

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

Update 13: March 27, 2020

Good afternoon,

Governor Murphy reminded all retail businesses, including essential manufacturing operations, that while they remain open, they must be following CDC Business Guidance and Social Distancing Guidance. The Office of the Governor is receiving a lot of complaints that companies, including manufacturers, are not practicing proper protocol while they are open. In our briefings, we warned our members that the online site will make it easier for essential employees to share complaints, even if unfounded. Please, ensure you are following all protocols.

In response to the increase violation complaints, [the state launched an online FAQ page to provide further guidance on Social Distancing.](#)

The state is strongly requesting manufacturing companies to make their best effort to reduce staff on site to the minimal number necessary to ensure that essential operations can safely continue.

We have provided this information before, but [click here](#) to access the CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Governor Murphy once again mentioned the private sector PPE inventory which are due by 5 PM today. All businesses (**even companies deemed essential**) and non-hospital health care facilities in possession of PPE not required for the provision of critical health care services, are required to submit information about their inventory at covid19.nj.gov/ppereport. Under [Executive Order 109](#) Section 7.

State is seeking inventory on the following:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

- Booties
- Coveralls
- Disposable Hoods
- Exam Gloves (non-latex only)
- Face Shields
- Isolation / Surgical Gowns
- Protective Goggles
- Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR)
- PAPR Cartridges

- Respirators (N95)
- Surgical Masks
- Tyvek Suits

Medical Equipment:

- Ventilators (Universal, Adult, Pediatric, Infant)
- Ventilator Parts
- Test Kits
- Anesthesia Machines

You must complete the inventory using the online form located at: <https://covid19.nj.gov/ppereport>. Please, refer to Update 12: March 26, 2020 for background.

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

As a follow-up to the recommended list of regulatory waivers and extensions submitted to the NJDEP on March 25, 2020, CCNJ connected with DEP leadership and they acknowledged and appreciated the industry coalition's letter. Though no specifics are confirmed at this time, NJDEP is currently working on a Department-wide policy statement to address stakeholder concerns. We will keep members updated as new information is shared with us.

EPA ANNOUNCES ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION POLICY FOR COVID-19 PANDEMIC

EPA announced a temporary policy regarding EPA enforcement of environmental legal obligations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please note that this policy excludes Superfund and RCRA Corrective Action.

The temporary policy makes it clear that EPA expects regulated facilities to comply with regulatory requirements, where reasonably practicable, and to return to compliance as quickly as possible. To be eligible for enforcement discretion, the policy also requires facilities to document decisions made to prevent or mitigate noncompliance and demonstrate how the noncompliance was caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This policy does not provide leniency for intentional criminal violations of law.

[Click here for the memorandum for COVID-19 Implications for EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Program.](#)

COVID-19 UPDATE: CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS

Effective March 26, 2020: In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is **postponing and rescheduling nearly all Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) authorization inspections, compliance inspections, and other onsite visits, such as compliance assistance.**

The CFATS regulations remain in force, and facilities must continue to comply with 6 C.F.R. part 27. High-risk chemical facilities with approved Site Security Plans/Alternative Security Programs (SSP/ASP) are required by Federal law to continue to implement the security measures in those plans. Facilities should consider compensatory measures to secure their critical assets in cases where designated personnel are unable to perform their security duties due to illness or quarantine.

"STAY AT HOME" EXECUTIVE ORDER 107

The "Stay at Home" **Executive Order No. 107** remains in full effect. **"Manufacturing, industrial, logistics, ports, heavy construction, shipping, food production, food delivery, and other commercial operations may continue to operate...."**

Governor continues to remind the private sector that even though the E.O. deems manufacturing and other businesses essential, social distancing and CDC guidelines must be followed.

While this is not a concern for our industries that have been deemed essential, just be aware that the state has set up a [website](#) where employees can report a possible violation of [Executive Order No. 107](#) using an online form. The form goes into OEM, and they will then verify the information. There has been a big increase in complaints, and the governor spent a lot of time discussing this issue today.

Employees reporting to work are permitted to travel to and from their place of business. **Businesses are encouraged to give each employee a letter indicating that the employee works in an industry permitted to continue operations.** Essential employees should have the company letter, and company ID accessible while driving to and from work, so they can present it with their license if necessary. We suggest the [DHS Guidance to help with the letter](#).

PRIVATE SECTOR ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEE REGISTRATION PROJECT

OEM is developing a temporary process to help get critical infrastructure sites approved faster and provide essential employees with a temporary essential employee verification document that will expire in August 2020. Companies that get the temporary approval will then be required to take a training course in September to be able to maintain essential status and provide permanent cards to essential employees.

