

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

### Question On Notice

Wednesday, 16 March 2022

625. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health

- (1) I refer to the daily release of COVID-19 statistics relating to testing positive cases, hospitalisations and deaths, and I ask, noting the daily report is for a period to 8pm the night prior, when is the report compiled and available for release?
- (2) Which agency compiles the report?
- (3) Who receives the report and at what time is the report typically received by the Minister?
- (4) Will the Minister please table the information that was provided to the Minister for Health on 16 March 2022 relating to the day prior, including any email or letter used to communicate the information?
- (5) Why has the Government abandoned the positive case heat map by Local Government area, noting this was published information in the early response to COVID-19?
- (6) If a person tests positive on a Rapid Antigen Test and reports this, then tests positive on a subsequent PCR test, how is it ensured that both positive results are not counted in the published data?

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#### ANSWER:

(1 – 3) The Department of Health provide a daily COVID-19 update to the Minister's Media Adviser each morning. This update includes the confirmed number of new cases, hospitalisations and deaths in the 24 hour period to 8pm on the day prior. The exact time the update is received varies each day and is dependent on the publication of vaccination data by the Australian Immunisation Register.

(4) See tabled paper.

(5) Information has been refined to reflect higher caseloads in the community. The Department of Health's daily COVID-19 update includes a breakdown of new cases by region.

(6) Tests are matched to existing people in the contact tracing database and a new case created only if the person is not an existing case.





## Body text for email distribution

WA Health is reporting a total of 6,062 new cases to 8pm last night. There are currently 28,772 active cases in Western Australia.

For more information, please call the WA Health media line on (08) 9222 4333.

## COVID-19 update: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022

WA Health is reporting a total of 6,062 new cases to 8pm last night. There are currently 28,772 active cases in Western Australia.

WA Health can confirm a female in her eighties has passed away.

To 8pm last night, there were 123 people with COVID-19 in hospital, two in ICU.

### Total case breakdown

Region	Active (new to 8pm last night)	
Metropolitan	25,005	(5,288)
Goldfields	347	(75)
Great Southern	192	(43)
Kimberley	192	(42)
Midwest	278	(58)
Pilbara	484	(126)
South West	708	(152)
Wheatbelt	276	(56)

### Notes:

1. This data is based on the residential postcode of each case. The case may have an isolation address in another region.
2. The remainder of daily cases reported (222) are yet to have a region assigned. Data will continue to be reconfigured as this information is verified.

Of the 6,062 cases, 2,730 were confirmed via PCR test, the remaining 3,332 were self-reported positive rapid antigen tests.

A total 15,736 PCR tests were conducted at either state-run or private pathology clinics yesterday.

WA has recorded 62,354 cases since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

**Anyone experiencing symptoms should get tested immediately and isolate until they receive a negative result. Visit the HealthyWA website for a full list of testing clinics and opening hours (external site).**

### COVID-19 vaccinations

Vaccination information is available on the WA COVID-19 dashboard (external site).\*

To spread the demand across clinic operating hours and to avoid excessive wait times, people are encouraged to make a booking via Vaccinate WA.

ENDS

Media contact: (08) 9222 4333

\* This dashboard updates at approximately 2pm AWST on weekdays.

health.wa.gov.au