



# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report

## Palau Ministry of Health - External Situation Report

15 January 2021 - 09:00 PWT

### GLOBAL SITUATION OVERVIEW

The Ministry of Health (MOH) is closely monitoring an ongoing pandemic of a coronavirus disease which is affecting over 190 countries globally. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on January 30, 2020, designated its official name as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) on February 11, 2020, and characterized it as a *pandemic* on March 12, 2020.

#### As of January 15, 2021:

- At least **93,044,567\*** confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally, including **7,457\*\*** in Guam, **128** in the Northern Mariana Is. (CNMI), **4** in the Marshall Islands, **1** in the FSM, **24,113** in Hawaii, **494,605** in Philippines, **310,734** in Japan, **842** in Taiwan.
- **1,991,921\*** deaths reported globally – **124\*\*** deaths on Guam, **317** in Hawaii, **2** in CNMI, **9,739** in Philippines, **4,119** in Japan, **7** in Taiwan.
- **51,307,820\*** people have recovered from COVID-19 globally.

*\*JHU CSSE COVID-19 Dashboard/\*\*Guam Homeland Security*

### PALAU READINESS AND RESPONSE

#### As of January 15, 2021:

- There are **NO SUSPECTED** or **CONFIRMED CASES** of COVID-19 in Palau.
- **COVID-19 Vaccination (since Jan. 3, 2021):** **1,119** 1st dose administered; **0** 2nd dose administered; **0** total persons vaccinated (1st + 2nd dose).
- **Isolation & Quarantine:**
  - **Currently in Isolation & Quarantine:** **33** in quarantine facility, **0** in self-monitoring, **0** in BNH isolation, **0** in alternative care and isolation site
  - **Total since Apr. 17, 2020:** **0** isolated, **927** quarantined (inbound travellers and PUIs)
- **COVID-19 Testing (since Apr. 14, 2020):** **3,416** tests conducted, **0** positive, **3,416** negative, **0** pending results.
- **International Points of Entry Screening:**
  - **Total since Jan. 23, 2020:** **195** flights screened, **15,718** travelers; **97** vessels screened, **2,668** travelers; **946** secondary screening
- **Belau National Hospital Ventilators:** **0** in use, **30** total capacity - **5** portable, **2** pediatric, **18** adult vents, **5** in calibration

#### General Updates:

- MOH Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated on Jan. 22, 2020 to implement preparedness and response measures to minimize the risk of importation and potential local transmission of COVID-19 to Palau.
- MOH issued a *Certification of an Unavoidable Public Health Emergency* for COVID-19 on Mar. 17, 2020.
- MOH issued Directive No. 211-20 effective on November 12, 2020 re-authorizing Belau National Hospital and Public Health Measures in response to COVID-19.
- **MOH received 2nd batch of 3,200 doses of Moderna COVID-19 vaccines on Jan. 14, 2021. Mass vaccination efforts commenced on Jan. 3, 2021 and is ongoing following priority group targeting.**
- MOH issued Directive No. 1-21 on Jan. 3, 2021 re-authorizing isolation and quarantine measures for COVID-19.
- As COVID-19 mass vaccination is ongoing, the public is urged to continue practicing the following measures to prevent respiratory infections:
  - **Frequent handwashing with soap and water or hand rub with 70% alcohol-based sanitizer.**
  - **Respiratory Etiquettes: Cover cough and sneeze with clean tissue or shirt sleeve,**
  - **Avoid close contact with sick people and stay away from others if you are sick. Call your doctor or hospital for advise,**
  - **Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces/objects.**
- MOH 24-hour COVID-19 Hotline activated for public inquiries: **+680-488-0555.**