



Federal and State COVID-19 Business Reopening Resources

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50-State Overview



State	Stay-at-Home/Business Closure Order Expiration Date	Link to Order Text	Essential Business Designations	Regional Reopening Coalition	Statewide Mask Requirements
Alabama	April 30, 2020	ORDER OF THE STATE HEALTH OFFICER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PUBLIC GATHERINGS DUE TO RISK OF INFECTION BY COVID-19	The order text lists essential businesses, services, and other operations.	Southern States Pact	
Alaska	April 21, 2020	COVID-19 HEALTH MANDATE	Alaska Essential Services and Critical Workforce Infrastructure Order		
Arizona	April 30, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-18	Additional Guidance On Essential Services		
Arkansas	N/A	N/A	N/A		
California	Indefinite	EXECUTIVE ORDER N-33-20	Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers	Western States Pact	
Colorado	April 26, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-24	Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) Guidance on Critical vs. Non-Critical Business Professions		EXECUTIVE ORDER D 2020 039
Connecticut	May 20, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7X	List of State Designated Essential Businesses	Northeast Multi-State Council	Executive Order 7BB
Delaware	May 15, 2020, or until the public health threat is eliminated	EIGHTH MODIFICATION OF THE DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT	Essential and Non Essential Business Categories During Coronavirus Closure	Northeast Multi-State Council	THIRTEENTH MODIFICATION OF THE DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT
Florida	April 30, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-91	Governor DeSantis Executive Order 20-91 ESSENTIAL SERVICES LIST	Southern States Pact	
Georgia	April 30, 2020	RENEWAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY	EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ENSURE A SAFE & HEALTHY GEORGIA	Southern States Pact	
Hawaii	May 31, 2020	SIXTH SUPPLEMENTARY PROCLAMATION	The order text lists essential businesses, services, and other operations.		Fifth Supplementary Proclamation
Idaho	April 30, 2020	ORDER TO SELF-ISOLATE	The order text lists essential businesses, services, and other operations.		
Illinois	May 30, 2020	Order forthcoming	Essential Businesses & Operations Frequently Asked Questions UPDATED 4/9/20	Midwestern States Pact	
Indiana	May 1, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-22	Essential Businesses and Operations List	Midwestern States Pact	
Iowa	Non-essential business closure until April 30, 2020; No stay-at-home order	PROCLAMATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY	The State of Public Health Disaster Emergency order lists businesses that are considered "nonessential."		
Kansas	May 3, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-24	EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-16		
Kentucky	Indefinite	EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-246	A full list of categories of life-sustaining, in-person retail businesses is attached to the order.	Midwestern States Pact	
Louisiana	April 30, 2020	STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR COVID-19 EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY PROVISIONS	Additional Illustrative Examples of Critical Infrastructure Businesses Consistent with Cyber and Infrastructure Security Agency Guidance		
Maine	April 30, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 28 FY 19/20	Essential Business Operations Definitions		
Maryland	Indefinite	EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-03-30-01	INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE COVID19-04		Order 20-04-15-01
Massachusetts	May 4, 2020	COVID-19 Order No. 21	COVID-19 - Essential Services	Northeast Multi-State Council	
Michigan	May 15, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-59	EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-21: GUIDANCE FOR BUSINESS	Midwestern States Pact	EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-59
Minnesota	May 3, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-33	Executive Order 20-33 Critical Sector Descriptions	Midwestern States Pact	
Mississippi	May 11, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1477	EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1463	Southern States Pact	
Missouri	May 3, 2020	EXTENSION STAY AT HOME ORDER	Stay At Home Order: Business Guidance		
Montana	April 24, 2020	Directive implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 and extending certain Directives through April 24, 2020	Directive Implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 providing measures to stay at home and designating certain essential functions		
Nebraska	Certain businesses closed until April 30; No stay-at-home order	N/A	DHM 4.9.2020.pdf		
Nevada	April 30, 2020	DIRECTIVE 010	Emergency Regulation of the Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management		
New Hampshire	May 4, 2020	EMERGENCY ORDER 16 PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-04	Emergency Order #17 - Essential Business List		
New Jersey	Indefinite	EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 122	What are the "stay at home" rules in New Jersey? What businesses are closed?	Northeast Multi-State Council	EXECUTIVE ORDER 122 (2020)
New Mexico	May 15, 2020	Order forthcoming	Stay at Home - Essential Businesses		
New York	May 15, 2020	Executive Order 202.18	GUIDANCE FOR DETERMINING WHETHER A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE IS SUBJECT TO A WORKFORCE REDUCTION UNDER RECENT EXECUTIVE ORDERS	Northeast Multi-State Council	EXECUTIVE ORDER 202.16
North Carolina	May 8, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 135	COVID-19 Essential Businesses		
North Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Ohio	May 1, 2020	AMENDED DIRECTOR'S STAY AT HOME ORDER	The order text lists essential businesses and operations.	Midwestern States Pact	
Oklahoma	May 6, 2020 (for vulnerable residents only)	EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-13			
Oregon	Indefinite	Executive Order No. 20-12	Executive Order 20-12 lists specific categories of businesses that must be closed. Other retail businesses not on that list may continue operating, but only if they can maintain social distancing protocols.	Western States Pact	

Pennsylvania	May 8, 2020	AMENDMENT TO THE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR INDIVIDUALS TO STAY AT HOME	UPDATED 12:30pm, April 20, 2020 - Industry Operation Guidance	Northeast Multi-State Council	Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Directing Public Health Safety Measures for Businesses Permitted to Maintain In-person Operations
Rhode Island	May 8, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-23	Business guidelines during crisis	Northeast Multi-State Council	Executive Order 20-24
South Carolina	Until the State of Emergency concludes	EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-21	COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES	Southern States Pact	
South Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Tennessee	April 30, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 27	Attachment A to Executive Order No. 22	Southern States Pact	
Texas	April 30, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER GA 14	GA-14 Essential Services Designation		
Utah	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Vermont	May 15, 2020	ADDENDUM 9 TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 01-20	STAY HOME STAY SAFE FAOS FOR BUSINESSES		
Virginia	June 10, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 55 (2020)	Coronavirus Actions and Support Business Operations		
Washington	May 4, 2020	EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-25.1	What's open and closed: Essential business	Western States Pact	
West Virginia	Indefinite	EXECUTIVE ORDER 9-20	The order text lists essential businesses and operations.		
Wisconsin	May 26, 2020	EMERGENCY ORDER #28	The order text lists essential business and operations	Midwestern States Pact	
Wyoming	N/A	N/A	N/A		
District of Columbia	May 15, 2020	Mayor's Order 2020-063	MAYOR'S ORDER 2020-053		Mayor's Order 2020-063

Federal Government

White House Proposed Guidelines for “Opening Up America Again”

On April 16, the White House released [proposed guidelines](#) for states to reopen amid the coronavirus pandemic. The guidance doesn't lay out a specific timeline for relaxing social distancing restrictions. It lists a set of criteria - such as testing and hospital capacity - for local leaders to use in making decisions for reopening in three phases:

- **Phase One:** Restaurants, movie theaters, sporting venues, places of worship and gyms can reopen if they observe strict social distancing. Elective surgeries can resume when appropriate on an outpatient basis. Schools currently closed should remain shut and visits to senior living facilities and hospitals should be prohibited. Bars should remain closed. High-risk individuals should remain at home.
- **Phase Two:** Schools and organized youth activities like camps can reopen. Nonessential travel can resume, and people can start circulating in parks, outdoor recreational areas and shopping centers, while avoiding gatherings of more than 50 individuals unless unspecified precautionary measures are taken. Restaurants, movie theaters and other large venues can operate under moderate social distancing rules. Vulnerable individuals should continue to shelter in place, and employers should continue to encourage telework whenever possible. Common areas where people congregate in close quarters should be closed. Bars can operate with diminished standing-room occupancy.
- **Phase Three:** Vulnerable individuals can resume public interactions but practice social distancing. Employers can resume unrestricted staffing of workplaces. Large public venues can operate under limited social distancing rules. Visits to senior care facilities and hospitals can resume.

Still, the guidelines leave the final say in any loosening of restrictions to state and local officials, adding that governors should work on a regional basis to progress through the phased recovery. As President Trump told governors during a call earlier in the day: “You’re going to call your own shots.”

White House “Opening Up American Again Congressional Group”

On April 16, President Trump [announced](#) a list of nearly 100 members of Congress from both parties who will serve on the “Opening Up America Again Congressional Group.” Please see the announcement for a list of the members who were invited.

White House “Great American Revival Industry Groups”

On April 14, President Trump [announced](#) a list of executives, economists, scholars, and industry leaders who together will form various “Great American Economic Revival Industry Groups.” It is worth noting that some of the individuals listed were not aware that they had been selected for these groups. The intent is for the groups to work together with the White House to chart the path forward to economic reopening and recovery. The state industry groups include Agriculture, Banking, Construction/Labor/Workforce, Defense, Energy, Financial Services, Food &

Beverage, Healthcare, Hospitality, Manufacturing, Real Estate, Retail, Tech, Telecommunications, Transportation, Sports, and Thought Leaders/Groups. Please refer to the announcement for a list of the individual members of each group.

CDC and FEMA: “A Framework for Re-Opening America”

Officials from the CDC and FEMA have developed an eight-part, 36-page plan called “A Framework for Re-Opening America” and an 10-page executive summary titled ["Focus on the Future - Going to Work for America"](#), dated April 10. One part of a larger White House effort to draft a national plan for reopening the economy, one participant in the planning described it as “a road map for if they want to do it gradually.” The plan lays out three phases: Preparing the nation to reopen with a national communication campaign and community readiness assessment until May 1. Then, the effort through May 15 would involve ramping up manufacturing of testing kits and personal protective equipment and increasing emergency funding. Then staged reopenings would begin, depending on local conditions. The plan does not give dates for reopenings but specified “not before May 1.” Any reopening must meet four conditions:

- Incidence of infection is “genuinely low.”
- A “well functioning” monitoring system capable of “promptly detecting any increase in incidence” of infection.
- A public health system that is “reacting robustly” to all cases of covid-19 and has surge capacity to react to an increase in cases.
- A health system that has enough inpatient beds and staffing to rapidly scale up and deal with a surge in cases.

CISA Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce

On March 28, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) issued, in collaboration with other federal agencies, State and local governments, and the private sector, an [“Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce” advisory list](#). This list is intended to help State, local, tribal and territorial officials as they work to protect their communities, while ensuring continuity of functions critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security. This list is advisory in nature; it is not, nor should it be considered, a federal directive or standard. Additionally, this advisory list is not intended to be the exclusive list of critical infrastructure sectors, workers, and functions that should continue during the COVID-19 response across all jurisdictions. Individual jurisdictions should add or subtract essential workforce categories based on their own requirements and discretion.

