

How Italy's tiered system corresponds to NPI definitions

Italy introduced a nationwide tiered system on November 6th 2020, using a colour system of yellow, orange and red in ascending order of restriction severity. Regional tier classification is re-evaluated every 2 weeks. This categorisation holds for the end of our study period, 9th January 2021.

[Source for tier system](#) and [here](#) and [here](#)

From November 6th all regions have nationwide restrictions as default, which are also the yellow tier rules.

Yellow/nationwide:

10pm - 5am curfew

[Public transport capacity cut to 50% of max capacity](#) (except school transport)

Shopping centres closed on weekends

Museums and galleries all closed

[All high schools under remote learning](#)

Orange:

yellow/nationwide rules

No movement between municipalities except for essential reasons

You can only leave an orange zone region for work, study, health or emergency

Bars, cafes, restaurants and all food businesses closed (home delivery & takeaway allowed)

Gyms, theatres, casinos, cinemas, bingo halls closed.

[Non-essential shops](#) remain open, including hairdressers and bookshops (they classify these specific examples as essential in Italy however)

[Middle schools open for in-person teaching \(all 11-13 year olds\)](#)

[Universities not teaching in person](#)

[High schools not teaching in person](#)

[Sports allowed](#) (including sports facilities indoors and outdoors, however gyms closed)

Red:

Orange + yellow/nationwide rules

No movement between municipalities within the region

You can only leave a red zone for emergency regions

Only allowed to leave home for work, study, health or emergency but with a self-certified permit.

All non-essential shops closed

Essential shops open, eg supermarkets, bookstores, hairdressers and beauticians

Gyms, theatres, casinos, cinemas, bingo halls closed.

First year of middle school and upwards: schools closed or online

[Distance learning mandatory from second grade of middle school](#) (exception for any activities requiring special equipment, exceptions for disabled students or those with special educational needs)

[Infant and primary schools open](#)

Universities not teaching in person

[High schools not teaching in person](#)

No sports except solo sports

Christmas COVID zones nationwide

Jan 9th - 10th - nationwide orange zone

Jan 7th - Jan 8th reinforced nationwide Yellow Zone

Jan 5th - Jan 6th Red Zone

Jan 4th Orange Zone

Dec 31st - Jan 3rd Red Zone

Dec 28th - Dec 30th Orange Zone

Dec 24th - Dec 27th Red Zone

Tier change mappings

Gatherings

- Public outdoor - maximally restricted before tier system introduced
- Public indoor - maximally restricted before tier system introduced
- Private outdoor - maximally restricted before tier system introduced, then altered by Christmas-specific rules not tier system
- Private indoor - maximally restricted before tier system introduced, then altered by Christmas-specific rules not tier system

Businesses

- At least one face-to-face business closed - nightclubs, museums, galleries closed before tier system was put in place
- Most or all gastronomy closed - yellow to orange tier change signals start of NPI
- Large fraction of leisure time businesses closed - nightclubs, museums, galleries, swimming pools, cinemas, gyms, theatres all closed before tier system put in place
- Most or all retail shops closed - orange to red tier change signals start of NPI
- All non-essential face-to-face businesses closed - orange to red tier change signals start of NPI

Education

- Primary schools - not affected by tier changes
- Secondary schools - closed/remote learning instigated before tier system introduced
- Universities - students moving back and forth to university not affected by tier changes.

Mask wearing

- Highest restriction level of mask wearing implemented before the introduction of tier system