

Mapping the coronavirus impact on US construction

As news of the coronavirus impact continues to unfold, this page will serve as a way to track projects, cities or states that have halted construction due to the pandemic.

Updated: April 9, 2020

With limited federal guidance on whether construction is deemed an essential service, it's important to identify where the state in which you're doing business stands on the matter and to ensure there are not county or municipal variances that go against the grain of the state's order.

The following state-by-state view aims to point out the state's overview along with any notable regional exemptions. Questions related to safety, project suspension, force majeure provisions, or contractual rights to suspend or terminate work, should be directed to legal counsel. The information summarized below is sourced from Foley & Lardner LLP. For more specific guidance, see the law firm's construction-specific shutdown tracker [here](#).

Construction of buildings for emergency support, such as hospitals or key infrastructure, is exempt across the country unless otherwise noted.

State guidance on construction projects

Each state is colored based on guidance provided on construction projects. Click on a state or use the dropdown to read more.



states allow **all** projects

13

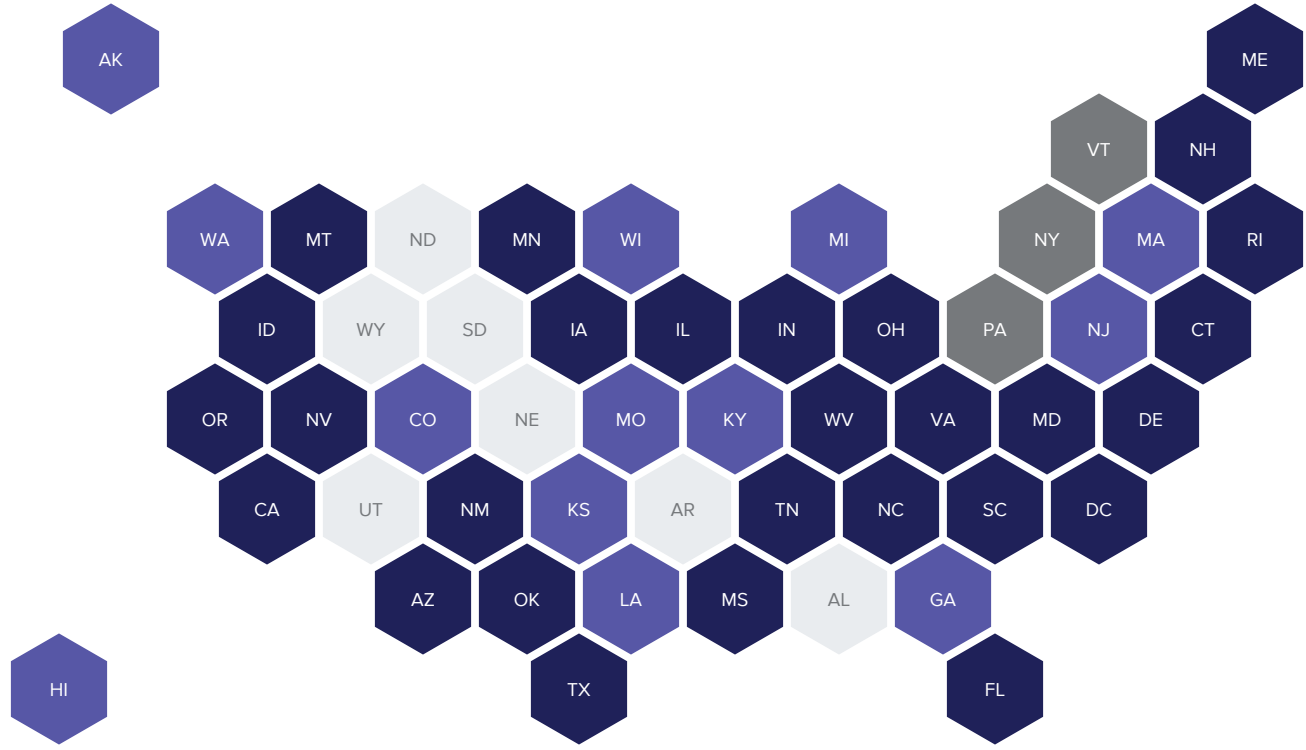
states allow **some** projects

3

states allow **no** projects

7

states have **not decided**



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AL

Alabama

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Alabama has issued no statewide shutdown of businesses, allowing construction to continue.

Additional info:

Facebook announced that it is pausing construction of its \$750 million Huntsville, Alabama, data center.



