

**PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**Economy and Infrastructure Committee**



# **Inquiry into the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism and events sectors**

Parliament of Victoria

Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee

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# Minority report

# **Minority Report – Liberal and National Members of Parliament**

## **Inquiry into the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Tourism and Events Sectors**

### **1. Background**

In February this year the Opposition moved to support the tourism and events sectors through the Legislative Council specifically through the establishment of this Inquiry. We did this because of a clear recognition the events and tourism sectors had been hit very hard by the COVID19 pandemic and the mismanagement of the Victorian pandemic and support efforts by the Andrews Labor Government.

In Victoria the pandemic has been more impactful across the whole economy than in other states because the state has been locked down much more severely, harshly and longer than in other states. The tourism and events sector which have bore the brunt of the tough lockdowns in Victoria and have in particular suffered as a direct result of Labor's mismanagement of the hotel quarantine and the chaotic approach to advice, support and communication by Daniel Andrews and his Government.

<b>Days of Lockdown</b>	<b>As of 21/07/2021</b>	
VIC	179 days	
WA	44 days	
NT	41 days	
NSW	71 days	<i>omitting 22 days for Northern Beaches</i>
ACT	35 days	
SA	13 days	
QLD	42 days	
TAS	41 days	
<b>Source: Parliamentary Library - obtained - 21 / 07 / 2021</b>		

Below are many additional points the Liberal Nationals believe should have been highlighted and several extracts of Committee proceedings where we disagreed with Labor members and some minor party members of the Committee.

## **2. Impact on the economy**

### **2.1 The Events Sector**

The events sector is a diverse sector with many distinct parts; business events, festivals, community and myriad other events. It should also not be seen through the lens of 'Major Events' which are only one, although an important aspect of the sector.

The events sector is a distinct sector of the Victorian economy and should be recognised as such. The sector should not be confused with the tourism sector and should not be managed as an adjunct to the 'visitor economy' and be treated as support for the 'visitor economy'.

The state government has not collected proper or detailed information on activity in the events sector. This became clear as the inquiry proceeded.

**Recommendation 1: In addition to the recommendations in the main report, which have been supported by the Coalition, the Victorian State Government undertake better collection of data specific to the events sector to better inform policy and support for the events sector.**

Business events, community events and the full spread of events are far beyond the visitor economy.

**Recommendation 2: The events sector should be treated as a distinct sector. That is, the sector should be seen as an important part of the Victorian economy and society its own right. The sector should not be shackled to the visitor economy or the visitor economy plans or support packages.**

The Liberal National support the Committee recommendation (number 19) for a taskforce to be appointed to represent the events sector. This must be independent and represent all facets of the events sector. We however believe its is important to ensure the departmental structures are also reformed.

**Recommendation 3: a section of the relevant department should be reformed as 'Events Victoria' which would support events other than major events. This distinct section on the department should be created so that participants in the events sector have a specific go to person and section which can provide support in the longer term and facilitate access to other parts of government. This would require no additional resources.**

### **2.2 The Tourism Sector**

The Liberal Nationals agree with the recommendations in the main report but note the issues of public health orders where the basis of orders as outlined in formal briefings has been hidden and yet the tourism sector is one of the hardest hit sectors.

The tourism sector was hit hard in key areas of country Victoria during the bushfires, particularly Gippsland and the North East. This has been compounded by the impact of COVID19 coming as it did so shortly afterwards.

Central Melbourne has been particularly hard hit by the COVID19 pandemic and we note the loss of international tourism caused by the COVID19 pandemic.

## 2.3 JobKeeper

The Committee heard evidence about the important role of JobKeeper in many sectors of the economy. Of course, no program is perfect, but the extraordinary support provided by the Commonwealth stands in stark contrast to the inadequate support provided for the tourism and events sectors by the Victorian Government.

The JobKeeper Payment finished on 28 March 2021. The Reserve Bank of Australia highlighted that while active, JobKeeper saved at least 700,000 jobs. (Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP, *JobKeeper*, media release, Treasury 2021.)

**Table 1. JobKeeper Payment by state and territory**

State / Territory	Amount (\$ billion)	Share (%)
New South Wales	30.0	33.8
Victoria	28.1	31.7
Queensland	15.7	17.7
Western Australia	7.2	8.1
South Australia	4.8	5.5
Tasmania	1.4	1.5
ACT	1.1	1.3
Northern Territory	0.4	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>88.7</b>	<b>100</b>

Labor sought to block the printing of this table with the Liberal Nationals seeking to ensure the table was published as can be seen in the extract of proceeding below:

Mr Gepp moved, That Table 1 be removed.

The Committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Erdogan, Mr Gepp, Mr Tarlamis, Mr Barton.

Noes: Mr Davis, Ms Lovell, Mr Quilty.

Question agreed.

**Finding 1: JobKeeper, the Commonwealth Government program saved the Victorian economy during the COVID19 pandemic, it provided massive and necessary support for the tourism and events sectors.**

## 3. Hotel Quarantine

A key reason the COVID19 pandemic impact has been so much more severe in Victoria and has hit the tourism and events sectors so hard is the state Labor Government under Daniel Andrews botched the management of hotel quarantine.

This mismanagement by Labor led directly to the breaches of hotel quarantine with the subsequent wild spread of COVID19 throughout the Victorian community. The second lockdown for 112 days in

the second half of last year has done tremendous damage to our community, economy and social structure. Many small businesses have never recovered.

The events and tourism and events sectors have been casualties of Andrews's mismanagement. But far from accepting responsibility and being honest about this Labor and Andrews in particular has tried to cover up, fudge and obfuscate.

The unseemly behaviour at the Coate inquiry into the hotel quarantine failures which saw the Premier and senior public service officers and Minister suffer collective amnesia and the inquiry despite the expenditure of almost \$20 million fail to find an answer to the simple question: who ordered hotel quarantine? Who was responsible?

The Andrews Labor Government's failures in hotel quarantine led to the deaths of 801 Victorians. This was arguably the biggest loss of life due to a public policy failure in Australia's history.

Hotel Quarantine was the idea of the Premier Daniel Andrews and his Chief Health Officer Brett Sutton. **Attachment 1 – a documents obtained under Freedom of Information** - shows the genesis of the idea with Brett Sutton's tracked changes to the National documents – clearly himself at Andrews's direction introducing the idea of hotel quarantine. In such circumstances its is a bit rich to seek to step away from the context and the damage that resulted.

Putting aside the tragic death toll; the tourism and events sectors have been amongst the biggest losers of any sectors in the Victorian economy. The damage to these two sectors has been deeper and longer lasting than in any other state.

The vote below an extract from proceedings saw Labor vote to protect the Premier, to cover up his culpability.

In section 2.2.2, Mr Davis moved that the following sentence be added:

***The Committee notes that the Hotel Quarantine program was suggested by the Premier of Victoria.***

The Committee divided:

Ayes: Mr Davis, Ms Lovell.

Noes: Mr Erdogan, Mr Gepp, Mr Tarlamis, Mr Barton, Mr Quilty.

Question negatived.

Victorians, especially those in the hard-hit events and tourism sectors deserve to hear the truth, not a coverup.

**Finding 2: the almost \$20 million of taxpayers' money squandered on the futile Coate Inquiry would have been better directed to assisting the suffering tourism and events sectors.**

**Finding 3: The small businesses, employees and self-employed in the hard-hit events and tourism sectors are owed a proper explanation for the hotel quarantine decisions made by Daniel Andrews and his government. They deserve to know who was responsible. Memory losses across so many participants and 'creeping assumptions' are not sufficient explanations and treat those who suffered losses, of family members or their businesses and jobs with disrespect. The Premier Daniel Andrews should release the texts between him and his Chief of Staff Lissie Ratcliffe tendered to the Coate inquiry but hidden from Victorians.**

**4. Transparency, Public Health Orders and the supporting documents, including briefings – the need for the release of the background documents and briefings behind PHOs, including with respect to orders impacting on the events and tourism sectors.**

The Inquiry heard repeated evidence regarding the incomprehensibility of the rules – the Public Health Orders (PHOs) - in relation to the events and tourism sectors.

We heard from Professor Catherine Bennett regarding the importance of the Public Health Orders and transparency and the reasons behind them being public, **a significant extract of her evidence is attached at Attachment 2**

Professor Bennett said to the Committee with respect to the briefings behind each public health order the following:

***Mr DAVIS:** In the context of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act, which has a requirement for transparency, accountability and proportionality at its core, as well as a requirement for consultation and so forth, is it your view that some of these briefings and background documents should be public? I think you have kind of said that in terms of the assessment of some of the outbreaks. I should say it is my view that the briefings that are concurrent with the orders should be in the public domain because people can make better assessments and those with knowledge elsewhere—including epidemiologists, I might say—are able to make contributions.*

***Prof. BENNETT:** Yes, no—yes-no. I absolutely agree. Taking the time to explain the evidence as it comes together—they have got great people in the department pulling together everything that is known around the world. That is driving some of the decision-making—a lot of the decision-making initially—but we do not hear a lot of that just as we do not hear about evaluations after an outbreak to say, ‘This is what we did really, really well. This is what we’ve learned. This is what we’ll do next time, should there be a next time’. And I do think sharing both the analysis that leads to public health orders and the evaluation of those in real time—you know, after the event—to understand those processes is a great way to engage the public but also the sectors that have been impacted through those interventions. If people understood what some of the assumptions about human behaviour were, that might be a really good way to change behaviour and actually get people on board rather than adding layers or increasing fines associated with certain activities and so on. That might give you a better way to focus on holding events, because people are more trusted and they are more trustworthy at the same time because they understand the dynamics here, and if they are likely to comply, then it means they do not have to have more serious restrictions. That can reinforce the kind of behaviour that actually minimises risk in a pandemic. Then you could look at events, including ones I have been involved in like the choral group, where this is an incredibly important connection for older Australians that goes way beyond our normal understanding of basic health issues to social inclusion, social connectedness and all those things that actually tie to health as well. They are easy to put aside because they are smaller community events, when in fact they can be the very thing that is so critical to people particularly—*

**A witness who would not answer key questions: a mute Professor Brett Sutton**

The Chief Health Officer Brett Sutton was questioned on accountability and transparency in the hearings on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021 when he appeared at the Committee. He was specifically asked regarding the release of background documents on the Curfew, which is clearly a PHO that had a huge impact on the tourism and events sectors. In fact, he raised the curfew in his initial evidence but refused to answer legitimate questions regarding the curfew for his and the government’s

secrecy and lack of accountability on the briefs and background documents behind each health order.

The critical transcript is attached from the 28<sup>th</sup> June hearing of the Committee at **Attachment 3**

The Legislative Council has ordered the release of these briefs in three separate orders including a prospective order. For example, the curfew documents have been blocked and these are highly relevant to the serious impacts on the tourism and events sectors. The Legislative Council has received a list of the background documents relied upon by the Labor Government with respect to the curfew. This correspondence is attached at **Attachment 4**

**Finding 4: The Chief Health Officer refused to answer legitimate questions concerning his secrecy and his refusal to release briefings and background documents behind public health orders that effect the tourism and events sectors. This refusal included a failure to answer questions or release documents on the curfew. This secrecy and lack of transparency is an open contempt of the Committee and in effect of the Victorian community, including the tourism and events sectors.**

**Recommendation 4: The Chief Health Officer should be resummoned to attend the Committee and answer further questions. He should be required to bring with him the briefing/s behind every public health order, including the curfew documents.**

**Finding 5: The Chairman of the Inquiry, Mr Erdogan, sought to protect the Chief Health Officer and shield him from legitimate questions concerning the lack of transparency in the supporting documents and background material for key public health orders. This behaviour by Mr Erdogan was inappropriate and part of a cover up.**

The Liberal Nationals sought to insert recommendations that would see greater transparency and the release of the hitherto secret briefing and background documents particularly as they relate to the events and tourism sectors. After all these sectors have been impacted massively and they have a right to see how these orders were formed and the basis, or otherwise, upon which the orders were promulgated. Labor opposed these recommendations bitterly.

