State and local jurisdictions are issuing mask ordinances as the region continues to see increases in the number of new COVID-19 cases.

The nine-county Kansas City metropolitan region reported 600 new cases last week, bringing the total to 1,707 on July 4. Leaders are watching the data to see if the region will see a further increase in cases following the Independence Day holiday weekend.

Research continues to show that masks are an important way to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection. Wearing a mask can help keep you, your family and your community safe.

Even if you don’t feel sick, you could pass COVID-19 along to others. Masks are a small step that can have a big impact.

We’re tracking the latest mask requirements on preparemetrokc.org.

Key data points
From the week of June 28 to July 4
New cases: 1,707
New hospitalizations: 44
Average tests/day: 3,634
New deaths: 27

What you can do
-Wear a face mask
-Practice social distancing
-Wash hands often
-Stay at home if you are sick
-Frequently clean high-touch surfaces
-Donate supplies
-Volunteer your time

Key graphs

The standard is 150 tests per 100,000 population per day = 3,150 tests per day. The region is currently reporting 2,400 tests/day.