

Distribution Category

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Incident Summary

COVID-19 At a Glance	
<u>United States</u> CDC numbers close out at 4 p.m. the day before reporting.	
Number of Cases	10,442
Number of Deaths	150
Number of Reporting Jurisdictions	54 (50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and US Virgin Islands)
<u>Virginia</u> VDH numbers close out at 5 p.m. the day before reporting.	
Number of Cases	94
Number of Hospitalizations	19
Number of Deaths	2

In an effort to mitigate the spread of the virus, Governor Northam has declared [a State of Emergency](#) and ordered [all Virginia K-12 schools closed](#) for a minimum of two weeks. Additionally, on 3/17/20, Governor Ralph Northam and State Health Commissioner M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA issued a [public health emergency order](#) prohibiting more than 10 patrons in restaurants, fitness centers, and theaters. The order gives local and state law enforcement the ability to enforce this ban.

Significant Events - Current Operational Period	
Date	Milestone
3/7/20	VDH confirms the first presumptive positive case of COVID-19 in Virginia.
3/11/20	The World Health Organization(WHO) characterizes COVID-19 as a pandemic .
3/11/20	The U.S. government suspended entry of foreign nationals who have traveled to most of Europe (Specifically, the Schengen area comprising 26 countries) within the past 14 days.

3/11/20	CDC issues a level 3 travel notice for COVID-19 for most of Europe , recommending that travelers avoid all nonessential travel.
3/12/20	CDC issues a level 2 travel notice for a Global COVID-19 Outbreak , alerting travelers, especially those at higher risk of exposure, to practice enhanced precautions during their travels.
3/12/20	Governor Northam declares a State of Emergency .
3/13/20	Governor Northam orders all Virginia K-12 schools closed for a minimum of two weeks.
3/13/20	President Trump declared a National State of Emergency concerning COVID-19
3/14/20	VDH reports the first COVID-19 death in the Commonwealth.
3/14/20	The U.S. government suspended entry of foreign nationals who have traveled to the United Kingdom and Ireland within the past 14 days.
3/15/20	CDC issues a level 3 travel notice for COVID-19 for The United Kingdom and Ireland , recommending that travelers avoid all nonessential travel.
3/17/20	CDC issues a level 3 travel notice for COVID-19 for Cruise Ship Travel , recommending that travelers avoid all cruise travel worldwide.
3/17/20	Governor Northam and Commissioner Oliver issue a public health emergency order prohibiting more than 10 patrons in restaurants, fitness centers, and theaters.
3/18/20	CDC issues a level 3 travel notice for COVID-19 for Malaysia , recommending that travelers avoid all nonessential travel.

General Updates

- On 3/17/20, the Governor and State Health Commissioner issued a [public health emergency order](#) prohibiting more than 10 patrons in restaurants, fitness centers, and theaters.
- VDH is enhancing telework options for staff while ensuring continuity of essential functions.
- VDH is developing staffing plans for rapid response teams (RRT) within local health districts (LHD) and Offices to conduct contact investigations and other essential functions of COVID-19 response.
- A call center is available to the public for general information about the novel coronavirus. The number is 877-ASK-VDH3.

Epidemiology Updates

Surveillance:

- As of 3/19/20, there are 10,442 [confirmed and presumptive positive U.S. cases](#) detected and tested in 54 jurisdictions through the U.S public health system, with 290 travel-related cases, 310 cases among close contacts and 9,842 cases with the source of exposure still under investigation. There are 150 deaths associated with this outbreak in the US. Additionally, there are 49 confirmed cases among persons repatriated to the United States and tested by CDC.
- As of 3/19/20, there have been 94 [presumptive positive cases](#) and two (2) deaths associated with this outbreak in Virginia.
- VDH is no longer reporting the pending number of tests as testing capacity has expanded to include commercial laboratories. Commercial laboratories report all results to VDH. Information will be updated daily, Monday to Friday, at 12 PM noon and will also be updated daily on weekends.
- Local health departments continue to follow up with travelers from [China](#) and [Iran](#) who arrive in Virginia as their final destination. Public health management of travelers is based on CDC risk exposure criteria.

