

The New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act (P.L.2021, c. 16 (C.24:6I-31 et al.)) designates Impact Zones as municipalities which meet specific criteria.

As used in P.L.2021, c.16 (C.24:6I-31 et al.) regarding the personal use of cannabis, unless the context otherwise requires, "Impact zone" means any municipality, based on past criminal marijuana enterprises contributing to higher concentrations of law enforcement activity, unemployment, and poverty, or any combination thereof, within parts of or throughout the municipality, that:

(1) Has a population of 120,000 or more according to the most recently compiled federal decennial census as of the effective date of P.L.2021, c.16 (C.24:6I-31 et al.);

(2) Based upon data for calendar year 2019, ranks in the top 40% of municipalities in the New Jersey for marijuana or hashish-related arrests for violation of paragraph (4) of subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:35-10; has a crime index total of 825 or higher based upon the indices listed in the annual Uniform Crime Report by the Division of State Police; and has a local average annual unemployment rate that ranks in the top 15% of all municipalities, based upon average annual unemployment rates estimated for the relevant calendar year by the Office of Research and Information in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development;

(3) Is a municipality located in a county of the third class, based upon the county's population according to the most recently compiled federal decennial census as of the effective date of P.L.2021, c.16 (C.24:6I-31 et al.), that meets all of the criteria set forth in paragraph (2) other than having a crime index total of 825 or higher; or

(4) Is a municipality located in a county of the second class, based upon the county's population according to the most recently compiled federal decennial census as of the effective date of P.L.2021, c.16 (C.24:6I-31 et al.):

(a) with a population of less than 60,000 according to the most recently compiled federal decennial census, that for calendar year 2019 ranks in the top 40 percent of municipalities in New Jersey for marijuana or hashish-related arrests for violation of paragraph (4) of subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:35-10; has a crime index total of 1,000 or higher based upon the indices listed in the 2019 annual Uniform Crime Report by the Division of State Police; but for calendar year 2019 does not have a local average annual unemployment rate that ranks in the top 15 percent of all municipalities, based upon average annual unemployment rates estimated for the relevant calendar year by the Office of Research and Information in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; or

(b) with a population of not less than 60,000 or more than 80,000 according to the most recently compiled federal decennial census; has a crime index total of 650 or higher based upon the indices listed in the 2019 annual Uniform Crime Report; and for calendar year 2019 has a

local average annual unemployment rate of 3% or higher using the same estimated annual unemployment rates.

Eighty-Seven of New Jersey's 565 municipalities qualified as Impact Zones. This represented just over 15% of the municipalities in the state and 32 ½% of the total population. Eighteen of 21 counties were represented. The data in the table below show that Impact Zones have an average unemployment rate 44% higher than the municipalities that did not qualify. The average number of marijuana arrests was 77% higher in Impact Zones and the Crime Index was 34% higher than municipalities that did not qualify. The population was 61% higher in municipalities that qualified, when compared to those communities that did not qualify.

Average Values for Municipalities			
	<u>Impact Zones</u>	<u>Not Qualified</u>	<u>New Jersey</u>
Population	32,892	12,413	15,567
Unemployment	4.57%	3.16%	3.37%
Marijuana Arrests	191	44	67
Crime Index	2372	1555	1662

There were limitations to the data and missing values for some of the required statistics. This meant that certain assumptions had to be made. Context for these assumptions is provided in the Impact Zone Report. The model used to determine the Impact Zones is explained in detail in the report. An analysis of the impact of assumptions on the model is also included. Outliers with high values for social-determinant variables are also identified in the report.

There are several indicators that the criterion in the legislation achieved the legislature's goal of identifying municipalities, based on past criminal marijuana enterprises contributing to higher concentrations of law enforcement activity, unemployment, and poverty, or any combination thereof, within parts of or throughout the municipality. The strongest indicator is that greater the number of marijuana arrests that a municipality had, the more likely they were to be included as an Impact zone. This was not the case with the Crime Index, or the Unemployment Rate.

