

Confirmed cases in FL residents: 5489

Confirmed cases hospitalized: 715

Total cases: 5704

*Data from Florida Department of Health [COVID-19 dashboard](#)

For a complete look at what is happening federally and in MWC's footprint states, visit MWC's [COVID-19 resource page](#).

Florida State Action on COVID-19

March 30

[Education Commissioner extends school closure through May 1st](#)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – On a call with district superintendents, Commissioner Richard Corcoran advised that districts should remain closed through May 1st. All districts were required to have their distance learning plans implemented as of today.

Governor asks South Florida residents to stay home (see separate PDF)

Executive Order 20-89 directs all residents in Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Monroe Counties to stay home, in order to create consistency for the region.

Governor makes changes to FRS for recent retirees (see separate PDF)

Executive Order 20-88 waives certain requirements for recent retirees who are in the Florida Retirement System (FRS) if they are working in response to COVID-19.

March 27

[Governor prohibits vacation rentals, implements checkpoints for travelers](#)

Executive Order 20-87 suspends any new reservations for vacation rentals for the next 14 days.

[Governor issues new guidelines for travelers coming into Florida](#)

Executive Order 20-86 requires a 14 day quarantine for anyone coming into Florida from a state from an area of community spread, including Louisiana, and including travel by car or other transportation. Law enforcement is directed to set up checkpoints on roads coming into the state and to provide information on COVID-19.

March 26

[Governor allows telehealth, immunizations for state group health insurance](#)

Executive Order 20-85 directs DMS to amend state employee health plan benefits to include telehealth services at no additional cost and to waive costs for influenza vaccinations, effective immediately.

March 24

[Governor directs Surgeon General to issue public health advisories](#)

Executive Order 20-83 directs Surgeon General Rivkees to issue public health advisories to those 65 and older or anyone who has underlying medical conditions, warning of the dangers of gathering in groups of 10 or more, and asking people to work from home when feasible.

[Governor expands on New York area quarantine requirement](#)

Executive Order 20-82 adds anyone who is covered by this order must inform anyone they have contact with in the last 21 days of their travel to prevent community spread.

March 23

[Governor orders 14 day quarantine for all New York area travelers](#)

Executive Order 20-80 requires any air travelers to Florida from the New York tri-state area (New York, New Jersey, Connecticut) must be screened upon arrival and quarantined for 14 days.

March 20

[Governor orders prohibition on elective and non-emergency surgeries](#)

Executive Order 20-72 directs physicians and healthcare professionals to stop performing any medically unnecessary, non-urgent or non-emergency procedures which, if delayed, would not harm patients.

[Governor orders closure of all gyms and fitness centers statewide; prohibits food and alcohol consumption on-premises](#)

Executive Order 20-71 directs all gyms and fitness centers to close statewide. Additionally, it requires all food and alcohol sold in restaurants be consumed off-premises.

[Governor orders movie theatres, bowling alleys, gyms and in more to close in Broward and Palm Beach counties](#)

Executive Order 20-70 directs all movie theatres, concert houses, auditoriums, playhouses, bowling alleys, arcades, gymnasiums, fitness studios and beaches to close in Broward County and Palm Beach County.

[Governor creates flexibility for local governments to meet virtually](#)

Executive Order 20-69 suspends the requirement that municipal governing bodies have a quorum in person or meet at a specific location to take action and allows municipal governing bodies to meet via telecommunications.

March 19

[Florida lawmakers approve \\$25 million for direct costs to contain coronavirus](#)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Legislators came back to Tallahassee Thursday to sign the state budget. Now it heads to the Governor’s desk.

[Florida state offices ordered closed to public as infections in Florida rise](#)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - The Department of Management Services' (DMS) new policy requires a state-issued employee ID badge to enter the offices of the Departments of Children and Families, Education, Health, and others at least until April 19.

March 17

[Governor DeSantis requests that schools remain closed through April 15th](#)

All PreK-12 school testing canceled this year and no school grades.

[Governor DeSantis orders all bars, nightclubs, breweries to close for 30 days](#)

Restaurants restricted to no more than 50% capacity. Groups are limited to 10 people at restaurants, beaches, and patrons must distance themselves by at least 6 feet.