A further extract of proceedings related to section 2.2.4,

Mr Davis moved that the following Recommendation be added:

***“That the Victorian Government publish briefings supporting the Public Health Orders made under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.”***

The Committee divided:

Ayes: Mr Davis, Ms Lovell, Mr Quilty.

Noes: Mr Erdogan, Mr Gepp, Mr Tarlamis, Mr Meddick (Substitute Member for Mr Barton).

Question negatived.

In section 2.2.4, Mr Davis moved that the following Recommendation be added:

***“That the Victorian Government publish the Chief Health Officers orders related to the Public Events Framework.”***

The Committee divided:

Ayes: Mr Davis, Ms Lovell, Mr Quilty.

Noes: Mr Erdogan, Mr Gepp, Mr Tarlamis, Mr Meddick (Substitute Member for Mr Barton).



Question negatived.

The Government was

Mr Gepp moved, That Table 1 be removed.

The Committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Erdogan, Mr Gepp, Mr Tarlamis, Mr Barton.

Noes: Mr Davis, Ms Lovell, Mr Quilty.

Question agreed.

This second motion to insert a further recommendation which in essence related to the background documents behind orders relating the public events framework was also rejected by Labor who are clearly covering up the weakness behind many of the public health orders as they relate to and impacted upon tourism and events.

**5. Controls and restrictions including density restrictions imposed by Victorian orders principally through the Public Events Framework.**

The Liberals and Nationals are aware of the impact of the harsh rules restricting public events in Victoria throughout the last 16 months under COVID19. These rules have been tougher – more onerous overwhelmingly - than in equivalent states. In part this is due to the greater length and severity of lockdowns in Victoria but even when out of lockdown Victoria's rules have been more restrictive and frankly much more damaging for businesses in the events sector across the spectrum. This has hammered the viability of businesses and cost jobs. The sector has not recovered.

**See Attachment 5 - tables of comparison prepared in conjunction with the Parliamentary Library**

The Labor members of the Committee fought the recognition of the harshness of the public events rules in the report and voted against the following motion despite it simply stating the facts of the situation.

In section 6.1.1, Mr Davis moved, that the following Finding be added:

**The Committee notes that the density and other restrictions have been harsher in Victoria than in any other state for equivalent levels of circulating COVID-19 and that this has had a significant negative impact on the events sector.**

The Committee divided:

Ayes: Mr Davis, Ms Lovell, Mr Quilty.

Noes: Mr Erdogan, Mr Gepp, Mr Tarlamis, Mr Meddick (Substitute Member for Mr Barton).

Question negatived.

Labor sought to cover up the severe impact on the events sector of these harsh rules and was not of a mind to see the publication of these detailed but damaging comparisons.

Where such onerous, but certainly in some cases necessary restrictions, are placed on whole sectors they must be justified by the release of all background documents and supporting or decision-making documents. Labor has covered up the detailed reasons for their decisions through public health orders and the implementation the rigid Public events framework.

The Committee heard from witnesses that the framework was not clear and that contact with the department failed often to clarify aspects. The Department of Health refused to meet many in the events sector until very recent weeks. We believe best practice regulation would see proper engagement with the relevant sectors.

The Arts and music sector have suffered many of the same issues with the public events framework

**Finding 6: The Andrews Labor Government and its agencies have not been open and transparent or, by and large approachable, by those seeking to undertake the many types of events, large and small. The implementation of public events rules has been opaque and capricious.**

**Recommendation 6: the Victorian Government should be transparent releasing all relevant orders and the background supporting documents in full relevant to the event framework rules in place at any given point to assist the events and arts sectors.**

**Recommendation 7: The Departments and agencies should meet with and listen to the firms and individuals in the events and arts sector to help them work through the particular rules in place at any point to ensure that the maximum number of 'COVID19 safe events' are able to proceed. This should involve positive engagement and support not as is the case so often now a wall where communication goes in but never comes out.**

#### **6. Need for an urgent package to support the events industry in Victoria.**

The events industry has not been adequately supported in Victoria. Failure to provide rapid support to all industries including tourism and events has been disastrous. As has the failure to support so many sole traders who under Daniel Andrews were completely cut out of any support. This has been outrageous and cruel. Victoria's contrasting support compared to other states has been paltry.

The events sector package provided by Daniel Andrews of just over \$20 million is far short of what is required. Criticisms of the Victorian package argue that in fact only \$10 million was actually earmarked for the events sector.

A comparison with New South Wales is instructive where prior to the current lockdown the Government has announced a \$200 million package.

**Recommendation 8: The Andrews Labor Government quickly review and upgrade its inadequate Victorian events sector support package noting it is a tenth of the size on of the equivalent package in New South Wales seeking at least a prorated equivalent level of support.**

**Recommendation 9: Proper support be provided for sole traders within the tourism and events industry. This should include support to home-based businesses and those who have not registered for GST. NSW has been able to support these hard hit sole traders, it is wrong Victoria has not.**

## **7. Urgent Insurance support needed for the events sector**

The events sector in Victoria is now largely unable to get insurance for COVID19 impacts. This is having a significant impact on future business and employment. The risk is that many events will simply not proceed being effectively stymied for lack of insurance. The Committee heard important evidence on this matter and the main report reflects much of this evidence. Other jurisdictions both within Australia and overseas have acted to deal with what is in effect a serious market failure. Most importantly Western Australia provides a model to move forward.

The Victorian Government must act quickly to ensure insurance is available. For this reason, although Liberal Nationals supported the intent and basis of Recommendation 20, we were concerned that action is needed now the word '**consider**' fails to convey the urgent need for immediate action, not contemplation or drift. We sought to demand the Victorian Government '**resolve**' this insurance problem. The time for contemplation is over.

The extract of Extract of proceedings is below.

Recommendation 20, Mr Davis moved, That the word 'consider' be replaced with the word 'resolve'.

The Committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Davis, Ms Lovell.

Noes: Mr Erdogan, Mr Gepp, Mr Tarlamis, Mr Barton, Mr Quilty.

Question negated.

## **8. Rapid Testing**

The Committee chose not to investigate the possibilities of rapid testing in supporting the wider opening of the tourism and events sectors. We think this was unfortunate.

In several overseas countries rapid testing is playing an increasing role in opening up their economies. There is an obvious opportunity for staff in the events and tourism sectors to be tested and perhaps patrons, including where known events are able to manage entry through tickets of other means.

**Recommendation 10: Victorian Government should examine the use of rapid testing in other jurisdictions and support selective introduction of rapid COVID19 testing in Victoria recognising there is an obvious role in supporting the wider and more reliable opening of the tourism and events sectors.**

The members below regret the need for this minority report but believe that its tabling may support the tourism and events sectors, the businesses within them and save the jobs on many within these critical sectors.



Hon. David Davis MP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wendy Lovel".

Hon. Wendy Lovel MLC

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Beverley McArthur".

Beverley McArthur MLC

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melina Bath".

Melina Bath MLC

## Attachment 1 – FOI DOCS

### Fwd: Brendan's paper with my edits

DPC.0025.0001.0001

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RELEASED UNDER THE FOI ACT  
AND PARTS OF THIS PAGE ARE  
EXEMPT UNDER THE FOI ACT

From: Chris Eccles (DPC) <[REDACTED]@dpc.vic.gov.au>  
To: Lissie Ratcliff (VICMIN) <[REDACTED]>  
Date: Thu, 26 Mar 2020 22:58:58 +1100  
Attachments: Nat Cab Advice CHOs.docx (36.29 kB)

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From: Kym Peake (DHHS) <[REDACTED]@dhhs.vic.gov.au>  
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020 10:49:52 PM  
To: Chris Eccles (DPC) <[REDACTED]@dpc.vic.gov.au>  
Subject: Fwd: Brendan's paper with my edits

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From: Brett Sutton (DHHS) <[REDACTED]@dhhs.vic.gov.au>  
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020 2 PM  
To: Kym Peake (DHHS) <[REDACTED]@dhhs.vic.gov.au>  
Subject: Brendan's paper with my edits

Hi Kym,

Not sure if Brendan will accept this, but have agreed to edit his version and see where we land - are you OK with this?

Brett

**Adj Clin Prof Brett Sutton MBBS MPHTM FAFPHM FRSPH FACTM MFTM**  
**Victorian Chief Health Officer**  
**Victorian Chief Human Biosecurity Officer**  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management  
Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale St  
ph. [03 9594 1300](tel:0395941300) [bh.vic@vha.vic.gov.au](mailto:bh.vic@vha.vic.gov.au)  
[head.vic@vha.vic.gov.au](mailto:head.vic@vha.vic.gov.au) [head.vic@vha.vic.gov.au](mailto:head.vic@vha.vic.gov.au) [head.vic@vha.vic.gov.au](mailto:head.vic@vha.vic.gov.au)  
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Please note that I work from home on Thursdays and am contactable on the numbers above.

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**Advice to National Cabinet from NSW, Vic, Qld & Commonwealth CHOs on Next Step Measures**

There has been significant further growth in cases, still with substantial numbers of returned travellers and small community outbreaks associated with travellers. Overall case numbers in Australia are very concerning, although comparison with many other countries, when they were at this level, suggests much better case ascertainment in Australia. Small clusters are evident in Sydney and there is growth in cases with no epidemiology link. Victoria has small numbers of cases with no epidemiology link, including some health care workers. Data from Victoria also show a delay between symptoms to diagnosis that is currently too long. Queensland has a significant caseload but no clear evidence of community transmission. Given the case load in major Eastern Seaboard cities is the most material, all three States are keen to take consistent measures and have consistent messages

All three states continue to be significantly impacted by returned travellers and all are supportive of very stringent new boarder measures.

Whilst there is some evidence of flattening of the epidemi f €Hegy curve and evidence of impact of recent social distancing measures (foot traffic, public transport utilisation), it is too early for a clear assessment of the long-term measures recently introduced. If only 70-80% of the population is included in, and compliant with, social distancing criteria, it is unlikely to succeed to control the outbreak, with compliance above 90% required to significantly flatten the epidemiological curve.

It is also likely that more stringent border measures will also take several days to take effect.

There is concern that any further action that may be required (particularly in Sydney) should be implemented early for best effect. There is a 10-12 day lag between introducing an intervention and seeing its effect on case numbers but in this time, if there is material community transmission, cases could continue to grow exponentially with potential impact on the health system.

A suppression strategy should continue to be supported to ensure the best health outcomes.

Accordingly some additional short-term measures are worthy of consideration in the three major affected Cities to buy some additional time to observe the trend of the epidemiology over the next week.

There does not seem to be a clear indication for additional measures in the remainder of the f Gount ry at this stage, provided new highly effective border measures are urgently implemented.

A suppression strategy should continue to be supported to ensure the best health outcomes ...

#### Additional Measures supported/recommended:

1. In addition to the existing Any traveller coming through the International border will have an enforced quarantine arrangements for international travellers arriving in Australia, it is recommended that either in the option home or, in high risk cases, monitored placement in an alternative facility such as a hotel is enforced for those who would normally reside with others at home.
2. Given the epidemiology in Greater Sydney, Greater Melbourne and South East Queensland, it is proposed that these jurisdictions consider immediately instituting additional physical distancing measures through closure of some or all non-essential services for a short-term period a two week close down on all non essential services be instituted in these three areas.
3. Vulnerable people will be strongly directed and supported to undertake home isolation. These include
  - a. People age 60 or older with one or more chronic diseases including hypertension, diabetes, heart disease and lung disease
  - b. All people age 70 or older
  - c. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders age 50 or older with one or more chronic disease

#### Additional Consideration of Triggers

The officials were unable to agree on any set numerical triggers for further action given the need for a contextualised assessment of the outbreak in a given area. The previously proposed parameters include an assessment of the following:

- The overall epidemic curve, which demonstrates 'rate of growth' nationally or potentially regionally if a regional lock down is proposed. This needs to be interpreted in the local context.
- Clusters without clear epidemiology links are the strongest indication of outbreaks, which are unlikely to be contained by public health intervention.
- The degree of expected impact of current social distancing on transmission rates.
- Health system impact. An assessment that demand for general or specific health services (particularly critical care services) will likely exceed capacity within 2 to 3 weeks.
- Case positivity rate as an indicator of testing.
- Time to diagnosis and time to complete contact tracing as well as the number of contacts per case as an indicator of public health response capacity.

