

Please note these restrictions are accurate as at 2 October 2020.

### New South Wales

#### What are the current restrictions?

All businesses can now open and operate under the [one person per 4 square metre](#) rule. Capacity must not exceed one person per 4 square metres of publicly accessible space (excluding staff), OR 50% capacity of the venue (to a maximum of 1000 persons), whichever is the greater. Children count towards the capacity limit.

Seated groups or individuals should be separated by 1-2 empty seats on both sides to support [physical distancing](#). Strategies to achieve this, such as ticketing arrangements or blocked seating, need to be developed. If non-ticketed areas are being utilised, strategies need to be in place to ensure physical distancing between non-household groups.

NSW's Public Health Directions state that in calculating the space available for each person on any premises (the [4sqm rule](#)), the following areas are to be included in the calculations –

- If the size of the premises is not more than 200 square metres of floor space, the entire premises
- If the size of the premises is more than 200 square metres of floor space, only those areas that are open to the public.

NSW's Public Health Directions also state that in calculating both the space available for each person on any premises and the number of persons on the premises, the following persons are not to be included in any calculations—

- Any person engaged in work on the premises for the occupier of the premises
- If the premises are food and drink premises, any person ordering or collecting food or drink to consume off the premises.

#### What provisions need to be in place for workers and customers?

Under the rules, employers must allow employees to [work from home](#) where it is reasonably practical to do so.

Arts and entertainment businesses and venues are required to have a [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#) for how the business will keep customers and workers safe. It is not mandatory to use the NSW COVID-19 Safety Plan Template. If you choose to use the NSW template, you can choose to register the COVID-19 Safety Plan online. This allows visitors to your premises to see that you have a plan and to provide feedback to your business. Registering your premises is optional and comes with some obligations. You will need a COVID-19 Safety Plan to register.

[Arts and entertainment businesses and venues](#) can either:

- Use the [COVID-19 Safety Plan: cinemas, theatres and concert halls \(including drive-in cinemas\)](#); or
- Develop their own plan to address the checklist of matters [required](#).

See Create NSW FAQs [here](#).

#### Is there a roadmap?

NSW has not released a roadmap. Please refer to the [Federal Government Roadmap to a COVIDSafe Australia](#).

### Victoria

#### What are the current restrictions?

Use of face coverings is mandatory throughout Victoria.

#### Metropolitan Melbourne

Based on the industry restrictions (Second Step) in [Metropolitan Melbourne](#), all indoor entertainment venues (which includes cinemas, performing arts and music venues) and outdoor entertainment venues (which includes outdoor cinemas) remain closed.

An individual cannot attend their workplace for the purpose of a livestream. If an individual is able to livestream from home, they can do so. However, no one from outside of their household is permitted to come to their home to assist with livestreaming.

### Regional Victoria

Based on the industry restrictions (Third Step) in [Regional Victoria](#), all indoor entertainment venues (which includes cinemas, performing arts and music venues) remain closed. Outdoor entertainment venues (which includes outdoor cinemas) are open but are heavily restricted with patron caps.

An individual can attend their workplace to live-stream a performance without a live audience at the venue.

Performers and technicians should maintain at least 1.5 metres between themselves and others. They must wear a face covering. Only the minimum number of people required to stream the performance are permitted to attend the venue. Performers/technicians should still adhere to the density quotient of 1 person per 4 square metres and venues will need to keep records of those in attendance and have a [COVIDSafe Plan](#) in place.

### What provisions need to be in place for workers and customers?

Services and industries that are able to remain operational will be required to have a [COVIDSafe Plan](#) by 7 August 2020. From 11:59pm on 5 August 2020, employers that require their staff to attend a work site must issue a [worker permit](#) to their employees – this is the employer’s responsibility.

Businesses that are closed under restrictions do not have to have a COVIDSafe Plan in place in Victoria. Businesses are encouraged to use the templates created by Business Victoria to create a plan to return to work safely when restrictions are eased. Further information about COVIDSafe Plans in Victoria is available [here](#).

Businesses that can reopen in Regional Victoria must have a COVIDSafe Plan. All workers and customers must wear a face covering (exemptions apply: e.g. eating and drinking). Venues must keep records of workers and customer details for contact tracing, where a person attends work premises for longer than 15 minutes.

