



Office of the Governor  
**MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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February 10, 2020

# State to phase out travel quarantine requirements

SANTA FE – The state of New Mexico on Wednesday announced a change in its mandatory self-quarantine requirements for visitors into the state, owing to a cautiously brighter pandemic outlook after several months of unsustainable strain on the state’s health care system.

On Feb. 10, the Department of Health announced 15 counties had reached the Yellow Level [under the state’s color-coding risk system](#), with four additional counties at the Green Level. All but four of the state’s counties saw a positivity rate below 10 percent in the most recent two-week period, signaling that with continued vigilance most every county in the state could soon reach less-restrictive levels.

Effective Thursday, Feb. 11, the state will no longer require self-quarantine for visitors or New Mexicans arriving into the state from “high-risk” states, or states with a 5 percent positivity rate or greater over a 7-day rolling average, or a positive test rate greater than 80 per 1 million residents.

Visitors from anywhere outside of the state will instead be **strongly advised** to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days and to [seek out a COVID-19 test](#) upon their arrival in or return to New Mexico.

Previously the state had required visitors or arrivals from “high-risk” states to physically separate from others in a residence or place of lodging for at least 14 days from the date of their entry into New Mexico or for the duration of their presence in the state, whichever is shorter. As of Feb. 9, only Hawaii was deemed a “low-risk” state, defined as a state with a 5 percent positivity rate or lower over a 7-day rolling average and a positive test rate lower than 80 per 1 million residents.

The executive order formalizing these changes is attached to this news release.

“New Mexicans have sacrificed to make this recent progress, and I encourage all New Mexicans and visitors to our state to maintain vigilance in the coming weeks,” said Gov.

Michelle Lujan Grisham. “Please consider continuing to limit travel to only what is necessary for your work and family. This is the best way to ensure our progress is sustained, and we can continue to save lives and protect New Mexicans’ health and livelihoods.”

The overall suppression of the virus across different regions of New Mexico, supplemented by the state’s aggressive testing efforts and expeditious distribution of vaccine, contributed to the best statewide showing under the color-coding system that has been in place since the late fall. Information about the state’s color-coding system is available [here](#) at **[cv.nmhealth.org/redtoreen](https://cv.nmhealth.org/redtoreen)**.

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# State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
*Governor*

## EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-006

### ORDER RESCINDING EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-075 AND INSTITUTING ADVISORY QUARANTINE AND TESTING FOR INDIVIDUALS TRAVELING TO NEW MEXICO

**WHEREAS**, I issued Executive Order 2020-0075 on October 29, 2020, directing individuals traveling to New Mexico to self-isolate or self-quarantine for a limited period in order to mitigate and contain the spread of COVID-19 in New Mexico pursuant to the All Hazards Emergency Management Act, NMSA 1978, § 12-10-1 to -10 (2007);

**WHEREAS**, the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines is currently underway throughout New Mexico and the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the infection rate of COVID-19 in New Mexico has decreased since the distribution of vaccines was initiated, and the test positivity rate for the State indicates sufficient testing continues to occur.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of New Mexico, hereby **RESCIND** Executive Order 2020-075, and **ADVISE** as follows:

1. All persons who have arrived in New Mexico from another state or from outside the United States are recommended to self-isolate or self-quarantine for a period of at least 14 days from the date of their entry into the State of New Mexico or for the duration of their presence in the State, whichever is shorter.

2. Travelers arriving in New Mexico should be tested for COVID-19 as promptly as possible following their arrival to New Mexico.

This Order supersedes any previous orders, proclamations, or directives in conflict. This Order shall take effect on February 10, 2021 and shall remain in effect unless rescinded.

ATTEST:

*Maggie Toulouse Oliver*  
MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER  
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
THIS 10TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT  
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

*Michelle Lujan Grisham*  
MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
GOVERNOR

