

# 2020 COVID-19 Response Hearing

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

**The Hon Daniel Andrews MP**  
**Premier of Victoria**

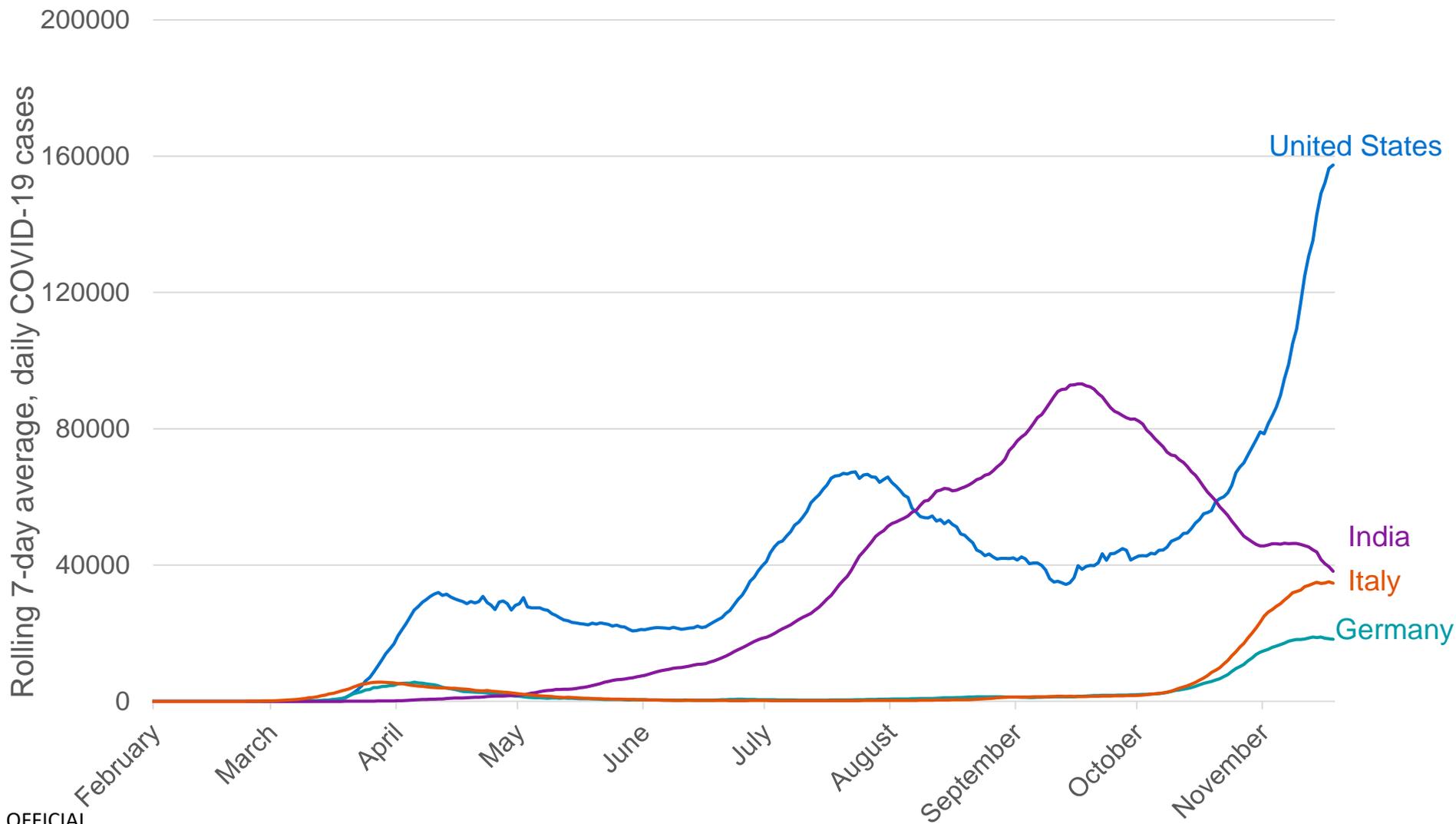
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Premier  
and Cabinet

