

Situational Report

Cape Cod Reopening Task Force

COVID-19 Updates

June 2, 2020

The **Cape Cod Reopening Task Force** is a region-wide task force assembled in spring 2020 to develop strategies for reopening Cape Cod once it is safe to do so. The Cape Cod Reopening Task Force is led by the Cape & Islands Legislative Delegation, the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, and Barnstable County, with participation from healthcare providers, municipal officials, first responders, community leaders, and other stakeholders.

Morbidity/Mortality Data in Massachusetts and Barnstable County

- See COVID-19 case number and figures for **Barnstable County** at https://bit.ly/BC_COVID-19_data
- COVID-19 Cases in MA
 - 100,805 total confirmed cases, 7,035 COVID-19 attributed deaths (*dashboard attached*)
- There are under 2,000 Massachusetts residents hospitalized for COVID-19, and the hospitalization rate has fallen to below 2% and continues to trend downward.
- Governor Baker announced the [first phase of reopening](#) on Monday, May 18. Select manufacturing, construction, personal services, and retail businesses are now allowed to operate, as are limited office spaces.

Latest Guidance from State Government

- On Monday, June 1, Governor Baker issued an [executive order](#) allowing businesses designated in Phase 2 to reenter their brick-and-mortar locations to prepare to reopen.
 - Order also provides additional clarity on which business organizations are included in Phase 2 and Phase 3
- Youth and amateur sport programs are allowed to open in Phase 2. If normal play allows for adequate social distancing, it may resume. Contact sports will be restricted to no-contact drills and practices.
- Restaurants (at the formal start to Phase 2) will be able to serve liquor outdoors by applying for a license with the local licensing authority *only*. The Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (ABCC) no longer needs to provide prior approval. Any licenses issued under this order will return to normal on November 1, 2020, or when the order is rescinded.
- Businesses of a certain sectors must comply with Sector-Specific rules, as outlined by the Commissioner of Public Health and the Director of Labor Standards.
- Governor Baker signed a [second executive order](#) on June 1 authorizing reopening preparations for child care facilities. Workers may enter brick-and-mortar facilities. Centers may **not** reopen to children until a subsequent order is issued.

- The Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) has been authorized to determine requirements for centers wishing to reopen to children that must be met prior to reopening. Information on those requirements is forthcoming.

Actions Taken to Date

The Cape Cod Reopening Task Force convened in late April and meets twice a week. The Task Force has completed the following since our last situation report:

- All 19 industry subgroups have convened within 24 hours of this report to discuss the impact of the June 1 Executive Orders.
- Hosted discussion with members working in public safety to better understand enforcement under Phase 1 use insights to inform Phase 2 guidance
- Received update from the Barnstable County Department of Human Services regarding this week's purported jump in cases in Barnstable County.
 - These are the result of a change in reporting convention that occurred between this week and last. More details will be forthcoming during the task force press availability on June 4
- Requested data from DOT and other authorities to assess the travel patterns of Memorial Day weekend and develop data points for economic activity relative to previous years

Next Action Steps for the Task Force

- Frame protocols for reopening of cultural institutions at the request of the state government, in partnership with the Berkshires.
- Assess, clarify, and publish guidance on the availability of testing in Barnstable county for seasonal residence and primary care referrals outside of Cape Cod Healthcare.
- Consult relevant state government agencies on Cape experience with travel advisory and quarantine requests and receive further guidance on enforcement.
- Update website with guidance for childcare, retail, sports programs, and day camps
- Complete working group report on Leisure Accommodations and Short-Term Rentals
- Hire part time staff to assist municipal health enforcement personnel

Submit Comments

The public is invited to submit comments to the Task Force. Comments will be reviewed and taken into consideration as the Task Force develops a reopening report. Comments can be submitted online at <https://bit.ly/CCRTF>.

Attachments

- [MA Department of Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard – Tuesday, June 2, 2020](#)