

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Date:** May 14, 2021Contact: Emily Tau  
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[emitau@milwaukee.gov](mailto:emitau@milwaukee.gov)**The City of Milwaukee Order Phase 6 Update**

MILWAUKEE – Yesterday, Mayor Tom Barrett and Health Commissioner Kirsten Johnson announced the expiration of the Phase 6 Order on June 15. This change means that limits on gathering size and occupancy will be lifted for businesses and events, and any event hosted after June 15 will not need to submit a safety plan.

Businesses and events are still encouraged to uphold common sense best practices, such as maintaining physical distancing whenever possible, providing hand sanitizer to guests, and keeping hand washing signs visible.

“We have reached an important stage in the public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Commissioner Kirsten Johnson. “I don’t think of this next step as reverting “back to normal,” but rather moving forward in our city’s recovery. The framework that the Health Department put in place 14 months ago along with the work the community has done to stay safe got us to this point.”

The continued trends of the gating criteria indicate a decrease in burden rate, positive COVID test percentages, and, most importantly, deaths. This week, the 7-day average burden rate dropped to 80.3 per 100,000 people and moved down to the substantial transmission category. The 7-day average percent positivity dropped to 4.0% and is now in the low transmission category.

The CDC released new guidance regarding indoor masking requirements for vaccinated individuals yesterday afternoon. At this time, the mask ordinance for the City of Milwaukee is still in effect. Internal discussions are occurring for the best course of action to keep all Milwaukeeans safe and an update is expected at the 2 p.m. media briefing on Tuesday. In the meantime, please continue wearing masks in public indoor spaces.

With the lifting of restrictions, the focus turns even more strongly onto vaccinations. Currently, 38.2% of eligible Milwaukee adults have completed their vaccination series, which is a 3% increase over last week. On Thursday, Milwaukee began administering the Pfizer vaccine to children ages 12 to 15 at the Wisconsin Center, Northwest Health Center, and Southside Health Center. Walk-up vaccinations are available with a parent or guardian to provide consent.

On Saturday and Sunday, Black Husky Brewing, 909 E. Locust Street, will be offering vaccines from 12 p.m. until 6 p.m. at their “Double Your Dose” event. The brewery will be providing a free beer to anyone who gets vaccinated, as well as any vaccinated person who brings in an unvaccinated guest to get their shot. In addition, the Health Department will be at the Wisconsin Black Historical Society, 2620 W. Center Street, on Saturday from 12 p.m. until 4 p.m. with vaccines available for walk-up.

Beginning Monday, the Health Department will have a constant vaccine presence at three Milwaukee Public Library locations throughout the week. Residents can visit Zablocki Library and Washington Park Library on Mondays from 1 to 5 p.m. and Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12 to 4 p.m., as well as Mitchell Street Library on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12 until 4 p.m.

Below are the Gating Criteria that drive our City’s advancement through the phases and guide our reopening.

Metric	Status – March 18	Status – March 25	Status – April 1	Status – April 8	Status – April 15	Status – April 22	Status – April 29	Status – May 6	Status – May 13
This metric determines current disease burden. Increased burden increases rates of transmission									
<b>Rate of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 over 7 days</b>	Yellow Moderate Transmission 45.8	Orange Substantial Transmission 68.3	Orange Substantial Transmission 97.9	Orange Substantial Transmission 95.6	Red High Transmission 110.5	Red High Transmission 127.1	Red High Transmission 111.3	Red High Transmission 110.6	Orange Substantial Transmission 80.3
This metric determines percent positivity. Percent positivity indicates test availability and transmission trends									
<b>Percentage test positivity over 7 days</b>	Blue Low Transmission 2.4%	Blue Low Transmission 3.8%	Blue Low Transmission 4.9%	Yellow Moderate Transmission 5.0%	Yellow Moderate Transmission 5.6%	Yellow Moderate Transmission 5.8%	Yellow Moderate Transmission 5.0%	Yellow Moderate Transmission 5.2%	Blue Low Transmission 4.0%
Vaccination rate is calculated based on the City of Milwaukee’s adult population (individuals 16 or older)									
<b>City Adult Vaccination Rate</b>	8.5%	10.4%	13.1%	16.3%	20.2%	25.7%	30.8%	35.2%	38.2%

Data Source: Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) and Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS)  
The metrics used to determine re-opening phases was updated on 3/18/2021 based on CDC guidance (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/indicators.html>) and best practices for Milwaukee

The City of Milwaukee key indicators for Moving Milwaukee Forward Safely are updated weekly and are available online at [milwaukee.gov/coronavirus](http://milwaukee.gov/coronavirus).

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