State Government

As states develop their own plans for restarting their economies, regional coalitions are taking shape to facilitate information-sharing and coordinated reopening. These coalitions are listed below, followed by a detailed summary of the informal and official statements, executive and legislative actions, and key people involved in the reopening decisions in each state.

Northeast Multi-State Council

On April 13, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo [announced](#) the formation of a Multi-State Council to Get People Back to Work and Restore the Economy. The Council is tasked with developing a “fully integrated regional framework to gradually lift the states’ Stay at Home orders while minimizing the risk of increased spread of the virus.” It will include one health expert, one economic development expert, and respective gubernatorial Chiefs of Staff from each state. So far, the Council includes seven Northeastern states: New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts.

Western States Pact

On April 13, California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee [announced](#) the formation of a Western States Pact to move toward reopening based on health outcomes. Nevada and Colorado joined the pact on April 27. While each state is building a state-specific plan, the states agreed to a set of three general principles as they build out a West Coast framework: 1) Residents’ health comes first; 2) Health outcomes and science - not politics - will guide decisions; and 3) States will only be effective by working together.

Midwestern States Pact

On April 16, Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine, Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb, and Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear [announced](#) that they will work in close coordination to reopen the economy in the Midwest region. The governors stressed that the pact “doesn't mean our economy will reopen all at once, or that every state will take the same steps at the same time.” All reopening decisions will be guided by four factors:

- Sustained control of the rate of new infections and hospitalizations.
- Enhanced ability to test and trace.
- Sufficient health care capacity to handle resurgence.
- And best practices for social distancing in the workplace.

In a joint statement, the governors said, “Our number one priority when analyzing when best to reopen our economy is the health and safety of our citizens. We will make decisions based on facts, science, and recommendations from experts in health care, business, labor, and education.”

Southern States Pact

On April 21, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, and Tennessee informally announced plans to coordinate the reopening of the region’s economies. In an interview with Fox

News, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis said his office “had a meeting with all the Southeastern governors — Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, and Tennessee [...] And we shared a lot of ideas. I think we will be the same page on some stuff.” DeSantis’ communications director, Helen Aguirre Ferré, [tweeted](#) that the Florida governor “is working in coalition with regional southeastern state governors [...] to safely re-open as well as working regionally within Florida to make sure we thread the needle properly.”

National Governors Association “Roadmap to Recovery”

On April 22, the National Governors Association and state health officials released the “[Roadmap to Recovery](#),” a 10-point plan that urges a cautious approach to reopening, calling on the White House to dramatically ramp up testing and help states bolster other public health measures before social distancing can be safely pulled back. Specifically, the plan recommends a “a significant increase” in workers who help identify those infected with the coronavirus and try to convince their contacts to self-quarantine to prevent further spread. It also says states should have plans for quarantining these contacts in places like hotels, dorms or military barracks; a robust public health infrastructure in place as they reopen, including a strong surveillance system for detecting COVID-19; and metrics to assess the hospital capacity to treat both coronavirus and non-infected patients and protect at-risk populations. These are similar to measures to the White House reopening plan, but the NGA Roadmap includes more detail.

Alabama

On April 9, Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth [announced](#) the formation of a task force to reopen the state's economy. A plan will be presented to Gov. Kay Ivey by April 22. Ainsworth said at the time: “We have an emergency small business task force and we have a subcommittee that's going to have recommendations...that's going to look at all of the nonessential businesses plus any business that's been impacted, talking about how we can get them back open for business May 1st.”

On April 21, it was confirmed that Alabama had joined a coalition of six Southern states to coordinate the reopening of the region’s economy. Gov. Ivey has said the existing stay-at-home order will remain in effect until April 30.

Alaska

In an April 16 press conference, Gov. Mike Dunleavy [said](#) he wants the state to return to as close to normal as possible, but that Alaskans should know some things will be different:

- There may continue to be restrictions at nursing homes, which house some of the Alaskans who are most vulnerable to serious illness from the coronavirus.

- There will be long-term changes in hygiene, including more frequent hand washing and surface cleanings, and wearing face masks.
- People should continue to stay at least 6 feet away from those not in their households.

In an April 21 press conference, Gov. Dunleavy unveiled “[Phase One](#)” of reopening the state’s economy. In the first phase, restaurants; retail stores; personal services businesses (i.e., nail salons, hairdressers, and barbers); and other non-essential businesses will be allowed to reopen with limited services beginning April 24. Health mandates [10](#), [11](#), and [12](#), which require, inter alia, social distancing, as well as the quarantining of out-of-state visitors and returning residents have been extended.

On April 22, Gov. Dunleavy issued a health [mandate](#) that allows restaurants, stores, personal care services such as hair and nail salons and other non-essential businesses to open April 24.

Reopening Orders

- [COVID-19 Health Mandate 015](#) allows health care facilities and providers to resume services that require minimal protective equipment and safety protocols for pre-screening on April 20. This includes services such as physicals, routine exams, and minimal procedures. Beginning May 4, health care providers may perform non-urgent, or elective procedures, with defined safety protocols for patients and staff. This includes services such as biopsies and angiograms.
- [COVID-19 Health Mandate 016](#) allows retail businesses, personal care services, restaurants for dine-in service, and other non-essential businesses to resume operation starting Friday, April 24 at 8:00 a.m.

Arizona

On April 13, Gov. Doug Ducey [tweeted](#): “I want to get the economy moving and people back to work as soon as possible -- when it is safe and healthy for people to do so.” He emphasized the importance of maintaining social distancing and continuing to make “responsible choices.”

Gov. Ducey has said the state’s stay-at-home order will remain in effect until April 30. Elective surgeries can resume May 1.

Arkansas

On April 17, Gov. Asas Hutchinson [said](#) at his weekly press conference that statewide COVID-19 restrictions could start to be lifted on a limited schedule as early as May 4. That’s the target date in which the state is currently expected to meet the criteria required for Phase One of

a reopening plan outlined by White House officials. Hutchinson told reporters on April 16 that he wants to bring back elective surgeries: “We want to get (hospitals) back to doing the important health-care delivery that is important in our communities.”

In an April 22 press conference, Gov. Hutchinson [announced](#) certain nonessential medical services on April 27, 2020. The governor also announced that he has established target dates to decide whether the state will lift restrictions on certain other services and businesses. The governor announced the follow dates for decisions regarding lifting restrictions:

- April 29: Restaurants
- April 30: Gyms and indoor recreational facilities
- May 1: Beauty salons and barber shops
- May 4: Places of worship and larger venues

Key People

On April 18, Gov. Hutchinson [announced](#) the “Governor’s Economic Recovery Task Force.” The task force, established by [Executive Order 20-20](#), will include 27 leaders from the private sector and public agencies who will examine the impact of COVID-19 on businesses and industries in the state. The task force will recommend a strategy to the Governor for our economy to shift out of low gear consistent with public-health guidance. The group is chaired by Sam Walton’s grandson, Stuart Walton ([Bio](#)). Please refer to the announcement for a full list of members.

On April 14, Gov. Hutchinson [announced](#) the “Governor’s Medical Advisory Committee for Post-Peak COVID-19 Response.” The committee, established by [Executive Order 20-17](#), will identify the criteria to guide public health strategy after Arkansas reaches the peak of COVID-19 cases. Secretary of Health Dr. Nate Smith chairs the committee, which includes other doctors and medical officials in the state. Please refer to the announcement for a full list.

California

On April 13, California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee [announced](#) the formation of a Western States Pact to move toward reopening based on health outcomes. While each state is building a state-specific plan, the states agreed to a set of three general principles as they build out a West Coast framework: 1) Residents’ health comes first; 2) Health outcomes and science - not politics - will guide decisions; and 3) States will only be effective by working together.

On April 14, Gov. Gavin Newsom outlined ["six critical indicators"](#) - rather than a precise timeline - that will serve as the framework for modifying the state’s Stay-at-Home order and other COVID-19 interventions. He also noted that things will look different as California makes

modifications. For example, restaurants will have fewer tables and classrooms will be reconfigured. California's six indicators for modifying the stay-at-home order are:

1. The ability to monitor and protect our communities through testing, contact tracing, isolating, and supporting those who are positive or exposed;
2. The ability to prevent infection in people who are at risk for more severe COVID-19;
3. The ability of the hospital and health systems to handle surges;
4. The ability to develop therapeutics to meet the demand;
5. The ability for businesses, schools, and child care facilities to support physical distancing; and
6. The ability to determine when to reinstitute certain measures, such as the stay-at-home orders, if necessary.

Gov. Newsom said April 22 that California was not prepared “to open up large sectors of our society” but made the first modification to the state's stay-at-home order with the resumption of “essential” surgeries. “Tumors, heart valves, the need for people to get the kind of care they deserve,” he said. “If it’s delayed, it becomes acute. This fundamentally is a health issue.” The guidelines became effective immediately.

Key People

On April 17, Gov. Newsom [announced](#) the creation of a “Governor’s Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery.” It will be co-chaired by Tom Steyer ([Bio](#)) and Ann O’Leary, Newsom’s Chief of Staff ([Bio](#)). Other leaders from the public and private sectors named to task force include:

- Janet Yellen, *former Federal Reserve Chair* ([Bio](#))
- Bob Iger, *Disney Executive Chairman* ([Bio](#))
- Willie Adams, *ILWU President* ([Bio](#))
- Antonia Hernandez, *President and CEO of the California Community Foundation* ([Bio](#))
- Aida Álvarez, *former SBA Administrator* ([Bio](#))
- Tim Cook, *Apple CEO* ([Bio](#))
- Toni Atkins, *California Senate President pro Tempore* ([Bio](#))
- Anthony Rendon, *California Assembly Speaker* ([Bio](#))
- Shannon Grove, *California Senate Minority Leader* ([Bio](#))
- Marie Waldron, *California Assembly Minority Leader* ([Bio](#))

Read the full list of Task Force members [here](#).

Colorado

On April 15, Gov. Jared Polis [discussed](#) for the first time what it will take for Colorado to begin to reopen and relax its stay-at-home order (currently slated to expire April 26). The governor said the state will focus on six principles:

1. Work to suppress the virus
2. Increased ability to conduct testing and containment
3. Additional protections for those most at risk for COVID-19
4. Ability of the health care system to handle increased demand
5. Social distancing policies that can be sustainable
6. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of policies and their impact

On April 20, Gov. Polis [laid out](#) how the reopening will unfold once the state's stay-at-home order expires on April 26. The governor said he expects retailers will have the option to reopen with curbside pickup beginning April 27, and then will be able to reopen to limited numbers of in-store customers on May 1, provided they have social-distancing policies in place. Companies will likely be able to reopen offices with 50% of their workforces the following Monday, May 4, although Polis added that telecommuting should be maximized as much as possible, particularly with older employees. Additionally, local orders in Colorado will supersede state orders, so Denver and other urban areas may remain on lockdowns longer before less affected rural regions.

