

COVID 19 Update

Made on 5/28/2020

Are gatherings permitted?



Gatherings—meetings or other events that bring together persons from multiple households at the same time for a shared or group experience in a single room, space, or place such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, or other indoor or outdoor space—pose an especially great danger of transmission and spread of COVID-19. As a consequence, State public health directives prohibit professional, social and community mass gatherings.

On May 25, 2020, in an effort to balance First Amendment interests with public health, the State Public Health Officer created an exception to the prohibition against mass gatherings for faith-based services and cultural ceremonies as well as protests. Those types of gatherings are permitted so long as they do not exceed 100 attendees or 25% of the capacity of the space in which the gathering is held, whichever is lower. All other mass gatherings are prohibited until further notice.

Wash your hands

>20 seconds with soap and warm water. [Here are great options](#) of songs to sing to help you pass the time. Unlike some really stubborn viruses (like polio), viruses in the coronavirus family typically don't survive longer than a [few hours on most surfaces hard surfaces](#); though it can be up to days. [Bleach or ethanol are more effective at decontaminating surfaces than they are disinfecting humanskin](#). So don't hoard the hand sanitizer, that should be used only when you do not have any access to a soap and water sink. At a restaurant? Wash your hands. At school? Wash your hands. Vigorous handwashing with soap really is vital to reduce transmission; the awesome science of why is [here](#). **If you do nothing else at all, do wash your hands.**

How to support your community

Cancel non-essential medical visits

Hospitals are hot spots for transmission; get your vaccinations at a pharmacy rather than at the doctor. Find ways to do your physical therapy at home if possible.

Telemedicine professionals, this is your time to save the day, for everyone's benefit but especially those in rural areas who are hard hit and without easy access to medical care. <https://doxy.me> and <https://vsee.com/clinic/> provide free HIPAA compliant video platforms for telehealth.

JHU is developing resources here for hospital staff and administrators; more info [here](#).

Do not spread misinformation

Be informed, and do not spread rumors and speculation. Only promote factual information from reputable sources.

Do not be racist

Racist assumptions lead to racist behaviors. Racist behaviors divide us, and in this pandemic situation, definitely work against us. If we divide ourselves according to race, ethnicity, or nationality, the virus wins and we all lose, plain and simple. If we unite ourselves regardless of race, ethnicity, or nationality, the virus loses and we all win.

Be kind to others

At all times, be kind to each other and be mindful of other people's worries. [You may be in a low risk group and feel this is nothing to fret about, but your 80-year old neighbor or your friend with recent heart surgery may feel quite differently.](#) Every person matters; no one is "expendable."

Donate

Healthcare professionals are running short of N95 masks, gloves, and other personal protective equipment. If you have a surplus of these supplies, consider donating them. Consult your local hospital for instructions on how to do so.

Table 1. Gating Criteria and Phase-specific Thresholds

Gating Criteria	Threshold for entering Phase 1	Threshold for entering Phase 2	Threshold for entering Phase 3
Decreases in newly identified COVID-19 cases	Downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of documented cases over a 14-day period	Downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of documented cases for at least 14 days <i>after entering Phase 1</i>	Downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of documented cases for at least 14 days <i>after entering Phase 2</i>
Decreases in emergency department (ED) and/or outpatient visits for COVID-like illness (CLI)	Downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of CLI syndromic cases reported over a 14-day period	Downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of CLI syndromic cases reported for at least 14 days <i>after entering Phase 1</i>	Downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of CLI syndromic cases reported for at least an additional 14 days <i>after entering Phase 2</i>
Decreases in ED and/or outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI)	Downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of ILI reported over a 14-day period	Downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of ILI reported for at least 14 days <i>after entering Phase 1</i>	Downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of ILI reported for at least an additional 14 days <i>after entering Phase 2</i>

