

SITUATION REPORT	INCIDENT	OPERATIONAL PERIOD	REPORTING UNIT	FORM
External	COVID-19	START: 03/24/20 0800 END: 03/24/20 1800	PADOH	ICS 209 - Short

**CLEARED FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

**CURRENT SITUATION**

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the novel coronavirus a pandemic. On March 13, 2020, the United States declared a national emergency.

PADOH continues an incident command structure to coordinate monitoring, response, and messaging. The Department Operations Center is located in room 112 of the PEMA building. PADOH is coordinating with other state agencies, as needed. Communications personnel from various agencies have established a virtual Joint Information Center to address inquiries related to COVID-19.

Currently, **169** countries have confirmed cases of the virus.

On March 7, 2020, The Pennsylvania DOH State Lab in Exton confirmed the state's first presumptive positive COVID-19 cases, and Governor Wolf signed the COVID-19 Disaster Declaration.

On March 18, 2020, Governor Wolf confirmed the state's first COVID-19-related death.

As of March 24, 2020, there are **851** positive cases and **7** deaths in Pennsylvania. Community spread is implicated in several states and cases in long-term care facilities have been noted in Washington state. Staff continues to contact high-risk individuals that have been in contact with positive cases to implement self-quarantine as necessary.

On March 13, 2020, Governor Wolf ordered statewide school closings.

On March 16, 2020, Governor Wolf ordered statewide shutdown of non-essential stores as of midnight, including all community centers, gyms, entertainment centers, and non-essential retail. Bars and restaurants are included, except for takeout and delivery.

On March 19, 2020, Governor Wolf further ordered all non-life sustaining businesses in PA to close physical locations. Beginning March 23, 2020, the state police will assist in enforcement of closure of non-life-sustaining businesses.

On March 23, 2020, Governor Wolf issued a stay-at-home order for Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Monroe, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties. [On March 24, 2020, this order expanded to include Erie County.](#)

International Case Counts and Distribution

As of 1800, March 24, 2020, **415,876** cases have been reported worldwide, with **18,614** deaths.

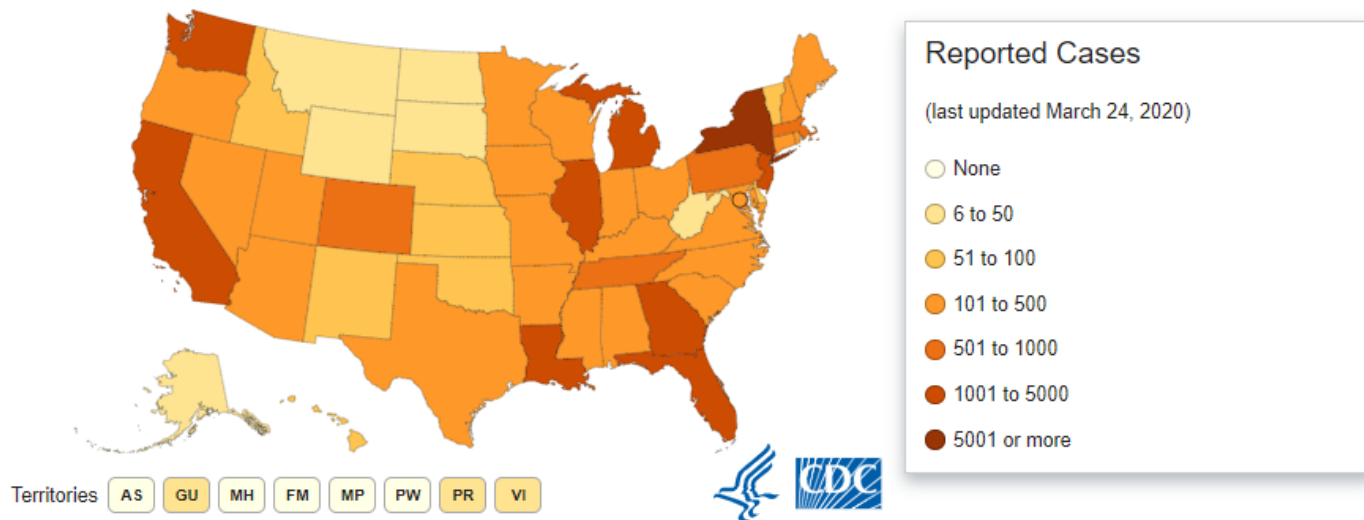
National Case Counts and Distribution

The United States reports **53,268** cases with **696** deaths.

*\* Data sources: WHO, CDC, ECDC, NHC and DXY and local media reports*

# COVID-19 Cases in the U.S.

[Cases in U.S.](#) ↻ [Situation Summary](#) ↻



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- DOH State Lab is currently testing specimens for SARS-CoV-2
- Continuous contact tracing conducted alongside necessary interviews for at risk contacts
- Set up to receive results from commercial labs
- Delaware and Montgomery County Medical Reserve Corps activated
- Participated in joint planning meetings with PEMA on public health missions
- Communicated with Red Cross and Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank to ensure NPI and safety measures are in place
- Delivery of resources ongoing
- DOH and PEMA established Operational Synch Matrix process
- DOH website has been redone to provide easily accessible information and updates
- BOL testing – no backlog
- Discussed with PEMA and DHS possible registration website options for future testing sites
- Took part in Sheltering Taskforce call and answered concerns about Mass Care NPI guidance
- Medical surge planning conducted, and CSC guidance released

## CHALLENGES

- National guidance is evolving. Keep partners informed as it changes
- Assessing supply chain issues
- Addressing PPE issues

## PLANNED ACTIVITIES (NEXT 24 – 72 HOURS)

- Continue development of COVID-19 Response & Mitigation Plan
- Develop mitigation guidelines for schools and other targeted groups
- Conduct daily executive briefings
- Continue/Enhance Joint Information Center in coordination with agency partners.
- Coordinate GIS Data and layers of information for dashboard, in conjunction with PEMA
- Release new LTC guidance for respiratory outbreak reporting
- Healthcare Coordination calls held weekly on Monday
- County and Municipal Health Department calls held weekly, as needed

- Coordinate messaging and information requests from state agencies
- Disseminate a health alert (HAN) on updated CDC guidance as necessary
- Briefings for external stakeholders ongoing
- Continue local and regional planning support efforts with partner state agencies.
- Continue development of media campaign to improve general public awareness

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Coronavirus informational webpage on PA DOH website live [here](#)
- Public inquiry resource account: [RA-DHCOVIDQUESTIONS@pa.gov](mailto:RA-DHCOVIDQUESTIONS@pa.gov)