



# Coronavirus (COVID-19)

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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Louisiana Office of Public Health continue to closely monitor this outbreak.

*All information on this website reflects the most current information provided to the State. It is subject to change based on further investigations, and will be updated accordingly.*

[Coronavirus.gov Website](#)

## About Coronavirus

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people such as has been seen with recent outbreaks of MERS and SARS.

[COVID-19 News](#)

## Risk and Guidance for the Public

To minimize the risk of spread, Louisiana officials are advising the public to practice social distancing by not gathering with large groups of people. Large events and mass gatherings can contribute to the spread of COVID-19 in Louisiana and introduce the virus to new communities.

Governor John Bel Edwards has issued a stay at home order for Louisiana residents. Click [here](#) to read the full order.

- Stay home unless it is necessary to go to work or get necessities.
- Cover your cough.
- Wash your hands.

For a list of additional guidance for the public click [here](#).

[Guidance & Resources](#)

## Questions about Coronavirus?

If you have questions about coronavirus, please contact the Louisiana 211 Network by dialing dial 211. Or, you can text the keyword LACOVID to 898-211 for the most current information about the outbreak as it becomes available.

[La 211 Help](#)

## Stressed about COVID-19? We're here to talk.

If you are feeling overwhelmed with stress, fear and anxiety about the uncertainty surrounding this public health emergency, there is a special *Keeping Calm through COVID* Hotline you can call. This connects you to trained, compassionate counselors who can offer support and who can direct you to mental health and substance abuse counseling services.

**Call 1-866-310-7977 24/7**

*Trained counselors available 24/7. All calls are confidential.*

## Symptoms

For confirmed infections, reported illnesses have ranged from infected people with little to no symptoms (similar to the common cold) to people being severely ill and dying. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing

CDC believes at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure.

There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for COVID-19 infection. People infected with COVID-19 should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms.

## How does novel coronavirus spread?

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Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:

- Through respiratory droplets produced when coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes



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