Decreases in percentage of SARS-CoV-2 tests positive	Downward trajectory (or near-zero percent positive) of positive tests as a percentage of total tests over a 14-day period (flat or increasing volume of tests)	Downward trajectory (or near-zero percent positive) of positive tests as a percentage of total tests for 14 days <i>after entering Phase 1</i> (flat or increasing volume of tests)	Downward trajectory (or near-zero percent positive) of positive tests as a percentage of total tests for at least 14 days <i>after entering Phase 2</i> (flat or increasing volume of tests)
Treat all patients without crisis care	Jurisdiction inpatient & ICU beds <80% full Staff shortage in last week = no PPE supplies adequate for >4 days	Jurisdiction inpatient & ICU beds <75% full Staff shortage in last week = no PPE supplies adequate for >4 days	Jurisdiction inpatient & ICU beds <70% full Staff shortage in last week = no PPE supplies adequate for >15 days
Robust testing program	Test availability such that percentage of positive tests is $\leq 20\%$ for 14 days Median time from test order to result is ≤ 4 days	Test availability such that percentage of positive tests is $\leq 15\%$ for 14 days Median time from test order to result is ≤ 3 days	Test availability such that the percentage of positive tests is $\leq 10\%$ for 14 days Median time from test order to result is ≤ 2 days

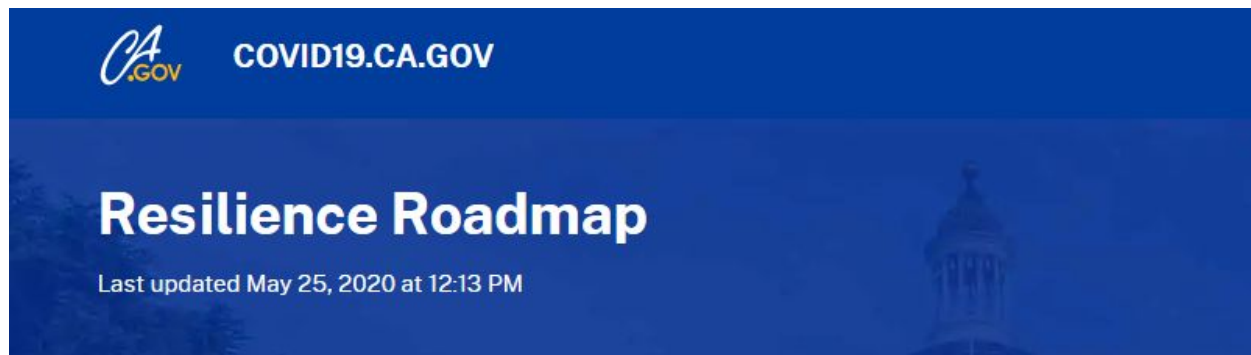
ORDER OF THE STATE PUBLIC HEALTH
OFFICER
May 7, 2020

On March 19, 2020, I issued an order directing all individuals living in the State of California to stay at home except as needed to facilitate authorized, necessary activities or to maintain the continuity of operations of critical infrastructure sectors. (See <https://covid19.ca.gov/stay-home-except-for-essential-needs/>.) I then set out California's path forward from this "Stay-at-Home" Order in California's Pandemic Roadmap <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/5.4.20-Update-on-Californias-Pandemic-Roadmap.pdf>. That Roadmap identifies four stages of the pandemic: safety and preparation (Stage 1), reopening of lower-risk workplaces and other spaces (Stage 2), reopening of higher-risk workplaces and other spaces (Stage 3), and finally an easing of final restrictions leading to the end of the stay at home order (Stage 4).

Today, COVID-19 continues to present a significant risk to the health of individuals throughout California. There are confirmed cases of the virus in 54 of the 58 counties across the State, and each day over the past two weeks over one thousand new cases have been confirmed in California and dozens of people have lost their lives due to the virus. However, owing to Californians' mitigation efforts, statewide data currently demonstrates stable rates of new infections and hospitalizations, the maintenance of surge capacity, and an improved ability to test, contact trace, isolate, and provide support to individuals exposed to COVID-19. As State Public Health Officer, I have determined that the statewide data now supports the gradual movement of the entire state from Stage 1 to Stage 2 of California's Pandemic Resilience Roadmap.

Resilience Roadmap

<https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap/>



Californians have been staying home and saving lives since the start of our statewide stay-at-home order issued on March 19, 2020. These efforts have allowed the state to move forward on our [roadmap](#) for modifying the statewide order.

We are now in early **Stage 2**, where retail, related logistics and manufacturing, office workplaces, limited personal services, outdoor museums, child care, and [essential businesses](#) can open with modifications. The state is [issuing guidance](#) to help these workplaces reopen safely.

