April 10, 2020 Update

SURVEILLANCE

- Please visit the TDH COVID-19 webpage for the most up-to-date case count.
- The TDH State Public Health Laboratory and commercial laboratories have increased capacity to test for the virus causing COVID-19.
- TDH is beginning enhanced surveillance efforts for COVID-19 through the existing influenza Sentinel Provider Network (SPN), known nationally as ILINet.
- CDC released COVID View: A weekly surveillance summary of U.S. COVID-19 Activity

RESPONSE

- Hundreds of public health staff are monitoring the situation and working closely with CDC, other state agencies, and metro/regional health departments to protect the people of Tennessee.
- TDH is recruiting medical professionals through the Medical Reserve Corps Program.
- Ongoing TDH activities include:
  - Supporting COVID-19 assessments at local health departments.
  - Operating information lines for public inquiries (>5,000 calls since 3/5/20).
  - Maintaining a clinician's consultation line within the SHOC (7,500 calls since 1/20/20).
  - Sharing information via social media networks and the TDH COVID-19 webpage (over 14 million reached on Twitter, 2.5 million on Facebook, over 2 million views since January).
  - Conducting telebriefings for healthcare providers, hospitals, and partner agencies.
  - Investigating cases, tracing contacts, and monitoring close contacts of cases.
  - Utilizing the Healthcare Resource Tracking System to monitor personal protective equipment (PPE) inventories and strain on the healthcare system.
  - Supporting state laboratory testing.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies).
- Per Executive Order 23, Tennesseans are required to stay at home unless engaging in essential services or essential activities.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water (or alcohol-based hand rub) for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing.
- Stay away from people who are sick and stay home when you are sick.

RECENT GUIDANCE UPDATES FROM CDC

- Updated Frequently Asked Questions
- Updated Caring for Children
- Updated Travel: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers
- Updated What to Do if You Are Sick
- New: Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19