



FROM: Bose Public Affairs Group
DATE: July 2, 2020
RE: Weekly State Government COVID-19 Update

BIG PICTURE IN INDIANA

As of Thursday, July 2, the Indiana State Department of Health (“ISDH”) reported 46,387 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Indiana, which is an increase from the 44,140 cases reported last week. ISDH also reported 2,469 deaths in Indiana, up from 2,403 last week. Track the latest reporting numbers from ISDH [here](#), which includes statistics on demographics, testing, and hospital capacity.

Indiana has seen [rising case numbers over the past week](#) compared to last week, but is still well below other states in the nation that have seen a recent spike in cases. On a large scale, June welcomed a decrease of 31% in positive cases and a 47% decrease in deaths compared to May. The state also gave preliminary numbers regarding its contact tracing initiative, stating 75% of all Hoosiers who test positive for COVID-19 are successfully reached by contact tracers, which averages about 345 people per day. A robust contact tracing program is one of the [four principles](#) Indiana is following as it continues to reopen and more comprehensive numbers should be available soon.

Governor Eric Holcomb and other state officials hold a press conference on Wednesdays each week. The next press conference is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8 at 2:30 PM ET. To see a summary of each press conference, click [here](#).

INDIANA DELAYS STAGE 5; ENTERS STAGE 4.5

Indiana is set to enter [“Stage 4.5” of reopening on July 4 and will last until July 17](#). A slight increase in positive COVID-19 cases and hospitalization numbers resulted in the delay of transitioning into Stage 5, which was supposed to happen July 4 and lift almost all restrictions around the state. Under Stage 4.5, the capacity requirements for bars (50%), restaurants (75%)



and entertainment venues (50%) will remain the same as Stage 4. Social gatherings are still limited to 250 people, adhering to CDC guidelines. Under Stage 4.5, fairs, festivals, and other similar outdoor events may open adhering to the 250 people social gathering limit. Governor Holcomb said the state will re-evaluate its position prior to July 17 to determine next steps.

BAN ON EVICTIONS, UTILITY DISCONNECTIONS EXTENDED

Governor Holcomb issued [Executive Order 20-33](#) on June 30, which extends the moratorium on residential rental property evictions and mortgage foreclosures to July 31 and discontinuing utility services through Aug. 14. The order also extends the temporary licensing of certain healthcare professionals for an additional 30 days.

NURSING HOME DATA DASHBOARD COMING SOON

[A facility-specific dashboard detailing COVID-19 cases at nursing homes](#) around Indiana will be made available to the public by August, according to an announcement made by the Family and Social Services Administration ("FSSA") on Wednesday. FSSA said it will begin collecting data immediately and expects to release preliminary numbers by mid-July. The dashboard will include the number of positive cases, deaths, recoveries, and demographics of those infected on a facility by facility basis.

MARION COUNTY TO ENTER STAGE 4.5; REQUIRE MASKS STARTING JULY 9

Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett announced Thursday that Marion County will require masks to be worn by individuals when in an indoor space or an outdoor space where social distancing is not possible. Mayor Hogsett reminded residents that free masks provided by the city are still available on the [city's website](#). Outside of the mask mandate, Marion County's [updated order](#) will largely follow the state's Stage 4.5 plan beginning July 9, which means restaurant, bars and entertainment facilities will remain open with the same capacity restrictions. The temporary street closures around popular retail and restaurant areas will also be extended.

IURC DENIES UTILITY REQUESTS FOR COVID-19 EXPENSES

The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("IURC") [voted unanimously to deny a request made by several Indiana utility companies](#) to recover costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Utilities filed the request back in May and said the effects of government orders and businesses closing/moving resulted in large revenue shortages. The IURC said it will allow utility companies to track loses associated with the pandemic and other cost recovery options could be considered in the future.

INDOT DELAYS SECOND ROUND OF GRANTS

The Indiana Department of Transportation ("INDOT") will [delay issuing a second round of Community Crossing grants](#) originally scheduled to be issued in July 2020. In March 2020, INDOT



allocated more than \$126M in Community Crossing grants to Indiana communities for projects to improve infrastructure. INDOT cited the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on state budgets as the main reason for the delays and the state will re-evaluate options in September following updated revenue forecasts.

PPP DEADLINE EXTENDED; FUNDS STILL AVAILABLE

Congress [passed legislation extending the deadline](#) for applications to be accepted for the Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP") on Wednesday evening. The deadline, originally set for July 1, is now pushed back to early August. Over \$100B is still available in the program that allows for small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic to apply for forgivable loans. To date, almost 4.8M loans totaling over \$500B have been disbursed.

EXECUTIVE ORDERS

The following Executive Orders were issued the week of June 29:

[EO 20-33](#) – Further Extensions of Prior Directives

[EO 20-34](#) – Fourth Renewal of Public Health Emergency Declaration for the COVID-19 Outbreak

[EO 20-35](#) – Back on Track Indiana: Stage 4.5

To view all previous Executive Orders, click [here](#).

USEFUL LINKS

[BME PPP Use of Funds and Forgiveness](#) (Updated June 5, 2020)

[SBA Coronavirus Relief Options](#)

[Indiana SBDC COVID-19 Resources](#)

[BPAG COVID-19 Resources](#)

[BME COVID-19 Resources](#)

