

# County Official Actions in Response to COVID-19 as of August 11

**Erratum (11/5/2020):** In the original table published on August 20, Grant County was incorrectly categorized as having a mask mandate. However, Grant County passed a resolution on July 2 opting out of the state mask order. This change brings the number of counties with any restrictions down from 33 to 32 and the number of counties with a mask order in place down from 25 to 24, both as of August 11. Also in the original table published on August 20, McPherson and Rush counties were incorrectly shown as opting out of the school mitigation order. This change brings the number of counties that fully or partially opted out of school mitigation orders down from 26 to 24, as of August 11. The table below, as well as the accompanying blog post and map, have all been corrected to reflect these changes.

Information was collected through a survey in collaboration with the Kansas Association of Counties and is supplemented with online searches for published orders, announcements on social media and local news sites. Counties that have adopted restrictions are indicated in the table; however, official actions that use only the language of guidance (e.g., “should” or “recommend”) are not considered restrictions in the table. For the school mitigation order, county commissions that have taken official action to opt out of some or all of the order, or have not taken action, are indicated in the table. Actions taken by local school boards or school districts are not included in the table. For mask orders, counties that either adopted an order by official action, or did not take official action to opt out of the state mask order, are considered to have a restriction in place and are indicated in the table. Cities that adopted a mask ordinance in a county that did not have a mask requirement are included in a separate table at the end of this document. Counties and cities may have policies in place that were not identified by this approach and therefore are not identified properly in the table. Information will be monitored, and the table updated as needed.

Number of Kansas counties that fully or partially opted out of school mitigation order = 24  
 Number of Kansas counties with public health restrictions = 32 (24 of these counties have a mask order in place)  
 Number of Kansas counties with no public health restrictions (but might have recommendations or guidelines) = 73



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**Additional resources:**

[Ad Astra Plan to Reopen Kansas \(“State Plan”\)](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Industry Guidance on reopening](#)

COUNTY	COUNTY OFFICIAL ACTION <i>As of 5 p.m., August 11</i>	SCHOOL MITIGATION ORDER			Any Public Health Restriction	CATEGORIES OF RESTRICTIONS											
		Did Not Opt Out	Partially Opted Out	Fully Opted Out		Mask Order	Gathering Size Restriction	Restaurants/Bars/Nightclubs	Retail	Personal Services	Fitness Centers/Gyms/Health Clubs	Indoor/Outdoor Leisure Activities	Education/Childcare/Summer Camp	Mass Events	Swimming Pools	Enforcement Provisions	
						81	2	22	32	24	17	6	2	3	3	3	5
Allen	Allen County took no action to opt out of the state mask order, thereby allowing the mask order via Executive Order 20-52 to stand. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓			✓	✓											
Anderson	Anderson County passed a resolution opting out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Atchison	Effective through August 19, mass gatherings of more than 45 individuals are prohibited. All businesses can open if able to maintain at least 6 feet of distance, follow fundamental cleaning and public health practices and avoid instances in which groups of more than 45 individuals are in one location and unable to maintain a 6-foot distance. Personal service businesses may open if written customer record is kept and appointments are spaced. Fitness centers and health clubs may open, but locker rooms must be closed except as necessary to use restroom facilities, there is a limit of 45 visitors per 1,000 square feet, must keep a visitor record, must clean equipment between use, and maintain social distancing in group classes. Retail sales establishments, including retail food, theaters, museums and indoor leisure spaces may open with a limit of 45 customers for each 1,000 square feet of retail shopping space and customers maintain social distancing. Golf courses and recreational facilities may open, provided they maintain social distancing and adhere to mass gathering limits. Order is enforced pursuant to K.S.A. 65-129b and violation is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 and a 30-day jail sentence. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>  Atchison County also chose to uphold the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓



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																	Totals:
Clay	<p>On July 1, Clay County voted to opt out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a></p> <p>On August 2, the County Commission instructed the County Attorney to draft a Resolution reflecting the USD 379 School Board's Opening Plan concerning the wearing of masks and the universal temperature screenings being taken. The plan has not yet been made official. <a href="#">READ MORE</a></p>			✓													
Cloud	On July 3, Cloud County opted out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Coffey	On July 2, Coffey County opted out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Comanche	Comanche County opted out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Cowley	<p>Effective until rescinded, Cowley County extended Phase Three of the Ad Astra Plan with the following modifications as amended: outdoor mass gatherings of more than 750 individuals are prohibited; indoor social gatherings of more than 300 individuals are prohibited or 25% of rated occupancy rate of the building so long as adequate social distancing can occur; indoor, on-site operations are limited to no more than 150 individuals. <a href="#">READ MORE</a></p> <p>On July 3, Cowley County opted out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a></p>	✓			✓	✓											
Crawford	<p>Crawford County voted not to opt out of the state mask order, but the order will not be enforced. <a href="#">READ MORE</a></p> <p>The Crawford County Health Officer has ordered that all incoming students to residence halls at Pittsburg State University be tested for COVID-19 upon arrival. Students who opt out are mandated to a 14-day quarantine. <a href="#">READ MORE</a></p>	✓			✓	✓						✓					
Decatur	Decatur County passed a resolution opting out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Dickinson	<p>Effective until rescinded, essential businesses must screen employees for fevers or illness with a questionnaire at workplace entrance and move workspaces 6 feet apart. Restaurants and bars must adhere to social distancing guidelines; wait lines must adhere to social distancing guidelines or patrons must wait in vehicles. Retail businesses must maintain social distancing. Long-term care facilities must not allow outside visitors, maintain social distancing, adjust layout to maintain 6 feet between residents, perform enhanced cleanings daily and screen employees for fevers or illness, and any non-staff entrance to facility shall be documented. Childcare facilities must adhere to KDHE guidelines, perform enhanced cleanings daily and screen employees and children. Personal services may only be provided via appointment, service providers and customers shall wear masks, maintain social distancing of patrons and staff, providers must allow time for cleaning between appointments and follow industry guidelines. Gyms/fitness centers must adhere to social distancing guidelines, clean equipment between uses, and customers must be screened for fever or illness. Community events must maintain social distancing guidelines. Cruise nights, events, vehicle shows are permitted with social distancing. Graduation ceremonies allowed with approval of health department and county health officer. <a href="#">READ MORE</a></p> <p>Dickinson County also chose to uphold the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a></p>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				