Alaska

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

In Alaska, all construction aside from "critical infrastructure" is suspended.

Additional info:

"Critical infrastructure" includes housing construction, public works construction and water, sewer, electrical and gas operations.



Arizona

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey issued a shelter-in-place order effective 5 p.m. March 31, though several businesses, including construction, have been exempted.



Arkansas

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Arkansas has issued no statewide shutdown of businesses, though the government has encouraged companies to follow social distancing guidelines.



California

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Individuals at California have been ordered to stay at home unless they need to leave their homes to help support critical infrastructure, which allows construction workers, both housing and commercial, and electricians and plumbers to continue work.

Additional info:

Counties and cities, including areas surrounding Los Angeles and San Francisco, have announced and issued their own orders about what construction is considered essential.



Colorado

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 26 and through April 11, individuals were ordered to stay home and nonessential businesses were shut down. Construction was exempt as a critical business.

Additional info:

In San Miguel County, as of March 21, residential and commercial construction are both shut down, with only minimum basic operations like site security allowed to continue.



Connecticut

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

As of March 23 and continuing through April 22, nonessential businesses are ordered to reduce in person work force 100%. Construction is exempt based on official descriptions of essential businesses.



Delaware

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 24 and continuing through May 15, nonessential businesses were ordered to close. Workers in residential, nonresidential and infrastructure construction and workers who provide critical maintenance to residential or non-residential structures are considered essential.

Additional info:

Since the first emergency order was issued on March 13, there have been nine amendments to update and tighten restrictions. Construction still remains exempt.



District of Columbia

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Mayor Muriel Bowser's March 25 order, updated on March 30, includes safety guidelines on construction but otherwise allows construction to continue.



Florida

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Gov. Ron DeSantis statewide order, effective April 3 through April 30, prevents travel for nonessential reasons, and closes nonessential businesses. Open construction sites and contractors or tradesman required for construction upkeep and safety are considered essential.

Additional info:

Local orders in Florida apply over the statewide order, if they're more stringent.



Georgia

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective 6 p.m. on April 3 through April 13, all individuals are ordered to shelter in place. Only construction related to housing, safety, public works, communications, energy sector projects and COVID-19 relief efforts are considered exempt.

Additional info:

The statewide order supercedes any county or city order in Georgia.



Hawaii

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 25 and continuing through April 30 all persons are ordered to stay at home in Hawaii. Only construction related to housing, safety, public works, communications, energy sector projects and COVID-19 relief efforts are considered exempt.



Idaho

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 25, with a April 2 update, all nonessential businesses in Idaho are ordered to stop, but public works, commercial and residential construction are all considered essential



Illinois

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 21 and continuing through April 30, a statewide executive order mandates individuals stay at home. Construction is identified in the order as essential



Indiana

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 24, residents have been ordered to remain at home, though Construction is considered exempt and essential.



Iowa

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Iowa's executive order considers "public works" and "critical manufacturing" essential work.



Kansas

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 30, Kansas' stay-at-home order allows for essential functions to continue. Those functions include constructing or repairing roads, maintaining or cleaning buildings, residential construction and producing or distributing construction materials.



Kentucky

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 26, Kentucky's order suspends most construction, aside from CISA exempted work and construction or maintenance of residential, commercial or government structures.



Louisiana

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 23 through April 30, Louisiana's order mandates individuals stay at home unless performing an essential activity. Only construction related to housing, safety, public works, communications, energy sector projects and COVID-19 relief efforts are considered exempt.



Maine

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 25 and continuing through April 8, Maine's business closure order definitions describe

construction and maintenance of essential infrastructure as exempt.



Maryland

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Maryland's stay-at-home executive order, effective March 30, exempts construction.

Additional info:

In Maryland, an individual knowingly violating the order can be considered guilty of a misdemeanor.



Massachusetts

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 24 and continuing through May 4, Gov. Charlie Baker's order shuts non essential businesses. Public works, essential maintenance and work to maintain safety and sanitation are considered essential

Additional info:

Some Massachusetts construction unions are on the side of the mayors and have called for statewide shutdowns of construction sites. More stringent local guidelines apply over the statewide mandate.



Michigan

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 24, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer shut down all nonessential businesses in the state. This order exempted public works construction and public health infrastructure.



Minnesota

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 27 and continuing through April 10, Minnesota's statewide order shuts down nonessential businesses. Construction of critical infrastructure, and workers such as HVAC tradesman and plumbers who aid with sanitation and maintenance within homes, are considered essential.



