



Essential information and facts about Sweden:

Capital	Stockholm
Total Area	450,295 sq.km
Population	10.2 million
Median age	41.1 years
Religion	Church of Sweden (Lutheran 60% and other)
Ethnic Groups	Czech (64 per cent), Moravian (5 per cent), other
Languages	Swedes with Finnish and Sami minorities
Currency	Swedish Kroner (SEK)
Government type	Parliamentary Constitutional Monarchy
Chief of State	King Carl XVI Gustaf (since 1973). Heir apparent is Princess Victoria Ingrid Alice Desiree
Head of Government	Prime Minister Stefan Lofven (since 2014) President elected by vote for five year term. Next election 2023. Prime Minister appointed by President for a four year term.
Elections	Next elections due 2022
Unemployment	6.4 per cent (2019)
Tourism	7.4 million (2019)

“The second consequence is a continued leakage from the licensing system. This spring, the leakage from the Swedish licensing system was 25 per cent for online casinos, and that was before Covid-19. It can, without a doubt, be concluded that the Covid restriction does not have a beneficial effect on gambling consumers’ willingness to stay within the licensing system.”

Liability Measures due to the spread of Covid-19,’ was published on the Swedish government site asking for opinions. Svenska Spel responded on November 23 stating the following:

“We understand that there is a lack of sufficient information from the relatively short time that has elapsed since the regulation entered into force in order to draw some definite conclusions about the effects. However, it is Svenska Spel’s opinion that the players who hit the deposit and loss limits and time limits of one licensee, in many cases, continue to play with another gaming company on the same or another game format. Today, it is very easy to continue playing commercial games online with other licensed gaming companies and with gaming companies without the required licence where both deposit and time limits are not applicable, plus other gaming responsibility tools required by Swedish gaming regulations.

“Players who hit the loss or time limit on slots (Vegas) can just as easily continue to play similar games online with a large number of gaming companies and also with the

opportunity to play for larger stakes than those allowed via Vegas slots.

“A survey in October 2020 shows that as many as 86 per cent of Svenska Spel sport and casino customers played commercial online games at two or more gaming sites after July 1, 2020 and 28 per cent have played at five or more other gaming sites. Whilst 33 per cent of customer stated they have increased their commercial online gambling at other sites other than Svenska after they hit their limit at Svenska Spel and 55 per cent stated they play the same amount overall or more compared to that played before the regulation was introduced.”

The ATG horseracing operation has not seen any limits imposed and this has also caused some consternation in the industry. Meanwhile, a report by Frontiers in Public Health, published in September 2020, claimed there was no indication of an increase in problematic online gambling intensity during the first phase of the outbreak in Sweden. The report claims gambling activity actually decreased by just over 13 per cent during the first phase of the pandemic.

system was 25 per cent for online casinos, and that was before the Covid-19 restrictions. It can, without a doubt, be concluded that the Covid restriction does not have a beneficial effect on gambling consumers’ willingness to stay within the licensing system, as it is perceived as another layer of regulatory burden to which unlicensed gaming sites are not covered. An extension of the Covid-19 restrictions will, therefore, further lower the proportion of gaming consumers who play within the licensing system, and thus the opportunity to offer them good consumer protection.”

A Ministry of Finance referral ‘Extended Validity of the Regulation on Temporary Gambling