OEM will still require that you identify the number of employees that are essential. **Remember, the state has instructed all businesses, including manufacturing deemed essential, to maintain social distancing and CDC guidelines, and have on site the minimal amount of staff required for safe operations.**

CCNJ will update members once the temporary process is established.

Below you will find new information [highlighted in blue](#) added since the last update. As well, take some time and explore the many links and information provided below, as it can be great resource for your company and provide many answers to questions you might have.

[To access previous updates click here.](#)

Have general questions about COVID-19?

The NJ Poison Control Center and 211 have partnered with the State to provide information to the public on COVID-19:

Call: [2-1-1](#)

Call (24/7): [1-800-962-1253](#)

Text: NJCOVID to 898-211

Visit <https://covid19.nj.gov/> or nj.gov/health for additional information

In support of ongoing COVID-19 efforts, the State Emergency Operations Center has made available an ESF 7 Remote Access Line for private sector inquiries. ESF 7 Remote Access Line: 609-963-6817. For response and

resource related requests, OHSP encourages you to work with your local first responder agencies, or your County Office of Emergency Management. [Click here to access the NJOEM County Coordinators directory](#) to find contact information for the local county OEM where your facility is located.

COVID-19 Information for New Jersey Business

The screenshot shows the Business.NJ.gov website interface. At the top right, there is a "Go to Business.NJ.gov" link. Below it is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search for articles...". The main content area is titled "COVID-19/Novel Coronavirus Information for New Jersey Businesses" and includes an information icon (i in a circle). Below the title, there is a search prompt: "Search above for information on COVID-19 and its impact on businesses. Submit a question via the chat function below, and we'll get back to you ASAP." A small NJ logo indicates "36 articles in this collection" written by the Business.NJ.gov Team. Under the heading "Most Recent Guidance Available", three articles are listed:

- How do Executive Orders No. 107 and 108 on closures and social distancing affect my business?**
Written by Business.NJ.gov Team
Updated yesterday
- I'm not sure if my business needs to close or not due to the State's COVID-19 directives--what additional information or guidance is there?**
Written by Business.NJ.gov Team
Updated yesterday
- If I have a business that urgently needs workers, or if I'm a worker looking for a job, where can I go?**
Written by Business.NJ.gov Team
Updated in the last hour

New Jersey COVID-19 Dashboard

COVID-19 Cases by County

Data is provisional and subsequent to revision.
1,984 Positives Pending Further Information

Bergen County:
1,505 Positive Test Result(s)

Essex County:
826 Positive Test Result(s)

Middlesex County:
640 Positive Test Result(s)

Monmouth County:
634 Positive Test Result(s)

Hudson County:
594 Positive Test Result(s)

Union County:
519 Positive Test Result(s)

Ocean County:
484 Positive Test Result(s)

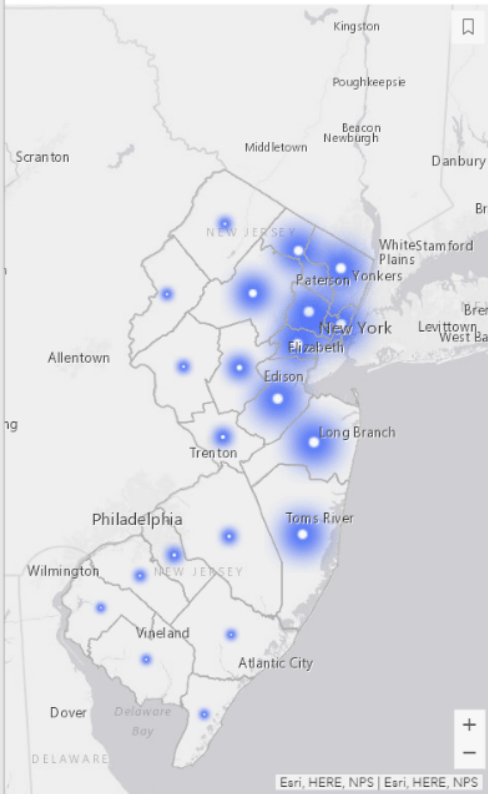
Passaic County:
484 Positive Test Result(s)

Morris County:
391 Positive Test Result(s)

Somerset County:
222 Positive Test Result(s)

Mercer County:

Cases by County:



Click county to see details.

Positive **8,825** Deaths **108**

16,547

Negative

This figure includes data reported to the state by the state lab plus seven private laboratory entities, representing about 90 percent of private testing capacity in New Jersey.

