## Non-essential businesses to close in New Mexico

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## Civil/criminal penalties for non-compliance

SANTA FE - Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham held a press conference on March 23 to announce that the novel coronavirus outbreak has infected at least 83 people in the state and that McKinley County is one of the counties that has two confirmed cases. Rehoboth McKinley Christian Health Care Services confirmed today that a woman in her 50s tested positive for COVID-19.

Lujan Grisham said during Tuesday's press conference that gatherings should not exceed five people in number, and those gathered should stay six feet apart from one another.

"The only way for us to stop the spread of this virus is for New Mexicans to stop interacting with each other," Lujan Grisham said. "New Mexicans must be crystal-clear on this point: Right now, every time you leave your house, you are putting yourself, your family and your community at risk. Only by distancing from one another, by remaining home except for essential or emergency travel, can we limit the spread of this virus to the point that it does not overwhelm New Mexico."

This order does not change the status of state and local government operations. Previous orders exempted all persons necessary to maintain the operations of state and local governments. State government has already moved to a largely telework system; local government agencies are strongly encouraged to do the same. Post offices will remain open.

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The non-essential business closure mandate remains in effect until April 10.

For a list of essential businesses, visit https://bit.ly/3dwsi03