Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

English | Español

Governor Pritzker COVID-19 Press Conferences

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Frequently Asked Questions

The Illinois Department of Public Health, local health departments, and public health partners throughout Illinois, and federal agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are responding to an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus called COVID-19 that was first identified in December 2019 during an outbreak in Wuhan, China. COVID-19 has spread throughout the world, including the United States, since it was detected and was declared a public health emergency for the U.S. on January 31, 2020 to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to the threat. The World Health Organization announced March 11, 2020 that the spread of coronavirus qualifies as a global pandemic.

In addition, Gov. JB Pritzker issued a disaster proclamation March 9, 2020 regarding COVID-19 that gives the state access to federal and state resources to combat the spread of this newly emerged virus.

The first case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported January 21, 2020 and the first confirmed case in Illinois was announced January 24, 2020 (a Chicago resident). The first cases outside Chicago and Cook County were reported March 11, 2020 in Kane and McHenry counties. The current count of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is available on the CDC webpage at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html. Illinois case totals and test results are listed below.

Person-to-person spread of COVID-19 appears to be mainly between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It also may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes. Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Preliminary data suggest older adults and people with underlying health conditions or compromised immune systems seems to be at greater risk of developing serious illness from the virus.

If you are sick and have respiratory symptoms, such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath, stay home unless you need medical attention. Remain in your home until you feel better and have no symptoms. Keep in mind there is no treatment for COVID-19 and people who are mildly ill can isolate at home. While at home, as much as possible, stay in a specific room and away from other people. Those who need medical attention should contact their health care provider who will evaluate whether they can be cared for at home or need to be hospitalized.

Persons Under Investigation (PUI) for COVID-19

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Illinois Test Results	
Positive (confirmed)	32

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Illinois Test Results	
Negative	294
PUIs Pending	92
Total PUI	418

Information regarding the number of persons under investigation updated on March 12, 2020.
Information to be updated daily.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as needed here and on the CDC website at cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.
For general questions about COVID-19 and Illinois' response and guidance, call 1-800-889-3931 or email DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV.

Page Last Reviewed: March 12, 2020

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) -

About COVID-19
Frequently Asked Questions
Health Care Providers & Facilities
Preventing Spread in Communities -

Schools Guidance
Business and Organization Guidance
Community Planning Organizations Guidance
Long Term Care Facilities Guidance
Household Preparedness

Pregnant Women & Children

Travel Guidance

Translated Resources

Media & Publications -

Daily COVID-19 Press Releases

Alzheimer's Disease	+
Asthma	+
Cancer	
Chronic Diseases	+
Diabetes	+
Diseases A-Z	
HIV/AIDS	+
Heart Disease & Stroke	+
Hepatitis	+
Infectious Diseases	+
Influenza (Flu)	+
Legionnaires' Disease	
Outbreaks	
Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)	+

RESOURCES

CDC

About COVID-19
Situation Update
Frequently Asked Questions and Answers
Information For Travelers
Steps to Protect Yourself from COVID-19
Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities

Illinois.gov home page
Employment Opportunities
List of Local Health Departments
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

QUICK LINKS

File a Health Care Complaint
Diseases A-Z List
FOIA Requests
Health Data
IDPH Calendar
Laws & Rules
Forms & Publications
Grant Accountability and Transparency (GATA)
HHS Transformation

TRENDING TOPICS @IDPH

The best thing the general public can do at this time is to continue with the same precautions you take during flu… https://t.co/58RKf8qACZ
- 12 hours 6 min ago

-Visit a doctor if you are experiencing any symptoms, particularly if you or a loved one recently traveled abroad -… https://t.co/rMsdYNdIwk
- 12 hours 6 min ago

Visit our twitter page

© 2020 Illinois Department of Public Health.

Privacy