On April 22, Gov. Polis provided an update on the state's plan to reopen its economy, stating that Colorado would begin the process with a "Safer-at-Home" phase, under which "Coloradans should continue to limit social interactions to the greatest extent possible to just individuals in your household and wear facial masks when you are out." The governor said that the goal of the safer-at-home phase is to maintain 60%-65% physical distancing. More information on the plan can be found [here](#).

Mask Requirement

Executive order D 2020 039 requires workers in critical businesses and critical government functions to wear non-medical face masks. The order, which can be viewed [here](#), expires on May 17, 2020.

Connecticut

At the announcement of the Northeast Multi-State Coalition on April 13, Gov. Ned Lamont said he believed it would take at least another month before the state could decide on who and when to begin reopening. Connecticut's mandatory shutdown is currently slated to expire May 20.

Key People

As a member of the Northeast Multi-State Coalition, Connecticut formed a three-person task force. Gov. Lamont announced the "Reopening Connecticut Advisory Group" in this [press release](#). The group includes:

- Indra Nooyi, *co-chair of AdvanceCT and former CEO of PepsiCo* ([Bio](#))
- Dr. Albert Ko, *Epidemiology Chair, Yale University School of Medicine* ([Bio](#))

- Paul Mounds, *Chief of Staff to Gov. Ned Lamont* ([Bio](#))

Mask Requirement

Gov. Ned Lamont issued an executive order requiring cloth face mask coverings or a “higher level of protection” whenever “close contact is unavoidable” in public. In addition, individuals shall use a mask or cloth face covering when using the services of any taxi, car, livery, ride-sharing or similar service or means of mass public transit, or while within any semi-enclosed transit stop or waiting area. The order, which is effective indefinitely, can be viewed [here](#).

Delaware

Gov. John Carney said April 17 that when Delaware reopens, standards for social distancing, face coverings in public, washing hands, limited gatherings and vulnerable populations sheltering in place will remain.

Key People

As a member of the Northeast Multi-State Coalition, Delaware formed a three-person task force on reopening. The task force includes:

- Dr. Kara Odom Walker, *Delaware Health and Social Services Secretary* ([Bio](#))
- Kurt Foreman, *CEO, Delaware Prosperity Partnership* ([Bio](#))
- Shelie Grant, *Chief of Staff to Gov. John Carney* ([Bio](#))

Mask Requirement

Starting at 8:00 a.m. on April 28, with a few exceptions, all individuals must wear a face covering when riding on public transportation or in a ride-sharing vehicle; when they are a customer of any business, including, but not limited to, grocery stores, convenience stores, supermarkets, laundromats, and restaurants, both inside the business and when waiting in line outside; when they are obtaining services at any healthcare provider; when they are in an outdoor public area, including state parks and golf courses, if maintaining social distancing of six (6) feet between individuals of different households is impracticable; or when they are in any public area and are feeling sick, coughing, or sneezing. The order can be viewed [here](#).

Florida

Gov. Ron DeSantis has given his reopening task force until April 24 to come up with a plan to safely reopen the state. He has previously suggested that this could begin by allowing elective surgeries, but it is now looking like the short-term reopening could be more widespread,

including restaurants and hotels. Beaches reopened for “essential activities” in parts of the state on April 17.

On April 21, Gov. DeSantis confirmed that Florida had joined a coalition of six Southern states to coordinate the reopening of the region’s economy. He said on “Fox & Friends” that he had a meeting with the governors of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee to discuss reopening. “We shared a lot of ideas,” he said. “I think we will be on the same page on some stuff.”

Key People

On April 20, Gov. DeSantis announced the executive committee members of his “Re-Open Florida Task Force.” The following day, he announced members of the Task Force’s “Industry Working Group on Tourism, Construction, Real Estate, Recreation, Retail and Transportation.” The selections include legislative leaders, county mayors and executives from such companies as Disney, Universal, Florida Power & Light, and Publix. Florida Democrats have criticized the choices, saying the committee only included DeSantis loyalists. The Task Force will meet daily by phone until Friday, when the governor hopes it will be able to make a report. A full list of members can be found [here](#).

Gov. DeSantis also made a major leadership shift on April 15, replacing Department of Economic Development Secretary Ken Lawson with Department of Management Services Secretary Jonathan Satter ([Bio](#)). The move puts Satter in charge of the state’s beleaguered unemployment compensation system.

Georgia

In an April 16 statement, Gov. Brian Kemp said that “in the coming days” he would “outline how Georgia will move forward,” following federal guidelines and collaborating with health and emergency management officials to “develop a plan for safely returning to more routine operations.” Kemp told reporters that day he thinks “there’s ways we can start easing back into the economy.” Aides to the governor also acknowledged that he has consulted with political and business leaders - from the state’s agriculture, manufacturing, and banking industries, among others - about how soon he should ease restrictions.

On April 20, Kemp took the first step toward reopening by issuing an executive order to reopen certain retail stores, salons, and spas on April 24 and theaters and restaurants on April 27. On April 21, the Georgia Board of Cosmetology and Barbers issued [guidance](#) for safe reopening. Former FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb reacted to the news: “Gyms, nail salons, bowling alleys, hair salons, tattoo parlors: It feels like they collected a list of the businesses you know that were most risky and decided to open those first.”

On April 21, it was confirmed that Georgia had joined a coalition of six Southern states to coordinate the reopening of the region's economy.

Reopening Orders

- [EXECUTIVE ORDER 04.20.20.01](#) allows certain retail stores, fitness centers, bowling alleys, body art studios, hair design, massage, and other businesses to begin in-person minimum basic operations on April 24, 2020, provided that they implement basic social distancing measures. Theaters and restaurants will be allowed to reopen on April 27, 2020, while bars and nightclubs will remain closed.

Key People

On March 20, Gov. Kemp [announced](#) a 66-member Coronavirus Task Force comprised of four subcommittees, including an Economic Impact Committee charged with predicting the economic effects of COVID-19 and making recommendations for recovery. Please refer to the announcement for a list of each committee's members.

Hawaii

On April 15, Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hara [told](#) the state Senate Special Committee that the time to plan is now: "Maybe it's a month, maybe two months. There's certain indicators that will tell me I can start relaxing certain policies, that the governor can relax certain policies. But I've got to have that plan and framework in place. And I've got to start now." Hara also said he's discussed with Gov. Ige joining California, Oregon, and Washington in the Western States Pact.

Gov. David Ige [said](#) on April 16 that Hawaii doesn't yet satisfy the federal criteria for phased reopening, one of which is a 14-day downward trend in the number of cases.

Reopening Orders

The state's [Sixth Supplementary Proclamation](#), which extends the stay-at-home order until May 31, 2020, eases restrictions to allow beaches to reopen for exercise, provided that beachgoers maintain social distancing requirements, and allows for the resumption of elective surgeries.

Key People

Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hara, the state's adjutant general and director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, serves as Gov. Ige's pointman on the economic and nonmedical logistic response to COVID-19 ([Bio](#))

The House Select Committee on COVID-19 Economic and Financial Preparedness, established by [House Resolution No. 54](#), works with representatives from local and state government, private industry, and nonprofit agencies and organizations to develop short-term and long-term mitigation plans. The Select Committee is co-chaired by House Speaker Scott K. Saiki ([Bio](#)) and Bank of Hawaii President & CEO Peter Ho ([Bio](#)). A full list of members can be found [here](#).

Mask Requirement

All customers patronizing essential businesses are required to wear face coverings; all employees who have contact with customers or goods to be purchased must wear cloth face coverings while at their place of employment. All people are “encouraged” to wear a cloth face covering. The order, which will remain in effect indefinitely, can be viewed [here](#).

Idaho

In an April 15 [press release](#), Gov. Brad Little said “non-essential” businesses should prepare to reopen after April 30 as long as they prepare operational plans over the next two weeks to maintain social distancing for staff and patrons; provide adequate sanitation and protective coverings for employees, vendors, and patrons; offer curbside and pickup delivery; limit number of people in business at a time; and direct flow of people in the operation. This excludes some “non-essential” businesses where people simply cannot safely social distance, such as nightclubs, bars, and restaurants for dine-in; indoor gyms and recreational facilities; hair and nail salons; convention and entertainment centers; and public events and gatherings.

In an April 17 [press release](#), the governor confirmed that the “President’s plan to responsibly reopen the economy in phases is underway in Idaho.” President Trump also said on April 18 that Idaho would be phasing in a reopening for nonessential businesses on May 1.

Reopening Orders

- [ORDER TO SELF-ISOLATE](#), the April 15 executive order extending the state’s stay-at-home order through April 30, also allowed for some businesses and facilities to reopen for curbside pickup, drive-in and drive-thru service, and mailed or delivery services.
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Illinois

On April 16, Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker [announced](#) that he will work in close coordination with the governors of Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Kentucky to reopen the economy in the Midwest region. The governors stressed that the pact “doesn’t mean our economy

will reopen all at once, or that every state will take the same steps at the same time.” All reopening decisions will be guided by four factors:

- Sustained control of the rate of new infections and hospitalizations.
- Enhanced ability to test and trace.
- Sufficient health care capacity to handle resurgence.
- And best practices for social distancing in the workplace.

In a joint statement, the governors said, “Our number one priority when analyzing when best to reopen our economy is the health and safety of our citizens. We will make decisions based on facts, science, and recommendations from experts in health care, business, labor, and education.”

Gov. Pritzker previously said during an April 13 press conference that he believes the current state in Illinois has been enough to slowly start lifting shelter-in-place orders so that some industry workers can go back to work. Although there is no clear timeline, he hopes that restarting production will go “industry by industry, and maybe company by company.”

Lawsuit

On April 23, following Gov. Pritzker’s announcement that he would extend the state’s stay-at-home order until May 30, state Rep. Darren Bailey filed a [lawsuit](#) to block the order’s extension. “My lawsuit asks the court to find that Gov. Pritzker overextended his power by issuing additional ‘stay at home’ orders after his original disaster proclamation, which expired on April 9th, 2020,” said Bailey. “Enough is enough. I filed this lawsuit on behalf of myself and my constituents who are ready to go back to work and resume a normal life.” A legal brief outlining the cause for the suit can be found [here](#).

On April 27, Clay County Circuit Court Judge Michael McHaney ruled against Gov. Pritzker’s extended stay-at-home order, granting a temporary restraining order to block its May 1st implementation. While State Rep. Darren Bailey (R-Xenia) – who filed as the plaintiff – is currently the only Illinois citizen released from the order, the ruling could potentially open the door to future legal challenges.

Indiana

Indiana is a member of the Midwestern reopening coalition [announced](#) on April 16. As such, Indiana will work in close coordination with Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Kentucky to reopen the economy in the Midwest region. All reopening decisions will be guided by four factors:

- Sustained control of the rate of new infections and hospitalizations.
- Enhanced ability to test and trace.
- Sufficient health care capacity to handle resurgence.
- And best practices for social distancing in the workplace.

