

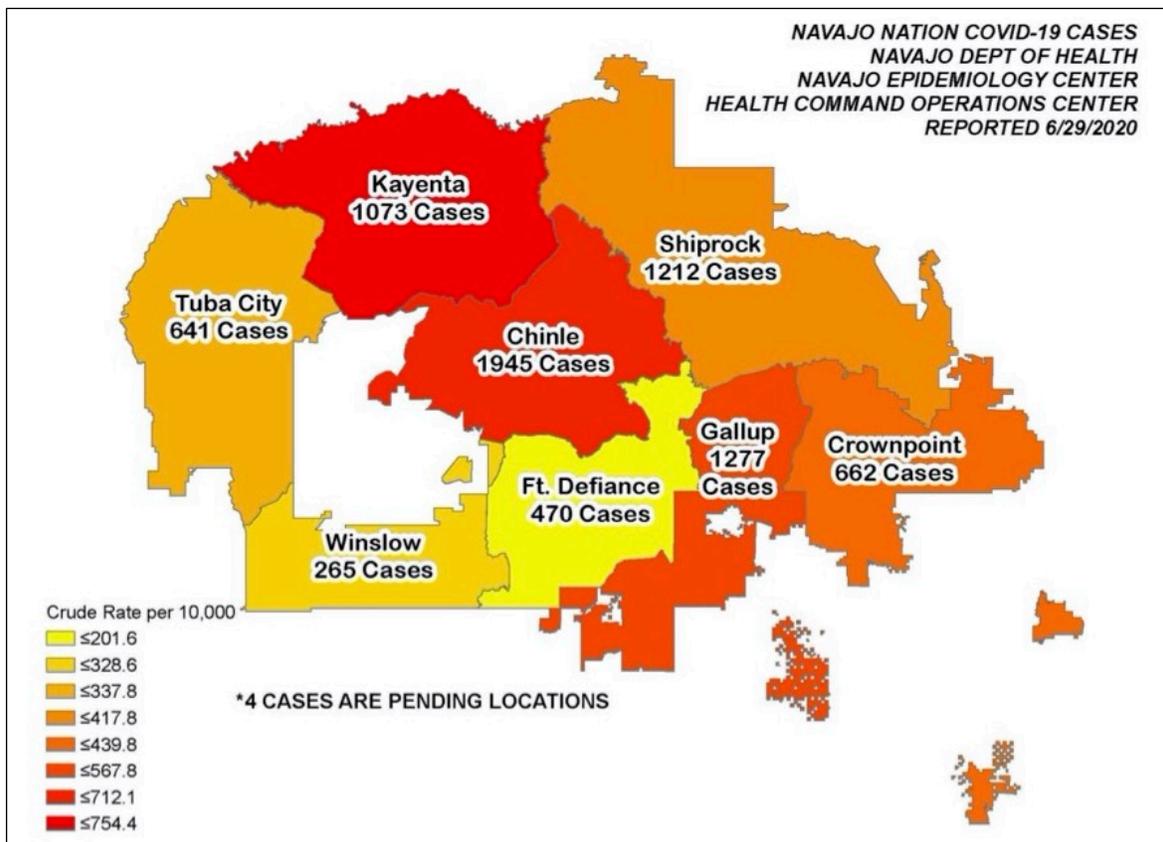


The Navajo Nation  
Office of the President and Vice President

CONTACTS:  
Jared Touchin, Communications Director  
(928) 274-4275  
Crystalyne Curley, Sr. Public Information Officer  
(928) 274-2758  
[nnopvp.communications@gmail.com](mailto:nnopvp.communications@gmail.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 30, 2020

**5,218 recoveries, 17 new cases, one more death reported as Navajo Nation extends emergency declaration, government closure, and weekend lockdowns**



**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** — On Tuesday, the Navajo Department of Health, in coordination with the Navajo Epidemiology Center and the Navajo Area Indian Health Service, reported 17 new COVID-19 positive cases for the Navajo Nation and one more death. The total number of deaths is 364 as of Tuesday. Reports from all 12 health care facilities on and near the Navajo Nation indicate that approximately 5,218 individuals have recovered from COVID-19. 55,626 people have been tested for COVID-19. The total number of COVID-19 positive cases for the Navajo Nation is 7,549.

