



COVID-19 Update (as at 4pm, 26 May 2020)

Overview and key developments

- As at 7.00am Tuesday 26 May, Queensland has recorded 1057 confirmed cases, one more than yesterday. Of the confirmed cases, 1039 have recovered.
- As at 9.00pm Monday 25 May, Australia has recorded 7118 confirmed cases, 9 more than the previous day. Of the 7118 confirmed cases nationally, 102 have died from COVID-19. Six of these deaths have been Queenslanders.
- The Queensland Government has announced a suite of economic initiatives, in partnership with the private sector, to reinvigorate the Queensland economy. The '**Queensland Economic Recovery Strategy: Unite and Recover for Queensland Jobs**' is designed to help the State recover from COVID-19. [View more information on the strategy.](#)
- The Queensland Government has a **three-stage plan for a COVID-safe Queensland**, allowing more travel, more activities and larger gatherings. [View more information on the Roadmap to easing restrictions including frequently asked questions.](#)
- The Queensland Government has provided new guidance on the [COVID-19 website](#) for businesses wanting to understand the **COVID Safe Businesses framework** and how industries can submit Industry COVID Safe Plans for approval to operate with more customers than the baseline restrictions in the Roadmap to Easing Restrictions.
- The Australian Government yesterday [announced the third stage of its mental health response](#) - providing more than \$20 million additional funding for research to improve mental health care and reduce suicide rates in Australia:
 - \$3 million for a new grants round under the \$125 million MRFF Million Minds Mission, for rapid research to improve the national mental health system response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - \$10.3 million to support three research projects to help reduce the rate of suicide in Australia.
 - \$6.75 million to improve treatment using pharmacogenomics.
- **Entry into Queensland remains temporarily prohibited** unless the travel is exempt under the Chief Health Officer's [Border Restrictions Direction](#). All Queenslanders returning home from interstate require a valid [Queensland Entry Pass](#). Decisions about lifting border restrictions will be reviewed at the end of each month.

Public Health advice

- The following is now permitted in Queensland as part of **Stage One of the Roadmap to easing restrictions**:
 - Five visitors to your home from different households.
 - Gatherings of a maximum of 10 people together in a public space.
 - Dining in at restaurants, pubs, clubs, RSLs and cafes for a maximum of 10 patrons at one time (with a Covid Safe checklist) - (no bars or gaming).
 - Recreational travel of a radius of up to 150km from your home (for day trips only).
 - Some beauty therapies and nail salons for up to 10 people at one time (with a Covid Safe checklist).
 - Reopening of libraries, playground equipment, skate parks and outdoor gyms (a maximum of 10 people at one time).
 - Wedding guests increased to 10 people and funeral attendance increased to 20 indoors or 30 outdoors.

Unite against COVID-19



- Open homes and auctions with a maximum of 10 people at one time.
- Re-opening public pools and lagoons (eg South Bank, Cairns, Airlie Beach) with a maximum of 10 people at a time or greater numbers with an approved plan.
- For **Outback Queensland**, two special concessions have been made:
 - Dining in at pubs and cafes will be up to 20 for locals only; and
 - Recreational travel of a radius of up to 500 kilometres and remaining within the Outback region (overnight/multi-night stays permitted).
- **Wash hands** often and properly with soap and water, or use alcohol-based rub.
- Practice **social distancing**, which means:
 - Stay home as much as possible.
 - Keep 1.5 metres away from others as much as possible.
 - Avoid shaking hands, kissing or hugging others.
 - If you can, work from home.
- The Chief Health Officer has declared three Victorian local government areas (Wyndham City, Moorabool Shire, Melton City) as **COVID-19 hotspots**. Queenslanders returning from these areas will need to self-quarantine for 14 days.
- Queenslanders are urged to get their **flu vaccination** as soon as possible with the peak season from June to September. Vaccinations are available at doctors' surgeries, local pharmacies or at the workplace.
- In Queensland, **testing** may be done for people who have fever (or history of fever) OR acute respiratory symptoms (cough, sore throat, shortness of breath). If you meet this criteria, contact a doctor immediately. Your doctor will decide if you need to be tested for COVID-19. [View more information on testing and self-quarantine requirements.](#)
- Download the voluntary **COVIDSafe app** to help slow the spread of coronavirus through early notification of possible exposure. [Find out more about the COVIDSafe app](#) — available on both iOS and Android.