## ATTACHMENT 2

**Professor Catherine Bennett, Chair in Epidemiology, Faculty of Health, School of Health and Social Development, Deakin University.**

**The CHAIR:** Thank you. Mr Davis to ask a question.

**Mr DAVIS:** Can I just first say, Professor Bennett, that your contribution to the general debate has been remarkable, calm, thoughtful, rational, well informed, and I think that has added a great deal to the debate. But my questions today relate very specifically to the events industry, and you have advocated for a more sophisticated approach, a more nuanced approach. It seems to me that the events industry—and I am not so much talking about these very large events; I think they are better understood. One of the things we have learned in this inquiry is that the smaller events—so it might be a business event or a corporate event of some type or something of that nature—are very controlled. We know exactly who is coming to it. They are prepaid. Monday, 28 June 2021 Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee 12 There are tickets. There is a series of tight functions. It seems to me it should be possible for the department to work with the event organisers and to carefully put in place protections and nuanced controls that make these sorts of events safe. Is that a fair summation?

**Prof. BENNETT:** Yes. Look, I do think we should be getting smarter as we go with this. I would have loved to have seen Australia as a world leader, using our low-COVID and often zero-COVID background to put our efforts into these, as I say, dial-up, dial-down, adaptable COVID-safe plans. We do have COVID-safe plans in place, but they are often looked at at the individual level. So you follow a framework, you put together a proposal and it may or may not get passed. We are not hearing a lot about that. We are not sort of learning from that process, and it should not just sit with decision-makers. It should be an iterative process so that events people can come back and say, 'Well, actually, we ran that event, but it was really difficult for these reasons. Can we review that part of it? And what does the epi tell us versus the logistics and feasibility?', and get that balancing as a continual process of improvement.

**Mr DAVIS:** So in that context it would be very difficult for event people, if the department had not met with them for more than a year, to have that kind of dialogue and exchange.

**Prof. BENNETT:** Absolutely. It is about that communication, as I said. Then other events providers are learning from that particular iterative process, which has to include follow-up afterwards. I do think there has been, in my understanding from outside, a process where people are given almost impossible decisions sometimes, which are kind of like, 'Will this work? I don't know'. We use the best evidence, but the evidence tends to be very high level, so, you know, movement equals virus; lots of people together equals virus; indoors versus outdoors, a lot worse. Then it is sort of a very simplified approach as opposed to looking at nuanced approaches.

**Mr DAVIS:** In the context of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act, which has a requirement for transparency, accountability and proportionality at its core, as well as a requirement for consultation and so forth, is it your view that some of these briefings and background documents should be public? I think you have kind of said that in terms of the assessment of some of the outbreaks. I should say it is my view that the briefings that are concurrent with the orders should be in the public domain because people can make better assessments and those with knowledge elsewhere—including epidemiologists, I might say—are able to make contributions.

**Prof. BENNETT:** Yes, no—yes-no. I absolutely agree. Taking the time to explain the evidence as it comes together—they have got great people in the department pulling together everything that is



known around the world. That is driving some of the decision-making—a lot of the decision-making initially—but we do not hear a lot of that just as we do not hear about evaluations after an outbreak to say, ‘This is what we did really, really well. This is what we’ve learned. This is what we’ll do next time, should there be a next time’. And I do think sharing both the analysis that leads to public health orders and the evaluation of those in real time—you know, after the event—to understand those processes is a great way to engage the public but also the sectors that have been impacted through those interventions. If people understood what some of the assumptions about human behaviour were, that might be a really good way to change behaviour and actually get people on board rather than adding layers or increasing fines associated with certain activities and so on. That might give you a better way to focus on holding events, because people are more trusted and they are more trustworthy at the same time because they understand the dynamics here, and if they are likely to comply, then it means they do not have to have more serious restrictions. That can reinforce the kind of behaviour that actually minimises risk in a pandemic.

Then you could look at events, including ones I have been involved in like the choral group, where this is an incredibly important connection for older Australians that goes way beyond our normal understanding of basic health issues to social inclusion, social connectedness and all those things that actually tie to health as well. They are easy to put aside because they are smaller community events, when in fact they can be the very thing that is so critical to people particularly—

**Mr DAVIS:** The glue that holds the community together.

**Prof. BENNETT:** Absolutely, and the individual together if these are people that otherwise live in isolation. A lot of these people were people who live alone. They went from having a community connection to being very alone. Now, there is risk with choirs, but there are ways you can do it safely, and we are learning—we are seeing some work done overseas. This group has really taken the initiative, particularly in loco with COVID times, to try and come up with new models of both, from their perspective, operating but hopefully feeding that back to the governments at state level to help them understand what might be safe ways to go ahead. So you do not have to shut things down completely every time but you dial them down, so that you say you can only sing outdoors or you need to take these various tech solutions they have put in place that remove that risk, individual to individual in the choir or to an audience. So I do think there are things we should be doing. In our downtime we are not hearing about the evaluation or the innovation that I think should be then taking us to a better place. Even if we unfortunately have the virus seeded again, we know that we are just a step ahead next time.

**The CHAIR:** Thank you, Mr Davis. Thank you, Professor Bennett. On behalf of the committee, Professor Bennett, we would like to thank you for your contribution and presentation today. It has been very informative, it has been very helpful. I know there are a number of questions on notice, and we will get them to you as soon as possible.

**Witness withdrew.**

### ATTACHMENT 3

**Prof. SUTTON:** ".... When the second wave peaked in August of 2020 the number of new daily cases in Victoria was over 700 or around 700. Mobility was limited through a curfew and a movement radius limit of 5 kilometres put in place for metropolitan Melbourne to reduce the risk of the virus seeding from metro Melbourne to regional Victoria, which was a really important measure, and it is also reflected in the border restrictions that are happening around Australia now. There was movement restriction into those areas. This boundary between metro Melbourne and regional Victoria remained in place until 8 November last year and was essential in protecting regional Victoria during the second wave. The Victorian road map for reopening was published on 6 September 2020 to try and give as much forward notice and a detailed and enduring high-level phase plan for Victoria to emerge from its second wave. The road map was the product of extensive intergovernmental, industry and community engagement and analysis of local and global evidence and really significant and high-quality predictive modelling, which does not predict the future but gives our best estimates of the trajectory of that second wave based on the epidemiology that we were seeing."

**Mr DAVIS:** I will be very quick with Professor Sutton. Professor Sutton, I have called repeatedly for the release of information behind many of the health orders. That information exists, and the government has refused—now, it may not be your decision—to release that information. You mentioned the curfew before, for example. We know that there were a bundle of documents behind the curfew decision. The government has actually told the Parliament about the documents. Now, within the frame of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act transparency and accountability and proportionality are central. Why have you not insisted on these documents being made public?

**Prof. SUTTON:** Could I check with the Chair if this is in scope with this inquiry?

**Mr DAVIS:** It is in scope, given the curfew.

**The CHAIR:** No. I think it is out of order, Mr Davis. In the end the inquiry is about the tourism and events sectors and the effects of the pandemic on the tourism and events sectors. You are asking a question about—

**Mr DAVIS:** And he has mentioned the curfew, and I am very specifically seeking information on account of his discussion.

**The CHAIR:** which information can be released. You have already asked this question in the chamber a number of times. I do not think it is in the terms of reference.

**Mr DAVIS:** Well, no, it is, with respect, Chair. It is, with respect, in the terms of reference. You might want to run a protection racket, but you cannot do that.

**The CHAIR:** No, not at all. I mean, the terms of reference are—

**Mr DAVIS:** The truth is the curfew has had an impact on the events sector and obviously on the tourism sector too. It is entirely in order for me to seek, for example, a document—attachment D, policy paper, new restrictions, 2 August 2020—which lays out a whole set of policy information about the decision on the curfew. That has been suppressed by government, and I am asking Professor Sutton why that would not be released.

**The CHAIR:** Mr Davis, it seems that question is a question for the government, not for the witnesses here. So that is why is out of order.

**Mr DAVIS:** Well, he is actually responsible.

**The CHAIR:** That is why I am ruling it out of order, Mr Davis.

**Mr DAVIS:** No, no. Actually it is quite clear. He is responsible for the Public Health and Wellbeing Act, Chair, and he can insist on the release of these sorts of documents.

**The CHAIR:** I think if you ask a question—you have already asked a couple of questions about the tourism sector and the consultation, and I think the Deputy Secretary, Ms Brady, has answered that. And I think that—

**Mr DAVIS:** Well, Chair, I will record that you are determined to close down the question and Professor Sutton seems determined to sit there and not answer it.

**Mr TARLAMIS:** On a point of order, Chair, you have made a ruling, and Mr Davis is continuing to defy that ruling. I mean, it is very clear that he should be respecting your ruling, otherwise he is reflecting on you as the Chair.

**Mr DAVIS:** I think the Chair is running a protection racket, Mr Tarlamis. He does not like tough questions.

**Mr TARLAMIS:** That is inappropriate, Mr Davis. I mean, you know it is out of order.

**Mr DAVIS:** No, it is not. It is clearly squarely in the witness's—

**Mr TARLAMIS:** It actually is, and I think you have been a member of Parliament long enough to know that it is. You have got form in this regard to just making outrageous statements to try and get a 5-minute grab from media.

**Mr DAVIS:** Well, Mr Tarlamis, you might want to not have those questions answered, but I certainly do.

**The CHAIR:** Mr Davis, I might move on the next question because, like I said, I think you have already had a couple—

**Mr DAVIS:** Well, I am recording my disappointment.

**The CHAIR:** Ms Brady has provided a response.

**Mr DAVIS:** And the muteness of the witness.

## Attachment 4 - Symes letter to the Leg Co and associated tables refusing access.



Jaclyn Symes MP

Attorney-General  
Minister for Resources

121 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne, Victoria 3000 Australia  
Telephone: +61 3 8684 1111  
DX 210077

Our ref: D21/45565

Mr Andrew Young  
Clerk of the Legislative Council  
Parliament House  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Mr Young

### **Production of documents - decision to impose a curfew**

I refer to the Legislative Council's resolution of 16 September 2020 seeking the production of copies of the briefs and other materials upon which the decision on 2 August 2020 to impose a curfew was based.

I also refer to the letters to you from former Attorneys-General, the Hon. Martin Pakula MP and the Hon. Jill Hennessy MP of 14 April 2015 and 20 February 2019 respectively, noting the limits on the Legislative Council's power to call for documents. Those limits centre on the protection of the public interest. These letters set out the factors the government would consider in assessing whether the release of documents would be prejudicial to the public interest.


The government has conducted a thorough and diligent search to identify the documents that may be relevant to the Council's resolution. It identified 11 documents that fall within the scope of the Council's order.

The government, on behalf of the Crown, makes a claim of executive privilege in relation to six of the documents in full, on the basis that their disclosure would be contrary to the public interest.

In compliance with Standing Orders 11.02(3) and 11.03(1)(a), the attached schedule refers to the documents in respect of which a claim of executive privilege is made.

I note that five documents are produced to the Legislative Council. One of the documents produced by the Government contains the personal information of individuals. In the interests of personal privacy, those details have been excluded.

Yours sincerely

  
Jaclyn Symes MP  
Attorney-General  
Minister for Resources

03 / 05 / 2021

Encl.