Gov. Eric Holcomb [said](#) on April 16 that a state task force is seeking ideas from various business sectors on how to safely reopen for operators, workers and customers. State leaders believe they will be able to begin reopening the economy slowly and in parts in early May. “These next few days are very important to us,” Holcomb added. “We want to make sure our capacity is where it is, and continues to improve.”

Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds [said](#) in an April 16 radio interview that she is looking at May to begin reopening Iowa’s economy, “and we’ll have more information next week.” She added during her regular press conference that day that “testing will be critical I think moving forward and it will allow me to really drill down to a specific area and really allow me — like the northwest corner and the southwest corner, basically half the state is really at a good place to start dialing thing back up. Like opening some of our businesses on Main Street, opening up our restaurants with maybe 50 percent of what their capacity is if they’re meeting guidelines.”

Reynolds has not declared a stay-at-home order. She issued a [State of Public Health Disaster Emergency](#) on March 17, ordering all nonessential businesses to close until April 30.

Key People

Gov. Reynolds [said](#) during her April 13 press conference that she had formed an economic recovery task force of state government and business leaders. She also announced plans to discuss with education leaders the possibility of reopening schools.

Kansas

Gov. Laura Kelly [said](#) on April 17 that she has begun working with state officials on a plan to gradually reopen the economy once the statewide stay-at-home order is lifted, though moving forward will require robust testing. She added that she expects to have the guidelines available late in the following week or the week after.

Kentucky

Kentucky is a member of the Midwestern reopening coalition [announced](#) on April 16. As such, Kentucky will work in close coordination with Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Minnesota to reopen the economy in the Midwest region. All reopening decisions will be guided by four factors:

- Sustained control of the rate of new infections and hospitalizations.
- Enhanced ability to test and trace.
- Sufficient health care capacity to handle resurgence.
- And best practices for social distancing in the workplace.

Gov. Andy Beshear [said](#) on April 17 that Kentucky's plan to begin a phased reopening of the state's economy largely mirrors the White House guidance released on April 16. The governor said it's possible that some restrictions can be lifted in the coming weeks: "We see the ability to really start opening up in some small ways maybe leading up to May and some other small ways in May - and then have a lot more optimism as we get towards the end of it." He did not elaborate in detail but did say the first changes could affect the "health care area."

Louisiana

On April 16, Gov. John Bel Edwards [announced](#) the creation of "Resilient Louisiana," a state commission charged with examining Louisiana's economy amid the COVID-19 pandemic and making recommendations for more resilient business-related activities and commerce in the coming months. The commission will include a task force structure dedicated to specific sectors of Louisiana's economy. Task forces will be focused on solutions for such critical sectors as Energy and Manufacturing; Health Care, including improved delivery of medical care, health equity and enhanced facilities; Tourism, including hotels, gaming and related hospitality entities; Rural Development; Education and Workforce, with attention given to the training needs of displaced workers; and Economic and Community Development, including strategies for making regions and communities more resilient in the face of future health care threats and other risks.

Gov. Edwards [said](#) on April 21 that after the statewide stay-at-home order lifts April 30, he will likely ease some restrictions. He said there will be transitional requirements such as continued social distancing, limited occupancy, and face masks.

Key People

The 18-member Resilient Louisiana Commission includes Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser ([Bio](#)), and will be co-chaired by Louisiana Economic Development Secretary Don Pierson ([Bio](#)) and health care leader Terrie Sterling, a Baton Rouge consultant and retired Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System executive ([Bio](#)). A full list of members can be found [here](#).

Maine

Gov. Janel Mills [said](#) on April 17 that she will soon release a plan on how to reopen Maine but provided no details on timing or how the plan would be carried out. In a [press release](#) issued the

same day, she added: “I remain in contact with Governor Sununu of New Hampshire and Governor Scott of Vermont regarding actions that may be appropriate for the northern New England region. My Administration, through the Department of Economic and Community Development, has been connecting with individual economic sectors across the state to devise a plan for how we gradually reopen the Maine economy. Those decisions, of course, are driven first and foremost by the need to protect the public health. We will release details of the plan in the near future.”

Maryland

In mid-April, Gov. Larry Hogan [announced](#) the four building blocks that will be necessary to begin the state’s recovery process. The state continues to make significant progress in all four of the following critical areas:

1. Expanding testing capacity
2. Increasing hospital surge capacity
3. Ramping up supply of PPE
4. Building a robust contact tracing operation

On April 24, Gov. Hogan unveiled his “[Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery](#)” plan, which “lays out a path to gradually and responsibly reopen Maryland’s economy and details the ‘new normal’ necessary to do so,” asserting that economic recovery and protecting public health “are not opposing goals – they are the same goal and must work together hand in hand.” The plan Hogan laid out comes in three stages. Under stage one, the stay-at-home order is lifted, many businesses will be allowed to reopen, golf courses can reopen, and certain elective surgeries can resume. In stage two, non-essential workers who cannot telework will be permitted to return to work, restaurants and bars can reopen with “significant restrictions,” and indoor religious gatherings can resume with limited capacity. Finally, in stage three, bars and restaurants will reopen at normal capacity, some restrictions on visits to nursing homes and hospitals will be lifted, and larger social gatherings will be permitted. The governor’s recovery website, which provides status updates on the state’s “4 building blocks to recovery,” can be found [here](#).

Key People

The Maryland Department of Commerce has formed two task forces to prepare to reopen the state's economy: a Manufacturing Recovery Task Force, led by Commerce Secretary Kelly Schulz ([Bio](#)), and a Tourism Recovery Task Force. Both groups are outlining guidelines for reopening which they will report to Gov. Hogan.

Mask Requirement

Maryland requires face coverings be worn by employees and all customers over the age of nine inside retail stores, on public transit, and in foodservice establishments. The order, which can be

viewed [here](#), is effective until “after termination of the state emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.”

Massachusetts

Gov. Charlie Baker has emphasized that the state will need to have testing, tracing, isolation and quarantine procedures in place to reopen. “I think it’s going to be really important that we all pay attention to what the others are up to, and to make sure that nobody does anything that puts somebody in a really bad spot, because they just weren’t thinking about what that impact was going to be on some other part of the Northeastern part of the U.S.,” he said.

Key People

As a member of the Northeast Multi-State Coalition, Massachusetts formed a three-person task force on reopening. The task force includes:

- Lauren Peters, *Undersecretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services* ([Bio](#))
 - Michael Kennealy, *Secretary, Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development* ([Bio](#))
 - Kristen Lepore, *Chief of Staff to Gov. Charlie Baker* ([Bio](#))
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Michigan

Michigan is a member of the Midwestern reopening coalition [announced](#) on April 16. As such, Michigan will work in close coordination with Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Kentucky to reopen the economy in the Midwest region. All reopening decisions will be guided by four factors:

- Sustained control of the rate of new infections and hospitalizations.
- Enhanced ability to test and trace.
- Sufficient health care capacity to handle resurgence.
- And best practices for social distancing in the workplace.

On April 17, in response to protests in the state capital demanding reopening the economy, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said: “There’s no one I think is more eager to start reengaging sectors of our economy than I am. But the last thing I want to do is to have a second wave here and so we’ve got to be really smart.” She added that the first businesses to reopen will be in low-risk sectors.

Mask Requirement

[Executive order 2020-59](#) requires anyone over the age of two to wear face coverings in public places. Employers must provide non-medical grade masks to their on-site employees.

Minnesota

Minnesota is a member of the Midwestern reopening coalition [announced](#) on April 16. As such, Minnesota will work in close coordination with Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Kentucky to reopen the economy in the Midwest region. All reopening decisions will be guided by four factors:

- Sustained control of the rate of new infections and hospitalizations.
- Enhanced ability to test and trace.
- Sufficient health care capacity to handle resurgence.
- And best practices for social distancing in the workplace.

Reopening Orders

- [Emergency Executive Order 20-38](#), issued on April 17, permits Minnesota residents to engage in outdoor recreational activities while continuing to follow social distancing guidelines. The outdoor activities now permitted are golf, fishing, boating, hunting and hiking, all of which were halted under the state stay-at-home order that has been extended until May 4.
 - [Emergency Executive Order 20-40](#) allows certain non-critical businesses to return to work in industrial, manufacturing, and office settings on April 27. Businesses must first develop and implement a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan and institute a system for the health screening of employees prior to reopening. Additionally, the order maintains that Minnesota residents should continue to work from home whenever possible.
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Mississippi

In extending his statewide stay-at-home order until April 27, Gov. Tate Reeves [told](#) residents on April 17: “I have to ask you for one more week. One more week of vigilance. One more week of sheltering in place. We need one more week to break the back of our enemy.” He added that he would start to “ease the breaks” on some businesses, and his extension of the stay-at-home order until April 27 began this process by allowing nonessential businesses to conduct curbside, delivery, or drive-thru sales starting April 20.

On April 21, it was confirmed that Mississippi had joined a coalition of six Southern states to coordinate the reopening of the region’s economy.

Reopening Orders

- [EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1473](#), while it extends the statewide safer at home order until April 27, allows nonessential businesses - such as clothing stores and florists - to conduct curbside, delivery or drive-thru sales starting April 20 (as restaurants and some other businesses have already been doing). The order also lifts state closures of beaches and lakes, leaving it up to local authorities to manage these areas.
- [EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1477](#) extends the state's safer at home order until May 11, but allows retail stores to reopen with limited capacity. Additionally, the order allows for the resumption of elective procedures and reopens the state's courts.

Key People

Gov. Reeves has created a private-sector task force called "[Restart Mississippi](#)" to make recommendations on reopening the state's economy. The 17-person group is chaired by Sanderson Farms CEO Joe Sanderson ([Bio](#)). About half of the members played a role in Reeves' campaign or have other ties to the governor, and none are from organized labor or direct representatives from the Mississippi workforce. The task force's "executive team" is listed below, and a full list of members is available [here](#).

