

Georgia State Orders – Updated August 20

Stay at Home/Shelter in Place Order: expired April 30 for the general public – older persons and the chronically ill are still under a shelter in place order through July 15.

**Food and agriculture business is generally safe and can continue operation. However, they have to work under extensive [guidelines](#) to operate.

Restaurants can open for dine-in if they follow Gov. Kemp's regulations outlined [here](#). Bars were able to open June 1.

August 20: As of 3 p.m. August 19, there have been 4,849 deaths in Georgia, an increase of 55 since the previous day; 243,982 cases confirmed in Georgia, an increase of 2,305 since the previous day; and 22,664 total patients hospitalized in Georgia during the pandemic, an increase of 235 since the previous day according to the Department of Public Health's cumulative total. By the most recent report on Aug. 19, there were 2,573 current hospitalizations - a decrease of 23 hospitalizations from the previous day ([source](#)).

August 18: As of 3 p.m. August 18, there have been 4,794 deaths in Georgia, an increase of 67 since the previous day; 241,677 cases confirmed in Georgia, an increase of 2,816 since the previous day; and 22,429 total patients hospitalized in Georgia during the pandemic, an increase of 296 since the previous day according to the Department of Public Health's cumulative total. By the most recent report on Aug. 18, there were 2,596 current hospitalizations - a decrease of 30 hospitalizations from the previous day ([source](#)).

After months of opposing local mask mandates, Gov. Brian Kemp signed an executive order on August 15 that [empowers](#) many Georgia cities and counties to impose face covering requirements to combat the coronavirus. More than a dozen governments have already adopted those requirements over Kemp's objections, and the governor had gone to court to block them ([source](#)).

August 13: As of August 12, there have been **4,456 deaths** in Georgia, an increase of 105 since the previous day. Over the last 14 days (7/30-8/12), the average daily increase in newly reported deaths was 58.14 deaths each day. Over the previous 14-day period (7/16-7/29), the average daily increase in newly reported deaths was 39.36 ([source](#)).

There have been **226,153 cases** confirmed in Georgia, an increase of 3,565 since the previous day. Over the last 14 days, the average daily increase in newly confirmed cases was 3,416.43 new cases a day. Over the previous 14-day period, the average daily increase in newly confirmed cases was 3,606 ([source](#)).

On August 13, the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter announced that the 2020 Georgia National Fair will not go on in October as scheduled ([source](#)).

August 10: In a good start to the week, **Georgia**, Augusta and South Carolina all saw fewer new cases of COVID-19 and fewer new deaths Monday, Aug. 9. Georgia added 2,429 new cases for a total of 219,025, with 30 new deaths for a total of 4,229, the Department of Public Health reported ([source](#)).

August 6: On August 5, the state of Georgia surpassed [200,000 confirmed cases](#) of the new coronavirus, becoming just the fifth state in the U.S. to reach the somber milestone. Georgia also is likely to eclipse 4,000 cumulative deaths this week, as fatalities from COVID-19 have risen in the wake of a [prolonged surge](#) in new infections. Data from the state Department of Public Health show a net increase of 3,765 cases and 63 deaths on Wednesday. Cases of the virus appear to have plateaued at a high level after weeks of exponential growth, and hospitals [remain strained](#) ([source](#)).

July 29: Two hospitals in north Georgia are close to [running out of patient beds](#), largely driven by new COVID-19 cases. This week, administrators for Northeast Georgia Medical Center Hospitals in Gainesville and Braselton said they are [treating more people for the virus](#) than ever before. Both facilities are at about 95 percent capacity ([source](#)).

July 22: DeKalb County joins the growing list of municipalities [in Georgia](#) defying the governor's executive order by issuing mask mandates. County commissioners passed an amended ordinance on July 21 requiring face coverings to fight the [spread of COVID-19](#). The amended ordinance, which CEO Thurmond asserts is "consistent" with Gov. Brian Kemp's executive order, requires DeKalb residents over age eight "to utilize a face covering or mask which covers the nose and mouth when in any public place" ([source](#)).

Georgia is shattering single-day records with around 3,000 new cases reported almost every day in the last week. New daily cases have doubled and hospitalizations tripled, in the last month alone ([source](#)).

July 21: Georgia tallied its lowest count of COVID-19 cases in nearly two weeks, according to the health department's daily report on July 20. The [Georgia Department of Public Health](#) reported a total of 145,575 confirmed cases of COVID-19 at 2:50 p.m. Monday. That's 2,452 more than was reported at the same time Sunday. The last time Georgia reported fewer than 3,000 cases was on July 9, when the health department tallied only 2,837 new cases ([source](#)).

This site lists all the places in Georgia where masks are required ([source](#)).

On July 15, Gov. Kemp extended Georgia's coronavirus restrictions while explicitly banning cities and counties from adopting rules requiring masks or other face coverings ([source](#)).

Georgia reported 3,871 new cases of the disease on July 15, the second-highest daily count to date, and 37 deaths. So far, 127,834 people have tested positive for COVID-19 in Georgia, more than double the number reported in mid-June, and 3,091 have died from it in the Peach State ([source](#)).

On July 10, Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms ordered all but essential businesses closed as coronavirus cases in the city and across Georgia hit record levels ([source](#)).