To give further context to these results, median family income was incorporated into the analysis of the results (Appendix B). Twenty-one municipalities with median family incomes above New Jersey's average median family income qualified as Impact Zones. The Impact Zone with the highest median family income is Morris Plains at \$127,226. All eligible Impact Zones that have median incomes above the State median income qualified under Section 4(a) of the Impact Zone criteria in the law.

Though there is overlap, Impact Zones, as designated by the New Jersey legislature, are different from the zip codes that may qualify as Economically Disadvantaged Areas. These

criteria are outlined in the rules and based on health uninsured rates and median family income.

The data supporting the naming of the Impact Zones is compiled from various sources, of which are spelled out clearly in the law. Details on these data sources are included in the Impact Zone Report.

Municipalities Qualified as Impact Zones

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Population</u>
Asbury Park City	Monmouth	16116
Atlantic City	Atlantic	39558
Bass River Township	Burlington	1443
Bellmawr Borough	Camden	11583
Berlin Borough	Camden	7588
Berlin Township	Camden	5357
Bordentown Township	Burlington	11367
Bridgeton City	Cumberland	25349
Brooklawn Borough	Camden	1955
Buena Borough	Atlantic	4603
Buena Vista Township	Atlantic	7570
Burlington City	Burlington	9920
Burlington Township	Burlington	22594
Camden City	Camden	77344
Carneys Point Township	Salem	8049
Carteret Borough	Middlesex	22844
Cinnaminson Township	Burlington	15569
City of Orange Township	Essex	30134
Commercial Township	Cumberland	5178
Deptford Township	Gloucester	30561
Dover Town	Morris	18157
East Brunswick Township	Middlesex	47512
East Hanover Township	Morris	11157
East Orange City	Essex	64270
Elizabeth City	Union	124969
Evesham Township	Burlington	45538
Ewing Township	Mercer	35790
Franklin Township	Gloucester	16820
Franklin Township	Somerset	62300
Garfield City	Bergen	30487
Glassboro Borough	Gloucester	18579
Gloucester City	Camden	11456
Gloucester Township	Camden	64634
Haledon Borough	Passaic	8318
Hamilton Township	Atlantic	26503
Hanover Township	Morris	13712
Hillside Township	Union	21404
Irvington Township	Essex	53926
Jersey City	Hudson	247597
Lawrence Township	Mercer	33472
Lindenwold Borough	Camden	17613
Lower Township	Cape May	22866
Lumberton Township	Burlington	12559
Mantua Township	Gloucester	15217
Maurice River Township	Cumberland	7976
Metuchen Borough	Middlesex	13574
Middle Township	Cape May	18911

Municipalities Qualified as Impact Zones

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Population</u>
Millville City	Cumberland	28400
Monroe Township	Gloucester	39132
Monroe Township	Middlesex	39132
Morris Plains Borough	Morris	5532
Morristown town	Morris	18411
Mount Ephraim Borough	Camden	4676
Mount Holly Township	Burlington	9536
Mount Laurel Township	Burlington	41864
New Brunswick City	Middlesex	55181
Newark City	Essex	277140
North Brunswick Township	Middlesex	40742
North Plainfield Borough	Somerset	21936
North Wildwood City	Cape May	4041
Palmyra Borough	Burlington	7398
Passaic City	Passaic	69781
Paterson City	Passaic	146199
Paulsboro Borough	Gloucester	6097
Pemberton Township	Burlington	27912
Pennsauken Township	Camden	35885
Perth Amboy City	Middlesex	50814
Plainfield City	Union	49808
Pleasantville City	Atlantic	20249
Prospect Park Borough	Passaic	5865
Riverdale Borough	Morris	3559
Roselle Borough	Union	21085
Salem City	Salem	5146
Seaside Heights Borough	Ocean	2887
South Plainfield Borough	Middlesex	23385
Southampton Township	Burlington	10464
Trenton City	Mercer	84913
Tuckerton Borough	Ocean	3347
Vineland City	Cumberland	60724
Washington Township	Gloucester	48559
Wayne Township	Passaic	54717
West Deptford Township	Gloucester	21677
Westampton Township	Burlington	8813
Wildwood City	Cape May	5325
Willingboro Township	Burlington	31629
Winslow Township	Camden	39499
Woodbury City	Gloucester	10174

