

COVID-19
COUNTRY OVERVIEW

IMPORTANT NOTE: This information is general in nature. Coverage terms & conditions vary by policy; we recommend reviewing your policy information carefully.

Country	Russia
Data last updated	22-Jan-2021
New daily cases per million*	151.08
New daily deaths per million*	3.74

Key changes for this update

Brief summary of current covid situation / status	On January 18th Russia shifted from large-scale vaccination of at-risk groups to mass vaccination. Russians can choose between two vaccines, Sputnik V and EpiVacCorona. Approximately 2.1 million vaccine doses are expected to be available by end of January.
Legislative changes since last update	The concept of remote work has been introduced in the Labour Code and is equated with the pre-existing concept of distance work. In January the mayor of Moscow expanded vaccination to the following groups: - Employees in the banking and finance sectors. - Government officials. - Entrepreneurs and the self-employed.
Changes to statutory benefits since last update	None

Vaccine rollout

What actions are public authorities taking to approve, purchase, prioritize populations and distribute the vaccine?	Vaccination is approved for people 60 and under who have not been exposed to COVID-19 virus and do not have antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 per serological test. Vaccinations are currently free and voluntary. The Ministry of Health vaccine info: https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2020/08/11/14657-minzdrav-rossii-zaregistriroval-pervuyu-v-mire-vaktsinu-ot-covid-19 Official site on "Sputnik V" vaccine: https://sputnikvaccine.com/
Public health vaccine prioritisation plan - please provide link	Priority groups for vaccination include employees of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical organizations • Educational organizations • Police • Public transport • Retail • Social welfare authorities • Public catering organizations • Other client service organizations (hotels, hairdressers, dry cleaners, banks, security companies and others) Official Coronavirus vaccine news: вакцина.стопкоронавирус.рф
Is it expected that the vaccine will be available via the private market?	Not available at this time.
What role is it expected employers may play in the roll out of the vaccine?	Employers are not currently involved in COVID 19 vaccine financing or distribution.
Are employers planning to offer vaccination to employees on-site?	There is no evidence of this yet.
Are employers planning to require employees to be vaccinated?	There is no evidence of this yet.

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Other topics

What is the process for COVID-19 testing?	<p>COVID-19 diagnostic tests are covered in full with no additional costs by the compulsory medical insurance, but remain subject to epidemiological indications. Based on customer requests for private employee testing, local voluntary medical insurance providers are prepared to coordinate COVID-19 testing for additional costs. Those persons that screen positive are transferred into the public health system.</p> <p>For Moscow and the Moscow region: the Decree of the Mayor of Moscow dated May 7, 2020 No. 55-UM and the Decree of the Governor of the Moscow Region dated May 11, 2020 No. 229-PG introduced requirements for certain categories of employers to conduct Covid-19 testing every 2 weeks for at least 10% of employees. This can be organized through Insurers or directly through medical facilities. The practice in other regions is subject to regional / municipal decrees.</p> <p>On June 11, the Moscow Department of Health published information on the possibility for employers to take part in an experiment to create a public-private partnership for COVID-19 antibody employee testing.</p>
Is COVID testing available privately?	Yes: Diagnostic tests (using PCR diagnostics); Antibody testing (IgM, IgG)
Are there any employee benefit coverage concerns?	<p>For medical, all COVID-19 treatment is organized and provided through the statutory medical system.</p> <p>For other insured benefits, under existing plan rules some insurers exclude epidemic and pandemic coverage.</p>
Can coverage be continued post-termination?	Subject to contract terms, but not at this time.
Have insurers made adjustments to premiums or payment terms?	Adjustments are being discussed on a case-by-case basis.
Are telemedicine services available?	Telemedicine is available from many traditional insurers and some dedicated providers. In the meantime, some local insurers are prepared to add this service at no additional charge.
Which medical services are available virtually?	<p>See note above regarding telemedicine.</p> <p>Insurance companies also offer a 24-hour call center for emergency medical assistance that is staffed by medical professionals; many also offer access to a chat/rapid response from an on-call doctor through an app or website.</p> <p>Note: Most insurance and the national health service provide home doctor visits as a covered benefit as well.</p>
Are there new benefits available in the market?	<p>Clients have expressed an interest in the following solutions: telemedicine, EAP, and hospitalization benefits.</p> <p>Specialized anti-COVID-19 insurance products are available in the market</p> <p>Insurers are working on post-COVID rehabilitation programs.</p> <p>MMB offers Lifeadwiser digital platform in Russia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - App-based, employees complete questionnaire - personalized recommendations - individual employee assessment - corporate wellbeing assessment

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Are employers offering supports for remote work? e.g. allowances	N/A
Which public agency / agencies are managing the response to COVID-19?	Several federal agencies are working jointly: - Ministry of Health - Rospotrebnadzor (Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing)
Is there a local Mercer / MMB website dedicated to COVID-19 information?	https://coronavirus.marsh.com/ru/ru/coronavirus-risk-hub-russia.html
Additional notes	The government has established a virtual hotline on COVID-19-related labor issues and questions (available in Russian only): https://онлайнинспекция.рф/covid19

*Max Roser, Hannah Ritchie, Esteban Ortiz-Ospina and Joe Hasell (2020) - "Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19)".
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