

# TRANSPORT WORKER SURVEY: TRANSPORT IN CRISIS



A survey of almost **2500** transport workers has revealed shocking disregard for workplace safety and pressure on workers to put themselves, their co-workers and the public at risk.

## UNSAFE WORKPLACES



Workers asked to return to work while **still testing positive or symptomatic**



Workplaces and trucks **not cleaned** after positive cases



Workers with **positive family members** told there's no need to test



**Docked pay and criticism** for isolating



Casual workers with **no sick leave** with no choice but to keep working



Management **not informing workers** of positive workplace cases

## WORKERS AT RISK

**87%**  
are concerned  
about working  
with a close  
contact

“ Colleague tested positive the other day - we share the truck. I only know because he told me, **no communication from management** at all, and no cleaning afterwards. I said I wasn't comfortable getting in the truck after him, and **was told do the trip** and go and get tested.

# DANGEROUS PRESSURES TO WORK



I tested positive again after 6 days of isolation and **was told I don't need to do a test** after 7 days and can return to work! I **refused** as I still had symptoms.



Pressured to work even though I **could barely drive the bus**. I refused to work the next day because I tested positive. My boss still wanted me to come on. I couldn't get out of bed, and I **was not going to make all my passengers sick**.



I've been **harassed** by phone calls and messages from management telling me to go back ASAP, but I was **still unwell**.



**My son tested positive** and I am a close contact. I was handed wipes and gloves and was told "we need you to work tomorrow".



I provide transport for **special needs children** and the **elderly**. Expecting me to work with others who are positive could result in a **death sentence** for these people.

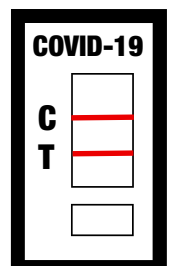
## RAPID ANTIGEN TEST HAVOC



Being sick from covid days away from your home is a **big worry**. Having access to rapid tests is a necessity for a fatigue-regulated long haul driver.



As **cabin crew** we come into contact with potentially covid-positive as well as vulnerable crew and passengers. We need RATs **so everyone feels safe** stepping onto a plane.



*The TWU wrote to Scott Morrison in September 2021 and again in October 2021 calling for free and accessible RATs in transport. Our calls were **dismissed**.*

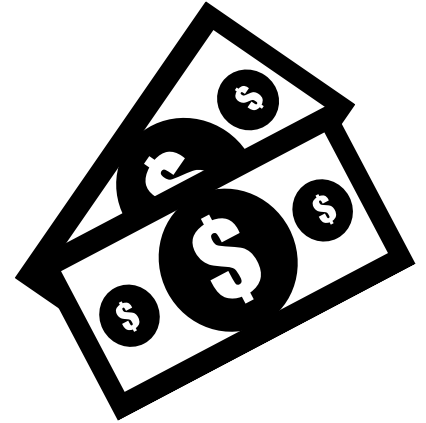
# LACK OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

34%

lost pay to  
self-isolate

41%

had to use their  
annual leave or sick  
leave to self-isolate



“ I am **considering having to quit** to keep my family safe. I am a full-time casual and have no paid leave of any kind after almost 2 years.

“ I was positive and **ended up in the ICU**. After 10 days, payments from the company stopped. I tried to get government covid assistance, but told I'm not eligible as I should apply within 7 days of testing positive, even though I was still in the ICU in that seven days. Now **no payment from work, no assistance from government**.

# GOVERNMENT FAILURES

74%

have not had their  
covid booster

Only  
17%

had pandemic  
leave to get  
vaccinated

“ The constant rule changes are **causing mayhem** in the working sector.

“ The 'let it rip' policy is a major failure of the government, and will **cost the lives of thousands**. If I become a close contact, I will take unpaid leave or quit while infectious.

“ The way bus drivers particularly at my company have received some many mixed messages has **dissolved any faith I had in the government** in assisting us to get through this pandemic.