Navajo Nation COVID-19 positive cases by Service Unit:

- Chinle Service Unit: 1,945

- Crownpoint Service Unit: 662
- Ft. Defiance Service Unit: 470
- Gallup Service Unit: 1,277
- Kayenta Service Unit: 1,073
- Shiprock Service Unit: 1,212
- Tuba City Service Unit: 641
- Winslow Service Unit: 265

\* Four residences with COVID-19 positive cases are not specific enough to place them accurately in a Service Unit.

On Tuesday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer signed an executive order to extend the Navajo Nation's declaration of a state of emergency and the closure of government offices and entities until July 26, 2020. The Department of Health also issued another Public Health Emergency Order to implement full 57-hour weekend lockdowns from July 3, 2020 to July 6, 2020 from July 10, 2020 to July 13, 2020, and from July 17, 2020 to July 20, 2020, starting at 8:00 P.M. (MDT) on Friday and ending at 5:00 A.M. (MDT) on Monday. Additional weekend lockdowns may follow.

During a live town hall held on Tuesday, President Nez presented data from the Department of Health that shows a steady flattening of the curve for COVID-19 cases indicating that the weekend lockdowns, daily curfews, requiring face masks, and other precautions are working.

"The data presented by the Department of Health strongly indicates that the precautionary measures we have implemented since the start of the virus on the Navajo Nation in mid-March are working. We have to remain focused and not let up. Other states began relaxing their precautionary measures far too soon and now they are seeing the consequences with large increases in new cases, hospital visits, and hospital bed usage. Here on the Navajo Nation, we are seeing good signs, but we have to keep the weekend lockdowns and other measures in place for the time being," said Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez.

In addition to the weekend lockdowns, the daily curfew also remains in effect from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. on weekdays to help flatten the curve.

"The data supports the measures we are taking to keep our people safe and healthy. This has been a long battle, but it's not over. We know some people are frustrated, but we have to stay diligent and stay on this path until we see consistent decreases in new cases of COVID-19. Please continue to pray for our people, first responders, and many others who are fighting along-side us," said Vice President Lizer.

For more information, including helpful prevention tips, and resources to help stop the spread of COVID-19, visit the Navajo Department of Health's COVID-19 website at <http://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19>. For COVID-19 related questions and information, call [\(928\) 871-7014](tel:(928)871-7014).

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**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 006-20**

**FIFTH EXECUTIVE ORDER RELATED TO  
EXTENDING THE DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY  
DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS ON THE NAVAJO NATION;  
FURTHER EXTENDING THE CLOSURE OF NAVAJO NATION  
GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND RELATED ENTITIES**

**NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT  
JUNE 30, 2020**

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**WHEREAS:**

1. The President of the Navajo Nation serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation government with full authority to conduct, supervise, and coordinate personnel and program matters. 2.N.N.C. §1005 (A);
2. The President shall have the power to issue an executive order for the purpose of interpreting, implementing or giving administrative effect to statutes of the Navajo Nation in the manner set forth in such statutes. 2.N.N.C. §1005 (C)(14);
3. With the concurrence of the President of the Navajo Nation, the Emergency Management Commission shall have the power to declare a state of emergency affecting the Navajo Nation and to obtain, coordinate and oversee assistance, whether in the form of goods, services, equipment, motor vehicles, or personnel, from all Divisions, Departments and Enterprises of the Navajo Nation for use in addressing the requirements of the People in any declared emergency. 2 N.N.C. § 884(B)(1)(3);
4. The Emergency Management Commission declared an emergency due to the confirmation of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in regional areas surrounding the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 884(B)(1), *See* Emergency Management Commission resolutions CEM 20-03-11;
5. An Executive Order shall have the force of law upon the recipient. 2 N.N.C. § 1005(C)(14).

