public health advice.

Increased capacity of up to 75 per cent will be allowed at seated outdoor and indoor venues including:

- restaurants, cafes, food courts, and bars;
- indoor and outdoor auditoriums and amphitheatres;
- theatres;
- concert halls;
- cinemas;
- comedy lounges;
- performing arts centres;
- places of worship;
- function centres;
- community, recreation or youth centre or facilities, including community halls and sporting clubs including but not limited to:
 - community halls, sporting clubs, Returned and Services League facilities and Police and Community Youth Centres
- WA's major stadiums (Optus Stadium, HBF Park, RAC Arena, HBF Stadium - Main Arena); and
- funeral parlours.

If the 2 square metre rule capacity is greater than 75 per cent capacity, the greater option will be permitted for these particular venues and events.

The 2 square metre rule will continue to apply to all other venues and facilities with unfixed seating.

See the [media statement](#) and [announcement](#) for more information.

Contact tracing training modules

A series of four e-learning modules have been developed to support surveillance officers within the Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (PHEOC) Operations Team. Health professionals who are interested in contact tracing are welcome to complete the training.

These modules can be found under 'Fact sheets and [further resources](#)'.

COVID-19 Vaccination Program

WA's COVID-19 vaccination program commenced on Monday 22 February, with 9,289 people having received their first dose as at [09/03/2021](#). A central COVID-19 vaccination clinic opened at the [Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre](#) on Sunday 7 March following the arrival of 21,000 doses of the Oxford/Astra Zeneca vaccine. Anyone from Phase 1A, including police and fire and emergency services staff, are encouraged to book a spot. The clinic adds significant capacity to the State's vaccination program, complementing clinics at hospitals across the metropolitan area, Bunbury Health Campus and Broome Hospital with additional regional clinics coming online in the near future.

For the most up-to date information on the COVID-19 Vaccination Program, please visit the trusted sources below:

- **HealthyWA** - COVID-19 [Vaccine](#) (for consumers) including FAQs for the WA community about the COVID-19 vaccination program.
- **WA Health** - COVID-19 [Vaccination Program](#) (for health professionals) including targeted information for WA health providers and how to [subscribe](#) to the WA COVID-19 Vaccine Update.

- **The Australian Government** - COVID-19 [Vaccines hub](#) including the latest news and information about the development, approval process and rollout plans for the COVID-19 vaccines.

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:

[Visitors to Residential Aged Care Facilities Directions \(No 7\)](#)

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

[Presentation for Testing \(Quarantine Centre Workers\) Directions \(No 6\)](#)

Updated fact sheets

[Clinician alert #47 – all clinicians](#)

[Testing Criteria for SARS-CoV-2 in WA #27](#)

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 **4 March 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 March 2021**.

Last updated **9 March 2021**

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

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