



PHEOC BULLETIN #82

Tuesday 5 October 2021 14:00 Hours

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

COVID-19 case and vaccination numbers

- **Summary:** as of **Tuesday 5 October**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
 - **1,110** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **104** historical cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **1,085** people recovered from COVID-19
 - **1,784,983** 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](#).

Adelaide exposure site

South Australia listed Adelaide Airport as an [exposure location](#) after a traveller from Victoria tested positive to COVID-19.

Passengers on Virgin flight VA722 from Adelaide to Perth on 1 October fall into the exposure timeframe at Adelaide Airport. All travellers were instructed to be tested and isolate until they receive a negative result, unless directly advised otherwise by the Department of Health.

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

Australian diplomat case

An Australian diplomat tested positive to COVID-19 and was, along with his family, transferred to a State Quarantine Facility on Saturday, 2 October 2021. The family were in a serviced apartment in Northbridge undertaking self-quarantine following travel. One of his travelling party has since returned a positive test result.

Contact tracing identified 50 close and casual contacts. So far, 41 have tested negative to COVID-19 with eight results pending. All contacts will remain in self-quarantine for 14 days and are being managed by WA Health public health officials.

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

Industry restriction on access directions

Various high risk industry groups are subject to directions which restrict the access of certain workers unless they have been vaccinated against COVID-19. Supporting [documents to the Exposed Port Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 2\)](#) and [WA Police Mission Critical Areas \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 3\)](#) have been released on [WA.gov.au](#). These documents include an exemption guideline and the temporary exemptions application forms.

Vessel Management

The oil and chemical tanker the *Stolt Sakura* berthed at Fremantle Port on 2 October 2021 after the captain notified WA Health that 12 out of 22 crew members returned non-negative rapid antigen tests for COVID-19. WA Health officials tested all crew members on 3 October 2021, 12 of which tested positive to COVID-19 by PCR test.

Six crew members were transferred to Fiona Stanley Hospital; two of them are in ICU. One crew member was transferred to hotel quarantine to allow for additional monitoring.

WA Health is continuing to work with the vessel and key maritime stakeholders regarding its ongoing management.

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

Victoria

As of 12.01am 29 September 2021, Victoria **transitioned to an** 'extreme risk' jurisdiction under the [controlled border](#) arrangement. Unless otherwise advised, approved travellers must:

- undertake mandatory hotel quarantine at a State quarantine facility for 14 days at their own expense
- undergo COVID-19 testing on days 1, 5 and 13
- have returned a negative COVID-19 PCR test in the past 72 hours
- have receipt of at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

Refer to the [announcement](#) and [media statement](#) 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'. New Zealand is no longer a jurisdiction in WA's controlled border. For more information on WA's border arrangement, see the WA Government's controlled border [webpage](#).

Community

Taxi and rideshare

Taxi and Rideshare COVID safe documents have been published by the WA Department of Health for [drivers](#) and [passengers](#). The documents use simple language and icons to illustrate what practices should be followed in a taxi or rideshare vehicle to minimise the risk to both drivers and passengers. The resources include what precautions should be followed if the passenger is in quarantine or travelling for COVID-19 testing.

COVID-19 vaccination program

FIFO and local resource sector worker vaccination

Fly-in fly-out (FIFO) and local workers on WA mining and resources sites and people who work in remote operations or run critical infrastructure, including remote train and port control, must be vaccinated with at least the first dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine to attend their workplace from 1 December 2021. These workers will need to be fully vaccinated by 1 January 2022. Vaccination has been mandated for these workers to address the risks posed by movement of resources sector workers, including those working in mining and oil and petroleum operations, to and from regional and remote locations in WA.

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

Health care workers and support workers

Health care workers and health support workers in Tier 1 facilities were required to have their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by 1 October 2021 in accordance with the staged approach in the Health Worker (Restriction on Access) [Directions](#). Further information on the Directions for health care and health support workers can be viewed at the [WA Health website](#).