211 Calls

6,645

Since March 18, 2020

Total Calls **13,179** Hotline Calls **640**

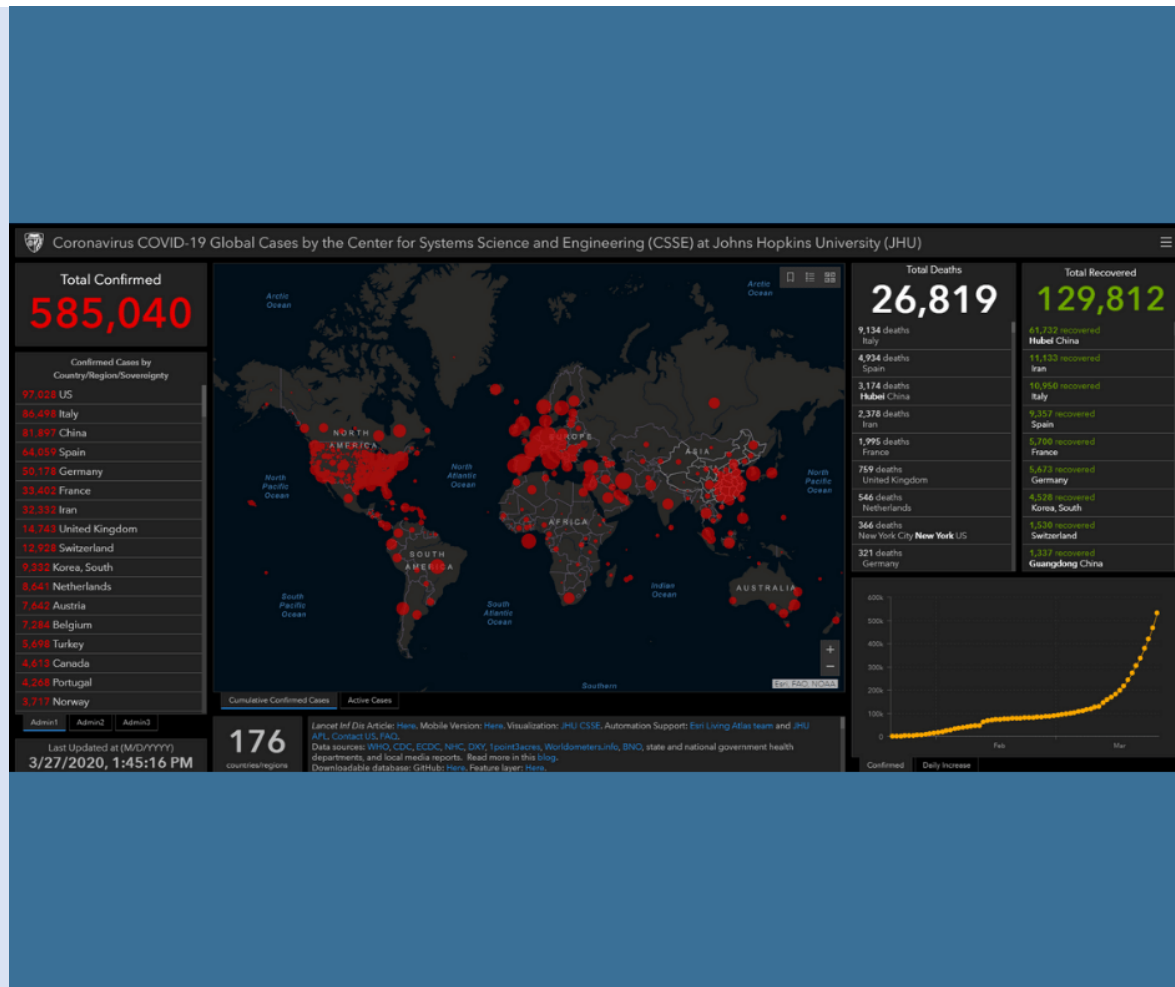
NJ Poison Information and Education System

NJ Poison Information and Education System

Text Alert Enrollments

101,124

Text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive alerts



New Jersey Governor Updates

[NJ Human Services Announces \\$70 Million in Food Assistance for Vulnerable Families in New Jersey](#)

Many New Jerseyans who receive food assistance through the NJ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NJ SNAP) will receive an extra benefit payment on Sunday and their benefits will be higher in April to help address critical food needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Click here for more information](#)

[TRANSCRIPT: March 26th, 2020 Coronavirus Briefing Media](#)

Since we met yesterday, we have received 2492 new positive coronavirus test results. That pushes our statewide total to 6876. Again, 2492 new to a total of 6876 in total. And Judy would want me to remind everybody that this includes of the positive tests, 436 that come from our mass testing sites – Bergen Community College and PNC Bank Arts Center.

