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## Are there travel restrictions to or from New Jersey?

Last Updated: 11/25/2020
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New Jersey strongly discourages all non-essential interstate travel at this time.

Travelers and residents returning from **any U.S. state or territory** beyond the immediate region (New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Delaware) should self-quarantine at their home, hotel, or other temporary lodging for 14 days.

As of November 25, New Jersey will no longer utilize previously outlined metrics to inform its travel advisory.

The Department of Health will issue additional information in the coming days regarding travel precautions. Individuals should follow the state's current guidance until a new policy is issued.

#### **Current Travel Guidance**

Under the 14-day quarantine travel advisory, individuals traveling to or returning to New Jersey from states with increasing rates of COVID-19 are advised to self-quarantine for 14 days. This includes travel by train, bus, car, plane and any other method of transportation.

The self-quarantine is voluntary, but **compliance is expected**.

We ask that you complete a <u>voluntary online survey</u> to provide information about where you are traveling from and your destination if you have traveled to, or are returning from, states beyond the immediate region (New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Delaware)

If you choose to provide this information, it will be shared with local New Jersey Public Health authorities and other third parties when required by law. Local health departments will contact you to remind you to self-quarantine and offer assistance including information about testing locations.

Access the survey by visiting <u>covid19.nj.gov/njtravel</u> or texting "NJTRAVEL" to 898211.

Please note that this advisory does not apply to individuals:

- 1. Who passed through a state outside the region for a period of limited duration (i.e. less than 24 hours) through the course of travel.
- 2. Who are passing through New Jersey on a layover for a period of limited duration (i.e. less than 24 hours) through the course of travel.
- 3. Who are traveling to New Jersey for business matters that are exempted from the application of the travel advisory.
- 4. Who are traveling to New Jersey and work in critical infrastructure fields, such as health care and federal, state and local law enforcement. Consult with your employer regarding whether there is industry-specific guidance that may apply to you.

Travelers and residents returning from outside the region should self-quarantine at their home, a hotel, or other temporary lodging. Individuals should only leave the place of self-quarantine to seek medical care/treatment or to obtain food and other essential items.

For answers to commonly asked questions, refer to the <u>Department of Health's Frequently Asked Questions about the self-quarantine for travelers</u>.

### **Exemptions**

#### **Business Travel**

Individuals who are traveling to New Jersey from outside the region for business are

exempted from the application of the travel advisory. This, for example, would include truckers driving from an impacted state to New Jersey, and any state, local and federal officials and employees traveling in their official capacities on government business.

Individuals traveling for business should still consider postponing travel to the extent possible. Individuals are encouraged to self-monitor for symptoms upon return from any travel to an impacted state, and employers should consider screening employees for symptoms before permitting them to return to work. Employees and employers should follow current CDC guidance regarding travel, available here: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html</a>

#### Critical Infrastructure Workers

Exceptions to the travel advisory are also permitted for individuals traveling to New Jersey from outside the region who work in critical infrastructure, as defined by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. This would include, for example, health care workers and state and local law enforcement. The comprehensive list of critical infrastructure industries is available here: <a href="https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19">https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19</a>.

Critical Infrastructure workers who have had an exposure but remain asymptomatic should adhere to the screening, social distancing, and mitigation practices prior to and during their work shift, as <u>outlined by the CDC</u>.

Consult with your employer regarding whether there is industry-specific guidance that may apply to you (e.g. guidance for health care professionals: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html</a>). Please consult the DOH website and resources for additional details and information regarding isolation procedures for when a person under quarantine is diagnosed with COVID-19 or develops symptoms.

#### Seasonal Migrant Farm Workers

Migrant workers can continue to work with precautions. Critical infrastructure workers and employers should follow guidance from CDC, as well as NJ Department of Health, regarding strategies to limit disease spread.

#### **Testing**

Testing is available to everyone in New Jersey and is strongly encouraged for those who travelled to areas heavily impacted by COVID-19. To find a testing site near you, visit <a href="mailto:covid19.nj.gov/testing">covid19.nj.gov/testing</a>

If you are from an impacted state and get a diagnostic/virus test, you should still self-quarantine for 14 days. If you test negative, you are still advised to self-quarantine for 14 days because you remain in the incubation period. A diagnostic

test is a point-in-time indicator from the date of when you were last exposed - in this case, being in a state with significant community spread of COVID-19.

If you are positive, you should self-isolate for at least 10 days AND until one full day (or 24 hours) has passed since you had a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND <u>other symptoms</u> are significantly improved. You should only leave self-isolation to receive medical care and to obtain food or other essential items.

#### **Additional Travel Guidance**

Travel increases your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19.

You may have been exposed to COVID-19 on your travels (domestic and/or international). You may feel well and not have any symptoms, but you can be contagious without symptoms and spread the virus to others. You and your travel companions (including <a href="children">children</a>) pose a risk to your family, friends, and community for 14 days after you were exposed to the virus. Regardless of where you traveled or what you did during your trip, take actions to protect others from getting sick.

Some types of travel and activities can put you at higher risk for exposure to COVID-19. If you participated in higher-risk activities or think that you may have been exposed before or during your trip, take extra precautions to protect others for 14 days after you arrive. High-risk activities include going to a large gathering (i.e., wedding, funeral, party), attending a mass gathering like a sporting event, concert, or parade, being in crowd, or traveling on a cruise ship or river boat.

If you are traveling internationally, check the <a href="CDC's COVID-19 travel">CDC's COVID-19 travel</a>
recommendations by destination. Many countries are still categorized as a Level-3 high COVID-19 risk, and the CDC recommends avoiding all nonessential travel to these countries.

Take extra precautions to protect others for 14 days after you arrive to New Jersey:

- 1. Stay home as much as possible.
- 2. Avoid being around people.
- 3. Social distance. Stay at least 6 feet (2 arms' length) from other people who are not from your household. It is important to do this everywhere, both indoors and outdoors.
- 4. Wear a cloth or disposable mask to keep your nose and mouth covered when you are outside your home/where you are staying.
- 5. Wash hands often and use hand sanitizer.
- 6. Consider getting tested for COVID-19.

Destinations may have travel restrictions or requirements, such as mandated quarantines upon arrival.

Check <u>state, territorial</u>, <u>tribal</u> and local public health websites for information before you travel.

Consult the CDC's guide for additional advice.

Learn more about what to do if you are sick after travel.

Source: <u>Joint Incoming Travel Advisory</u>; <u>NJ DOH Travel Advisory FAQs</u>; <u>CDC "Travel During COVID-10" Page</u>

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