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| TITLE | Details on Different Countries' Approaches to Domestic COVID-19 Vaccine Passes – Brief Insights Report |
| Date and time | 1 October 2021 |
| Produced by/location | Insights and Reporting Team, COVID-19 Group, DPMC |

Thank you to the following teams that assisted with this report: The Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Introduction

1. This insights report collates international insights on the use of domestic COVID-19 'vaccine passes'. It builds on the previous report titled '*Different Countries' Approaches to Domestic COVID-19 Vaccine Passes*', and includes insights on how various countries have managed and implemented these 'passes', including which sorts of locations are vaccine passes required, any exemptions in place, locations where vaccine passes are prohibited, and challenges in implementation. The report is not intended to be comprehensive, and further analysis can be provided if required. The countries analysed include Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Israel, Italy, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. This includes a mixture of countries that have implemented a domestic COVID-19 vaccine pass, those that are considering implementing one, and those that have implemented and removed it.

What is a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?

2. For the purpose of this report, a 'COVID-19 vaccine pass' is defined as a medical document that confirms an individual has received a COVID-19 vaccination, and confers some degree of additional freedom to the holder that unvaccinated people do not have.¹ Examples of additional freedoms could be attending sporting or musical events, physically attending a workplace or school, travelling, or going to restaurants or bars.
3. A 'COVID-19 vaccine certificate' is defined as a medical document which confirms that an individual has received a COVID-19 vaccination but does not confer any additional freedoms on its holder. As almost all countries are issuing these certificates, and they are standard medical practice for all vaccinations, they are not discussed further in this report.
4. A vaccine pass generally does not verify anything about the health status of an individual (unlike an 'immunity pass' which verifies that an individual has previously had, and is now immune to, a specific disease).² In countries where 'immunity pass' are also in use, or included in the use of vaccine passes, they are mentioned in the below table.

Where Are COVID-19 Vaccine Passes Being Used?

5. There are a number of countries in Europe using a vaccine pass, a small number in Asia, and the Middle East, and some states in the United States, as well as Canada. Most countries in the world have not implemented a vaccine pass. Some countries implemented a vaccine pass but retired it after achieving high vaccination rates, such as Denmark.

Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?

6. Common locations that require a vaccine pass to be presented include spaces where people are in close proximity to each other, including hospitality venues such as restaurants, bars and nightclubs, gyms and fitness centres and public spaces such as museums, libraries, and cinemas. Indoor and outdoor event venues where large numbers of people gather were also commonly included, such as sports stadiums. Most countries analysed did not require a vaccine pass to access commercial premises such as shops and shopping centres. However, passes are required to enter shopping centres in France.

Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?

7. In most countries, exemptions include age (exempting children under 12); and health or medical reasons, such as serious reactions to a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, or known allergies to a specific vaccine.

Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Passes are Prohibited?

8. No examples were identified of specific legislation prohibiting vaccine passes in any setting, in any country analysed.

What Challenges Were There in Implementing COVID-19 Vaccine Passes?

9. Challenges to implementing COVID-19 vaccine pass policies included technical issues, backlash from the public, private, and political sectors, financial issues, and ethical and moral considerations.

10. Technical issues included privacy breaches s6(a)

Other technical issues included the transferability of vaccine passes and related information between regional and national health authorities, and also other countries. For example, in Italy, there were instances of vaccine passes not being authorised to people who travelled home from abroad to be vaccinated, or received mixed types of vaccines, or received vaccines in different regions.⁴ Similar challenges were noted in Canada where regional governments have responsibility for their own health systems rather than the federal government.⁵