### Non-seated outdoor spaces where people are ambulant (excludes events) in Regional Victoria must ensure:

- The maximum participant limit should be the number permitted by the density quotient of one customer per four square metres, rounded down to the nearest number
- All have a COVIDSafe Plan. Venues with more than 500 capacity at one time must publish their COVIDSafe plan online before opening.

### Seated outdoor spaces (maximum of 50 total) in Regional Victoria must ensure:

- If a space has fixed seating (e.g. fixed seating section of arena): number of members of the public limited to the lower of 50 people or 25% of the venue’s fixed seat capacity
- If no fixed seating, but allocated seated spaces/zones: density quotient of no more than one person per four square metres, with a maximum of 50 patrons
- Groups are limited to public gathering limit (up to 10) and must be seated 1.5 metres from other groups

### Is there a roadmap?

Yes. The Victorian Government released its roadmap for re-opening for both [Metropolitan Melbourne](#) and [Regional Victoria](#) on 6 September 2020, to provide certainty and clarity to communities, tourism operators and businesses alike that restrictions will be eased at a safe pace – based on localised health advice.

## Queensland

### What are the current restrictions?

All businesses can open, in line with the [COVID Safe Framework](#).

### **Indoors Occupant Density**

No more than one person per 2 square metres (up to a total of 50 people) for indoor venues or spaces of 200 square metres or less; or

No more than one person per 4 square metres for indoor venues or spaces of 200 square metres or more.

### **Outdoors Occupant Density**

No more than one person per 2 square metres for outdoor venues or spaces; and

In accordance with the **COVID SAFE Framework**; and **public health controls**.

**Outdoor venues** up to 75% of seated venue capacity.

*Note – people should observe **physical distancing** to the extent possible.*

### **What provisions need to be in place for workers and customers?**

Standing eating and drinking will be permitted at indoor and outdoor venues with a COVID Safe Plan or Checklist from 4:00pm (AEST) Friday 2 October 2020.

Venues may operate in compliance with an [Approved COVID Safe Industry Plan](#). Approved COVID Safe Industry Plans and guidelines are available for [specific industries](#) and must be completed, maintained and made available to Work Health Safety Inspectors or other Queensland Government officials if they ask for it:

- **Live Performance Venues/Theatre Guidelines and COVID Safe Plan:**  
[https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0024/134844/covid-safe-industry-plan-live-performance-venues-theatres.pdf?nocache-v2](https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0024/134844/covid-safe-industry-plan-live-performance-venues-theatres.pdf?nocache-v2)
- **Cinema Industry Guidelines and COVID Safe Plan:**  
[https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0018/134703/covid-safe-industry-plan-cinema.pdf?nocache-v1](https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/134703/covid-safe-industry-plan-cinema.pdf?nocache-v1)
- **Dance and Physical Performing Arts:**  
[https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0021/134715/covid-safe-industry-plan-dance-physical-performing-arts.pdf?nocache-v1](https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0021/134715/covid-safe-industry-plan-dance-physical-performing-arts.pdf?nocache-v1)
- **Live Music in Small-Medium Venues:** in progress to be published [here](#) when available.
- **General Template:** [https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0008/192689/WHS-plan-for-COVID19.pdf](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/192689/WHS-plan-for-COVID19.pdf)
- **General Guidelines:** [https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/191678/covid-19-overview-and-guide.pdf](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/191678/covid-19-overview-and-guide.pdf)

A business in Queensland can download and follow their own COVID Safe Industry Plan and complete the [Statement of Compliance](#) to demonstrate best practice as a COVID Safe Business.

If a business does not utilise the provisions of their COVID Safe Industry Plan, it must operate under the relevant conditions listed under the [Roadmap](#) and [Public Health Directions](#).

If an event is outside the scope of an Approved Industry Plan, or only parts of the event are covered by an Approved Industry Plan, event organisers must follow the process under the [Industry Framework for COVID Safe Events](#) (as well as the relevant components of Industry Approved Plans.)

- **Events outside the scope of an Approved Industry Plan Framework/Guidelines:**  
[https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0018/132570/industry-framework-covid-safe-events.pdf](https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/132570/industry-framework-covid-safe-events.pdf)
- **Indoor Events**
  - **Events up to 500 people:** can proceed after completing a [COVID Safe Event Checklist](#)
  - **Events with 500 to 10,000 people:** must develop a COVID Safe Event Plan and submit to [COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au) for approval by the local Public Health Unit.

