

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	29-Mar-2021
New daily cases per million*	61.96
New daily deaths per million*	2.65
Vaccination doses per 100 population*	5.73

Key changes for this update

Brief summary of current covid situation / status	<p>From March 8, a mandatory self-isolation regime for people over 65 and those suffering from chronic diseases became advised as cases have risen.</p> <p>Overall in Russia, vaccination is available to most of the population over 18, with some prioritization and restrictions in certain regions/municipalities. In Moscow, the City Government is regularly extending the groups of residents who can sign up for vaccination. Currently, the prioritized groups include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Muscovites over 60 (they are at the highest risk of severe COVID-19 and complications); - People with chronic conditions who are required to stay at home during the pandemic; - College and university students aged 18 and older. - Employees in a number of economic sectors, including medicine, hospitality, education and scientific research, social services, retail sales, IT and communications, manufacturing, transportation, financial services, individual entrepreneurship and others. <p>Anecdotally, vaccination is widely available and easily accessible to all who don't have specific contraindications (i.e. under 18, pregnant or breastfeeding, chronic or acute conditions, etc.) but takeup is low.</p>
Legislative changes since last update	<p>Federal: Government extends the term for entering Russia on the 'Travel without COVID-19' application. For details refer to the link: http://government.ru/en/docs/41636/</p> <p>Moscow: From 27 January, company managers are free to decide whether their employees should return to the workplace. Still, employers are advised to keep 30 percent of their employees working remotely. It is recommended to step up compliance with safety measures at factories and in offices.</p>
Changes to statutory benefits since last update	<p>Moscow: The unemployed will shortly begin receiving monthly child support benefits in the amount of 3,000 roubles. This money will supplement the federal and regional unemployment benefits. Benefits for low-income families with children aged 3 to 7 have been raised in Moscow to 7,613 roubles per month. This amount will continue to be paid after the coronavirus pandemic is over.</p>

Vaccine rollout

What actions are public authorities taking to approve, purchase, prioritize populations and distribute the vaccine?	<p>Vaccinations are currently free and voluntary, but with quite low take up. For example, only about 1 million of Moscow residents (less than 10%) have been vaccinated. The vaccine is administered in a large number of public clinics and private and pop-up and mobile vaccination sites.</p> <p>Information about the vaccine and accessing vaccination is available (in Russian) at вакцина.стопкоронавирус.рф</p>
Public health vaccine prioritisation plan - please provide link	<p>Priority groups for vaccination include those 60+, those who have chronic conditions putting them at risk, students 18+, and those employed in the specified sectors.</p> <p>Official Coronavirus vaccine news: вакцина.стопкоронавирус.рф</p>
How do individuals register for vaccination appointments - link to registration portal / instructions where applicable	<p>To register for vaccination, one may use online portals: gosuslugi.ru</p> <p>For Moscow: mos.ru emias.info</p>

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Is it expected that the vaccine will be available via the private market?	Available in private clinics. The vaccine is still free, but a patient must pay for doctor consultation prior to vaccination.
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.
Are there any expected gaps in vaccine eligibility / cost coverage?	Any Russian citizen or foreign resident with state medical insurance policy / national insurance ID number is eligible for vaccination.
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 there is still a requirement 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>
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 and Post-Covid conditions (if stated in medical documents) must be 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
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>

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Are there new benefits available in the market?	<p>Some insurers are testing new benefits like COVID-19 rehabilitation, post-COVID-19 check-up programs, vaccination complications products.</p> <p>MMB offers Lifeaddwiser digital platform in Russia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - App-based, employees complete questionnaire - personalized recommendations - individual employee assessment - corporate wellbeing assessment
Are employers offering supports for remote work? e.g. allowances	<p>Mercer Marsh are currently conducting a survey on this topic with results available soon</p> <p>This follows a change to the Labor Code, effective January 1, 2021, that provided guidelines around remote work.</p>
Is there any new legislation or trends in child care support?	No evidence of this yet
Which public agency / agencies are managing the response to COVID-19?	<p>Several federal agencies are working jointly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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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