



Article from [Ministry of Health and Social Affairs](#)

# About the Government's COVID-19 measures, 22 April

Published 03 May 2021

Sweden is still in an extraordinary situation. Read more about the recommendations and decisions in the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs' policy areas of public health, medical care, social care and social insurance. The date in the title indicates when the article was written.

## Extension of measures in social insurance

On 22 April the Government decided to extend several measures in social insurance on account of COVID-19. They are the standard deduction for employees, compensation to sole traders for the first 14 waiting days, compensation to risk groups and certain relatives of risk groups and the period exempted from a doctor's certificate as well as compensation to employers for the part of sick pay costs above the normal level. The proposals are based on an agreement between the government parties, the Centre Party and the Liberal Party. The measures apply up to and including 30 June 2021.

## Continued serious state of infection means that restrictions are extended

The spread of infection in Sweden continues to be at a high level and the situation in health care is serious. On 22 April the Government and the Public Health Agency of Sweden announced that a number of disease control measures are being extended for a further period.

- The Government is waiting to go ahead with new rules for public gatherings and events. The Public Health Agency of Sweden now makes the preliminary assessment that these rules can enter into force on 17 May.
- The Government has previously decided to enable the municipalities to ban people from being at a specified place if there is a clear risk of crowding at that place. A person who breaches regulations on bans on being at a specified place can be sentenced to a fine. Nor is it appropriate to, for example, have dinners with friends or go to look at Valborg bonfires, since this means that the risk of crowding increases.
- The Public Health Agency of Sweden intends to extend certain temporary disease control measures introduced pursuant to the Temporary Pandemic Act and the Restaurant Act. This applies to the regulations that would have expired on 2 May, including those that eating and drinking establishments may only stay open until 20.30 and those setting a maximum of one person per group at eating and drinking establishments in shopping centres and department stores. These are now extended up to and including 16 May.

## The Government and the Public Health Agency of Sweden presented guidelines for vaccinated individuals

On 16 April the Government and the Public Health Agency of Sweden presented information about guidelines for vaccinated individuals. The guidelines apply to everyone who has received at least one dose of vaccine when at least three weeks have passed since their first shot.

A person who has been vaccinated has good protection against serious illness and can, for example, visit shops. On account of the spread of infection in society, people who have been vaccinated have to continue to keep a distance, since crowding increases the risk of spread of the infection.

Read more on the website of the Public Health Agency of Sweden.

## Major budget funding to combat the spread of COVID-19 and address the effects of the pandemic

The Government is proposing a number of measures in the Spring Fiscal Policy Bill to continue combating the spread of COVID-19 and addressing its effects. Municipalities and regions receive additional funding for measures in health care, including vaccinations, testing and tracing, medical transport services and compensation for deferred care and COVID-19-related care. The National Board of Health and Welfare, the Public Health Agency of Sweden and the Swedish Health and Social Care Inspectorate also receive reinforced resources to address the pandemic. Funding is also allocated for monitoring compliance with the temporary Act on communicable disease control measures at eating and drinking establishments.

## Extended compensation period for personal protective equipment for personal assistants

The Government decided on 14 April to extend the period when private providers of personal assistance can apply for compensation for protective equipment for personal assistants. As a result of the Government's decision, the grant may also be paid for costs incurred from 1 May 2021 until and including 30 June 2021.

The maximum amount of grant payable is SEK 500 per person and month for which national attendance allowance has been granted. A total of SEK 85 million has been allocated for the purpose in 2020–2021.

## Proposed extension of disease control measures in long-distance public transport

The Government has previously adopted special restrictions for long-distance public transport. These provisions are temporary and expire at the end of May 2021. On account of the continued uncertain state of infection, a consultation is now being held on a proposal that the regulations should continue to apply until and including 14 August 2021.

### Shortcuts

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