

COVID-19 is in our community. Please use and dispose of your masks properly.

COVID-19 Cases in the Wheatbelt

Over the past two weeks, COVID-19 cases in the Wheatbelt have steadily declined. However there are still new cases occurring at a rate of close to 100 per day, and a limited number of reinfections have been recorded in the South West. As a result, it is important that we maintain healthy and cautious habits to help infections continue to decrease.

Please keep in mind that while masks are no longer mandatory in most settings, they are encouraged—particularly in higher-risk and/or crowded places.

Having a PCR Test After a Positive RAT

The Department of Health has stated that PCR tests sought following a positive RAT **will not** be provided at public COVID clinics. If an individual or employer requires a confirmatory PCR test, this can only be undertaken at private pathology providers at a cost.

Depending on the testing method, evidence of a positive result includes:

- A text message or email from WA Health (or another State or Territory health department) confirming registration of your positive RAT result
- A doctor's letter confirming your COVID-19 diagnosis and stating the date of infection

If you test positive to COVID, you may return to work when you have met your isolation requirements. **You do not need to provide evidence of a negative test before returning to work.** Note that if you are recovering and have been asymptomatic for several days at the end of your isolation period, you are unlikely to be infectious, but may be shedding dead virus which can result in a positive test.

For more information on COVID testing protocols, visit the [Healthy WA website](#).

Community Connect

In trying times, staying connected is extremely important. Supported by the Department of Communities, [Community Connect](#) is a free program that links members with like-minded people in the WA community via email, phone or video chat. Each month you will be able to talk to another West Australian who is part of the program, sharing stories, enjoying activities and creating positive connections.

To join Community Connect, simply call 1300 303 540 or [sign up online](#).

COVID-19 Information Resources

For information by phone, you can call:

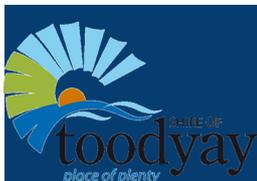
- COVID Hotline (for general information) – 13 COVID (13 26 843)
- Coronavirus Health Hotline – 1800 020 080
- Emergency – 000

To find information online, you can visit:

- [State Government COVID-19 website](#)
- [Commonwealth Department of Health website](#)
- [WA Department of Health website](#)
- [WA Department of Health \(Health Information for Western Australians\) website](#)
- [World Health Organisation website](#)

For access to current news and updates, you can follow:

- [Healthy WA Facebook page](#)
- [Australian Department of Health Facebook page](#)
- [World Health Organisation Facebook page](#)
- [Department of Health Twitter](#)



COVID-19 Community Update