Impact Zones by County	
County/Municipality	Count of County
Atlantic	5
Atlantic City	
Buena Borough	
Buena Vista Township	
Hamilton Township	
Pleasantville City	
Bergen	
Garfield City	
Burlington	14
Bass River Township	
Bordentown Township	
Burlington City	
Burlington Township	
Cinnaminson Township	
Evesham Township	
Lumberton Township	
Mount Holly Township	
Mount Laurel Township	
Palmyra Borough	
Pemberton Township	
Southampton Township	
Westampton Township	
Willingboro Township	
Camden	11
Bellmawr Borough	
Berlin Borough	
Berlin Township	
Brooklawn Borough	
Camden City	
Gloucester City	
Gloucester Township	
Lindenwold Borough	
Mount Ephraim Borough	
Pennsauken Township	
Winslow Township	
Cape May	4
Lower Township	
Middle Township	
North Wildwood City	
Wildwood City	
Cumberland	5

Bridgeton City	
Commercial Township	
Maurice River Township	
Millville City	
Vineland City	
Essex	4
City of Orange Township	
East Orange City	
Irvington Township	
Newark City	
Gloucester	9
Deptford Township	
Franklin Township	
Glassboro Borough	
Mantua Township	
Monroe Township	
Paulsboro Borough	
Washington Township	
West Deptford Township	
Woodbury City	
Hudson	1
Jersey City	
Mercer	3
Ewing Township	
Lawrence Township	
Trenton City	
Middlesex	8
Carteret Borough	
East Brunswick Township	
Metuchen Borough	
Monroe Township	
New Brunswick City	
North Brunswick Township	
Perth Amboy City	
South Plainfield Borough	
Monmouth	1
Asbury Park City	
Morris	6
Dover Town	
East Hanover Township	
Hanover Township	
Morris Plains Borough	
Morristown Town	

Riverdale Borough	
Ocean	2
Seaside Heights Borough	
Tuckerton Borough	
Passaic	5
Haledon Borough	
Passaic City	
Paterson City	
Prospect Park Borough	
Wayne Township	
Salem	2
Carneys Point Township	
Salem City	
Somerset	2
Franklin Township	
North Plainfield Borough	
Union	4
Elizabeth City	
Hillside Township	
Plainfield City	
Roselle Borough	

Table 1: Qualifying communities with Median Income above State Median Income

<u>Municipalities</u>	<u>Average of Median Income</u>	<u>Percent of NJ Median Family Income</u>	<u>Impact Zone Class</u>	<u>County Class</u>
Morris Plains borough	127,226	154%	Class 4 (a)	2
Metuchen borough	126,123	153%	Class 4 (a)	2
Morristown town	125,744	152%	Class 4 (a)	2
Hanover township	125,588	152%	Class 4 (a)	2
Wayne township, NJ	123,204	149%	Class 4 (a)	2
East Brunswick township, NJ	115,029	139%	Class 4 (a)	2
Riverdale borough	110,664	134%	Class 4 (a)	2
South Plainfield borough	101,565	123%	Class 4 (a)	2
Lawrence township (Mercer County), NJ	100,930	122%	Class 4 (a)	2
Evesham township, NJ	100,720	122%	Class 4 (a)	2
Jersey City city, NJ	100,037	121%	Class 1	1
Mantoloking borough	99,444	120%	Class 2	2
North Brunswick township, NJ	96,389	117%	Class 4 (a)	2
Bordentown township	93,795	114%	Class 4 (a)	2
Eastampton township	91,616	111%	Class 4 (a)	2
Berlin borough	90,921	110%	Class 4 (a)	2
Franklin township (Somerset County), NJ	89,784	109%	Class 4 (a)	2
Lumberton township	88,397	107%	Class 4 (a)	2
Franklin township (Gloucester)	87,530	106%	Class 4 (a)	2
Dennis township	84,440	102%	Class 2	6
Pennsauken township, NJ	83,716	101%	Class 4 (a)	2

Impact Zones

Aggregated at Zip Code Level

