



COVID-19 OBSERVATION & PROTECTION SUMMARY (C.O.P.S.)

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NJ LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA & TRENDS

Total Arrests Statewide (4/22-4/28 vs 4/29-5/5)

- Arrests increased from 914 to 1,071 (+17.2%)

Pandemic-Related Crime Arrests (4/22-4/28 vs 4/29-5/5)

- Burglaries decreased from 76 to 62 (-18.4%)
- Robberies decreased from 25 to 13 (-48.0%)
- Shoplifting decreased from 52 to 51 (-1.9%)
- Weapons possession decreased from 40 to 33 (-17.5%)

Shooting Hit Environment (4/29-5/5 this year compared to same time last year)

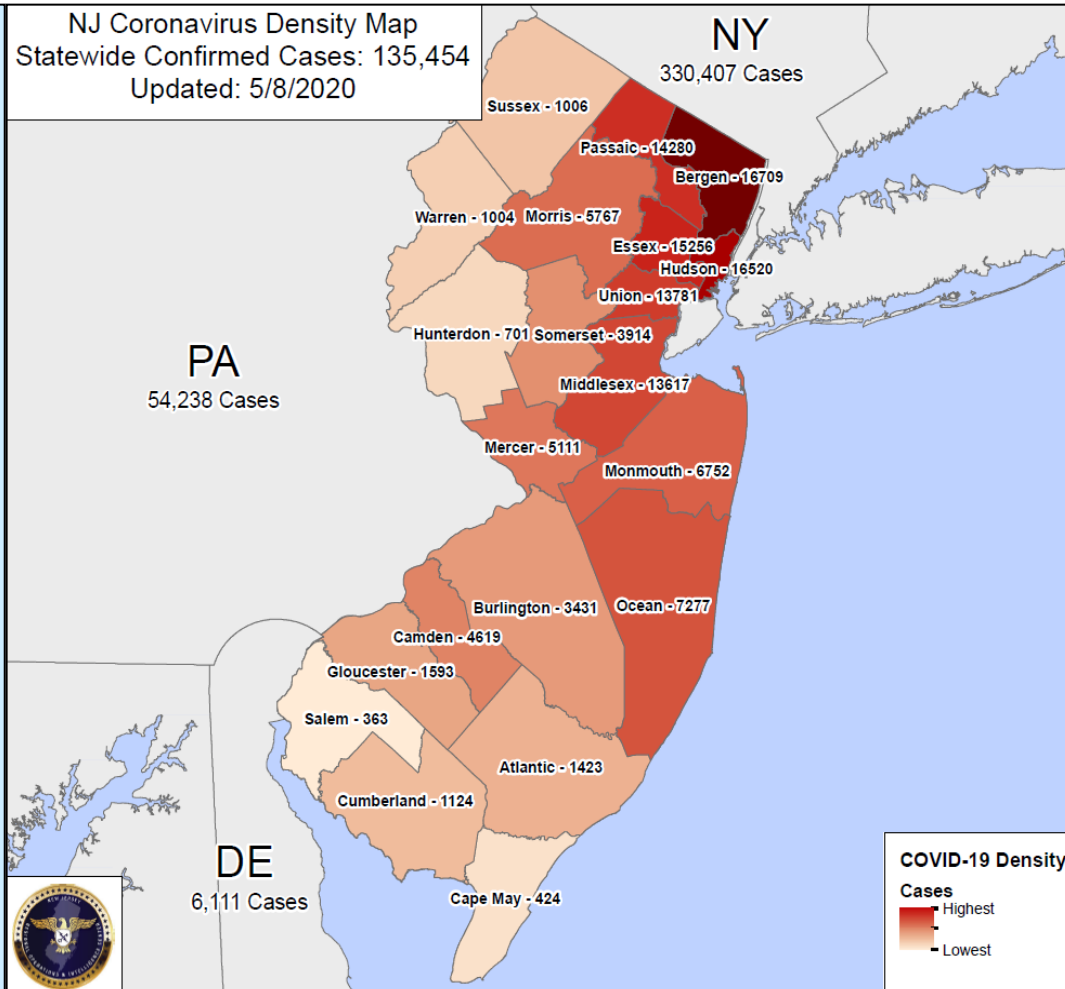
- Shooting hit victims increased from 18 to 19 (+6%)
- Shooting homicide victims decreased from 5 to 2 (-60%)
- Total shooting victims decreased from 23 to 21 (-9%)
- Shooting hit incidents increased from 11 to 14 (+27%)
- Shooting murder incidents decreased from 5 to 2 (-60%)
- Total shooting incidents did not change from 16 to 16 (0%)