This is what the Roadmap looks like...



STAGE 1:
**Safety and
preparedness**



STAGE 2:
**Lower-risk
workplaces**



STAGE 3:
**Higher-risk
workplaces**



STAGE 4:
**End of Stay
Home Order**

First, we were here....

This step is important for:

*Protecting Yourself

*Protecting Others outside your home

*Keeping Hospitals/Medical Personnel for Emergency only so they can focus on keeping us safe



Stage 1: Safety and preparedness

Continue to build out testing, contact tracing, PPE, and hospital surge capacity.

Continue to make essential workplaces as safe as possible:

- Physical and work flow adaptation
- Essential workforce safety net
- Make PPE more widely available
- Individual behavior changes

Stay at home except for essential and permitted activities

Prepare sector-by-sector safety guidelines for expanded workforce.

Now, We are here:



Stage 2: Lower-risk workplaces

Gradually opening some lower risk workplaces with adaptations at a pace designed to protect public health and safety, starting with:

- Retail
- Manufacturing
- Offices (when telework not possible)
- Outdoor Museums
- Limited Personal Services

Limit time outside the home and travel only for permissible activities, such as healthcare, food, outdoor exercise and recreation (individuals and households only). Stage 1 and 2 work, and local shopping or other activities related to open sectors.

Some counties may move more quickly through stage 2, following guidelines laid out on the [county variance page](#).

Other counties may maintain more restrictive public health measures.

Monitor critical indicators and alter scope of reopening if necessary to protect public health and safety.

Stage 2

Early Stage 2: California is now open with modifications.

- Curb-side retail
- Manufacturers
- Logistics
- Childcare for those outside of the essential workforce
- Office-based businesses (telework remains strongly encouraged)
- Select services: car washes, pet grooming and landscape gardening
- Outdoor museums, open gallery spaces and other public spaces with modifications

As Stage 2 improves, then these things can slowly happen

Expanded Stage 2 with Attestation: Upcoming changes in the Stay-at-Home Order will move the entire state methodically through opening further. Those counties with variation attestation may progress to open these sectors more rapidly, according to their county-specific plan for modification.

- Destination retail (retail stores), including shopping malls and swap meets
- Dine-in restaurants (other amenities, like bars or gaming areas, are not permitted in Stage 2)
- Schools with modifications

We still must follow the 6 feet apart rules and wear a face covering.

If you have a cough, respiratory issues (even minor ones) you should stay home.

Not Permitted in Stage 2

- Personal services such as nail salons, tattoo parlors, gyms and fitness studios
 - Indoor museums, kids museums and gallery spaces, zoos and libraries
 - Community centers, including public pools, playgrounds, and picnic areas
 - Limited-capacity religious services and cultural ceremonies
 - Nightclubs
 - Concert venues
 - Live audience sports
 - Festivals
 - Theme parks
 - Hotels/lodging for leisure and tourism – non-essential travel
 - Higher Education
-

County variance

Stage 2 expansion will be phased in gradually. Some communities may move through Stage 2 faster if they are able to show greater progress. Counties that have met the readiness criteria and worked with the California Department of Public Health can open more workplaces as outlined on the [County Variance page](https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap-counties/).

<https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap-counties/>

Variance means a lot of things. In this case, it means each area (County) will have different rules/permission depending on if people stay healthy/get better. If a County fills out a form for variance, they are saying they meet the criteria (rules) for opening more public areas.

New places that open still have to go through training and meet new State and Federal regulations (rules required by the law)

County Variance is determined by the Readiness Criteria

Not every County will enter Stage 2 at the same time. But we must reach Stage 2 and maintain it before we can reach the next part.



If a county decides to pursue a variance to move further into Stage 2, the local public health officer must:

1. Notify the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).
2. Certify through submission of a written attestation to CDPH that the county has met the readiness criteria (outlined below), including guidance to be issued by the county and detailed plans, and that the county is designed to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

For more things to happen in Stage 2, and for us to stay in Stage 2... these things must happen.