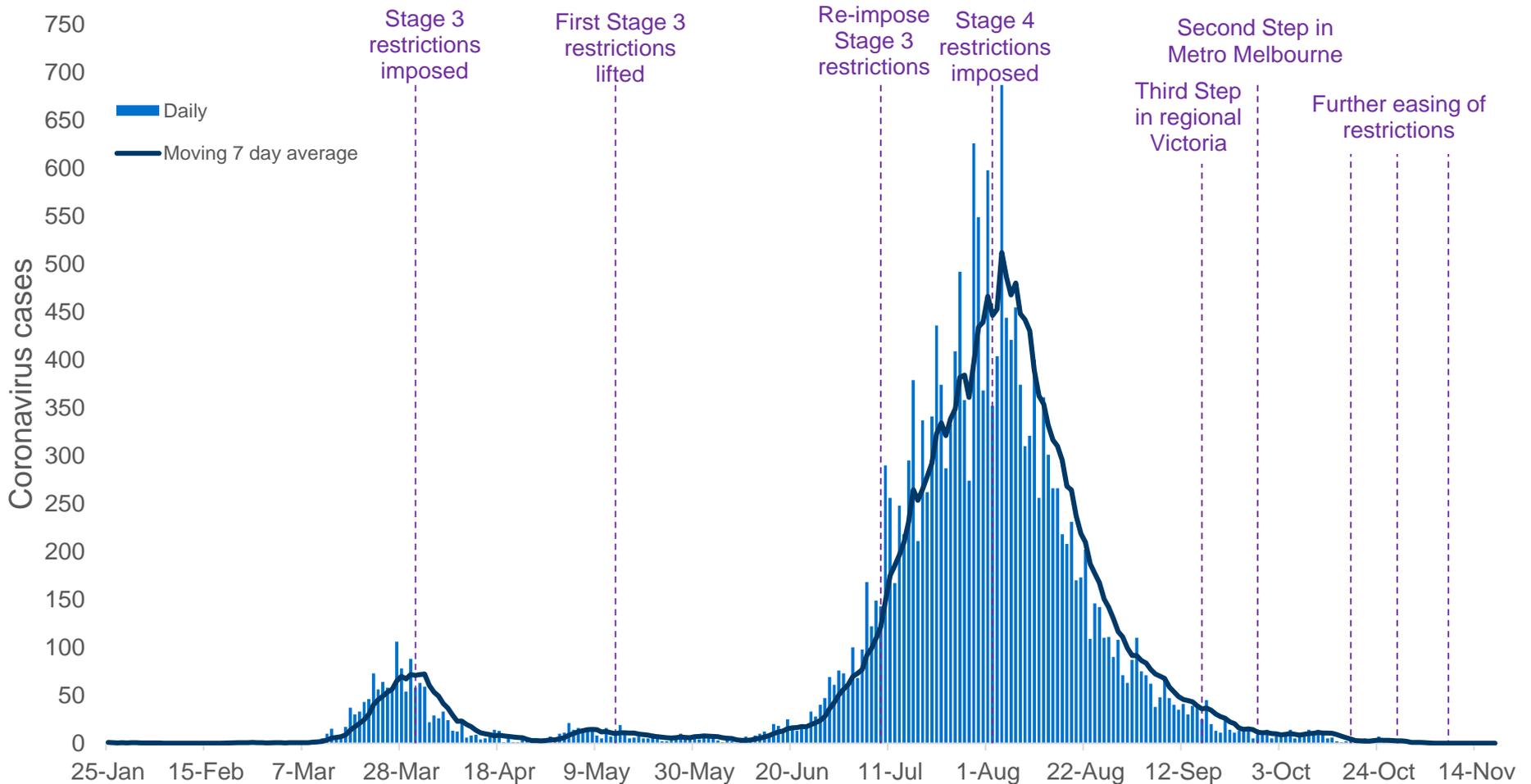
# Coronavirus cases continue to soar globally

- Around the world there have been **60 million** cases of coronavirus and **1.4 million** deaths
- Victoria is one of the few places to successfully beat a second wave