Crimes

- Fraud (homemade sanitizer, herbal supplements, PPE, COVID-19 kits, etc.)
 - Reference FBI LIR: Indicators of Fraudulent 3M PPE (TLP: GREEN)
- Price gouging, hoarding, and/or kickback schemes
- Spitting/coughing on LE/citizens while claiming to be infected with COVID-19
- Violations of social distancing/stay-at-home orders/business closures
- Compliance Violation Reports (as of 5/5): 2,970**
- Littering of PPE throughout the state
- Bias threats/attacks - Orthodox Jewish & East Asian communities
- Statewide phone bail scam targeting the elderly**

NJ Coronavirus Density Map

Statewide Confirmed Cases: 135,454
Updated: 5/8/2020



OFFICE OF DRUG MONITORING & ANALYSIS

- NJ's Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) has created a "[New Jersey Resource Guide](#)" to provide partners and the public with a comprehensive directory of programs, links, and information to relevant national, state, and county resources for a variety of topics.
- For law enforcement use, these topics include recovery support, social services, mental health, crisis, food bank, emergency shelter, business, home, and first responder resources.
- DMI recently updated the testing sites information for first responders and added 'Substance Use Disorder & Treatment Services' and 'Grief Support Services' tabs to the Resource Guide.**

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REPORTED IN OTHER NORTHEAST STATES

- **Increase in phishing attempts.** One threat actor obtained credentials for a state government account that wasn't protected by multi-factor authentication and didn't have sending limits. They used the account to attempt to phish many state agencies a few days later.
- **Phishing campaign targeting state offices**, some of which hold medical data. Involved the impersonation of administrators and in at least one incident, gift cards were requested.
- **Small cluster of police impersonation** incidents unrelated to COVID.
- **Extremist groups are talking about learning law enforcement patterns and behavior** (ex. eating at the same restaurants daily), stalking them to discover their residence, baiting online to identify family members, and doxing officers.

EXHIBITING SYMPTOMS IS NO LONGER A PREREQUISITE FOR TESTING

- However, the **highest priority for testing** will be given to health care workers and workers in congregate living settings, and symptomatic first responders, as well as to asymptomatic NJ residents who have been in close contact with someone else who has tested positive.
- **The Bergen County Community College site** is open on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Each day the site is open, staff can test 500 people starting at 8:00am. This is a drive-through testing site at Lot C of the main campus.
- **The PNC Bank Arts Center (Monmouth) site** will open at 8:00am on Monday and Wednesday for the general public and on Saturday for healthcare workers (HCW) and first responders (police, fire, EMS) only. This is a drive-through location.
- **Note:** Rules at the 74+ testing sites in NJ change daily regarding who can be tested (symptomatic, asymptomatic, and non-symptomatic). Testing site information can be found [here](#).

Lag BaOmer (Jewish Holiday)

- Sunset 11 May to Nightfall on 12 May
- Known for bonfires, weddings, and haircuts
- Law enforcement should be cognizant for potential EO 107 (stay-at-home order) violations as well as possible bias crimes or extremist attacks.
- If your department is aware of any of these events planned in your jurisdiction, NJSP recommends reaching out to event organizers to remind them of EO 107.

IMPLICATIONS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

- **Civil Unrest:** Armed protesters in Michigan entered the Statehouse. Source: [BBC News](#)
- **Anarchists** continue to advocate for unlawful civil unrest citing government overreach.
- **Drug-Trafficking:** INTERPOL reports drug dealers in Western Europe are **using food delivery services to transport drugs** (and in some cases firearms) during the COVID-19 lockdown.
 - Dealers sometimes **disguise themselves as food delivery workers** wearing fake or stolen branded clothing.
 - Suspects were caught delivering cocaine and marijuana by bicycle, motorcycle, and vehicle with some of the drugs concealed inside a **false bottom of home delivery backpacks**.
 - In one incident, police recovered **two firearms from inside a pizza box**.
 - **Some actual delivery drivers work for drug trafficking organizations (DTO)**.
 - In some cases, actual drivers **unwittingly transported illegal substances**.
 - Other tactics include dealers **dressing up as postal delivery workers, joggers, and nurses** to give them an excuse to be out during the lockdown.
 - Some dealers **carry a box of groceries in their car** at all times so they can claim they are on their way to help out a grandparent if pulled over by police.
 - Sources: [Independent](#) & [Borderland Beat](#)

