

# Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

## Update 5: March 18, 2020

Good afternoon,

[E.O. 104](#) remains in effect for the entire state of New Jersey and supersedes local and county orders.

As a reminder, [E.O. 104](#) states that the occupancy limit does not apply to normal operations at office environments, factories, assemblages for the purpose of industrial or manufacturing work.

We continue to be in communication with the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness and State OEM (Office of Emergency Management) and they confirm that currently there are no restrictions on manufacturing facilities and critical infrastructure operations.

In fact, today the state updated their COVID-19 Business Resource Portal to reaffirm what we have been sharing with you: **“Manufacturing facilities with operating hours outside of 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. are permitted to continue operating on regular business hours. Manufacturers and factories are specifically excluded from the prohibition on gatherings of 50 or more individuals set in the Executive Order.”**

As well, CCNJ is in communication with senior DEP officials to discuss issues concerning DEP employee inspections at facilities during this crisis, especially what are DEP’s COVID-19 protection and mitigation plans for their field employees. DEP is evaluating our concerns and expect to update us soon on their plans.

In addition, based on information gathered from our [CCNJ COVID-19 IMPACT POLL](#) and information being collected by Sam Jones, CCNJ is taking proactive action to identify regulatory items industry would need extension and/or waivers for in light of the COVID-19 situation.

**Today, President Trump invoked the Defense Production Act to increase supplies of vital equipment. Any member company with a manufacturing presence in New Jersey that is interested and able to shift to producing personal protective equipment (PPE) in response to the COVID-19 crisis, please contact Dennis Hart ([dhart@chemistrycouncilnj.org](mailto:dhart@chemistrycouncilnj.org)). Congressional staff have reached out and expressed willingness to help New Jersey manufacturing sites.**

Yesterday, we submitted five new companies to OEM for processing into the **Private Sector Essential Employee Registration Project**. We were also able to confirm that two other companies were already set-up in the system and helped identify their company administrator. OEM has begun reaching out to the companies submitted yesterday. Today,

we have six more requests, which we will send later today. If you wish to be a part of the program, please send Elvin Montero ([emontero@chemistrycouncilnj.org](mailto:emontero@chemistrycouncilnj.org)) the contact information of the person at your company who will be in charge of the program, including their name, title, email and both office and cell number contact. Also, it is helpful if indicate if your site/facility is making a product essential to the COVID-19 response. Priority will be given to those companies manufacturing those essential products.

We suggest that you continue to remind your employees to have their work ID accessible while driving to and from work, so they can present it with their license if necessary.

If there are any issues or concerns, we are not addressing in these updates, please do not hesitate to contact CCNJ staff about them. We have been working diligently with state and local officials, including members of both the New Jersey Legislature and U.S. Congress to identify ways that they can be helpful to the business of chemistry during this time.

Below you will find new information highlighted in blue added since the last update.

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

Learn what precautions you can take about the **Coronavirus**  
Call the **NJ Coronavirus & Poison Center Hotline** at  
**1-800-222-1222** or **1-800-962-1253** if using out-of-state phone line  
Trained healthcare professionals are standing by to answer your call **24/7** OR  
visit [nj.gov/health](http://nj.gov/health)

**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 UPDATE

NEW COVID-19 RESOURCES PORTAL  
FOR ALL BUSINESSES:

[cv.business.nj.gov](http://cv.business.nj.gov)



**[New Jersey COVID-19 Dashboard](#)**

### COVID-19 Cases by County

Data is provisional and subsequent to revision.  
 Note: 13 Unknown counties updated from 3/17, 2 cases updated to out of state from 3/17

**Bergen County:**  
 114 Positive Test Result(s)

**Essex County:**  
 45 Positive Test Result(s)

**Middlesex County:**  
 40 Positive Test Result(s)

**Hudson County:**  
 34 Positive Test Result(s)

**Monmouth County:**  
 32 Positive Test Result(s)

**Union County:**  
 26 Positive Test Result(s)

**Morris County:**  
 19 Positive Test Result(s)

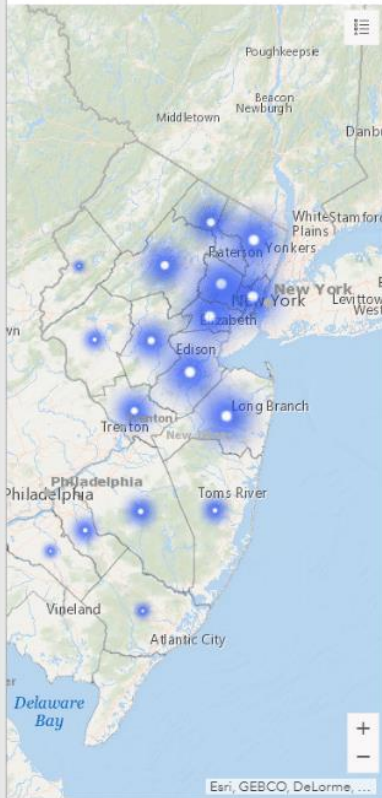
**Passaic County:**  
 18 Positive Test Result(s)

