



Restrictions

What areas do the extra restrictions apply to?

You can view the [full list of communities](#) and the restrictions apply in them, or [look up an address](#) to find out what restrictions apply in your area at.

There are stronger restrictions in all areas of Halifax Regional Municipality, Hubbards, Milford, Lantz, Elmsdale, Enfield, Mount Uniacke, South Uniacke, Ecum Secum and Trafalgar.

Other restrictions apply to the rest of the province.

How long are the restrictions in effect?

They will remain in effect until at least May 20.

Can people travel in and out of HRM?

People should avoid traveling into and out of these areas unless it is absolutely necessary. Necessary travel would include for school, work, health care, child care, child custody, legal requirements and family visitation under the purview of the Department of Community Services. Travel for shopping non-essentials, social events, family visits, practices or rehearsals are not considered necessary. People need to use common sense about what is necessary and what is the local community.

SCHOOLS AND DAY CARES

What is happening with schools and day cares?

Most schools and all child care centres in the province remain open. All public schools in Halifax Regional Municipality and surrounding areas are closed effective April 27 and start at-home learning on April 29. See schools that are closed [here](#).

What is the change with masks in schools?

Non-medical masks are mandatory for all students in all grades (including pre-primary) as of April 23.

Where can I get more information about what's happening in schools?

Any questions should be directed to your school or regional centre for education.

GENERAL GATHERING LIMIT

What is the gathering limit?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
The general gathering limit is 5, indoors and outdoors	The general gathering limit is 10, indoors and outdoors.

How many people can you have in your home?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
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<p>You can have 5 people for an informal gathering in your home, including the people who live there.</p> <p>It's ok if more than 5 people live in your home but you can't have any visitors.</p> <p>If more than 5 people live in your home, you can still go out into the community together.</p>	<p>You can have 10 people total for an informal gathering at your home without physical distancing.</p> <p>This is down from household members plus 10.</p> <p>It's ok if more than 10 people live in your home but you can't have any visitors.</p> <p>If more than 10 people live in your home, you can still go out into the community together.</p>
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What if some of the people are small children or babies, do they count in the limit of 5 or 10?

Yes. It doesn't matter how old they are, each person counts.

Can groups of 5 or 10 still get together at home or elsewhere?

Your close social group is typically the people you live with, and maybe a few more. You need to keep this group consistent and avoid belonging to multiple groups.

This group is for social purposes – it is not for workplaces. If you're doing things like skating at your local rink, having a meal at a restaurant, walking in a park, or attending a faith gathering, you can go with this group without physical distancing. But you must keep your group consistent – you can't go to the rink with one group, then to a restaurant with another, and so on.

A random group of people should not form spontaneously. Businesses or organizations should not seat random people together.

Can a group of 5 or 10 kids get together to play?

A random group of kids should not get together to play. If your kids are playing with friends, they should be friends who you've chosen to be in your family's close social group. You need to think carefully about who to have in your group and keep it consistent instead of having multiple groups.

Why is important to only have one close social group of 5 or 10 people?

We strongly encourage people to stick with the same close social group rather than switching the people in the group. People need to consider the following when choosing who to join in a close social group:

- Is anyone at higher risk – 65 or older, especially with underlying health conditions, chronic disease, or compromised immune systems?
- Does anyone have frequent contact with the general public as part of their job or a higher risk of being exposed to COVID-19?
- Is anyone sick or showing symptoms that could be COVID-19?
- How many other close contacts do others have?

Are there other things you can do to keep your close social group of 10 safe?

- Follow basic public health measures:
 - If you are unwell, stay home
 - Practice good hand hygiene and cough/sneeze etiquette



- Wear a mask when required and anytime physical distancing is a challenge
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth without washing hands first
- Try to keep the same people in your group – the more changes there are, the greater risk
- Understand who is at high-risk/vulnerable and continue to protect them
- Understand your own risk/vulnerability and consider who you are joining a group with
- Maintain physical distancing with anyone outside of your group and between groups
- Consider physical distancing within your group for activities that increase risk (e.g. singing)
- Don't have people in your group who should be self isolating
- Consider using non-medical masks even when you're not in a place that requires them if there are people in your group who are at higher risk
- Avoid sharing food and drinks within your group (shared bowls with dips, shared utensils, etc.)

Can there still be gatherings of 50?

No. Across the province, we are eliminating the general gathering limit of 50 for now. At this time, that is too many people to have together without a recognized business or organization overseeing the event and making sure public health measures are followed.

