



## Poland

### PM Morawiecki announces mall openings from Nov 28, sets targets for future path

- **Morawiecki calls on Poland to be responsible for 100 more days**
- **Openings on Nov 28 to involve most notably shopping malls**
- **'Stabilisation phase' to be in place until Dec 27**
- **Level of restrictions Dec 28 and on to depend on new case numbers**
- **Some criticism has already been levied about opening malls**

PM Mateusz Morawiecki [announced](#) Sat. the government's new strategy for dealing with the coronavirus that holds for an opening of shopping malls and other retail outlets on Nov 28, but a relatively restrictive phase that runs until Dec 27, after which the path will depend on the case numbers. Morawiecki said the latest coronavirus numbers pointed to stabilisation, but he called for "100 days of solidarity" in order to get to the period when a vaccine would likely be available (he said Poland would get 16mn doses). He appealed to families to have very limited Christmases this year without major travel plans, so that the holidays don't lead to a spike in cases. On the opening of malls and retail outlets, Morawiecki said companies had promised to keep high sanitary regimes. Shopping is to be opened specially on two Sundays before Christmas.

Schools will be closed and remote learning only will occur through to Dec 23–24 and winter holidays that are normally spread out will come together in Jan 3–18. If the situation was better after Jan 18, then schools could move to in-person days (for some grades) or full hybrid models.

Health Minister Adam Niedzielski said that if the average case number dropped below 19,000/day on a 7-day basis, then the red zone would be possible, 9,400 the yellow zone would be possible (all country in in yellow zone, some counties in red zones), and below 3,800 the green zone would be possible (with some counties in red or yellow zones). If the situation worsened, the minister said a national quarantine would be needed. Info given by the government shows that a national quarantine would be triggered if the case total rose to above an average of 27,000 a day on a 7-day basis.

Deputy PM Jaroslaw Gowin also said that the government was preparing new solutions for companies, such as long-term investment loans. The Polish Development Fund (PFR) is to partly cover installments, though the European Commission has to agree to this, he said.

One doctor cited by the website Onet.pl said that large supermarkets were one of the main places people were infected [citing data from NHS showing 20% of all cases occurred in large supermarkets or malls], so the government's decision to open them could only result from "cynicism, ignorance, or lack of knowledge." He said there was a high probability that infections would rise due to the decision to open shopping malls. The doctor did add he understand the goal was to allow more economic activity.

Overall, the PM and government are desperately trying to allow for as much economic activity as possible ahead of the crucial Christmas season, and that decision seems to have been made whether or not there is a major health impact. This is good news for the economy. But if the malls really do lead to more infections, the risk is clearly that



the infection rate will rise and Poland will be doomed to be in the red zone or even a national quarantine. The longer that runs, the worse for the economy.

#### PiS govt's restriction guide

|                          | Current stage<br>Nov 7–Nov 27               | Responsible stage<br>Nov 28–Dec 27          | Stabilisation stage                         |                                       |                                       | Natl quarantine                             |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
|                          |   |   | Red zone                                    | Yellow zones                          | Green zones                           |   |
|                          |   |   | 19,000/7D avg                               | 9,400/7D avg                          | 3,800/7D avg                          |   |
| Movement                 | Under 16s: Only 8–16                        | Under 16s: Only 8–16                        | Under 16s: Only 8–16                        | No limits                             | No limits                             | No essential movement                       |
| Culture, film            | Closed                                      | Closed                                      | 25% capacity                                | 25% capacity                          | 50% capacity                          | Closed                                      |
| Public transport         | 50% sitting/30% total                       | 50% sitting/30% total                       | 50% sitting/30% total                       | 50% sitting/30% total                 | 100% sitting/50% total                | 50% sitting/30% total                       |
| Religious                | 1/15 sq. m.                                 | 1/15 sq. m.                                 | 1/15 sq. m.                                 | 1/7 sq. m.                            | 1/4 sq. m.                            | 1/20 sq. m.                                 |
| Gatherings               | Gatherings – 5/meetings – 20                | Gatherings – 5/meetings – 5                 | Gatherings – 5/meetings – 5                 | Gatherings – 25                       | Gatherings – 100                      | Gatherings – 5/meetings – 5                 |
| Weddings, communions     | Banned                                      | Banned                                      | Banned                                      | Limit 50 people                       | Limit 100 people                      | Banned                                      |
| Fairs, such              | Remote only                                 | Remote only                                 | Remote only                                 | Remote only                           | 1/4 sq. m.                            | Remote only                                 |
| Amusement parks          | Closed                                      | Closed                                      | Closed                                      | 1/7 sq. m.                            | 1/4 sq. m.                            | Closed                                      |
| Education                | Remote only                                 | Remote only                                 | Grades 1–3 in-person                        | Hybrid                                | Hybrid                                | Remote only                                 |
| Stores, malls            | Some stores in malls, 1/15 sq. m.           | 1/15 sq. m.                                 | 1/15 sq. m.                                 | 1/7 sq. m.                            | No limits                             | Some stores in malls, 1/20 sq. m.           |
| Senior hours             | Mon–Fri, 10–12 (60 and up)                  | Mon–Fri, 10–12 (60 and up)                  | Mon–Fri, 10–12 (60 and up)                  | None                                  | None                                  | Mon–Fri, 10–12 (60 and up)                  |
| Hotels                   | Only for work, sports, or medical personnel | Only for work, sports, or medical personnel | Only for work, sports, or medical personnel | No limits                             | No limits                             | Only for work, sports, or medical personnel |
| Gastronomy               | Takeout/delivery                            | Takeout/delivery                            | Takeout/delivery                            | Open 6–21:00                          | No limits                             | Takeout/delivery                            |
| Hair/cosmeticians        | 1.5m social distancing                      | 1.5m social distancing                      | 1.5m social distancing                      | No limits                             | No limits                             | Closed                                      |
| Gyms/fitness/water parks | Closed                                      | Closed                                      | Closed                                      | 1/7 sq. m./water parks – 50% capacity | 1/7 sq. m./water parks – 50% capacity | Closed                                      |
| Open air training        | Masks/no fans                               | Masks/no fans                               | Masks/no fans                               | Masks/no fans                         | 250 person limit                      | Masks/no fans                               |
| Sporting events          | No fans, max 250 participants               | No fans                                     | No fans                                     | 25% capacity                          | 50% capacity                          | No fans                                     |

Source: Govt, Onet.pl

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