11. Some countries also faced criticism and saw backlash against vaccine passes from public, political and trade sectors. For example, in the UK, vaccine passes for England were scrapped after criticism from MPs.⁶ The passes in England also faced resistance from the Night-time Industries Association, which claimed that their members could potentially face discrimination cases if COVID-19 passes were required for entry into clubs. In Italy moves to implement the COVID-19 vaccine pass to cover all workers received backlash from politicians within the county's ruling coalition, and also resulted in a small number of protests.⁷
12. The financial burden for businesses of implementing the vaccine pass was also noted in Israel, with some events venues deciding not to reopen as COVID-19 vaccine passes for children meant that attendance was below an economically sustainable level.⁸
13. Examples of moral and ethical considerations that impacted the implementation of the vaccine pass include public protests against perceived losses of freedoms⁹ as well as larger resistance centred around anti-vaccine beliefs, and political protesters.¹⁰

Details by Country

14. The following table outlines a list of some countries using domestic COVID-19 vaccine passes, and further details about the implementation.



| Country | Status of Pass: • Possible; • Planned; • Implemented and in use; or • Implemented and removed. | Details |
|-----------|--|--|
| Australia | Planned (VIC, NSW); and Possible (other states) | <p>In Australia, passes have not yet been required anywhere ¹¹ but Prime Minister Scott Morrison has indicated he is supportive of them,¹² and two states are actively planning to implement them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW: Premier Gladys Berejiklian recently announced freedoms for fully vaccinated people once 70% of the state’s eligible population are double dosed. These include being able to go to hospitality venues, hairdressers and gyms, and have up to five non-residents visit your home.¹³ Vaccination data from the Australian Immunisation Register would be embedded in the Service NSW app (NSW’s contact tracing app).¹⁴ • Victoria: A “vaccinated economy” to be piloted in regional Victoria will allow only double-vaccinated people to access events, facilities and services.¹⁵ Areas of regional Victoria were decided for the pilot due to high vaccine rates and low cases of COVID-19.¹⁶ <p>While national cabinet has agreed all Australian states will integrate vaccine certificates in their contact tracing apps,¹⁷ each jurisdiction will decide where, how and when passes would be implemented.</p> |
| | | <p><i>Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW: NSW have announced fully vaccinated adults (or those with medical exemptions) will be able to have five visitors at home and gather in groups of up to 20 outdoors; attend venues and services such as hospitality, retail, fitness and recreation, including cinemas and museums; attend major recreation outdoor facilities such as stadiums and zoos, capped at 5,000 people; attend ticketed and seated outdoor events of up to 500 people; have up to 50 guests at weddings and funerals.¹⁸ • Victoria: Vaccinated adults may attend restaurants; send their children to childcare; do physical recreation, community sport and outdoor entertainment in groups of up to 50; gather in larger groups for outdoor religious service or at community facilities; attend hairdressers, beauty or personal care; work from the office; attend adult education and nightclubs.¹⁹ Different restrictions apply at different levels of vaccination and depending on whether events take place indoors or outdoors, with those on outdoor religious gatherings capped at 50 under a 70% vaccination rate and 500 for an 80% rate. • WA: The Western Australian premier has indicated the evidence of having received a vaccination will be required for interstate and international travel and possibly to attend sporting events.²⁰ |
| | | <p><i>Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i></p> <p>NSW: The NSW Government has provided a checklist for doctors to issue medical exemptions for COVID-19 vaccines. An exemption is only able to be obtained if the patient had a serious adverse reaction to a first dose, has a history of anaphylaxis to a component of the vaccine, or another medical contraindication (such as a major illness, significant immunocompromise, or infection of COVID-19 within the last 6 months).²¹ The patient must have contraindications to all available vaccines in order to be exempted, and patients who have contraindications for one vaccine may be offered an alternate brand.^{22 23}</p> |
| | | <p><i>Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass are Prohibited?</i></p> <p>None noted.</p> |
| | | <p>s6(a)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> |

