



Sarasota County Emergency Management

Flash Report #24



March 21, 2020

Activation Level 2: Partial

Event Name: COVID-19

Watch, Warnings, Advisories

International Travel Advisory
Nile Cruise Advisory
Advisory on Port Everglades

Possible Impacts

More cases of COVID-19 are likely to be identified in the coming days, including more cases in the United States. It's also likely that person-to-person spread will continue to occur, including in communities in the United States. It's likely that at some point, widespread transmission of COVID-19 in the United States will occur.

Timing

Symptoms may be mild to severe and may appear 2-14 days after exposure.

Key Points

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. As a reminder, the Department always recommends everyday preventive actions to help impede the spread of respiratory diseases, including:
Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
Staying home when you are sick and avoiding contact with persons in poor health;
Avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands;
Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then disposing of the tissue;
Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after

Situation

As of noon today, Sarasota County COVID-19 cases have increased to 10. All confirmed cases in Sarasota County are receiving the appropriate medical care and are hospitalized or self-isolated. The Florida Department of Health continues to see new positive cases across the State, please visit www.flhealth.gov/covid-19 for the most current case count and county specific data.

The Florida Department of Health is reporting a total of 658 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Florida.

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care: You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Avoid using public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

Florida recently partnered with private laboratories around the state to expand COVID-19 laboratory testing capacity. This partnership will increase the number of tests conducted each day and ensure Floridians receive the critical health information they need in a timely manner.

Yesterday, Governor DeSantis issued four executive orders:

Executive Order 20-69: this Executive Order waives in-person meeting requirements so that public officials can safely continue their duties without impediment.

Executive Order 20-70: this Executive Order directs all movie theatres, concert houses, auditoriums, playhouses, bowling alleys, arcades, gymnasiums, fitness studios and beaches to close in Broward County and Palm Beach County.

Executive Order 20-71: this Executive Order directs all restaurants and food establishments within the state to suspend on-premises food and alcohol consumption for customers. The order also requires the closure of all gyms throughout the state.

Executive Order 20-72: this Executive Order prohibits medically unnecessary, non-urgent or non-emergency procedures or surgeries.

The Florida Department of Health reminds everyone that the elderly and those with underlying medical problems like high blood pressure, heart problems and diabetes are more likely to develop serious illness. Please remember to wash your hands with soap & water. cover your coughs & sneezes with your arm, not your hands. If you're sick, stay at home & avoid crowds.

The Florida Department of Health continues to see new positive cases across the State, please visit www.flhealth.gov/covid-19 for the most current case count.

DOH Sarasota is monitoring community health trends on a daily basis to help identify any possible cases of COVID-19. Additionally, the department is serving as an expert resource for health care providers and the public, and working to make sure that health care providers know what to look for and what to do if they suspect COVID-19 in a patient.

DOH continues to visit all licensed long term care facilities in Sarasota County to ensure proper COVID-19 infection control guidelines as established by the CDC are being used to prevent the spread of the virus.

The Florida Department of Health reminds everyone that the elderly and those with underlying medical problems like high blood pressure, heart problems and diabetes are more likely to develop serious illness. Please remember to wash your hands with soap & water. cover your coughs & sneezes with your arm, not your hands. If you're sick, stay at home & avoid crowds.

Sarasota County Actions

RLA will be closing to in-person transactions on Monday March 23 and all permitting and utilities to 1001 Sarasota Center Blvd.

Decision was made for SCAT to cancel Route 33 and Siesta Trolley to reduce beach visitors beginning Saturday March 21.

SCAT will begin modified Saturday service beginning on Monday March 23.

Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources developed, trained staff and implemented additional cleaning procedures and routes for playgrounds.

Visitor screening begins at Admin. and BOB.

For COVID-19 text updates from Sarasota County Government, text SRQCOVID19 to 888777.

Sarasota County Government has waived water service shut-offs through April 13 for non-payment of utilities bills, as part of our ongoing response to COVID-19.

Sarasota County canceled all events at county facilities through April 12.

