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Ongoing Topics

[COVID-19] Guidelines for Lifting the State of Emergency

May 14, 2020

On April 7, 2020, the government declared a state of emergency in relation to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19). On May 14, 2020, changes in the infection situation were analyzed and assessed, and a comprehensive decision was made based on the approach described below to change the areas where the-state-of-emergency measures should be taken to Hokkaido, Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, Kyoto, Osaka, and Hyogo*.

* On May 21, the state of emergency was lifted in Kyoto, Osaka, and Hyogo. Afterwards, on May 25, the declaration was lifted nationwide.

Related Link

[The Declaration of the State of Emergency \(Overview\) \(May 14\)](#)

[The Declaration of the State of Emergency \(Overview\) \(May 21\)](#)

[The Declaration of the Lifting of the State of Emergency \(Overview\) \(May 25\)](#)

[Basic Policies \(Summary\) \(May 14\)](#)

Guidelines

The decision is based on comprehensive understanding of:

- 1) Epidemiological trend;
- 2) Medical Capacity; and
- 3) Surveillance System

In addition to above,

- The government emphasizes the readiness to relax the state-of-emergency Measures even in during the planned state of emergency period, should there be enough evidence to suggest the safe lifting of the measures.
- The government values the independent initiatives lead by the governing bodies of the each regions, taking into account the importance of considering risks and involved in across region movement of people.

Guidelines for Lifting State of Emergency
(a decision will be comprehensively made based on the following conditions)

<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 1 Infection situation </div> <p>(1) Number of newly reported cases should show a decreasing trend on a weekly basis</p> <p>(2) Cumulative number of reported cases in the most recent week should be: ≤ roughly 0.5 persons per 100,000 people</p> <p>If such number is ≤ roughly 1 person,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Monitor a decreasing trend <input type="radio"/> Observe the situation of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific clusters Infections in medical institutions Cases with an unidentified route of transmission <p>(3) Infection situation in the integrated larger zone for daily lives and economic activities <small>(i.e. situations in adjacent prefectures)</small></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 2 Medical service system </div> <p>(1) Persistent decrease in patients with severe symptoms</p> <p>(2) Hospital-beds situation</p> <p>(3) Established system to respond to a sudden increase in patients</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 3 Surveillance system </div> <p>System for conducting PCR tests required by doctors without delay</p>	

Responses of Prefectures after the Lifting of the State of Emergency

Responses of prefectures after the partial lifting of the state of emergency

	Non-essential outings		large-scale events	Places with 3Cs, facilities where clusters emerged (eateries with hospitality services, live houses, karaoke, sport gyms, etc.)	Request for businesses to stay closed, etc.
	crossing prefectures	Places with 3Cs			
Designated Prefectures under Specific Cautions (8)	×	×	×	×	Decisions made by Governors
Designated prefectures (0)	×	×	△ up to about 50 people	× to △ (Governors decide)	(voluntary measures based on a guideline set by each industry)
Lifted prefectures (39)	△ * Not to/from prefectures under a state of emergency * Between lifted prefectures, with discretion until May 31	×	△ Up to about 100 for indoors and 200 for outdoors	× to △ (Governors decide)	

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