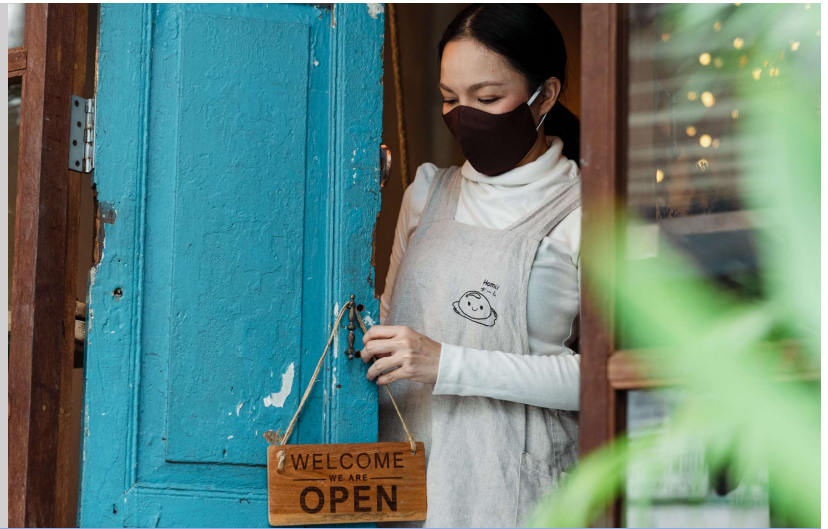


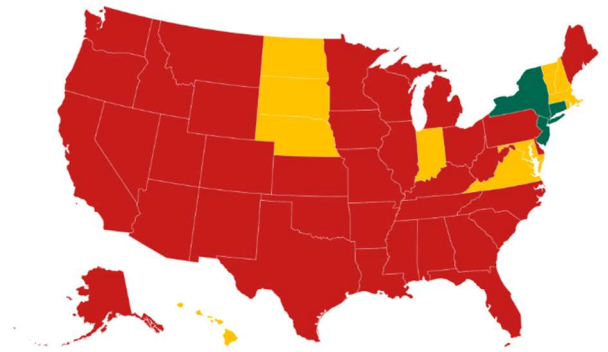
# OPEN SAFE COLORADO



Is the state effectively containing the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”)?  
Data current as of 6/29/2020

## STATUS: **RED**

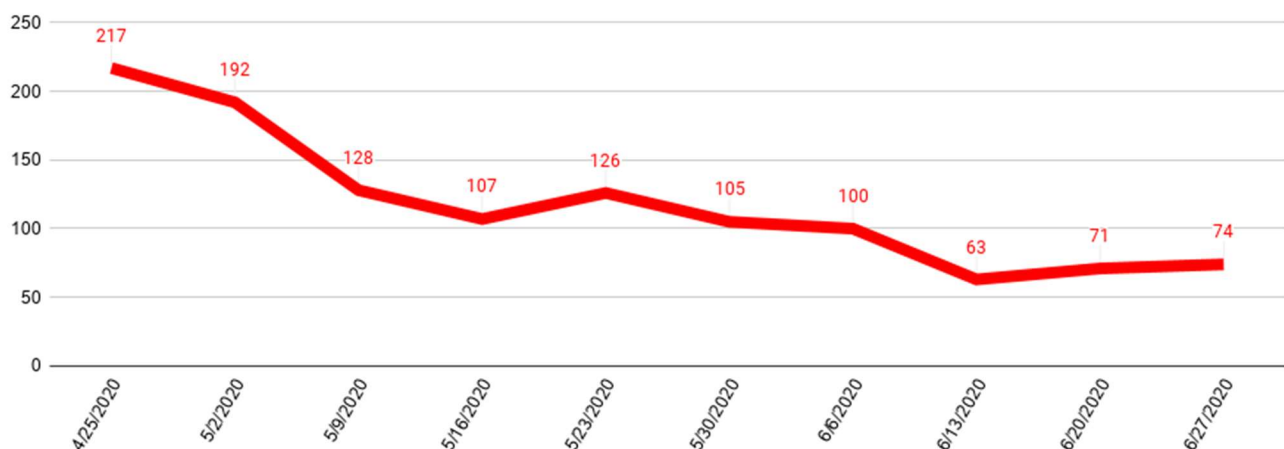
COVID Exit Strategy ([www.covidexitstrategy.org](http://www.covidexitstrategy.org)), a non-partisan group of public health and crisis experts, has been tracking the progress states have made towards meeting the CDC recommended benchmarks states should reach before reopening their economies. As of the June 29<sup>th</sup>, only three states were meeting these metrics, earning a “Green” rating. Currently, Colorado is failing 3 out of 4 of the benchmarks, and is rated “Red” by COVID Exit Strategy.



### **CDC Benchmark: a 14-day decline in influenza-like illness**

The CDC recommends that states report a 14-day decline in influenza-like illness (“ILI”) before lifting restrictions. Colorado has **NOT MET** this benchmark. ILI numbers for outpatient and Emergency Room (“ER”) visits are reported to the CDC weekly. Colorado reported an increase in ILI from 63 to 74 between the week ending June 12<sup>th</sup> and the week ending June 27<sup>th</sup>.