| Country | Status of Pass: • Possible; • Planned; • Implemented and in use; or • Implemented and removed. | Details |
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| Austria | Implemented and in use | <p>Austria have introduced 'Entry Tests' for locations that require close proximity to others. To gain entry, proof of either a negative COVID-19 test, full vaccination, or past infection (immunity) must be provided. Both official/medical records and the 'EU Digital COVID Certificate' (EUDCC) are accepted.²⁵</p> <p><i>Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> Entry Tests are required in Austria for all places that have a large number of people congregating within a small space.²⁶ This includes visiting a restaurant, checking into a hotel or using hotel services, visiting services that require close proximity to others such as hairdressers or health and beauty treatments, indoor and outdoor events including theatres, concerts and sports, and visiting leisure and sport facilities including spas, pools and gyms.²⁷</p> <p><i>Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> Vienna requires Entry Tests for anyone over the age of 6. For the rest of the country, Entry Tests are required for anyone over the age of 12.²⁸</p> <p><i>Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass are Prohibited?</i> There are currently no locations where use of Entry Tests is prohibited in Austria. The Austrian government are considering implementing Entry Tests for general work and in offices.²⁹</p> <p>s6(a)</p> |
| Canada | Implemented and in use | <p>Many provinces in Canada have implemented a vaccine pass to demonstrate proof a person has been vaccinated against COVID-19,³⁰ allowing some additional freedoms, including access to non-essential businesses.³¹ Each province has their own program, with most using a digital or physical card that includes a QR code, and Quebec has implemented a 'VaxiCode' mobile app.³² Some provinces will allow a negative COVID-19 test result in place of proof of vaccine (Alberta and Saskatchewan) while others will only accept a vaccine pass (BC, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec).³³ Vaccine passes are endorsed by the Canadian Medical Association, who would like to see them across the country.³⁴</p> <p><i>Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> For many provinces that have implemented a vaccine requirement, proof of vaccination is required for entry to non-essential businesses, including indoor spaces at restaurants, bars and nightclubs; meeting and event spaces; facilities used for sports and fitness activities such as gyms; sporting events; and concerts, music festivals, theatres and cinemas.³⁵ Vaccine passes are not required for retail stores, hair salons, or essential businesses such as grocery stores and medical care.³⁶</p> <p><i>Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> Children under the age of 12 are generally exempt from vaccine requirements, but can only gain entry with a fully immunised adult.^{37 38} Medical exemptions for a vaccine in Canada include a history of anaphylaxis to a component of the vaccine, a significant allergic reaction to a first dose, or myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle, which is a rare vaccine side effect).³⁹ Some provinces have added further conditions to the list, including Manitoba, where exemptions are available to people currently receiving treatment preventing them from mounting an immune response.⁴⁰</p> <p><i>Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass are Prohibited?</i> None noted.</p> |



| Country | Status of Pass: • Possible; • Planned; • Implemented and in use; or • Implemented and removed. | Details |
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| | | s6(a) |
| Denmark | Implemented and removed | <p>As at 10 September, Denmark has lifted all COVID-19 related restrictions, with 83% of the population now fully vaccinated.⁴² Previously, Denmark was using a 'Coronapas' digital or paper certificate for people who had been vaccinated against, recently tested negative for, or had previously been infected with COVID-19 (immune).⁴³ The 'Coronapas' was first implemented on April 6 and initially was used to gain entry to businesses including restaurants, bars, cinemas, gyms, sports events and hairdressing salons. Most requirements for the 'Coronapas' were lifted from 1 September, except for nightclubs, large events, and businesses with their own requirements in place.⁴⁴ If needed, the Danish government have signalled they could reimpose measures and restrictions in the future, which may include the use of 'Coronapas'.⁴⁵</p> <p><i>Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> Nightclubs, bars and restaurants were where the requirement was previously in effect. Since September 10th it is only required when entering the country. Private companies and organizations are allowed to make their own requirements to require a valid Corona Pass.⁴⁶</p> <p><i>Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> Children under 16 are exempt.</p> <p><i>Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass are Prohibited?</i> None noted.</p> <p>s6(a)</p> |
| France | Implemented and in use | <p>France have implemented a 'Health Pass', which provides evidence of either full vaccination, a negative test result within the last 48 hours, or recovery from COVID-19 (immunity). A 'Health Pass' must be presented to access a range of public places or activities, including cafes, restaurants, shopping centres, care facilities, and public transport. Passes can be digital, including using the 'TousAntiCovid' app (a contact tracing app) or the 'EU Digital COVID certificate' (EUDCC) app, or on paper.⁴⁷ Vaccination and test certificates in France include a QR code that can be scanned for proof of results.⁴⁸</p> <p><i>Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> A Health Pass is required to access most public places (restaurants, cafes, museums, theatres, sports stadiums, zoo's, and shopping centres).⁴⁹</p> <p>A Health Pass is not required for workplace/school canteens, takeaway restaurants, doctors' offices, public transport, places of worship, common areas of hotels.</p> <p><i>Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> Medical certificates can be used as temporary exemptions only.</p> <p><i>Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass are Prohibited?</i> N/A</p> |

