

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report

Palau Ministry of Health - External Situation Report 10 June 2020 - 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 180 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 June 10, 2020:

- At least 7,185,573* confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally, including 180*** in Guam, 30 in the Northern Mariana Is. (CNMI), 676 cases in Hawaii, 60 in French Polynesia, 20 in New Caledonia, 18 in Fiji, and 8 in Papua New Guinea.
- 192,335** confirmed cases within the Western Pacific Region.
- 408,954* deaths reported globally 7,121** deaths in the Western Pacific Region, 5*** deaths on Guam, 17 in Hawaii, 2 in CNMI.
- 3,352,665* people have recovered from COVID-19 globally.

*JHU CSSE COVID-19 Dashboard/**WHO COVID-19 Situation Report No. 141***Guam Homeland Security

PALAU READINESS AND RESPONSE

As of June 10, 2020:

- There are NO SUSPECTED or CONFIRMED CASES of COVID-19 in Palau.
- 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.
- BNH ventilators: 26 total capacity, 1 portable vent, 2 pediatric vent, 18 adult vents (0 in use), 5 in calibration.
- On-island PCR testing for COVID-19 commenced on Apr. 14 for targeted priority groups including frontline workers (providers and first-responders).
- COVID-19 testing (since Apr. 14): 667 tests conducted, 0 total positive, 667 total negative, 0 pending results.
- Alternative Care Site (ACS) is currently being prepared to receive and care for critically ill suspected cases.
- MOH 24-hour COVID-19 Hotline activated for public inquiries: +680-488-0555.
- Health screening continues at Palau International Airport for chartered and private aircrafts; health screening at Malakal seaport continues for incoming vessels. Screening data:
- o Past 24 hours: 0 flights screened, 0 travelers; 0 vessel screened, 0 travelers; 0 secondary screening.
- Since Jan. 23: 169 flights screened, 15,180 travelers; 49 vessels screened, 1,574 travelers; 338 secondary screening.
- All commercial air travel to Palau is temporary suspended as of Mar. 26 until further notice as airlines temporarily halt services. Air mail and cargo service continues on a weekly basis through chartered services.
- Executive Order No. 440 signed on Apr. 29 2020 extending travel restrictions from Hong Kong, Macau and Mainland China to the Republic of Palau until June 30, 2020.
- MOH issued a Certification of an Unavoidable Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 on Mar. 17, 2020.
- MOH issued Directive No. 114-20 effective on May 15, 2020 authorizing resuming of staggered clinics & services at Belau National Hospital and provision of adjusted Public Health Measures in Response to COVID-19.
- The public is urged not to panic and to continue practicing public health measures to prevent respiratory infections:
 - Hand Hygiene: 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.