EXTREMISM & PRISONER RELEASE

- "(U//FOUO) Countries around the world, including the United States, have released or are considering releasing prisoners to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in overcrowded prisons, which probably **increases the likelihood of unidentified radicalized prisoners being freed with limited or no monitoring.**"
- "(U//FOUO) Most countries are unlikely to release individuals convicted of crimes in connection to terrorism-related activities or violent offenses, but **tracking other criminals who have been radicalized while in prison remains difficult...**"
- "(U//FOUO) As of late April, approximately **16,500 non-violent prisoners** have been released from state and local penitentiaries, as well as **1,500 inmates** from federal prisons, as of late April, according to press reporting, court documents, and U.S. Bureau of Prison statistics."
- "(U//FOUO) Multiple individuals charged with or convicted for terrorism-related offenses have petitioned for release on bond because of COVID-19 concerns, according to press reporting and court documents." (**Note:** [NJ White Supremacist Extremist Richard Tobin was released on 4/15/20](#)).—Source: DHS IN(U//FOUO) Release of Prisoners in Response to COVID-19 Risks Radicalized Individuals Being Freed Worldwide, dated 1 May 2020

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TRANSPORTATION

Travel by Air

- **Nationwide passenger traffic** remains down -94% from previous year.
- **COVID at TSA:** To date, a confirmed 534 employees, both screeners and non-screeners, tested positive for COVID-19.
 - 285 employees recovered, and 6 (2 employed at Newark) died as a result of the virus.
 - [TSA Travel Numbers 2019-2020](#)
- TSA is seeing a **continuing rise in passenger traffic**.
- **Newark Airport** is averaging approximately 2,100 passengers a day.
- **Airlines Note:** American, Delta, Jet Blue, Frontier and United now require facemasks on all passengers from the time they check in until they deplane.

TRANSPORTATION

Travel by Rail (Ridership Stats)

- **Amtrak:** Down 90% across country (modified schedule)
- **NJ Transit:** Down 90% system-wide (modified schedule)
- **PANYNJ:** Down 60-70% (modified schedule with 10 min headway between trains)
- **PATCO:** Down 85% (modified schedule with 20 min headway between trains). This denotes roughly a 5%-7% uptick in ridership from the previous week.
- **SEPTA:** Operating on Lifeline Schedule. Transit down 91% (with backdoor boarding/no fares) and regional rail down 99%

Dates	Weekly Average Total Traveler Throughput 2020	Weekly Average Total Traveler Throughput 2019	YOY% Change
Week 3/1/2020-3/7/2020	2,022,471.4	2,255,025.6	-10.31%
Week 3/8/2020-3/14/2020	1,762,502.4	2,369,585.1	-25.62%
Week 3/15/2020-3/21/2020	896,075.3	2,401,426.3	-62.69%
Week 3/22/2020-3/28/2020	270,246.9	2,371,600.4	-88.60%
Week 3/29/2020-4/4/2020	141,219.9	2,278,332.6	-93.80%
Week 4/5/2020-4/11/2020	104,158.9	2,329,198.7	-95.53%
Week 4/12/2020-4/18/2020	95,674.0	2,359,849.4	-95.95%
Week 4/19/2020-4/25/2020	106,586.1	2,353,139.9	-95.47%
Week 4/26/2020-5/2/2020	134,255.7	2,327,408.1	-94.23%
Week 5/3/2020-5/5/2020	151,239	2,340,207	-93.54%