If my business is too small for physical distancing, does the close social group of 5 or 10 apply?

No, the close social group of 10 is meant for closer social interaction between families and friends. This group of up to 10 people can be closer than 2 metres/6 feet. We strongly encourage people to stick with the same group of 10 rather than switching the people in the group.

This is different from the rule for a business that is too small for physical distancing. These businesses can have no more than 10 clients or customers on the premises at a time and they must do their best to be physically distanced.

GATHERING LIMIT FOR EVENTS

Can there be church services or other faith gatherings? Can there be singing?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
There can be no in-person faith gatherings in HRM and surrounding communities until at least May 20.	Faith gatherings can happen with a maximum of 150 people outdoors or 50% of an indoor venue's capacity to a maximum of 100. Physical distancing is required unless you are with members of your own household or close social group of up to 10. Our guidelines for faith gatherings and for music should be followed.

Are any community events allowed right now?

Provincewide, we are not permitting any social events, festivals or special events. That means, for example: no wedding receptions, no funeral visitations/receptions, no community meals or fundraising events, no parties, no concerts.



Are weddings and funerals allowed right now?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
Wedding and funeral ceremonies are limited to 5, plus the officiant. This is the limit no matter where it is held and no matter who hosts it. There can be no receptions or visitations associated with weddings and funerals at this time.	Wedding and funeral ceremonies are limited to 10, plus the officiant. This is the limit no matter where it is held and no matter who hosts it. There can be no receptions or visitations associated with weddings and funerals at this time.

The following answers give an indication of what MIGHT be allowed once restrictions are lifted – events are not permitted until at least May 20

Can there be graduation ceremonies?

Schools will be able to host in-person graduation ceremonies this year. Students, staff and families will be able to gather in small groups, in schools, to recognize student achievement and success. They will have guidelines to ensure gathering limits and public health protocols will be followed. More information is being shared with schools. Any questions about these ceremonies should be directed to the school.

Can there be proms and other end of year celebrations?

Schools will not be hosting any proms or dances. If parents or community members want to do this, they have to ensure they follow all public health guidelines, including gathering limits. They can choose to engage a recognized business or organization to host an event with 50% of an indoor venue's capacity to a maximum of 100 or 150 maximum outdoors. There will be no exceptions for larger gatherings.

If the event is hosted by a recognized business or organization at a place like a church, hotel, rental hall or other facility that hosts events as part of its operations, there are [event guidelines](#) and [guidelines for venues and facilities](#) that should be followed.

If the event is at a person's private property (such as at home), the [guidelines for events at private properties](#) must be followed.

Without a recognized business or organization hosting the event, the informal gathering limit applies. You should follow our [guidance for holidays and celebrations](#).

Because things can evolve quickly in a pandemic, please check for updates to guidelines and other public health measures in the coming weeks and months leading up to your event and be prepared to adapt as necessary.

Can people have backyard weddings and other events at home?

When private, invitation only events that are hosted by a recognized business or organization at a private property (such as a home, cottage, AirB&B), they must follow the [guidelines for events at private properties](#).



Without a recognized business or organization hosting the event, the informal gathering limit applies. That includes the officiant. You should follow our [guidance for holidays and celebrations](#).

Because things can evolve quickly in a pandemic, please check for updates to guidelines and other public health measures in the coming weeks and months leading up to your event and be prepared to adapt as necessary.

Can someone call themselves a wedding planner just for one family wedding in order to have the bigger limit?

They could if they want to take on full responsibility for ensuring that everyone at the event follows all the public health. They would also have to follow business and tax laws.

If I rent a space for an event like a wedding but I do all the work myself, how many people can attend?
If you are renting a space from a recognized business or organization, then that business/organization takes on responsibility for ensuring that everyone at the event follows all the public health measures.

Given that they are taking on this responsibility, you can have 150 outdoors or 50% of capacity to a maximum of 100 indoors. The business/organization should be aware of its responsibilities and ensure it has a solid contract with the renters.

If the owner of the space does not want to take on this responsibility, they should not rent the space. The owner of the space or a wedding planner cannot ask clients to sign a waiver absolving them of this responsibility.

How can a person plan a wedding or other event if the rules keep changing?

We understand it is challenging to plan an event. However, we are in the middle of a pandemic. This situation demands that we respond quickly to changing epidemiology in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. That means the public health measures will continue to change to keep people safe and even save lives. If it is possible to postpone your event until after the pandemic, that will give you more certainty to make plans. If you choose to keep planning your event during the pandemic, there will be a risk of the rules disrupting your plans.