- Tom Gresham, *president of Double Quick, a convenience store chain. He is also commissioner of the Mississippi Gaming Commission and president of Delta Council.*
- John Hairston, *CEO of Hancock Whitney, a banking company. He previously served as chairman of the Mississippi Gaming Commission, and on several national banking committees.*
- Jonathan Jones, *CEO of Jones Capital, an investment firm overseeing several construction, fuel and logistics companies.*
- Colby Lane, *CEO of Veriforce, a technology business that works with energy companies. He previously worked in former Gov. Haley Barbour's administration and was involved in Hurricane Katrina recovery planning. He's also worked as an assistant U.S. attorney.*
- Tim Smith, *founder and CEO of Avectus Healthcare Solutions, a data processing company. He also founded Smith Property Holdings, which renovates historic buildings.*

Missouri

In an April 16 [press release](#) announcing that he had extended the statewide stay-at-home order through May 3, Gov. Mike Parson said that the Governor's Office would continue to monitor the situation and work with Missouri's hospitals, health care providers, public health experts, business leaders, and state departments to develop a plan. This "Show Me Strong Recovery" plan will rest on four essential pillars:

1. Rapidly expand testing capacity and volume in the state, including testing for those who are currently contagious and those who have developed immunity to the virus
2. Expand reserves of PPE by opening public and private supply chains and continuing to utilize Missouri businesses in that effort
3. Continue to monitor and, if necessary, expand hospital and health care system capacity, including isolation and alternate care facilities for those that cannot self-quarantine at home
4. Improve ability to predict potential outbreaks using Missouri's public health data

Gov. Parson has previously said, in an April 15, 2020 interview with NPR, that all decisions regarding reopening the state would be based on available data, such as hospital capacity and the rate of infection. “It will be based on facts that we're receiving every day,” Gov. Parson stated, adding that “Testing is going to be a big factor when you really ‘reopen’ the state [...] where people start feeling they’re safe again to go out and come back to some sort of normal life.” In terms of a timeline, the governor stated, “I think you could see that in the next several weeks, we’ll have a phased approach [...] We’ll probably open the state up for economics, probably different areas of the state at different times.” Gov. Parson’s full interview can be found [here](#).

Montana

In a [Medium post](#) on April 17, Gov. Steve Bullock said that he expects businesses will still be required to observe social-distancing regulations and other measures, including temperature checks of employees and cleaning requirements of high-traffic areas, in a phased reopening. He laid out three benchmarks the state must meet in order to begin, likely after April 25:

1. A sustained reduction in new COVID-19 cases for 14 days.
2. Hospitals must be able to safely treat all patients.
3. Montana must have capacity to test all people with COVID-19 symptoms.

On April 22, Gov. Bullock provided an update on the state’s phased reopening. The state’s stay-at-home order will expire on April 26 for individuals and April 27 for businesses. Main street and retail businesses can become operational on or after April 27 if they can adhere to requirements to limit capacity and maintain strict physical distancing. Employers are directed to develop policies to keep employees and customers safe including teleworking when possible.

Restaurants, bars, breweries, and distilleries can begin providing some in-establishment services beginning May 4. Businesses where groups gather without the ability to social distance including movie theaters, gyms, and other places of assembly remain closed. On May 7, all schools will have the option to return to in-classroom teaching delivery at the discretion of local school boards. More information on the phased reopening plan can be found [here](#).

Reopening Orders

- Montana's April 22, 2020 [directive](#) provides for the phased reopening of Montana. It establishes guidance applicable to all phases and provides direction for Phase One, including lifting the Stay at Home Directive and reopening non-essential businesses. It also provides local school boards the flexibility to make decisions about the remainder of the academic year.

Key People

On April 15, Gov. Bullock [announced](#) the "Coronavirus Relief Fund Task Force," led by Washington Companies CEO Larry Simkins ([Bio](#)). Please consult the announcement for a full list of members.

Montana's Adjutant General Matthew Quinn, head of the Montana National Guard ([Bio](#)), is also "leading a process based on military strategic planning principles to look at when and how Montana can safely take steps to reopen," according to the governor's April 17 Medium post. "The process includes the expertise of public health, emergency response, local providers, and business and industry leaders."

Nebraska

Nebraska is one of the states that has not issued a stay-at-home order to limit the spread of coronavirus nationwide. Gov. Pete Ricketts [announced](#) his "21 Days to Stay Home and Stay Healthy" campaign on April 10. The campaign is based on six rules: staying home, socially distancing at work, shopping alone and only once a week, helping kids social distance, helping seniors stay at home and exercising at home.

On April 9, Gov. Ricketts expanded business closures (in effect until April 30) under the state's [Directed Health Measure](#) to include beauty/nail salons, barber shops, massage therapy services, gentlemen's clubs, bottle clubs, indoor theatres, and tattoo parlors/studios. He also suspended all organized team sports until May 30. The existing DHM already barred elective surgeries, required restaurants and bars to close their dining areas, and imposed a 10-person limit on public gatherings.

At his daily press conference on April 17, Gov. Ricketts [said](#) his plan to reopen businesses and relax social distancing measures in Nebraska aligns with President Trump's plan to loosen restrictions in phases, but that no such changes will take place in April. He had previously [rejected](#) calls from state Sens. Steve Halloran and Steve Erdman to lift restrictions and instead let Nebraskans develop "herd immunity."

Meanwhile, the New York Times [reported](#) the same day that the Nebraska Crossing Outlets, a 376,000-square-foot outdoor complex in Gretna, NE - which technically was never ordered closed - could open as soon as the following week. Mall owner Rod Yates said he envisions salespeople taking the temperatures of customers before they can enter stores, strict limits on the number of shoppers allowed to browse the aisles, and hospital-grade disinfection of any surface on which someone might lay a hand as among the measures that could accompany the controversial reopening.

Nevada

On April 16, Gov. Steve Sisolak [said](#) he expects to know much more next week about whether conditions are right to either end or extend directives that have shut down much of the state, but cautioned that he had no “benchmark date” in place and that any easing of restrictions would likely be gradual. He mentioned broad-strokes metrics he’s monitoring, including modeling and projections, health risk assessments, testing capacity, hospital bed capacity and the ability of hospitals to deal with future surges, and added that there may be opportunities to relax restrictions “and then we’ll see how it works after a little while, if we don’t have an enormous spike in positives or emergency room usage.”

In an April 19 [op-ed](#) in the Nevada Independent, Wynn Resorts CEO Matt Maddox introduced the [Wynn Las Vegas Health & Sanitation Program](#), a 23-page proposal detailing the steps Wynn is taking and calling for parts of the Nevada economy to start reopening in early May, followed by the Las Vegas Strip in the middle or later part of the month.

Key People

Gov. Sisolak’s “[COVID-19 Response, Relief and Recovery Task Force](#)” is a public-private partnership overseen by Gov. Steve Sisolak’s office and the Nevada Health Response Center. The task force is headed by former MGM CEO Jim Murren ([Bio](#)), who was recently appointed by Gov. Sisolak to lead the state’s recovery efforts. Nevada Community Foundation is serving as fiscal agent for the fund. The group’s other members are:

- Yvanna Cancela, *Nevada State Senator* ([Bio](#))
 - Doug Cannon, *President and CEO, NV Energy* ([Bio](#))
 - Alex Dixon, *President, PureStar, West Region* ([Bio](#))
 - Dr. Rob McBeath, *President, OptumCare Mountain West Region* ([Bio](#))
 - Steve Menzies, *President, Focus Companies* ([Bio](#))
 - Scott M. Nielson, *President, Nielson Consulting* ([Bio](#))
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New Hampshire

Gov. Sununu told reporters on April 16 that he'll decide whether to extend the state's stay-at-home order before its current expiration date of May 4. "We want to give people some flexibility and be able to plan," Sununu said. He said that applies to restrictions on nonessential businesses and public gatherings.

On April 17, Gov. Chris Sununu said: "What New York and what New Hampshire do with that plan could be two different things. Some states in metrics [are] in phase 1 [of the reopening plan]. We're not quite there yet. We need 14 days of improving testing results in number of overall positive cases."

New Jersey

Gov. Phil Murphy discussed some reopening hypotheticals in an [interview](#) on April 16. Though he stressed the plan would need to be vetted first, he mentioned the possibility of restaurants operating at 50 percent capacity, with staff wearing masks, gloves and customers having their temperatures checked before entering. Murphy has also said that no major reopening will happen without more tests.

Key People

As a member of the Northeast Multi-State Coalition, New Jersey formed a three-person task force on reopening. The task force includes:

- Richard Besser, *president and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and former acting director of the CDC* ([Bio](#))
- Jeh Johnson, *former U.S. secretary of Homeland Security under President Obama* ([Bio](#))
- George Helmy, *Chief of Staff to Gov. Phil Murphy* ([Bio](#))

Mask Requirement

New Jersey requires that workers and customers wear cloth face coverings while on the premises of essential retail businesses, construction sites, and warehouses. The order states that "businesses must provide, at their expense, such face coverings and gloves for their employees. If a customer refuses to wear a cloth face covering for non-medical reasons and if such covering cannot be provided to the individual by the business at the point of entry, then the business must decline entry to the individual." The order, effective indefinitely, can be viewed [here](#).

New Mexico

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grishman said on April 16 about the White House's proposed reopening guidelines: "We appreciate their suggestions, and we will evaluate them thoroughly, but the plain

overriding fact is we cannot put the cart before the horse. As CDC, FEMA, and public health experts across the country have made clear, we are not at a point currently where it would be safe to reopen.”

New York

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has not come to any decision on when businesses will reopen and said he rejected “any elected official or any expert who says I can tell you what’s going to happen four weeks from today.” He said April 16 that there are factors for when a business can reopen, including how essential it is and what is the risk of catching the virus.

On April 18, New York joined Connecticut and New Jersey in opening its marinas, boatyards and boat launches for recreational use. The state also updated its guidance for golf courses, opening the door for public and private courses to open. Golfers must walk the course and carry their own bags without a motorized cart, according to Gov. Cuomo’s communications director, Dani Lever.

On April 21, Gov. Cuomo [said](#) during his daily briefing: “We’re going to make reopening decisions on a regional basis based on that region’s facts and circumstances ... [The] North Country has a totally different situation than New York City. Central New York has a different situation. We operate as one state but we also have to understand variations, and you do want to get this economy open as soon as possible.” He also [announced](#) that the rollout will begin by allowing some hospitals to resume outpatient elective surgeries and treatments, clarifying that the policy will exclude hospitals in Westchester, Rockland, Erie, Albany and Dutchess Counties, as well as in New York City, where there still is “a real COVID problem.” Elective surgeries are set to resume on a regional basis starting April 28.

On April 26, Gov. Cuomo [outlined](#) a phased plan to reopen New York region-by-region; a region can begin implementing the plan once it experiences a 14-day decline in the hospitalization rate (per CDC guidelines). Details of the plan include:

- **Phase one** will include opening construction and manufacturing functions with low risk.
- **Phase two** will open certain industries based on priority and risk level. Businesses considered "more essential" with inherent low risks of infection in the workplace and to customers will be prioritized, followed by other businesses considered "less essential" or those that present a higher risk of infection spread. As the infection rate declines, the pace of reopening businesses will be increased.

On April 27, Gov. Cuomo [said](#) that his stay-at-home order will likely be extended beyond May 15, 2020, across most of the state, but that certain restrictions could be relaxed in some localities provided that they have sufficient hospital capacity.