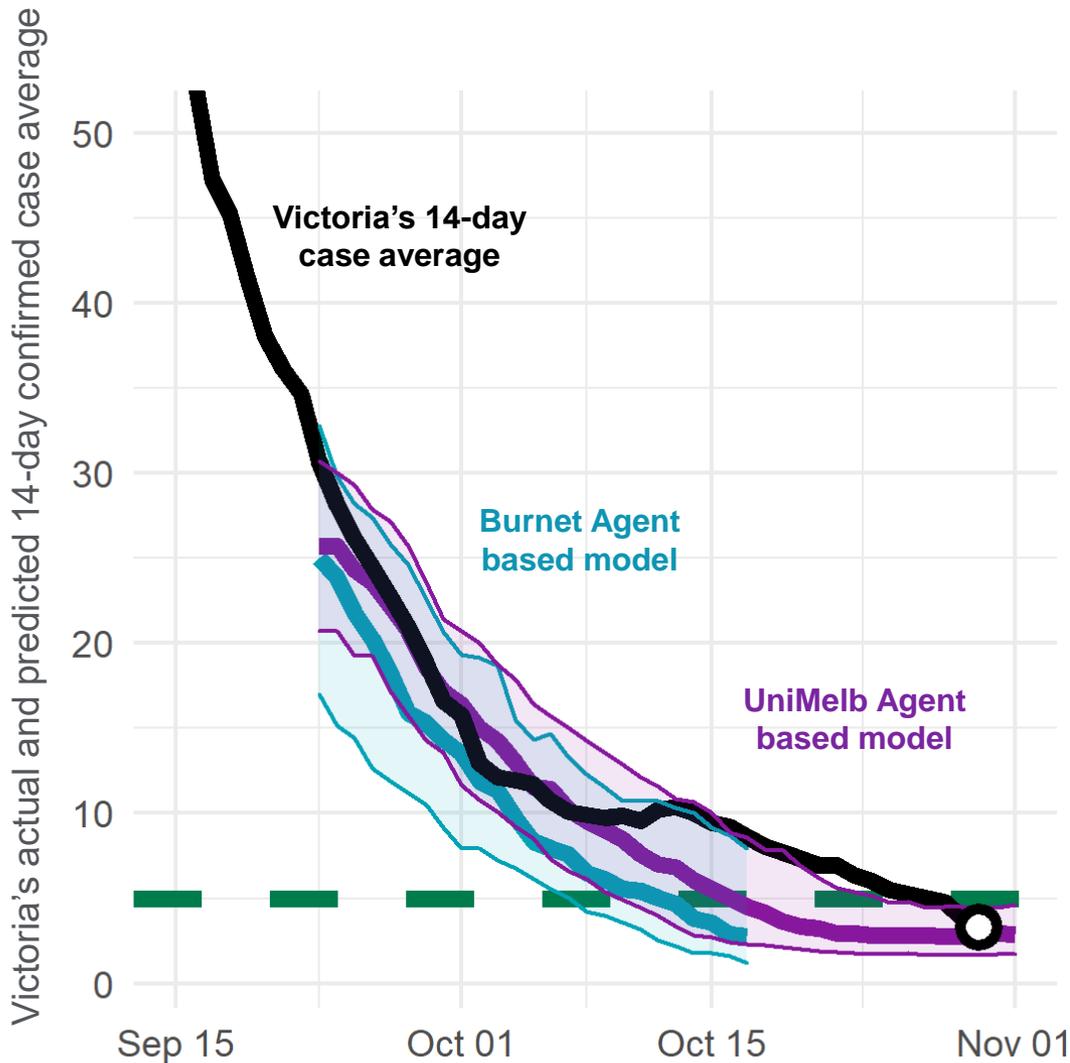


# The journey to zero cases

- Victoria has gone from over **700 cases** to 25 days of zero cases and 0 active cases, as of the 25<sup>th</sup> November
- Cases reduced due to a combination of restrictions and effective contact tracing
- Every Victorian played a part



# Data and public health advice have led the way



- A safe and steady Roadmap to COVID Normal was developed based on modelling and expert advice.
- In line with the modelling - Victoria reached a 14-day case average of 5 on 25th of October.
- Restrictions have continued to ease ahead of a COVIDSafe Summer.

# Supports for all Victorians

- We introduced the \$1,500 Worker Support Payment and the \$300 Test Isolation Payment – which we raised to \$450 to keep workers at home and the community safe.
- So far 13,500 worker support payments and 109,000 Test Isolation Payments have now been made.
- We invested over \$200 million in additional mental health supports including \$59.4 million to support the mental health, wellbeing and social connectedness of Victorians.
- The package supported more than 300,000 contacts with Victorians whether it be through phonedlines, online resources or ongoing complex case management.



