

As of 12:00pm 27 May 2021

Victorian Government COVID-19 Response: Seven Day Circuit Breaker Restrictions

On Thursday, 27 May 2021 Victorian Acting Premier James Merlino and Health Minister Martin Foley announced a snap seven-day lockdown to suppress the rate of infection stemming from an emerging cluster in Melbourne's northern suburbs.

Caseload and Vaccinations

In the last twenty-four hours Victoria recorded 40,411 tests; revealing twelve new locally acquired cases. Of the local cases all twelve are linked to the existing cluster in Victoria's northern suburbs.

The cluster now brings Victoria's active community cases to twenty-six.

The current caseload, alongside uncertainties surrounding community exposure has given health experts reason to advise the Victorian Government to implement further restrictions in Victoria.

As of Tuesday, 27 May 2021, Victoria has administered 398,009 vaccinations.

For a full list of COVID-19 testing locations, click [here](#). Tier 1 and Tier 2 exposure sites can view [here](#).

Circuit-Breaker Restrictions

The Acting Premier noted that health experts assume there are further cases in the community, having already identified 10,000 primary and secondary contacts and over 150 exposure sites. As such, 'circuit-breaker' restrictions are necessary to ensure Victoria avoids a third wave.

On Friday, 28 May Victoria will move to Stage Four restrictions until midnight, Friday, 4 June 2021. These restrictions allow for only five reasons to leave households:

1. Shopping for food or other essential items – within five kilometres of an individual's household.
2. To provide care giving, for compassionate reasons or to seek medical treatment.
3. For exercise, for up to two hours – within five kilometres of an individual's household – with household members, intimate partner, or one other person who is not from a household or a partner.
4. Work or study if you cannot work or study from home.
5. To get vaccinated.

Intrastate travel: travel limit of 5km from place of primary residence.

COVID Restrictions – Friday 27 May until Friday 4 June

Circuit Breaker Restrictions – From Friday 27 May	
Category	Restrictions
Social	Public gatherings: Not permitted (two people for exercise). Visitors to the home: Not permitted. Intimate partner visits are allowed.
Education and childcare	Early learning centres, childcare, family day care: Open School: Schools closed and moved to remote learning but will be open for vulnerable children and the children of essential workers. Higher education and training: Closed, remote learning only

Work	Offices: If you can work from home, you must work from home All workplaces with onsite workers require a COVIDSafe Plan.
Hospitality	Hospitality: Open for takeaway only.
Shopping, hairdressing and personal care	Real estate: Closed. Essential retail: Open, DQ 1 per 4sqm. Other/general retail: Closed, click and collect acceptable. Auction houses: Closed, (permitted online). Hairdressing, beauty and personal care services: Closed.
Exercise and recreation	Indoor physical recreation and community sport: Closed. Gym and exercise classes: Closed. Outdoor physical recreation and community sport: Outdoor playgrounds remain open. Pools, spas, saunas, steam rooms and springs: Closed.
Ceremonies and Occasions	Weddings (indoor and outdoor): not permitted (unless for compassionate reasons). Funerals (indoor and outdoor): Funerals will be permitted with up to ten people, plus those who conduct the service. Religious gatherings and ceremonies: No in-person gatherings permitted. Broadcast permitted.
Entertainment and Leisure	Closed: Except professional athletes are defined as essential workers, venues hosting professional sporting competitions can open, with essential staff attending to ensure the safe running of the event. No spectators. Seated entertainment venues (indoors and outdoors): Closed Indoor non-seated venues (such as galleries): Closed. Outdoor non-seated entertainment venues (such as Zoos, live museums): Closed Drive in cinemas: Closed. Amusement parks: Closed. Gaming: Closed. Nightclubs: Closed.
Community and Arts Facilities	Community venues and facilities including libraries and toy libraries: Closed Creative arts facilities: Closed
Travel and Accommodation	Accommodation: Closed unless for permitted reasons, or shelter in place. No new bookings. Current guests can remain.
Care facilities and hospitals	Visitor restrictions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No visitors are permitted into aged care or other residential facility settings, except for end-of-life reasons • Non-essential contractors are restricted from entry Hospital Visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor restrictions: • No visitors are permitted into health care settings, except for end-of-life reasons, as a support partner for birth, or a parent to accompany a child • Non-essential contractors are restricted from entry



For further details see the Victorian Government's [Circuit-Breaker Restrictions framework](#).

Further Information

For more information, please contact your Hawker Britton consultant, Victorian Director, JP Blandthorn on +61 407 366 304, Policy and Business Analyst, Raphael Mengem at rmengem@hawkerbritton.com or Policy and Business Analyst, Millie Boag at mboag@hawkerbritton.com.

Further Hawker Britton Occasional Papers on the activities of the Victorian Government are available [here](#). For further coverage of Labor Government Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic see Hawker Britton Briefs [here](#). For further coverage of Liberal Government Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic see Barton Deakin Briefs [here](#).