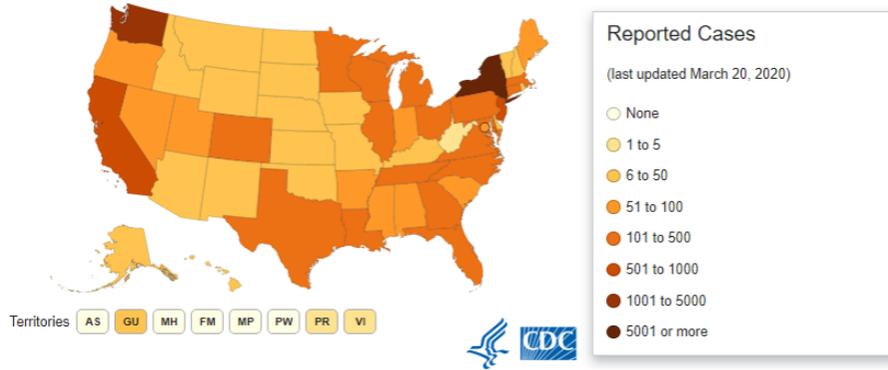
Sarasota County libraries are closed and will implement a drive-thru service on March 20, 2020.

The Emergency Operations Center is activated to a Level II from 0900hrs - 1900hrs Mon-Fri and Sat-Sun 1000-1600hrs.

The County Administrator signed an emergency declaration as of March 15, 2020. The EOC will continue to

going to the bathroom, before eating, after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing; - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty;

Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.



monitor this dynamic situation and support government operations and partners to ensure resources are available when needed. If you are assigned to the EOC or are called to report, you will receive a health screening from our Human Resources Wellness staff before entering the building. Please remember to complete a Daily Disaster Logs and follow submission instructions from your Disaster Log

Essential Elements of Information

Level 1 State EOC Activation	Declared State of Emergency	Declared Federal Emergency	Declared Local State of Emergency
12 Florida Deaths	19931 USA Cases	287239 Global Cases	603 Florida Cases
03/16 - 04/15 Schools Closed	55 Non-Florida Resident Cases	1072 Currently Monitored	8239 Number of People Tested

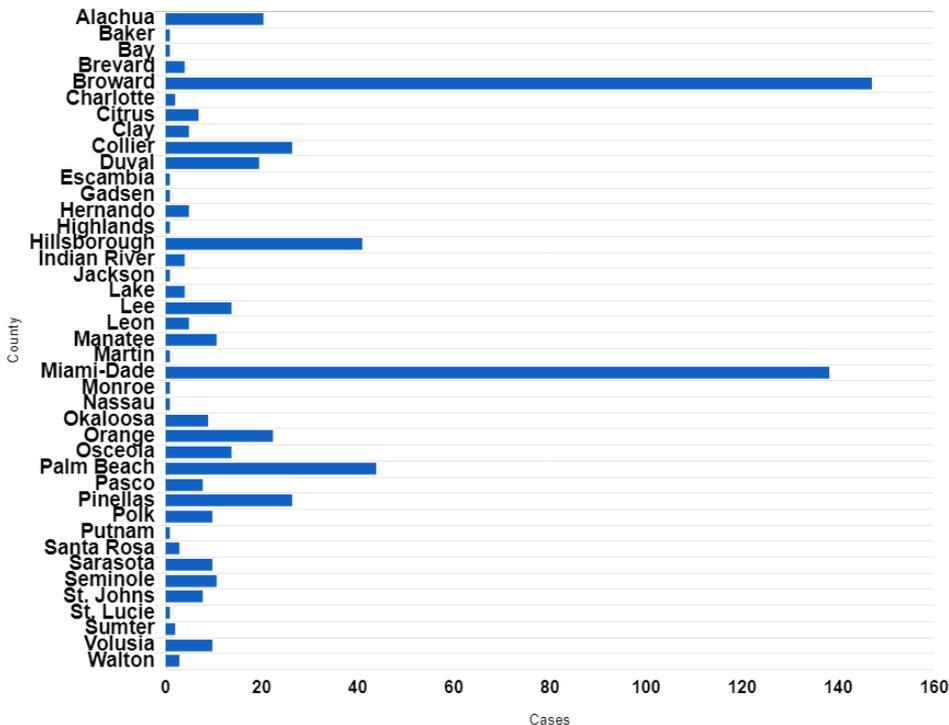
The CDC does not recommend that asymptomatic, healthy people wear a facemask to protect themselves

Travel Levels

- Warning - Level 3, Avoid Nonessential Travel**
- Alert - Level 2, Practice Enhanced Precautions**
- Watch - Level 1, Practice Usual Precautions**



Number of Cases Per County



Directors

All personnel should ensure staff is situationally aware of the spread of COVID-19 and personal protective measures to reduce or prevent influenza like illnesses. Any information regarding employee communications and messaging coordinate with Sarasota County Human Resources Department. All department and agencies with potential press releases coordinate with Sarasota County Communications Department by calling 861-NEWS or news@scgov.net. If the situation escalates, Flash Reports will be replaced with Situation Reports.