| Country | Status of Pass: • Possible; • Planned; • Implemented and in use; or • Implemented and removed. | Details |
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| | | <p><i>What Challenges Were There in Implementing COVID-19 Vaccine Passes?</i> While there is no indication of technical issues in implementing the overall system, there has been some technical issues for individual pass holders⁵⁰ and protests around rights and freedoms lost by its use.⁵¹ Also, there was a data breach of French President Emmanuel Macron’s health pass data on social media.⁵²</p> |
| Israel | Implemented and in use | <p>Israel has implemented a ‘Green Pass Scheme’. New time limits will be set as of 3 October 2021 with passes issued to those who have been fully vaccinated, fully vaccinated with a booster job, recovered from COVID-19 (immune), or for children 12 years or under returned a negative test result. The pass is valid for 7 days with a negative test and six months from the date of recovery/immunity or vaccination.⁵³</p> <p><i>Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> There are a number of public spaces which must comply with the Green Pass guidance including culture and sports and events venues, exercise venues, festivals, hotels conferences and exhibitions, drinking and eating establishments, museums and libraries, tourist attractions and universities.⁵⁴ Some variation in which education venues require the Green Pass exists between local councils, based on a traffic light system. Each local council is assigned a traffic light colour based on the recent prevalence of COVID-19. The specific Green Pass regulations for each local council can be searched on the Israeli Ministry of Health website.⁵⁵</p> <p><i>Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> From 3 October 2021, exemptions exist for children under the age of 3, or under the age of 12 years and 3 months if they have a disabled certificate.</p> <p><i>Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass are Prohibited?</i> Green Passes were not used in workplaces except for conferences and exhibitions.</p> <p>s6(a)</p> <p>[Redacted text]</p> |
| Italy | Implemented and in use | <p>Italy’s Green Pass scheme was announced in July in a bid to increase vaccine uptake.⁵⁸ The certificate attests the carrier is vaccinated with either the first or second dose, has recovered from COVID-19 in the past six months or has had a negative rapid antigen or PCR test within the last 48 hours. The certificate is available in paper and digital form.⁵⁹</p> <p><i>Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> Initially the Green pass was introduced to facilitate travel in Europe and allow participation in large events, and has expanded in step with the reopening of society. Since 6 August, the pass has been required for indoor dining, museums, cinemas/theatres, indoor leisure and exercise facilities, festivals, fairs, casinos and sports stadiums. From 1 September the pass has also been required on inter-regional transport and for school staff.⁶⁰ From 15 October all workers will require a Green Pass. Working without a Green Pass could lead to fines of up to €1,500 for business and staff, and could result in suspension or pay deductions.^{61 62 63}</p> <p><i>Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i> Exemptions exist for children under 12, those exempt from vaccination for health reasons, citizens who have received the ReiThera vaccine as part of the Covitar trial and those with proof of vaccination in the Republic of San Marino.⁶⁴</p> |



