



Sarasota County Emergency Management

Flash Report #34
Updates listed in blue.



March 31, 2020

Activation Level 2: Partial

Event Name: COVID-19

Situation

As of noon today, Sarasota County is reporting 71 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 62 Sarasota County residents and nine non-Florida residents. There have been two deaths in Sarasota County to date. 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 currently reporting a total of 6338 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Florida.

DOH Sarasota will resume COVID-19 testing today at the Drive-Thru COVID-19 testing site at Twin Lakes Park. More than 65 community members were tested today.

Visitors to the Sarasota County COVID-19 testing site must be referred by a physician to be tested. The physician's office will contact DOH Sarasota who will then contact the individual with an appointment day and time.

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.

On March 27, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-87, ordering all parties engaged in rental of vacation rental properties to suspend vacation rental operations. Vacation rentals are prohibited from making new reservations or bookings and shall not accept new guests for check-in for the duration of this order.

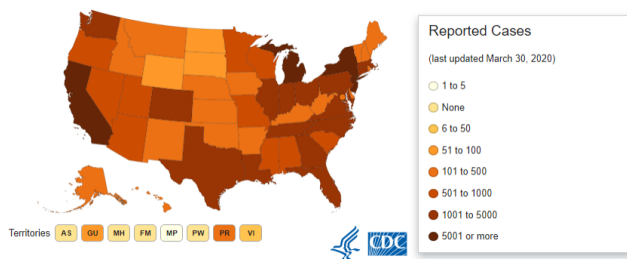
On March 27, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-86, directing all persons who enter the State of Florida from an area with substantial community spread, to include the State of Louisiana, inclusive of those entering the State of Florida by roadways, to isolate or quarantine for a period of 14 days from the time of entry into the State of Florida or the duration of the person's presence in the State of Florida, whichever is shorter.

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.

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.



Possible Impacts

COVID-19 is a new disease and there is limited information regarding risk factors for severe disease. Based on currently available information and clinical expertise, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. 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.

Watch, Warnings, Advisories

Global Level 4 Health Advisory - Do not travel.

Public Health Advisory for Vulnerable Populations, Gatherings of Private Citizens and Density of the Workforce.

Global Level 4 Health Advisory

The Department of State has issued a Global Level 4 Health Advisory, advises U.S. citizens to avoid all international travel due to the global impact of COVID-19.

High Risk Countries

Depending on your travel history, you will be asked to stay home for a period of 14 days from the time you left an area with widespread or ongoing community spread (Level 3 Travel Health Notice).

Cruise Ship Travel

CDC has issued a Level 3 Travel Health Warning for cruise ship travel.

Sarasota County Actions

The Department of Health in Sarasota County, Sarasota County and Sarasota Memorial Hospital established a COVID-19 appointment only drive-thru specimen collection site at Twin Lakes Park for symptomatic people who meet current CDC testing guidance.

Sarasota County with the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office and Executive Policy Group is monitoring social distancing measures being considered by Collier, Hillsborough, Lee, Orange, and Pinellas Counties.

Employee Health and Benefits announced Virtual EAP sessions to help employees cope with stress.

Park amenities (courts, playgrounds, dog parks) have closed.

Sarasota County's Permitting Center and Utilities Customer Services at 4000 S. Tamiami Trail have moved temporarily to 1001 Sarasota Center Blvd., Sarasota. Customers may conduct business by using phone, e-mail and online service options. Customers who come in-person will experience increased wait times and will be health screened.

Visitor screenings are being performed 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 have implemented a drive-thru service.

The County Administrator extended the emergency declaration through April 5, 2020. The EOC will continue to 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 representative.

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 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.

The CDC does not recommend that asymptomatic, healthy people wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19. Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).

Essential Elements of Information

6096 Florida Cases	Declared Local State of Emergency	Declared State of Emergency	Declared Federal Emergency	Level 1 State EOC Activation	165874 USA Cases
7005 Text Alert Opt-ins	03/16 - 04/30 Schools Closed	1186 Currently Monitored	242 Non-Florida Resident Cases	921 Contact Center Calls Answered Daily Total	10 seconds Contact Center Wait Time
77 Florida Deaths	116 Parks Open	11 Libraries Closed	04/06/20 LSE Expiration	809608 Global Cases	62651 Number of People Tested
Activated Fire - DOC	Activated Health Department - DOC	Partial Parks - DOC	Partial Libraries - DOC	Partial Public Works - DOC	Partial Public Utilities - DOC

Directors

Finance and Administration requests all directors to help procurement prioritize requests.

