
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

March 26, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

COVID-19 — NEW JERSEY — 3/24/20

COVID-19 Cases. As of March 24, 2020, the following information about COVID-19 has been reported for New Jersey:

- Confirmed: 2,844
- Active: 2,817
- Recovered: 0
- Deaths: 27

Legislature. Access to the state capitol complex is limited. All legislative meetings for the week of March 23, 2020, have been cancelled.

Social Distancing. New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order [107](#) on March 21, 2020, directing all residents to stay at home until further notice. The Order continues existing bans on recreational and entertainment businesses, requirements that all restaurants operate by delivery and takeout only, and the directive that all pre-K, elementary, and secondary schools close and all institutions of higher education cease in-person instruction.

Business Closures. Governor Murphy's Executive Order further directs the closure of all nonessential retail businesses to the public, with the exceptions of:

- Grocery stores, farmers' markets and farms that sell directly to customers, and other food stores, including retailers that offer a varied assortment of foods comparable to what exists at a grocery store.
- Pharmacies and medical marijuana dispensaries.
- Medical supply stores.
- Gas stations.
- Convenience stores.
- Ancillary stores within health care facilities.
- Hardware and home improvement stores.
- Banks and other financial institutions.
- Laundromats and dry-cleaning services.
- Stores that principally sell supplies for children under five years.
- Pet stores.
- Liquor stores.
- Car dealerships, but only for auto maintenance and repair, and auto mechanics.
- Printing and office supply shops.
- Mail and delivery stores.

Additionally, the order mandates that all businesses or nonprofit organizations, wherever practicable, must accommodate their workforce for telework or work-from-home arrangements.

National Guard. The state has requested aid from the National Guard.

School Closures. The state has temporarily closed schools.

Inmates. The state plans to release inmates from county jails as the state seeks to reduce the danger that COVID-19 will spread among inmates in the facilities. The plan could involve the release of up to 1,000 incarcerated persons.

LSA Staff Contact: Ron Robinson (515.281.6256) ron.robinson@legis.iowa.gov

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