| Country | Status of Pass: • Possible; • Planned; • Implemented and in use; or • Implemented and removed. | Details |
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| | | <p><i>Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass are Prohibited?</i></p> <p>The Green Pass is not required for those eating and drinking outdoors or drinking coffee standing at the bar or counter, on local transport, at hotels, in shops, at beaches, at outdoor leisure facilities or for pupils in schools.^{65 66}</p> <p>s6(a)</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> |
| Sweden | Possible | <p>Sweden has indicated they may require vaccination to take part in some activities, which could involve individual businesses choosing to require proof of vaccination from customers.^{70 71} Nothing is in place yet.</p> <p><i>Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i></p> <p>On September 29 2021 nearly all remaining pandemic restrictions will be lifted. Prior to this date there were restrictions on bars, public events, workplaces, unvaccinated people and those with COVID-19. Many of Sweden's measures to restrict COVID-19 were recommendations and not regulations Recommendations were used over restrictions because of the emphasis of the Swedish response of relying on personal responsibility, and on high trust between the public and government. ⁷²After September 29 the only recommendation that will remain is in regards to people staying home and getting tested if they get COVID-19. However, Sweden's Communicable Disease Act makes this mandatory in practice.</p> <p>Sweden, as part of the European Union (EU), can use the EU Digital COVID Certificate (also known as the Green Pass) for international travel but this is only required for international/external travel.</p> <p><i>Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i></p> <p>N/A</p> <p><i>Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass are Prohibited?</i></p> <p>N/A</p> <p>s6(a)</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> |



| Country | Status of Pass: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible; • Planned; • Implemented and in use; or • Implemented and removed. | Details |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| <p>United Kingdom</p> | <p>Plans not progressed in England;</p> <p>Implemented and in use in Scotland and Wales</p> | <p>Access to COVID-19 passes and instances where they are required differ between each nation within the United Kingdom.⁷⁶ In England, vaccine passes are available in digital form through the National Health Service (NHS) App, NHS website or via email, as well as in paper form. The pass lasts for 30 days for those vaccinated/previously infected within the last 6 months, or 48 hours for those with a negative PCR or lateral flow test.^{77 78} In Scotland a COVID vaccination certificate is available for those fully vaccinated but not for those with a negative test and is available through the NHS Scotland App or in paper form.⁷⁹ For people in Wales a digital version of the NHS COVID Pass is available to those who were vaccinated in Wales or England through the NHS website, but not through the NHS App. It is also available in paper form, and covers those who test negative with a lateral flow test.^{80 81} Northern Ireland has yet to announce a formal vaccination pass scheme.⁸²</p> <p><i>Which Events or Venues Require a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i></p> <p>Scotland has announced that as of 1 October people will need a COVID Pass to enter nightclubs, adult entertainment venues and large-scale events.</p> <p>In Wales, from 11 October a COVID Pass will be required for nightclubs, unseated indoor live events for more than 500 people, unseated outdoor events for more than 4,000 people or any event for more than 10,000 people.</p> <p>In England, plans to make vaccine pass mandatory at certain venues have not progressed.</p> <p>Despite no formal COVID Pass system being in place in Northern Ireland indoor seated venues will be advised to ask for proof of vaccination or a negative test but it is not legally enforceable.⁸³</p> <p><i>Are There Exemptions to the Requirement to Have a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass?</i></p> <p>In Scotland anyone who has good reason for not getting vaccinated, such as medical conditions, employees working at the venues, people taking part in medical trials and anyone under the age of 18 will be exempt from having to show a COVID Pass.⁸⁴ In Wales only those under the age of 18 are exempt from having to use the pass, with those unable to be vaccinated required to get a negative COVID-19 test.⁸⁵</p> <p><i>Are There Locations Where a COVID-19 Vaccine Pass are Prohibited?</i></p> <p>Although not specifically prohibited in any settings, vaccine pass requirements in Scotland and Wales only apply to nightclubs, adult entertainment venues and larger scale outdoor events.^{86 87}</p> <p>s6(a)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> |

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