

July 10, 2020 Update

Surveillance

- Please visit the [TDH COVID-19 webpage](#) for Tennessee's most up-to-date case count or CDC's [COVID View](#): a weekly surveillance summary of U.S. COVID-19 activity.
- Numerous counties have seen an increase in COVID-19 cases across the state. Granular information by county is available [online](#).
- Recent estimates show that approximately half of all infections are from an unknown source and that the number of contacts per case has increased.

Response

- To assist with plans for safe reopening, \$81 million in grants have been made available for K-12 schools and higher education institutions.
- Governor Bill Lee signed:
 - [Executive Order 54](#), granting mayors in 89 counties the authority to issue local mask requirements in the event of a significant rise in COVID-19 cases. Sullivan, Knox, Hamilton, Davidson, Madison, and Shelby counties retain existing authority to issue mask requirements as needed.
 - [Executive Order 50](#), extending the State of Emergency in Tennessee to August 29th.
 - [Executive Order 51](#) and [52](#), extending provisions that allow for electronic government meetings subject to transparency safeguards and remote notarization and witnessing of documents, respectively, to August 29th.
- The Unified Command Group outlined the standard public health responses to an increase in cases:
 - Increased public messaging
 - Outreach and coordination with local community and unique population groups
 - Increasing testing access and availability
 - Prevention messaging
- TDH currently has over 750 staff members performing COVID-19 contact tracing activities statewide in coordination with county health departments and TDH's central and regional offices.
- Tennessee's long-term care facilities are reinstating visitations under [specific safety protocols](#).

Ongoing TDH Activities

- Supporting COVID-19 assessments at local health departments.
- Operating information lines for public inquiries and maintaining a clinician's consultation line.
- Sharing information via social media networks and the TDH COVID-19 webpage and conducting telebriefings for healthcare providers, hospitals, and partner agencies.
- Investigating cases, tracing contacts, and monitoring cases and contacts.
- Utilizing the Healthcare Resource Tracking System to monitor COVID-19 hospitalization numbers, personal protective equipment inventories and strain on the healthcare system.
- Recruiting medical professionals through the [Medical Reserve Corps Program](#).
- Supporting state laboratory testing.

Important Reminders

- COVID-19 tests are free to all in local health departments.
- A [hotline](#) is available for frontline healthcare workers, implemented by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.
- The [Tennessee Pledge](#): a plan to help Tennesseans return to work in a safe environment, restore their livelihoods and reboot the state's economy.
- CDC recommends wearing [cloth face coverings](#) in public settings where social distancing is difficult.
- Stay away from people who are sick and stay home when you are sick. Wash your hands often with soap and water (or alcohol-based hand rub) for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing.

Recent Guidance from CDC

- New: [About Serology Surveillance](#) | [Multistate Assessment of SARS-CoV-2 Seroprevalence in Blood Donors](#) | [Accomplishments](#) | [Response highlights](#)
- Updated: [Data Visualization](#) | [Staffing Resources](#) | [Cruise Ship Crew Member Disembarkations](#) | [World Map COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) | [Cases in the U.S](#) | [Cases & Deaths by County](#)