



Update

19 November 2021

Total active cases in Gippsland being managed by the GRPHU – 423

(Bass Coast 27 / Baw Baw 99 / East Gippsland 60 / Latrobe 196 / South Gippsland 24 / Wellington 17)

The GRPHU is currently managing 423 positive COVID cases throughout Gippsland.

There is one person in hospital in ICU.

Latrobe has recorded seven new cases from yesterday, Baw Baw 10, four for East Gippsland, five for Bass Coast and eight in South Gippsland, while Wellington recorded no new cases from yesterday.

As Victoria approaches 90 per cent vaccinated, we have all played a key role in helping us get to this point.

The 90 per cent vaccination rate allows us to take a risk-based approach to how we manage cases and contacts, continuing to focus on high-risk outbreaks and removing stringent self-quarantine requirements for people who are at lower risk of transmission, and alleviating the burden that isolating puts on families, mental health and business.

Here is an outline of the new guidelines that apply from today;

Isolation - The majority of people who come into contact with a confirmed positive case outside their home won't have to self-quarantine. Instead, those contacts will have to get a PCR test and isolate until they get a negative result. That means if you are exposed to a case in an office, restaurant or bar you won't automatically have to quarantine, although the Health Department can still impose quarantine periods on a case-by-case basis if it is considered necessary.

People who test positive to COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 days instead of 14 and are asked to contact the people they have seen in the lead-up to their diagnosis and encourage them to get tested, but the Health Department will no longer trace and manage those contacts.



Update

Cases are required to notify their workplace, school or childcare about their positive results, and workplaces will be responsible for contacting other employees, but not customers, who may have been exposed.

Fully vaccinated household contacts will have to isolate for seven days instead of 14.

Exposure sites - will no longer be published, but notifications from the Service Victoria app will alert to higher risk venues if a positive case has attended.

Masks - are no longer required in workplaces such as offices, but are still required for primary school staff and visitors and students in years 3-6, for hospitality workers, and workers and customers at indoor retail. Masks will also need to be worn in healthcare, aged care and justice facilities, and in ride-share vehicles, taxis or on public transport.

Offices - Workplaces are open and masks no longer need to be worn, but you must be fully vaccinated if you are a worker or volunteer who is required to be vaccinated to work outside the home, for example, authorised workers who were the subject of mandated vaccinations.

As part of the changes to exposure and isolation rules, a positive case in an office setting won't automatically require self-quarantine, contacts just need to isolate until they receive a negative test result.

Private gatherings - There is no limit on the number of guests you can have to your home or see in a public place, although the recommendation is that everyone is fully vaccinated. Density limits and mask restrictions will remain for weddings, funerals and places of worship if vaccine status is not being checked. The restrictions will be one person per 4sqm to a maximum of 50 people.

Visiting hospitals and aged care - There are limits on attending high-risk settings, even for those who are fully vaccinated. People in care facilities can have five visitors a day, including dependants. Visitors to hospitals are still limited.

Travel - There are no limits on travel or accommodation in Victoria, and people are free to leave the state for any reason, however, permits will be needed for anyone returning to the state.

Venues restricted to fully vaccinated people - YOU CAN ONLY ATTEND THE FOLLOWING VENUES IF YOU ARE FULLY VACCINATED:



Update

- Food and drink venues, such as pubs, bars and restaurants, for table service or eating in (unvaccinated people can collect take away food)
- Entertainment venues, such as cinemas or zoos
- Events, such as festivals or fun runs
- Gambling venues and adult entertainment, such as the casino and pokies venues
- Non-essential retail stores, such as bookshops, clothing, toy or jewellery retailers
- Personal and beauty services, such as hairdressers or waxing salons
- Community or creative arts venues, such as libraries or theatres
- Real estate services, such as inspections and auctions.

There are no capacity or density limits at venues where everyone is vaccinated.