[Gov. DeSantis calls for Florida universities to do online classes through rest of spring semester](#)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis says all state universities will continue online classes only through the remainder of the spring semester.

[CMS Approves First State Request for 1135 Medicaid Waiver in Florida](#)

On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation a national emergency. This bold action enables the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to waive certain requirements in Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP under Section 1135 authority. This includes the ability to grant state and territorial Medicaid agencies a wider range of flexibilities, and states may now submit Section 1135 waiver requests for CMS approval that will remove administrative burdens and expand access to needed services. Shortly after the President’s declaration, Florida became the first state to submit a Section 1135 waiver request in response to the COVID-19 national emergency.

March 16

[Governor Ron DeSantis Thanks Legislature for Taking Swift Action to Make Nearly \\$28 Million in Federal Funds Available for COVID-19 Response](#)

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis thanked members of the Florida Legislature for providing the necessary resources to address the state’s ongoing response to COVID-19. The Legislature’s action will support the Florida Department of Health’s ability to receive new funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[Governor Ron DeSantis Activates Emergency Bridge Loan Program for Small Businesses Impacted by COVID-19](#)

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis activated the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program to support small businesses impacted by COVID-19. The bridge loan program, managed by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), will provide short-term, interest-free loans to small businesses that experienced economic injury from COVID-19. The application period opens tomorrow, March 17, 2020 and runs through May 8, 2020.

[Surgeon General Rivkees issues emergency order DOH 20-002](#)

Allows health care professionals licensed in any U.S. state or territory to practice in Florida, including telehealth, for 30 days.

March 14

[Governor DeSantis announces a ban on visiting nursing homes for 30 days to slow coronavirus spread](#)

TALLAHASSEE - Gov. Ron DeSantis, while contending that many Florida residents are not at risk of getting the coronavirus, announced on Saturday a 30-day ban on visits to nursing homes as he acknowledged that the virus is spreading through some communities.

March 13

[Governor DeSantis announces all Florida public schools to close for 2 weeks to limit coronavirus spread](#)

TAMPA, Fla. - Public schools across Florida will be closed for two weeks to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. The Florida Department of Education announced Friday evening that all schools would be shut down for the weeks of March 16-20 and March 23-27.

March 12

[Governor Ron DeSantis Activates Emergency Business Damage Assessment Survey for Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced the activation of the Business Damage Assessment survey to assess the impact of COVID-19 on Florida’s local business operations.

[Florida Office of Financial Regulation \(OFR\) Provides Guidance to Florida Securities Professionals Regarding COVID-19](#)

Tallahassee, Fla. - The Florida Office of Financial Regulation (OFR) today provided guidance to Florida’s securities professionals regarding the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

[Florida Office of Financial Regulation \(OFR\) Provides Guidance to Florida State-Chartered Financial Institutions Regarding COVID-19](#)

Tallahassee, Fla. - The Florida Office of Financial Regulation (OFR) today provided informational guidance to Florida’s financial institutions regarding the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

March 9

[Governor DeSantis issues Executive Order No. 20-52 which designates the Director of the Division of Emergency Management as the State Coordinating Officer for COVID-19](#)

March 1

[Governor DeSantis issues Executive Order 20-51](#)

Directs Surgeon General Rivkees to declare a public health emergency to better equip Florida with the resources needed to handle this public health threat

Florida Local Action on COVID-19

March 30

[City of Miami requests condos make changes to prevent social spread](#)

Miami is urging condominium homeowners associations and management companies to close common areas and amenities, drain pools, move to virtual meetings, and perform extensive cleaning.

[Broward issues EO 20-04, which updates stay at home order regarding boats, real estate activities](#)

March 28

[Miami-Dade relaxes requirements for county employees](#)

Emergency Order 14-20 suspends all laws, statutes, codes, and regulations relating to county employees performing building code functions and adopts emergency procedures for construction moving forward.

