

Governor's Message: Take Every Measure to Stop COVID-19 Infection Surge during the End of the Fiscal Year!

- In Hyogo Prefecture, we have observed an **infection surge**; the daily number of new cases had recently exceeded 100 for several days.
- Infections by **new coronavirus variants** have been increasing as well.
- At the end and beginning of the fiscal year, we usually have **many opportunities to dine with others**. I would like to ask for your cooperation in the following to prevent the spread of infections.

Request to Hyogo citizens

(Do not bring the virus into homes, facilities, etc.)

- **Avoid unnecessary and non-urgent visits to areas outside the prefecture** and areas where a surge in infections have been observed.
- **Avoid visiting facilities with higher risks of infections, such as eating and drinking establishments and karaoke parlors that do not implement infection prevention measures** based on each industry's guidelines.
- **Refrain from dining and drinking in groups or for long hours and participating in farewell/welcome parties, cherry-blossom viewing parties, and house parties.** Young people in particular are requested to **be responsible for your behavior**; please consider infection prevention as **your personal responsibility**.
- When dining with others, please observe the following:
 - Dine **in groups of four or less** (excluding family members living together).
 - **Avoid dining for long hours** (do not go to afterparties).
 - **Use fans, face masks, or other items to cover the mouth to prevent the spread of droplets during conversations.**
- After dining out or using facilities with higher risks of infections, please **take extra caution when coming into contact with other people for a certain period**; **be careful not to spread the virus** even when at home.
- We ask eating and drinking establishments in the areas below to shorten business hours. Thank you for your cooperation.

[Requests to eating and drinking establishments, etc.]

Period	March 8–31, 2021	April 1–21, 2021
Area	Kobe, Amagasaki, Nishinomiya, Ashiya	Kobe area (Kobe) Hanshin-minami area (Amagasaki Nishinomiya, Ashiya) Hanshin-kita area (Itami, Takarazuka, Kawanishi, Sanda, Inagawa) Higashi-Harima area (Akashi, Kakogawa, Takasago, Inami, Harima) Naka-Harima area (Himeji, Ichikawa, Fukusaki, Kamikawa)
Contents	Stop serving alcohol by 8:30 p.m. and close by 9:00 p.m.	

* Please thoroughly practice infection prevention measures such as using acrylic partitions, placing seats a distance apart, and ventilating the rooms (with CO₂ sensors, etc.)

- Please **avoid the Three Cs (confined spaces, crowded spaces, and close contact)** by wearing face masks, washing your hands, ventilating rooms regularly, and maintaining a physical distance with other people.
- Please utilize **telecommuting** and **video conferences**.