

Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker

Regional report - East Asia and Pacific



This report summarises the major changes in the region for the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker's [Containment and Health Index](#), providing a high level overview of shifts in government policies.

OxCGRT is created by the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. For more information visit www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker.

REGION	East Asia and Pacific
Date range	01-15 July, 2020
Reported by	Helen Tatlow

Brief summary of major changes:

In Australia there have been regional lockdowns, and interstate travel bans remain in place. Following an increase in cases across metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire, in the state of Victoria, a strict lockdown with stay at home requirements was reimposed on 8 July. The state of New South Wales has seen a rise in cases but has not yet reimposed lockdown measures. Hong Kong has seen a rise in the community transmission of cases, and all primary and secondary schools began their summer break early on 13 July. In Singapore cases have risen again. These have been contact traced, and the locations and times of places they visited shared on the Ministry of Health website. South Korea has seen a rise in imported cases in the last week. In response, officials now require a negative test certificate for arrivals from Bangladesh, Pakistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan as of 13 July. Cases have also risen again in Japan in the last two weeks. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government raised their alert level back to Red on 15 July, urging caution among citizens.

The Philippines permitted non-essential travel, including domestic flights, to resume on 7 July. In Malaysia foreigners are permitted to enter the country to be with a spouse who is ill if they can provide sufficient medical documentation, as of 8 July. New Zealand has 27 cases of COVID-19 as of 15 July, associated with nationals returning to the country. All arrivals remain subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine in managed isolation facilities.

Timor-Leste has reported no cases of COVID-19 since April, and schools there have resumed teaching. Laos has also reported no new cases since April, and social gatherings, weddings and traditional events are now permitted with social distancing.

C1: School Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AUS: Victoria-9 postcodes within the state of Victoria have imposed lockdowns restricting the movement of residents to leave the house only for food or supplies, to work or study if you can't do it at home, give or receive care, exercise.• FJI: Primary and secondary schools reopen on 6 July.• HKG: Primary and secondary schools close and begin summer break early after rise in cases on July 13.• THA: Schools reopened on 1 July for the first time since March.• TLS: Schools have resumed teaching in some districts.
C2: Workplace Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AUS: Victoria-9 postcodes within the state of Victoria have

Summaries are created with data from the OxCGRT, uploaded by contributors. For specific references, please see the database www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker

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	<p>imposed lockdowns restricting the movement of residents to leave the house only for food or supplies, to work or study if you can't do it at home, give or receive care, exercise. In effect until 29 July.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GUM: State of emergency extended to 30 July. • HKG: Indoor and Outdoor leisure venues can reopen on 3 July. • MNG: Museums, sightseeing, bars and nightclubs can open on 15 July. • MYS: From 01 July theme parks, including those offering water attractions such as swimming pools, spas and massage centres, cinemas, theatres, indoor live events and swimming pool activities are also allowed to operate. • THA: Pubs, bars and karaoke venues will be able to reopen from July 01.
C3: Cancel Public Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUS: Victoria-9 postcodes within the state of Victoria have imposed lockdowns restricting the movement of residents to leave the house only for food or supplies, to work or study if you can't do it at home, give or receive care, exercise. Lockdown in Melbourne on 8 July. • GUM: State of emergency extended to 30 July. • HKG: The limit on the number of people at performance venues will be relaxed starting from 3 July, with seating capacity to be increased from 50 to 80 percent. • MYS: From 1 July all mosques and suraus can open for Friday prayers (solat). The number of worshippers must not be more than 1,000 people.
C4: Restrictions on Gatherings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUS: Each state has their own limits to public gatherings. At latest, Victoria has the strictest limit to public gatherings: 50 people can attend a funeral, but all other events, restaurants, bars, etc are limited to 20 people. • LAO: Social gatherings, weddings and traditional events are now permitted as long as COVID-19 prevention measures and social distancing of 1m are in place. • MMR: A ban on gatherings of more than five people is extended until 15 July. • MYS: Weddings are allowed to take place from 1 July, with no more than 250 guests are allowed at one time.
C5: Close Public Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUS: New South Wales: Public transport capacity in NSW to double as of 1 July (Suggesting it has been limited up to this point), 68 passengers allowed on a Waratah train carriage, 23 on a bus and 450 on a Freshwater ferry. 40 people will be allowed on a light rail and 65 in a metro train. • AUS: Victoria: A lockdown was imposed in Melbourne on 8 July, which significantly reduces the numbers of people using public transport in those areas, as people are only allowed out for essential trips. • VNM: Domestic airline and railway transportation have been allowed to ease restrictions, more daily flights and trains available as of 7 July.
C6: Stay at Home requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUS: Victoria-9 postcodes within the state of Victoria have imposed lockdowns restricting the movement of residents to leave the house only for food or supplies, to work or study if you

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	<p>can't do it at home, give or receive care, exercise. In effect until 29 July.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HKG: The Secretary for Food and Health appeals to the public to try to stay at home and not to go to gatherings as far as possible on 11 July.
C7: Restrictions on Internal movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUS: Restrictions between the 6 states remain in place. For example, people from Victoria are unable to travel to any other state without an exemption being granted. • PHL: Domestic flights have begun again as of 7 July.
C8: International Travel Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KOR: Rise in cases prompted officials to require a negative test certificate for arrivals from Bangladesh, Pakistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan as of 13 July • MYS: Foreigners are permitted to enter Malaysia to be with a spouse who is ill if they can provide documentation as of 8 July
H2: Testing Policy	No changes reported
H3: Contact Tracing	No changes reported

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Cases vs Government Response Index:

