

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

Update 24: April 20, 2020

Good afternoon,

Yesterday, Governor Murphy, Governor Cuomo, Governor Lamont, Governor Wolf, Governor Carney, Governor Raimondo and Governor Baker announced appointees to the Multi-State Council to Get People Back to Work and Restore the Economy. **New Jersey will be represented by George Helmy, Chief of Staff to the Governor; Dr. Richard Besser, President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and former Acting Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and Jeh Johnson, Former United States Secretary of Homeland Security under President Barack Obama. For the full list of appointees [click here](#).**

Unlike President Trump's [Great American Economic Revival Industry Groups](#), the Multi-State Council to Get People Back to Work and Restore the Economy does not include current industry executives among its membership.

President Trump unveiled his administration's [Guidelines for Opening Up America Again](#), a three-phased approach based on the advice of public health experts. These steps will help state and local officials when reopening their economies, getting people back to work, and continuing to protect American lives.

“Personal health creates economic health.” This will drive Governor Murphy’s mindset as his team begins to finalize the draft of the blueprint to reopen the state, which will be available later this week. It will have the benchmarks the state will need to see to reopen. Governor Murphy wants to secure the public health situation to raise consumer confidence as New Jersey reopens its economy in alignment with the region’s efforts.

As the state and the region begin to contemplate “reopening the economy,” businesses are urged to start preparing their back to work plans that include phased returns to the office and some employees still working from home at first where possible.

CLOTH MASK SUPPLY AVAILABLE

The American Chemistry Council is working with FEMA to provide free cloth face masks for their members and CCNJ members. There is no fee for the cloth masks.

FEMA will distribute the masks from the manufacturer to the company. **ACC asks that companies designate only one shipment location and point of contact (POC) per company to streamline the process. Each company will be responsible for allocating and shipping masks to their US based facilities. If you would to place an order, please**

email emontero@chemistrycouncilni.org, with the following information by 10AM on Wednesday, April 22:

Company Name	
Attn: POC Name	
Ship to Address Line 1	
Ship to Address Line 2	
City	
State	
Zip Code	
POC Email Address	
POC Phone Number	
Number of Employees Requiring Masks	

Please note this is not a request for qualified PPE. These are not flame-retardant masks. They are an anti-microbial t-shirt type material, good for 15 washes, packed 5 masks per package with 100 packages per box (500 total masks per box). These masks are intended to satisfy [CDC recommendations to wear cloth masks](#) in places where social distancing is difficult to maintain and could also be used in response to local orders to wear cloth masks. This is also a rolling request; additional phases of mask rollout will occur as return-to-work policies are implemented.

All email requests received by 10AM on April 22 will be forwarded to ACC by the deadline.

OSHA INTERIM GUIDANCE

Last week, OSHA issued guidance on the “Discretion in Enforcement when Considering an Employer’s Good Faith Efforts During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic” In light of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, OSHA understands that some employers may face difficulties complying with OSHA standards due to the ongoing health emergency. Widespread business closures, restrictions on travel, limitations on group sizes, facility visitor prohibitions, and stay-at-home or shelter-in-place requirements may limit the availability of employees, consultants, or contractors who normally provide training, auditing, equipment inspections, testing, and other essential safety and industrial hygiene services. Business closures and other restrictions and limitations may also preclude employee participation in training even when trainers are available. In other situations, access to medical testing facilities may be limited or suspended.

Examples of Situations Where Enforcement Discretion Should be Considered:

- ***Annual Audiograms***
- ***Annual Process Safety Management Requirements***
- ***Hazardous Waste Operations Training***
- ***Respirator Fit Testing and Training***
- ***Maritime Crane Testing and Certification***
- ***Construction Crane Operator Certification***
- ***Medical Evaluation***

[Click here to access the OSHA Memo.](#)

NEW JERSEY COVID-19 SUPPLIER REGISTRY

New Jersey created a COVID-19 Supplier Registration Form which was developed by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) to create a registry of potential suppliers of critical PPE, medical devices (e.g., ventilators) and other high-demand raw materials.

To register as a supplier visit: <https://covid19.nj.gov/forms/supplier>.

“STAY AT HOME” EXECUTIVE ORDER 107 STILL IN PLACE

The “Stay at Home” [Executive Order No. 107](#) remains in full effect with additional requirements as stated in EO 122.

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, and their shift.](#) 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](#).

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 and in previous updates. The state’s main COVID-19 information portal is located at <https://covid19.nj.gov/>.

[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](#)



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COVID-19/Novel Coronavirus Information for New Jersey Businesses



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.



36 articles in this collection
Written by Business.NJ.gov Team

Most Recent Guidance Available

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?



