

# Changing Phases – Transitioning back to a “New Normal”

04/28/2020

## Overview of Guidelines for the General Public and Employers

	Normal Risk	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Intensity of Disruption	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Overview of Guidelines for General Public and Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General public and employers take reasonable precautions</li> <li>All businesses operating</li> <li>Schools are open</li> <li>Traveling restrictions mostly lifted, self-monitor symptoms 14 days upon return; avoid areas of high transmission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public follows Guidelines for All Levels of the General Public (outlined below) and employers follow General Guidelines for Employers (outlined below)</li> <li>General public and employers take reasonable precautions</li> <li>Face coverings worn in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain</li> <li>Schools are open</li> <li>Interactions in decreased group sizes that enable all social distancing guidelines to be maintained; social interactions in groups 50 or fewer</li> <li>All businesses operating</li> <li>Employers exercise discretion with remote work and returning to onsite work</li> <li>Recommended symptom checking in public/business interactions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public follows Guidelines for All Levels of the General Public (outlined below) and employers follow General Guidelines for Employers (outlined below)</li> <li>General public and employers take extreme precautions</li> <li>Face coverings worn in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain</li> <li>In-person interactions limited to individual households and those who have been following recommended distancing/hygiene guidelines.</li> <li>Increase use of virtual interactions</li> <li>Leave home infrequently, stay 6 feet away from others when outside the home</li> <li>Interactions in decreased group sizes that enable all social distancing guidelines to be maintained; social interactions in groups of 20 or fewer</li> <li>Limit out-of-state travel, quarantine 14 days upon return from high-risk areas</li> <li>Schools closed</li> <li>Employees and volunteers of businesses operate remotely, unless not possible</li> <li>High-contact businesses can operate under strict protocols</li> <li>Restaurants are open for dine-in services with strict requirements</li> <li>Symptom checking in business interactions</li> <li>Employers evaluate workforce strategy, concerns, and enact strategies to minimize economic impact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public follows Guidelines for All Levels of the General Public (outlined below) and employers follow General Guidelines for Employers (outlined below)</li> <li>General public and employers take extreme precautions</li> <li>Face coverings worn in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain</li> <li>In-person interactions limited to individual households; increase virtual interactions</li> <li>Essential travel only. Leave home infrequently; stay 6 feet away from others when outside the home</li> <li>Interactions in groups up to 10</li> <li>Limit out-of-state travel, quarantine 14 days upon return from high-risk areas</li> <li>Schools closed</li> <li>Employees and volunteers of businesses operate remotely, unless not possible</li> <li>Encourage high-contact businesses not to operate</li> <li>Symptom checking in business interactions</li> <li>Employers evaluate workforce strategy, concerns, and enact strategies to minimize economic impact</li> </ul>

Utah will move from a high-risk phase to a moderate-risk phase starting this Friday, May 1. Governor Gary Herbert made the announcement today, sourcing the state’s ‘Utah Leads Together 2.0’ plan. This new phase allows for a soft reopening of stores and restaurants, as long as those businesses follow guidelines put forth by the plan to help protect everyone’s health.

“It’s a dynamic plan not being directed by fear or politics,” said Gov. Herbert of the Utah Leads Together 2.0 plan. “This is being directed by good science, medical advice, and data.”

The plan consists of four phases: normal risk (green), low risk (yellow), moderate risk (orange), high risk (red). The biggest change you will see, as the state transitions to a moderate risk phase, is allowing restaurants and other businesses to reopen under strict protocols.

Personal care facilities, such as gyms or salons will also get the green light to open Friday, as long as employees and visitors take all precautions into account including; practicing social distancing, washing their hands, and wearing a mask. The Governor went on to say that Utahns should still limit their trips to the grocery store and that carryout is still strongly encouraged.

“We ask that employees maintain social distancing, that they are screened when they come to work every day,” Governor Herbert explained.

He also recommends that business owners screen customers to see if they have a temperature before heading inside to order or dine.

“This will be an evolution as we’ve learned. Practice good hygiene, wash your hands, and cover your face,” Governor Herbert said, before turning the time over to Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox, who announced a new initiative that provides 2 million masks to Utahns for free.

“If we are all wearing masks, we know the measure of spread will go down significantly,” said Lt. Gov. Cox. “I truly believe this effort is going to save lives.”

COVID-19 can spread through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. According to the CDC, there may be many people walking around who aren’t showing any symptoms but are carrying the disease, who could also be unknowingly spreading the virus.

“Social distancing is going to be a way of life. We need to wear a face mask whenever possible,” said Governor Herbert. “I’m a little disappointed when I go to the grocery store and don’t see others wearing masks.”

A recent Salt Lake Tribune article draws out the percentage of Utahns wearing masks to the grocery store. The Trib tracked more than 1,500 customers at 11 different grocery stores. In the end, West Jordan had the second lowest number of shoppers wearing masks.

Upon hearing that conclusion, West Jordan Mayor, Dirk Burton echoed the Governor’s efforts to encourage people to wear a face covering.

“It’s a simple act that can save lives. We’ve worked so hard to get to this new phase, and we need to do all we can to keep from going back into the high risk phase,” said Mayor Burton.

The state’s new program: A Mask for Every Utahn allows for anyone to have access to a face covering, simply by visiting: [Coronavirus.utah.gov/masks](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html). The masks are machine-washable and can last for months, possibly even a year, depending on how often it is worn. The masks were made in Utah, by Utahns, for Utahns. 20 manufactures across the state stopped their regular production and started making these masks, creating 200 jobs.

To learn how to correctly wear a mask visit this link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

As the state continues to move forward in its fight against COVID-19, Mayor Burton said he is glad to work alongside state, and surrounding city leaders to tackle the virus and open the economy.

“We are excited about the Governor’s announcement today, but we realize this will only work if we continue to keep our risks down by being diligent, following the rules, and washing our hands,” said Mayor Burton. “We all want to make sure we are keeping this virus under control, and we can do that by following the advice of the state and the county.”