POTENTIAL ISSUES

- Ramadan travel/mass gatherings and plans for Memorial Day weekend
- Impersonation
 - CDC personnel
 - FEMA personnel
 - Healthcare workers
 - Law enforcement officers
- Online gaming complaints/swatting
- Civil unrest
- Supply chain interruption
- Drones over FEMA/military hospitals
- Threats to medical personnel/infrastructure
- Increased alcohol/narcotics addiction relapses & mental health issues, including suicide
- Crimes related to slow processing of unemployment claims
 - Due to volume of claims in short period of time and inadequate resources available

Analyst Note: Law enforcement should expect many of the problems caused by COVID-19 to ripple long after the state reopens. Financial problems/loss of work/closed businesses and medical concerns (ex. lack of PPE/ventilators) will likely result in continued civil unrest, lawsuits, homelessness, increases in burglary/theft/robbery, extremist recruitment, etc.

Month	Average Monthly Throughput 2020	Average Monthly Throughput 2019	YOY% Change
March	1,133,532.3	2,344,518.2	-51.65%
April	109,566.9	2,337,486.4	-95.31%
% change Month to Month	-90.33%	-0.30%	

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NJ CYBERSECURITY & COMMUNICATION INTEGRATION CELL (NJCCIC)

- **COVID-19 email/social media-based phishing scams:** Attempt to convince recipients to open links or attachments to direct users to malicious websites or deliver malware, reveal sensitive information, or donate to fraudulent causes.
- **Malicious COVID-19 websites** distributed via emails, malicious advertisements, and social media. Approx. 4,000 coronavirus-themed websites created since January 2020, with at least 5% deemed malicious.
- **The Garden State Network's email content filtering systems detected and blocked 8x as many emails referencing COVID-19 between March-April 2020 compared to January-February 2020.**
- **Threat actors** are likely to take advantage of the rapid increase of telework and attempt to remotely access networks and hide within the increased remote traffic.
- **Threat actors** will likely target individuals and small businesses with payday loan and quick cash scams related to the stimulus package or other relief efforts.
- **Additional information**
 - [NJCCIC's Weekly Bulletin](#)
 - [NJCCIC's Telework Program Security Recommendations](#)

LAW ENFORCEMENT STAFFING SURVEY—5/8 UPDATE (386 AGENCIES REPORTING)

1769 Total LE Out

- 507 LE Statewide COVID Positive
 - Decrease by -12.89% last 24 hours
- 405 Statewide Quarantined
 - Decrease by -2% last 24 hours
- 857 Statewide Out for other reasons
 - Increase by +1% last 24 hours

118 Total LE returning to Duty (within the next 48 hours)

- 96 COVID-19
- 22 Self-Quarantined

8 Total Line of Duty Deaths

Total Available LE force: 29,231

- -5.71% (Decrease) from pre-COVID-19 outbreak availability
- Top 5 Impacted Counties:** Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Passaic

OPEN SOURCE INTELLIGENCE

The ROIC recognizes that Americans have constitutionally protected rights to assemble, speak, and petition the government. The ROIC safeguards these First Amendment rights, noting that violent extremists could disrupt legal activities, interfering with otherwise peaceful events.

- The Cyber Threat Intelligence Unit (CTIU) continues to provide key intelligence reporting of potential mass social distancing violations to its state, county, and municipal partners for heightened caution and situational awareness.
- CTIU continues monitoring the Bergen County Community College and PNC Bank Arts Center FEMA testing sites. **As of 0700 hours on 5/8, there appears to be no disruptions or access issues were reported via social media or open source outlets.**
- CTIU is monitoring three (3) Field Medical Stations (FMS) sites in Secaucus, Edison, and Atlantic City.
- CTIU is monitoring for threats made against personnel assigned to the tri-state COVID-19 contact tracing partnership.
- CTIU, Threat Analysis Unit (TAU), & NJ Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness (NJ OHSP) are partnering on cyber trends for racially-motivated extremism during the COVID-19 pandemic joint intelligence product for dissemination.
- CTIU and TAU co-authored an Intelligence Dissemination Report related to COVID-19 demonstrations, trends, and tactics in NJ for dissemination.
- CTIU will continue to monitor for real-time information and significant threats to the State of New Jersey and will remain in communication with the ROIC-SEOC concerning developments related to current and emerging threats.
- **A photo posted by a Cumberland County news service depicting State Corrections Officers outside a residence following the death of a colleague has gone viral.**
 - **Comments are related to officers not practicing social distancing.**