Port worker vaccination

Certain port workers will soon be [required](#) to have received a [COVID-19 vaccine](#) before they can undertake certain roles on vessels that are exposed to COVID-19. These requirements will be introduced in a staged approach to minimise the impact on port activities. As of 12 October 2021, relevant workers are required to have received their first dose to access an exposed vessel and must be fully vaccinated by 12 November 2021.

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

Mandatory vaccination of 'at risk' transport, freight and logistics workers

On 24 September 2021 the Premier [announced](#) changes to emergency management directions to enforce mandatory vaccination for transport, freight and logistics workers travelling from or through 'high' or 'extreme' risk jurisdictions to enter Western Australia. From 24 October, these directions will apply to freight truck drivers, pilot/support vehicle drivers, removalists, rail drivers and rail support crew, where these employees are required to travel from or through a 'high' or an 'extreme' risk jurisdiction for work.

Updated ATAGI statement on additional COVID-19 vaccine doses

On 23 September 2021 the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) released a [statement](#) advising that two doses of any of the vaccines available in Australia provides strong protection against COVID-19.

Advice on the need for third doses to people who have conditions that compromise their immune system is anticipated in the next few weeks.

ATAGI anticipates that additional booster doses for other populations may be required in the future. Additional doses are currently being considered but no recommendation has yet been made for the general population.

Community clinics

In the coming weeks, regional pop-up clinics will be available for walk-ins in the following locations: Kalgoorlie, Norseman, Albany, Broome, Derby, Kununurra, Wyndham, Halls Creek, Geraldton, Newman and Port Hedland. Visit the [COVID-19 vaccine](#) webpage for a list of these clinics and their opening times

Existing [Community 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

[Chief Health Officer Approved Form of Evidence of Covid-19 Vaccination Under Paragraph 9 of the Exposed Port Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 2\)](#)

[Chief Health Officer Approved Form of Evidence of Covid-19 Vaccination Under Paragraph 7 of the WA Police Mission Critical Areas \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 3\)](#)

[Authorisation of persons for the purposes of paragraph \(d\), row 6, column 3 of the table set out in schedule 1](#)

[Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 43\)](#)

[Exposure Sites \(Outside of Western Australia\) Directions \(No 2\)](#)

[Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 9\)](#)

[Authorisation by the State Emergency Coordinator](#)

[Chief Health Officer Approved Form of Evidence of COVID-19 Vaccination Under Paragraph 7 of the Access to Quarantine Centres Directions \(No 2\)](#)

[Restatement of Approvals and Authorisations Directions](#)

[Transport, Freight and Logistics Directions \(No 5\)](#)

[Exposed Port Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 2\)](#)

[Authorisation \(No 5\) to Supply or Prescribe a Poison](#)

[Health Worker \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 3\) \(and supporting documents\)](#)

[WA Police Mission Critical Areas \(Restrictions on Access\) Directions \(No 3\) \(and supporting documents\)](#)

Updated fact sheets

[Information for Taxi and Rideshare Passengers – Stay COVID safe on your ride \(New\)](#)

[Information for Taxi and Rideshare Drivers – Stay COVID Safe \(New\)](#)

[Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines for Healthcare Teams in State Quarantine Facilities Version 8](#)

[Advice for Use of Personal Protective Equipment for Non-Healthcare Workers in Community Settings Version 6](#)

[Clinician Alert #67](#)

[Process to Transition the Status of a Vessel from Exposed to Unexposed in WA \(New\)](#)

[COVID-19 Preparation and Response Guidelines for Industrial Facilities \(New\)](#)

[Voluntary Asymptomatic COVID-19 Testing for Workers in Health Care Facilities \(New\)](#)

[Aboriginal Sector Communication Update #27](#)

[Cleaning principles for staff in State-quarantine facilities](#)

[Quarantine after being tested: High-risk and low-risk tested persons \(New\)](#)

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 7 September 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:**

- [1 October 2021](#) – Statement on visitation in residential aged care facilities
- [1 October 2021](#) – Statement on mandatory vaccination of all workers in health care settings
- [1 October 2021](#) – Statement on the role of ventilation in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19
- [1 October 2021](#) – Statement on COVID-19, schools and reopening Australia

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 12 October 2021**.

Last updated **5 October 2021**

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

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