Reminder for all departments to send any communications through communications@scgov.net.

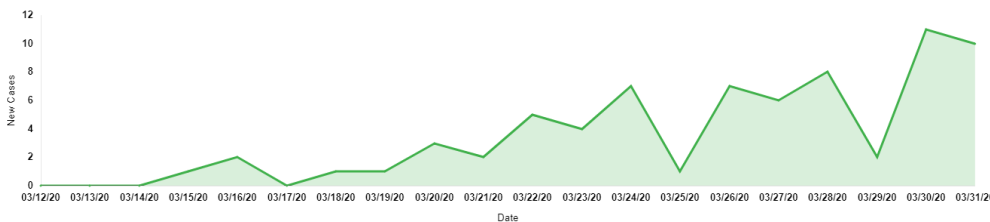
Public Records Request continue to come in and departments are responsible for responding in a timely fashion.

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.

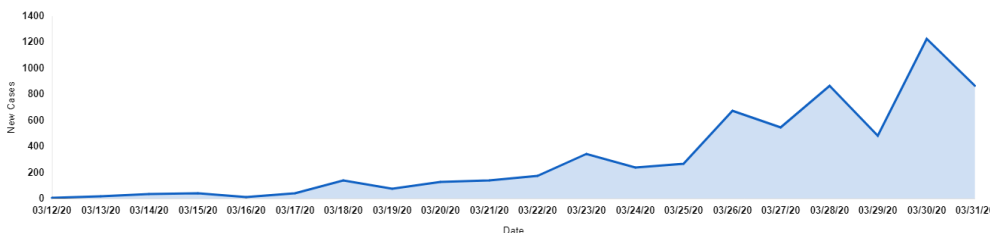
All Agencies and Partners

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.