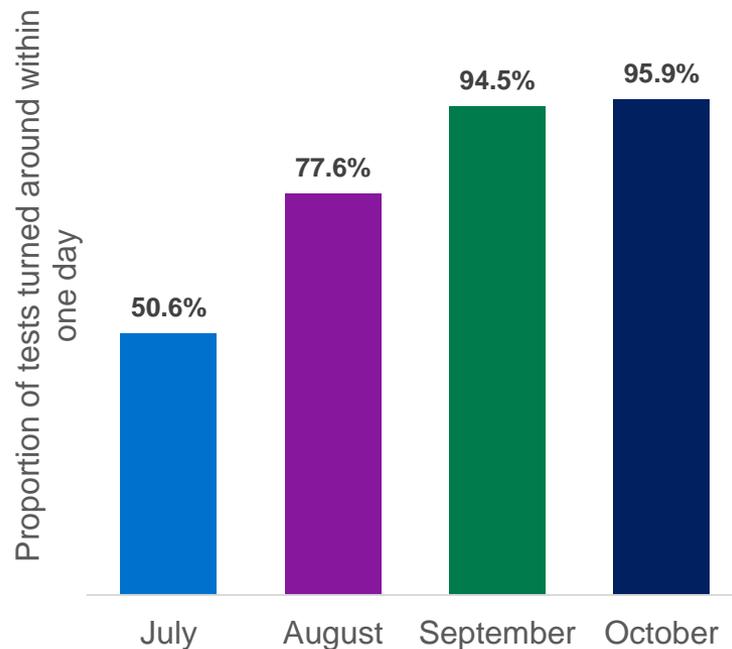
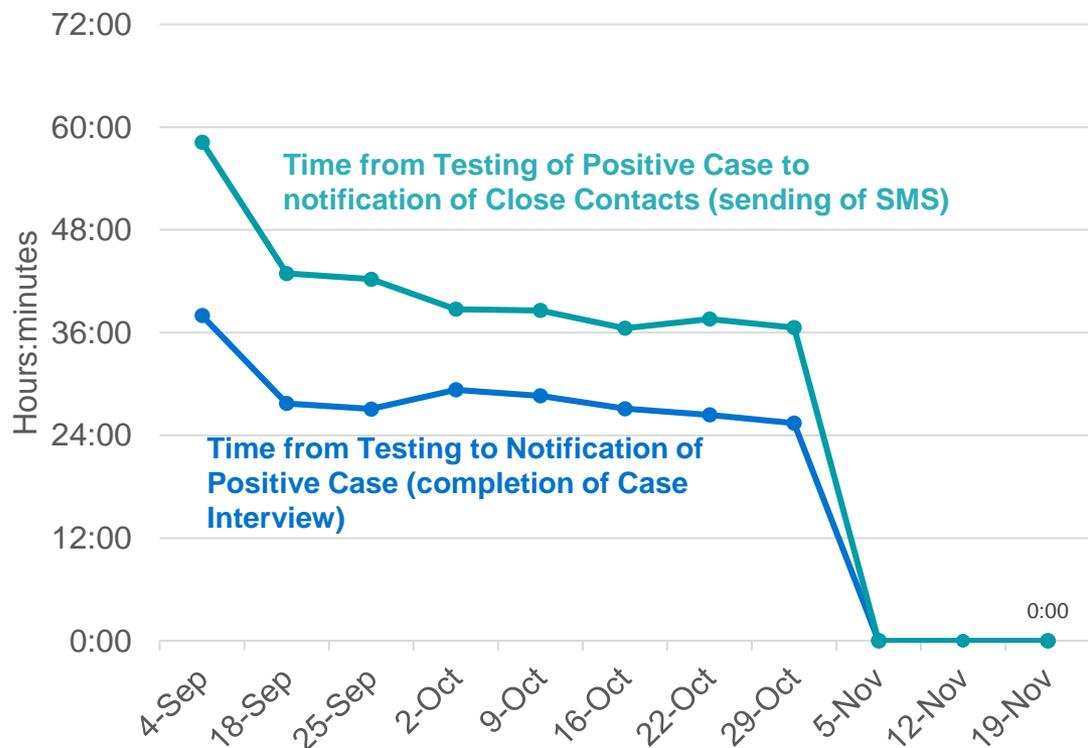
# Support for business