**THEREFORE:**

I, Jonathan Nez, President of the Navajo Nation and I, Myron Lizer, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, by the authority vested in us, hereby issue the following order:

1. With the Declaration of a State of Emergency by the Emergency Management Commission, CEM 20-03-11, and Public Health Emergency Orders No. 2020-003, No. 2020-004, No. 2020-005, No. 2020-006, No. 2020-007, No. 2020-008, No. 2020-09, No. 2020-10, No. 2020-11, No. 2020-12, No. 2020-13, No. 2020-14, and No. 2020-15

Navajo Division of Finance, Navajo Division of Social Services, Navajo Division of Human Services, Navajo Division of Community Development, Department of Diné Education, Office of Management and Budget, Navajo Department of Justice, Navajo Department of Health, Navajo Division of General Services, Navajo Division of Transportation, Navajo Veterans Administration, Navajo Division of Economic Development, Navajo Environmental Protection Agency, Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office, Navajo Nation Washington Office, Navajo Telecommunications Regulatory Commission Office, Navajo Enterprises, and those determined by the Branch Chiefs; and,

- b. All Non-Essential Navajo Nation government employees, as determined by the Division Director, affected by this Executive Order shall be granted Administrative Leave for the duration of the closure and are directed to refrain from events, gatherings, or other areas where they may contract COVID-19, and to observe and follow all Public Health Emergency Orders, including curfews and stay-at-home orders; and,
- c. The closure of Navajo Nation government offices may be extended beyond **July 26, 2020** on the recommendation of the Navajo Health Command Operations Center, the Navajo Department of Emergency Management Operation Center, and the Navajo Epidemiology Center.

- 2. All Navajo Nation Divisions, Departments, Programs, Offices, non-governance certified Chapters, Enterprises, and Navajo casinos shall follow the direction of the Public Health Emergency Orders requiring all Navajo citizens to limit their movement which means staying at home and leaving for Essential Activities only; and comply with the curfew hours by staying home between the hours of 8:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M. MDT and complying with weekend or other curfew hours.

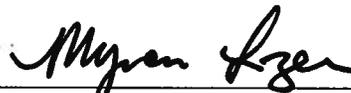
The Navajo Nation Divisions, Departments, Programs, Offices, non-governance certified Chapters, Enterprises, and Navajo casinos are responsible for implementing and ensuring compliance with this order.

The provisions of this order shall be implemented consistent with the laws of the Navajo Nation and in a manner that advances the highest welfare of the People.

EXECUTED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 2020



Jonathan Nez, *President*  
THE NAVAJO NATION



Myron Lizer, *Vice-President*  
THE NAVAJO NATION

ATTEST:

  
Doreen N. McPaul, *Attorney General*  
Navajo Nation Department of Justice

**PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER  
NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
NAVAJO OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & PROTECTION PROGRAM**

**June 30, 2020**

**Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-016**

**Public Health Emergency Order Locking Down the Navajo Nation for 57-Hours (for the Next Three Weekends) Due to the Alarming Increase in Positive Cases in Areas Surrounding the Navajo Nation**