March 27

[Miami-Dade asks essential businesses to enforce social distancing](#)

Emergency Order 13-20 requires essential businesses to make all efforts to maintain social distancing, such as using visible markers to keep residents six feet away from each other.

March 26

[City of Miami issues 10pm to 5am curfew](#)

Residents are required to be home from 10pm to 5am nightly. Exceptions include medical emergencies, travel to/from essential workplaces, dog walking within 250 feet of residents' homes, and food delivery services.

[Hillsborough County issues "safer at home" order](#)

The emergency order directs residents to stay at home as much as possible twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, except for engaging in essential activities.

[Broward issues "safer at home" order](#)

Emergency Order 20-03 directs residents to shelter-in-place, with the exception of engaging in essential activities, effective March 27.

[Amendment to EO 20-03 \(listed as EO 20-04\)](#)

March 25

[Pinellas County issues "safer at home" order](#)

The emergency order asks residents to stay home except for engaging in essential activities, effective March 26 at 12pm.

[Miami-Dade urges older residents, those with medical issues to stay home](#)

Emergency Order 11-20 urges persons over 65 years of age or who have a serious underlying medical condition to stay home and take such other measures as necessary to limit their risk of exposure to COVID-19.

[Osceola County issues stay at home order](#)

Emergency Order 2 directs all non-essential businesses to close and residents to stay at home, except for those engaging in essential workplace activities, seeking medical help,

March 24

[City of Miami orders residents to shelter-in-place](#)

Emergency Order 20-04 asks residents to stay at home unless they are seeking goods and services from essential retail and commercial establishments.

[Miami-Dade prohibits public gatherings of 10 or more](#)

Emergency Order 10-20 prohibits groups more than 10 people from gathering in public. Lists specific and essential service exemptions.

[Orange County issues “Stay at Home” order](#)

Emergency Order 2020-04 directs residents to stay at home, ordering all non-essential retail and commercial businesses to close and all residents to stay home from non-essential travel, with exceptions, effective March 26th at 11pm.

[Amendment to EO 202-04](#)

[Leon County issues stay at home at home order and curfew of 11pm to 5am](#)

Issued jointly by the City of Tallahassee and Leon County, the order asks that residents stay at home with the exception of traveling to work, outdoor recreational activities, and going to the grocery store, effective March 25th. Police have the authority to disperse groups of 10 or more.

March 23

[Miami Beach issues “safer-at-home” order](#)

Emergency Order 3-23-20 directs all residents to stay at home, effective March 24th. Exceptions include engaging in essential retail and commercial activities, attending religious services, outdoor recreational activities, and more, so long as residents maintain social distancing efforts.

[Broward County closes libraries, parks, and makes changes to public transportation](#)

Emergency Order 20-02 indicates that libraries are already closed as of March 19th and requires all parks to close and certain social distancing changes to go into effect for public transportation as of March 24th.

[Alachua County issues shelter-in-place and closure of non-essential businesses](#)

Emergency Order 20-09 requires that all non-essential business and operations must cease. All places of public assembly are closed to the public. People should not leave their homes except for essential activity.

[Jacksonville asks businesses to allow employees to work from home](#)

Emergency Order 2020-3 asks businesses to allow their employees to work from home, if at all possible. This goes into effect Tuesday morning, March 24th at 8am.

March 22

[Broward County closes all non-essential businesses](#)

Emergency Order 20-01 directs all non-essential retail and commercial business to close down, effective March 23rd. This does not apply to healthcare providers and public health operations, grocery stores, banks, transportation operations, childcare centers, and more.

[Palm Beach County orders all marinas, boat ramps closed](#)

Emergency Order 1 requires all boat ramps, marinas, and boat docks to close. Prohibits public use of any islands, sandbars, and intracoastal lands. Exception for commercial fishing operations.

[Amendment to EO 1](#)

March 21

[Miami-Dade prohibits new reservations on hotels, AirBnB](#)

Emergency Order 09-20 says hotels, motels, short-term vacation rentals and other commercial lodging establishments shall not accept new reservations for persons other than essential lodgers.