- **Events of more than 10,000 people:** must develop a COVID Safe Event Plan and submit to [COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au) for approval by the Queensland Chief Health Officer.
- **Outdoor Events**
- **Events up to 1000 people:** can proceed after completing a [COVID Safe Event Checklist](#)
- **Events with 1000 to 10,000 people:** must develop a COVID Safe Event Plan and submit to [COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au) for approval by the local Public Health Unit.
- **Events of more than 10,000 people:** must develop a COVID Safe Event Plan and submit to [COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au) for approval by the Queensland Chief Health Officer.

Organisers of events larger than 500 indoors and 1000 outdoors must notify the Public Health Unit of the event a minimum of **10 days** before the event by emailing [COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au)

Further information and FAQs about COVID Safe Events in Queensland is available [here](#) and [here](#).

### Is there a roadmap?

Yes. The Roadmap to Queensland's COVID Safe Future can be found [here](#).

Ongoing review of state-based restrictions will be undertaken based on levels of community transmission.

## Western Australia

### What are the current restrictions?

Current restrictions in Western Australia include:

The [Closure and Restriction \(Limit the Spread\) Directions \(No 6\)](#) prohibit certain gatherings and activities and to give further directions in order to prevent, control or abate the risks associated with the emergency presented by the pandemic caused by COVID-19.

Measures that currently apply to events in Western Australia are:

- Gathering limits are determined by the **1 person per 2 square metre rule**
- The 1 person per 2 square metre rule will only include staff at venues that hold more than 500 patrons
- A [COVID Safety Plan](#) is required and businesses are expected to update and continue to implement the COVID Safety Plan
- Events of more than 500 people that require a Local Government Authority approval will be supported with [COVID Event Guidelines and COVID Event Plans](#) (A COVID Event Plan will not be required for events that form part of the usual business of places for which there is an existing public building approval)
- Unseated performances are permitted at venues such as concert halls, live music venues, bars, pubs and nightclubs and all events are permitted [except for music festivals](#)
- There is no seated service requirement at food businesses and licensed premises and alcohol can be served as part of unseated service arrangements
- The casino gaming floor reopening under agreed temporary restrictions.
- For WA's major sport and entertainment venues, a 50 per cent capacity rule applies. Therefore, under Phase 4, the temporary capacity of major stadiums is:
  - Optus Stadium (Concerts – 35,000)
  - HBF Park (Concerts – 16,500)
  - HBF Stadium (Concerts – 2945)

- RAC Arena (Concerts – 8250)

Western Australians must continue to keep up physical distancing where possible and good personal hygiene to better protect themselves and the general health of the community.

### What provisions need to be in place for workers and customers?

Businesses across Western Australia need to comply with conditions outlined in the COVID Safety Guidelines and prepare a [COVID Safety Plan](#) before they reopen, to protect staff and customers. WA businesses will be expected to ensure their [COVID Safety Plans](#) are updated and continue to be implemented.

Western Australians are encouraged to return to work, unless they are unwell or vulnerable.

The COVID Safe Plan template includes a 'COVID Safety Plan Certificate', which must be printed and displayed on the premises

- **Required Template:** <https://www.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-05/COVID-19-Safety-Plan-Other-Business-Pack.pdf>

### Is there a roadmap?

Yes. The COVID-19 WA roadmap can be found [here](#).

The new tentative start date for Phase 5 is 24 October 2020. A final decision on whether Phase 5 can proceed on this date, or if it can be brought forward, will be decided in October. Phase 5 would see remaining restrictions removed, except WA's hard border and access to remote Aboriginal communities. It would also see the removal of WA's 2 square metre rule and the 50 per cent capacity for major venues.

Phase 6 was going to include the removal of WA's hard border with the rest of the country and travel restrictions currently in place for remote Aboriginal communities. A tentative date for the removal of WA's hard border was planned to be included as part of Phase 6, however, this was put on hold due to the rapidly evolving situation in Victoria. The WA hard border will only be removed when the WA Chief Health Officer is confident the spread of infection is controlled in the eastern states.

## South Australia

### What are the current restrictions?

Density requirements are in place. The total number of people at a place (as a whole) and the total number of persons present in any single room or enclosed area within the place must not exceed 1 person per 2 square metres. These requirements apply only to patrons, not staff. The maximum number of attendees at a place of business will be determined by its size.

Physical distancing, or social distancing principles apply. Every person should attempt to stay at least 1.5 metres from other members of the public. However, this does not apply to people who live together, who are friends or family members, or people who regularly associate with each other.