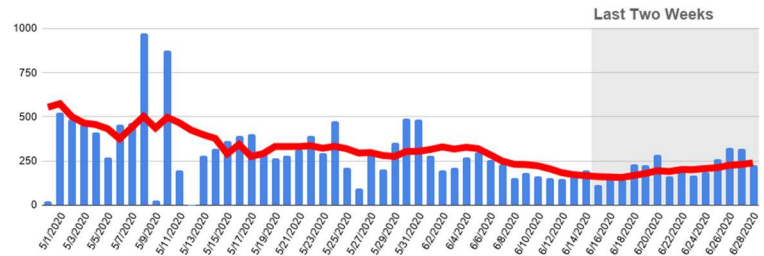
Colorado - Weekly Total Outpatient / ER visits for ILI over the last two months



## CDC Benchmark: declining COVID+

The CDC recommends a state show a 14-day decline in documented cases of COVID-19 before reopening. Colorado has **NOT MET** this benchmark. COVID+ cases have been increasing in the state over the last 14 days.

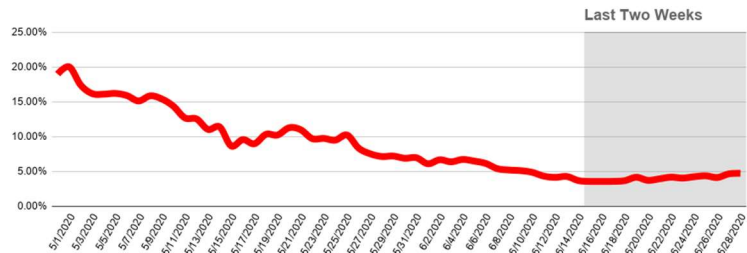
Colorado - Last 60 days of new COVID+ Cases with 7-day Trend



## CDC Benchmark: testing

The CDC recommends a state show a downward trajectory for the percentage of COVID-19 tests that are positive before reopening. Colorado has **NOT MET** this benchmark. Test positivity has been increasing in the state over the last 14 days.

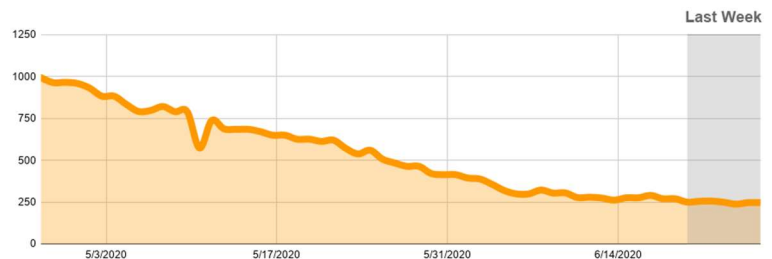
Colorado - COVID-19 diagnostic test positivity over last 60-days (7-day Moving average)



## CDC Benchmark: hospital capacity

The CDC recommends a state have sufficient hospital capacity to treat all patients without crisis care (20% capacity available over last 7 days). Colorado **HAS MET** this benchmark. The highest reported occupancy in the last week was 62% for inpatient beds and 54% for ICU beds.

Colorado - Hospital & ICU occupancy for COVID+ patients over last 60 days



## Recommendations

Colorado is currently failing 3 out of 4 the CDC benchmarks that CoPIRG has been tracking, indicating that COVID-19 has been spreading in the community without effective containment. Recent outbreaks in other states have shown that the virus can resurge at any time if businesses or consumers do not follow social distancing recommendations and other public health guidelines, such as wearing a mask in public spaces. The state should maintain all current restrictions, and consider implementing additional containment measures.

### For more information, contact:

#### Allison Conwell

Advocate

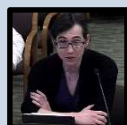
[aconwell@copirg.org](mailto:aconwell@copirg.org)



#### Numi Lee Griffith

Health Care Advocate

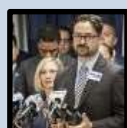
[ngriffith@ospirg.org](mailto:ngriffith@ospirg.org)



#### Abe Scarr

Open Safe Director

[abe@illinoispirg.org](mailto:abe@illinoispirg.org)



### NOTES AND CITATIONS

- Photo Credit: Ketut Subiyanto, [www.Pexels.com](http://www.Pexels.com), Pexels attribution license.
- Color rating is based on the recommendations of COVID Exit Strategy. View current data at [www.covidexitstrategy.org](http://www.covidexitstrategy.org).
- Map graphic courtesy of COVID Exit Strategy, retrieved on 6/29/2020.
- CDC recommendations are derived from the CDC's "Opening Up America Again" framework, and CDC guidance released on 5/19/2020.
- Data for ILI and hospital occupancy based on state reports to the CDC.
- Data for COVID+, test positivity, and hospital / ICU occupancy graph is derived from data collected by the COVID tracking project, at [www.covidtracking.com](http://www.covidtracking.com)
- We do not track CDC metrics related to total testing volume, reported symptoms of COVID-like illness, and PPE supply due to a lack of consistent standards and / or publicly available data.