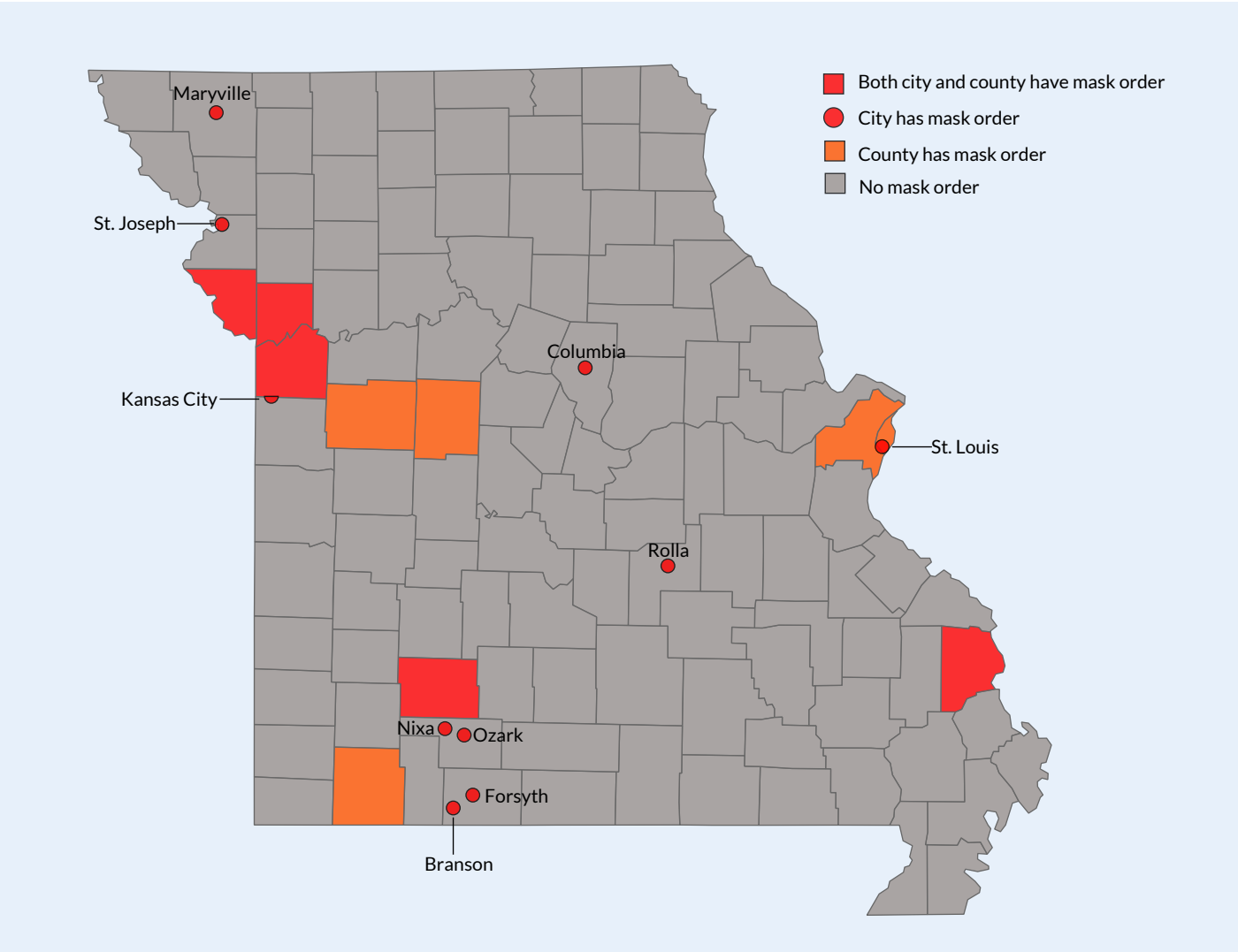


Cities and counties in Missouri implement face mask mandates to slow COVID-19 spread

Missouri is one of 17 states without a statewide mask requirement, leaving directives up to cities and local public health agencies responsible for overseeing one or more counties. The surge of hospitalizations from bordering municipalities without mask mandates is hitting some hospital systems with wide catchment zones. It means more hospitals are taking in more sick people from neighboring areas lacking adequate medical resources.



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