OFFICIAL: Sensitive

**SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS TO BE RELEASED**

**Department of Health (formerly known as the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS))**

NO	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DATE OF DOCUMENT	DOCUMENT AUTHOR
1.	Attachment A - Instrument of Authorisation	11/05/2020	DHHS
2.	Attachment B1 - Restricted Activity Directions (No. 16)	2/08/2020	DHHS
3.	Attachment B2 - Restricted Activities Directions (Restricted Areas) (No. 4)	2/08/2020	DHHS
4.	Attachment B3 - Stay Safe Directions (No. 9)	2/08/2020	DHHS
5.	Attachment B4 - Stay at Home Directions (Restricted Areas) (No. 6)	2/08/2020	DHHS

**SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS WITHHELD IN FULL ON THE BASIS OF EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE**

**Department of Health (formerly known as the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS))**

NO	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DATE OF DOCUMENT	DOCUMENT AUTHOR	EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE REASONS
6.	Cover Brief – Re-issue of public health directions to limit the spread of Novel Coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV)	2/08/2020	DHHS	Executive privilege is claimed over the document on the basis that disclosure would reveal the high-level confidential deliberative processes of the Executive government, or otherwise genuinely jeopardise the necessary relationship of trust and confidence between public officials and a minister.  Executive privilege is also claimed over part of the document on the basis that disclosure of parts C and D of the document would reveal confidential legal advice of the Government's advisers.
7.	Attachment C1 - Charter assessment - Restricted Activity Directions (No. 16)	2/08/2020	DHHS	Executive privilege is claimed over the document on the basis that disclosure would reveal the high-level confidential deliberative processes of the Executive government, or otherwise genuinely jeopardise the necessary relationship of trust and confidence between public officials and a minister, and would reveal confidential legal advice of the Government's advisers.
8.	Attachment C2 - Charter Assessment Restricted Activities (Restricted Areas) (No. 4)	2/08/2020	DHHS	Executive privilege is claimed over the document on the basis that disclosure would reveal the high-level confidential deliberative processes of the Executive government, or otherwise genuinely jeopardise the necessary relationship of trust and confidence between public officials and a minister, and would reveal confidential legal advice of the Government's advisers.
9.	Attachment C3 - Charter assessment - Stay Safe Directions (No. 9)	2/08/2020	DHHS	Executive privilege is claimed over the document on the basis that disclosure would reveal the high-level confidential deliberative processes of the Executive government, or otherwise genuinely jeopardise the necessary relationship of

				trust and confidence between public officials and a minister, and would reveal confidential legal advice of the Government's advisers.
10.	Attachment C4 - 10. C4 - Charter Assessment Stay at Home (Restricted Areas) (No. 6)	2/08/2020	DHHS	Executive privilege is claimed over the document on the basis that disclosure would reveal the high-level confidential deliberative processes of the Executive government, or otherwise genuinely jeopardise the necessary relationship of trust and confidence between public officials and a minister, and would reveal confidential legal advice of the Government's advisers.
11.	Attachment D - Policy Paper - New Restrictions	02/08/2020	DHHS	Executive privilege is claimed over the document on the basis that disclosure would reveal the high-level confidential deliberative processes of the Executive government, or otherwise genuinely jeopardise the necessary relationship of trust and confidence between public officials and a minister, and disclosure of some information would reveal the content of information submitted to a committee of Cabinet for the purposes of its deliberations or the deliberations and decisions of Cabinet.

# Attachment 5

**TABLE 1 – TABLE OF RESTRICTIONS OF PUBLIC EVENTS COMPARING AUSTRALIAN STATES – 24 MARCH 2021** (Source: publicly available documents prepared with the assistance of the Parliamentary Library)  
**RECEIVED – 24 MARCH 2021**

At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in each state:

STATE:	NSW As of 25 Feb 2021 ( <a href="#">amended 10, 23 and 29 Mar 2021</a> )		QLD As of <a href="#">13 March 2021</a>		VIC From <a href="#">6pm, 26 March 2021</a>	
Venues	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	<p>One person per 2m<sup>2</sup> or 25 persons</p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p> <p>COVID-19 Safety Plans are mandatory</p>	<p>One person per 2m<sup>2</sup> or 25 persons</p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p>	<p>One person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>&lt;1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>Up to 75% of total capacity, max 1,000 patrons per space and one person per 2m<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>All venues must use electronic record keeping through the Services Vic app or a government API-linked digital system.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated and seated areas.</p> <p>If &gt;500 people, then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plan online.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of total capacity, max 1,000 patrons per space and one person per 2m<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>All venues must use electronic record keeping through the Services Vic app or a government API-linked digital system.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated and seated areas.</p> <p>If &gt;500 people, then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plan online.</p>

Concerts (Large and small)	Capacity at an entertainment facility must not be the greater of 100% of fixed seating capacity of the facility or 1 person per 2 square metres.  Support 1.5m physical distancing where possible.	Capacity at an entertainment facility must not be the greater of 100% of fixed seating capacity of the facility or 1 person per 2 square metres.  Support 1.5m physical distancing where possible.	2m <sup>2</sup>  Ticketed venues can be 100% of seated capacity.  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units	Open air stadiums can operate at 100% of seated capacity with a COVID Safe Plan.  Since 13 March 2021, outdoor events with <500 people per day can operate without a COVID Safe Event Checklist (and no person per m <sup>2</sup> limit or requirement to collect contact details).  <1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan	Up to 75% of total capacity, max 1,000 patrons per space, one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> . 2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  Venues with capacity over 1,000 are determined on an individual basis under the <a href="#">Public Events Framework</a> (last updated 16 March 2021).	Up to 75% of total capacity, max 1,000 patrons per space, one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> . 2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  Venues with capacity over 1,000 are determined on an individual basis under the <a href="#">Public Events Framework</a> (last updated 16 March 2021).
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				approved by local public health units;  >10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.		
Live venues (Large and small)	Capacity at an entertainment facility must not be the greater of 100% of fixed seating capacity of the facility or 1 person per 2 square metres.  Support 1.5m physical distancing where possible.	Capacity at an entertainment facility must not be the greater of 100% of fixed seating capacity of the facility or 1 person per 2 square metres.  Support 1.5m physical distancing where possible.	2m <sup>2</sup>  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units	<1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;  >10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.	Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons in each space.  One person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  All venues must use electronic record keeping through the Services Vic app or a government API-linked digital system (venues will have a 28-day compliance amnesty)	Non-seated outdoor venues (eg. zoo) do not have patron caps but density limit on 1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> apply.  All venues must use electronic record keeping through the Services Vic app or a government API-linked digital system (venues will have a 28-day compliance amnesty)
Theatres	Capacity at an entertainment	Capacity at an entertainment	2m <sup>2</sup>	<1,500 – COVID	Large indoor venues, such	Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons



(Large and small)	<p>facility must not the greater of 100% of fixed seating capacity of the facility or 1 person per 2 square metres.</p> <p>Support 1.5m physical distancing where possible.</p> <p><a href="#">Exemptions were granted</a> in March 2021 by NSW Health to the STC and the Sydney Lyric Theatre to have 100% capacity performances</p>	<p>facility must not the greater of 100% of fixed seating capacity of the facility or 1 person per 2 square metres.</p> <p>Support 1.5m physical distancing where possible.</p>	<p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p>	<p>as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 75% of the total venue capacity (to a max of 1,000 patrons).</p> <p>One person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>One per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>	<p>One person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>One per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>Not exceed the greater of one person per 2 square metres of space in the premises, or 25 persons.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>Not exceed the greater of one person per 2 square metres of space in the premises, or 25 persons.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Dine-in patrons must check in with the Check In Qld app or similar method</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Dancing permitted in all indoor and outdoor venues (music events, pubs, clubs and nightclubs) subject to the one</p>	<p>Density quotient of 1 per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No requirement for seated service.</p> <p>All venues are required to use the Services Vic app or a government API-linked digital system for electronic record keeping (venues will have a 28-day compliance amnesty).</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people</p>	<p>Density quotient of 1 per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No requirement for seated service.</p> <p>All venues are required to use the Services Vic app or a government API-linked digital system for electronic record keeping (venues will have a 28-day compliance amnesty).</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people</p>

				person per 2m <sup>2</sup> rule.	<p>system for electronic record keeping (venues will have a 28-day compliance amnesty).</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>Nightclubs will have a one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> density quotient with no maximum patron limit.</p> <p>Dance floors, karaoke bars, and food courts are now open with no limits, except for the one person per two square metres of publicly accessible floorspace rule.</p>	<p>at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>Nightclubs will have a one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> density quotient with no maximum patron limit.</p> <p>Dance floors, karaoke bars, and food courts are now open with no limits, except for the one person per two square metres of publicly accessible floorspace rule.</p>
Businesses	<p>See <a href="#">COVID Safe Mandatory Registration</a></p> <p>Including gyms, hospitality venues, funeral homes, crematoria, and places of public worship.</p>		See <a href="#">COVID Safe Business Framework</a>	2m <sup>2</sup>	<p>See <a href="#">COVIDSafe Plan</a></p> <p>COVIDSafe principles for business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5m physical distancing</li> <li>• practise good hygiene</li> </ul>	

	Other businesses and organisations are encouraged to register.	<p>1.5m physical distancing</p> <p>Businesses are required to keep contact details for a minimum of 30 days and a maximum of 56 days.</p> <p>Businesses (such as restaurants, food outlets, food courts, pubs, club and nightclubs) that do not use electronic sign-in, must collect that information manually and operate with an occupant density of one person per 4m<sup>2</sup>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• keep good records and act quickly if staff become unwell</li> <li>• avoid interactions in close spaces</li> <li>• create workforce bubbles</li> </ul>
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**TABLE 2 - At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in each state: 26 February 2021**

(Source: publicly available documents prepared with the assistance of the Parliamentary Library)

**RECEIVED 26 FEBRUARY 2021**

STATE:	NSW As of 26 Feb 2021:		QLD As of 19 February 2021:		VIC From 11:59pm, 26 Feb 2021	
Venues,	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	<p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p>	<p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p>	<p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p>	<p>&lt;1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p>	<p>Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-</p>	<p>Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-</p>

					based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.	based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.
Concerts (Large and small)	2m <sup>2</sup>  75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> , whichever is greater.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>  100% of seated capacity.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units	<1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;  >10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.	Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.	Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.
Live venues (Large and small)	2m <sup>2</sup>  1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups	2m <sup>2</sup>  1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups	2m <sup>2</sup>  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units	<1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	Up to 50% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  1 per 4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with	Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  1 per 4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with

				>10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.	paper-based records.	paper-based records.
Theatres (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup>, whichever is the greater.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>100% of seated capacity.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>&lt;1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p>	<p>Large indoor venues, such as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 75% of the total venue capacity (to a max of 1,000 patrons).</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	2m <sup>2</sup>		Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.	Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.