Other services

- **Public transport customers** should remember three key principles when travelling: Leave a gap between themselves and others; Adjust their travel to avoid peak periods; and Keep it clean by following health advice. [View the COVID-safe public transport plan.](#)
- Strong measures have been implemented to limit the risk of COVID-19 reaching **remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities**. The Australian Government has extended the emergency provisions of the Biosecurity Act to 17 September 2020, but that doesn't mean the restrictions will be in place until that date. The Queensland Government is working on a plan with communities to enable a staged and careful lifting of remote area Biosecurity restrictions when it is safe to do so, in a way that minimises the risk of COVID-19 for remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The timeframe and restrictions may vary between communities. [View further information.](#)
- All **national park and state forest** day use areas and walking tracks have reopened (except for some popular rock pool destinations). All camping areas remain closed. Check [Park Alerts](#) before leaving home for up-to-date information for a specific location.
- Queensland **agriculture and commercial fishing businesses can hire seasonal workers** under a new COVID-19 framework, which includes mandatory health management plans, and entry and quarantine requirements for temporary visa holders and seasonal workers. Find more information for [seasonal workers and visa holders](#) and [employers of seasonal workers](#).



Financial assistance

- Overall the Queensland Government has committed **more than \$6 billion worth of COVID-19 support initiatives**, including measures for impacted businesses, workers, households, communities and the health sector.
- Recent announcements include:
 - \$51.3 million **Return to Play recovery assistance package for community sport**, providing for \$2,000 funding grants for up to 7,000 clubs state-wide to buy their cleaning equipment and other essentials. \$150 FairPlay vouchers to cover sign on fees for 73,000 children from low income families, grants for minor works of up to \$20,000 for clubs, and \$10.8 million across 77 state-level sporting and recreation organisations.
 - \$10 million to **support more than 20,000 international students** who are in Queensland separated from family.
 - a dedicated **\$900,000 Community Connections Support Package** for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants.
- To find information on all financial assistance and business and industry support announced by the Queensland Government, visit [Business Queensland](#) or the [COVID-19 website](#).
- An **online rental hub** has information and resources to help tenants, property owners and agents. [Find out more about the rental hub.](#)
- An **online jobs portal** is available to connect Queenslanders who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 with new job opportunities. [Find out more about Jobs Finder Queensland.](#)
- Several changes have been made to help Queenslanders with costs and requirements relating to **personal and business vehicle registration** if they are not currently using the vehicle. There is also a freeze on heavy vehicle registration fees until 30 June 2021. [Find out more about registration costs and requirements.](#)
- The Australian Government has announced a range of support measures including the JobKeeper payment, Higher Education Relief Package, Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package and a Jobs Hub. [Find out more information on Australian Government measures and assistance.](#)
- **Centrelink** - If you're affected by COVID-19, you can register your intention to claim a Centrelink payment. [Register your intention to claim.](#)

Community assistance

- Australians are urged to donate blood to maintain our blood reserves in the coming months.
- To support seniors who don't have family, friends or neighbours, [register for the Care Army online](#) or call the Community Recovery Hotline on 1800 173 349.
- [View translated Australian and Queensland health resources related to COVID-19.](#)
- People experiencing domestic and family violence may be vulnerable during periods of isolation. For help call 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732) or [find further information and services for people impacted by domestic and family violence.](#)
- An online domestic and family violence reporting tool is available via the Queensland Police website. View [here](#).
- Counselling services for anyone at any time are available from [Lifeline](#) or phone 13 11 14.
- [Find out more about additional mental health services and resources.](#)
- [View the Australian Government's new Beyond Blue coronavirus mental wellbeing service](#) or call 1800 512 348.
- The Queensland Government has launched [Boost Your Healthy](#), a series of online videos and tips turning backyards into gyms and using Queensland's sporting greats as personal trainers and motivators.