





## Infectious Diseases

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### COVID-19 Info Line

 401-222-8022  
(Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm) or  
 [RIDOH.COVID19Questions](mailto:RIDOH.COVID19Questions)


After hours: Call 211

[Information for Healthcare Providers](#)







### Resources

 [What to do if you are sick with COVID-19](#)

 [Share Facts About COVID-19](#)



 [Parent/Caregiver Guide to Helping Families Cope With the COVID-19](#)

 [Guidance for Athletic Administrators & Coaches in School & After-School Programs](#)

[COVID-19 Fact Sheet](#) ( [English](#)) ( [Spanish](#)) ( [Chinese](#)) ( [French](#)) ( [Haitian Creole](#))  
( [Portuguese](#))

 [Collection Kit Instructions for 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

[COVID-19 Global Cases Map](#)

[Stop the Spread of Germs](#) ( [English](#)) ( [Spanish](#)) ( [Simplified Chinese](#))

 [CDC Traveler Health Alert Notice \(English and Simplified Chinese\)](#)

[World Health Organization Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information](#) ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) ([French](#))  
([Simplified Chinese](#))

[NJDOH: Isolation vs. Quarantine](#) ( [English](#)) ( [Spanish](#)) ( [Chinese](#))

# VIRUSES DON'T DISCRIMINATE



**AND NEITHER SHOULD WE**

**Stigma will NOT fight coronavirus.  
Sharing accurate information will.**

**Learn more: [health.ri.gov/ncov](https://health.ri.gov/ncov)**

Image (C) Sara Andreasson for Mosaicscience.com/Wellcome Trust



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## Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a virus strain that has only spread in people since December 2019.

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) and federal public health officials continue to respond to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). On March 1, 2020, the Rhode Island Department of Health [announced the first presumptive positive COVID-19 case](#) in Rhode Island, involving a person who had traveled to Europe. Later that day, RIDOH announced a [second presumptive positive case](#). Both individuals were on the same European trip. Being informed is an important part of being prepared. [Learn more about how to prevent the spread in your community.](#)

Someone's risk for COVID-19 is closely tied to their recent travel history, and the travel histories of their immediate contacts — specifically, travel to [areas with community transmission](#) of COVID-19 or close contact with a person confirmed to have COVID-19. Remember that interaction with someone who had contact with someone who has confirmed COVID-19 does not pose a risk if that contact is not sick. One of the most important messages for us to remember is that someone's nationality alone is *not* a risk factor for COVID-19.

There are many respiratory illnesses circulating in Rhode Island, such as the flu and the common cold. Having respiratory symptoms does not mean that you have COVID-19. People are at higher risk for COVID-19 if they have symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, fever, shortness of breath) AND if they were a contact of a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 (or have traveled to [country with community transmission](#)). Someone is considered a contact if they have had direct, face-to-face contact with a person with COVID-19. Testing can only be done on individuals who have symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19 and who have had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 or travel history to a [country with ongoing community](#) spread of COVID-19. Testing individuals with no symptoms or history of travel is not recommended by CDC. **People who think they have COVID-19 should call their healthcare provider. These people should NOT go directly to a healthcare facility without calling a healthcare provider (unless they are experiencing a medical emergency).**

**People with general questions about COVID-19 can call [☎ 401-222-8022](tel:401-222-8022).**

Everyone can help stop the spread of viruses in Rhode Island.

**Please see below for updated information from CDC (this may take a moment to load). For answers to frequently asked questions, please read the [RIDOH/CDC Share Facts About COVID-19](#).**

### At-Risk Populations

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### Symptoms

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## How It Spreads

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## Prevention

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## Testing & Diagnosis

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## Treatment

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 [Reporting Form](#)

## More

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 [COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 FAQ](#)

## Publications & Resources

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[For Care givers +](#)

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[For Educators and Trainers +](#)

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[For Employers +](#)

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[For Healthcare Administrators +](#)

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[For School Nurses +](#)

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Information for . . .

### CONTACT

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#### Department of Health

3 Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908

[Email us](#)

[Directions](#)

 Phone: 401-222-5960

RI Relay 711

[Phonebook](#)

## OFFICE HOURS

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Monday - Friday

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Vital Records 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Food Protection 8:30 AM - 4 PM

Parking restrictions until 3 PM

## PUBLICATIONS CENTER

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[Order Materials](#)

## OTHER LANGUAGES

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[Español](#)

[Português](#)

 [FOR EMPLOYEES](#)

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## WEBSITE POLICIES

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Official Website of the State of Rhode Island

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