	Children count	Children count			1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.
	Nightclubs must close.	Nightclubs must close.			1 per 4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.	1 per 4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.
					Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.	Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.
					4m <sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple dance floors).	4m <sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple dance floors).
Businesses	See <b>COVID Safe Mandatory Registration</b>  Including gyms, hospitality venues, funeral homes, crematoria, and places of public worship.  Other businesses and organisations are encouraged to register.		See <b>COVID Safe Business Framework</b>  2m <sup>2</sup>  1.5m physical distancing  Businesses are required to keep contact details for a minimum of 30 days and a maximum of 56 days.		See <a href="#">COVIDSafe Plan</a>  COVIDSafe principles for business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5m physical distancing</li> <li>• practise good hygiene</li> <li>• keep good records and act quickly if staff become unwell</li> <li>• avoid interactions in close spaces</li> <li>• create workforce bubbles</li> </ul>	

**TABLE 3 RECEIVED 12 February 2021 – SOURCE: PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY**

**At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in each state:**

STATE:	NSW From 7 Dec 2020:		QLD From 12Pm, 14 Dec 2020:		VIC From 11:59pm, 6 Dec 2020	
Venues,	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	<1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.	Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.
Concerts (Large and small)	2m <sup>2</sup>  75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> , whichever is greater.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>  100% of seated capacity.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by	<1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas	Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas

			local public health units	>10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.	with paper-based records.	with paper-based records.
Live venues (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Maximum of 3000 people.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Maximum of 3000 people.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>&lt;1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p> <p>&gt;10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.</p>	<p>Up to 50% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>
Theatres (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup>, whichever is the greater.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>100% of seated capacity.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>&lt;1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p>	<p>Large indoor venues, such as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 50% of the total venue capacity (to a max of 1,000 patrons).</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>



					<p>electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>	<p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>On dancefloors one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p> <p>At nightclubs one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>On dancefloors one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p> <p>At nightclubs one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p>	2m <sup>2</sup>		<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on</p>

					dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple dance floors).	dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple dance floors).
Businesses	<p>See <b>COVID Safe Mandatory Registration</b></p> <p>Including gyms, hospitality venues, funeral homes, crematoria, and places of public worship.</p> <p>Other businesses and organisations are encouraged to register.</p>	<p>See <b>COVID Safe Business Framework</b></p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>1.5m physical distancing</p> <p>Businesses are required to keep contact details for a minimum of 30 days and a maximum of 56 days.</p>	<p>See <a href="#">COVIDSafe Plan</a></p> <p>COVIDSafe principles for business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5m physical distancing</li> <li>• wear a face mask</li> <li>• practise good hygiene</li> <li>• keep good records and act quickly if staff become unwell</li> <li>• avoid interactions in close spaces</li> <li>• create workforce bubbles</li> </ul>			

At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in each state:

(No change to QLD restrictions from 14 Dec 2020)

STATE:	NSW (Greater Sydney, Central Coast, Wollongong) From 29 Jan 2021:		NSW (regional & rural) From 29 Jan 2021:		VIC From 11:59pm, 6 Dec 2020	
Venues,	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 4m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>	<p>Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>
Concerts (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors <b>or</b> one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors <b>or</b> one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p>	<p>Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p>

					4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.	4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.
Live venues (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Up to 50% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>
Theatres (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Large indoor venues, such as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 50% of the total venue capacity (to a max of 1,000 patrons).</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their</p>

					Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.	COVIDSafe Plans online.
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count towards the capacity limit.</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count towards the capacity limit.</p>	<p>Businesses that prepare and serve food and drink to customers on the premises or for takeaway need to have a <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> for their venue type.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>Businesses that prepare and serve food and drink to customers on the premises or for takeaway need to have a <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> for their venue type.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple</p>

					dance floors).	dance floors).
Businesses	<p>Check the <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> that applies to your business for guidance on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• whether your staff are required to face masks</li><li>• whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event</li><li>• who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan</li><li>• whether you need to <a href="#">register as a COVID safe venue</a></li><li>• when to apply the <a href="#">one person per 2 square metres rule</a> and <a href="#">one person per 4 square metres rule</a></li><li>• the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.</li></ul> <p>If changes have been introduced for your industry since you last prepared a COVID-19 Safety Plan, see the latest version for new requirements.</p> <p>Learn more about <a href="#">electronic recordkeeping</a> if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.</p>	<p>Check the <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> that applies to your business for guidance on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event</li><li>• who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan</li><li>• whether you need to <a href="#">register as a COVID safe venue</a></li><li>• when to apply the <a href="#">one person per 2 square metres rule</a> and <a href="#">one person per 4 square metres rule</a></li><li>• the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.</li></ul> <p>If changes have been introduced for your industry since you last prepared a COVID-19 Safety Plan, see the latest version for new requirements.</p> <p>Learn more about <a href="#">electronic recordkeeping</a> if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.</p>	<p>See <a href="#">COVIDSafe Plan</a></p> <p>COVIDSafe principles for business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1.5m physical distancing</li><li>• wear a face mask</li><li>• practise good hygiene</li><li>• keep good records and act quickly if staff become unwell</li><li>• avoid interactions in close spaces</li><li>• create workforce bubbles</li></ul>			

## As at 12 Feb 2021:

At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in each state:

**NSW:** capacity limits generally now one person per 2 square metres across the board (except for gyms, which are still at one person per 4 square metres).

STATE:	NSW (Greater Sydney, Central Coast, Wollongong As at 12 Feb 2021:		NSW (regional & rural) As at 12 Feb 2021:		QLD As at 12 Feb 2021:	
Venues	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt; 500 people – COVID Safe Event Checklist required</p> <p>&gt; 500 people – COVID Safe Event Plan required</p>	<p>&lt; 1500 people – COVID Safe Event Checklist required</p> <p>&gt; 1500 people – COVID Safe Event Plan required</p>
Concerts (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>&lt; 500 people – COVID Safe Event Checklist required</p> <p>&gt; 500 people – COVID Safe Event Plan required</p> <p>100% capacity at seated, ticketed venues with patrons encouraged to wear masks on entry and exit</p>	<p>&lt; 1500 people – COVID Safe Event Checklist required</p> <p>&gt; 1500 people – COVID Safe Event Plan required</p> <p>Open air stadiums: 100% seated capacity (with a COVID Safe Plan). All patrons encouraged</p>

						to wear masks on entry and exit.
Live venues (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>&lt; 500 people – COVID Safe Event Checklist required</p> <p>&gt; 500 people – COVID Safe Event Plan required</p> <p>100% capacity at seated, ticketed venues with patrons encouraged to wear masks on entry and exit</p>	<p>&lt; 1500 people – COVID Safe Event Checklist required</p> <p>&gt; 1500 people – COVID Safe Event Plan required</p> <p>Open air stadiums: 100% seated capacity (with a COVID Safe Plan). All patrons encouraged to wear masks on entry and exit.</p>
Theatres (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>&lt; 500 people – COVID Safe Event Checklist required</p> <p>&gt; 500 people – COVID Safe Event Plan required</p> <p>100% capacity at seated, ticketed venues with patrons encouraged to wear</p>	<p>&lt; 1500 people – COVID Safe Event Checklist required</p> <p>&gt; 1500 people – COVID Safe Event Plan required</p> <p>Open air stadiums: 100% seated capacity (with a COVID Safe</p>



					masks on entry and exit	Plan). All patrons encouraged to wear masks on entry and exit.
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>One person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>(e.g. restaurants, cafés, pubs, clubs, museums, art galleries, places of worship, convention centres and Parliament House), including standing eating and drinking.</p>	
Businesses	<p>Check the <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> that applies to your business for guidance on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether your staff are required to face masks</li> <li>• whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event</li> <li>• who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan</li> <li>• whether you need to <a href="#">register as a COVID safe venue</a></li> <li>• when to apply the <a href="#">one person per 2 square metres rule</a> and, for gyms, the</li> </ul>	<p>Check the <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> that applies to your business for guidance on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether your staff are required to face masks</li> <li>• whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event</li> <li>• who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan</li> <li>• whether you need to <a href="#">register as a COVID safe venue</a></li> <li>• when to apply the <a href="#">one person per 2 square metres rule</a> and, for gyms, <a href="#">one</a></li> </ul>	<p>Check the <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> that applies to your business for guidance on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether your staff are required to face masks</li> <li>• whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event</li> <li>• who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan</li> <li>• whether you need to <a href="#">register as a COVID safe venue</a></li> <li>• when to apply the <a href="#">one person per 2 square metres rule</a> and, for gyms, <a href="#">one</a></li> </ul>	<p>All hospitality industry businesses (i.e. pubs, clubs, restaurants and cafés) in Queensland must comply with <a href="#">electronic contact information collection requirements</a>.</p> <p>COVID Safe businesses :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the <a href="#">public health directions</a> and keep up-to-date with requirements to make your business and customers COVID Safe.</li> <li>• Ensure staff and customers observe physical distancing.</li> </ul>		

	<p><a href="#">one person per 4 square metres rule</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.</li> </ul> <p>If changes have been introduced for your industry since you last prepared a COVID-19 Safety Plan, see the latest version for new requirements.</p> <p>Learn more about <a href="#">electronic recordkeeping</a> if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.</p> <p><b>Sources:</b>  <a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/greater-sydney">https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/greater-sydney</a>  <a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/covid-19-restrictions-update-for-greater-sydney-region">https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/covid-19-restrictions-update-for-greater-sydney-region</a></p>	<p><a href="#">person per 4 square metres rule</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.</li> </ul> <p>If changes have been introduced for your industry since you last prepared a COVID-19 Safety Plan, see the latest version for new requirements.</p> <p>Learn more about <a href="#">electronic recordkeeping</a> if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.</p> <p><b>Source:</b>  <a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/regional-and-rural-nsw">https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/regional-and-rural-nsw</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collect and keep customer details (if required).</li> <li>Don't allow staff or customers showing any COVID-19 symptoms to enter your premises.</li> <li>Ensure <a href="#">COVID Safe management plans</a> (Work Health and Safety) are in place which detail how you, your workers and your patrons will stay COVID safe.</li> <li>Operate under a <a href="#">COVID Safe Industry Plan</a> or a <a href="#">COVID Safe Checklist</a>, which detail how COVID safety is managed in specific industries.</li> <li>Develop <a href="#">COVID Safe site specific plans</a> if your business has an individual, unique and complex site (like large outdoor amusement parks, zoos etc.).</li> </ul> <p><b>Sources:</b>  <a href="https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/government-actions/roadmap-to-easing-queenslands-restrictions#_current">https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/government-actions/roadmap-to-easing-queenslands-restrictions#_current</a>  <a href="https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/government-actions/covid-safe-businesses">https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/government-actions/covid-safe-businesses</a></p>
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**TABLE 4 - PROVIDED ON 2 FEBRUARY 2021 BY THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY**

**There have been no changes to restrictions in QLD and Vic since the last information was supplied on 17/12/20.**

**At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in NSW:**

STATE:	NSW (Greater Sydney, Central Coast, Wollongong From 29 Jan 2021:		NSW (regional & rural) From 29 Jan 2021:	
Venues,	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  1 person per 4m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>
Concerts (Large and small)	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m <sup>2</sup> indoors	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m <sup>2</sup> indoors	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup>	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup>
Live venues (Large and small)	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m <sup>2</sup> indoors	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup>	Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan  100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup>

		per 4m <sup>2</sup> indoors		
Theatres (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count towards the capacity limit.</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count towards the capacity limit.</p>	<p>Businesses that prepare and serve food and drink to customers on the premises or for takeaway need to have a <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> for their venue type.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>Businesses that prepare and serve food and drink to customers on the premises or for takeaway need to have a <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> for their venue type.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>
Businesses	<p>Check the <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> that applies to your business for guidance on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether your staff are required to face masks</li> <li>• whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is</li> </ul>		<p>Check the <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> that applies to your business for guidance on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event</li> </ul>	

	<p>required or recommended for your venue or event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan</li> <li>• whether you need to <a href="#">register as a COVID safe venue</a></li> <li>• when to apply the <a href="#">one person per 2 square metres rule</a> and <a href="#">one person per 4 square metres rule</a></li> <li>• the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.</li> </ul> <p>If changes have been introduced for your industry since you last prepared a COVID-19 Safety Plan, see the latest version for new requirements.</p> <p>Learn more about <a href="#">electronic recordkeeping</a> if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan</li> <li>• whether you need to <a href="#">register as a COVID safe venue</a></li> <li>• when to apply the <a href="#">one person per 2 square metres rule</a> and <a href="#">one person per 4 square metres rule</a></li> <li>• the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.</li> </ul> <p>If changes have been introduced for your industry since you last prepared a COVID-19 Safety Plan, see the latest version for new requirements.</p> <p>Learn more about <a href="#">electronic recordkeeping</a> if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.</p>
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At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in each state:

STATE:	NSW From 7 Dec 2020:		QLD From 12Pm, 14 Dec 2020:		VIC From 11:59pm, 6 Dec 2020	
Venues,	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	<1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.	Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.
Concerts (Large and small)	2m <sup>2</sup>  75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> , whichever is greater.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>  100% of seated capacity.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units	<1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-	Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-

				>10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.	based records.	based records.
Live venues (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Maximum of 3000 people.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Maximum of 3000 people.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>&lt;1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p> <p>&gt;10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.</p>	<p>Up to 50% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>
Theatres (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup>, whichever is the greater.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>100% of seated capacity.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>&lt;1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p>	<p>Large indoor venues, such as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 50% of the total venue capacity (to a max of 1,000 patrons).</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>

					<p>record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>	<p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>On dancefloors one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p> <p>At nightclubs one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>On dancefloors one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p> <p>At nightclubs one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p>	2m <sup>2</sup>		<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors</p>



					to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple dance floors).	to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple dance floors).
Businesses	<p>See <b>COVID Safe Mandatory Registration</b></p> <p>Including gyms, hospitality venues, funeral homes, crematoria, and places of public worship.</p> <p>Other businesses and organisations are encouraged to register.</p>	<p>See <b>COVID Safe Business Framework</b></p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>1.5m physical distancing</p> <p>Businesses are required to keep contact details for a minimum of 30 days and a maximum of 56 days.</p>	<p>See <a href="#">COVIDSafe Plan</a></p> <p>COVIDSafe principles for business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5m physical distancing</li> <li>• wear a face mask</li> <li>• practise good hygiene</li> <li>• keep good records and act quickly if staff become unwell</li> <li>• avoid interactions in close spaces</li> <li>• create workforce bubbles</li> </ul>			

**TABLE 5 - PROVIDED – 17 DECEMBER 2020 BY THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY**

**At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in each state:**

**(No change to QLD restrictions from 14 Dec 2020)**

STATE:	NSW (Greater Sydney, Central Coast, Wollongong From 29 Jan 2021:		NSW (regional & rural) From 29 Jan 2021:		VIC From 11:59pm, 6 Dec 2020	
Venues,	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 4m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>	<p>Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>
Concerts (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors <b>or</b> one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors <b>or</b> one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p>	<p>Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p>

					4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.	4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.
Live venues (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Up to 50% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>
Theatres (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> outdoors or one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> indoors</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>100% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Large indoor venues, such as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 50% of the total venue capacity (to a max of 1,000 patrons).</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their</p>

					Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.	COVIDSafe Plans online.
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count towards the capacity limit.</p>	<p>Must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count towards the capacity limit.</p>	<p>Businesses that prepare and serve food and drink to customers on the premises or for takeaway need to have a <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> for their venue type.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>Businesses that prepare and serve food and drink to customers on the premises or for takeaway need to have a <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> for their venue type.</p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple</p>

					dance floors).	dance floors).
Businesses	<p>Check the <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> that applies to your business for guidance on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• whether your staff are required to face masks</li><li>• whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event</li><li>• who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan</li><li>• whether you need to <a href="#">register as a COVID safe venue</a></li><li>• when to apply the <a href="#">one person per 2 square metres rule</a> and <a href="#">one person per 4 square metres rule</a></li><li>• the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.</li></ul> <p>If changes have been introduced for your industry since you last prepared a COVID-19 Safety Plan, see the latest version for new requirements.</p> <p>Learn more about <a href="#">electronic recordkeeping</a> if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.</p>	<p>Check the <a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a> that applies to your business for guidance on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event</li><li>• who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan</li><li>• whether you need to <a href="#">register as a COVID safe venue</a></li><li>• when to apply the <a href="#">one person per 2 square metres rule</a> and <a href="#">one person per 4 square metres rule</a></li><li>• the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.</li></ul> <p>If changes have been introduced for your industry since you last prepared a COVID-19 Safety Plan, see the latest version for new requirements.</p> <p>Learn more about <a href="#">electronic recordkeeping</a> if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.</p>	<p>See <a href="#">COVIDSafe Plan</a></p> <p>COVIDSafe principles for business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1.5m physical distancing</li><li>• wear a face mask</li><li>• practise good hygiene</li><li>• keep good records and act quickly if staff become unwell</li><li>• avoid interactions in close spaces</li><li>• create workforce bubbles</li></ul>			

**TABLE 6 - PROVIDED ON 17 December 2020 BY THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY**

**At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in each state\*:**

STATE:	NSW From 7 Dec 2020:		QLD From 12Pm, 14 Dec 2020:		VIC From 11:59pm, 6 Dec 2020	
Venues,	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	<1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.	Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.
Concerts (Large and small)	2m <sup>2</sup>  75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> , whichever is greater.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>  100% of seated capacity.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>  <500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by	<1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;  1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;	Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas	Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas

			local public health units	>10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.	with paper-based records.	with paper-based records.
Live venues (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Maximum of 3000 people.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Maximum of 3000 people.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>&lt;1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p> <p>&gt;10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by the Chief Health Officer.</p>	<p>Up to 50% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>
Theatres (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup>, whichever is the greater.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>100% of seated capacity.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>&lt;500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>500-10,000 people - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units</p>	<p>&lt;1,500 – COVID Safe Event Checklist, no further approval needed;</p> <p>1,500-10,000 - COVID Safe Event Plan approved by local public health units;</p>	<p>Large indoor venues, such as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 50% of the total venue capacity (to a max of 1,000 patrons).</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>

					<p>electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>	<p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p>
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>On dancefloors one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p> <p>At nightclubs one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>On dancefloors one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p> <p>At nightclubs one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p>	2m <sup>2</sup>		<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on</p>



					dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple dance floors).	dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple dance floors).
Businesses	<p>See <b>COVID Safe Mandatory Registration</b></p> <p>Including gyms, hospitality venues, funeral homes, crematoria, and places of public worship.</p> <p>Other businesses and organisations are encouraged to register.</p>	<p>See <b>COVID Safe Business Framework</b></p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>1.5m physical distancing</p> <p>Businesses are required to keep contact details for a minimum of 30 days and a maximum of 56 days.</p>	<p>See <a href="#">COVIDSafe Plan</a></p> <p>COVIDSafe principles for business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5m physical distancing</li> <li>• wear a face mask</li> <li>• practise good hygiene</li> <li>• keep good records and act quickly if staff become unwell</li> <li>• avoid interactions in close spaces</li> <li>• create workforce bubbles</li> </ul>			

\*See detailed information for each state below.

## **New South Wales**

[NSW Government: What you can and can't do under the rules: Hospitality venues, events and musical activities](#) (Sourced 08/12/2020.)

### **Hospitality venues, events and musical activities**

#### **Two square metres rule**

Venue operators must generally ensure there are at least [2 square metres of space](#) for each person on the premises or in the area, as applicable.

#### **Hospitality venues**

- Businesses that prepare and serve food and drink to customers on the premises or for takeaway need to have a [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#) for their venue type.
- Penalties apply to venues found to [breach the public health order](#) rules.
- The maximum number of people permitted at hospitality venues is [one person per 2 square metres](#). Up to 25 patrons are permitted before this rule applies.
- For hospitality venues with more than one separate area, this applies per separate area.

#### **Nightclubs**

- Nightclubs are subject to the one person per [4 square metres rule](#) and must follow the requirements in an up-to-date [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#).
- Dance floors are limited to 50 people.
- A nightclub is defined as any premises that is the subject of an on-premises licence in force under the [Liquor Act 2007](#) that relates to a public entertainment venue (other than a cinema or theatre).

#### **Function centres, trade shows and exhibitions**

- A function centre is a building or place used for holding events, functions, conferences, and includes convention centres, exhibition centres and reception centres. Function centre operators must complete and register a [COVID Safety Plan](#).
- If a trade show or exhibition is held in a function centre and open to the public, the maximum capacity is [one person per 2 square metres](#).
- See also the COVID-19 Safety Plan for [functions and conferences](#).

#### **Entertainment facilities including cinemas and theatres**

- Under the public health order, an entertainment facility means a theatre, cinema, music hall, concert hall, dance hall and the like, but does not include a pub or registered club.
- Entertainment facilities must have a [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#) and can
  - sell tickets for seated events at 75% of capacity, to a maximum of 1000 tickets, or
  - use the [2 square metres rule](#) to calculate capacity with no maximum number of people.
- Events must be ticketed with ticketholders assigned to a seating area for the 75% capacity calculation to be used.
- Alternatively, entertainment facilities may allow [one person per 2 square metres](#) on the premises, with no maximum capacity.
- Outdoor cinemas and theatres are permitted 100% seated capacity.

#### **Group singing and musical ensemble advice**

- Group singing and chanting remains a high-risk activity for transmission should someone involved be infected.
- *Indoors settings*
- Up to 50 people may

- sing together in one area if all singers face forwards and not towards each other
  - have physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each other and any other performers, and
  - 5 metres distancing from all other people in front including the audience and conductor.
- The audience or congregation should not participate in singing in this setting due to the increased risk of transmission and NSW Health strongly recommends anyone 12 years or older wear a [face mask](#).
- Ensembles and other musical groups should rehearse and perform outdoors or in large, well-ventilated indoor spaces.

#### *Outdoors settings*

- There is no limit on the number of people singing together in an outdoors setting.
- To minimise infection risk:
  - all singers should face forwards and not towards each other
  - maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each other and any other performers, and
  - keep 5 metres distancing from all other people including the audience and conductor.
- If the event is one where the audience or congregation are likely to participate in the singing, such as carols by candlelight or religious services, audience members and congregants 12 years or older should wear a [face mask](#).

#### **Outdoor music performances and rehearsals**

- Music performances and rehearsals can be held outdoors with a maximum of 3,000 people if
  - the person principally responsible for organising the rehearsal or performance develops and complies with a [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#)
  - all participants provide their contact details (name and phone number or email) where practicable.
- Outdoor music performances and rehearsals held at certain larger venues, including entertainment facilities, major recreation facilities and zoos, may have more than 3,000 people subject to the restrictions at those venues.
- Outdoor music performances and rehearsals may be held at places of public worship, subject to the [one person per 2 square metres](#) rule.

#### **Current restrictions on businesses**

See the [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#) that applies to your business for guidance on

- whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event
- who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan
- whether you need to register as a COVID safe venue
- when to apply the [one person per 2 square metres](#) rule and one person per 4 square metres rule
- the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.

Learn more about [electronic record keeping](#) if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.

#### **[COVID Safe](#) businesses and organisations**

COVID Safe businesses and organisations have:

- a comprehensive COVID-19 Safety Plan in place
- registered as COVID Safe.

COVID Safe businesses and organisations are easily recognised by the blue tick badge displayed on their premises or online.



Registration is quick and easy and it shows customers that you're committed to their safety.

Registered businesses and organisations get:

- a digital COVID Safe badge for use on Google and social channels
- a print ready COVID Safe badge file for use as a poster or sticker on your shop front/high traffic areas
- posters on safety and hygiene
- reports on how your customers and visitors rate your business.

### **Mandatory registration**

For some types of businesses and organisations, it is mandatory to register as COVID Safe under the Public Health Orders.

These businesses are:

- gyms
- hospitality venues (restaurants, cafes, pubs, clubs, small bars, cellar doors, breweries, distilleries, karaoke bars and casinos)
- funeral homes and crematoria
- places of public worship.

Other businesses and organisations are encouraged to register as COVID Safe to show their customers and visitors that they are keeping up the highest standards to prevent COVID-19 transmission.

### **COVID-19 Safety Plans**

- COVID-19 Safety Plans are comprehensive checklists designed by NSW Health and approved by the Chief Health Officer.
- The plans provide clear directions on how businesses and organisations should fulfil their obligations under Public Health Orders to minimise risk of transmission of COVID-19 on their premises.
- Businesses and organisations should review the COVID-19 Safety Plan for their industry to see if completing a plan and registering is compulsory under Public Health Orders.
- All other businesses and organisations are encouraged to complete a COVID-19 Safety Plan voluntarily.