Does an event venue have to follow the sector plans for restaurants and bars?

If the venue holds a permanent food establishment permit, it must follow the RANS reopening plan. For licensed events serving alcohol, the protocols for licensed establishments must be followed, as outlined in the public health order. Events must stop any food or alcohol service by 11 p.m. and end by midnight.

Does the gathering limit include the workers at an event?

Generally, no, they are in their workplace which is not subject to the gathering limit unless the event is held at a [private property](#). However, if the space is too small for physical distancing, such as a kitchen in a firehall, then there can be no more than 10 workers in the space at a time and they must practice physical distancing as much as possible. Service providers are included in the gathering limits when the event is a private property like a person's home.

My business rents a room for weddings and parties and our maximum capacity is 150. Since the indoor limit is 100, can I have 100 guests in that room?

No, the order allows gatherings of 50% of capacity up to a maximum of 100 people with physical distancing. So 50% of your capacity is 75 people.



My business rents a room for weddings and parties and our maximum is 300. Since the limit is 50% of capacity, can I have 150 guests in that room?

No, the order allows gatherings of 50% of capacity up to a maximum of 100 people with physical distancing. While 50% of your capacity is 150 people, you can only have a maximum of 100.

If bars and restaurants host events (like a concert or a wedding reception) do they follow the gathering limit of 50% of capacity to a maximum of 100 people?

No, when hosting events, bars and restaurants continue to follow the rules and plans for their sectors.

How can major sports events have spectators if the indoor limit is 100?

Several large facilities in the province have previously approved plans for hosting events with multiple groups that are kept separate. These facilities can resume operating with a limit of 150 people per group outdoors or 50% of capacity to a maximum of 100 indoors. Each group has their own entrance/exit, washroom and concessions. We're currently giving Centre 200 a limit of 150 per group indoors.

What happens if a game goes into overtime?

A sport event hosted by a business or organization can continue beyond midnight if the natural course of events leads to extended time of play such as overtime, but food and alcohol service must still stop at 11 p.m.

How do people know what is considered a recognized business or organization?

People have to use common sense. For example, a hotel is a recognized business that can host events like fundraisers or weddings in its ballrooms. A church is a recognized organization that can host faith gatherings of various types, as well as weddings and funerals. A theatre is a recognized business that can host performances.

Could organizers of a concert or church service or any other type of gathering set up seating in groups of 10 since physical distancing with that size group isn't required?

Businesses and organizations should not set up seating for groups of 10 and randomly seat people together. If you're hosting a concert or a church service or any other type of gathering, you should accommodate people who have formed a group of 10, but you also need to accommodate people who are not in a group of 10 or who are in a smaller group.

Where can I find more information about safe gatherings?

Here are some useful resources for gatherings and events:

- [Guidance for holidays and celebrations](#)
- [Event guidelines](#)
- [Guidelines for venues and facilities](#)
- [Guidelines for events at private properties](#)

BUSINESSES

Does the gathering limit apply to my retail business/office workplace, etc?

If the business is hosting an event, then the gathering limits apply (see above). Otherwise, gathering limits do not apply to businesses. Businesses and workplaces need to ensure employees and customers can maintain 2 metres/6 feet physical distance. So the number of people in the space will vary from

business to business. If your space is too small for physical distancing, then you can have no more than 10 clients or customers on the premises at a time.

In what parts of a workplace do people have to wear masks?

Masks are mandatory in most [indoor public places](#) – many of which are also workplaces such as bars, restaurants, stores, gyms and more.

As of April 27, masks are mandatory in private indoor workplaces provincewide such as offices or warehouses in all common areas. They are mandatory in parts of these workplaces where there is interaction with the public, areas with poor ventilation, and areas where distance cannot be maintained.

Are bars and restaurants allowed to open?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
<p>Restaurants and bars can offer takeout, delivery and drive through service only until at least May 20.</p> <p>Hotel restaurants can be open for seated service for hotel guests only. Guests who are in quarantine can not go to the hotel restaurant but can get room service.</p>	<p>Restaurants and bars must operate at 50% capacity, stop service by 11 pm and close by midnight. They can offer takeout, delivery and drive-thru later. This isn't a reflection of how safe bars and restaurants are. It is simply to reduce the opportunity for prolonged social gatherings in close proximity without masks.</p>

Do gathering limits apply to bars and restaurants?

