

Easing of restrictions in Victoria (extracted from Statement from the Premier)

From 11:59pm on 21 June,

- Libraries, community centres and halls will be able to open to 50 people. Religious ceremonies can also increase to 50.
- Pubs and clubs will be able to host up to 50 seated patrons, with no requirement to purchase a meal with your drink, however you'll need to give your contact details and table service restrictions will still apply.
- Non-contact sports competition can also begin across every age group.
- Indoor sports centres and physical recreation spaces like gyms will be able to open to 20 people per space, with a cap of up to 10 per group for those over the age of 18.
- restaurants and cafes will also be able to increase the number of patrons to 50.
- Cinemas, concert venues, theatres and auditoriums can open, also with up to 50 people per space.
- The same increased limit will apply to our galleries, museums and amusement parks.
- ski season and ski accommodation will also open.

From 13 July,

- Local footy teams, soccer clubs and other contact sports will be able to resume training for over 18s from 13 July.
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From 20 July,

- TABs will ban electronic gaming areas at pubs, clubs and the casino will be reopened with strict distancing, cleaning and hygiene requirements. All sports training and competition will resume for those 18 and under.

- Full competition can begin too. Supporting this gradual return to sport, clubs and community facilities will also be able to reopen their changerooms.
- Holiday accommodation and camping sites, with communal spaces like showers and kitchens soon to be available to visitors.

As always, timing on any future changes remains subject to the advice of our Chief Health Officer.

It's why we're asking Victorians: keep washing your hands. Keep maintaining your distance. Download COVIDSafe. And if you can keep working from home. We're also asking Victorians to keep getting tested if you have symptoms, no matter how mild.

To get Victoria COVID-19 updates, please visit:

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

Stepping Up Targeted Testing To Track Coronavirus (Extracted from Victoria State Government Media Release)

Victoria will step-up its targeted coronavirus testing, zeroing in on communities where cases may be more likely or where testing numbers are relatively low – ensuring we have a full picture when it comes to tracking the virus.

Minister for Health Jenny Mikakos said targeted testing – in addition to ongoing testing – would help provide vital intelligence and inform the further easing of restrictions.

The targeted testing program will run until the end of August and focus on Local Government Areas (LGAs) with low testing rates, communities with high case numbers, high-risk workforces and vulnerable groups.

While more than 590,000 Victorians have already come forward for testing – giving Victoria one of the highest testing rates in the world – we cannot take any chances.

Targeting specific areas will help find and isolate cases quickly and make it easier for people to get tested – particularly culturally and linguistically diverse Victorians who may find it harder to access testing information.

It will be rolled out in four three-week waves across different locations and LGAs, with the first starting in Mildura, Kyabram, Dandenong and Brimbank.

Other LGAs and areas to be targeted include inner-city Melbourne, Moreland City Council, City of Melton, Colac Otway Shire, City of Whittlesea, Surf Coast Shire, Hume City and Wyndham City.

Victoria's public health team continues to work closely with health services, local government and community organisations to ensure people (including in language for culturally and linguistically diverse communities) have information and support about coronavirus and where to get tested.

There are currently more than 127 testing sites across Victoria – with a mixture of acute, GP, community and drive-through testing sites. Anyone who has any symptoms, no matter how mild, should get a test. Common symptoms of coronavirus include fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose or loss of sense of smell.