

## **Impact If Bexar County Falls Within “Areas with High Hospitalization” Under Governor’s Order GA-32**

Under Governor Abbott’s most current state COVID-19 order (GA-32) an area of “high hospitalization” means any Trauma Service Area (TSA) that has had seven consecutive days in which the number of COVID hospitalized patients as a percentage of total hospital capacity exceeds 15%. If an area becomes a “high hospitalization” area, then any business operation with a 75% occupancy limit under GA-32 is reduced to only 50% occupancy limit. The reduced occupancy limit continues until the area has seven days under 15%.

On December 22 the TSA serving Bexar County reached 15.1%. If the percentage stays over the 15% for the next six days the new occupancy limits will go into effect on December 29, 2020.

### ***Businesses Operating with Reduced 50% Limit***

They include non-CISA/non-exempt businesses like:

- Restaurants
- Gyms
- Retail establishments, including vape stores and hobby stores
- Amusement parks
- Water parks
- Swimming pools
- Museums
- Libraries
- Zoos, aquariums, natural caverns, and similar facilities
- Indoor and outdoor professional, collegiate, and similar sporting events
- (Bars remain closed)

### ***Businesses Not Affected by New Occupancy Limits***

Exemptions: These are still allowed to operate despite High Hospitalization:

- ❖ **At 100%:**
  - Religious services
  - CISA services (including grocery stores, pharmacies, convenience stores, pet stores, Walmart/Target Superstores, gun stores, shooting ranges)
  - Local government operations
  - Child-care services
  - Youth camps
  - Recreational sports (youth and adult)
  - Any public or private schools
  - Drive-in concerts, movies or the like

- With 6ft between work stations:
  - Cosmetology salons, hair salons, barber shops
  - Nail salons
  - Massage establishments or other facility where licensed massage therapists practice
  - Other personal care or beauty services such as tanning salons, tattoo studios, piercing studios, hair removal studios, and hair loss treatment or growth services

***Elective Surgeries Postponed:***

If “high hospitalization” is reached then every hospital shall postpone all surgeries and procedures that are not medically necessary to diagnose or correct a serious medical condition of, or to preserve the life of, a patient who without timely performance of the surgery or procedure would be at risk for serious adverse medical consequences or death, as determined by the patient’s physician; provided, however, that this prohibition shall not apply to any surgery or procedure that, if performed in accordance with the commonly accepted standard of clinical practice, would not deplete any hospital capacity needed to cope with the COVID-19 disaster.