July 8: Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms said she would sign an order Wednesday, July 8, requiring the use of masks in the city, joining other local governments who are going beyond Gov. Brian Kemp's order that [encourages](#) but does not mandate face coverings. A spate of Georgia cities are [moving to require](#) the use of face masks to contain the coronavirus after Savannah became the first local government to adopt a mandate last week ([source](#)).

In an effort to keep businesses open and help the public stay safe, Gov. Kemp urged residents and businesses on July 6 to continue following COVID-19 safety guidelines through a new campaign called Georgia Safety Promise ([source](#)).

July 2: Georgia added nearly 3,000 new cases on July 1 – beating the old record by over 700 new cases ([source](#)).

On June 29, Gov. Kemp issued a new executive order extending the state's public health emergency until August 11, 2020. The governor has also extended social distancing guidelines until July 15 ([source](#)).

The public health emergency, which is now extended to Aug. 11, grants Kemp sweeping authority to impose new restrictions and take other actions to stem the spread of the virus. The shelter order for the medically fragile and residents of long-term care facilities, which had been set to expire Wednesday, was extended for two weeks to July 15. In another sign of concern over the increased cases, Kemp extended coronavirus restrictions two weeks for businesses and restaurants that were set to expire Wednesday ([source](#)).

In Georgia, People 18 to 29 made up about 29% of the new cases so far in June, up from 21% in May and 13% in April, the AJC analysis shows. New cases among older adults have declined, public health experts said, reflecting stepped up efforts to protect vulnerable populations ([source](#)).

Numbers released June 24 show that the number of people hospitalized with coronavirus infections rose to 1,124. That's the highest number since May 12 and a 44% increase since the number of hospitalized people bottomed out on June 7. Georgia's [total infections rose to near 70,000 Wednesday](#), and the state has been averaging more than 1,100 new confirmed infections a day over the last 14 days. That's substantially higher than the earlier peak in late April.

The Georgia General Assembly is looking into legislation to better protect businesses during COVID-19. On June 23, the Senate passed [HB 167](#), which would give more protection to businesses. Essentially, it shields businesses and healthcare providers from being sued if someone blames them for contracting COVID-19 ([source](#)).

This weekend, Georgia reported an increase of roughly 1,800 cases in a day -- the largest increase on record since April 17. The state also posted 8,000 new cases between June 14 and June 22, the most COVID cases ever in a week. Hospitalizations also saw an increase ([source](#)).

New models show Georgia is one of four states expected to see the earliest uptick in coronavirus deaths ([source](#)).

[Figures posted June 16](#) show that Georgia has reported an average of 777 infections over the last 14 days, the highest level since April, when widespread transmission was at its peak and had led to a statewide lockdown. After falling, the number of infected people in a hospital has been rising for the past 10 days, reaching 875 on June 16. In addition, Gov. Kemp is allowing conventions of more than 100, spectator sports and live performance venues to resume operations July 1, subject to restrictions ([source](#)).

On June 16, Georgia is now imposing no limit on the number of people who can sit together at restaurants. Only employees interacting with customers will be required to wear masks, and cafeteria-style service will be allowed ([source](#)). The full list of changes can be found [here](#).

On June 12, The Georgia Supreme Court extended the judicial emergency that was put in place during the coronavirus pandemic and led to the suspension of jury trials and many nonessential court functions, [including eviction hearings](#). The emergency order was reissued just hours before it was set to expire last week. It now extends until midnight on Sunday, July 12 ([source](#)).

Gov. Brian Kemp has issued a new executive order for the state's fight against the [coronavirus](#). On June 11, the governor announced that those who are 65 years and older are no longer required to shelter in place, effective immediately, unless they are living in long-term care facilities or if they are medically fragile. Anyone who otherwise is medically compromised - including those who have chronic diseases or underlying health conditions is still being asked to stay at home. The order, titled "Empowering a Healthy Georgia," goes into effect at 12 a.m. Tuesday, June 16 and lasts until 11:59 p.m. June 30. The governor's office said they will make future announcements when the June 30 deadline gets closer ([source](#)).

The Georgia Aquarium announced that it will reopen to members on June 13 and to the general public on June 15 ([source](#)).

Six Flags Over Georgia will reopen on June 15 and Six Flags White Water will reopen on June 29 ([source](#)).

Gov. Brian Kemp is allowing [Georgia's bars and nightclubs](#) to reopen for business on Monday, June 1 ([source](#)).

On May 12, Gov. Kemp announced that Georgia bars and nightclubs will remain closed until Sunday, May 31, at 11:59 p.m. ([source](#)).

Gov. Kemp is allowing Georgia's stay at home order to expire April 30, but businesses still have to abide by the state's guidelines through at least May 13 ([source](#)).

Gov. Brian Kemp released an executive order on April 23 that detailed new requirements for how various businesses can begin reopening again starting on Friday and Monday ([source](#)).

Gov. Brian Kemp says Georgia is on track to meet the criteria to begin easing social distancing and reopening Georgia's economy as health officials continue battling the spread of COVID-19 ([source](#)).

On April 8, Gov. Brian Kemp extended his order that Georgia residents shelter at home through the end of April as coronavirus infections passed 10,000 in the state. The original shelter-in-place order for Georgia was in effect from April 3 at 6 p.m. to April 13 at 11:59 p.m. ([source](#)).

Restaurants and Social Clubs must cease dine-in services in favor of takeout, curbside pick-up and delivery.

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