

**Message from the Governor of Gifu Prefecture (May 5, extract)**  
**To Prefectural Residents**  
**Regarding the Extension of the State of Emergency**

The State of Emergency put in place by the national government has been extended until May 31. Gifu Prefecture remains a Special Alert Prefecture where focused efforts to prevent the spread of infection have been deemed particularly necessary.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all prefectural residents for their understanding and cooperation, and to all healthcare workers for their self-sacrificial work which they carry out night and day.

All prefectural residents should continue to observe preventative measures such as:

- Refraining from non-essential, non-urgent outings
  
- Maintaining a distance of 2 meters between yourself and other people
  
- Wearing a mask and washing your hands

Going forward, decisions regarding easing the state of emergency measures in each prefecture will be made by taking into account factors such as the spread of infection and provision of medical care in each prefecture, as well as the situation in nearby prefectures. In Gifu Prefecture, we plan to consider what specific measures to implement going forward, with mid-May as the target for implementing them, when we will be able to observe the results of efforts made during the Golden Week “stay at home” holiday. However, the spread of infection must first be under control before measures can be eased. The cooperation of each and every prefectural resident is vital to improving the state of infection in Gifu Prefecture and preventing a further rise in the number of infections.

In some regions of Japan, there have been instances where countermeasures appear to have been successful, followed by a renewed increase in infections. Relaxing vigilance risks wiping out the results of all of our efforts thus far.

By maintaining an appropriate level of caution and calmly taking measures to prevent the spread of infection, we can keep our ourselves and our loved ones safe. I ask for your continued cooperation for a little longer during this critical period as all of Gifu works together to carry out necessary countermeasures.