[Click here for more information](#)

[Governor Murphy Announces New Website for Reporting or Donating PPE Inventory](#)

Governor Phil Murphy today announced a new state website for reporting personal protective equipment (PPE). In accordance with Executive Order No. 109, any business,

non-hospital health care facility, or institution of higher learning in possession of PPE, ventilators, respirators, or anesthesia machines must submit that information to the State by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27.

[Click here for more information](#)

CDC (COVID-19) Situation Summary Updated Regularly

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Situation Summary](#)

CDC is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in more than 100 locations internationally, including in the United States. The virus has been named “SARS-CoV-2” and the disease it causes has been named “coronavirus disease 2019” (abbreviated “COVID-19”).

[Click here for CDC Situation Summary](#)

[Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)

Plan, Prepare and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019

[Click here for CDC Business Guidance](#)

[White House: 15 Days To Slow The Spread](#)

The President’s Coronavirus Guidelines for America -- 15 Days to Slow the Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

[Click here for White House Document](#)

[Get Your Mass Gatherings or Large Community Events Ready Interim Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

CDC, in accordance with its guidance for [large events and mass gatherings](#), recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States.

[Click here for CDC Guidance](#)

HIPAA Privacy, Labor Laws & CDC Reporting Form

[Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services BULLETIN: HIPAA Privacy and Novel Coronavirus](#)

In light of the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak, the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is providing this bulletin to ensure that HIPAA covered entities and their business associates are aware of the ways that patient information may be shared under the HIPAA Privacy Rule in an outbreak of infectious disease or other emergency situation, and to serve as a reminder that the protections of the Privacy Rule are not set aside during an emergency.

[Click here for February 2020 Bulletin](#)

[Human Infection with 2019 Novel Coronavirus Person Under Investigation \(PUI\) and Case Report Form](#)

CDC Personal Under Investigation Form

[Click here for Reporting Form](#)

[NJDOJ Benefits and the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): What You Should Know](#)

New Jersey has among the most comprehensive [Earned Sick Leave](#), [Temporary Disability](#) and [Family Leave Insurance](#) laws in the country, which cover all employees – full-time, part-time, temporary and seasonal.

<https://www.nj.gov/labor/worker-protections/earnedsick/covid.shtml>

Government Resources

- [EPA Announces Enforcement Discretion Policy for COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is mindful of the health and safety of the public, as well as our staff, and those of Federal Agencies, State and Local Governments, Tribes, Regulated Entities, Contractors, and Non-governmental Organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency is taking these important considerations into account as we all continue our work to protect human health and the environment. Accordingly, EPA is announcing a temporary policy regarding EPA enforcement of environmental legal obligations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Click here for more information](#)

- [NJEDA Announces New Initiatives to Support Businesses Impacted by COVID-19](#)

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) Board today approved a suite of new programs designed to support businesses and workers facing economic hardship due to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19.

[Click here for more information](#)

- [DEP issues guidance for Public Water Systems and Wastewater Monitoring, Licensed Operator and Certified Laboratory issues due to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

This advisory affects public drinking water systems and Category A (individual permits for domestic discharge) and ASC (general permit authorizations for school discharge) NJPDES surface water discharge permitted facilities that are required to perform routine monitoring pursuant to the state and federal regulations and their NJPDES permits where applicable.

[Click here for guidance](#)

- [IDENTIFYING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE DURING COVID-19](#)

Functioning critical infrastructure is imperative during the response to the [COVID-19](#) emergency for both public health and safety as well as community well-being. Certain critical infrastructure industries have a special responsibility in these times to continue operations.

[Click here for CISA Guidance](#)

- [OSHA RULE RELAXATION FOR EXPIRED RESPIRATORS](#)

OSHA has released an FAQ document about OSHA's Rule Relaxation For Fit Testing and Use of Expired Respirators.

[Click here to access the document.](#)

- [Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration](#)

FAQ: Expanded Emergency Declaration Under 49 CFR § 390.23 No. 2020-002 (Relating to COVID-19)

[Click here to access FMCSA](#)

- [NOTICE OF ENFORCEMENT POLICY REGARDING TRAINING REQUIREMENTS](#)

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) understands that many hazardous materials (hazmat) employers may be experiencing difficulty in either obtaining or providing recurrent training as required by the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR, 49 CFR Parts 171-180) due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak.