- I. Paragraphs I – IX from Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-004 are incorporated herein, addressing the various Navajo Nation (Nation) authorities related to the current COVID-19 Public Health Emergency as well as escalating incidents and community spread of COVID-19 on the Nation.
- II. A Stay at Home (Shelter in Place) order has been in effect for all residents of the Nation, requiring individuals to limit their movement within and outside of their immediate communities and to limit contact with individuals who are not in their immediate household. (Public Health Emergency Orders No. 2020-003 (March 20, 2020) and No. 2020-004 (March 29, 2020)). Under that Order, individuals can leave their place of residence only to perform “Essential Activities” which primarily include activities and tasks essential to health, safety, and welfare. That Order also advised that public gatherings in excess of five (5) people should be avoided. Under Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-014 (“Safer at Home”), individuals were encouraged to exercise personal responsibility.
- III. Regular daily Curfew hours continue to be from 8:00 P.M. MDT to 5:00 A.M. MDT, pursuant to Public Health Emergency Orders No. 2020-004 (March 29, 2020) and No. 2020-013 (June 5, 2020).
- IV. Consecutive 57-Hour Weekend Curfews were implemented in April 2020 and May 2020, pursuant to Public Health Emergency Orders No. 2020-005 (April 5, 2020), No. 2020-006 (April 16, 2020), No. 2020-008 (April 29, 2020). Consecutive 57-hour weekend lockdowns were implemented in May and June 2020, pursuant to Public Health Emergency Orders No. 2020-010 (May 14, 2020), No. 2020-011 (May 19, 2020), No. 2020-012 (May 27, 2020), and No. 2020-015 (June 16, 2020). The intent and purpose of those orders and the weekend curfews and lockdowns was to limit contact and restrict movement of individuals on the Nation.
- V. The intent and purpose of this Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-016 is to limit contact and restrict the movement of individuals on the Nation for three 57-hour periods, and to implement **full 57-Hour Weekend Lockdowns from July 3, 2020 to July 6, 2020;**

**from July 10, 2020 to July 13, 2020, and from July 17, 2020 to July 20, 2020**, starting at 8:00 P.M. MDT on Friday and ending at 5:00 A.M. MDT on Monday. Additional weekend lockdowns may follow.

- VI. Areas surrounding the Navajo Nation are experiencing an alarming rise in positive COVID-19 cases. Hospitals and health care systems in these areas are being drastically impacted. These factors threaten the Navajo People's health and well-being and also have the potential to overwhelm the health care system on the Navajo Nation.

**THEREFORE, NOTICE IS GIVEN** that, pursuant to the power and authority set forth in the NDOH enabling legislation (NNC Resolution No. CO-50-14), and in conjunction with the Navajo Nation Public Health State of Emergency Declaration (CEM Resolution No. 20-03-11):

- A. All individuals on the Nation shall comply with the **Weekend Lockdowns** across the Nation from 8:00 P.M. MDT on Friday, July 3, 2020 to 5:00 A.M. MDT on Monday, July 6, 2020; from 8:00 P.M. MDT on Friday, July 10, 2020 to 5:00 a.m. MDT on Monday, July 13, 2020; and from 8:00 p.m. MDT on Friday, July 17, 2020 to 5:00 a.m. MDT on Monday, July 20, 2020. All individuals shall remain at home during lockdown hours except in the event of an emergency or as described below:
1. Individuals are still permitted to cultivate food (i.e. farming) and tend to livestock. However, plan ahead to purchase hay and feed, if needed.
  2. Individuals are not required to remain indoors during Weekend Lockdown. Outdoor activity is encouraged and individuals may leave their immediate residence or home site area for exercise such as running or hiking, so long as movement is restricted to no more than five (5) miles from one's home.
  3. **Essential Businesses**, including *all stores, gas stations*, restaurants and drive-through food establishments shall be closed. Hay and all other vendors must cease operations for the duration of the Weekend Lockdown. This closure and cease operations requirement does not apply to Healthcare Operations, Essential Governmental Functions, or Essential Infrastructure (as those terms are defined below), or to Food Cultivation operations. Essential Employees reporting to or from duty are exempted from the Weekend Lockdown but must carry official identification or a letter of designation from their employer on official letterhead which includes a contact name and number for verification.
  4. Voting sites located on the Navajo Nation may remain open for in-person voting, and, if necessary, registered voters eligible to vote at such voting sites are allowed to vote without penalty, consistent with Public Health Emergency Order 2020-009 (May 12, 2020). Voters are advised to vote in person only if necessary, and to take all preventive precautions before, during, and after voting, including leaving

behind anyone not voting. Disabled voters and voters whose first language is Navajo may bring another person to assist the voter.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that it is greatly advised that the public take the following preventive precautions:

**1. All persons on the Navajo Nation are required to stay home during the lockdown and leave their residence or home site areas only in the event of an emergency, to work as an essential employee, to vote, to cultivate food or tend to livestock, and to exercise, as described above.**

2. Plan and act ahead: buy or get supplies you might need, including medical supplies, food, water, animal feed, firewood or coal, and fuel for your vehicles, during the week when there is not a curfew.

3. Socially distance yourselves. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Keep at least six feet from others in public.

4. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, or having been in a public place. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

5. To the extent possible, avoid touching high-touch surfaces in public places – elevator buttons, door handles, handrails, etc. Use a barrier such as a tissue or your sleeve to cover your hands or fingers if you must touch something.

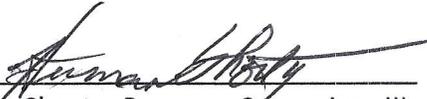
6. Avoid touching your face, nose, eyes, mouth. Cover your mouth and nose with the best-available protective material, including masks, when in public.

7. Clean and disinfect your home and vehicles to remove germs: practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (for example: tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks, steering wheels, door handles, gearshifts, and cell phones).

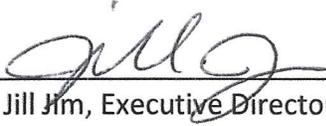
8. Avoid all non-emergency travel.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that this Order shall take effect Friday, July 3, 2020 at 8:00 P.M. MDT, to Monday, July 20, 2020 at 5:00 A.M. MDT.

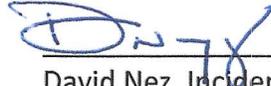
**ADDITIONAL ADVISORIES AND ORDERS WILL FOLLOW AS CONDITIONS WARRANT. SO ORDERED THIS 30<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2020.**



Herman Shorty, Program Supervisor III  
Navajo Office of Environmental Health &  
Protection Program  
Navajo Department of Health



Dr. Jill Jim, Executive Director  
Navajo Department of Health



David Nez, Incident Manager  
Dikos Ntsaaígíí – 19  
Health Command Center  
Navajo Department of Health

## Definitions

**Emergency:** a serious, unexpected, or dangerous situation requiring immediate action, including a medical condition that requires immediate treatment.

**Essential Businesses:** Healthcare Operation, Essential Governmental Functions, Essential Infrastructure (e.g., courts of law, medical providers for urgent care, public utilities, and critical school operations such as nutrition programs). (From Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-002, March 19, 2020 and expanded through Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-003, March 20, 2020 to include food cultivation (including farming and livestock), grocery stores, food banks, convenience stores, hardware stores and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of groceries and non-grocery products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation and essential operation of residences, among other things.)

**Essential Employees:** Those employees identified by Essential Businesses deemed to be necessary to the continued operation of those Essential Businesses.

**Essential Governmental Functions:** all services needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies and provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public. (From Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-002, March 19, 2020).

**Essential Infrastructure:** Public works construction, construction of housing, water, sewer, gas, electrical, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services). (From Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-003, March 20, 2020).

**Healthcare Operations:** Government or private clinics, hospitals, and programs providing medical diagnosis, treatment, or emergency response. Does not include illegal commercial production, agricultural, retail, or wholesale operations, even if health-related in some way.

**Social Distancing Requirements:** Limiting contact of people within 6 feet from each other. (From Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-002, March 19, 2020).

**Social Distancing Standards:** Not shaking hands, standing at least six feet away from other people, avoiding crowds, etc. (From Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-003, March 20, 2020).