# REOPENING THE ECONOMY AMID COVID-19

# **8 BUZZWORDS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

Learn how these 8 buzzwords are helping states across the country reopen the economy safely.

# What does it mean?

#### **At-Risk Populations**

Those who are at the highest risk for severe illness. Populations that are most vulnerable to COVID-19 include individuals:



<u>65 years of age</u> and older



Who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility

Who have <u>underlying medical conditions</u>, particularly if not well controlled, including:



- Chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
- Serious heart conditions
- Immunocompromised
- Diabetes
- Chronic kidney or liver disease

#### How it helps states reopen:

Understanding who is <u>most at risk</u> and where they are located will help public health officials monitor, protect and inform these individuals of new hotspots, treatment options and other vital information.

# Flattening the Curve

#### What does it mean?

An attempt to create a more gradual uptick in cases, rather than a steep rise. Notably, <u>"flattening the curve"</u> does not necessarily decrease the projected number of cases, but spreads them out over a longer period of time.

# How it helps states reopen:

Helps to avoid overburdening the healthcare system all at once.

#### **Technology-Assisted Contact Tracing**

#### What does it mean?

- After a patient tests positive, public health officials help identify everyone the patient had <u>close</u> <u>contact</u> with during the timeframe they may have been infectious. They then notify these exposed individuals as rapidly as possible.
- In <u>digital contact tracing</u>, subscribers voluntarily opt-in with smartphone devices in order for Bluetooth-enabled technology to determine contact between an infected person and those in near proximity.

#### How it helps states reopen:

By providing exposed individuals with information and support to understand their risk, they can isolate themselves from others which helps minimize the spread of the infection and flattens the curve.

#### **Public Health or Medical Surveillance**

#### What does it mean?

Ongoing, systematic collection, <u>analysis and interpretation</u> of health-related data essential to the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice. For COVID-19, the CDC is using multiple surveillance systems in collaboration with state, local, territorial, and academic partners to <u>monitor</u> <u>the disease</u> in the United States.



#### How it helps states reopen:

Surveillance serves as an early warning system to identify public health emergencies and guide policy and strategies. COVID-19 data can be used to help public health professionals monitor the spread and <u>support better</u> <u>understanding</u> of the virus.

#### **Early Case Identification**



# What does it mean?

Identifying the symptoms of the coronavirus in individuals as <u>early as possible</u>.

#### How it helps states reopen:

Rapid and <u>accurate detection</u> of COVID-19 is crucial to identify potential hot-spots, notify at-risk populations and control outbreaks in the community.





#### **Exposure Notifications**

# What does it mean?

Communications sent to potentially exposed individuals identified during contact tracing provides users with details about their exposure and risk of catching the virus, based on their distance from and how long they were in proximity of an infected person.

# How it helps states reopen:

By providing <u>exposure notifications</u>, individuals can be quickly notified if they have come in contact with someone who has tested positive and will be able to quickly isolate and prevent further spread.

# Vaccine Prioritization

# What does it mean?

The highest priority group to receive a vaccination if there is limited vaccine supply.

# How it helps states reopen:

Recognizing that it is possible that vaccines may be in extremely short supply when first available, it may be necessary to quickly identify at-risk populations and <u>prioritize</u> <u>vaccinations</u> to these groups.



# Herd or Group Immunity



# What does it mean?

Occurs when enough people are immune to an infectious disease, making further spread of the virus unlikely. <u>Herd</u> <u>immunity</u> can happen from vaccination



or from enough people developing immunity after contracting the illness.

# How it helps states reopen:

Being able to identify those that have already contracted the virus or those that have received vaccinations can help slow or stop the community-spread of the virus and help determine which areas are able to open first.

Public health and safety agencies need the appropriate tools to successfully implement these initiatives and reopen the economy safely, including:



**Targeted community notifications** to facilitate rapid isolation for individuals positively identified in contact tracing



Automated wellness checks to encourage residents to provide updates on their quarantine or health status to conduct public health surveillance



**Data collection and reporting** to share critical community health information both internally and with the public



**Real-time identification of at-risk populations** or illness clusters to determine vaccine prioritization and provide important updates



A resilient and adaptable communication system that can be used for any public health or safety emergency

Learn how Rave's critical communications platform can enhance your current recovery efforts and help you safely reopen the economy.

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