Health Information:

- VDH has updated and released guidance materials:
 - Community Organizations/Social Services:
 - [Considerations for Community- and Faith-Based Organizations, COVID-19](#)
 - [Considerations for Homeless Shelters](#)
 - The General Public:
 - [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions-3/18/20](#)
 - [VDH Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - [What to do if you have confirmed or suspected coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)?](#)
 - [What to do if you were potentially exposed to someone with confirmed coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)?](#)
 - [What to do if you traveled to an area with widespread, ongoing community spread of coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)?](#)
 - [What to do if you traveled to an area with sustained community level-spread, internationally or domestically, of coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)?](#)
 - [Personal and Home Preparedness for Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Federal agencies have updated and published guidance materials:
 - Public Health/Planning
 - [Guidance: Discontinuation of In-Home Isolation for Immunocompromised Persons with COVID-19](#)
 - Community Organizations:
 - [Interim Guidance for Mass Gatherings](#)
 - [Resources for Large Community Events and Mass Gatherings](#)
 - Community Mitigation
 - [Interim Guidance for Mass Gatherings](#)
 - [Resources for Large Community Events and Mass Gatherings](#)
 - Healthcare
 - [Emergency Declaration Health Care Providers Fact Sheet](#)
 - [CMS Guidance to Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly \(PACE\) Organizations](#)
 - [Interim Guidance for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19](#)
 - [Interim Guidance on Discontinuation of Home Isolation for Persons with COVID-19](#)
 - [Interim Guidance for Ending Home Isolation for People who are Immunocompromised](#)
 - [FAQs for Healthcare Professionals](#)
 - [Updated Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of PPE](#)
 - [Eye Protection](#)
 - [Isolation Gowns](#)
 - [Facemasks](#)
 - [N95 Respirators](#)
 - [FDA Guidance on Conducting Clinical Trials](#)
 - [CMS Recommendations on Adult Elective Surgeries, Non-Essential Medical, Surgical, and Dental Procedures During COVID-19 Response](#)
 - [Prepare to Care for COVID-19: Get Your Practice Ready](#)
 - [FAQs about Hand Hygiene for Healthcare Personnel Responding to COVID-2019](#)
 - [SAMHSA Guidance for COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Response and 42 CFR Part 2](#)
 - The General Public:
 - [How to Prepare](#)
 - [Cases and Latest Updates](#)
 - [Managing Anxiety and Stress](#)
 - [Answering 20 Questions about COVID-19](#)

- [15 Days to Slow the Spread](#)
- [Disinfecting Your Home if Someone is Sick](#)
- [Coronavirus and Travel in the United States](#)
- [At-Risk landing page](#)
 - [Older Adults](#)
 - [People with Asthma and COVID-19](#)
 - [COVID-19: What people with HIV should know](#)
 - [Caring for someone at home](#)
- [NIH Director's Blog: "To Beat COVID-19, Social Distancing is a Must"](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - [Travel](#)
- On 3/16/2020, President Trump and the White House Coronavirus Task Force issued new guidelines to help protect Americans during the Coronavirus pandemic. The initiative, called "[15 Days to Slow the Spread](#)," lays out guidelines for a nationwide effort to slow the spread of COVID-19. It calls for the implementation of measures to increase social distancing between people at all levels of society.
- On 3/17/20, CDC issued an [Update to HAN 430](#) to include additional pre-travel advice about in-cabin isolation if patients become sick during a cruise and 14-day quarantine following completion of any cruise. This language is consistent with CDC's new Level 3 Travel Warning for cruise ships.
- On 3/19/20, SAMHSA provided COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Response and 42 CFR Part 2 guidance to ensure that substance use disorder treatment services are uninterrupted during this public health emergency. The guidance can be found [here](#).

Investigation:

- CDC updated its guidance for specimen collection for testing for COVID-19 to collect a single upper respiratory nasopharyngeal swab (NP) instead of an NP and oropharyngeal swab (OP).
- Healthcare professionals evaluating ill patients for suspected COVID-19 can request testing through a private laboratory. VDH approval is not required for this testing.
- Because of a limited number of tests available, testing performed at DCLS is reserved for patients who meet [VDH's priority investigation criteria](#).
 - Local health districts may request kits by calling the DCLS kits department at 804-648-4480, Extension 104.

Community Health Services / Local Health District Updates

- 25 health districts have activated their Health Department Operations Center
- Numerous local health departments have activated and implemented their Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP).
- Initial planning for testing/triage/swab sites is underway between local health districts and community partners and the Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST) is the midst of state efforts related to state testing sites.
- COVID-19 Unified Command discuss distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS); awaiting final shipment of PPE from SNS.
- Critical shortages of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) continue
- Local Health Districts are identifying staff to serve on Rapid Response Teams
- 95: Total Number of MRC Volunteers Deployed on 3/19/20

Internal Resources: <http://vdhweb.vdh.virginia.gov/surveillance-and-investigation/novel-coronavirus/>

Notes from federal conference calls are available on [Google Drive](#).

Public Resources: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>

Questions/Comments: Respiratory@vdh.virginia.gov or 804-864-8141

Next Situation Briefing Due: 3/20/20

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