All Agencies and Partners

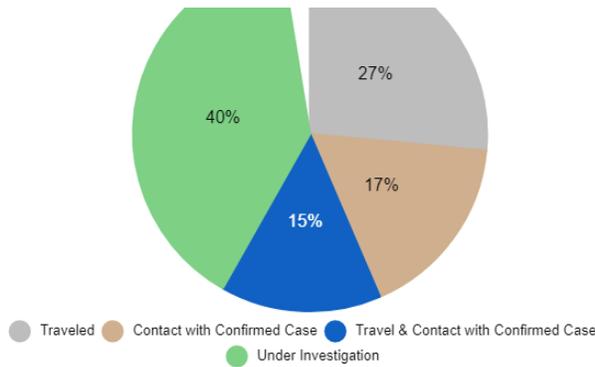
Please ensure that all field personnel that do not receive e-mail communications are informed of daily updates and are provided the Florida Department of Health and CDC information links to ensure proper protective measures are taken.

603 Florida Residents	55 Non-Resident	10 Sarasota County	658 Total	41 Total Counties
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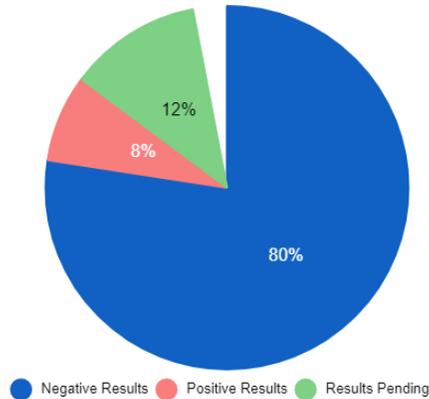
COVID-19 Case Overview



179
Traveled



Number of People Tested



115

Contact w. Confirmed

99

Travel and Contact w. Confirmed

265

Under Investigation

6579

Negative Results

658

Positive Results

1002

Results Pending

Emergency Declaration



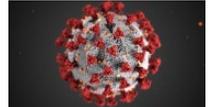
Emergency Order



Executive Order



Public Health Emergency Declaration



Nile Cruise Advisory

The department is advising all individuals who traveled on a river cruise on the Nile River in Egypt in February 2020 to self-isolate for 14 days following their date of return to the United States. Several passengers in the United States recently developed symptoms and have been confirmed to be infected with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), including two presumptive positive cases in Florida.

Travel



International Travel Advisory

DOH is advising all individuals who have traveled internationally to follow the new CDC guidelines. Please visit the CDC travel advisories related to COVID-19, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>.

Level 3: Mandatory 14-day self-isolation and practice social distancing upon return to the United States. Social distancing includes avoiding going out in public and close personal interactions. If you become symptomatic, immediately self-isolate and contact your county health department or health care provider.

Level 2 and Cruises: Monitor your health and limit interactions with others for 14 days after returning to the United States. If you become symptomatic, immediately self-isolate and contact your county health department or health care provider.

Businesses



Advisory on Port Everglades

The Department, through an extensive epidemiological investigation, identified this new case as the third positive case of COVID-19 associated with Port Everglades in Broward County, Florida. Further, all three cases are connected to or employed by Metro Cruise Services – a company that operates at Port Everglades.

The Florida Department of Health recommends all individuals experiencing symptoms who have recently travelled through Port Everglades to immediately contact their County Health Department or health care provider and self-isolate for 14 Days.

The Department also recommends employees of Metro Cruise Services at Port Everglades with any association to these cases self-isolate at home.

The Department is working to connect with all employees at Metro Cruise Services who may have come into contact with the three individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 to provide the employees with the appropriate guidance and monitoring.

The department is working in close consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on this investigation.

The CDC recommends that individuals with recent travel history on a cruise to monitor their health for 14 days and, if they develop symptoms, to immediately self-isolate and contact their County Health Department or health care provider.

Schools



Faith Based



Department or health care provider.

Please call the state of Florida's 24/7 hotline for COVID-19 at 1 (866) 779-6121 for assistance in connecting with your County Health Department or health care provider.

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Flash Reports



FDOH COVID-19



CDC COVID-19



FAQ