### What provisions need to be in place for workers and customers?

All businesses that conduct a [Defined public activity](#) (including public entertainment) must have a [COVID-Safe Plan](#).

The COVID-19 Safe Plan must be printed and made available at the premises or place of business. A physical copy of the Plan must be produced on request by an authorised officer.

If you have not completed a Plan, or do not have the Plan available at your premises when requested, you can be fined up to \$5,000 on the spot for non-compliance or be prosecuted.

- **Template (online form) and guidelines:** <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/business-and-work/create-a-covid-safe-plan>

- **Contact Tracing record:** [https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/209594/Contact-Tracing-Record-Attendance-at-Public-Activities.pdf](https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/209594/Contact-Tracing-Record-Attendance-at-Public-Activities.pdf)

An approved [COVID Management Plan](#) is required in respect of each of the following:

- if more than 1000 persons are reasonably expected to be present at or participating in the activity
- the onsite purchase and consumption of food or beverages at a place where the total number of persons present at the place for the purpose of the purchase and consumption of food or beverages is reasonably expected to exceed 1000 people
- the operation of a nightclub
- the operation of relevant licensed premises.
- From 21 August 2020, [COVID Marshals](#) are required across a number of industry sectors to ensure venue capacity, physical distancing and infection control requirements are met. Any activity where a COVID Management Plan is required also requires a COVID Marshal.

### Is there a roadmap?

Yes. The South Australian Roadmap for Easing COVID-19 Restrictions can be found [here](#).

Ongoing review of state-based restrictions will be undertaken based on levels of community transmission.

## Tasmania

### What are the current restrictions?

The number of people permitted at businesses/activities (other than households) is now determined by the density of the area, up to a maximum of:

- 250 people for an undivided space in an indoor premises; and
- 1,000 people in an undivided space outdoors.

The maximum density limit is one person per [2 square metres](#).

For mixed use venues with multiple indoor or outdoor spaces, the gathering cap (250 people for indoor, or 1,000 people for outdoor) applies separately to each single undivided space. For example, a large hotel with multiple, separate indoor spaces (e.g. conference room, bar, restaurant, foyer, beer garden), is permitted to have up to 250 people for each of these spaces (the density limit applies).

Where the number of people permitted according to the density limit is less than the gathering limit, the lower number applies. All people in any single undivided space count towards the maximum number of people permitted. For example, staff in a restaurant; spectators at a pool; and athletes, volunteers and coaches at a sporting facility are all counted within the maximum number of people permitted in that space. Children and babies also count towards the maximum number.

Where practicable, business operators, staff, volunteers and attendees should maintain a distance of 1.5 metres from other people.

### What provisions need to be in place for workers and customers?

COVID-19 Safety Plans should be completed and kept at the premises. If a Work Health & Safety Inspector visits the workplace, the Plan can be used to demonstrate compliance with the minimum standards.

- **Template:**
- **Fewer than 20 employees:**  
[https://www.worksafe.tas.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/567829/Fillable-V3.0-WorkSafe-COVID-19-Safety-Plans-Small-Business-Template.pdf](https://www.worksafe.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/567829/Fillable-V3.0-WorkSafe-COVID-19-Safety-Plans-Small-Business-Template.pdf)
- **Between 20 and 199 employees:**

- [https://www.worksafe.tas.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/567722/Fillable-V3.0-WorkSafe-COVID-19-Safety-Plans-Medium-Business-Template.pdf](https://www.worksafe.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/567722/Fillable-V3.0-WorkSafe-COVID-19-Safety-Plans-Medium-Business-Template.pdf)
- **Guidelines:** <https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/business-and-employees/covid-19-safe-workplaces-framework>

Further information about COVID Safe Plans in Tasmania is available [here](#).

People attending an event in a licensed venue can move around freely, as long as they are not standing and drinking alcohol. For example, at a function or a networking event, people can stand and mingle, but they must be seated while drinking alcohol.

Restrictions remain in place for dancing in all venues where food and alcohol are consumed because of the increased risk of close contact, particularly where alcohol is consumed, and difficulty of tracing contact among patrons. This restriction will be in place at least until the end of 2020.

### Is there a roadmap?

Ongoing review of state-based restrictions will be undertaken based on levels of community transmission.

## Australian Capital Territory

### What are the current restrictions?

Audiences must remain seated. There should be 1.5 metres between seated groups within cinemas, movie theatres and live performance venues. An individual is counted as being their own group for these purposes.