See also: [COVID-19 Restriction Checker: Entertainment and community – New South Wales](#) (Current as of 7 December 2020.)

## **Queensland:**

[Queensland Government: Roadmap to easing restrictions](#). Sourced 16/12/2020.

### **Stage 6: From 1am Tuesday 1 December 2020**

What's changed from 1am AEST 12 December 2020

- There are no [COVID-19 hotspots](#) in Australia.
- You are free to enter Queensland from any Australian state or territory.
- The Queensland Border Declaration Pass system is not active. You do not need a border pass to enter Queensland.
- New Zealand is a safe travel zone country – anyone from New Zealand who travels on a [quarantine-free flight\\*](#) can come to Queensland without needing to quarantine. [Find out more about quarantine for international arrivals](#).
  - Other countries, including New Zealand, still have travel restrictions in place. Queenslanders should visit [Smart Traveller](#) before making overseas travel arrangements.

Indoor dancing is allowed from noon on Monday 14 December, subject to the one person per 2m<sup>2</sup> rule.

From 1am Tuesday 1 December 2020:

- **Border Passes:** Visitors can enter Queensland without having to complete a Queensland Border Declaration Pass or mandatory quarantine, unless they are travelling from a declared hotspot. As at 12 December 2020 there are no declared hotspots in Australia.
- **Hotspots:** Visitors and returned travellers who have been in a [Local Government Area identified as a hotspot](#) in the last 14 days can enter Queensland with a valid [Queensland Border Declaration Pass](#) and are required to complete the mandatory 14-day quarantine.
- **Gatherings:** 50 people allowed to gather in homes and 100 in public spaces across Queensland.
- **Indoor premises:** One per person per 2m<sup>2</sup> (e.g. restaurants, cafes, pubs, clubs, museums, art galleries, places of worship, convention centres and Parliament House). Indoor play areas and unattended retail (such as children's rides and freestanding unattended amusement and wellbeing machines) within a premises can open with a COVID Safe Checklist.
- **Wedding ceremonies:** Up to 200 people can attend a wedding and all guests can dance (both indoors and outdoors).
- **Funerals:** Up to 200 people can attend a funeral.
- **Indoor events:** 100% capacity at seated, ticketed venues with patrons to wear masks on entry and exit (e.g. theatre, live music, cinemas and indoor sports). Performers can distance from audience at 2m, except choirs which remain at 4m from the audience.
- **Outdoor events:** 1500 permitted at outdoor events with a COVID Safe Event Checklist. Larger events require a COVID Safe Plan.
- **Open air stadiums:** 100% seated capacity (with a COVID Safe Plan).
- **Outdoor dancing:** Outdoor dancing allowed (e.g. outdoor music festivals, beer gardens).

## **Businesses, activities and undertakings**

[Restrictions on Businesses, Activities and Undertakings Direction \(No.11\)](#)

What's changed from 12pm (midday) AEST 14 December 2020

- Indoor and outdoor dancing is allowed, subject to the one person per 2 square metre rule. Businesses should ensure patrons practice physical distancing in dance areas.
- Community facilities (such as PCYC's) are no longer restricted by the 50 person limit where there is no COVID-safe Plan or Checklist in place.
- Businesses are required to keep contact details for a minimum of 30 days and a maximum of 56 days.
- Unattended children's rides and games in retail premises can operate.
- There is a new definition of 'ticketed and allocated seating'.

Schedule 1: [Direction from Chief Health Officer in accordance with emergency powers arising from the declared public health emergency](#) Effective from: 12pm AEST 14 December 2020)

<b>Entertainment venues</b>	
Pubs, licensed clubs, RSL clubs, function centres, bars, wineries, distilleries and microbreweries, and licensed premises in hotels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May also operate for takeaway service and home delivery.</li> </ul>
<p>Concert venues, theatres, auditoriums and cinemas</p> <p><i>Note – if a venue does not have an <b>Approved Plan</b> they may operate under another element of the COVID Safe Framework (see paragraph 9)</i></p>	<p>May operate in compliance with an <b>Approved Plan</b> and <b>occupant density</b>.</p> <p>For drive in cinemas people should remain in their vehicles to the extent possible.</p> <p><i>Example – a school auditorium hired by a dance studio for an end of year concert may use up to 100% of seated venue capacity when spectators are in <b>ticketed and allocated seating</b>.</i></p>
Convention centres and show grounds	
<p>Indoor and outdoor events</p> <p><i>(Example – marathons, cultural festivals, fetes, expos)</i></p>	<p>May operate in compliance with an <b>Approved Plan</b> (if applicable), other than a <b>COVID Safe Event Plan</b>. If more than 500 people (indoor events) or more than 1,500 people (outdoor events) will be in attendance, the event organiser must notify the local public health unit a minimum of 10 business days prior to the event taking place.</p> <p>Otherwise, must operate in accordance with the following conditions, depending on the number of people per event (or number of people per day for multi-day events) and whether the event is held indoors or outdoors:</p> <p>Must operate in accordance with <b>occupant density</b> and the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Indoor events</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Fewer than 500 people</b> – must comply with a <b>COVID Safe Event Checklist</b>, no further approval needed;</li> <li>○ <b>Between 500 and 10,000 people</b> – must comply with a <b>COVID Safe Event Plan</b> approved by local public health units;</li> <li>○ <b>Over 10,000 people</b> – must comply with a <b>COVID Safe Event Plan</b> approved by the Chief Health Officer.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outdoor events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Fewer than 1,500 people</b> – must comply with a <b>COVID Safe Event Checklist</b>, no further approval needed;</li> <li>○ <b>Between 1,500 and 10,000 people</b> – must comply with a <b>COVID Safe Event Plan</b> approved by local public health units;</li> <li>○ <b>Over 10,000 people</b> – must comply with a <b>COVID Safe Event Plan</b> approved by the Chief Health Officer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Note – Multi-day events may operate in accordance with the above conditions, depending on the number of people in attendance per day. For example, a 3-day outdoor event with 1,500 attendees per day may comply with a COVID Safe Event Checklist.</i></p>
Theme parks, outdoor amusement parks, tourism experiences and arcades	
Indoor play centres and unattended children's rides and games in retail premises	
<b>Non-residential institutions</b>	
Galleries, museums, national and state institutions and historic sites	<p>Limited to one person per 2 square metres regardless of the size of the venue.</p> <p><i>Example – a gallery with 150 square metres must comply with the one person per 2 square metre rule.</i></p> <p>An event held at these venues will need to comply with the relevant indoor or outdoor event requirements.</p>
Community facilities (such as community centres and	Limited to one person per 2 square metres regardless of the size of the venue.

halls, recreation centres, youth centres, community clubs, RSLs, PCYCs)	<p>The condition in paragraph 9(d)(i) does not apply.</p> <p>Community facilities should allow for <b><i>physical distancing</i></b> to the extent possible.</p> <p>An event held at these venues will need to comply with the relevant indoor or outdoor event requirements.</p>
<b><i>High risk businesses, activities and undertakings</i></b>	
Nightclubs	

See also: [COVID-19 Restriction Checker: Entertainment and community – Queensland](#)



## **Victoria**

[Victorian Government: Entertainment and culture - Victoria - Last Step](#) (Sourced 8/12/2020)

Restrictions are changing in Victoria from 11:59pm on Sunday 6 December 2020.

- Dance floors can open in pubs and bars. Venues must apply a [four square metre rule](#) to the dance floor, with a maximum of 50 people dancing at one time per dance area (such as in a nightclub with multiple dance floors).
- Indoor and outdoor seated entertainment venues can open for up to 75 per cent of seating capacity up to 1,000 patrons. For non-seated areas, venues can use the [two square metre rule](#) if using electronic record keeping. If using paper-based records, the [four square metre rule](#) applies.
- Large indoor venues, such as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 50 percent of the total venue capacity (up to a maximum of 1,000 patrons). For non-seated areas, venues can use the [two square metre rule](#) if using electronic record keeping. If using paper-based records, the [four square metre rule](#).
- Outdoor non-seated entertainment venues can open. They can apply the [two square metre rule](#) if using electronic record keeping.
- Indoor non-seated entertainment venues can open for up to 50 per cent of capacity (up to a maximum of 1,000 patrons).
- Casinos can open. The 4m<sup>2</sup> rule must be applied and electronic record keeping must be used.
- Arcades, bingo centres and escape rooms can open. They can apply the two square metre rule if using electronic record keeping to ensure people can keep 1.5 metres away from others.
- Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.
- There are no limits on how far you can travel to visit an entertainment, arts or cultural venue.
- To keep their staff and customers safe businesses need to follow cleaning, signage and record keeping requirements.

## **Business and work**

[COVIDSafe Plan](#): Information and resources to help your business prepare a COVIDSafe Plan.

## **COVIDSafe Summer**

- Restaurants, cafes, bars and pubs can open for seated and unseated service. They must use electronic record keeping and apply the [two square metre rule](#) to ensure that customers have enough room to keep 1.5 metres between themselves and others. There are no other limits on the number of customers. Venues can have up to 25 people before the two square metre rule needs to be applied.

## **Record keeping for contact tracing - information for business**: Key points

- From 11:59pm 6 December 2020 businesses may apply the two square metre rule if they use electronic record keeping to record the details of anyone who spends more than 15 minutes at their business. Otherwise, the four square metre rule applies for manual means of record keeping. Retailers should keep electronic records where practical to do so.
- Businesses are strongly encouraged to use QR codes to support contact tracing. For more information on this free service see [Victorian Government QR Code Service](#).
- A [Visitor and patron contacts log - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) contact tracing register](#) is available for businesses using manual processes such as pen and paper.
- Businesses across the state can now access information on dealing with coronavirus (COVID-19) by calling the Business Victoria hotline on 13 22 15.

See also: [COVID-19 Restriction Checker: Can I go to entertainment or cultural venues in Victoria?](#)  
(Current as of 7 December 2020)

**TABLE 7 - PROVIDED ON 8 DECEMBER 2020 BY THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY**

**At-a-glance summary of numbers and/or densities of people currently permitted by venue in each state\*:**

STATE:	NSW From 7 Dec 2020:		QLD From 1am, 1 Dec 2020:		VIC From 11:59pm, 6 Dec 2020	
Venues,	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Galleries (Large and small)	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>  No density limit if 25 visitors or fewer	1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup>	1500 with a COVID Safe Event Checklist.  Larger events require a COVID Safe Plan.	Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.	Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  1 person per 2m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.  4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.  If more than 500 people then venue must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.
Concerts (Large and small)	2m <sup>2</sup>  75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m <sup>2</sup> , whichever is greater.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>  100% of seated capacity.  Children count towards the capacity limit.	2m <sup>2</sup>	1500 with a COVID Safe Event Checklist. Larger events require a COVID Safe Plan.  Open air stadiums: 100% seated capacity	Up to 50% of seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.	Up to 75% seating capacity, max 1,000 patrons.  2m <sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.