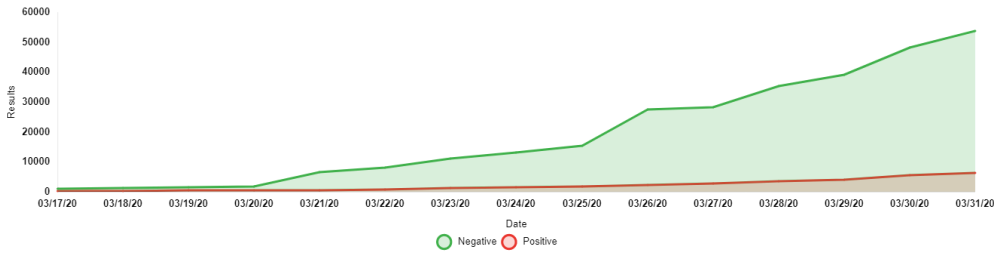
New Cases in Sarasota



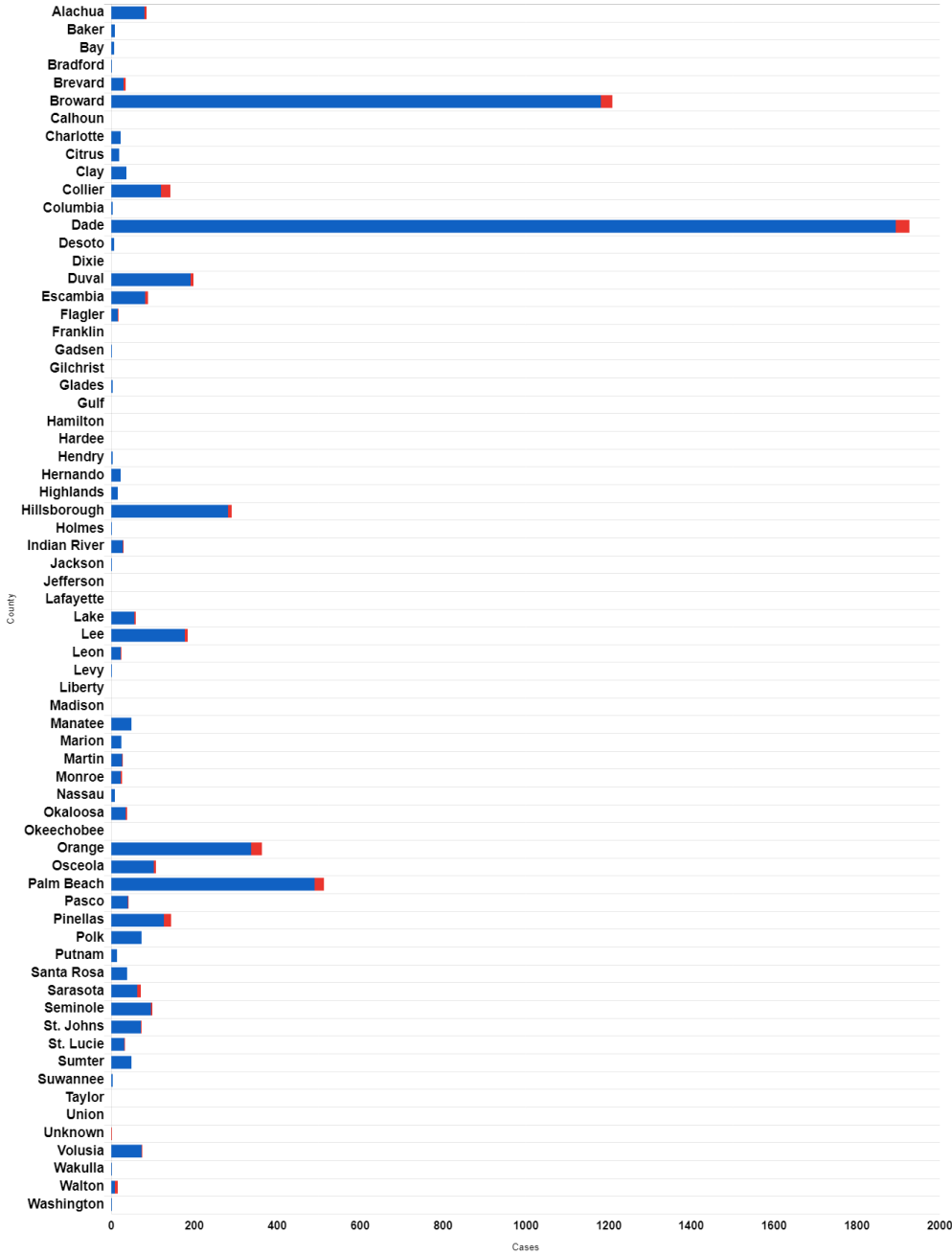
New Cases in State of Florida



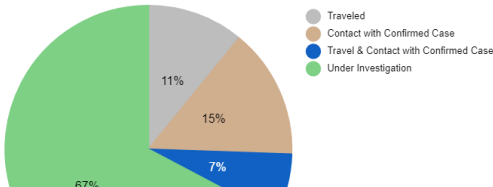
Negative vs. Positive Results in State of Florida



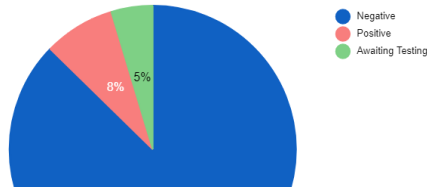
Number of Cases Per County

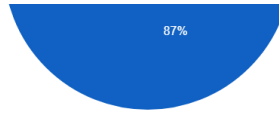


COVID-19 Case Overview in State of Florida



Number of People Tested in Sarasota County





665
Traveled

892
Contact w. Confirmed

436
Travel and Contact w. Confirmed

4103
Under Investigation

39
Awaiting Testing

729
Negative

67
Positive

Faith Based

Travel

Emergency Declaration

Emergency Order

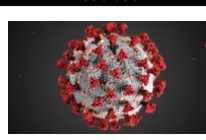


Schools

Businesses

Executive Order

Public Health Emergency Declaration



Flash Reports

CDC COVID-19

FDOH COVID-19

FAQ



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