



### TENNESSEE UPDATE (March 27, 2020)

#### *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.

#### *Response*

- The TDH State Health Operations Center (SHOC) is activated.
- 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.
- Ongoing TDH activities include:
  - Supporting COVID-19 assessments at local health departments.
  - Maintaining an up-to-date list of [assessment sites](#) statewide on the COVID-19 website
  - Operating information lines for public inquiries (>5,000 calls since 3/5/20).
  - Maintaining a clinician's consultation line within the SHOC (5,353 calls since 1/20/20).
  - Sharing information via social media networks and the TDH COVID-19 webpage (Over 7 million reached on Twitter, 2 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.
  - Developing and disseminating guidance documents.
  - 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

- Wash your hands often with soap and water (or alcohol-based hand rub) for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with your arm a tissue and immediately throw it away.
- Clean and disinfect objects (e.g., cell phone, computer) and high-touch surfaces regularly.
- Practice social distancing by staying six feet away from others and avoiding unnecessary travel.
- Stay away from people who are sick and stay home when you are sick.

### RECENT GUIDANCE UPDATES FROM CDC

- **New Tool:** [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) Burn Rate Calculator](#)
- **Webinar Video:** Update for [Rural Partners and Communities](#) on the COVID-19 Response
- Infection Prevention and Control Considerations for [Alternative Care Sites](#)
- What to Expect [After Being Tested](#)
- What to Expect if You Were [Possibly Exposed](#)
- What to Expect After Being [Diagnosed](#)
- Comprehensive [Hospital Preparedness Checklist](#) for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- Interim Guidance for [Managing People With COVID-19 in Home Care and Isolation](#) Who Have Pets or Other Animals