COVID Testing – Morwell Falcons Soccer site to close

Based on recent testing numbers, we have decided to close the walk-in testing site at the Morwell Falcons Soccer Club. The last day of operation is today, Friday 19 November.

Latrobe Regional Hospital will focus its resources to the Traralgon Recreation Reserve drive through testing site and utilise this as its primary testing site in Latrobe City, including coverage over the Christmas and New Year period (details to be announced).

The Traralgon Recreation Reserve drive-through testing site is currently operating between 9am – 4pm Sunday – Friday (closed Saturdays). This will continue until Tuesday 23 November, from which point operating hours will change to 8.30am – 3.30pm Sunday – Friday (closed Saturdays).



Update

Vaccination pop up clinics

Have you had your COVID-19 vaccination yet? Are you ready for your second dose? Are you eligible for a booster shot?

The Gippsland Region Public Health Unit will return to Morwell next week offering the AstraZeneca, Pfizer and Moderna COVID vaccines to those eligible. First and second doses are available as well as booster shots.

The pop-up clinics will be at the Morwell Neighbourhood House, 48 – 50 Beattie Crescent, on Wednesday 24 November between 10am – 2pm and the Carry On Café, 236-238 Commercial Road, on Thursday 25 November between 9am – 1pm.

First and second doses are available as well as booster shots.

No appointments required - just turn up on the day with your Medicare Card. If you don't have a Medicare Card, please bring a form of personal identification like a driver's licence, birth certificate, passport or student identification.

Any child wishing to receive a vaccine will need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian and must also present identification that proves the child is at least 12 years old.

Please remember that if you are unwell or have been directed to quarantine, you are not currently eligible for a vaccination, but there are more pop up clinics planned so stay tuned.

Community Vaccination Centres decreased hours

A reminder that we have decreased operating hours at some community vaccination centres.

If anyone has an appointment scheduled at a community vaccination centre that will now be closed at the time of their appointment, they will receive a phone call or text message from the GRPHU. They are welcome to re-book their appointment to a different time/day or walk-in during any of the clinic's opening hours.

Operating hours from today, Monday 15 November;



Update

Bairnsdale City Oval

Monday 10am – 6pm, Tuesday 10am – 5pm, Wednesday 10am – 4pm. (Later start time and earlier close.)

Leongatha Community Clinic

Monday and Friday 9am – 3.30pm (Now closed on Tuesday.)

Sale - Gippsland Regional Sports Complex

Wednesday and Friday 8.45am – 3.30pm (Now closed Monday.)

Traralgon Racecourse

Monday – Saturday 8.45am – 3.30pm, closed Public Holidays (No change – but operating at half capacity.)

Warragul - The Goods Shed

Tuesday and Thursday 9am – 6pm (Now closed on Friday and open later.)

Wonthaggi Town Hall

Monday 9am – 4pm, Wednesday 10am – 6pm and Friday 9am – 4pm (Now closed on Tuesday.)

Yarram Medical Centre

Tuesday 9am – 2pm, Friday 9am – 4pm (Earlier close on Tuesday and Friday.)

COVID snapshot

Latrobe City

There are currently 196 active COVID-19 cases in Latrobe City being managed by the GRPHU.

Testing opportunities in Latrobe City include;

- Traralgon Recreation Reserve, Whittakers Road. Drive through clinic, Sunday – Friday 9am – 4pm until the 23 November. 8.30am – 3.30pm Sunday – Friday thereafter (closed Saturdays).
- CLOSING AFTER TODAY - Gippsland Sports and Entertainment Park in Morwell (Falcons Soccer Club). Walk-in clinic, until 4pm today. Parking is available on site. Pre-fill your details using the Testing Registration form <https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/citizen-prefill>.



