CURRENT SITUATION


PADOH continues coordination efforts with FEMA, PEMA, and other state agencies through the Department Operations Center (DOC) to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19.

Currently, there are 1,687 positive cases and 16 deaths in Pennsylvania.

As of 1800 on March 26, 2020, there were 82,404 cases in the U.S. and 526,044 worldwide. There have been 1,178 deaths in the U.S. and 23,709 throughout the world.

Epidemiological investigations and contact tracing continue throughout the state to determine potential exposure of additional persons. The PA state lab has increased capacity to account for the testing surge. Commercial and medical system labs are on line and testing for COVID-19.


On March 25, 2020, PA Legislature passed $50 million in funding to help aid the health care system in providing more medical equipment and supplies and to meet urgent needs of patients and staff.

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

COVID-19 Cases in the U.S.
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
- DCED portal for critical medical supply procurement went live

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