Key People

As a member of the Northeast Multi-State Coalition, New York formed a three-person task force on reopening. The task force includes:

- Robert Mujica, *NYS Budget Director* ([Bio](#))
- Michael Dowling, *Northwell Health President & CEO* ([Bio](#))
- Melissa DeRosa, *Secretary to Gov. Andrew Cuomo* ([Bio](#))

Gov. Cuomo has designated Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul ([Bio](#)) to oversee the transition in Western New York, and Former Lt. Gov. Bob Duffy ([Bio](#)) will coordinate plans in the Rochester area.

Gov. Cuomo has also announced coordinators for his internal reopening council and retained [McKinsey & Company](#) to work on the plan. These coordinators include:

- Steve Cohen, *former Secretary to the Governor, CoS to the Attorney General, and GC of MacAndrews and Forbes Inc.* ([Bio](#))
- Bill Mulrow, *former Secretary to the Governor, Sr. Advisory Director at Blackstone* ([Bio](#))

Additionally, it has been [reported](#) that Gov. Cuomo has been speaking with NY Mets COO Jeff Wilpon about the return of baseball. Other likely corporate partners in these talks include GE, Chobani, and financial and healthcare industry stakeholders.

Mask Requirement

For all essential businesses, any employees who are present in the workplace must wear face coverings when in direct contact with customers or members of the public. Businesses must provide, at their expense, such face coverings for their employees. This provision may be enforced by local governments or local law enforcement as if it were an order pursuant to section 12 or 12-b of the Public Health Law. This requirement is effective April 15, 2020 through May 15, 2020. More information can be found [here](#).

North Carolina

On April 17, Gov. Roy Cooper [tweeted](#): “It was good to see that many of the national criteria match what we’re doing here in North Carolina, but I and other Governors have been clear – we still need assistance with testing supplies & PPE.” He added that “easing restrictions in our state without masks, gowns and gloves is like setting off on a 3-day camping trip without enough food for one night.” He also said North Carolina needs more widespread testing and announced a partnership with three medical schools “to use testing and tracing to help us determine how far the disease has spread in the state.”

On April 23, Gov. Cooper outlined a three-phase plan for reopening North Carolina centered on “testing, tracing and trends.” In phase one, the state’s stay-at-home order would be modified to

allow individuals to leave home for commercial activity at businesses allowed to reopen, gatherings would be limited to ten people, and parks would be reopened. “At least 2-3 weeks after Phase 1,” during phase two, the stay-at-home order would be lifted, playgrounds would be reopened, and restaurants, bars, gyms, and other businesses would be allowed to reopen with limited capacity. “At least 4-6 weeks after Phase 2,” restrictions for vulnerable populations would be lessened, increased capacity at restaurants, bars, houses of worship, and entertainment venues would be allowed, but “rigorous restrictions on nursing homes and other congregant care settings” would continue. More information about the plan can be found [here](#).

In order to begin phase one, North Carolina needs to see progress in these key metrics:

- Sustained leveling or decreased trajectory in COVID-Like Illness (CLI) surveillance over 14 days;
 - Sustained leveling or decreased trajectory of lab-confirmed cases over 14 days;
 - Sustained leveling or decreased trajectory in percent of tests returning positive over 14 days; and
 - Sustained leveling or decreased trajectory in hospitalizations over 14 days.
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North Dakota

North Dakota is one of the states that has not issued a stay-at-home order. Gov. Doug Burgum has only shut down schools, restaurants, fitness centers, movie theaters and salons, and has said he hopes some businesses can start to reopen May 1.

President Trump said on April 18 that North Dakota “advised nonessential businesses to prepare for a phased reopening starting May 1.”

Ohio

Ohio is a member of the Midwestern reopening coalition [announced](#) on April 16. As such, Ohio will work in close coordination with Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Kentucky to reopen the economy in the Midwest region. All reopening decisions will be guided by four factors:

- Sustained control of the rate of new infections and hospitalizations.
- Enhanced ability to test and trace.
- Sufficient health care capacity to handle resurgence.
- And best practices for social distancing in the workplace.

In an April 16 [press release](#), Gov. Mike DeWine said that “beginning May 1st, the state will begin a phased-in reopening of the state economy. The plan will be fact-driven over a long period of time to minimize the health risk to business owners, employees, and their customers. In consultation with Dr. Acton, Lt. Governor Jon Husted will lead the governor’s board of economic advisors to identify best practices, similar to the current requirements on essential business operations to ensure Ohioans health and safety as businesses begin the process of reopening.”

On April 19, Gov. DeWine [said](#) on Meet the Press: ““We’re going to do what we think is right - what I think is right - and that is try to open this economy, but do it very, very carefully so we don’t get a lot of people killed. But we have to come back, and that’s what we’re aiming to do beginning on May 1. Frankly, it’s consistent, it’s very, very consistent with the plan, the very thoughtful plan, that the President has laid out.”

On April 27, Gov. DeWine outlined “[Responsible Restart Ohio](#),” a plan to gradually reopen Ohio, starting May 1 when all health procedures and operations that do not require overnight stay in a hospital can resume. Starting May 4, general offices and manufacturing, distribution and construction companies will be allowed to reopen according to new strict guidelines. Retail, service, and consumer businesses will be allowed to reopen on May 12. DeWine said the stay at home order, while modified, remains in place, and gatherings of 10 people or more are still not allowed.

Oklahoma

Gov. Kevin Stitt said on April 15 that he is working on a plan to reopen the state’s economy in phases, starting possibly as early as April 30. At the same time, Stitt extended Oklahoma’s “Safer at Home” order for adults over the age of 65 and other vulnerable residents until May 6. Elective surgeries will be allowed to resume April 24.

On April 22, Gov. Stitt [announced](#) his “[Open Up and Recover Safely](#)” plan, allowing personal care businesses to open April 24 by appointment only. This includes hair salons, barber shops, spas, nail salons, and pet groomers. Churches will open May 1 “if they leave every other row or pew open” and follow social distancing measures. Restaurants, movie theaters, gyms and tattoo parlors (by appointment only) can also open May 1.

Oregon

On April 13, California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee [announced](#) the formation of a Western States Pact to move toward reopening based on health outcomes. While each state is building a state-specific plan, the states agreed to a set of

three general principles as they build out a West Coast framework: 1) Residents' health comes first; 2) Health outcomes and science - not politics - will guide decisions; and 3) States will only be effective by working together.

In an April 14 [press release](#), Gov. Brown introduced her framework for “[Reopening Oregon](#): a plan to restart public life and business while maintaining healthy Oregon communities.” In order to begin reopening communities, Oregon must first slow the growth of COVID-19, as well as acquire adequate personal protective equipment to protect health care workers and first responders. Once those prerequisites are met, Oregon can begin to reopen by:

- Ramping up COVID-19 testing capacity in every region of Oregon
- Developing robust contact tracing systems to track and contain COVID-19 cases
- Establishing a quarantine and isolation program for new cases

Pennsylvania

On April 17, Gov. Tom Wolf [announced](#) a three-phase [Plan for Pennsylvania](#) that will provide citizens and businesses relief, allow for a safe and expedient reopening, and lay a road to recovery from the challenges and hardships created by the 2019 novel coronavirus. The phases are: 1) Relief; 2) Reopening; and 3) Recovery. The plan lays out six standards for the “Reopening” phase. It states that, the administration will consult with Team PA, the Department of Health, the Department of Community and Economic Development, the Department of Labor and Industry, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, and others to develop guidance for businesses, local governments, workers, customers, and others and guide a safe reopening process. The six state standards for reopening are:

1. Our approach will be data driven and reliant upon quantifiable criteria to drive a targeted, evidence-based, regional approach to reopenings in Pennsylvania.
2. We will put forth guidance and recommendations for employers, individuals, and health care facilities and providers for assured accountability as we reopen.
3. Reopening necessitates that adequate personal protective equipment and diagnostic testing are available.
4. Reopening requires a monitoring and surveillance program that allows the commonwealth to deploy swift actions for containment or mitigation.
5. Protections for vulnerable populations must remain steadfast throughout the reopening process, such as limitations on visitors to congregate care facilities and prisons.
6. Limitations on large gatherings unrelated to occupations should remain in place for the duration of the reopening process.

On April 22, Gov. Wolf [announced](#) a staged, color-coded plan to release parts of Pennsylvania from the stay-at-home order and other restrictions beginning May 8. He also [announced](#) that and that all construction projects performed by private and public companies will be able to

restart on May 1. The plan is what Wolf called a “step-by-step roll out” to reopen Pennsylvania. It would classify counties and regions of Pennsylvania in three phases – red, yellow and green – that would determine how fast the restrictions would be lifted. All of Pennsylvania is red at the moment, but the first regions to be moved to the next stage, yellow, would be in northwest and north-central Pennsylvania on May 8. The timeline for other parts of the state, including southwestern Pennsylvania, will be released later. None in the initial release are near Philadelphia.

On April 23, U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA) unveiled his own “[PA Starts Up Safely](#)” plan, which moves more quickly and has looser conditions for reopening than the plan Gov. Wolf outlined two nights earlier. Toomey’s framework would allow hospitals to begin performing elective procedures again and outdoor-based work such as construction sites and plant nurseries to resume immediately.

On April 27, Gov. Wolf [announced](#) that starting May 1, golf courses, marinas, guided fishing trips, and privately owned campgrounds may reopen statewide and are required to follow updated [life-sustaining business guidance](#) and [FAQs](#) to include specifics for how these outdoor recreational industries can resume activities while prioritizing public health and safety. Campgrounds in state parks will remain closed through May 14.

Reopening Orders

- [04.20.20 GOV Business Closure Order Amendment](#) provides that public and private residential and non-residential construction may resume statewide starting May 8, in accordance with safety guidance that will be issued by the administration shortly. The amendment also authorizes the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board to commence curbside pickup sales statewide immediately. Wolf has since moved the construction start date up to May 1.

Legislative Actions

On April 15, the state Senate passed an amended version of [SB 327](#), legislation to create a COVID-19 Cost and Recovery Task Force. The bill would also now allow individual counties to make their own decisions on reopening businesses. It now heads back to the state House for concurrence.

On April 16, Gov. Wolf indicated that he will veto [SB 613](#), legislation passed earlier that week by the Republican-controlled legislature that would require the governor to develop and implement a mitigation plan for businesses using CDC and CISA guidelines, in effect reopening some now-shuttered segments of the state’s economy.

On April 20, Gov. Wolf [announced](#) that he will sign [SB 841](#), approving qualified Pennsylvania notaries public to perform remote online notarizations, which will allow auto dealerships to conduct limited car sales and leasing operations through online sales, as a notary is required to complete the transaction. Auto dealerships may continue to remain open for certain activities,

such as repairs to passenger and commercial vehicles and sales of auto parts, but in-person car sales or leases are still considered non-life sustaining and remain prohibited at this time.