DHS ASSESSMENT OF CHINA & COVID-19

*"(U//FOUO) We assess the Chinese Government intentionally **concealed the severity of COVID-19 from the international community** in early January while it **stockpiled medical supplies** by both increasing imports and decreasing exports. We further assess the Chinese **Government attempted to hide its actions** by denying there were export restrictions and obfuscating and delaying provision of its trade data."*

Source: DHS HIA (U//FOUO) New Analytic Technique Indicates China Likely Hid Severity of COVID-19 from the International Community While it Stockpiled Medical Supplies, dated 1 May 2020

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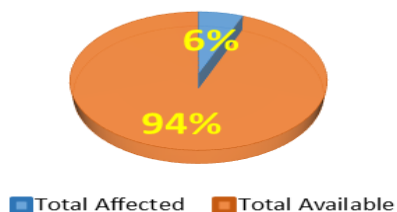
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FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING STATEWIDE— 5/4 UPDATE

Key Findings

- 19,483 total Fire Personnel (FP) reported via survey
- 1,206 FP Out Statewide
- 18,277 FP Available for Duty

**FIRE STRENGTH SURVEY NUMBERS:
AVAILABLE V. AFFECTED**



- 92% of New Jersey Fire Departments report a working capacity of 90-100%
 - 66.5% of reporting departments indicate PPE is, or may become, critical
 - 15% of reporting departments indicate rapid C19 testing/antibody testing may become critical
- 436 Fire Departments reported their FP availability for April 28-May 4, 2020
 - +2% increase from last week's survey
 - 61% of all departments statewide
- 190 FP tested positive for COVID-19
 - -8% decrease from last week
 - 5 FP hospitalized due to COVID-19
 - -71% decrease from last week
 - 3 line of duty deaths
- 188 FP self-quarantined
 - -31% decrease from last week
- 828 FP out for other reasons
 - -6% decrease from last week
- 860 FP returned to duty after quarantine
 - +5% increase from last week

PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT (PSAP/911 CALL CENTERS) SURVEY—5/6 UPDATE

9-1-1 Call Volume:

- The previous reports of a general uptick in medical calls seems to be flattening out as several PSAPs that previously reported increases in EMS calls are reporting a downward trend towards "normal".
- We are continuing to see some reports of a rise in domestic violence calls as well as administrative inquiries.
- Some PSAPs in resort communities or with state/county parks report an increase in calls attributed to an increased number of people due to warmer weather and reopening parks.
- This reporting period only one PSAP reported their 9-1-1 call volume as much higher, down from three during the last reporting period.
- In 11 of the counties, 17 PSAPs reported their call volume is somewhat higher than normal, one more than last report.
- The remaining 103 PSAPs reported their call volume continues to be much lower, somewhat lower, or the same, with some PSAPs continuing to report that while overall call volume is down, EMS and administrative calls are higher.

Staffing Concerns:

- During this reporting period, there continues to be no reports of serious staffing concerns.
- Of the 121 PSAPs responding, only two PSAPs reported staffing concerns as bad—two less than the last reporting period.
- 62 PSAPs reported staffing as good or very good, essentially the same as the last report.
- The remaining 57 PSAPs were neutral in their staffing concerns.

Staff Shortages Related to COVID-19:

- 8 PSAPs reported staffing issues related to COVID-19 (either quarantined or tested positive) - approximately half as the last reporting period.
- Of the 8 PSAPs reporting COVID-19 related staffing issues, only two classified staffing concerns as bad, three less than the last reporting period.
- 19 PSAPs indicated they have had call takers/dispatchers as confirmed COVID-19 positive.
- 11 PSAPs indicated they have call takers/dispatchers that are currently under quarantine, half as many as in the last reporting period.
- 32 PSAPs indicated they have had call takers/dispatchers that have returned from quarantine.
- During this reporting period, no PSAPs reported any call taker/dispatcher COVID-19 related deaths.

The staff of the Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services (OETS) will continue our efforts to increase participation in the surveys going forward. OETS staff continue to engage with each County 9-1-1 Coordinator during the pandemic.