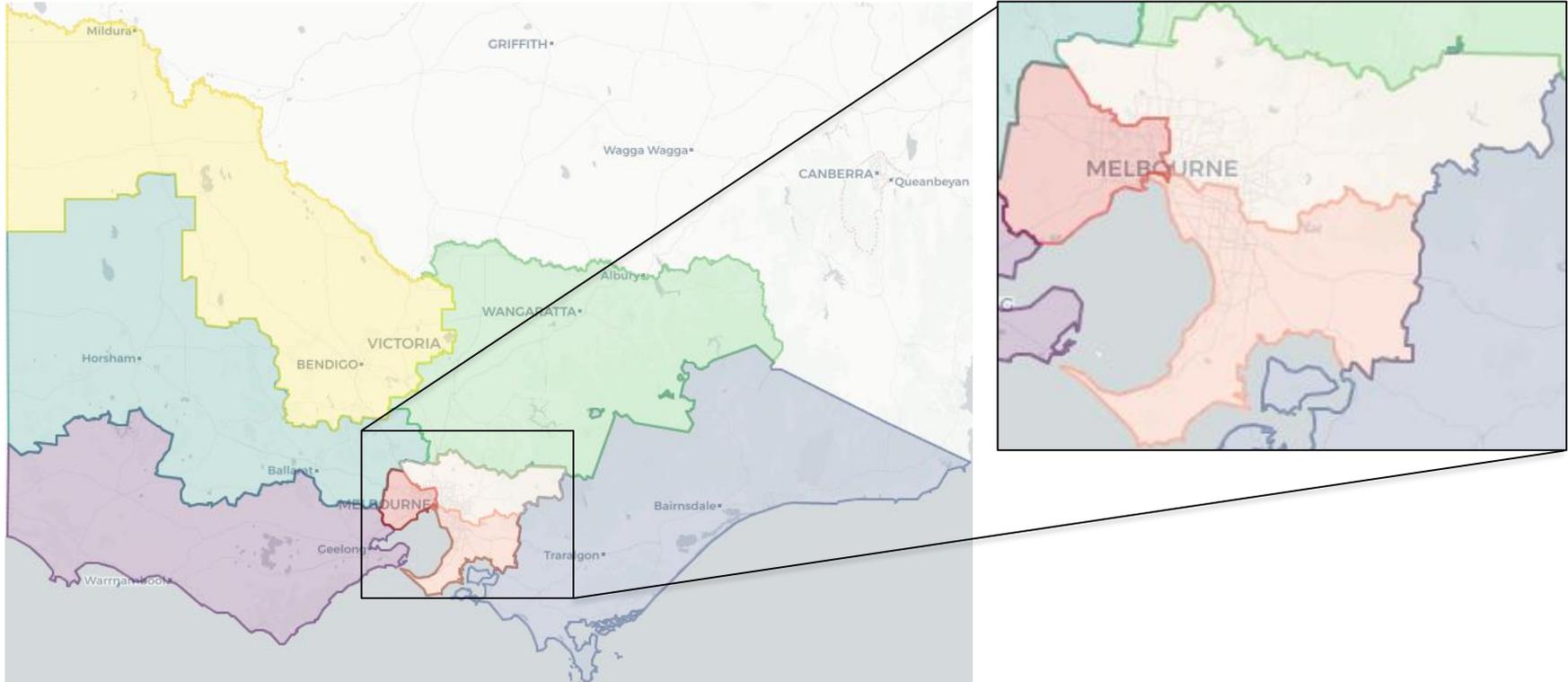
- Over **\$6 billion** has been provided to help businesses get to the other side of this pandemic.
- The **\$3 billion** business resilience package was the biggest package of its kind in Victorian history.
- Over **\$2.3 billion** of business support grants have been paid to 130,000 businesses in Victoria.
- More than **\$550 million** in payroll tax refund and waivers have supported more than 20,000 businesses.
- Over **\$140 million** for Protecting Victoria's experience economy, including our iconic cultural institutions and jobs across the creative, live music, tourism, sport and racing industries.
- A **\$100 million** support program to provide grants of \$3,000 to over 30,000 sole traders in the hardest hit sectors.

# A nation leading contact tracing system

- Continuous improvements have cut hours from the time taken from testing to all contacts in quarantine stopping the virus spreading and driving down case numbers.
- Close contacts are notified in **36 hours** of testing, beating all national targets and in line with the recommendations of the Chief Scientist's National Contact Tracing Review.



# Standing ready to respond to new cases



- There are around 2,400 people, supporting our public health response, including epidemiologists, public health clinicians, logistics, phone operators and data entry staff
- Twelve Local Public Health Units have been established across Victoria ready to engage with the community, track cases and contain outbreaks as the state opens.
- The Victorian Government has developed its own non-mandatory QR Code Service for businesses and venues to use for record keeping purposes.

# Ongoing testing to find every case

- Since 1 January 3.5 million tests have been processed
- Victoria has a network of around 200 testing sites across regional and metropolitan Victoria, including fixed, drive-through, mobile and pop-up COVID-19 testing sites.
- The Call-to-Test program provides testing at home.
- Wastewater testing monitors for coronavirus across 50 sites in Victoria.