Key People

As a member of the Northeast Multi-State Coalition, Pennsylvania formed a three-person task force on reopening. The task force includes:

- Dr. Rachel Levine, *Secretary of Health* ([Bio](#))
- Denis Davin, *Department of Community and Economic Development Secretary* ([Bio](#))
- Mike Brunelle, *Chief of Staff to Gov. Tom Wolf* ([Bio](#))

Mask Requirement

Businesses remaining in operation must provide masks for employees to wear during their time at the business, and make it a mandatory requirement to wear masks while on the work site. Employers may approve masks obtained or made by employees in accordance with Department of Health guidance.

Under the order, customers are also required to wear masks while on the business' premises; workers must deny entry to individuals not wearing masks, unless the business provides medication, medical supplies, or food, in which case the business must provide alternative methods of pick-up or delivery. Individuals who cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition may enter the premises and are not required to provide documentation of such a condition. The order, which is effective beginning April 19, can be found [here](#).

Rhode Island

Gov. Gina Raimondo [said](#) on April 18 that although infections, hospitalizations, and deaths from COVID-19 are still rising, she will begin outlining plans next week to reopen the state's economy in incremental fashion. Outlining the process by which the state's economy can re-open, Raimonda said gardening stores and departments will be allowed to open, beginning April 27, after state officials issue new social distancing guidelines for those businesses. The rest of the economy will reopen in phases, she said: "'Our goal is to reopen as soon as possible as is safe, with new restrictions, industry by industry and in phases.'"

Key People

As a member of the Northeast Multi-State Coalition, Rhode Island formed a three-person task force on reopening. The task force includes:

- Stefan Pryor, *Commerce Secretary* ([Bio](#))
- Nicole Alexander-Scott, *Department of Health Director* ([Bio](#))

- David Ortiz, *Chief of Staff to Gov. Gina Raimondo* ([Bio](#))

Mask Requirement

Rhode Island requires all businesses and nonprofits still in operation to wear cloth face covering unless an employee can “easily, continuously, and measurably maintain at least six (6) feet of distance from other employees for the duration of his or her work,” unless doing so would damage the employee’s health.

Business must provide, at their expense, such face coverings or materials for the making of face coverings for employees. All customer-facing businesses must take steps to require customers wear face coverings, including posting requirements at the business’ entrance. More information can be found [here](#).

South Carolina

It was [reported](#) on April 18 that South Carolina retail stores and public beach access points will be allowed to reopen, with Gov. Henry McMaster to issue orders on April 20 that allow for the reopenings to take place the next day. The order will apply to numerous nonessential stores, including department stores, flea markets, florists, bookstores and music shops. Occupancy in each store will be limited to five customers per 1,000 square feet of retail space or 20% occupancy, whichever is less, according to the report. Local governments will still be allowed to make their own rules about waterway access, and the statewide stay-at-home order and ban on eating inside restaurants will remain in place.

On April 21, it was confirmed that South Carolina had joined a coalition of six Southern states to coordinate the reopening of the region’s economy. The same day, Gov. McMaster announced that the state would “stomp on the gas” to reopen certain sectors of the economy. These reopenings are detailed below under Executive Order No. 2020-28.

On April 27, Gov. McMaster issued [Executive Order 2020-29](#), extending the state of emergency - due to expire that day - until May 11.

Reopening Orders

- [EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-25](#) reopens public boat landings and ramps in South Carolina for the purpose of launching or retrieving a boat beginning at 12 p.m. on Friday, April 17, 2020. Public boat landings across the state were previously ordered closed to help combat the spread of the COVID-19.
- [EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-28](#) reopens public beaches, certain retail stores, and florist shops beginning on April 21, 2020, provided that they maintain social distancing protocols.

Key People

Gov. McMaster's "Accelerate SC" task force has the stated goal of getting the state's economy "humming" by the end of June. The group has representatives from the manufacturing, tourism, hospitality, and agriculture industries, along with members of state agencies and the General Assembly.

South Dakota

Gov. Kristi Noem has not issued a stay-at-home order. "We have seen such an outstanding call to action among the people of South Dakota that we actually have more people staying home than many of the other states that have put in shelter in place orders and have put together directives to tell people they can't leave their homes," she said at a town hall hosted by South Dakota Public Broadcasting on April 15.

Tennessee

Gov. Bill Lee [said](#) on April 16: "We haven't made any decisions about how it is that we will stage this reopening specifically, but certainly geographic locations will be weighed as we develop that plan."

On April 20, Gov. Lee announced that the state's Safer at Home order would [expire](#) April 30, and that the state would begin a phased reopening starting the week of April 26. The Lee administration indicated it would work with Shelby, Madison, Davidson, Hamilton, Knox and Sullivan counties and their health departments as they plan their own reopening strategies.

On April 21, it was confirmed that Tennessee had joined a coalition of six Southern states to coordinate the reopening of the region's economy.

On April 24, 2020, Gov. Lee issued employer guidance to "keep employees and customers safe during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic." Retail industry guidance can be downloaded [here](#), and General guidance for Tennessee businesses can be downloaded [here](#).

Reopening Orders

- [Executive Order 29](#) reopens dining in restaurants beginning April 27. Under the order, on-site dining at restaurants will no longer be prohibited in Tennessee, unless a locally run county health department in Davidson, Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Shelby, or Sullivan Counties independently prohibits or otherwise regulates the opening, closing, or operation of restaurants within its respective county. Restaurant reopening guidance can be found [here](#).

Key People

On April 16, Nashville Mayor John Cooper, Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland, Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon, and Chattanooga Mayor Andy Berke [announced](#) Tennessee Major Metros Economic Restart Task Force to plan and coordinate the restoration of business activity currently suspended due to COVID-19. The group will be staffed by the Chiefs of Staff and/or Deputy Mayors of each mayor. It will begin meeting in the week of April 20 and will make public disclosures of initial discussions, findings, and action steps that week. See the announcement for a list of task force members representing each city.

Gov. Lee's [Stimulus Financial Accountability Group](#) will steward federal recovery funds, following guidance from the federal government on how they should be spent. The group has ten members, including Lt. Gov. Randy McNally, Speaker of the House Cameron Sexton and State Comptroller Justin Wilson.

On April 16, Gov. Lee announced the Economic Recovery Group, a joint effort between state departments, members of the legislature and leaders from the private sector to build guidance to safely reboot Tennessee's economy. The ERG comprises 30 leaders from the public and private sector. More information about the ERG's members can be found [here](#).

Texas

On April 17, Gov. Greg Abbott [announced](#) the [Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas](#) to "safely and strategically restart and revitalize all aspects of the Lone Star State—work, school, entertainment, and culture." The strike force will immediately begin providing input on potential additional openings of activities and services in Texas consistent with guidelines provided by the CDC. Gov. Abbott will announce a revised plan for the state based on these initial recommendations on April 27. At the same time, Gov. Abbott began easing restrictions on retail stores and parks, via the orders detailed below.

In an April 27 press conference, Gov. Abbott announced that his stay-at-home order will expire on April 30 and businesses will be allowed to reopen in phases starting May 1. On that day, restaurants, retail stores, malls, movie theaters, libraries, and museums can reopen so long as they limit the number of visitors to 25 percent of their capacity for at least two weeks as the state monitors the spread of COVID-19. If counties don't see a resurgence of cases, Abbott said, businesses could increase customer capacity to 50 percent around May 18. Businesses in counties with 5 or fewer cases can start operating with increased capacity on May 1.

Reopening Orders

- [Executive Order GA 17](#) establishes the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas, created to advise the governor on safely and strategically restarting and revitalizing all aspects of Texas life: "work, school, entertainment, and culture."
- [Executive Order GA 15](#) allows certain elective surgeries and loosens restrictions for doctors beginning April 22.
- [Executive Order GA 16](#) will allow for retail businesses deemed non-essential to begin allowing for product pick up and curbside delivery beginning April 24. Additionally, it closes schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year. Additionally, the order reopens parks and recreation facilities beginning April 20.

Key People

James Huffines, chairman of the Southwestern Medical Foundation, will lead the Governor's Strike Force. Mike Toomey, a former state legislator and gubernatorial chief of staff who is now a partner in Texas Lobby Group, will serve as Chief Operating Officer. Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick, House Speaker Dennis Bonnen, Attorney General Ken Paxton, and Comptroller Glenn Hegar will serve as consulting members.

Among the medical experts who will serve on the advisory council are Dr. Mark McClellan, the former FDA Commissioner and CMS Administrator; Dr. John Zerwas, executive vice-chancellor for Health Affairs at the University of Texas system; and Dr. Parker Hudson, an assistant professor of internal medicine and infectious diseases at Dell Medical School.

These doctors will work in collaboration with several dozen business leaders including Michael Dell, chairman and CEO of Dell Technologies; businessman Ross Perot Jr.; jewelry entrepreneur Kendra Scott; Brad Heffington, the owner of Heffington Farms, Inc. and Triple T Irrigation, Inc.; and Kathy Britton, the CEO of Perry Homes, along with a number of small business owners.

For a full list of Strike Force members and their biographies, please consult the governor's [April 17 press release](#) and the Strike Force's [official website](#).

Utah

Utah has not issued a stay-at-home mandate, but Gov. Gary Herbert extended the state's "Stay Safe, Stay Home" directive through May 1, which asks residents to stay home as much as possible and maintain 6 foot distance from others when out. Dining at restaurants is not allowed, and schools have been closed for the remainder of the academic year. Gov. Herbert and House Speaker Brad Wilson [said](#) on April 17 that Utah would begin to reopen shuttered restaurants, gyms, and parks possibly by May 1.

On April 22, Gov. Herbert directed the Utah Department of Public Health to begin allowing for the resumption of certain elective procedures pursuant to guidelines established in consultation with the Utah Hospital Association, the Utah Medical Association, the Utah Dental Association, and other medical providers. The Utah Hospital Association's roadmap for resuming elective procedures can be viewed [here](#).

Released by the governor's Economic Response Task Force on April 17, the second version of the "[Utah Leads Together](#)" plan recommends actions Utah businesses and citizens can take during each of the response phases and introduces new data tools that will help in the transition between those phases. The includes [Phased Guidelines for Businesses](#) and lays out five principles are necessary for full reactivation of the economy:

1. Vigilance to minimize economic harm and avoid a resurgence of the virus;
2. Data-informed judgment that uses key economic and health indicators to guide decision-making;
3. Respect for geographic differences to allow those areas with low risk to open businesses and related activity accordingly;
4. Care for the vulnerable; and,
5. New protocols for safety to accelerate reactivation of the economy through appropriate use of protective equipment.

Natalie Gochnour, Director of the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute and principal author of the 2.0 report, said in a [press release](#) accompanying the plan: "The leaders of the Economic Task Force do not view this as a flip of the switch but a dial that must be dialed up to meet the challenge and opportunity posed by reactivating the economy in phases across the geographies of our state. The economic phases have a timeframe and the stabilization phase is projected to last months because we cannot predict how the virus will change."

