



SHICC PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN #6

Wednesday, 5 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 **Wednesday, 5 January**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
 - **1,206** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **116** historical cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **1,128** people recovered from COVID-19
 - **2,108,551** 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: 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](#)
- [Controlled border arrangements – New South Wales – 15 December 2021](#)
- [Controlled border arrangements – 13 December 2021](#)
- [Controlled border arrangements – Queensland – 11 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](#).

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 at our border

There is a concern for WA communities living close to the border with Northern Territory and South Australia.

It is important that anyone living near the border gets tested for COVID-19 if they have any symptoms, no matter how mild.

Doctors and healthcare workers should encourage anyone presenting with symptoms to get tested.

Vaccination is still the best way to protect against COVID-19 and should be promoted at every opportunity. Everyone (especially our border communities) should get vaccinated as soon as they can to protect themselves, their family and their whole community. Visit [Roll up for WA](#) for more information.

Safe Transition Plan update

The Western Australian Government has announced a plan to safely ease the State's hard border controls in line with a 90 per cent vaccination rate, from 12:01am on Saturday 5 February 2022.

Further information can be found in the [announcement](#) and [WA's Safe Transition Plan](#) summary.

COVID Clinic testing scope expanded

People who require evidence of a negative COVID-19 PCR test as an interstate travel requirement are now able to be tested at public COVID Clinics, emergency departments outside of the Perth Metropolitan area and other testing locations approved by the Chief Health Officer (CHO) or State Health Incident Controller. Written evidence of the State or Territory's negative test requirement must be presented at the time of testing. The reason for testing must be noted on the pathology request form.

Further requirements are defined in the [CHO approval](#).

Updated Northern Territory advice

Based on the latest health advice, Northern Territory (NT) transitioned from a 'low risk' jurisdiction to a 'medium risk' jurisdiction on 12.01am Sunday, 26 December 2021.

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 'medium risk' jurisdiction are available on [WA.gov.au](#).

Recent arrivals from the NT should familiarise themselves with the latest [exposure sites](#) reported by Northern Territory Health. Anyone who **has not** been to these sites but develops symptoms or is experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 is advised to get tested and quarantine until they return a negative test.

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

Updated Tasmania and ACT advice

Based on the latest health advice, Tasmania and the ACT were elevated to 'high risk' jurisdictions from 12.01am Monday, 3 January 2022.

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

Tasmania and the ACT will be further elevated to an 'extreme risk' jurisdiction from 12:01am, Saturday 8 January 2022.

The entry requirements from 'high risk' and 'extreme risk' jurisdictions are available on [WA.gov.au](#).

Recent arrivals from Tasmania should familiarise themselves with the latest [exposure sites](#) reported by Tasmania Health. Recent arrivals from Tasmania who have **not** been to any exposure sites are advised to get [tested](#) if they develop any symptoms that may be related to COVID-19.

Recent arrivals from ACT should familiarise themselves with the latest [exposure sites](#) reported by ACT Government. Recent arrivals from ACT who have **not** been to any exposure sites are advised to get [tested](#) if they develop any symptoms that may be related to COVID-19.

Further information is available in the ['high risk'](#) announcement and [media release](#) as well as the ['extreme risk'](#) announcement and [media release](#).

Updated New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia advice

New South Wales (NSW) transitioned to an 'extreme risk' jurisdiction from 12.01am Saturday, 18 December 2021.

Queensland (QLD) and South Australia transitioned to 'extreme risk' jurisdictions from 6pm Friday, 31 December 2021.

Travel from NSW, QLD or SA 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](#), as well as the [QLD and SA announcement](#), and the [QLD and SA media release](#).

Jurisdiction risk rating

New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria are considered 'extreme risk'. The Australian Capital Territory and Tasmania are considered 'high risk'. Northern Territory is considered 'medium 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

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 have been updated](#), are on the Department of Health website.

COVID-19 vaccination program

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 maybe 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.

Bookings open for 5 to 11-year-old children

The State Government [announced](#) that COVID-19 vaccination bookings are now open for children aged 5 to 11 years to receive the Comirnaty (Pfizer) COVID-19 vaccine. Children aged 5 to 11 years will be eligible to roll up for a COVID-19 vaccine from 10 January 2022, in line with expected vaccine supply from the Commonwealth Government.

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.

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.

Moderna approved as booster dose

ATAGI have [recommended](#) Spikevax (Moderna) vaccine as a COVID-19 booster vaccine in people aged 18 years and older who have received their second dose 5 or more months ago. This follows the provisional [approval](#) of Moderna as a booster by the Therapeutic Goods Administration. The dosage for use as a booster dose is 50µg (0.25mL), i.e. half of the recommended dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine used for the primary course. Severely immunocompromised people who are receiving a third primary dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine should receive a 100µg dose. A booster dose is not yet recommended for this cohort.

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

- [Beach Energy Ocean Onyx Workers Directions](#)
- [Transport, Freight and Logistics Directions \(No 9\)](#)
- [COVID Restrictions \(Gatherings and Related Measures\) Directions \(No. 3\)](#)
- [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 \(No.3\)](#)
- [Booster Vaccination \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions](#)
- [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 \(No 15\)](#)
- [Approval for Flight Crew pursuant to the Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 15\)](#)
- [Approval Under Paragraph 7\(D\) of the Regulated Entry of Higher Risk Vessels Into Western Australia Directions \(No 2\)](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 52\)](#)
- [Santos Bayu-Undan Workers Directions](#)
- [Critical Government Regulator \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions](#)
- [Chief Health Officer Approval to Request COVID-19 Testing on Persons Who Are Required to Provide Evidence of a Negative COVID-19 Test to Meet the Entry Requirements of Other States or Territories](#)
- [Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 51\)](#)
- [Designation of an essential, community or human service and supply under Remote Aboriginal Communities Directions \(No 3\)](#)
- [Kuri Bay Worker Directions](#)
- [Critical Businesses Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions](#)
- [Port Worker and Exposed Port Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No.2\)](#)

- [Remote Aboriginal Community Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions](#)
- [Designation by the Chief Health Officer under Regulated Entry of Higher Risk Vessels into Western Australia Directions](#)
- [Authorisation to Give Written Approval Under Paragraph 6A of the Controlled Border Western Australia Direction](#)

Updated fact sheets

- [Clinician Alert #75](#)
- [Mandatory Vaccination – General Frequently Asked Questions Version 3](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Travellers from a Medium Risk Jurisdiction](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Travellers from a Low Risk Jurisdiction Version](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines for State Quarantine Facilities Version 11](#)
- [Clinician Alert #74](#)
- [Clinician Alert #73](#)
- [Clinician Alert #72](#)
- [Mandatory Vaccination – Building and Construction Industry Workers FAQs \(New\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Detected on a Vessel – Advice for Port Workers Version 2](#)
- [Airports – Exposed Maritime Crew Members Version 2](#)
- [Process of Approval for Small Cruise Ships to Sail in WA Waters Version 3](#)
- [Process to Transition the Status of a Vessel from Exposed to Unexposed in WA Version 3](#)
- [Exposed On-board Workers Version 2](#)
- [Rig or Platform Crew Members Updated 9 December 2021](#)
- [Transport of Exposed Maritime Workers Version 2](#)
- [Aboriginal Sector Communications Update #32](#)

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:

- [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: **11 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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