



# PHEOC BULLETIN

**Tuesday 9 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 **9 June 2020**, there have been **599** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Western Australia (WA). **560** people have recovered.
- To date **122,387** COVID-19 tests have been conducted in WA.
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports](#)

## Living with COVID

### The COVID-19 fight is not over yet

WA's disease control experts are winning the race to contain coronavirus, but the COVID-19 fight is not over yet. With warnings to expect a second wave of COVID-19, the potential for an overwhelming outbreak remains real. Read the interview with Dr Clare Huppatz at <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-06-07/how-wa-is-winning-the-race-to-contain-coronavirus/12318596>

### Large gatherings

The most important protection for all of us, as we return to more normal activities, is for each Western Australian to show personal responsibility and always practise our new ways of interacting and hygiene. We must all practise physical distancing of 1.5 metres. We must be fastidious with hand and cough hygiene at home, at work and when out in the community. We must all remember to stay home and get tested for COVID-19 if we have even mild cold or flu-like symptoms. See <https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Media-releases/2020/COVID-19-update-8-June-Large-gatherings>

### COVIDSafe App



The Australian Government's voluntary COVIDSafe app is completely voluntary. It speeds up contacting people exposed to coronavirus (COVID-19). Downloading the app is something you can do to protect you, your family and friends. For further information and to get the app see [COVIDSafe app](#).

## Latest Updates

### DETECT Snapshot program testing expanded

The WA Department of Health's DETECT Snapshot program invites people from identified groups in the community who show **no symptoms of COVID-19** to be tested to get a better understanding of any COVID-19 that may be in the community.

The eligible groups include Healthcare workers, WA Police staff, meat workers, supermarket and retail staff, hospitality workers, school staff, tourism sector employees and transport workers. The program will run until **Wednesday 10 June 10, 2020**. Further details can be found on [Healthy WA](#).

Since the start of DETECT Snapshot, approximately 12,548 tests results have been returned and all were negative for COVID-19.

## Hospitals

### Another significant boost to PPE supplies

The West Australian Government has welcomed another freight aircraft of critical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in Perth, further strengthening our ability to protect frontline staff in the COVID-19 response. The latest delivery which includes 200,000 isolation gowns to protect frontline staff, is on top of PPE supplies received in the past fortnight. This is another significant boost to PPE supplies to keep healthcare workers safe. Weekly updates of PPE supplies are published at: [https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/en/Articles/A\\_E/Coronavirus/Advice-on-how-to-access-Personal-Protective-Equipment](https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/en/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus/Advice-on-how-to-access-Personal-Protective-Equipment)

### Visitor restrictions eased at WA hospitals

Restrictions on visiting hours at WA hospitals have been partially eased as of Tuesday 2 June and the number of people permitted to visit has increased to two people at one time. Children are also able to return as visitors and maternity patients can now be accompanied by two birthing partners.

## Community

### Restrictions lifted for public schools

From June 8 restrictions have been lifted to allow parents, visitors and carers to enter school grounds, subject to physical distancing and hygiene measures.

Events and activities such as assemblies, excursions, interschool activities, school choirs and examinations, school camps, in-term swimming classes and dine-in canteen services can now resume providing schools abide by a limit of 100 people in indoor settings and 300 people in outdoor areas. For further advice see [WA government website](#).

### Health guidance for remote Aboriginal communities

Aboriginal people are identified as a vulnerable group that may be disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Aboriginal communities situated in remote areas face particular challenges in their capacity to protect their community from COVID-19 and respond to cases of infection or outbreaks that may occur in the community. For further details refer to this [Guide for remote Aboriginal communities in WA](#).

## Directions Updates

### Phase 3 of COVID-19 Roadmap

Phase 3 of the roadmap to ease COVID-19 restrictions in WA commenced Saturday 6 June. The number of people at non-work gatherings has increased, and additional businesses can reopen. The 4 square metre rule has been revised to 2 square metres per person for all WA venues. Physical distancing, good hygiene and the 2 square metre rule apply to all activities permitted in Phase 3.

### Regional travel restrictions lifted in WA

Regional travel restrictions throughout WA have been lifted to allow people to travel anywhere within Western Australia, except into remote Aboriginal communities.

Campgrounds within national parks, reserves and state forest are open. Some [attractions, tours and facilities remain closed for now](#). This will be assessed in the coming weeks.

## Rottnest Island reopens

Rottnest Island has reopened allowing Western Australians to once again holiday at the loved local destination.

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 main endorsed changes in the latest iteration released on 4 June 2020 include:

- PCR positive tests in asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic persons
- Updates to circumstances under which confirmed and probable cases can be released from isolation.
- Contact assessment and management.

## Resources for more information

- [Series of National Guidelines, SoNG](#) was last updated on 04 June 2020
- 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.

**Next advice** - The PHEOC Bulletin is issued weekly. The next issue will be **Tuesday 16 June 2020**.

**Last updated 9 June 2020**

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

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