

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 to keep us safe moving forward.

Below is a summary of the check point that has been undertaken to assess the move to Stage 3 easing of restrictions, the details of which were announced on Wednesday 8 July 2020. Following this public health risk assessment, the decision has been made to continue to pause the move to Stage 3. This will be reviewed again in two weeks' time.

The decision to continue to pause Stage 3 has been made due to a number of factors. This includes: widespread community transmission in Victoria, clusters at multiple venues across NSW and the potential for these to impact on the ACT, and the management of quarantine requirements for people who have travelled from Victoria and affected locations in NSW.

It is too early to tell whether more COVID-19 cases will be diagnosed in the several hundred people currently in quarantine in the ACT.

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE MEASURE	STATUS
CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES	
0 cases notified in the past week	●
1 active cases (connected with Victorian outbreak)	●
13 days since the last case notified	●
100 days since the last case with potential community/local transmission	●
TESTING	
Total number of negative tests collected in the ACT – 43965	●
Average number of tests collected per day in the past week – 776	●
QUARANTINE	
Total number of people in quarantine (as at 4pm 22 July 2020) that are known to ACT Health – 630	●
COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE OF RESTRICTIONS	
Business compliance with public health directions and physical distancing requirements continuing	●
In the June Community YourSay Panel COVID-19 Survey, 90% 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 with 16 cases in hospital and 6 in ICU. There are no active cases in hospital	●
SUMMARY OF COVID-19 CASES FROM SURROUNDING JURISDICTIONS	
In the past week there has been 8 confirmed cases associated with the Batemans Bay cluster, and 74 cases across NSW total. As a result the ACT currently has over 130 people in quarantine from the Batemans Bay cluster alone. Although the ACT border to Victoria remains closed, the continuing significant growth in case numbers daily, and the clear evidence of community transmission is concerning.	●

LEGEND ● REVIEW ● PROCEED WITH CAUTION ● ON TRACK

As at 22 July 2020

National considerations

The ACT is closely monitoring disease surveillance in other jurisdictions. Increasing case numbers in NSW from multiple clusters, and continued growth in cases in Victoria is concerning. The situation unfolding in Victoria has led to all jurisdictions imposing border restrictions with Victoria. The ACT has also implemented a new Public Health Direction and quarantine requirements for people returning to the ACT from affected NSW locations.

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. It 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 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**. This information is updated daily.

Restrictions may have eased but your responsibility hasn't

As we allow more people to come together, we need to continue to mitigate the public health risks from COVID-19 by having appropriate control measures in place. This is not just a requirement for businesses. It extends to 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, need 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