No, the number of people who can be in bars and restaurants depends on how much space they have. They may need to limit their numbers in order to ensure people maintain physical distance of 2 metres/6 feet or a physical barrier between tables, booths and single seats, and there are no more than 10 people in each group of diners.

Can bars and restaurants have live music?

Yes. They must continue to follow all the requirements in the public health order and their sector plans.

Are the casino, VLTs and First Nations gaming centres allowed to operate?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
Casino Nova Scotia in Halifax, VLTs and First Nations gaming centres are closed until at least May 20.	Casino Nova Scotia in Sydney, VLTs and First Nations gaming establishments operate at 50 per cent capacity, provide food and beverage service until 11 p.m. and close at midnight.

How are fitness and recreation facilities operating?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
Indoor fitness facilities (like gyms and yoga studios) and recreation facilities (like pools, arenas, tennis courts, and large multipurpose recreation facilities) are closed until at least May 20.	Fitness facilities (like gyms and yoga studios) and recreation facilities (like pools, arenas, tennis courts, and large multipurpose recreation facilities) can operate at 50% capacity while keeping 2 metres distance between people for all activities.

<p>Hotel gyms and pools can only be open to guests who are not in quarantine. Use is by appointment only for one person at a time or people from a single room.</p> <p>Gyms and pools in apartment and condo buildings can be open only to people who live there. These are common areas so masks are required except while in the pool or doing exercise that makes wearing a mask difficult. Building managers should consider setting up an appointment system for using these facilities similar to our requirement for hotels.</p>	<p>Outdoor fitness classes and other activities can operate with 25 people and physical distancing. Fitness, recreation and leisure facilities are responsible for ensuring participants wear masks except when performing exercise.</p>
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What are the restrictions for recreation and leisure businesses? What are some examples?

<p>Halifax areas with additional restrictions</p> <p>Businesses that offer indoor recreation activities are closed until at least May 20. Some examples include make your own pottery café, rage room, escape room, trampoline facilities, indoor rock climbing, places to play board games, children's play places, dance classes, and music lessons.</p>	<p>Rest of the province</p> <p>Businesses that offer indoor recreation activities can operate at 50% capacity with physical distancing and masks. Some examples include make your own pottery café, rage room, escape room, trampoline facilities, indoor rock climbing, places to play board games, children's play places, dance classes, and music lessons.</p>
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What about outdoor recreation and leisure businesses like fitness classes, shooting ranges, golf courses, putting ranges, go-carts, and outdoor adventure?

<p>Halifax areas with additional restrictions</p> <p>Outdoor fitness, recreation and leisure businesses can operate with 25 people and must follow public health measures such as physical distancing. Some have sector or association plans that they must follow.</p> <p>Only people from the same household or close social group of 5 can use golf carts and the restaurants or bars at golf carts are closed to seated service.</p>	<p>Rest of the province</p> <p>Outdoor fitness, recreation and leisure businesses can operate with 25 people and must follow public health measures such as physical distancing. Some have sector or association plans that they must follow.</p>
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Can personal services businesses be open, like hair salons, barbers and spas?

<p>Halifax areas with additional restrictions</p> <p>Personal services businesses are closed until at least May 20.</p>	<p>Rest of the province</p> <p>Personal services businesses are open and must operate according to their sector plan. They cannot offer services that involve removing the client's mask until at least May 20.</p>
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What are the restrictions for stores?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
<p>Retail businesses can operate at 25% capacity.</p> <p>Other retail rules include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure customers and staff can maintain physical distance (2 metres/6 feet apart) • Customers must maintain physical distance and wear non-medical masks when lined up to enter a retail business – both indoors and outdoors • The business cannot play music louder than 50 decibels so that normal conversation is possible <p>The number of people who can be in a retail store depends on how much space you have. Retail stores cannot have more than 25% of their maximum occupancy on the premises at a time. That includes both staff and customers. They must also ensure physical distancing is maintained.</p>	<p>Retail businesses can operate at 50% capacity.</p> <p>Other retail rules include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure customers and staff can maintain physical distance (2 metres/6 feet apart) • Customers must maintain physical distance and wear non-medical masks when lined up to enter a retail business – both indoors and outdoors • The business cannot play music louder than 50 decibels so that normal conversation is possible <p>The number of people who can be in a retail store depends on how much space you have. Retail stores cannot have more than 50% of their maximum occupancy on the premises at a time. That includes both staff and customers. They must also ensure physical distancing is maintained.</p>

What's the definition of a retail business?

