

Frequently Asked Questions

City of Mississauga
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*updated as of September 18 at 5 p.m.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

- [Gathering limits](#)

What are the new gathering limits for Mississauga (Peel)?

Effective September 18, 2020, the Government of Ontario decreased gathering limits in Mississauga (Peel Region):

- The outdoor gathering limit for private events held in backyards or parks is now a maximum of 25 people. This applies to any Park permit holders who have booked City picnic/shelter spaces.
- The indoor gathering limit for private events held in private residences is now a maximum of 10 people.

We encourage residents to continue to practise the Core Four actions:

- maintain a physical distance of 2 metres/6 feet when going out
- wash your hands often
- wear a face covering or non-medical mask in indoor public spaces as required under the City's by-law and where maintaining physical distancing is difficult
- get tested if you think you have COVID-19, have been exposed or are feeling ill

Do the new gathering limits apply everywhere?

The new limits **WILL NOT** apply to events or gatherings held at facilities operated by businesses or organizations, such as bars, restaurants, cinemas, convention centres or banquet halls, gyms, and recreational sporting or performing art events. Existing rules, including public health and workplace safety measures, for these businesses and facilities continue to be in effect.

What are the gathering limits for the following City-operated park amenities:

Basketball Courts:

Under Provincial regulations, the new social gathering limits would not apply here. Larger groups are permitted and physical distancing is not required for those playing the game, although physical contact should be avoided. Those waiting to play or watching need to maintain physical distancing and follow the public health safety guidelines.

Sports Fields

Under Provincial regulations, the new social gathering limits would not apply here, for organized, permitted play. Larger organized sport groups are permitted and physical distancing is not required for those playing the game, although physical contact should be avoided. Those waiting to play or watching need to maintain physical distancing and follow the public health safety guidelines.

Skateboard Parks

Under Provincial regulations, the new social gathering limits would not apply here. Those using the facility should follow public health safety guidelines.

Playgrounds and Fitness Equipment

Under Provincial regulations, the new social gathering limits would not apply here. Those using the facility should follow public health safety guidelines.

How many people can I host in my backyard for a BBQ, family party or wedding?

The limit for private outdoor gatherings or events is currently 25.

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How many people can I host in my home?

The limit for indoor private gatherings is 10 people, subject to the Social Circle guidelines.

What are the capacity limits for businesses that are open?

All businesses or facilities that are open to the public are subject to capacity limits and must restrict the number of people admitted in order to maintain a physical distance of 2 metres/6 feet.

The following businesses/facilities are subject to an upper limit of 50 people indoors or 100 people outdoors, regardless of the size of the place/building:

- In-person teaching and instruction (tutoring, dance classes, music lessons, etc.)
- Real estate open houses
- Areas containing weights or exercise machines
- Sport and recreational facilities in which fitness classes, organized programs or organized activities are being held
- Spectators at a recreation or sports facility
- Rental meeting/event spaces – upper limit of 50 people per meeting room or event space within a facility (unless being rented for a wedding, funeral or religious service, in which case they are limited to 30 per cent building occupancy and the upper limit of 50 people does not apply)
- Cinemas (approved cinemas may have 50 people per screening)
- Venues for performing arts/theatre/concerts
- Casinos, bingo halls and gaming establishments
- Racing venues
- Tours and tour guide services and boat tours
- Staff members do not count toward capacity limits.
- Members of the same household or same social bubble need not maintain the 2 metre/6 feet distance.
- Day camps are exempt from capacity limits (but must comply with the cohort rules set out in the guidelines).

In Mississauga, restaurants have a capacity limit of 100 people inside and tables must be spaced by at least 2 metres/6 feet or separated by plexiglass or other barrier. Patrons in restaurants, bars and other food and drinking establishments must remain seated in any area of the restaurant or bar where food and drink are being served and the number of people that can be seated at a table is limited to 10. Exceptions are when you're entering or exiting, placing, picking up or paying for an order or using the washroom.

Restaurant and bar owners are responsible for obtaining the name and contact information for one person in a party entering indoor or outdoor dining areas and may be required to provide that information to Peel Public Health for contact tracing. Exceptions are for those placing, picking up or paying for a takeout order.

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Does the number of people allowed in a Social Circle change under Stage 3?

No. A social circle is a group of up to 10 of the same people who can interact with one another without physical distancing, regardless of which stage of reopening their region is in. Social or public gatherings may include different social circles, but are subject to gathering limits and physical distancing of at least 2 metres/6 feet.

BY-LAWS/ENFORCEMENT

- [Gathering limits](#)
- [Enforcement focus](#)

Who do I contact to report violations of the gathering limits?

Contact the 311 to report a violation of the gathering limits of 10 people indoors/25 people outdoors at privately-organized events.

The Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 205 to amend the [Reopening Ontario \(A Flexible Response to COVID-19\) Act](#), to make it an offence to host an event that exceeds the gatherings limits, with a minimum \$10,000 fine, as well as a temporary closure order for violation of the gathering limits.

How is the City handling enforcement?

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the primary focus for By-law and Regulatory Services has been awareness and education, however, given the new Stage 3 restrictions and increases to daily COVID-19 cases, the City of Mississauga's enforcement officers will be handing out fines for anyone violating gathering limits.