**Somerset County:**  
 16 Positive Test Result(s)

**Mercer County:**  
 15 Positive Test Result(s)

**Burlington County:**  
 10 Positive Test Result(s)

Cases by County:



### Testing Results

#### New Jersey Positives

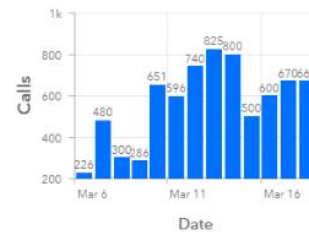
**427**

#### Hotline Calls

Calls in Past 24 Hours      Total Calls To Date

**669**      **8,623**

#### Calls/Day to COVID-19 Hotline





## New Jersey Governor Updates

### [Pennsylvania Joins New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut's Regional Coalition to Combat Covid-19](#)

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy, New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, and Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont today announced Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf is joining their coalition to implement a regional approach to combatting COVID-19.

[Click here for release](#)

### [New Jersey Expands COVID-19 Call Center Options](#)

Governor Phil Murphy, the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management, the New Jersey Department of Health, and the United Ways of New Jersey announced today that NJ 211 has been activated to help handle COVID-19 related calls from New Jersey residents.

[Click here for release](#)

### [TRANSCRIPT: March 17th, 2020 Coronavirus Briefing Media](#)

We'll do the overnights first and then Judy as always will follow up. We have received an additional 89 positive test results. Our statewide total is now 267 and we had announced I believe last evening our third fatality.

[Click here for release](#)

## Keeping the workplace safe Encourage your employees to...

### Practice good hygiene



- Stop handshaking – use other noncontact methods of greeting
- Clean hands at the door and schedule regular hand washing reminders by email
- Create habits and reminders to avoid touching their faces and cover coughs and sneezes
- Disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, tables, desks, and handrails regularly
- Increase ventilation by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning

### Be careful with meetings and travel



- Use videoconferencing for meetings when possible
- When not possible, hold meetings in open, well-ventilated spaces
- Consider adjusting or postponing large meetings or gatherings
- Assess the risks of business travel

### Handle food carefully



- Limit food sharing
- Strengthen health screening for cafeteria staff and their close contacts
- Ensure cafeteria staff and their close contacts practice strict hygiene

### Stay home if...



- They are feeling sick
- They have a sick family member in their home

What every American and community can do now to decrease the spread of the coronavirus

## CDC (COVID-19) Situation Summary Updated Regularly

### [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](#)

### [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](#)

### [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](#)

### **CCNJ 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Conference**

Based on the CDC guidance and uniform standards announced by Governor Murphy, we can no longer hold our conference on April 27-28, 2020. We are still working out details with The Ocean Hotel and Seaview Golf Club. At this time, we cannot confirm if we are postponing or canceling the 2020 conference. We will send out information once we reach an understanding with the hotel and golf club. At that time, we will communicate options to those who have already committed to sponsoring and exhibiting at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference.

### **CCNJ COVID-19 IMPACT POLL**

To better serve our members during this time we have put together a [COVID-19 Impact Poll](#). The information being gathered will help us better inform the government, particularly the NJ Office of Emergency Management, about the essential products you make and allow us to better assess the potential impact of COVID-19 on your operations and anticipate any needs. Please, take 5-8 minutes to [complete the survey](#). **Hopefully you can [complete the survey](#) by Wednesday, March 18.** We will share the results with the Board of Directors at the next Board meeting, and the full membership by Friday.

[Click here to complete survey](#)

### **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](#)

[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.

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

### **New Jersey & Other Government Resources**

- [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](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](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**

- [Pfizer and BioNTech to Co-Develop Potential COVID-19 Vaccine](#)  
Pfizer Inc. (NYSE: PFE, "Pfizer") and BioNTech SE (Nasdaq: BNTX, "BioNTech") today announced that the companies have agreed to a letter of intent regarding the co-development and distribution (excluding China) of a potential mRNA-based coronavirus vaccine aimed at preventing COVID-19 infection. The companies have

executed a Material Transfer and Collaboration Agreement to enable the parties to immediately start working together.

[Click here for release](#)

- [BD, BioGX Announce FDA Emergency Use Authorization Submissions for New COVID-19 Diagnostics for Use in U.S.](#)

New Diagnostics Have Potential to Increase Capacity of COVID-19 Testing in U.S. by Thousands of Tests Per Day

[Click here for release](#)

- [FDA Issued Emergency Use Authorization to Thermo Fisher Scientific for Diagnostic Test Used to Detect COVID-19](#)

Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. (NYSE: TMO), the world leader in serving science, announced that on March 13, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for its diagnostic test that can be used immediately by CLIA high-complexity laboratories in the U.S. to detect nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and not for any other viruses or pathogens.

[Click here for release](#)