				(with a COVID Safe Plan).	4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.	4m <sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.
Live venues (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Maximum of 3000 people.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Maximum of 3000 people.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>1.5m physical distancing when mixing, queuing, or between seated groups</p>	2m <sup>2</sup>	<p>1500 with a COVID Safe Event Checklist. Larger events require a COVID Safe Plan.</p> <p>Open air stadiums: 10 0% seated capacity (with a COVID Safe Plan).</p>	<p>Up to 50% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>
Theatres (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>75% of seated capacity, <b>or</b> one person per 2m<sup>2</sup>, whichever is the greater.</p> <p>Children count</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>100% of seated capacity.</p> <p>Children count</p>	2m <sup>2</sup>	<p>1500 with a COVID Safe Event Checklist. Larger events require a COVID Safe Plan.</p>	<p>Large indoor venues, such as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 50% of the total venue capacity (to a max of 1,000 patrons).</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their</p>

					Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.	COVIDSafe Plans online.
Pubs (Large and small)	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>On dancefloors one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p> <p>At nightclubs one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p>	<p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>No density limit if 25 or fewer customers.</p> <p>Children count</p> <p>On dancefloors one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p> <p>At nightclubs one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to a max of 50.</p>	2m <sup>2</sup>	1500 with a COVID Safe Event Checklist. Larger events require a COVID Safe Plan.	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple</p>	<p>Up to 75% of capacity, max 1,000 patrons seated.</p> <p>1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup> Non-seated areas, with electronic record keeping.</p> <p>1 per 4m<sup>2</sup> in non-seated areas with paper-based records.</p> <p>Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.</p> <p>4m<sup>2</sup> per person on dance floors to max 50 people per dance area (such as a nightclub with multiple</p>

					dance floors).	dance floors).
Businesses	<p>See <b>COVID Safe Mandatory Registration</b></p> <p>Including gyms, hospitality venues, funeral homes, crematoria, and places of public worship.</p> <p>Other businesses and organisations are encouraged to register.</p>	<p>See <b>COVID Safe Business Framework</b></p> <p>2m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>1.5m physical distancing</p>			<p>See <a href="#">COVIDSafe Plan</a></p> <p>COVIDSafe principles for business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5m physical distancing</li> <li>• wear a face mask</li> <li>• practise good hygiene</li> <li>• keep good records and act quickly if staff become unwell</li> <li>• avoid interactions in close spaces</li> <li>• create workforce bubbles</li> </ul>	

\*See detailed information for each state below.

## **New South Wales**

[NSW Government: What you can and can't do under the rules: Hospitality venues, events and musical activities](#) (Sourced 08/12/2020.)

### **Hospitality venues, events and musical activities**

#### **Two square metres rule**

Venue operators must generally ensure there are at least [2 square metres of space](#) for each person on the premises or in the area, as applicable.

#### **Hospitality venues**

- Businesses that prepare and serve food and drink to customers on the premises or for takeaway need to have a [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#) for their venue type.
- Penalties apply to venues found to [breach the public health order](#) rules.
- The maximum number of people permitted at hospitality venues is [one person per 2 square metres](#). Up to 25 patrons are permitted before this rule applies.
- For hospitality venues with more than one separate area, this applies per separate area.

#### **Nightclubs**

- Nightclubs are subject to the one person per [4 square metres rule](#) and must follow the requirements in an up-to-date [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#).
- Dance floors are limited to 50 people.
- A nightclub is defined as any premises that is the subject of an on-premises licence in force under the [Liquor Act 2007](#) that relates to a public entertainment venue (other than a cinema or theatre).

#### **Function centres, trade shows and exhibitions**

- A function centre is a building or place used for holding events, functions, conferences, and includes convention centres, exhibition centres and reception centres. Function centre operators must complete and register a [COVID Safety Plan](#).
- If a trade show or exhibition is held in a function centre and open to the public, the maximum capacity is [one person per 2 square metres](#).
- See also the COVID-19 Safety Plan for [functions and conferences](#).

#### **Entertainment facilities including cinemas and theatres**

- Under the public health order, an entertainment facility means a theatre, cinema, music hall, concert hall, dance hall and the like, but does not include a pub or registered club.
- Entertainment facilities must have a [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#) and can
  - sell tickets for seated events at 75% of capacity, to a maximum of 1000 tickets, or
  - use the [2 square metres rule](#) to calculate capacity with no maximum number of people.
- Events must be ticketed with ticketholders assigned to a seating area for the 75% capacity calculation to be used.
- Alternatively, entertainment facilities may allow [one person per 2 square metres](#) on the premises, with no maximum capacity.
- Outdoor cinemas and theatres are permitted 100% seated capacity.

#### **Group singing and musical ensemble advice**

- Group singing and chanting remains a high-risk activity for transmission should someone involved be infected.
- *Indoors settings*
- Up to 50 people may

- sing together in one area if all singers face forwards and not towards each other
  - have physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each other and any other performers, and
  - 5 metres distancing from all other people in front including the audience and conductor.
- The audience or congregation should not participate in singing in this setting due to the increased risk of transmission and NSW Health strongly recommends anyone 12 years or older wear a [face mask](#).
- Ensembles and other musical groups should rehearse and perform outdoors or in large, well-ventilated indoor spaces.

#### *Outdoors settings*

- There is no limit on the number of people singing together in an outdoors setting.
- To minimise infection risk:
  - all singers should face forwards and not towards each other
  - maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each other and any other performers, and
  - keep 5 metres distancing from all other people including the audience and conductor.
- If the event is one where the audience or congregation are likely to participate in the singing, such as carols by candlelight or religious services, audience members and congregants 12 years or older should wear a [face mask](#).

#### **Outdoor music performances and rehearsals**

- Music performances and rehearsals can be held outdoors with a maximum of 3,000 people if
  - the person principally responsible for organising the rehearsal or performance develops and complies with a [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#)
  - all participants provide their contact details (name and phone number or email) where practicable.
- Outdoor music performances and rehearsals held at certain larger venues, including entertainment facilities, major recreation facilities and zoos, may have more than 3,000 people subject to the restrictions at those venues.
- Outdoor music performances and rehearsals may be held at places of public worship, subject to the [one person per 2 square metres](#) rule.

#### **Current restrictions on businesses**

See the [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#) that applies to your business for guidance on

- whether a COVID-19 Safety Plan is required or recommended for your venue or event
- who is responsible for the COVID-19 Safety Plan
- whether you need to register as a COVID safe venue
- when to apply the [one person per 2 square metres](#) rule and one person per 4 square metres rule
- the maximum number of people permitted at specific venues and events.

Learn more about [electronic record keeping](#) if your business or organisation needs to collect customer details.

#### **[COVID Safe](#) businesses and organisations**

COVID Safe businesses and organisations have:

- a comprehensive COVID-19 Safety Plan in place
- registered as COVID Safe.

COVID Safe businesses and organisations are easily recognised by the blue tick badge displayed on their premises or online.





Registration is quick and easy and it shows customers that you're committed to their safety.

Registered businesses and organisations get:

- a digital COVID Safe badge for use on Google and social channels
- a print ready COVID Safe badge file for use as a poster or sticker on your shop front/high traffic areas
- posters on safety and hygiene
- reports on how your customers and visitors rate your business.

### **Mandatory registration**

For some types of businesses and organisations, it is mandatory to register as COVID Safe under the Public Health Orders.

These businesses are:

- gyms
- hospitality venues (restaurants, cafes, pubs, clubs, small bars, cellar doors, breweries, distilleries, karaoke bars and casinos)
- funeral homes and crematoria
- places of public worship.

Other businesses and organisations are encouraged to register as COVID Safe to show their customers and visitors that they are keeping up the highest standards to prevent COVID-19 transmission.

### **COVID-19 Safety Plans**

- COVID-19 Safety Plans are comprehensive checklists designed by NSW Health and approved by the Chief Health Officer.
- The plans provide clear directions on how businesses and organisations should fulfil their obligations under Public Health Orders to minimise risk of transmission of COVID-19 on their premises.
- Businesses and organisations should review the COVID-19 Safety Plan for their industry to see if completing a plan and registering is compulsory under Public Health Orders.
- All other businesses and organisations are encouraged to complete a COVID-19 Safety Plan voluntarily.

See also: [COVID-19 Restriction Checker: Entertainment and community – New South Wales](#) (Current as of 7 December 2020.)

## **Queensland:**

[Queensland Government: Roadmap to easing restrictions](#). Sourced 08/12/2020.

### **Stage 6: From 1am Tuesday 1 December 2020**

- Gatherings: 50 people allowed to gather in homes and 100 in public spaces across Queensland.
- Indoor premises: One per person per 2m<sup>2</sup> (e.g. restaurants, cafes, pubs, clubs, museums, art galleries, places of worship, convention centres and Parliament House). Indoor play areas within a premises can open.
- Wedding ceremonies: Up to 200 people can attend a wedding and all guests can dance (both indoors and outdoors).
- Funerals: Up to 200 people can attend a funeral.
- Indoor events: 100% capacity at seated, ticketed venues with patrons to wear masks on entry and exit (e.g. theatre, live music, cinemas and indoor sports). Performers can distance from audience at 2m, except choirs which remain at 4m from the audience.
- Outdoor events: 1500 permitted at outdoor events with a COVID Safe Event Checklist. Larger events require a COVID Safe Plan.
- Open air stadiums: 100% seated capacity (with a COVID Safe Plan).
- Outdoor dancing: Outdoor dancing allowed (e.g. outdoor music festivals, beer gardens).

### **Businesses, activities and undertakings**

#### **Overview**

- All restricted businesses can open, in line with the [COVID Safe Framework](#).
- All restricted businesses may now have one person per 2 square metres on their premises.
- Businesses that have never been required to close (e.g. grocery stores) can continue to operate as they have been.
- Note, physical distancing rules still apply. So wherever possible, people should remain 1.5 metres away from others.
- For full details, read the [official public health direction](#).

See also: [COVID-19 Restriction Checker: Entertainment and community – Queensland](#)

## **Victoria**

[Victorian Government: Entertainment and culture - Victoria - Last Step](#) (Sourced 8/12/2020)

Restrictions are changing in Victoria from 11:59pm on Sunday 6 December 2020.

- Dance floors can open in pubs and bars. Venues must apply a [four square metre rule](#) to the dance floor, with a maximum of 50 people dancing at one time per dance area (such as in a nightclub with multiple dance floors).
- Indoor and outdoor seated entertainment venues can open for up to 75 per cent of seating capacity up to 1,000 patrons. For non-seated areas, venues can use the [two square metre rule](#) if using electronic record keeping. If using paper-based records, the [four square metre rule](#) applies.
- Large indoor venues, such as the NGV and Princess Theatre, can open for up to 50 percent of the total venue capacity (up to a maximum of 1,000 patrons). For non-seated areas, venues can use the [two square metre rule](#) if using electronic record keeping. If using paper-based records, the [four square metre rule](#).
- Outdoor non-seated entertainment venues can open. They can apply the [two square metre rule](#) if using electronic record keeping.
- Indoor non-seated entertainment venues can open for up to 50 per cent of capacity (up to a maximum of 1,000 patrons).
- Casinos can open. The 4m<sup>2</sup> rule must be applied and electronic record keeping must be used.
- Arcades, bingo centres and escape rooms can open. They can apply the two square metre rule if using electronic record keeping to ensure people can keep 1.5 metres away from others.
- Large venues that host more than 500 people at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plans online.
- There are no limits on how far you can travel to visit an entertainment, arts or cultural venue.
- To keep their staff and customers safe businesses need to follow cleaning, signage and record keeping requirements.

## **Business and work**

[COVIDSafe Plan](#): Information and resources to help your business prepare a COVIDSafe Plan.

## **COVIDSafe Summer**

- Restaurants, cafes, bars and pubs can open for seated and unseated service. They must use electronic record keeping and apply the [two square metre rule](#) to ensure that customers have enough room to keep 1.5 metres between themselves and others. There are no other limits on the number of customers. Venues can have up to 25 people before the two square metre rule needs to be applied.

[Record keeping for contact tracing - information for business](#): Key points

- From 11:59pm 6 December 2020 businesses may apply the two square metre rule if they use electronic record keeping to record the details of anyone who spends more than 15 minutes at their business. Otherwise, the four square metre rule applies for manual means of record keeping. Retailers should keep electronic records where practical to do so.
- Businesses are strongly encouraged to use QR codes to support contact tracing. For more information on this free service see [Victorian Government QR Code Service](#).
- A [Visitor and patron contacts log - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) contact tracing register](#) is available for businesses using manual processes such as pen and paper.
- Businesses across the state can now access information on dealing with coronavirus (COVID-19) by calling the Business Victoria hotline on 13 22 15.

See also: [COVID-19 Restriction Checker: Can I go to entertainment or cultural venues in Victoria?](#)  
(Current as of 7 December 2020)