



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report

Palau Ministry of Health - External Situation Report

15 March 2021 - 02:00PM 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 March 15, 2021:

- At least **119,848,281*** confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally, including **7,767**** in Guam, **154** in the Northern Mariana Is. (CNMI), **4** in the Marshall Islands, **1** in the FSM, **28,554** in Hawaii, **621,498** in Philippines, **447,287** in Japan, **985** in Taiwan.
- **2,653,641*** deaths reported globally – **133**** deaths on Guam, **450** in Hawaii, **2** in CNMI, **12,829** in Philippines, **8,587** in Japan, **10** in Taiwan.
- **67,895,864*** people have recovered from COVID-19 globally.

JHU CSSE COVID-19 Dashboard/Guam Homeland Security*

PALAU READINESS AND RESPONSE

As of March 15, 2021:

- There are **NO SUSPECTED** or **CONFIRMED CASES** of COVID-19 in Palau.
- **COVID-19 Vaccination (since Jan. 3, 2021):** **7,051** 1st dose administered; **3,098** 2nd dose administered; **3,098** total persons fully vaccinated (2 doses); **17%** of population fully vaccinated (estimated 18,000 total population)
- **Isolation & Quarantine:**
 - **Currently in Isolation & Quarantine:** **8** in quarantine facility, **0** in self-monitoring, **16** in restricted movement, **0** in BNH isolation, **0** in alternative care and isolation site
 - **Total since Apr. 17, 2020:** **0** isolated, **1,103** quarantined (inbound travellers and PUIs)
- **COVID-19 Testing (since Apr. 14, 2020):** **4,049** tests conducted, **0** positive, **4,049** negative, **0** pending results.
- **International Points of Entry Screening:**
 - **Total since Jan. 23, 2020:** **209** flights screened, **15,868** travelers; **109** vessels screened, **2,897** travelers; **1,096** 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. 10-21 effective on February 12, 2021 re-authorizing Belau National Hospital and Public Health Measures in response to COVID-19.
- **MOH received 4rd batch of Moderna COVID-19 vaccines (5,400 doses) on March 4, 2021. Mass vaccination commenced on Jan. 3, 2021 and is ongoing with targeted priority groups.**
- 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.**