



Sarasota County Emergency Management

Flash Report #44

Updates listed in blue.



April 10, 2020

Activation Level 2: Partial

Event Name: COVID-19

Situation

As of noon today, Sarasota County is reporting 208 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 194 Sarasota County residents and 14 non-Florida residents. There have been 10 deaths reported in Sarasota County to date. Confirmed cases range in age from 0 to 99, with 90 men and 118 women testing positive. There have been 1,816 people tested for COVID-19 with an 11.5 percent positive return rate. All confirmed cases in Sarasota County are receiving the appropriate medical care and are hospitalized or self-isolated.

The Florida Department of Health is currently reporting a total of 17,531 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Florida.

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.

DOH Sarasota is doing COVID-19 testing today at the Drive-Thru COVID-19 testing site at Twin Lakes Park. As of today, more than 830 tests have been done at Twin Lakes Park. DOH Sarasota will pause operation at the conclusion of Saturday's appointments to re-evaluate community COVID-19 testing options.

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.

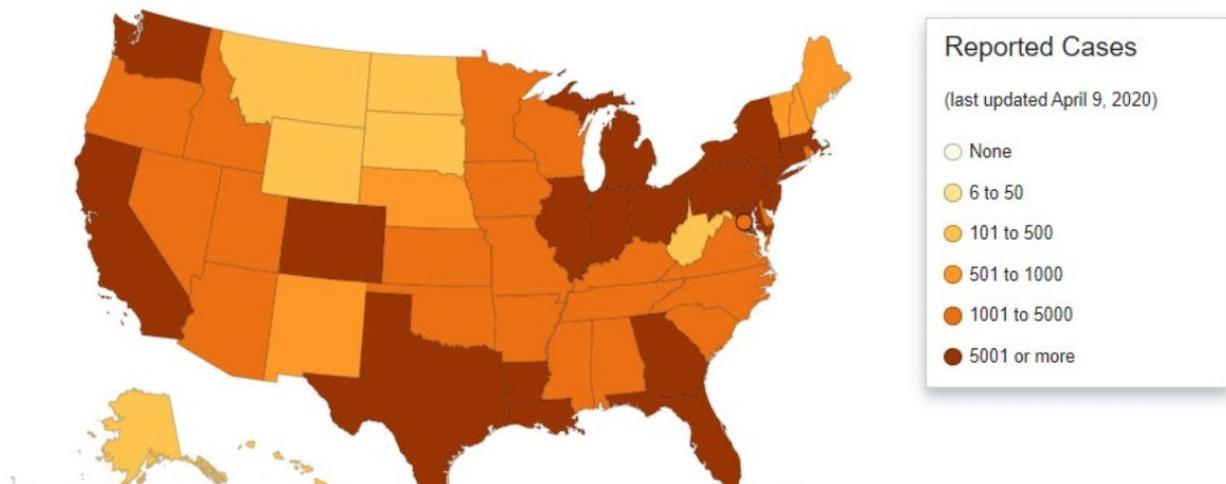
DOH continues to visit all licensed long term care facilities in Sarasota County to ensure proper COVID-19 infection control guidelines as established by the CDC are being used to prevent the spread of the virus.

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.

