

A Bridge to Phase 5

As more of our residents receive the COVID-19 vaccine, Illinois will operate with a metrics-based pathway toward the fifth and final phase of the Restore Illinois reopening plan, in which all sectors of the economy reopen with businesses and recreation resuming normal operations, and where conventions, festivals, and large events can take place.

Following recommendations from public health experts, Illinois will move forward with a dial-like approach between the mitigations in Phase 4, which currently apply to the entire state, and the post-pandemic new normal of Phase 5. This Bridge to Phase 5 will allow for higher capacity limits and increased business operations, before public health experts tell us it is safe to move to the new normal that Phase 5 will bring.

Like the prior evidenced-based approaches to deliberately lift mitigations that have kept us safe and saved lives, this gradual path to Phase 5 will protect the progress we've made while allowing us to reopen the economy.

Once 70% of residents 65 and older have been vaccinated and barring any reversals in our COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths for a 28-day monitoring period, the Bridge to Phase 5 will begin with increased capacity limits in both indoor and outdoor settings. Once 50% of residents 16 and older have been vaccinated and stable or declining COVID-19 metrics are recorded during a 28-day monitoring period, Phase 5 will be implemented, removing capacity limits altogether. All regions of the state will move through these next phases together based on statewide metrics.

While regulations are rolled back gradually, Illinoisans should continue following the public health guidelines that have kept us safe during the pandemic, like wearing a mask in public and social distancing.

Additionally, this updated guidance establishes new capacity limits for settings determined by risk level. In an update to current Phase 4 mitigations, individuals with proof of full vaccination — defined as 14 days after receiving a final vaccine dose — or a negative COVID-19 test (PCR) 1-3 days prior to an event do not count against capacity limits. Following the latest studies on virus transmission, lower risk activities that were either not permitted or allowed at a lower capacity have been expanded in Phase 4.

SETTING	PHASE 4	BRIDGE	PHASE 5
Dining	Seated areas: Patrons ≥ 6 feet apart; parties ≤ 10 Standing areas: 25% capacity	Seated areas: Patrons ≥ 6 feet apart; parties ≤ 10 Standing areas: 30% capacity indoors; 50% capacity outdoors	N O L I M I T S
Health and fitness	50% capacity Group fitness classes of 50 or fewer indoors or 100 or fewer outdoors *	60% capacity Group fitness classes of 50 or fewer indoors or 100 or fewer outdoors	
Offices	50% capacity	60% capacity	
Personal care	50% capacity	60% capacity	
Retail and service counter	50% capacity	60% capacity	

SETTING	PHASE 4	BRIDGE	PHASE 5
Amusement parks	25% capacity *	60% capacity	N O C A P A C I T Y L I M I T S
Festivals and general admission outdoor spectator events	15 people per 1,000 sq. ft. *	30 people per 1,000 sq. ft.	
Flea and farmers markets	25% capacity or 15 people per 1,000 sq. ft.	Indoor: 15 people per 1,000 sq. ft. Outdoor: 30 people per 1,000 sq. ft.	
Film production	50% capacity	60% capacity	
Meetings, conferences and conventions	Venue with capacity < 200 persons: Lesser of 50 people or 50% capacity * Venue with capacity ≥ 200 persons: Lesser of 250 people or 25% capacity *	Lesser of 1,000 people or 60% capacity ^	
Museums	25% capacity	60% capacity	
Recreation	Indoor: Lesser of 50 people or 50% capacity Outdoor: Maximum groups of 50; multiple groups permissible	Indoor: Lesser of 100 people or 50% capacity Outdoor: Maximum groups of 100; multiple groups permissible	
Social events	Indoor: Lesser of 50 people or 50% capacity * Outdoor: Lesser of 100 people or 50% capacity *	Indoor: 250 people Outdoor: 500 people	
Spectator events (ticketed and seated)	Indoor venue with capacity < 200 people: Lesser of 50 people or 50% capacity * Outdoor venue or indoor venue with capacity ≥ 200 people: 25% capacity *	60% capacity	
Theaters and performing arts	Indoor venue with capacity < 200 persons: Lesser of 50 or 50% capacity Outdoor venue or indoor venue with capacity ≥ 200 persons: 25% capacity *	60% capacity	
Zoos	25% capacity Lesser of 50 or 50% at indoor exhibits	60% capacity	

* Denotes expanded activity in Phase 4 ^ Capacity applied for event sizes above the capacity limits allowed for social events

METRICS TO MOVE FORWARD

Vaccination metrics: Once 70% of residents 65 and older statewide have received their first dose of the vaccine and no increase in COVID-19 metrics is recorded, the state could move into the Bridge Phase. Once 50% of residents 16 and older have received their first dose of the vaccine and no increase in COVID-19 metrics is recorded, the state could move into Phase 5.

COVID-19 metrics: The state could advance if there is a non-increasing trend in hospital admissions for COVID-19 like illness, COVID-19 patients in the hospital and mortality rate while ICU bed availability must remain greater than or equal to 20%. The state will consider new knowledge of variants, vaccine effectiveness and the potential necessity of a booster shot as we move forward.

Monitoring period: COVID-19 metrics will be considered over a 28-day monitoring period before the state can advance to the next phase. The current monitoring period began when all regions of the state moved into Phase 4.

METRICS TO MOVE BACKWARD

The state could revert to a previous phase if there is a resurgence of the virus, measured by an increasing trend in our case rate and one of the following:

- Hospital admissions for COVID-19 like illness trend increasing and above 150 daily average
- COVID-19 patients in the hospital trend increasing and above 750 daily census
- Mortality rate trend increasing and above 0.1 daily average
- ICU bed availability < 20%

Metrics will be measured over a 10-day monitoring period.