County criteria to move further into Stage 2:

County case metrics

County preparedness

County response

County case metrics



Stable or down trending hospitalizations

- Stable hospitalizations of COVID individuals on a 7-day average of daily percent change of less than 5% **OR** no more than 20 COVID hospitalizations on any single day in the past 14 days

Cases per population count and test positivity rate

- Less than 25 new cases per 100,000 residents in the past 14 days **OR** less than 8% testing positive in the past 7 days

County preparedness

Testing capacity

- Minimum daily testing volume to test 1.5 per 1,000 residents, which can be met through a combination of testing of symptomatic individuals and targeted surveillance. The county's average daily testing volume for the past week must be provided. If the county does not believe a testing volume of 1.5 per 1,000 residents is merited, justification must be provided.
- Testing availability for at least 75% of residents, as measured by a specimen collection site (including established health care providers) within 30 minutes driving time in urban areas, and 60 minutes in rural areas.

County preparedness

Contact tracing

- Sufficient contact tracing so public health staff work can work with a patient to help them recall everyone with whom they have had close contact during the timeframe while they may have been infectious. For counties that have no cases, there should be at least 15 staff per 100,000 county population trained and available for contact tracing; for counties with small populations, there must be at least one staff person trained and available.

Hospital surge

- County (or regional) hospital capacity to accommodate a minimum surge of 35% due to COVID-19 cases in addition to providing usual care for non-COVID-19 patients.

County preparedness



SNF disease outbreak prevention and containment

- Must have plans to prevent and mitigate infections in skilled nursing facilities
- Skilled nursing facilities (SNF) have more than a 14 day supply of PPE on hand for staff, with an established process for ongoing procurement from non-state supply chains.

Where else can I go?

[California State Parks and Beaches](#): The Department of Parks and Recreation manages 280 state parks and beaches across the state.

[Department of Fish and Wildlife \(DFW\) Ecological Reserves and Wildlife Areas](#):

The Department of Fish and Wildlife manages over 200 areas – many of which are still open for public visitation.

[State Forests](#): CAL FIRE operates eight Demonstration State Forests totaling 71,000 acres – several of which are open to dispersed day-use recreation where the public has adequate room to maintain six feet of physical distancing.

Where are some other places where you can get out but still maintain Social Distancing?



COVID19.CA.GOV

Public recreation

Last updated May 11, 2020 at 3:14 PM

[Baldwin Hills Conservancy Parks in LA](#): The Baldwin Hills Parklands are comprised of 480 acres of public parks.

[Department of Water Resources Public Recreation Facilities](#): DWR provides recreational access to the public for water-based activities at dozens of developed areas, including lakes and reservoirs.

[San Joaquin River Conservancy's River Parkway](#): The extensive conservation and recreation corridor in the Fresno area remain accessible for recreation.

[Tahoe Conservancy Public Lands](#): The California Tahoe Conservancy has nearly 6,500 acres in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

[Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Parks and Trails](#): The SMMC owns parks, trails, and facilities that it operates with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

*Please note that visitors are advised to bring soap for handwashing and alcohol-based hand sanitizers for when water is not available.

Counties That Have Filed an Attestation

On May 8th, the Governor outlined a process where counties who met specific criteria could move more quickly than other parts of the state through Stage 2 of modifying the Stay-at-Home order.

The counties below have filed an Attestation that they have met the readiness criteria specified in the May 8, 2020 **COVID-19 County Variance Attestation Form (PDF)**. These counties can move more quickly through Stage 2 opening sectors once state guidance is posted for that sector.

These Counties have filled out a form asking to open into Stage 2...

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/County_Variance_Attestation_Form.aspx



Stage 3: Higher-risk workplaces

Phase in higher-risk workplaces at a pace designed to protect public health and safety, beginning with limited personal care and recreational venues (with workplace modifications).

Travel for permissible activities, such as healthcare, food, stages 1-3 work, and local or activities shopping related to open sectors.

Monitor critical indicators and alter scope of reopening if necessary to protect public health and safety.



Stage 4: End of stay at home order

Gradually open larger gathering venues at a pace consistent with public health and safety, such as nightclubs, concert venues, and live audience sports.

Gradually resume remaining activities and travel.

Monitor critical indicators and alter scope of reopening if necessary to protect public health and safety.

This would be the final stage. We can't get here until we pass through all the other Stages.