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SAMPLE COVID-19 CONSPIRACY THEORIES

- **5G towers:** (Theory A): 5G will help create surveillance state. (Theory B): 5G cell towers spread the virus.
- **The Chinese government** is responsible for COVID-19. (Theory A): Designed as bioweapon and released on purpose or by accident. (Theory B): Natural outbreak but government allowed it to spread in some capacity. In either theory, the government might've sought to hurt Western economies/purchase cheap stocks.
- **Military bases/facilities** are sometimes singled out in COVID-19 conspiracy theories. See [Port of LA Incident](#).
- **States are confiscating ventilators from rural hospitals** to send to cities, thus sacrificing the lives of citizens living in rural areas in favor of those in/around more populated areas. This idea has been shared on conspiracy theory and non-credible news websites/social media platforms, particularly Gab and 4chan.
- **Militias and anti-government extremists** view the registration of firearms as the first step towards confiscation. They sometimes argue this may be precipitated by a national crisis, evoking of martial law, and involve FEMA "camps". The deployment of the National Guard, pop-up hospitals, and FEMA personnel as well as the misunderstanding of what martial law actually entails may fuel civil unrest.
- **Medical Martial Law aka [Martial Law Lite](#) aka Soft Tyranny** conspiracy theorists argue "hyper-exaggeration and hyper-inflated paranoia and hysteria surrounding the virus" was actually a "conspiratorial plan against the liberties of the American people." The Jewish community, Democrats, and the New World Order have been named as being behind Medical Martial Law, with some arguing it is a **Phase 2 false flag attack of a multi-phase plan for global control** (with the Phase 1 false flag operation being the 9/11 attacks), that **includes white genocide**. To them, martial law is currently "disguised as executive orders, public safety enforcements, and health mandates," stay-at-home orders are equivalent to mass house arrest, and the end result is forced vaccinations, which may be used to alter the DNA of recipients in some way. Note: The conspiracy theory that hospitals are not really overcrowded (**#FilmYourHospital movement**) is a component of this idea.

NJOHSP FACTS ON COVID-19 RUMORS AND DISINFORMATION

- A [false infographic](#) circulated on social media appears to contain information from legitimate health organizations, but it intentionally promotes purposely infecting public spaces with COVID-19.
- [False information](#) in the form of audio, texts, and social media postings have stated that the use of ibuprofen can exacerbate COVID-19 symptoms and strengthen the virus.
- No action is needed by most Americans to receive the COVID-19 economic stimulus check. Beware of [scams](#) via mail, phone, email, and social media that ask you to verify your identity or pay a "processing fee."
- A police department in Maine warned of a potential [phishing scam](#) telling text message recipients that someone they recently came in contact with tested positive for COVID-19 or has symptoms.
- [Emails and social media posts](#) describing a self-check exercise to determine if an individual has COVID-19. Self-check assessments are not recommended at this time.
- A [false letter/press release](#) with joint seals of federal and State agencies states New York residents cannot enter New Jersey starting May 10 due to COVID-19.
- [NJOHSP Rumor Control/Disinformation Updates](#)

IMPORTANT LINKS

[NJ Department of Health: Current COVID-19 Cases](#)
[Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Dashboard](#)
[State Employee FAQs](#)
[MVC Updates](#)
[Police Foundation COVID-19 Resources for LE](#)
[CDC COVID-19 Guidance for Law Enforcement](#)
[EMS Dispatch Cards](#)
[OSHA's Rule Relaxation \(N95's\)](#)
[NJOHSP Rumor Control/Disinformation Updates](#)
[Executive Order 107 Violation Reporting Form](#)
[PPE Donations Intake](#)
[New Jersey Executive Orders](#)
[New Jersey Administrative Orders](#)
[NJCCIC Telework Tips](#)
[Police One](#)
[NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police - COVID-19 Resources](#)
[International Association of Chiefs of Police](#)
[DMI New Jersey Resource Guide](#)
[Certified Childcare Facilities for Essential Employees](#)
[CDC COVID-19 Information for EMS & PSAPs](#)
[FEMA Coronavirus Response](#)
[DHS COVID-19 Information for First Responder Community](#)

Note: If you need more information on any products, reports, or links in this document, please contact the NJ ROIC Threat Analysis Unit at the following email: NJROICTHREAT@NJSP.ORG

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