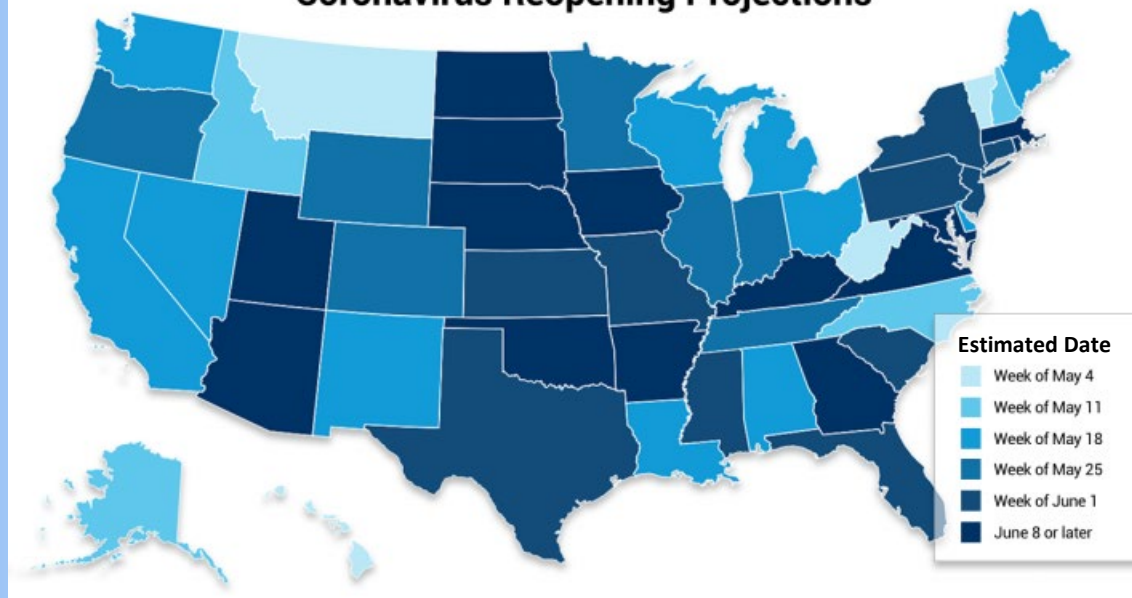


Coronavirus Reopening Projections



Destination marketing organizations face a patchwork of dates and localized guidelines

University of Washington, via foxbusiness.com

DMOs face range of requirements, uncertain future

As the nation takes baby steps to reopen while the coronavirus still poses a threat, the hospitality and tourism industries must navigate a potentially conflicting array of local, state and federal messaging.

Add an unpredictable response from the public to social distancing requirements and you get no clear picture of what lies ahead.

What follows are some snapshots of what is happening across the country this month.

Hawaii arrests travelers who break quarantine

Roving neighborhood police patrols. Uniformed soldiers manning checkpoints. A vast surveillance network of hotel staff and health department officials on the lookout for anyone breaking quarantine.

This isn't an authoritarian

dictatorship. It's Hawaii, where officials have been enforcing some of the strictest measures in the country aimed at stopping the spread of the coronavirus.

Earlier this month, police arrested a California couple visiting Hawaii on their honeymoon after they ignored warnings to stay inside their hotel room.

Upon arriving in Waikiki, authorities say the man and woman were advised by hotel staff that the state's emergency pandemic orders required them to self-quarantine.

The couple reportedly ignored the instructions and left the hotel. After returning to their hotel around midnight, they were again warned by staff to not leave their room. After again breaking quarantine the next day, hotel staff called police, who arrested the couple.

— CNN

Northern Virginia area wants to take it slow

At least one northern Virginia county says it is not yet ready to move ahead with plans to re-open the economy in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Arlington County Board issued a statement May 8 saying it is working with the governor's office and other northern Virginia jurisdictions to develop a separate, extended time frame for re-opening from the rest of the state.

On May 8, Gov. Ralph Northam announced plans for an extremely limited first phase of reopening businesses with a tentative start date of May 15. But he said northern Virginia may be able to opt out if it doesn't feel ready.

The Arlington board said that

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DMOs, attractions & governments seek right solution

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hospitalizations continue to rise in northern Virginia, and that the region accounts for a disproportionate share of COVID-19 cases.

The board said that “for our region as well as Arlington specifically, the most responsible path forward is maintaining our current operating status” until data shows the virus is more clearly on decline. – *wset.com*

Boston will not allow large public events this summer

Boston Mayor Marty Walsh announced there would be no large gatherings in the city this summer, citing the ongoing need to protect against spread of the coronavirus.

No events that would involve more than 10 people, or that could draw a crowd, should be planned, the city said. Officials later clarified that no one would be issued a permit from the city for public events that could draw a large crowd.

“This is a public health decision and it’s the right decision,” Walsh said.

The announcement was an unpleasant surprise, said Martha Sheridan, president and CEO of the Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau. – *wbur.org*

Memphis’ Beale Street welcomes visitors again

Restaurants on Beale Street in Memphis can welcome customers through the door again.

But walking down the iconic street, things will look and sound much different and will be closing much earlier.

Inside some spots, tables were marked off to allow for six feet of space between customers.

Live performances are not allowed.

“I think the goal right now is to make Beale Street more of a restaurant district,” said Kevin Kane, President and CEO of the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Gatherings of 10 or more people on the street are also not allowed.

Looking ahead as the city opens in phases, the goal is to make sure customers and employees are safe.

“They want to follow all the protocols,” Kane said. “They want to do the right thing because they don’t want to see us go backwards.”

– *wreg.org*

Maine’s tourism industry argues over right response

As the uncertainty continues, Maine’s tourism industry is debating the path forward.

Some businesses want the governor to drop a 14-day quarantine rule for out-of-staters.

Others say it wouldn’t be safe.

Some business owners say they won’t be able to survive under the current 14-day quarantine rule, but others are saying it would be irresponsible to allow people from out of state into Maine without more precautions in place.

Seven tourism organizations are asking Gov. Janet Mills to drop the 14-day quarantine rule.

Mills closed hotels and enacted the quarantine on anyone but essential workers traveling into the state on

April 3. She just extended the civil emergency through June 11.

– *wgme.com*

Colorado may put focus on in-state travelers

According to the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO), out-of-state travelers may be urged to not visit Colorado this summer.

“I think there certainly is a wish among practitioners of tourism that there will be travelers this summer,” Cathy Ritter, CTO director, said.

“Those may be in-state travelers. There may be other conditions that happen that make it impossible to invite travelers back into our state.”

Ritter said without knowing when the state will open, they are focusing on in-state travelers. – *CNN*

Elsewhere ...

The City Council of **Naples, Florida**, has voted to reopen its beaches again but with some limitations this time around after rules were ignored the first time.

Only a week after the city opened the beaches to the public, the closure order was issued after a council member witnessed crowds not following social distancing guidelines. – *Naples Daily News*

With visitors returning to the **Outer Banks** on May 16, Dare County, NC, has posted a list of frequently asked questions that outline what visitors should know and expect.

Wearing a cloth mask is encouraged and visitors are advised to bring paper goods and cleaning supplies that might be scarce.

– *islandfreepress.org*