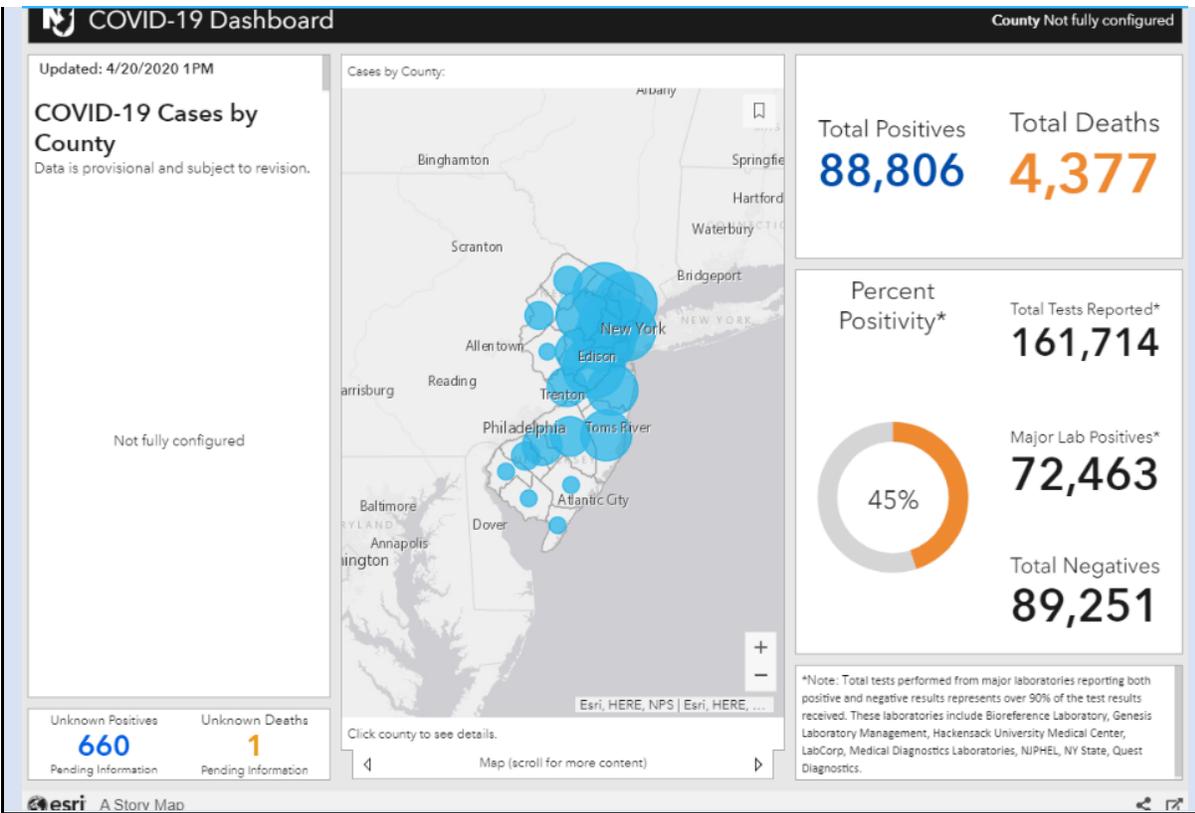
Written by Business.NJ.gov Team
Updated yesterday

If I have a business that urgently needs workers, or if I'm a worker looking for a job, where can I go?

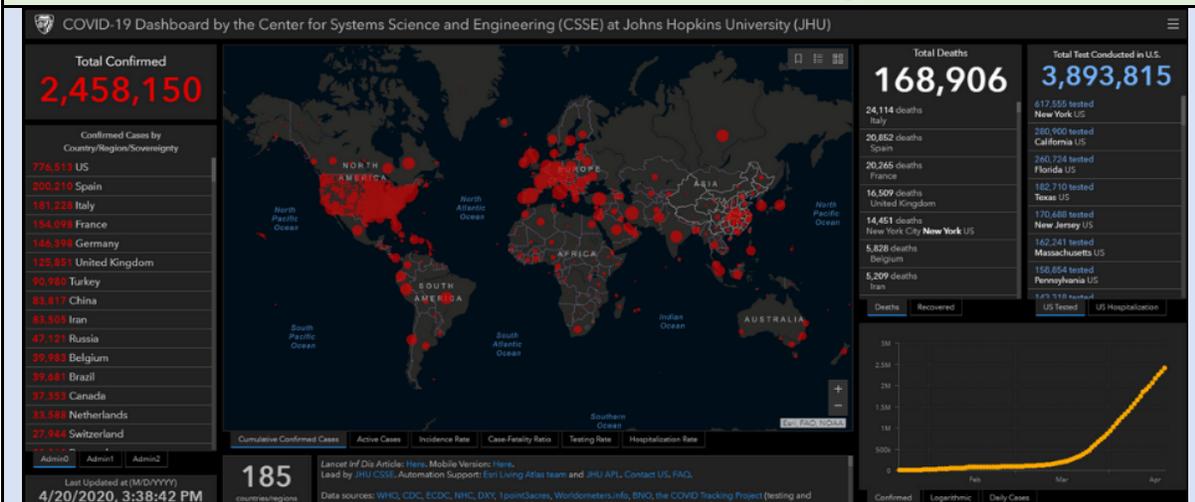


Written by Business.NJ.gov Team
Updated in the last hour

New Jersey COVID-19 Dashboard



Global COVID-19 Dashboard with Total Recovery



New Jersey Governor Updates

[Governor Murphy, Governor Cuomo, Governor Lamont, Governor Wolf, Governor Carney, Governor Raimondo and Governor Baker Announce Appointees to Multi-State Council to Get People Back to Work and Restore the Economy](#)

