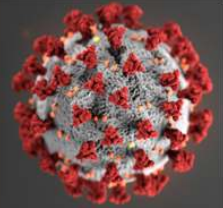


# Hunterdon County NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

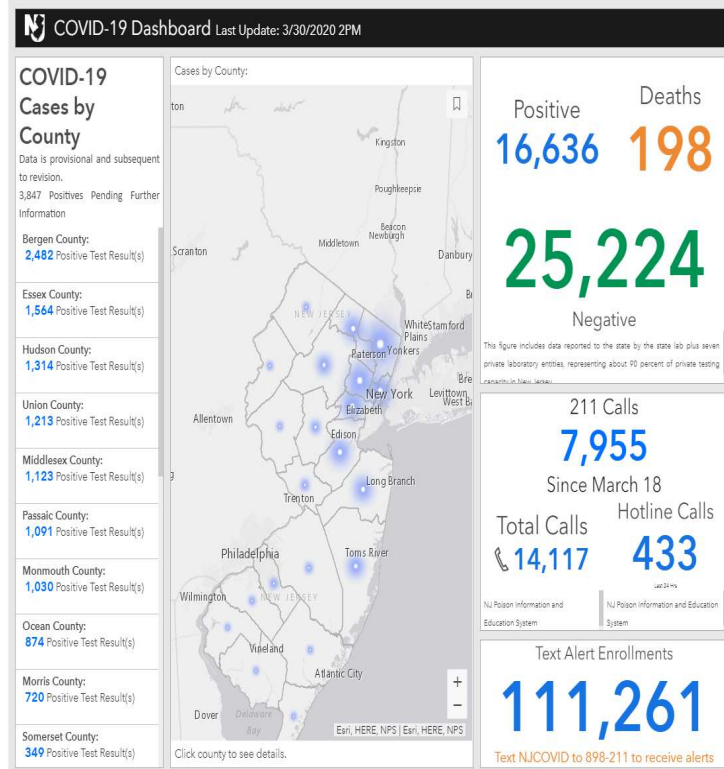
SITUATION REPORT #005

VALID: MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2020



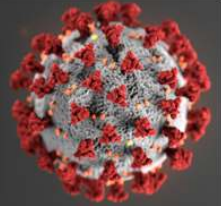
## KEY MESSAGES

- There are 93 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hunterdon County. Individuals range in age from 15-89. A breakdown by municipality is available here: <http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/Coronavirus/casecountbymunicipality.pdf>
- Asymptomatic individuals are not being tested for COVID-19. The sick is asked to manage mild symptoms at home, while reserving healthcare institutions for those more severely affected. Per the CDC, treatment should be sought for trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, bluish lips or face. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- The CDC has issued a Travel Advisory for New York, New Jersey and Connecticut <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s038-travel-advisory.html>
- President Donald J. Trump issued a Major Disaster Declaration (FEMA-4488-DR-NJ) on March 25 for the State of New Jersey. The declaration will provide federal assistance to supplement statewide recovery effected affected by the COVID-19 pandemic beginning on January 20, 2020.
- Governor Phil Murphy has modified Executive Order No. 107. Individual appointments to view real estate with realtors by individuals or families shall be considered essential retail business. Open houses are still considered impermissible gatherings. Car dealers may continue to conduct online sales or remote sales that are consistent with current law. In the event of such a sale, the car may be delivered to the purchaser or the purchaser can pick up the car curbside or in the dealership service lane. In accordance with the guidance released by the federal Department of Homeland Security, effective Tuesday, March 31, at 8:00 a.m., firearms retailers are permitted to operate – by appointment only and during limited hours – to conduct business which, under law, must be done in person. The NICS background check system will be up and running to process firearms purchases. Golf courses are considered recreational and entertainment businesses that must close to the public and to members associated with private golf clubs
- The CDC has issued *Recommended Guidance for Extended Use and Limited Reuse of N95 Filtering Facepiece Respirators in Healthcare Settings* <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hcwcontrols/recommendedguidanceextuse.html>
- Hunterdon County is coordinating donations in accordance with the Hunterdon County Emergency Operations Plan. Donations of PPE are being accepted at the United Way of Hunterdon County (20 Fulper Rd Flemington). More information or to donate, visit this website: <http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/Coronavirus/PPE-Donations.html>



# Hunterdon County NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

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## SUMMARY OF HUNTERDON COUNTY ACTIONS / EVENTS

- Contact tracing and investigation associated with positive COVID-19 tests
- Ensure coordinated and timely information dissemination to municipalities, partners and stakeholders
- Participating in daily coordination calls with Hunterdon Medical Center
- Coordinate with other county partners through the Northwest region
- Process resource orders
- Distribute preparedness guidance to first responders, healthcare and other stakeholders
- Participate in teleconferences with NJDOH, NJOEM and other partners
- Ensure Continuity of Government services within Hunterdon County

