## Re-declaration of state emergency in Latvia

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Taking into consideration the rapid and uncontrollable spread of the Covid-19 infection and the overload of the health sector the Government of Latvia has once again declared a state of emergency.

State-declared emergency period: 11 October 2021 – 11 January 2022.

Employment in the private sector:

- remote work for all who can work remotely
- if work cannot be carried out remotely, employees without a working certificate shall only be present at the workplace with a negative test carried out in the last 72 hours
- if the employer considers that vaccination is necessary for the performance of work, the employee can be obliged to vaccinate, and if the employee refuses vaccination, the employee may be dismissed

**Cancelled:** indoor entertainment and recreational activities, e.g. waterparks, entertainment centres, trampoline parks

**Shopping malls closed on weekends**, except for\* grocery shops (where 70% of the assortment is food, hygiene products, animal feed and press), pharmacies, optician's shops, pet shops and pharmacies, press shops, telecommunications shops and services, hygiene and household goods shops (where 70% of the assortment is hygiene products), fuel stations

Allowed without a certificate:	Conditions
private events	- subject to a maximum number of persons: 10 persons indoors, 20 – outdoors
to receive services (except postal) on-site	<ul> <li>individually / within 1 household</li> <li>no other person in the room</li> <li>the service provider has a certificate of vaccination or recovery</li> </ul>
open-air events and services	<ul> <li>visitors are located in vehicles</li> <li>the service provider has a certificate of vaccination or recovery</li> </ul>
indoor and outdoor religious activities	- mouth and nose covers are used - 15 m <sup>2</sup> of indoor area / person are ensured
postal services	- mouth and nose covers are used - 15 m <sup>2</sup> of indoor area / person are ensured
to receive take-away	<ul> <li>the service provider has a certificate of vaccination or recovery</li> <li>mouth and nose covers are used</li> <li>15 m² of indoor area / person are ensured</li> </ul>
accommodation services	- individually / within 1 household  - the service provider has a certificate of vaccination or recovery.

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

The Cabinet Order No. 720 supplements existing legislation regarding Epidemiological Safety Measures for Containment of the Spread of the Covid-19 Infection (Cabinet Regulations No. 360).

More on the Covid-19 measures read here.

Newly adopted restrictions are briefly described below:

Working hours 6.00-21.00: public catering, cultural and religious places, except for takeaway and catering at the airport "Riga"

#### General rules for the provision of services:

- verification of vaccination or recovery certificates
- facial masks (except during physical activities and training /competitions)
- the flow of visitors with children is separate in time or space from other visitors
- children from the age of 12 present a testing certificate or a negative test performed in the last 72 hours

## Special rules for public events:

- visitors are in fixed, personalized seats
- 2-metre distance outside the seats
- a maximum of 1000 visitors

### Special rules for face-to-face trade:

- in an epidemiologically safe indoor environment, mouth and nose covers are used, 15 m<sup>2</sup> of area/person are ensured
- in an epidemiologically unsafe outdoor environment, mouth and nose covers used

# Special rules for beauty, outdoor recreational activities:

- 15 m² of the publicly available indoor area per person are ensured
- 2 metres between individual visitors or members of different households
- \* At these trading sites, services may be provided in an epidemiologically unsafe environment if the flow of visitors is completely separated from services in an epidemiologically safe environment, 25 m<sup>2</sup> of area/person

#### **Education:**

Kindergarten: on-site

<u>1-12 grade:</u> on-site, wearing nose and face masks indoors, with certificates of vaccination or recovery or negative screening tests

All higher education institutions on-site, must show certificates of vaccination or recovery