Reopening Orders

State Public Health Order 20.04.21 allows for the resumption of certain elective procedures beginning April 22, 2020. The order can be viewed [here](#).

Legislative Action

On April 16, the Utah Senate passed a bill [creating a commission](#) working specifically on reopening the state's economy.

Key People

The Utah Economic Response Task Force was established by Gov. Herbert to help prevent and mitigate the economic impacts of the coronavirus. Derek Miller, president and CEO of the Salt Lake Chamber ([Bio](#)), serves as the chair of the task force.

Vermont

On April 17, Gov. Phil Scott [outlined](#) an approach for the phased restart of Vermont's economy, emphasizing the state's modeling indicates initial steps can be taken while the Stay Home, Stay Safe order remains in effect. The governor outlined five principles that will guide the state's Restart Vermont planning and decision-making process:

1. Keep our eyes on the data
2. Maintain health care readiness
3. Increase testing and tracing
4. Work Smarter & Work Safer: ACCD's RestartVT Team will work with the Health Department and the SEOC to help businesses develop "COVID-19 Operations Plans," which will include sector strategies for phased opening, including worker and customer protections, and training and monitoring procedures.
5. Play Smarter, Play Safer: The RestartVT Team will also evaluate how to reopen outdoor recreation, retail, restaurants and bars, travel and other activities, focusing on the conditions needed to prevent COVID-19 outbreaks.

Gov. Scott also said the Agency of Agriculture will allow farmers markets to reopen May 1 under guidelines to be determined.

Reopening Orders:

- [Addendum 10](#) to [Executive Order 01-20](#), institutes new health and safety requirements and encourages the public to wear cloth face coverings. It also directs the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to [issue guidance](#) authorizing outdoor businesses and construction operations with crews of two or less and some single-person low contact professional services, such as appraisers, attorneys, realtors and others, to operate if specified safety requirements can be met. These openings are effective April 20.

Key People

Gov. Scott's Economic Mitigation & Recovery Task Force is charged with developing strategies designed to speed long-term business and community recovery. The task force is made up of three committees known as action teams. The action teams are supported by ACCD Deputy Secretary Ted Brady, Economic Development Commissioner Joan Goldstein, Housing & Community Development Commissioner Josh Hanford and public affairs expert and small business owner Dennise Casey. A full list of task force members can be found [here](#).

Virginia

On April 17, Gov. Ralph Northam addressed the White House reopening guidelines unveiled the day before, the first phase of which requires positive tests to be on a downward trend for 14 days, [saying](#): “We have not met that criteria. We are still seeing more cases per day, not fewer, so we are not there yet.”

The same day, Gov. Northam also participated in a conference call with Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan and Washington, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser to discuss their responses to the virus. Gov. Northam hailed the spirit of cooperation among the leaders.

On April 24, Gov. Northam unveiled the “[Forward Virginia Blueprint](#),” a reopening framework that lays out criteria for the state to move to phase one. This criteria includes a sustained 14-day downward trend in percentage of positive tests and hospitalizations, increased testing and tracing, and increased hospital capacity and PPE supply. Once these are satisfied, phase one will look like:

- Some businesses re-open with strict safety restrictions
- Continued social distancing
- Continued teleworking
- Face coverings recommended in public

Key People

On April 24, Gov. Northam announced the Commonwealth’s COVID-19 Business Task Force, which will provide advice and guidance to top officials on a “safe, responsible strategy for easing restrictions on businesses and individuals.” The task force consists of representatives from a variety of Virginia industries, scales, geographies, and backgrounds across the Commonwealth, including restaurants, breweries, wineries, small and large retailers, fitness centers, hair salons, barber shops, spas and estheticians, museums, hospitality groups, campgrounds, and entertainment venues. The names and titles of twenty-eight of the task force’s members can be found [here](#).

Washington

On April 13, California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee [announced](#) the formation of a Western States Pact to move toward reopening based on health outcomes. While each state is building a state-specific plan, the states agreed to a set of three general principles as they build out a West Coast framework: 1) Residents’ health comes first; 2) Health outcomes and science - not politics - will guide decisions; and 3) States will only be effective by working together.

Gov. Jay Inslee [said](#) on April 15 that reopening the economy as “a phased approach” wherein some of the first things shut down during the outbreak - like large gatherings - could be the last to reopen: “The phasing will be probably the reverse of what it was going into the effort. We started by prohibiting large gatherings, we then closed on-site education in our schools, we then had a stay-home order in our individual lives, we then closed nonessential businesses. And that makes sense, because we’ll be bringing back the things that are most essential to our economic and physical and financial health.”

Gov. Inslee has also previously said that there would need to be an “enormous expansion” of coronavirus testing capabilities and a way to trace the spread in communities before he can decide when to reopen the state.

Legislative Action

Republican legislators on Friday released a “[Safe Economic Restart Plan](#)” to reopen Washington’s economy “while state government’s response to the COVID-19 emergency continues,” ending several weeks of bipartisan legislative harmony on Gov. Inslee’s approach to the pandemic. (Democrats control both the House and Senate.) In the three-page plan, GOP leaders called on the governor to take several immediate actions, including:

- “Convene a Restart Task Force comprising legislative leaders, relevant executive-branch directors and representatives of the business and organized-labor communities. This group will chart a course toward allowing all Washington businesses to reopen, on a phased or limited basis as necessary, with COVID-19 protections for workers and customers in place.”
- “Fully disclose the ‘metrics’ that must be met before the business-closure order can be lifted or amended.
- Allow companies to reopen in which the risk of contracting COVID-19 is “low,” such as auto dealers, solo landscape services, car washes, remodeling companies/contractors, residential construction, hairdressers/barbers, flower shops, RV parks, dentists, installers of home/commercial security systems, and accountants/tax preparers.
- “Deliver on the massive testing capabilities promised by state health officials ahead of the business-closure order. Direct the appropriate state agencies to acquire antibody tests and work with employers to screen workers. Workers found to have the antibodies resulting from the COVID-19 infection will be immediately eligible for employment.”
- “Exempt small businesses from paying sales and (business-and-occupation) taxes for one year.”

West Virginia

On April 15, Gov. Jim Justice [announced](#) that he has begun to have discussions with medical experts and other officials about transitioning into the next phase of the state’s response to the coronavirus pandemic. “As we come back out again, we need to become much more like a

scalpel than like a hammer,” Dr. Clay Marsh, West Virginia Coronavirus Czar, said as part of the statement.

Reopening Orders

- [EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 28-20](#) allows health care facilities to resume "more urgent elective medical procedures" no earlier than April 28.
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Wisconsin

Wisconsin is a member of the Midwestern reopening coalition [announced](#) on April 16. As such, Wisconsin will work in close coordination with Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Minnesota, and Kentucky to reopen the economy in the Midwest region.

On April 20, Gov. Evers announced the “[Badger Bounce Back](#)” plan to reopen the state’s economy. While the plan sets no specific dates, it outlines criteria necessary for Wisconsin to begin a phased reopening:

- Over the course of fourteen days, the state must see fewer and fewer people reporting flu-like illnesses, as well as a substantial decrease in the number of positive COVID-19 cases as a percentage of total tests;
- Hospitals must have the capacity to treat “[all patients without crisis care](#);”
- Every Wisconsin resident exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 must be able to get a lab test; results should be reported within 48 hours of collection;
- Every Wisconsin resident who tests positive for COVID-19 should be interviewed within 24 hours of test results, and their contacts should be interviewed within 48 hours; and
- All health care and public safety entities will need to have adequate PPE and supplies to conduct COVID-19 testing, patient care, and public safety work.

Reopening Orders

- [EMERGENCY ORDER #28](#), which extends the state’s stay-at-home order until May 26, also loosens some restrictions on businesses. Golf courses are allowed to reopen, an action state Republicans had publicly [urged](#) the governor to take, and public libraries and arts and crafts stores may offer curbside pickup.

Lawsuit

Wisconsin Assembly Speaker Robin Vos and Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald, both Republicans, have filed a [petition](#) asking the state’s conservative-majority Supreme Court to temporarily block enforcement of Gov. Evers’ extended safer-at-home order. In a statement, Vos and Fitzgerald [said](#) the decision amounted to an “unprecedented administrative overreach” that

left them with no choice but to “ask the Supreme Court to rein in this obvious abuse of power.” Gov. Evers, meanwhile, called the legislators’ attempt to block the safer-at-home order’s extension “a shameful response” that would “have us jump through hoop after hoop and ask for their permission to save lives. Folks, we don’t have time. COVID-19 will not wait.”

Wyoming

Wyoming does not have a stay-at-home order. Gov. Mark Gordon has [extended](#) statewide public health orders - closing schools, gyms, barber shops and other public spaces, and prohibiting gatherings of 10 or more - through April 30 and issued a directive requiring travelers to quarantine for 14 days.

Gov. Gordon said during an April 17 press conference: “Our transition into a new phase must be health data-driven, not date driven ...What we do in the coming weeks will determine the way we can ease these orders and rekindle our economy.”

Key People

On March 17, Gov. Gordon [announced](#) the creation of five coronavirus task forces, each headed by one of Wyoming’s five statewide elected officials. The Governor’s Office coordinates the health task force; Secretary of State Ed Buchanan heads the task force focused on state services and operations; Auditor Kristi Racines leads the task force focused on business and the financial sector; Treasurer Curt Meier leads the transportation and infrastructure task force; and Superintendent Jillian Balow leads the education task force. All task force heads report to Gov. Gordon for final coordination.

District of Columbia

Mayor Muriel Bowser said of her extended shutdown order at an April 15 press conference: “I don’t know if that means we will be open on May 16, but it will be a point for us to check in. And if we need to extend it beyond that, we certainly will.”

Bowser also [said](#) she’s forming a working group to see how the city can improve and streamline some services when the city reopens, including finding more equity when it comes to health care, education and resources for underserved communities. She plans on going into further detail about the group during the week of April 20.

Key People

On April 23, Mayor Bowser formally announced the “Reopen D.C. Advisory Group,” a working group of committees of government and community leaders focused on health disparities in the city and what reopening would mean for restaurants, food retailers, and the real estate and

construction industries. Bowser selected former National Security Adviser Susan E. Rice and former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff to co-chair the group. Former D.C. Mayors Anthony Williams and Adrian Fenty, D.C. Council Chairman Phil Mendelson, D.C. Chief Finance Officer Jeffrey DeWitt, senior mayoral adviser Beverly Perry, and Nicole Lurie, former assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, will advise each of the group's industry-focused committees. The group will issue its recommendations on May 11.

Mask Requirement

Order 2020-063 requires face masks for the following individuals:

- hotel workers, guests, and visitors;
- individuals using taxis, ride shares, private transportation providers;
- workers and customers of food sellers; and
- strongly encouraged for workers and individuals using public transit.

The order is effective April 15, 2020 through May 15, 2020. More information can be found [here](#).