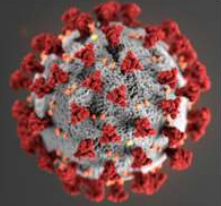
<b>HUNTERDON COUNTY EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION REPORTS</b>	
<b>ESF 1 - Transportation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Trans-Bridge Lines reported that as of 3/23 they have ceased all operations</b></li> <li>• <b>NJ Transit reports that rail service continues to operate weekday service using a Presidents Day schedule with service being added between Raritan and High Bridge</b></li> <li>• <b>Demand response service limited to shopping, essential medical trips, work related transportation</b></li> <li>• <b>Shuffle routes (14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19) are still running a normal schedule, but limiting total passengers for social distancing</b></li> <li>• <b>Route 23 is not servicing a 6:30AM run to RVCC due to the college closure</b></li> <li>• <b>Dialysis transport is fully operational. Drivers are not entering the facilities.</b></li> <li>• <b>The LINK can be reached at 1-800-842-0531</b></li> </ul>	
<b>ESF 2 - Communications</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ensuring compliance with New Jersey guidance and directives for COVID related dispatch behavior</b></li> </ul>	
<b>ESF 3 – Public Works</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No report</b></li> </ul>	
<b>ESF 4 – Firefighting</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ESF 4 is obtaining weekly fire service staffing reports from each department and providing trends to the Division of Fire Safety</b></li> </ul>	
<b>ESF 5 – Emergency Management</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>President Donald Trump issued a Major Disaster Declaration for New Jersey on 3/25, making available both Public and Individual Assistance resources. PA is limited to Category B Emergency Protective Measures. IA is limited to the Crisis Counseling Programs. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4488">https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4488</a></b></li> <li>• <b>Tracking costs and materials to gather a preliminary financial impact analysis</b></li> </ul>	

# Hunterdon County

## NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

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- Developed a survey to be completed by first responders and healthcare to aid in analyzing PPE burn rates
- Working with Hunterdon Medical Center to support patient surge needs
- Conducting ongoing assessments of the status of various food programs, including those associated with private sector retail and non-governmental organizations. Identifying solutions to enhance staff at local grocers.
- Coordinating resource needs with ESF 7 and ESF8A for first responders, healthcare, and long-term care facilities

### ESF 6 – Mass Care

- No report

### ESF 7 – Logistics / Resource Management

- 5 of 15 ventilators requested for Hunterdon Medical Center have been delivered
- Items have been ordered to backfill depleted inventory
- Hunterdon County has issued a request to the public to donate PPE items. More information is available here: <http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/Coronavirus/PPE-Donations.html>
- Continuing to receive and process resource requests

### ESF 8A – Public Health

- Public Health Nursing staff continuing daily case investigations
- Forwarding information to ESF2 for entry into the County's Computer Aided Dispatch system
- COVID-19 positive results have been detected in two long-term care facilities. Results are pending for a third.
- Of the labs reporting to PHEL (95% of them) there have been 40,806 testes performed, 16,636 have been positive. That's a 38.19% positivity rate among the symptomatic persons where testing has been available.
- Awaiting guidance from the State ME to be forwarded to funeral homes
- Working to address misinformation and rumor control through daily revisions to talking points and key messages

### ESF 8B – Emergency Medical Services

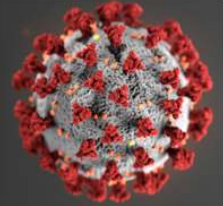
- On 3/24 a reminder was sent to EMS chiefs to let the county OEM/EMS coordinator know if/when any agency begins utilizing the NJDOH-OEMS waivers previously issued. None are being used at this time.
- On 3/27 we participated in an HMC/EMS Chiefs conference call with Dr. Prendergast. The purpose was to obtain feedback regarding HMC receiving procedure and to develop a list of best practice ideas to maintain care standards, protect EMS clinicians, and limit spread of the COVID -19 virus.
- Area ED Contact Reference Document was distributed to EMS Chiefs in the event an agency transports a suspected COVID-19 patient to an out-of-county acute care hospital.
- None of the PPE provided to NJ has been allocated for EMS yet per NJOEM.