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																	Totals:
Stanton	Effective until rescinded, mass gatherings of more than 25 individuals are prohibited. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>  Masks are required for all individuals 10 years of age and older when in public and a six-foot social distance cannot be maintained. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓			✓	✓	✓										
Stevens	Stevens County passed a resolution opting out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Sumner	Sumner County opted out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Thomas	Thomas County passed a resolution opting out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>  Thomas County opted out of the state mitigation procedures in K-12 schools. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>			✓													
Trego	Trego County passed a resolution opting out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Wabaunsee	Effective until rescinded, Wabaunsee County extended Phase Three with the following modification: 90 maximum for mass gathering when able to maintain 6 feet distance between people that do not reside in the same household. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>  Wabaunsee County opted out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓			✓		✓										
Wallace	Wallace County passed a resolution opting out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Washington	Washington County passed a resolution opting out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Wichita	Wichita County passed a resolution opting out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>  Effective August 10, Wichita County passed a resolution opting out of the state mitigation procedures in K-12 schools. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>			✓													
Wilson	Wilson County passed a resolution opting out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Woodson	Woodson County opted out of the state mask order. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>	✓															
Wyandotte	Effective until rescinded, Wyandotte County remains in Phase Three of the Ad Astra Plan with the following modifications: swimming pool capacity is limited to no more than 45; summer camps, fairs, festivals and outdoor venues are allowed at 50 percent or less of Fire Marshal approved capacity, and only if proper 6 ft social distancing can be maintained if there are more than 45 individuals in one place. Visitors are not allowed at long term care facilities or correctional facilities. Enforcement pursuant to K.S.A. 65-129b and penalty is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 and a 30-day jail sentence. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>  Wyandotte County continues to mandate the wearing of masks, with the following additional requirements added July 14: athletes and those exercising indoors are required to wear masks; all children over 5 years of age and all staff in daycare/childcare/educational settings are required to wear masks unless actively eating, drinking, or sleeping. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>  In-person classes at public schools within Wyandotte County's jurisdiction cannot begin until after Labor Day, and all children and educators must wear masks while inside and in outdoor groups.	✓			✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Source: KHI analysis of survey conducted in collaboration with the Kansas Association of Counties supplemented searches of published orders, meeting minutes, press releases or announcements on social media or in a local newspaper. Data as of 5 p.m., August 11.

# City Mask Orders as of August 11

CITY	COUNTY	CITY OFFICIAL ACTION <i>As of 5 p.m., August 11</i>
Emporia	Lyon	Effective until rescinded, the City of Emporia enacted an ordinance nearly identical to the state mask order with the following modifications: a violation shall be punished by a fine of \$25 upon a first conviction, by a fine of \$50 upon a second conviction, and by fine of \$100 upon a third or subsequent conviction, plus court costs. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>
Hays	Ellis	Effective through August 31, the City of Hays enacted an ordinance nearly identical to the state mask order with the following modifications: children ages 8 and younger are exempt; a violation shall be punished by a fine of \$25 upon a first conviction, by a fine \$50 upon a second conviction, and by fine of \$100 upon a third or subsequent conviction, plus court costs. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>
Manhattan	Riley	Effective through September 7, the City of Manhattan enacted an ordinance nearly identical to the statewide mask order with the following modifications: a violation shall be punished as follows with a fine of \$5 for the first conviction, with a fine of \$10 for the second conviction and with a fine of \$20 for the third or subsequent violation. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>
Marion	Marion	Effective until August 24, the City of Marion enacted an ordinance nearly identical to the state mask order with the following modifications: for a person, firm or corporation, the first conviction shall be punished by a fine of \$25, second conviction by a fine of \$50, and third or subsequent conviction by a fine of \$100. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>
Parsons	Labette	Effective until rescinded, the City of Parsons enacted an ordinance similar to the state mask order with the following modifications: no age exemption, a violation by an individual shall be punished with a warning for the first offense, with a \$15 fee for the second offense, and a third offense could be fined \$50 plus \$90 in court costs. <a href="#">An amendment was passed on August 4</a> exempting persons age 5 years and under and not requiring students attending schools to comply as long as students follow mask policy issued by their school administration. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>
Winfield	Cowley	Effective until rescinded, the City of Winfield enacted an ordinance nearly identical to the statewide mask order with the following modifications: a violation shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$25 for the first violation; not exceeding \$50 for the second violation and not exceeding \$100 for each additional violation. <a href="#">READ MORE</a>

Note: The information provided in this table was collected through searches for published orders, or announcements on social media or in a local newspaper. Cities may have adopted a mask ordinances or other restrictions that were not identified by this approach and therefore are not identified properly in the table. Information will be monitored, and the table updated as needed.

Source: <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-total-cities-and-towns.html#tables>