

MADISON COUNTY COVID-19 REQUIREMENT TO COMPLY WITH GA-32

On December 28, 2020, Madison County Judge Tony Leago received notification from the Texas Department of Health and Human Services that Trauma Service Area (TSA) N (of which Madison County is located) is now considered a “high hospitalization” area, as set forth by Texas Governor Greg Abbott in Executive Order GA-32.

The letter further explained that any TSA that has had seven consecutive days in which the number of COVID-19 hospitalized patients as a percentage of total hospital capacity exceeds 15%, that area is considered to be a “high hospitalization” area.

Therefore, Madison County is subject to the requirements of GA-32:

All businesses currently operating at an increased percent occupancy under GA-32 must reduce their occupancy to 50%. All bars that were allowed to open at a 50% occupancy under GA-32 must close. All elective surgeries are prohibited in the Trauma Service Area, including Madison, Leon, Grimes, Robertson, Washington, Burleson, and Brazos Counties.

This rollback in occupancy may be reversed once hospitalization rates have been 15% or less for at least 7 consecutive days, or if the county has fewer than 30 cases reported over the last 14 days, and the county judge submits an attestation to DSHS. At present, Madison County does not qualify for an attestation to be filed.

Businesses Impacted by Governor Abbott Executive Order GA-32

Businesses operating with reduced 50% limit include non-CISA/non-exempt businesses like:

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

Businesses Exempted by Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-32

These businesses are allowed to operate at 100% occupancy

- 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 and youth camps
- Recreational sports (youth and adult)
- Any public or private schools
- Drive-in concerts, movies or the like

Businesses Exempted by Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-32

These businesses are allowed to operate with six feet 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