Update

- Clinical Labs, walk in clinic, Traralgon. 7.30am – 3.30pm weekdays. By appointment on 03 5174 0285
- Latrobe Regional Hospital, Dorevitch Pathology, drive through, Traralgon. 8.30am – 4.30pm, by appointment on 03 5165 0800.
- Latrobe Valley Respiratory Clinic, Morwell. Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm. By appointment, for bookings go to: <https://bit.ly/3Fbd8eH>
- Moe Senior Citizen's Centre, Latrobe Community Health Service, walk-in clinic. 9am – 11am Tuesday and Thursday. No appointments required. Pre-fill your details using the Testing Registration form <https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/citizen-prefill>

Baw Baw

There are currently 99 active COVID-19 cases in Baw Baw being managed by the GRPHU.

Testing opportunities in Baw Baw include;

- Lardner Park, drive through, Warragul. 8am – 3pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Pre-fill your details using the Testing Registration form <https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/citizen-prefill>
- Warragul Respiratory Clinic, 9am – 5pm weekdays. By Appointment for bookings go to: <https://bit.ly/3Fbd8eH>

Bass Coast

There are currently 27 active COVID-19 cases in Bass Coast being managed by the GRPHU.

Testing opportunities in Bass Coast include;

- Cowes – Bass Coast Health, drive through. 9am – 2pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Pre-fill your details using the Testing Registration form <https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/citizen-prefill>
- Wonthaggi – Bass Coast Health, drive through. 9am – 4pm Monday - Sunday. Pre-fill your details using the Testing Registration form <https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/citizen-prefill>
- Wonthaggi Respiratory Clinic, 1pm – 3.30pm weekdays by appointment at <https://bit.ly/3Fbd8eH>

South Gippsland

There are currently 24 active COVID-19 cases in South Gippsland being managed by the GRPHU.

Testing opportunities in South Gippsland include;



Update

- Leongatha – Gippsland Southern Health Service, drive through. 9am – 3pm Mondays and Thursdays by Appointment, for bookings call 5654 2777
- Foster Respiratory Clinic, 9am – 12.30pm weekdays. For bookings go to <https://bit.ly/3Fbd8eH>

Wellington

There are currently 17 active COVID-19 cases in Wellington being managed by the GRPHU.

Testing opportunities in Wellington include;

- Sale Respiratory Clinic, 9am – 5pm weekdays. By appointment, for bookings go to <https://bit.ly/3Fbd8eH>
- Yarram District Health Service, drive through 10.30am - 11.30am weekdays. No appointments required. Pre-fill your details using the Testing Registration form <https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/citizen-prefill>
- Former Sion College Campus, drive through 9am – 11am Monday – Friday this week. Pre-fill your details using the Testing Registration form <https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/citizen-prefill>

East Gippsland

There are currently 60 active COVID-19 cases in East Gippsland being managed by the GRPHU.

Testing opportunities in East Gippsland include;

- Bairnsdale Respiratory Clinic, 2pm – 5pm weekdays. By appointment, for bookings go to <https://bit.ly/3Fbd8eH>
- Bairnsdale Regional Hospital, drive through. 9am – 1pm Sunday – Friday. No children under 5yrs. No appointment required. Pre-fill your details using the Testing Registration form <https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/citizen-prefill>
- Orbost Medical Centre, drive through. 9am – 10am weekdays. By Appointment, for bookings call 5154 6777
- Omeo District Health, drive through. 8am – 9pm Monday – Sunday. By Appointment, for bookings call 5159 0100
- Gelantipy Bush Nursing Centre, drive through. Mondays and Wednesdays 9am – 11am. By Appointment, for bookings call 5155 0274. Pre-fill your details using the Testing Registration form <https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/citizen-prefill>



Update

- Gippsland Lakes Complete Health, drive through, Lakes Entrance. By appointment, for bookings call 5155 8300.
- Mallacoota Medical Centre. Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am – 12pm. By Appointment, for bookings call 5158 0777

ENDS - For more information contact GRPHU Communications Advisor, Tracy Vanderzalm, 0447 491 345.