



PHEOC BULLETIN

Tuesday 16 June 2020 09:00 Hours

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

COVID-19 Case numbers

- As of **16 June 2020**, there have been **602** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Western Australia (WA). **591** people have recovered.
- To date **143,418*** COVID-19 tests have been conducted in WA.
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports](#)

Living with COVID

While quarantine was effective, it was not flawless

Whilst quarantine measures had a significant impact on the speed at which WA got the disease under control, the challenge now is remaining vigilant despite very low case numbers. So far, more than 5,300 people have spent time in forced quarantine in WA, an exercise that at its height was costing the State Government \$250,000 a day. For all the stress, uncertainty and problems Deputy Chief Health Officer, Dr Lawrence and her team have endured, she believes WA's quarantine measures have proven their worth. Read her interview [here](#).

COVIDSafe App



The Australian Government's COVIDSafe app is voluntary. To be effective, you should have the COVIDSafe app running as you go about your daily business. Users will receive daily notifications to ensure the COVIDSafe app is running. For further information and to get the app see [COVIDSafe App](#).

Latest Updates

Western Australia to lead ground-breaking COVID-19 research

The WA Government has committed [\\$5 million for 34 university-led projects](#) that could see WA researchers play a leading role in the global fight against COVID-19. The funding has been provided to the State's five universities to undertake or boost their research which will contribute to the global understanding, treatment and management of COVID-19.

\$56 million investment to provide mental health

The Health Minister, Roger Cook, announced a [\\$56 million investment](#) into community mental health and alcohol and other drug (AOD) services, as part of a plan to increase community support and treatment for Western Australians. This funding package will create new community models of care, supporting at-risk and vulnerable groups.

DETECT Snapshot program results

The WA Department of Health's DETECT Snapshot program invited people from identified groups in the community who were asymptomatic to be tested to get a better understanding of any COVID-19 in the community. To date, 18,554* tests were reported, with 28% male and 72% female. All tests results were negative for COVID-19.

Of the eligible groups, 61% tested were from healthcare, 10% from retail, 12% schools, 5% meatworkers, 5% hospitality, 3% police, 2% transport, <1% tourism.

AI Kuwait ship crew cleared of COVID

The 21 crew who tested positive for COVID-19 have been cleared of the virus. With all 48 multinational crew aboard, the livestock ship will depart Fremantle for the Middle East on Wednesday.

Community

Research study to track impact of COVID-19 in schools

The WA Government is partnering with the Telethon Kids Institute in a study to test for COVID-19 among school students and staff without symptoms. The study will provide a greater certainty around possible transmission of the disease in schools and the psychosocial impacts of the virus. The school research project forms part of the [DETECT program](#). Eighty public schools, support centers and residential colleges across WA are participating in the DETECT study. View the complete list of participating schools [here](#).

COVID Guidelines translated

The COVID Safety Guidelines have now been translated into four languages: [Thai](#), [Vietnamese](#), [Chinese](#) and [Arabic](#).

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](#).

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).

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 released on 12 June 2020 includes an update to suspect case definition.

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 \(WHO\)](#)

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.

**Testing results pending..*

Next advice - The PHEOC Bulletin is issued weekly. The next issue will be **Tuesday 23 June 2020**.

Last updated 16 June 2020

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

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