# Hunterdon County

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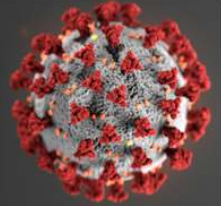


<b>ESF 9 – Search &amp; Rescue</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No report</b></li> </ul>
<b>ESF 10 – HazMat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Working with the NW Region Hazmat Teams to develop an HMRU response procedure for COVID-19 should they be requested to support a mission. This will include PPE selection and decontamination implications.</b></li> </ul>
<b>ESF 11 – Agriculture</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Employees and owners of farms and agribusinesses are deemed essential employees. We are providing farmers with a letter drafted by NJ Farm Bureau to carry in their vehicles explaining they are essential on the road.</b></li> <li>• <b>Fielding a number of questions from clients on which employees in the agriculture industry are deemed essential.</b></li> <li>• <b>Working with the County Ag Development Board to develop a list of local farmers selling food to ensure we have a local food supply incase supply chains are disrupted.</b></li> <li>• <b>Working to convert our upcoming grower meetings to web based platforms so that growers can still receive critical timely growing season information.</b></li> <li>• <b>Consistently updating our Hunterdon RCE website with the latest news and pertinent links.</b></li> </ul>
<b>ESF 12 – Utilities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No report</b></li> </ul>
<b>ESF 13 – Law Enforcement</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Flemington Borough Police report 3 officers have been quarantined as a result of an incident on March 29.</b></li> <li>• <b>Hunterdon County Law Enforcement is stepping up efforts to enforce the Governor’s recently enacted Executive Orders issued to ensure social distancing.</b></li> <li>• <b>Law enforcement is providing service to the public while taking appropriate measures to ensure social distancing to protect law enforcement personnel and the community.</b></li> </ul>
<b>ESF 14A – Long Term Recovery</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Working to identify potential alternate care site locations in the community in support of ESF5</b></li> </ul>
<b>ESF 14B – Human Services</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No report</b></li> </ul>
<b>ESF 15 – External Affairs / Public Information</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Citizens and businesses are encouraged to register for the Hunterdon County Community Alerts system <a href="http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/communityalerts.html">http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/communityalerts.html</a></b></li> </ul>

# Hunterdon County NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

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## VOAD / COAD

- The donation reception center at the United Way of Hunterdon County opened on 3/24 and will operate 9AM-6PM daily. Donors are asked to place items in a trailer to maintain distancing. Members of the public are not authorized entry into the building.
- Volunteer management is being facilitated by United Way of Hunterdon County and Hunterdon Helpline
- Hunterdon Helpline is aiding in registering citizens for the Hunterdon County Community Alert and Register Ready systems.
- The Hunterdon County COAD met via teleconference on Thursday, 3/26.

## Private Sector / Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development

- Business resource page is updated daily
- Meet the expert series launching on Hunterdon Chamber Radio this week
- Hunterdon County Restaurant Blitz:  
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/538590153454320/?source\\_id=197230970690](https://www.facebook.com/groups/538590153454320/?source_id=197230970690) and  
<https://www.hunterdon-chamber.org/restaurant-blitz.html>
- Have launched a Non-Profits in Need page:  
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/639976813506101/?source\\_id=197230970690](https://www.facebook.com/groups/639976813506101/?source_id=197230970690)
- Joint Chamber & Hunterdon County Economic Development Business Impact Survey results are being tabulated

## ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED DURING FUTURE OPERATIONAL PERIODS

- Ongoing and continuous activities of the Hunterdon County Health Department include patient screening for COVID-19 testing in coordination with medical care providers, provision of Health Alerts to community agencies, and response to resident and agency inquiries. Case investigation of confirmed cases immediately as reported. Traveler screening has expanded in response to restrictions put in place for European travel.
- Maintain accurate cost accounting and records in working NJOEM Public Assistance Unit
- Continue to support resource requests from local government and healthcare.
- Ongoing assessment by Hunterdon County OEM, Health Department, Hunterdon Medical Center and long-term care facilities for patient surge, care and transport.
- Hunterdon County leadership is facilitating daily conferences calls with key departments and ESF leads to develop situational awareness and a common operating picture.
- OEM and HCHD will participate in daily conference calls with Hunterdon Medical Center.
- OEM will coordinate situation briefings with Hunterdon County first responders, municipal OEMs, and other partners as conditions and the situation required.

## GENERAL SAFETY MESSAGE

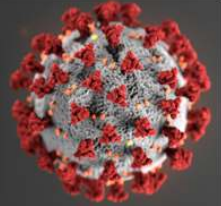
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are providing specific safety guidance documents to the public, businesses, healthcare, first responders, educational institutions and travelers.



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Visit the following website for more information:

Hunterdon County Health Department

<http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/coronavirus.html>

New Jersey Department of Health

<https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

The Center for Disease Control

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

## **EOC ACTIVATIONS**

Hunterdon County – March 17, 2020

## **EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS**

State of New Jersey – March 9, 2020

County of Hunterdon – March 16, 2020

Flemington Borough – March 16, 2020

High Bridge Borough – March 16, 2020

Bloomsbury Borough – March 16, 2020

Town of Clinton – March 16, 2020

West Amwell Township – March 16, 2020

Milford Borough – March 17, 2020

Tewksbury Township – March 17, 2020

Raritan Township – March 17, 2020

Holland Township – March 17, 2020

Lambertville City – March 17, 2020

Califon Borough – March 30, 2020

## **NEXT SITUATION REPORT**

Situation reports will be provided as events & conditions dictate.