Mississippi

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 24 and updated April 1, nonessential businesses have been ordered to close. For the time being, construction is exempt.



Missouri

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective April 6 and continuing through April 26, Missouri's stay-at-home order shuts down construction. Only construction related to housing, safety, public works, communications, energy sector projects and COVID-19 relief efforts are considered exempt.

Additional info:

Construction on the \$1.5 billion Kansas City International Airport still moved forward during other business closures.



Montana

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 28 and continuing through April 9, nonessential businesses in Montana were ordered to stop. Construction is exempt from the shutdown.

Additional info:

Work will start this month on the disputed Keystone XL oil pipeline, which could bring thousands of workers to rural communities in Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska.



Nebraska

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Nebraska has issued no statewide order.



Nevada

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Effective March 20, all nonessential businesses in Nevada were ordered to close. Construction is exempt from the shutdown.

Additional info:

Despite the order allowing construction in the state to continue, work on the \$1.5 billion MSG Sphere at The

Venetian Hotel in Las Vegas has been placed on hold.



New Hampshire

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

New Hampshire issued a statewide stay-at-home order March 21 with construction exempted.



New Jersey

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Governor Phil Murphy signed on April 8 an executive order that all nonessential construction projects be ceased by 8 P.M. on Friday, April 10.

Additional info:

The April 8 order outlines a considerable list of projects that can be deemed essential. See the full list here:

<https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200408e.shtml>



New Mexico

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

The state's March 24 shutdown order does not include construction.

Additional info:

Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller has told city residents that they should anticipate a lot of road construction as there are fewer vehicles on the road due to the stay-at-home order.



New York

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

New York's March 22 statewide shutdown paused all construction that cannot be considered "emergency construction."

Additional info:

Project teams in New York City may be fined up to \$10,000 if found working on nonessential or non-emergency construction — or if workers on projects that are allowed to continue don't practice social distancing, say new city Dept. of Buildings protocols.



North Carolina

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

North Carolina has issued a statewide order with construction exempted.

Additional info:

Previously, orders had been issued at the city and county level that included the cities of Charlotte and Durham and Mecklenburg County. Contractors are urged to check with local authorities before assuming the state order overrides local mandates.



North Dakota

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

There's been no statewide order yet.



Ohio

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Statewide shutdown order with construction exempted.

Additional info:

A Cleveland newspaper reported that though construction can continue, there's been a lot of anxiety and absenteeism among workers.



Oklahoma

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt has expanded the shutdown of nonessential business to cover the whole state, but construction remains exempt.



Oregon

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Oregon's statewide stay-at-home order exempts construction where it is possible to practice social distancing.



Pennsylvania

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Pennsylvania has halted all non-emergency or hospital-related construction across the state.

Additional info:

Penn Medicine has sped up construction of its \$1.5 billion Philly hospital by 15 months.



Rhode Island

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Rhode Island has issued a statewide stay-at-home order with construction exempted.



South Carolina

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

South Carolina's stay-at-home order exempts construction.



South Dakota

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

The state has not made an official declaration regarding construction-related activity.



Tennessee

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Tennessee's statewide stay-at-home order considers construction essential.



Texas

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Texas's statewide stay-at-home order exempts construction on housing, energy projects and infrastructure, effective on April 2.

Additional info:

The City of Austin and several counties, such as Dallas County, have issued variances to the state's guidance, including guidelines on what types of construction are permitted, though most residential, commercial and public works are still exempt in local orders.



Utah

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Utah hasn't issued a statewide order.



Vermont

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Vermont's stay-at-home order only allows construction deemed necessary to support the COVID-19 response and maintain critical infrastructure, including utilities, telecommunication, airports and transportation infrastructure.



Virginia

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Gov. Ralph Northam's March 30 stay-at-home issuance does not directly address construction or deems construction essential.



Washington

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Governor Jay Inslee's March 25 order prohibits most construction, other than work on public projects, including low-income housing and infrastructure, as well as emergency repairs.



West Virginia

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Governor Jim Justice's guidance, as of March 24, deems most construction work essential.



Wisconsin

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

As of March 31, Governor Tony Evers' order mentions that aesthetic or optional construction projects should be avoided.



Wyoming

Updated: 4/9/2020

What's the official stance?

Governor Mark Gordon has ordered some businesses to be shut down but has not made a stance on construction.
