



Mayor  
**Jerome A. Prince**  
City Of Gary, IN



**5-5-20**  
**City of Gary COVID-19 Update**

**Gary Increases**

Gary has seen our second consecutive day of double-digit increases in new COVID-19 positive cases. I'm very concerned by these increases. Clearly, our fight against the spread of the COVID-19 virus is not over. In just two days, we have reported more than 25 new cases.

We must remain vigilant. We must continue to practice good social distancing. We must continue to keep our travels to work and essential business only.

**Religious Services (worship services, weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.)**

Many of us look forward to returning to services at our houses of worship, but the COVID-19 virus remains a very serious threat to our community. In his five-stage plan to get Indiana back on track, Gov. Holcomb begins by maintaining restrictions on Lake, Marion and Cass Counties for one more week. The Governor also stressed each municipality can make its own plans more restrictive than state plans, if that is what is in the best interests of the communities.

I am calling for all houses of worship to continue to use on-line, virtual and drive-in services for one more week. ***Please do not hold in-person services until the weekend of May 15th.***

Funeral homes and houses of worship should not open funeral services to the public until after May 15th. They should continue to provide on-line ceremonies and limit attendees in their buildings to no more than 10 people until May 15th. Other ceremonies, such as weddings and baptisms, also should wait until after May 15th or limit their gatherings to no more than 10 people.

Faith leaders can go to [coronavirus.in.gov](https://www.coronavirus.in.gov). Scroll down to "Recent Public Updates" and choose "Guidance and Recommendations for Places of Worship" for detailed tips on how to carry out your services beginning the weekend of May 15.

## Updates

# of Indiana residents COVID-19 tested:	115,834
# of Indiana residents COVID-19 positive:	21,033
# of Indiana COVID-19 related deaths:	1,213
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 tested:	10,141
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 positive:	2,161
# of Lake County COVID-19 related deaths:	103
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 tested:	2,028
# of Porter County residents COVID-10 positive:	266
# of Porter County COVID-19 related deaths:	7
# of Gary residents COVID-19 positive:	455
# of Gary COVID-19 related deaths:	15

## Conclusion

I encourage everyone who has Internet access to go to [Backontrack.in.gov](https://backontrack.in.gov) to learn more about Gov. Holcomb's recommendations for lifting restrictions on retail shops and malls, restaurants and bars, cultural events, sporting activities and more.

My administration continues to work on a plan to reopen Gary for a variety of activities in a cautious, deliberate way. If we see our rate of COVID-19 infections continue to rise by double digits on a daily basis, ***I reserve the right to scale back our reopening.***

Please continue checking on your friends and neighbors, especially our older residents.

As always, if we remain patient and calm, we will get through this together.

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