

Re-declaration of state emergency in Latvia

Publication / 10 November 2020 / [Eva Berlaus](#), [Ērika Bužinska](#)

Taking into consideration the rapid and uncontrollable spread of the COVID-19 infection and the increasing risk of overloading the health sector the Government of Latvia has once again declared an emergency.

State-declared emergency period: 9 November – 6 December 2020 with the right to extend or shorten the emergency period.

Responsible authority: The Ministry of Health and The Crisis Management Council.

Newly adopted Cabinet Order No. 655 supplements existing legislation regarding Epidemiological Safety Measures for Containment of the Spread of the COVID-19 Infection (Order No. 360).

General rules are: 2 m distance, mandatory face masks or respirators in all public places and remote services in all areas of life.

Newly adopted restrictions are briefly described below:

Cancelled: Public events, any sporting events and children's camps.

Closed:

SPAs, Pools, Tattooist, Ice-rinks, Bars, Discos, Aquaparks, Children's playrooms, Day-care rooms.

Closed at weekends:

Shopping malls (except for grocery shops, pharmacies, optician's shops, pet shops and pharmacies, bookshops, shops for hygiene and household products, sites for telecommunication goods and services, issuing of goods purchased online.

Open:

- Hairdressers,
- Recreation on nature trails,
- Shopping malls on workdays.

10-person rule applies to:

- private events (not more than 2 households);
- funerals (more than 2 households);
- sports training outdoors.

10 m² rule applies to:

- hairdresser's place per visitor;
- cultural, exhibition, religious sites per visitor;
- outdoor sports training per person;
- indoor sports training per person (training held **individually** or under management of **one** coach per person or persons living in one household by **maintaining 2 metre distance**).

Education:

Kindergarten: attending;
1-6 grade attending school;
7-12 grade studying remotely;
All higher education institutions studying remotely except for practical / laboratory tasks.

Limited working hours:

6.00-20.00:
cultural sites, exhibition sites, religious sites;

6.00-22.00 :
Sports sites (gym, stadium, sports centre).

Restaurants:

Only allowed to sell food for takeaway and / or delivery.

Exception: "Rīga" Airport, kindergartens, primary schools and workplaces (if not publicly available) can cater and provide food on site.

Litigation and proceedings:

- written procedure or examine cases remotely;
- court hearings are organised primarily using video conferencing
- if it is not possible to ensure written procedure or remote examination, court hearings are postponed until revocation of the emergency (if the issue is not related to a significant violation of the rights of a person and an objective urgency);
- judicial services are only available remotely.

All employers have a duty:

- to ensure the possibility to work remotely if the work can be performed at a distance,
- to ensure personal protective equipment to employees for work on-site,
- to appoint a responsible person for introduction and compliance with the measures.