

24th August 2020

Edition 61

iSafe SMS – Your Partner for Compliance and Risk Mitigation

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QLD COVID-19 update

(24 Aug 2020, 09.30am)

1,105 in QLD
2 new cases

DAYS OF NO NEW CASES
0

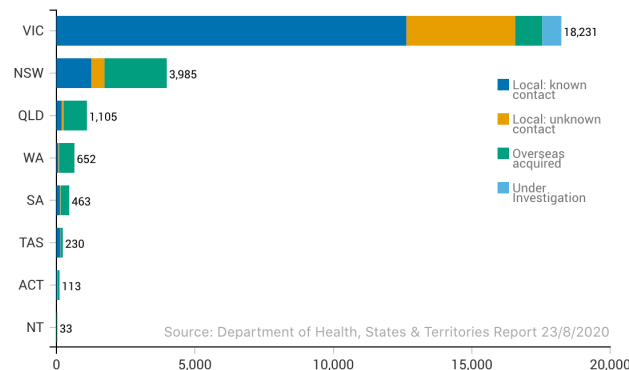
1,082 Cases recovered
 **97.9%**

Latest updates:

- Victoria recorded the highest number of new infections and deaths, although these have started to fall. For the week to Aug 24, it recorded 1,538 new infections and 96 deaths. Melbourne remains under tight Stage 4 restrictions.
- NSW recorded 35 new cases last week but no new deaths.
- NSW Health announced it has completed its 2 millionth COVID-19 test within the state, thanks in large part of mobile, pop-up, and container-based clinics in outer Sydney suburbs and rural areas.
- While its borders remain closed, QLD recorded 14 new cases (with no new deaths) last week, nine of which were related to the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre cluster (see below).



Majority of new cases are now home-grown



South East QLD Public Health Alert: Public asked to “mask up” as 55 sites are targeted across Brisbane, Ipswich, and Logan

“It’s time to use a mask,” QLD’s Health Minister, Jeanette Young, urged residents in the Greater Brisbane region, particularly Ipswich, today. “I’m not going to mandate it because I don’t believe we have broad spread community transmission, but certainly we’re in a risky period at this time. But if you’re in a crowded situation that you can’t get out of, put a mask on.”

This follows last week’s cluster at the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre in Wacol, triggering the largest weekly rise in infections in months.

Nine cases have now been linked to the facility, including a “baby boy” diagnosed last night. They cases mainly involve staff at the facility who have visited, shopped, eaten, and socialised across a number of locations throughout the south east. This included Indooroopilly Shoppingtown, whose management were required to perform deep cleans on two occasions last week.

Random clusters or “The Second Wave”?

What you can do to guard against “locally acquired” infections on your worksite

The first few months of COVID crisis management now seem so naive and complacent. All you had to do was round up and quarantine overseas travellers. The Melbourne fiasco proved just what a deadly combination naivete and complacency are. We certainly don’t want it to become the template for the rest of the nation. Or for your worksite to become a potential “ground zero”. Now that its starting to spread from our communities, your prevention tactics and strategies need to adapt. Quickly.

- Cleaning:** Redouble your efforts to encourage handwashing and sanitising. Ditto for disinfecting high-touch surfaces.
- Screening:** Check everyone at the door. Most community spread has come from people ignorant of their own symptoms. You just can’t take their word for it. Invest in a handheld thermometer – or better yet – a thermal camera for every access point to your site.
- Testing:** Ensure ALL your staff know the symptoms. It’s now advised for ANYONE with ANY symptom get tested immediately. When in doubt – get tested anyway.
- Tracing:** Granted, the government [COVIDSafe App](#)’s no chart topper, but ask your staff to install it anyway. The alternative – a team of DNA detectives – take weeks to track down the source. The app takes just minutes. (Download here for [iOS](#) or [Android](#))

World Situation

Worldwide Cases (24.08.2020, 09.30am)

23.3 Million Total cases confirmed
806,630 Death confirmed
15.0 Million Total recovered

Cases recovered worldwide

 **64.3%**

The true figure is expected to be far higher due to the lack of widespread testing in many countries.