

## 2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak (COVID-19)

The Washington State Department of Health has established a call center to address questions from the public. If you have questions about what is happening in Washington, how the virus is spread, and what to do if you have symptoms, please call 1-800-525-0127 and press #. **Note: The DOH coronavirus hotline (1-800-525-0127, press #) is experiencing high traffic and may be temporarily unavailable.**

### Resources & Recommendations

- [Childcare Centers](#)
- [Communities and Community Organizations](#)
  - [Community Events and Gatherings \(CDC\)](#)
  - [Guidance for Public Gatherings and Events \(PDF\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Educational Materials](#) - Available in multiple languages
- [Federal Quarantine](#)
- [First Responders](#)
- [Healthcare Providers](#)
- [Higher Education](#)
- [How Can I Be Prepared for a COVID-19 Outbreak?](#)
- [Local Health Jurisdictions](#)
- [Long Term Care Facilities](#)
- [Novel Coronavirus Fact Sheet](#) - Available in 11 languages
- [Parents and Caretakers](#)
- [Patient Materials](#)
- [Persons Who are at Higher Risk for Serious Illness](#)
- [Schools](#)
- [Senior Centers](#)
- [Stigma Reduction](#)
- [Testing for COVID-19](#)
- [Workplace and Employers](#)

### Background

On January 21, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Washington State Department of Health announced the first case of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States in Washington State.

The risk posed by a virus outbreak depends on factors including how well it spreads between people, the severity of the illness it causes, and the medical or other measures we have to control the impact of the virus (for example, vaccine or treatment medications). The potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 is very high, both in the United States and around the world.

### What's the current risk?

- The risk of exposure is increasing for people who live in Washington state.
- Healthcare workers caring for patients with COVID-19 are at elevated risk of exposure.
- Those who have had close contact with persons with COVID-19 are at elevated risk of exposure.
- Travelers returning from affected [international locations](#) where community spread is occurring are at elevated risk of exposure.
- Our knowledge of COVID-19 is still rapidly evolving. The risk assessment will be updated as needed.

CDC has developed [guidance to help in the risk assessment and management](#) of people with potential exposures to COVID-19.

These numbers will be updated daily at 11 a.m.

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Washington		
County	Positive (confirmed) * †	Deaths
<a href="#">King</a>	58	10
<a href="#">Snohomish</a>	19	1
<a href="#">Grant</a>	1	0
<a href="#">Jefferson</a>	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>11</b>

\* Includes deaths

† Please contact the local health department for information.

**Note:** Some deaths may be reported by health care providers, medical examiners/coroners, local health departments, or others before they are included in the statewide count. It takes longer for the state to announce deaths because they are most often reported first to local health, then to us. Our daily web update includes all death reports we receive by the end of the previous day.

Number of People Under Public Health Supervision	
Number of people under public health supervision <sup>‡</sup>	231
<p><sup>‡</sup> The number of people under public health supervision includes those at risk of having been exposed to novel coronavirus who are monitoring their health under the supervision of public health officials. This number includes people who have returned from China in the past 14 days and are included in <a href="#">federal quarantine guidance</a>.</p>	

**Note:** To make sure we can provide case counts as quickly and efficiently as possible, we are no longer reporting the number of persons under investigation at a state level. County health officials may choose to report these numbers for their county. This is consistent with other disease outbreaks, where the state generally only reports confirmed cases. Those numbers are changing rapidly as we are now doing multiple runs of tests each day and as commercial labs begin testing, the amount of administrative time needed to track numbers will increase significantly.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Is the Department of Health sending traveler notification emails and letters to recent travelers from China?** >

**What is a close contact?** >

**What is a confirmed case?** >

**How is it spread?** >

**What are the symptoms?** >

**What should I do if I have COVID-19 symptoms?** >

**How can people protect themselves?** >

**What is the treatment?** >

**Should I wear a mask when I go out in public?** >

**What travel advisories are recommended?** >

**What can I do to help?** >

## How Can I Be Prepared for a COVID-19 Outbreak?

**What is the current state of COVID-19?** >

**How can I prevent the spread of COVID-19?** >

**How do I plan ahead for COVID-19?** >

**What do I do if COVID-19 starts spreading in my community?** >

[More Information](#)

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- [Situation summary, 2019 novel coronavirus](#)
- [Learn about human coronaviruses](#)

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Alternate Format Requests

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For people with disabilities, Web documents in other formats are available on request. To submit a request, please contact us at [civil.rights@doh.wa.gov](mailto:civil.rights@doh.wa.gov).

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