A retail business is one that engages in the retail sale or rental of items to the public on ongoing basis at a fixed location.

If I have reached my store's maximum occupancy, there isn't enough room for everyone to stay 2 metres/6 feet apart. What should I do?

In this case, you set a lower limit on the number of people who are on the premises at a time to ensure physical distancing.

Are there rules for shopping malls?

In addition to the retail rules outlined above, the following is also required for malls:

- No more than 10 people at a time can line up at a retail business inside the mall and they must maintain physical distance
- People are not permitted to loiter in any area of the mall
- Directional markings are provided to manage the flow of people within the mall Furniture in common areas of the mall is removed or inaccessible
- Non-retail public areas in the mall must be closed, other than public washrooms, breastfeeding stations, and hallways that give access to stores
- The mall cannot play music louder than 50 decibels so that normal conversation is possible
- Food court vendors can open with public health measures in place including 2 metre/6 feet between tables

Do farm farmers markets and flea markets have to close?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
<p>These markets are considered retail operations if they have regular hours every day or week, the majority of their vendors are always the same, and the market serves as their retail outlet. Market operators need to ensure physical distancing and can operate at 25% of the maximum occupancy, including vendors and customers. They need a COVID-19 prevention plan.</p> <p>If the market is not a regular daily or weekly operation, they are considered special events which are not permitted until at least May 20.</p>	<p>These markets are considered retail operations if they have regular hours every day or week, the majority of their vendors are always the same, and the market serves as their retail outlet. Market operators need to ensure physical distancing and can operate at 50% of the maximum occupancy, including vendors and customers. They need a COVID-19 prevention plan.</p> <p>If the market is not a regular daily or weekly operation, they are considered special events which are not permitted until at least May 20.</p>

Does the limit of 5 or 10 apply to day cares, day camps or before and after school programs?

No, the limit of 15 without physical distancing remains in place for these settings.

What's the limit for a business meeting or training? Is physical distancing required?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
<p>There can be no meetings or training except for mental health and addictions support groups which can have 25 people with physical distance and masks.</p>	<p>If hosted by a recognized business or organization, meetings and training can have a maximum of 25 people, indoors or outdoors.</p> <p>Physical distancing is required. There is an exception for first responders – they can be closer than 2 metres/6 feet when necessary for aspects of their training (and to carry out their duties). When it is not necessary to be closer, they must maintain physical distance.</p> <p>Organized clubs can break their group into cohorts of up to 15 without physical distancing, following the day camp guidelines. That said, they should strive for physical distancing as much as possible.</p>

ACTIVITIES

What are the restrictions for sports and for arts and culture?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
<p>There can be no sports practices, training, games, competitions or tournaments and no arts and culture rehearsals or performances.</p>	<p>The limit is 10 people indoors or 25 people outdoors for sports training, practices or for arts and culture (ie performance arts) rehearsals. This</p>

	<p>includes people directly involved, such as coaches, officials, drama, music and dance leaders, etc.</p> <p>There can be no games, competitions or tournaments or in-person performances.</p>
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Can there be spectators for sports and for arts and culture performances?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
There are no activities for spectators to attend in-person.	There are no activities for spectators to attend in-person.
There can be virtual gatherings and performances with a limit of 5 people involved.	There can be virtual gatherings and performances with a limit of 25 people involved.

What are the restrictions for school-bases sports and performance arts?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
School-based sport is following the same rules as non-school sports and performance arts.	School-based sport is following the same rules as non-school sports and performance arts.
There can be no sports practices, training, games, competitions or tournaments and no arts and culture rehearsals or performances.	<p>The limit is 10 people indoors or 25 people outdoors for sports training, practices or for arts and culture (ie performance arts) rehearsals. This includes people directly involved, such as coaches, officials, drama, music and dance leaders, etc.</p> <p>There can be no games, competitions, tournaments or in-person performances.</p>
Provincewide, school gyms will be closed for community use until at least May 20. Field trips have stopped. All school-organized activities that bring students from different schools together, such as sports and music, have been stopped	

What is the limit for beer leagues and pick-up games and practices?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
There can be no sports practices, training, games, competitions or tournaments and no arts and culture rehearsals or performances.	<p>The limit is 10 people indoors or 25 people outdoors for sports training, practices. This includes people directly involved, such as coaches.</p> <p>There can be no games, competitions or tournaments.</p>

Can after school programs still happen? What's considered an after school program?

