

TDH uses the CDC case definition for COVID-19. See summary information below or review the full case definition here: https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.cste.org/resource/resmgr/ps/ps2022/22-ID-01_COVID19.pdf

Clarification regarding COVID-19-associated deaths added 11/13/2023.

Case Classification	Laboratory Criteria	Vital Records Criteria
Confirmed	Detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in a clinical or post-mortem specimen using a diagnostic molecular amplification test performed by a CLIA-certified provider OR Detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in a clinical or post-mortem specimen by genomic sequencing	N/A
Probable	Detection of SARS-CoV-2 specific antigen in a clinical or post-mortem specimen using a diagnostic test performed by a CLIA-certified provider	N/A
Suspect	Detection of SARS-CoV-2 specific antigen by immunocytochemistry OR Detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA or specific antigen using a test performed without CLIA oversight (ex. self-tests)	N/A
	No laboratory evidence meeting confirmed or probable case definition	Death certificate that lists COVID-19 disease or SARS-CoV-2 or an equivalent term as an underlying cause of death or a significant condition contributing to death

Distinguishing a new case of disease:

The following should be enumerated as a new case:

- Person was most recently enumerated as a confirmed or probable case with onset date (if available) or first positive specimen collection date for that classification >90 days prior
OR
- SARS-CoV-2 sequencing results from the new positive specimen and a positive specimen from the most recent previous case demonstrate a different lineage,
OR
- Person was previously reported but not enumerated as a confirmed or probable case (i.e., suspect), but now meets the criteria for a confirmed or probable case.

COVID-19 Deaths: COVID-19-associated deaths are classified based on CSTE guidance, which includes deaths if the death certificate indicates COVID-19 or an equivalent term as an immediate, underlying, or contributing cause of death. https://preparedness.cste.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/CSTE-Revised-Classification-of-COVID-19-associated-Deaths.Final_11.22.22.pdf

COVID-19 Investigation Guidance for NBS

Decisions about the creation of NBS investigations are based on surveillance/reporting and the expected course of illness.

- An NBS patient may have more than one investigation that is used in case counts.
- Negative or non-detect lab results should be marked as reviewed with no investigation created.

If the most recent investigation is...	And then you receive...	You should...
Confirmed	Any (+) lab results ¹ within 90 days of the first positive	Associate the results with this investigation
	Relevant death certificate ² within 180 days of the positive lab result	Associate the results with this investigation
	Relevant death certificate ² >180 days after the positive lab result	Create a new investigation and mark the case status as "Suspect". Add "Meets vital records criteria for a suspect case" in the general comments
Probable	CLIA-certified PCR (+) or NAAT (+) or genomic sequencing within 90 days of the first positive	Associate the results with this investigation and update the case status to "Confirmed"
	Antigen (+) within 90 days of the first positive	Associate the results with this investigation
	Relevant death certificate ² within 180 days of the positive lab result	Associate the results with this investigation
	Relevant death certificate ² >180 days after the positive lab result	Create a new investigation and mark the case status as "Suspect". Add "Meets vital records criteria for a suspect case" in the general comments
Suspect	CLIA-certified PCR (+) or NAAT (+) or genomic sequencing	Create a new investigation and mark the case status as "Confirmed"
	CLIA-certified Antigen (+)	Create a new investigation and mark the case status as "Probable"
	Non-CLIA certified PCR (+) or Antigen (+)	Associate the results with this investigation
	Relevant death certificate ² within 180 days of the positive lab result	Associate the results with this investigation
	Relevant death certificate ² >180 days after the positive lab result	Create a new investigation and mark the case status as "Suspect". Add "Meets vital records criteria for a suspect case" in the general comments
No Investigation	CLIA-certified PCR (+) or NAAT (+) or genomic sequencing	Create a new investigation and mark the case status as "Confirmed"
	CLIA-certified Antigen (+)	Create a new investigation and mark the case status as "Probable"
	Non-CLIA certified PCR (+) or Antigen (+) OR relevant death certificate ²	Create a new investigation and mark the case status as "Suspect"

¹ Exception: a new "Confirmed" investigation should be created within 90 days if there are sequencing results that demonstrate the specimens are from distinct SARS-CoV-2 lineages.

² A relevant death certificate lists COVID-19 disease or SARS-CoV-2 as a cause of death or a significant condition contributing to death.