Reopening Safely with COVID-19

Reopening phases will take 2-4 weeks and are based on vaccination rates, COVID-19 cases, and hospitalization numbers

Phase 1

Begins June 2, 2021 | Target: 50% of population one dose coverage
We are entering this phase because COVID-19 cases and hospitalization numbers continue to decrease.

Testing Continues

- Informal gathering limit outdoors is consistent social group of 10, household only indoors.
- Initiate passenger testing at Stanfield International Airport.
- Outdoor patios open with 2 metres between tables and a maximum of 10 people (close social bubble) per table. Masks required except when eating and drinking.
- Travel permitted between communities in Nova Scotia – except HRM and CBRM.
- Public and private schools open following Back to School Plan. Schools in HRM (and surrounding communities) and Sydney and Riverview families of schools will remain in at-home learning for now.
- All retail businesses open at 25% with public health measures like distancing and masks.
- Outdoor faith services can have 10 people or drive-in services (no indoor services).
- Weddings and funerals can have 5 people indoors or 10 outdoors, plus officiants (no receptions).
- Professional artists, musicians, dancers and actors can rehearse with 15 people without distancing or masks indoors. Amateurs can rehearse in groups of 10 people without distancing or masks outdoors. No in-person performances.
- Sports practices can have groups of 10 people without distancing or masks outdoors (no games).
- Gyms, fitness, and sport and recreation facilities can have outdoor programs with groups of 10 people and one-on-one personal training indoors.
- Personal services open by appointment only (no services that require a client’s mask to be off).
- Open provincial park campgrounds.
- Private campgrounds can operate following sector plan (distance between campsites)
- Family visits outdoors with fully vaccinated long-term care residents.
2-4 weeks after Phase 1 | Target: 60% of population one dose coverage

We will enter this phase if COVID-19 cases and hospitalization numbers continue to decrease.

Testing Continues

- No restrictions on travel within Nova Scotia.
- Increase informal gathering limit indoors to 10 people without physical distance (household members + visitors).
- Increase informal gathering limit outdoors to 25 people without physical distance.
- Seasonal property owners, people moving to Nova Scotia permanently can enter with 14-day quarantine.
- Gyms and fitness facilities can operate at 50% capacity.
- Households can have more than one designated shopper.
- Personal services by appointment only following sector plan, can resume all services, including ones that requiring removing a client’s mask.
- Museums and libraries open at 25% capacity.
- Professional artists, musicians, dancers and actors can rehearse with 15 people indoors and 25 outdoors without distancing or masks. Amateurs can rehearse in groups of 10 people indoors and 25 outdoors without distancing or masks (no in-person performances).
- Sports practices can have groups of 10 people indoors or 25 outdoors without distancing or masks (no games).
- Meetings, training and clubs can have limit of 10 people indoors or 25 outdoors with physical distance.
- Day camps can operate with limit of 15 per group indoors and outdoors, including staff and volunteers, without distancing.
- Adult day programs can operate following guidelines
- Indoor dining at restaurants with maximum of 10 people per table. Masks required except when eating and drinking.
- All retail businesses open at 50% with public health measures like distancing and masks.
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Phase 3

2-4 weeks after Phase 2 | Target: 65% of population one dose coverage

We will enter this phase if COVID-19 case counts and hospitalizations are low with minimal outbreaks.

Testing Continues

- Atlantic Bubble opens based on vaccine status, border testing strategy and epidemiology of other provinces.
- Travellers from outside Atlantic Canada can enter with 14-day quarantine.
- Increase informal gathering limit indoors to household plus 10 people without physical distance.
- Further increase capacity for all sectors.
- Gyms and fitness facilities can open at 75% capacity.
- Restaurant hours of service stop at midnight.
- All retail businesses open at 75% capacity with public health measures like distancing and masks.
- Spectators, special events, faith gatherings, meetings, training and clubs hosted by recognized business or organization increased limits to be determined.
- Sports games and arts and culture performances allowed with no change to limits. Spectators allowed with event gathering limits.
- Personal services can open fully following their sector plan.
- Overnight camps can operate following guidelines with cohorts of 15 including staff and volunteers.

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Phase 4

2-4 weeks after Phase 3 | Target: 75% of population one dose coverage

We will enter this phase when we have very few COVID-19 cases and little ongoing spread.

Testing Continues

- Canadian travellers from outside of Atlantic Canada can enter; quarantine requirements may be determined by vaccine status, border testing strategy and epidemiology of other provinces.
- Increase indoor household gathering limit to 25 people with no physical distancing.
- Increase informal gathering limit outdoors to 50 people without physical distance.
- Retail open at maximum capacity possible with public health measures including distancing and masks.
- Sports and professional and amateur arts and culture: 50 participants with no physical distancing or masks for practices, games, league play, rehearsals and in-person performances.
- Spectators, special events, faith gatherings, meetings, training and clubs hosted by recognized business or organization increased limits to be determined.
- Gyms and fitness facilities can open – capacity to be determined
- Day camps can operate with limit of 30 per group indoors and outdoors, including staff and volunteers, without distancing.
- Family visits outdoors with long-term care residents who are not fully vaccinated.

Phase 5

Target: 75% of population fully vaccinated with two doses

Testing Continues

- Living with COVID
- Reduce border restrictions
- Increase gathering limits
- Ease public health measures
- Federal regulations and requirements need to be considered

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