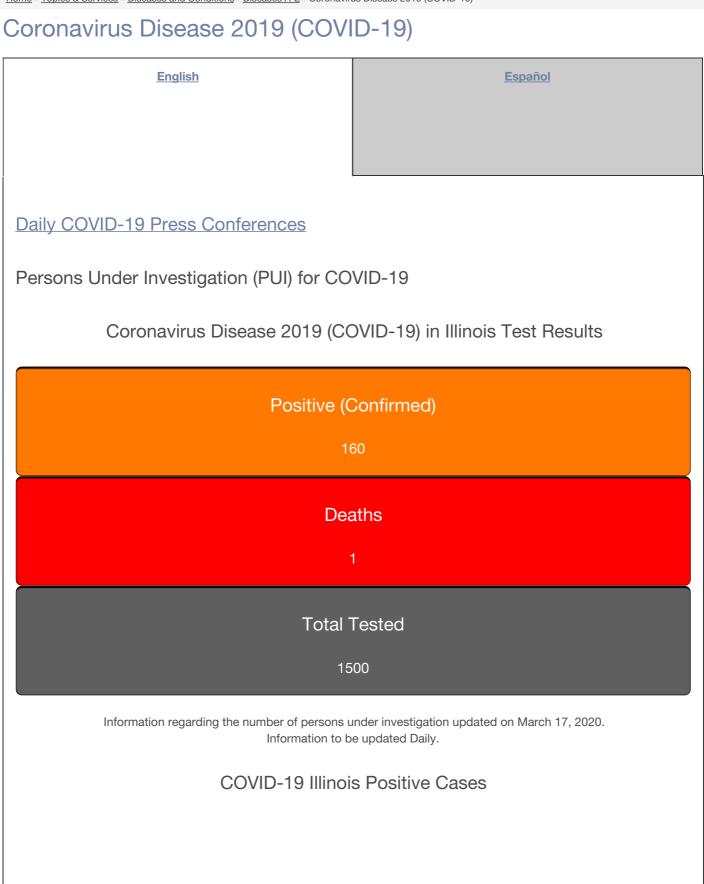


Home » Topics & Services » Diseases and Conditions » Diseases A-Z » Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)



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 <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html</a>. 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.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as needed here and on the CDC website at <a href="cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html">cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</a>.

For general questions about COVID-19 and Illinois' response and guidance, call 1-800-889-3931 or email <u>DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV.</u>

Page Last Reviewed: March 17, 2020

### Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

#### About COVID-19

Frequently Asked Questions Daily COVID-19 Press Releases Health Care Providers & Facilities

> Elective Surgical Procedure Guidance PUI Decision Matrix

**Preventing Spread in Communities** 

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**Business and Organization Guidance** 

**Community Planning Organizations Guidance** 

**Adult Day Program Guidance** 

Long Term Care Facilities Guidance

**Homeless Shelters Guidance** 

**Household Preparedness** 

**Personal Guidance and Testing** 

Pregnant Women & Children Travel Guidance Translated Resources Media & Publications

# 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

Protecting health, improving lives.

## USABILITY

Accessibility

## RESOURCES

Advisory Boards Office of the Inspector General Centers for Disease Control Office of Governor JB Pritzker Illinois Jobs 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**

Public Health Officials Announce First Illinois Coronavirus Disease Death: <u>https://t.co/pLZm1Xgaf9</u>

- 8 hours 59 min ago

COVID-19 Update: 17 new cases have been reported at DuPage County nursing home, for a total of 18 residents infected

- 9 hours 30 min ago Visit our twitter page

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Health.