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Governor Phil Murphy

Governor Murphy & Governor Cuomo Announce Indoor Dining in New Jersey and NYC Will Expand to 50 Percent Capacity Beginning March 19

03/10/2021

New Jersey Currently at 35 Percent Capacity for Indoor Dining

New York City Currently at 35 Percent for Indoor Dining; Rest of New York State at 75 Percent

Governor Phil Murphy and Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that New Jersey and New York City will expand indoor dining capacity to 50 percent beginning March 19. Currently, New Jersey and New York City restaurants are operating at 35 percent capacity and the rest of New York State is operating at 50 percent capacity. This follows Governor Cuomo's announcement that restaurants outside of New York City will expand to 75 percent capacity beginning March 19.

"In New Jersey, we will continue to move deliberately, responsibly, and incrementally, guided by public health data," **said Governor Murphy.** "We feel confident in this step given the improving metrics we have seen over the last several weeks in both New Jersey and New York City, as well as the continued ramp up of our vaccination program. Our states will continue to work together to protect the health of as many residents as possible."

"In New York State, our decisions are based on science and data and we are encouraged by the continued decline in infection and hospitalization rates," **Governor Cuomo said**. "In partnership with the State of New Jersey, we have adjusted with rigorous testing and limited capacity indoor dining openings in New York City to expand to 50 percent. We will continue to follow the science and react accordingly. If we keep the infections down and vaccinations up, we will continue to stay ahead in the footrace against this invisible enemy and reach the light at the end of the tunnel together."

These capacity increases are part of both state's continued efforts to jump start their post-COVID recovery and reinvigorate the economy. New Jersey last expanded indoor dining on February 5, 2021. During that time, the number of hospitalizations in the state has dropped by over 1,000 and has remained consistent. Since New York City indoor dining was reopened on February 12, two COVID-19 incubation periods have passed without any significant rise in infection and hospitalization rates. This expanded capacity is subject to strict state guidance.

Governor Phil Murphy

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Office of Governor PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625
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