Live performers should try to maintain appropriate physical distancing requirements wherever possible. For live music performances, singers should try to stand at least 2 metres away from other band members as well as audience members.

1 person per 4 square metres of usable space applies, to a maximum of 100 people in each indoor space and each outdoor space (excluding staff on premises), whichever is lesser.

Usable space is defined in the Public Health Direction as the space that people can freely move around in, but not including the following areas:

- stages and similar areas;
- restrooms, changerooms and similar areas;
- areas occupied by fixtures, fittings, and displays; and
- staff only areas and areas that are closed off or not being used.

When attending an event or gathering, patrons still need to maintain [physical distancing](#) of 1.5 metres and practise [good hygiene](#).

### What provisions need to be in place for workers and customers?

Venues must clearly display occupancy allowance at the entrance to the venue. Venues are required to ask all patrons for their first name and phone number and record it along with the date and time they attended the venue. Details can be securely destroyed after 28 days.

Venues should carefully manage the entry, exit and flow of patrons or visitors through their premises. Venues should ensure all groups are supervised to ensure physical distancing is enforced and groups of more than 20 people don't form.

Venues should increase the frequency cleaning high touch areas and restroom facilities. Kiosks/bars can remain open for patrons with appropriate COVID-safe measures in place.

COVID Safety Plans are required to be developed by some businesses in the ACT including cinemas and drive in cinemas, concert venues, theatres arenas, auditoriums and outdoor venues. No standard template is required.

- **Guidelines:** [https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/1554199/PICC0016-COVID-safety-plan.pdf](https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/1554199/PICC0016-COVID-safety-plan.pdf)

- Further information about COVID Safety Plans in the Australian Capital Territory is available [here](#).

### Is there a roadmap?

Yes. Canberra's Recovery Plan can be found [here](#).

## Northern Territory

### What are the current restrictions?

Patrons can attend any cinema or theatre, concert hall, music hall, dance hall, nightclub, amusement venue, any other similar entertainment venue, as well as any arena, stadium, sporting facility including community and sporting competitions with spectators in approved seating configuration.

A minimum distance of 1.5 metres should be maintained at all times between individuals who are not part of their close circle of household or family contacts.

If an individual needs to be facing another individual and closer than 1.5 metres apart minimise contact to less than 15 minutes.

### What provisions need to be in place for workers and customers?

Events or public gatherings of less than 100 people do not require the completion of a checklist or safety plan, however the NT Government recommends that physical distancing and hygiene principles should be considered and implemented

**Events and public gatherings of 100 to 500 people** require the completion of the online [COVID-19 Safety Checklist](#). When the checklist is received by the Department of Health you will receive a 'statement of commitment'. No further approval is required, however Environmental Health Officers may visit the event to ensure that the requirements you committed to in the checklist are met.

**Events and public gatherings of more than 500 people** require the completion of a [COVID-19 Event Safety Plan](#). The Plan will be assessed by a case manager before it is provided to the Chief Health Officer or authorised delegate for approval. **If the Plan is not approved, the event cannot proceed.** If the Plan is approved, you will receive a formal letter of approval and the event can proceed. Environmental Health Officers may visit the event to ensure you are meeting your responsibilities as outlined in your COVID-19 Event Safety Plan.

Guidelines are available to assist with the information that should be included in checklists and Plans.

**Guidelines:** <https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/roadmap-new-normal/business/guidelines-for-events-and-gatherings> and <https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/community-advice/exemptions/prepare-a-covid-19-management-plan>

### Is there a roadmap?

Yes. The NT Roadmap to the new normal can be found [here](#).



### 1. PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTIVES

- **ACT:** <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/resources/public-health-directions>
- **NSW:** <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/COVID-19/Pages/public-health-orders.aspx>
- **NT:** <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers>
- **QLD:** <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers>
- **SA:** <https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/Web/Information/CV19/CV19.aspx>
- **TAS:** <https://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/resources>
- **WA:** <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/COVID-19-coronavirus-state-of-emergency-declarations>
- **VIC:** <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-COVID-19>

### 2. COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH HELPLINES

- **NSW:** 1300 066 055
- **QLD:** 13 432 584
- **VIC:** 1800 675 398
- **SA:** 1800 253 787
- **TAS:** 1800 671 738
- **WA:** 13 26843
- **ACT:** (02) 6207 7244
- **NT:** (08) 8922 804