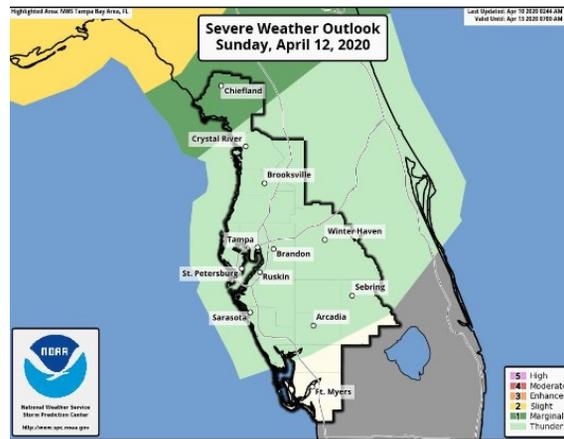
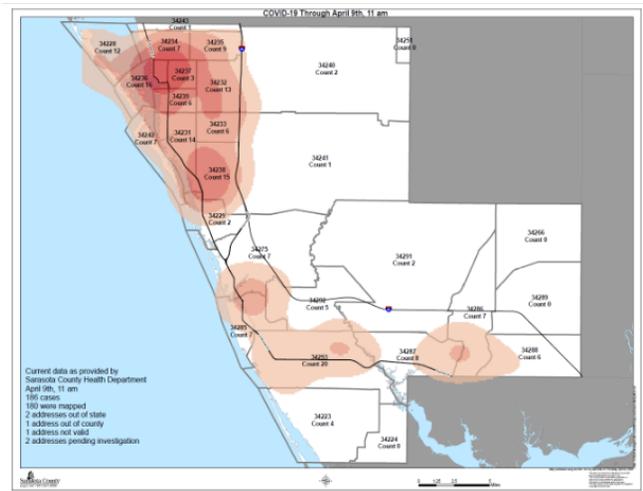
Stay home except to get medical care: You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Avoid using public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

States Reporting Cases of COVID-19 to CDC*



Coronavirus Density Map | Weather Update

Double click maps to view enlarged version.



Overview: A complex storm system will move through the southeastern states during the upcoming weekend. As this storm system moves by to the north ample moisture and instability as well as strong wind shear within the atmosphere may support some severe storms across Levy county on Sunday, with scattered thunderstorms expected across the remainder of west central and southwest Florida.

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.

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.

Travel in the United States

The CDC urges residents of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut to refrain from non-essential domestic travel for 14 days effective immediately. This Domestic Travel Advisory does not apply to employees of critical infrastructure industries, including but not limited to trucking, public health professionals, financial services, and food supply.

Cruise Ship Travel

CDC has issued a Level 3 Travel Health Warning for cruise ship travel. CDC recommends that all people defer travel on cruise ships, including river cruises, worldwide. That's because the risk of COVID-19 on cruise ships is high. Older adults and people with serious chronic medical conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, or lung disease, should especially defer travel on cruise ships, including river cruises, because of their increased risk for severe disease.

Passengers who return from a cruise ship or river cruise voyage are advised to stay home for 14 days, monitor their health, and practice social distancing.

Sarasota County Actions

SCAT will suspend service of Routes 4, 11, and 18 beginning April 11 and begin On Demand Services for public transportation for essential trips such as employment, medical appointments, pharmacy and grocery shopping.

Water service shut-offs have been waived through April 30 for non-payment of utilities bills. Late payment fees have been waived from March 18 until further notice. Accounts charged during this time are being adjusted.

The County Administrator extended the emergency declaration through April 12, 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 before entering the building. Please remember to complete a Daily Disaster Logs and follow submission instructions from your Disaster Log representative.

Effective Tuesday April 7th in-person staffing at the EOC will be reduced with some positions shifting to remote working.

Teladoc visit copays will be waived until June 4, 2020, regardless of diagnosis.

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

Sarasota County canceled all events at county facilities through April 30.

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'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. In-person customers are by appointment only and will be health screened.

All visitations at Admin. and BOB are by appointment only. Visitor prescreenings are being conducted prior to entrance.

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

Successful coordination with School Board and Comcast to provide internet access to students and families at no cost including families with past due accounts or discontinued service.

Emergency Services has added a fourth rapid response vehicle.

Key Points

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies) especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

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.

Essential Elements of Information

17018

Florida Resident Cases

Declared

Local State of Emergency

Declared

State of Emergency

Declared

Federal Emergency

467184

USA Cases

513

Non-Florida Resident Cases

Total Florida Cases by Region

Faith Based



Travel



Higher Education



Healthcare



Homeless Shelters



First Responder



Schools



Businesses



Mass Gatherings



Retirement Communities



Correctional Facilities



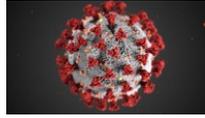
Emergency Declaration



Emergency Order



Public Health Emergency Declaration



Executive Order



Flash Reports



CDC COVID-19



FDOH COVID-19



FAQ

