



Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report

To support requests from partners at the local and county level, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has developed the following situation report to share information on the Wisconsin response efforts for COVID-19. If you have any questions or comments about anything in this situation report, please contact DHSMedia@dhs.wisconsin.gov. This situation report will be distributed weekly on Fridays.

If you have additional questions about COVID-19, please contact DHSResponse@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Situation Summary

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) are closely monitoring an outbreak caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (COVID-19) that originated in Wuhan, China. It has been detected in 70 locations internationally, including the United States. The virus has been named "SARS-CoV-2" and the disease it causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19").

On February 5, 2020, Wisconsin confirmed its first case of COVID-19. On February 28, 2020, CDC confirmed that the case no longer has COVID-19 and is no longer under isolation. DHS is working closely with state and local partners to plan for and respond to the current situation.

This is a rapidly evolving and dynamic situation. There continues to be ongoing monitoring across the state. DHS is committed to protecting the health of all people in Wisconsin.

The CDC criteria for persons under investigation (PUI) has changed the past week and most likely will be changing in the coming week ahead. For this reason, there has been a marked increase in the total number of people tested in Wisconsin. Moving forward, when laboratory testing for COVID-19 becomes widely available through commercial labs, DHS will only report on the positive and negative tests.

Case Numbers – March 6, 2020

| | Globally (Data from WHO)* | United States (Data from CDC **) | Wisconsin (Data from DHS) |
|------------------------|---|---|---|
| Confirmed cases | 82,294 | 15 | 1 |
| Negative | -- | -- | 31 |
| Pending | -- | -- | 12 |
| Deaths | 2,804* | 0 | 0 |
| Total Tested | -- | 451 | 44 |

* 43 deaths reported outside of China.

** CDC's information is currently being updated on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. In addition to the 14 reported confirmed cases, there are an additional 3 individuals from Wuhan, China and 43 Diamond Princess Cruise ship repatriated to the U.S.

+WHO numbers have not been updated as of 3:00PM on Friday February 28, 2020.

Cases in the United States Reported to the CDC*+‡

| | Confirmed |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Travel-related | 36 |
| Person-to-person spread | 18 |
| Under Investigation | 110 |
| Total Cases | 164 |

* Data include both confirmed and presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 reported to CDC or tested at CDC since January 21, 2020, with the exception of testing results for persons repatriated to the United States from Wuhan, China and Japan. State and local public health departments are now testing and publicly reporting their cases. In the event of a discrepancy between CDC cases and cases reported by state and local public health officials, data reported by states should be considered the most up to date.

+ CDC is no longer reporting the number of persons under investigation (PUIs) that have been tested, as well as PUIs that have tested negative. Now that states are testing and reporting their own results, CDC's numbers are not representative all of testing being done nationwide.

‡ As of March 4, 2020 1,526 patients had been tested at CDC. This does not include testing being done at state and local public health laboratories, which began this week.

Cases among persons repatriated to the United States

| | Positive |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Wuhan, China | 3 |
| <i>Diamond Princess cruise ship*</i> | 46 |
| Total Cases | 49 |

* Cases have laboratory confirmation and may or may not have been symptomatic.

DHS Activities

In order to organize the COVID-19 response at the state level, DHS implemented an incident management system on January 28, 2020. Staff from leadership, communicable disease, chronic disease, public health and healthcare preparedness, environmental health, quality assurance and others have been working to assist in managing the response.

General

44 people located in Wisconsin have been qualified as a person under investigation (PUI). DHS staff have determined individual PUI status based on CDC guidance. As of March 6, 2020, one PUI tested positive and 31 PUIs received negative results. There are twelve pending tests for additional PUIs as of March 6, 2020.

Wisconsin confirmed its first case of COVID-19 on February 5, 2020. The case contacts are being quarantined and actively monitored. CDC has been notifying DHS of incoming travelers that have passed through China at some point on an itinerary. Local public health departments and tribal health centers are working to follow up with these individuals to assess risk and provide resources on symptom monitoring and self-isolation as needed.

Public Health Laboratory Activities

The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Lab and the City of Milwaukee Health Department is now conducting tests for the COVID-19 virus. Test samples previously were sent to the CDC in Atlanta, Georgia. Positive test results identified by WSLH and the City of Milwaukee Health Department lab will be presumed positive and sent to the CDC for confirmation.

