



Majority of Texas Businesses at 50% Occupation Capacity

Announced two days ago, 17 of Texas's 22 Trauma Service Areas (TSAs) were under [COVID-19 "surge."](#) ensuring that more counties will have businesses with restricted occupancies, per Governor Abbott's order, until hospitalization numbers can flatten for an extended period of time.

As a refresher, in October 2020, Governor Abbott issued [Executive Order GA-32](#), which allowed for certain business establishments to operate at no more than 75% of the establishment's occupancy during the pandemic. That occupancy limit is further restricted down to 50% occupancy in counties located in TSAs with "high hospitalizations" related to COVID-19. A TSA with "high hospitalizations" is defined as seven consecutive days in which the number of patients hospitalized because of COVID-19 *exceeds* 15% of total hospital capacity. The designation also means bars must close and elective surgeries must cease.

Despite the majority of TSAs falling into the "surge" zone, there are a few TSA regions, including TSA O where Austin is located, that have shown numbers below the 15% benchmark.

Any county within a TSA designated as a "high hospitalization" area may deviate from these restrictions if that county meets certain "attestation" parameters related to minimal cases of COVID-19. A TSA can shed its "high hospitalization" designation only after seven consecutive days in which the number of patients hospitalized because of COVID-19 is *at or below* 15% of total hospital capacity.

Hospitalization data maintained by the State of Texas is available [here](#).

A copy of Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-32, and an outline of the TSA regional map with county list is available [here](#).

For more information please contact [Billy Davis](#).