Appointees Include One Health Expert, One Economic Development Expert and Respective Chiefs of Staff from Each State

<https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200419a.shtml>

[Amid Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, Governor Murphy, Governor Cuomo, Governor Lamont Announce Alignment of State Policies for Marinas and Boatyards](#)

Chartered watercraft services or rentals will not be allowed, and restaurant activity at these sites must be limited to take-out or delivery only, like anywhere else in the three states.

<https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200418c.shtml>

[Governor Murphy and Attorney General Grewal Announce First-in-the-Nation Program to Enlist Foreign-Licensed Physicians in Fight Against COVID-19](#)

Division of Consumer Affairs Is Now Accepting Applications from Foreign-Licensed Physicians Living in the U.S. Who Meet Certain Practice and Experience Requirements

<https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200417a.shtml>

[AG Grewal Announces Series of Virtual Town Hall Meetings to Maintain Community Engagement During Crisis, Help Victims](#)

During Pandemic, AG's "21/21 Project" Employing Technology to Continue Law Enforcement-Community Connection, Enable New Jersey Residents to Ask Questions

<https://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases20/pr20200420a.html>

[CDC \(COVID-19\) Situation Summary Updated Regularly](#)

[New: Interim Guidance for Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19](#)

To ensure continuity of operations of essential functions, CDC advises that critical infrastructure workers may be permitted to continue work following potential exposure to COVID-19, provided they remain asymptomatic and additional precautions are implemented to protect them and the community.

[Click here for CDC Guidance](#)

[Discontinuation of Isolation for Persons with COVID-19 Not in Healthcare Settings \(Interim Guidance\)](#)

Update CDC guidance providing additional information for asymptomatic persons with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 on limiting contact and wearing a face covering after isolation to prevent spread.

[Click here for update CDC Guidance](#)

[Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#)

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

[Click here for CDC Cloth Face Coverings Guidance](#)

[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](#)

[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

[Families First Coronavirus Response Act: Employer Paid Leave Requirements](#)

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or Act) requires certain employers to provide their employees with paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19.[1] The Department of Labor's (Department) Wage and Hour Division (WHD) administers and enforces the new law's paid leave requirements. These provisions will apply from the effective date through December 31, 2020.

[Click here for more information](#)

[UPDATED COVID-19 SCENARIOS & BENEFITS AVAILABLE](#)

NJ Labor & Workforce Development

This UPDATED chart is an easy guide for several COVID-19 scenarios and what benefits are available for each, such as earned sick leave, unemployment insurance, temporary disability/family leave insurance, and workers' compensation.

[Click here for document](#)

[NJDOL 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.

[Click here for NJ Labor COVID-19 Site](#)

[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](#)

Government Resources

- [FEMA Administrator April 15, 2020, letter to Emergency Managers](#)

First, let me thank you for all the incredible things you have done, and continue to do, for the American people. I am thankful for your tireless efforts under these unprecedented and demanding circumstances and for embrace of the guiding principle: locally executed, state-managed, and federally supported emergency response and recovery. Your heroic and extraordinary efforts across the country inspire me daily. Please keep up the great work.

<https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/15/fema-administrator-april-15-2020-letter-emergency-managers>

- [Discretion in Enforcement when Considering an Employer's Good Faith Efforts During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#)

In light of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, OSHA understands that some employers may face difficulties complying with OSHA standards due to the ongoing health emergency. Widespread business closures, restrictions on travel, limitations on group sizes, facility visitor prohibitions, and stay-at-home or shelter-in-place requirements may limit the availability of employees, consultants, or contractors who normally provide training, auditing, equipment inspections, testing, and other essential safety and industrial hygiene services. Business closures and other restrictions and limitations may also preclude employee participation in training even when trainers are available. In other situations, access to medical testing facilities may be limited or suspended.

<https://www.osha.gov/memos/2020-04-16/discretion-enforcement-when-considering-employers-good-faith-efforts-during>

- [Enforcement Guidance for Use of Respiratory Protection Equipment Certified under Standards of Other Countries or Jurisdictions During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#)

This memorandum provides interim guidance to Compliance Safety and Health Officers (CSHOs) for enforcing the Respiratory Protection standard, 29 CFR § 1910.134, and certain other health standards, with regard to supply shortages of disposable N95 filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs). Specifically, it outlines enforcement discretion to permit the use of FFRs and air-purifying elastomeric respirators that are either:

<https://www.osha.gov/memos/2020-04-03/enforcement-guidance-use-respiratory-protection-equipment-certified-under>

- [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](#)