[Click here to access PHMSA document](#)

- [New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub](#)
State Official Site for COVID-19 Related Information
[Click here to access HUB](#)
- [Coronavirus Rumor Control](#)
The purpose of this FEMA page is to help the public distinguish between rumors and facts regarding the response to coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Rumors can easily circulate within communities during a crisis, stay informed with our updated myth vs. facts related to the federal (COVID-19) response.
[Click here for FEMA Rumor Control Site](#)
- [OSHA Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#)
To reduce the impact of COVID-19 outbreak conditions on businesses, workers, customers, and the public, it is important for all employers to plan now for COVID-19.
[Click here for OSHA Guidance](#)
- [COVID-19: Information for Schools and Businesses](#)
To prepare for possible community transmission of COVID-19, the most important thing for schools to do now is plan and prepare. As the global outbreak evolves, schools should prepare for the possibility of community-level outbreaks. Schools want to be ready if COVID-19 does appear in their communities.
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_schoolbusiness.shtml
- [New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19: A Guide for Businesses March 2, 2020](#)
Many employers and businesses in New Jersey are concerned about the current outbreak of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and potential impacts to their business communities and wish to take appropriate steps to mitigate any risks. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is working hard to learn as much as possible about this COVID-19 so that we can better understand how it spreads and characterize its associated illness. The New Jersey Department of Health is also working hard to develop guidance and education materials, in the face of evolving information.
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Guide%20for%20businesses_3-4-2020.pdf
- [Directory of Local Health Departments](#)
Suspected cases should be reported IMMEDIATELY to the local health department (LHD) where the patient resides. If the patient's residence is unknown, report to your own local health department. Local health departments are available 24/7/365.
<https://www.nj.gov/health/lh/documents/LocalHealthDirectory.pdf>
- [Interim Exposure Categories for Asymptomatic Individuals with Possible Exposure to COVID-2019](#)

This interim guidance is effective as of February 3, 2020 and does not apply retrospectively to people who have been in China during the previous 14 days and are already in the United States, or those being managed as part of a contact investigation.

[Click here for guidance document](#)

- [Keeping the workplace safe Encourage your employees to](#)
What every American and community can do now to decrease the spread of the coronavirus
[Click here for infographics](#)
- [Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#)
When a novel virus with pandemic potential emerges, nonpharmaceutical interventions, which will be called community mitigation strategies in this document, often are the most readily available interventions to help slow transmission of the virus in communities.
[Click here for CDC Mitigation Strategies](#)

Industry and Related Resources

- [Church & Dwight Co., Inc. Announces Update Amid COVID-19 Outbreak](#)
Church & Dwight Co., Inc. (NYSE:CHD) today announced measures it has taken to promote the safety of its employees, maintain its product supply to consumers and ensure the continuity of the business in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
https://www.argus-press.com/news/national/article_fef8b2ca-f8e0-5c71-b536-e5354e01e68a.html
- [THE BUSINESS OF CHEMISTRY: ESSENTIAL TO NEW JERSEY'S ECONOMY AND RECOVERY](#)
TRENTON - (March 26, 2020) – The Chemistry Council of New Jersey and its more than 100 member companies are grateful to the Murphy Administration, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for identifying the U.S. chemical industry and its workers as Essential Critical Infrastructure, an industry sector critical to public health and safety, economic and national security. Even before this designation, our member companies have been working around the clock to help the State of New Jersey in its COVID-19 preparedness response and mitigation efforts.
<https://www.chemistrycouncilnj.org/News-Resources/Press-Releases/2020/THE-BUSINESS-OF-CHEMISTRY-ESSENTIAL-TO-NEW-JERSEY%E2%80%99.aspx>
- [More Than 100 Industry Groups Urge President, And Elected Officials At All Levels To Uniformly Apply Department of Homeland Security Critical Infrastructure Definition](#)
The American Chemistry Council (ACC) today joined more than 100 other business and trade associations representing a wide swath of the business community in pressing the White House, Governors, Mayors, and other elected officials to come together with uniform practices and policies by adopting the definition of "critical infrastructure" as defined by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).
[Click here to read more](#)
- ACC [Coronavirus Resource Center](#)

ACC is working on behalf of the U.S. chemical industry and its more than 500,000 employees to ensure that together we all embrace public health guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and multiple governmental authorities to help minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This guidance for individuals is in the best interest of public health. It remains essential however, that key industries and sectors, including the chemical manufacturing sector, are able to maintain operations throughout this challenging time, continuing to provide the countless products needed for life-saving medical care, disinfectants, pharmaceuticals, biocides, personal protective gear, and the chlorine chemistry to protect our nation's drinking water.

<https://www.americanchemistry.com/COVID-19/>