After school programs offer care for children from Primary to Grade 6, five days a week for the entire school year. See more in the [Before and After School Programs Guidelines](#). These restrictions don't close after school programs.

Can people get together to play darts, cards, pool, bowling, bingo or karaoke?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
Licensed establishments and unlicensed establishments (such as community centres and charities) cannot host these activities at this time.	<p>Licensed and unlicensed establishments and organized clubs can operate at 50% to host activities such as darts, cards, pool and bowling following their sector plans and specific guidelines for these activities.</p> <p>Unlicensed establishments (such as charities) and organized clubs can break their group into cohorts of up to 15 without physical distancing, following the day camp guidelines. That said, they should strive for physical distancing as much as possible.</p> <p>The establishment or club takes on responsibility for ensuring that public health measures and the specific guidelines for these activities are followed.</p>

Can libraries, museums or the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia be open?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
Museums, libraries and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia are closed, but libraries can offer pick-up and drop-off of books and other materials Nova Scotia Art Gallery are closed, but libraries can offer pick-up and drop-off of books and other materials.	Museums and libraries can operate at 50% capacity.

Can there be overnight/sleepover camps such as for Girl Guides or children with disabilities?

We stopped these types of overnight summer camps for youth early in the pandemic. They are still not be permitted for the time being and we recently updated the public health order to reflect this. This does not affect regular camping at campgrounds. It does not affect businesses that offer things like retreats or tours.

CHILD CARE / PARKS ETC

Can child care centres, day camps or after school programs have 100 indoors/150 outdoors?

Gathering limits do not apply to child care centres, day camps or after school programs. They can operate up to full capacity as long as they can follow the guidelines for their sectors.



In day camps and after school programs, children must be in groups of no more than 15 and the groups must stay 2 metres/6 feet apart. There can be closer contact within each group of 15.

Can there be 150 people at a playground? Can 10 kids be in close contact at a playground?

The gathering limits do not apply to people going to parks, beaches, trails, playgrounds, etc for recreation. If a gathering is planned in these spaces, the gathering limit is 5 in HRM areas or 10 in the rest of the province unless it's hosted by a recognized business or organization.

If close social group including parents/guardians and children go to a playground, they can be in close contact with each other but they would have to stay 2 metres/6 feet away from other people and groups. Children at a playground should not spontaneously form a group.

Can people carpool without worrying about physical distancing?

Yes, although people should carefully choose who to join in a group and be consistent with one group. Masks are recommended.

COMPLIANCE

What should I do if there's a large informal gathering like a house party or other rules being broken?

If you have a concern about a particular instance of public health measures not being followed, you can call your local non-emergency police number. Each person at an illegal event can be fined \$2000.

What should I do if rules aren't being followed at a business?

If you have concerns about how a business is operating, you could speak with the manager. If you feel it's necessary, you could contact the Safety Division at the Department of Labour and Advanced Education at 1-800-952-2687 or LAESafetybranch@novascotia.ca.

CONTINUING CARE

Can a long-term care resident go to their family's home for a visit? Can family visit a resident in their facility?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
There can be no visitors in long-term care facilities or to adult residential centres and regional rehabilitation centres licensed by the Department of Community Services.	Visitors are allowed in long-term care facilities and in adult residential centres and regional rehabilitation centres licensed by the Department of Community Services. Please contact the facility for more information.
Across the province, each long-term care resident can have 2 designated caregivers and facilities. Residents can only leave their facilities for medical/dental appointments or to go for a drive with 1 designated caregiver (with no other passengers, no stops or drive-thru). We cannot allow residents to visit their families' homes at this time.	
Across the province, the same is generally true for adult residential centres (ARC) and regional rehabilitation centres (RRC) licensed by the Department of Community Services.	

Why can't there be any visitors in Halifax areas? Why are designated caregivers allowed and not visitors?

We understand it's hard for residents when they can't have visits with their families. However, we need to keep COVID-19 out of long-term care facilities. We have seen what can happen if we don't.

Designated caregivers are actually providing necessary care to residents. They are not just visiting. That is why they are allowed to continue spending time with residents.

Can adult day programs operate?

Halifax areas with additional restrictions	Rest of the province
Community-based adult day programs for seniors cannot operate at this time. Adult day programs for people with disabilities funded by the Department of Community Services are also closed, except for 3 of these programs that have scheduled vaccine clinics.	Community-based adult day programs for seniors cannot operate at this time. Adult day programs for persons with disabilities funded by the Department of Community Services are open.