The test being performed at the State Lab and the City of Milwaukee Health Department lab is the CDC test that has FDA Emergency Use Authorization. Test performance has been verified in both labs.

Healthcare

DHS continues to reach out to healthcare providers, including hospitals long-term care, assisted living facilities, and other licensed healthcare facilities when they request technical assistance regarding COVID-19. DHS has hosted healthcare provider specific webinars, the most recent on Friday, March 6, 2020. Guidance for healthcare facilities can be found on the DHS COVID 19 webpage. DHS has been working with the Wisconsin Hospital Association, Wisconsin healthcare emergency readiness coalitions (HERCs) and the Wisconsin EMResource hospital resource tracking system to continue to gain situational awareness around healthcare facilities' personal protective equipment (PPE) levels.

Communications and Outreach

DHS public information officers continue to be pro-active in crisis communications planning due to the rapid developments of the response globally by working with subject matter experts regarding pandemic planning, personal protective equipment (PPE), and more. Communications staff are working to respond to media requests by holding media briefings with subject matter experts and leadership.

DHS is continuing to work extensively with external stakeholders and partners across the state. Liaisons are strengthening communications with partners throughout the state by sharing regular updates and engagement opportunities with stakeholders.

Anyone with questions can now send their request to DHSResponse@dhs.wisconsin.gov for information from DHS. Please direct any and all questions about COVID-19 to this email address. A team of DHS staff is monitoring the inbox. They will be using the incoming questions to update frequently asked questions and guidance.

DHS holds weekly webinars for healthcare providers, local health departments, tribal health centers, and partners to provide situational awareness and determine if there are any unmet needs that need to be addressed. DHS staff are working to provide resources and technical assistance as needed.

DHS updates its case numbers on the public website at 2PM on weekdays. Overall, information on COVID-19 can be found on the DHS website in two locations:

- [COVID-19 disease webpage](#)
- [Outbreaks and Investigations webpage](#)

Media Briefing Videos

- February 26, 2020: <https://vimeo.com/394024165/337c0bacd6>
 - Jeff Phillips, Director of the Office of Preparedness and Emergency Health Care
 - Chuck Warzecha, Deputy Administrator, Division of Public Health
 - Dr. Ryan Westergaard, a DHS Chief Medical Officer

Videos

- [Governor Evers and Secretary-designee Andrea Palm talk about 2019 novel coronavirus \(Posted February 7, 2020\)](#)

List of DHS publications

- [COVID-19 Fact Sheet, P-02592 \(multiple languages\)](#): Educational fact sheet for the general public with information on transmission, signs and symptoms, and prevention.
- [Respiratory Illness: Protect Yourself and Those Around You, P-02591 \(multiple languages\)](#): DPH Flyer promoting techniques to prevent the transmission of respiratory illnesses.
- [Self-Isolation for Individuals Being Evaluated, P-02599](#)
- [Instructions for Individuals with Low-Risk Exposure, P-02598B](#)
- [Instructions for Individuals with Medium-Risk Exposure, P-02598A](#)
- [Instructions for Individuals with High-Risk Exposure, P-02598](#)
- [DHS Weekly Surveillance Respiratory Report, P-02346](#)

Upcoming Partner Webinars

- Long Term Care Provider Webinar: Monday, March 9, 2020, from 3 to 4 p.m.
 - Link: <https://dhswi.zoom.us/j/622266614>
 - Dial In: (844) 708-2569
 - Passcode: 622 266 614
- Health Officer Open Line: Tuesday, March 10, 2 p.m.
 - **Purpose:** This is an opportunity to visit with peers who are also in the role of health officer; ask questions about programs, policies, strategies, or anything else that you are wondering about; and share successes and pearls of wisdom that might help a peer.
 - **Join the audio meeting via web link or the phone number below.**
 - [Join Skype Meeting](#) or
 - Call 608-316-9000; Conference ID: 996472
 - **Open Line Schedule:** This meeting occurs the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. at the same link and phone number.
- Local Health Department and Tribal Health Center COVID-19 Webinar: Wednesday, March 11, from 2 to 3 p.m.
 - Link: <https://dhswi.zoom.us/j/108912543>
 - Dial-In Option: 646-558-8656 or 669-900-9128
 - Webinar ID: 108 912 543