[Amendment to EO 09-20](#)

[Miami Dade prohibits all rafting](#)

Emergency Order 08-20 prohibits all rafting, i.e. watercraft tied together in close proximity, except in the case of rescuing passengers or towing an inoperable boat.

March 20

[Jacksonville closing all Duval County beaches](#)

Mayor Lenny Curry along with Beaches' Mayors direct all Duval County beaches to close, effective 5pm Friday.

[Orange County issues a curfew of 11pm to 5am](#)

Emergency Order 2020-03 directs residents to stay at home between the hours of 11pm and 5am daily, effective March 20th.

March 19

[Pinellas County moves to close beaches for two weeks](#)

TAMPA, Fla. – Amid growing concerns of coronavirus, Pinellas County Commissioners vote to close beaches for two weeks, starting at 11:59pm Friday.

[City Of Jacksonville Adds COVID-19 Drive-Thru Testing Site In Collaboration With Baptist Health And Telescope Health](#)

[Miami-Dade County Mayor orders all non-essential retail and commercial businesses to close](#)

Effective 9 p.m. Thursday. Does not apply to businesses that provide food, shelter, healthcare, social services, business supplies, or childcare centers who are now under certain restrictions.

[Amendment to EO 07-20](#)

[Amendment 2 to EO 07-20](#)

[Amendment 3 to EO 07-20](#)

[Miami-Dade Mayor closes all parks and beaches](#)

Emergency Order 06-20 requires all beaches, parks, and recreational centers—publicly or privately owned—to close.

[Amendment to EO 06-20](#)

[Amendment 2 to EO 06-20](#)

[Amendment 3 to EO 06-20](#)

March 18

[City of Tampa announces all public beaches closed](#)

[Clearwater City Commission votes to close all beaches for two weeks starting March 23rd](#)

[City of Tampa to Launch Tampa Recovery Hotline for Social Recovery and Business Relief in the face of COVID-19](#)

March 17

Miami-Dade issues emergency orders closing all restaurant dining rooms (takeout and delivery only) and all bars, bowling alleys, movie theaters, gyms, fitness studios.

- **Groups larger than 10 not allowed on beaches, parks, or county recreation facilities**
- **Use of mopeds, scooters, bikes, motorized bikes not allowed on public roadways**

Miami Beach issues emergency order closing all public beaches and parks, sidewalk cafes, and city parking lots and garages

Curfew is in effect from 12pm to 5am. All restaurants, bars, pubs, breweries are closed for dining room service (takeout and delivery only). All movie theaters, arcades, live performances, gyms, and fitness centers are closed. All other non-essential businesses shall close by 10pm

Ft. Lauderdale announces all public gatherings more than 10 people are prohibited

All bars, pubs, night clubs shall close. All gyms and fitness studios shall close. All restaurants shall end dine-in customer service (takeout and delivery only). All beaches, city parks and recreational facilities are closed. All city commission meetings, public board meetings, sports leagues, and HOA meetings are postponed.

Town of Palm Beach orders curfew from 9pm to 6am

All public beaches and recreation facilities are closed.

March 16

Jacksonville Orders Establishments to Limit Attendance to no more than 50 people

Mayor Lenny Curry orders many establishments — including bars, restaurants, movie theaters and churches — to limit attendance to no more than 50 people as of 5 p.m. Monday.

City of St. Pete orders prohibition on public assemblies of larger than 50 people

Restaurants, bars, theaters, stadiums, bowling allies, athletic fields, arenas, gyms, and fitness centers must operate at no more than 50% capacity beginning March 17th.

City of Orlando announces all city-sponsored or hosted events with more than 10 people are canceled

South Florida Cities Announce Sweeping Restrictions

South Florida cities—including Miami, Miami Beach, Ft. Lauderdale, Delray Beach, Hallandale—announce sweeping restrictions on bars/restaurants, curfews, canceled public events, and beach closures.

[Tampa and St. Pete limit restaurants and bars to 50% capacity](#)

Tampa bars and restaurants must close by 10pm; last call for alcohol in St. Pete is 9 p.m.

[St. Pete joins other local governments in allowing city employees to work from home](#)

March 12

[Miami-Dade declares a local state of emergency](#)