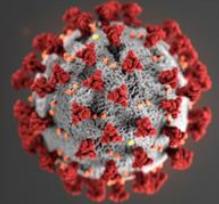


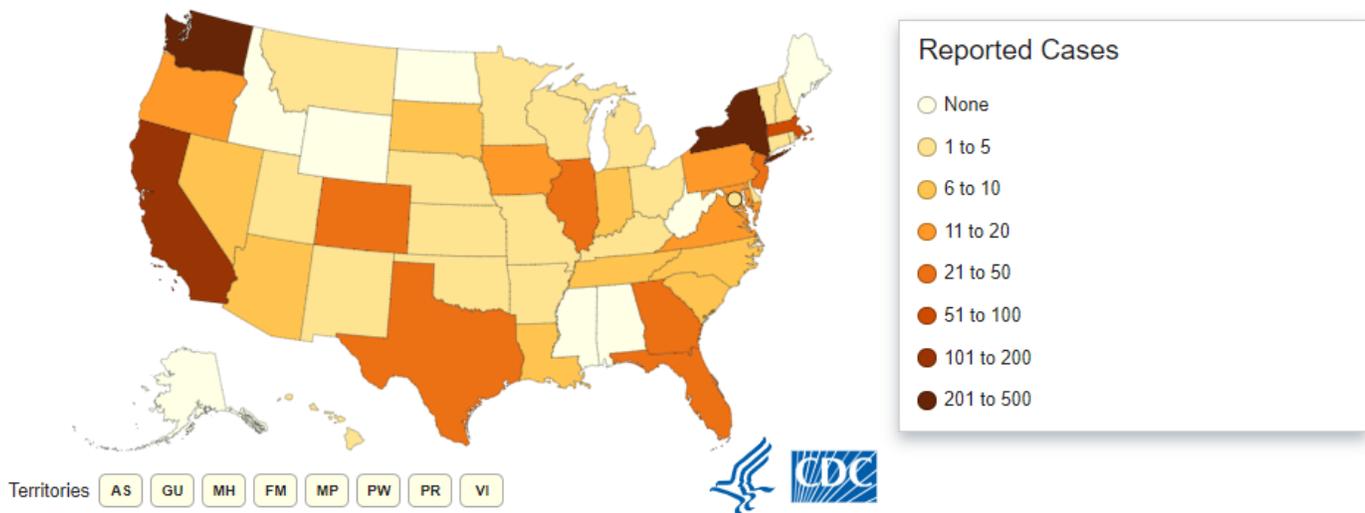
Hunterdon County NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

SITUATION REPORT #001
VALID: THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020
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BACKGROUND

States Reporting Cases of COVID-19 to CDC*



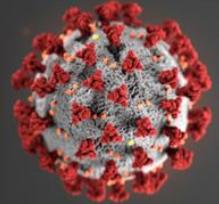
The Hunterdon County Health Department and the Hunterdon County Office of Emergency Management, along with State and Federal partners continue to monitor the outbreak of Novel Coronavirus or COVID-19. The County is closely coordinating prevention and response efforts with representatives from every municipality in Hunterdon County, medical care providers, school districts and first responders.

In late December 2019 many cases of pneumonia of an unknown cause were identified in Wuhan, China. In early January 2020 the illness was identified as a new coronavirus (COVID-19). On January 11th, China reported the first COVID-19 related fatality, and by January 20th the World Health Organization identified cases in Thailand, Japan and South Korea. On January 21st, the first United States case of COVID-19 was announced in a 30s-year-old male in Washington state. On January 23rd, Wuhan, a city of 11 million, was locked down under quarantine. On January 30th the World Health Organization declared the outbreak as a global public health emergency, with the White House announcing travel restrictions thereafter on January 31st.

As the outbreak extended to other nations through the month of February, the United States announced additional travel restrictions. On February 29th the first U.S. fatality related to COVID-19 was announced in a 50s-year-old male in Washington state. On March 8th, NBC reported that confirmed cases of COVID-19 exceeded 500 in the United States. On March 9th, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy declared a State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency. This enables the state government to enact certain measures aimed at streamlining preparedness and response actions.

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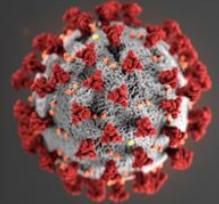


