



LIBRARY LINK

COVID-19 Workplace



April 2021

Issue 16

COVID-19 Workplace Newsletter

In this April issue we continue to bring you vetted reports on vaccines, vaccination cards and their impact for businesses and countries. You'll get a glimpse of the post-pandemic office setting, with expanded gathering spaces, shared seating, better ventilation and more. And you'll see how employees are preparing for a changed work routine.

If you are interested in the articles below, please contact the [IMF Library](#).

Contents

Return to Work	1
Post-Pandemic Office Setting	2
Vaccination	2

Return to Work

1. The Washington Commute Could Return by Fall for Many Workers. It Won't be the Same as Before **(The Washington Post, March 14, 2021)**

Most Washington-area residents who have spent the past year teleworking because of the coronavirus pandemic could be back to their commutes by fall, but it might not resemble the commute they left behind in early 2020. (Full report requires a Factiva login, [access](#) instructions.)

2. Returning to the Office Sparks Anxiety and Dread for Some **(The New York Times, April 5, 2021)**

After a year of working remotely, some employees are not keen to go back to the office, and, so far, employers are being receptive to their concerns.

3. How to Prepare Pets for Your Return to the Office **(The Wall Street Journal, March 20, 2021)**

Many workers are eager to return to the office, at least some of the time. But they may be forgetting something: What about the dogs and cats they are leaving behind? For thousands of pets adopted during the pandemic, this will be the first time they'll regularly be left in their new home alone for extended periods. And even for those whose owners worked outside the home before the pandemic, this will be another major disruption. (Full report requires a WSJ login, [access](#) instructions.)

Post-Pandemic Office Setting

[1. Here Come Hot Desks and Zoom Rooms. And Holograms?](#)

(The New York Times, April 7, 2021)

As more companies consider plans to bring workers back to the office, experts say to expect expanded gathering spaces and fewer personal workstations.

[2. Gartner Says Workplaces with Shared Seating Will be the New Normal After COVID-19](#)

(Gartner, March 23, 2021)

Approximately 60% of finance and real estate leaders are planning for at least a quarter of employees to be in shared seating.

[3. The Post-Pandemic Office Is Already Here—in Australia](#)

(The Wall Street Journal, April 4, 2021)

Australia, where Covid-19 cases are low, is at the vanguard of world-wide efforts to reopen offices. The country provides a window into what office life might look like elsewhere in the coming months. (Full report requires a WSJ login, [access](#) instructions.)

Vaccination

[1. The Fully Vaccinated Employee: What the New CDC Guidelines Mean for Employers](#)

(National Law Review, March 17, 2021)

As employers consider whether to require vaccinations for employees and how to handle employees who refuse to be vaccinated, the CDC has given employers some clarity ... and new issues to navigate. On March 9, the CDC issued its first set of recommendations for fully vaccinated people, providing guidance for everyone who has been patiently wondering what types of pre-COVID activities they can safely resume now that vaccines are here.

[2. How Long Do Covid-19 Vaccines Provide Immunity?](#)

(The Wall Street Journal, April 12, 2021)

How long does protection from Covid vaccines last? It's a question that's becoming more important as some of the first people to be vaccinated approach four months post-inoculation.

The short answer is: We don't fully know yet. But more data is coming in that provides clues. Here's what we know so far. (Full report requires a WSJ login, [access](#) instructions.)

[3. Your Covid-19 Vaccine Card: What You Need to Know](#)

(The Wall Street Journal, April 7, 2021)

Is there an official U.S. vaccine passport?

No. The cards themselves are a patchwork of formats. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has designed a version, which many locations use, but it isn't required. State and local authorities and even individual sites are devising their own cards to hand out.

With no official standard, it might be hard to say what constitutes proof of vaccination. The Biden administration has said there won't be a centralized U.S. database on inoculations or a federal mandate requiring

everyone to obtain a single vaccination credential. (Full report requires a WSJ login, [access](#) instructions.)

[4. Are Vaccine Passports the Route to a Faster Postpandemic Recovery?](#)

(Gartner, February 8, 2021)

Vaccine passports could speed the journey to a new postpandemic normal, but take account of these variables in building scenarios and strategies around them.

Travelers are used to having their tickets scanned before they board an airplane. In the near future, flight attendants may also ask to scan your vaccine passport, a digital record of whether you've been inoculated against COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

Vaccine passports are gaining traction as a way to facilitate the return of individuals vaccinated against COVID-19 to restricted spaces, such as public transportation, work locations and even countries.

[5. A Vaccine Passport Is the New Golden Ticket as the World Reopens](#)

(Bloomberg Businessweek, March 25, 2021)

Companies and countries that depend on travel or large gatherings are counting on a totally unproven concept.

For questions regarding the content and coverage please contact the [IMF Library](#).

Compiled by the Library Client Services Team

COPYRIGHT

The IMF Library observes U.S. and international copyright laws and is required to comply with its Copyright Clearance Center license agreement; you may not systematically download and store journal articles, reports, or data on your PC or distribute them to others. Additional restrictions on usage may apply.



LIBRARY

Corporate Services and Facilities