

CANBERRA'S RECOVERY PLAN

STAGE 3 CHECK POINT REPORT

Easing of COVID-19 restrictions in the ACT is taking place in stages to enable us to carefully monitor the situation in the ACT. As we ease restrictions, remaining flexible and readily able to respond to the changing circumstances of the pandemic is important.

Canberra's Recovery Plan has several check points along the way, so that each stage can be assessed before moving to the next. These health checks are crucial to helping keep us safe moving forward.

Below is a summary of the check point that has been undertaken to assess the move to the next stage. Following this public health risk assessment, the decision has been made to remain at Step 3.1. While we are fortunate in the ACT to be in a good position, with no active cases, we do not exist in a vacuum. The situation can change quickly, both in the ACT and interstate. There is ongoing widespread community transmission in Victoria and clusters at multiple venues in NSW, with the potential for these to impact on the ACT. We are also managing the quarantine requirements for a high number of people who have recently returned to the ACT from Victoria.

While there will be another public health risk assessment in two weeks, it is likely that some level of restrictions will be needed in the ACT, at least for some time. It is important we maintain these control measures to ensure we remain in a good position to respond quickly, if necessary.

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE MEASURE	STATUS
CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES	
0 cases notified in the past week	●
0 active cases	●
42 days since the last case notified	●
129 days since the last case with potential community/local transmission	●
TESTING	
Total number of negative tests collected in the ACT - 68,161	●
Average number of tests collected per day in the past week - approx. 604	●
QUARANTINE	
Total number of people in quarantine that are known to ACT Health - 477. A contributing factor in the increased number of people in quarantine is due to the recent return of ACT residents who were previously stranded at the NSW/Victorian border .	●
COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE OF RESTRICTIONS	
Business compliance with public health directions and physical distancing requirements continuing.	●
In the July Community YourSay Panel COVID-19 Survey, 91% of respondents said they 'practised physical distancing' and 85% said they 'washed their hands more regularly' either "a great deal" or "quite a bit".	●
HEALTH PREPAREDNESS	
The impact of COVID-19 cases on our tertiary health system has been manageable. There are no active cases in hospital.	●
SUMMARY OF COVID-19 CASES FROM SURROUNDING JURISDICTIONS	
NSW Health recently reported two locations on the South Coast where visitors tested positive to COVID-19. One was in Huskisson and the other in Mollymook. The daily number of locally-acquired cases across NSW, including a small number with no known links, suggests limited community transmission and remains a concern.	●

LEGEND ● REVIEW ● PROCEED WITH CAUTION ● ON TRACK

As at 20 August 2020

National considerations

The ACT is closely monitoring disease surveillance in other jurisdictions, especially in Victoria and NSW.

While there has been a downward trend in the rate of growth of cases in Victoria, the number of reported cases remains high, with widespread community transmission. The number of cases in NSW is also on a downward trend. However there continues to be a small proportion of cases not linked with known clusters or close contacts of known cases.

The ACT continues to advise Canberrans not to travel to Greater Sydney unless it is for absolutely essential reasons.

The situation unfolding is something that we will continue to see as we learn to live with COVID-19 and serves as a reminder of the ongoing risk of resurgence in cases.

This is why we must continue to monitor case movement closely and ease restrictions in a measured way.

Canberrans are being advised not to travel to Victoria, Greater Sydney and hotspot areas of NSW at this time for anything but essential reasons.

For COVID-19 stats across all jurisdictions, visit the [Australian Government Department of Health website](https://www.health.gov.au). This information is updated daily.

Restrictions may have eased but your responsibility hasn't

While the ACT is in a good position, we need to continue to mitigate the public health risks from COVID-19 by having appropriate control measures in place. This is a requirement for all Canberrans.

While our community research shows high rates of compliance by Canberrans in continuing COVID-safe behaviours, there is still room for improvement.

We must continue to maintain physical distancing and practice good hygiene measures.

Testing remains the strongest form of surveillance for COVID-19 in our community, so anyone with respiratory symptoms, needs to stay at home and get tested at one of the ACT's testing sites.

RESTRICTIONS MAY HAVE EASED BUT YOUR RESPONSIBILITY HASN'T



Stay 1.5m apart



Maintain good hand hygiene



Stay home if you are unwell



Get tested if you have symptoms of COVID-19

More information at [covid19.act.gov.au](https://www.covid19.act.gov.au)