SUMMARY OF HUNTERDON COUNTY ACTIONS / EVENTS

<p><u>January 2020</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On January 9, the Hunterdon County Health Department started sending information regarding an outbreak of unknown etiology to key stakeholders in the county.• Health alert networks were sent throughout the month of January regarding the evolving outbreak, and specific guidance for schools and universities and limited the spread of respiratory illness.• Routine influenza-like illness surveillance in place.• Health Department personnel offer and provide PPE fit-testing to HC first responders.
<p><u>February 2020</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Health Department and OEM continue to monitor the Novel Coronavirus outbreak.• Approximately 18 Health Alert messages shared with community partners, outlining risk exposure guidance and general situation updates.• Health Department personnel offer and provide PPE fit-testing to HC first responders.• On February 27, Health and OEM representatives provided a situation update to the Hunterdon County Police Chiefs association regarding COVID-19.
<p><u>March 2020</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On March 4th, the OEM and Health provided an informative COVID-19 briefing for County ESF Coordinators and partner organizations. ESFs and County Departments and Divisions are receiving information to aid in their specific efforts to mitigate, prevent and respond.• On March 5th, a Hunterdon County COVID-19 website was developed to provide county-specific updates http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/coronavirus.html• On March 6th, OEM worked in collaboration with HCHD to develop and distribute information to Hunterdon County School Superintendents.• On March 7th, the OEM worked with the HCHD to distribute COVID-19 guidance to first responders and local emergency management officials.• On March 7th a Joint Information System was established between Hunterdon County and Hunterdon Healthcare.

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March 2020

- On March 8th, the media incorrectly reported that there were 2 tests pending from Hunterdon County. There was one test ordered and returned a negative result.
- On March 9th, OEM worked with Hunterdon County 911 Communications to further develop 911 screening practices that were put in place in February. When a suspect COVID-19 case is entered into the County's Computer Aided Dispatch software, a notification is immediately sent to Health, Emergency Management and Hunterdon Medical Center.
- On March 9th, the County forwarded the NJ State of Emergency to stakeholders. OEM in coordination with County Administration is reviewing and updating existing Continuity of Operations and Continuity of Government plans.
- On March 10th, OEM participated in a conference call with NJOEM, NJDOH and the 21 county OEMs.
- On March 11th, HCHD & OEM participated in a conference call with the New Jersey Department of Health.
- HCHD & OEM presented situational briefings to the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce and the Hunterdon County School Superintendents.
- On March 11th, Hunterdon County Administration announced an enhanced facility cleaning program to safeguard staff, visitors and constituents.
- On March 11, COVID-19 declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization.
- On March 12, OEM met with HMC to discuss surge plans.
- On March 12, Governor Phil Murphy released guidance for public gatherings. Information is available in the key messages sections.

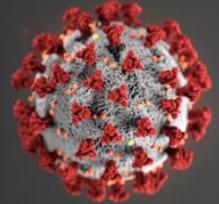
ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED DURING FUTURE OPERATIONAL PERIODS

- Ongoing and continuous activities of the Hunterdon County Health Department include traveler tracking from affected nations, patient screening for COVID-19 testing in coordination with medical care providers, provision of Health Alerts to community agencies, and response to resident and agency inquiries.

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- On March 13, HCHD and OEM will provide a situation briefing to the Hunterdon County Partnership for Health, along with information regarding continuity of operations planning.
- On March 13, OEM will participate in a conference call with NJOEM and the 21 county OEMs.
- Hunterdon County leadership is facilitating daily conferences calls with key departments.
- OEM and HCHD will participate in daily conference calls with Hunterdon Medical Center.
- OEM is working to coordinate situation briefings with Hunterdon County first responders, municipal OEMs, and Hunterdon County ESF leads.

KEY MESSAGES

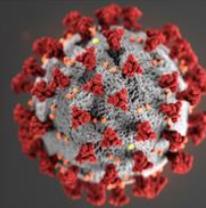
- **Mass Gatherings:** As of 3/12/2020, Governor Phil Murphy is encouraging the cancellation of all public gatherings throughout New Jersey in which more than 250 individuals are expected to congregate. This may include concerts, sporting events, and parades. Additionally, for all events, it is recommended that everyone practice commonsense hygiene, like washing hands routinely, staying home if you do not feel well, and keeping a six-foot distance from others.
- **Case Count:** As of 3/12/2020, there are currently 0 reported confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hunterdon County, two residents met NJDOH tested criteria and tested negative. With the expanded availability of testing, additional positive cases statewide are anticipated.
- NJ currently has 23 presumptive positive COVID-19 cases. Of those 23 cases, there is one death reported.
- General questions regarding COVID-19 should be directed to the NJDOH COVID-19 hotline at 1-800-222-1222.
- Medical care providers should contact the Health Department with questions 908-788-1351.
- **Travel:** Due to the rapidly changing situation, travel recommendations and countries with various levels of travel alerts are subject to frequent updates. Please refer callers to the CDC website Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel page at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html> for the most current information.

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- The Hunterdon County Health Department, along with State and Federal partners continue to monitor the outbreak of Novel Coronavirus or COVID-19. It is important to know the risk to the general public is low. Although there are currently no cases in Hunterdon County, the Health Department is working closely with healthcare providers, schools, long-term care facilities, and first responders to prepare and detect any cases.

GENERAL SAFETY MESSAGE

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are providing specific safety guidance documents to the public, businesses, healthcare, first responders, educational institutions and travelers.

Visit the following website for more information:

Hunterdon County Health Department

<http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/coronavirus.html>

New Jersey Department of Health

<https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

The Center for Disease Control

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

EOC ACTIVATIONS

No Emergency Operations Centers have reported as being activated.

EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

State of New Jersey – March 9, 2020

NEXT SITUATION REPORT

Situation reports will be provided as events & conditions dictate.