# COVID-19 Communication Highlights

**May 8, 2020**

This document was previously referred to as the Daily Key Points. It will be updated and distributed on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

## SNAPSHOT

As of May 8
- CDC has reported
  - **1,248,040** confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19
  - **75,477** confirmed and probably COVID-19-related deaths.
- All 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have reported cases of COVID-19.
  - Of those, 36 states report COVID-19 cases are "widespread;" **25 states report more than 10,000 cases** of COVID-19." See CDC's map to stay up to date on what is happening in your state.

## CDC BY THE NUMBERS

- Follow COVID-19 by the numbers to stay updated on CDC activities. For example
  - **More than 4,600 CDC personnel are supporting the COVID-19 outbreak response.**
  - **CDC social media has had more than 1.1 billion impressions on 2,736 CDC response-related posts.**
  - **People have viewed CDC's COVID-19 websites 1.2 billion times.**
  - **CDC has created 1,262 resources and guidance documents for government agencies, businesses, and the public.**
  - **CDC-INFO has received more than 209,000 calls and emails.**
  - **CDC has received more than 19,000 inquiries from health departments, doctors, nurses, and other clinical staff.**

## PRIORITY MESSAGES

- Know how to protect yourself and others.
  - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Know what precautions to take in public settings, especially if your community is reopening.

- Put distance between yourself and others—stay at least 6 feet from other people.
  - [Wear cloth face coverings i](link)n 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.
  - Cloth face coverings should not be placed on children under age 2.
- Order online or use curbside pickup.
  - Order food and other items online for home delivery or curbside pickup (if possible).
  - Only visit the grocery store, or other stores selling household essentials, in person when you absolutely need to. This will limit your potential exposure to others and the virus that causes COVID-19.
- This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

## NEW MESSAGES AND RESOURCES

### CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR RESPONSE PLANNING

- CDC has published [Critical Infrastructure Sector Response Planning](link) to help maintain healthy business operations, reduce transmission among employees and the public, and maintain a healthy work environment.
- Functioning [critical infrastructure](link) is imperative during the response to the COVID-19 emergency for both public health and safety as well as community well-being. Critical infrastructure workers perform job tasks across [16 critical infrastructure sectors](link).
- When creating plans, businesses are encouraged to
  - Implement CDC's [Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019](link) to help prevent or slow the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace.
  - Comply with applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements for protecting critical infrastructure workers who remain on the job during the COVID-19 pandemic. OSHA has published [guidance and enforcement information for workplaces](link).

### MANAGING WORKPLACE FATIGUE

- [Emergency responders](link), healthcare workers, and others providing essential services to the community are working longer hours and more shifts than usual, which leaves them less time to sleep and recharge.
- Long work hours and shift work, combined with stressful or physically demanding work, can lead to poor sleep and extreme fatigue, increasing the risk for injury, infections, illnesses, and mental health disorders.
- CDC's [What Workers and Employers Can Do to Manage Workplace Fatigue during COVID-19](link) offers strategies that workers and employers can use to manage workplace fatigue and work safely. Topics include—

- Tips to improve sleep
- Actions to take if you feel too tired to work safely
- Steps employers can take to reduce workplace fatigue for workers

## REPORTING COVID-19 LABORATORY DATA

- The public health response to COVID-19 depends on comprehensive laboratory testing data that contribute to understanding disease incidence and testing coverage. These data can also contribute to the identification of supply chain issues for reagents and other material.
- CDC is working with state health departments to collect SARS-CoV-2 laboratory testing data that states already receive from most clinical laboratories.
- CDC also receives SARS-CoV-2 testing data directly from state and local public health laboratories, a few large commercial laboratories, and its own laboratories.
- CDC has outlined reporting requirements for laboratories in Reporting COVID-19 Laboratory Data.
- State public health laboratories and select large commercial laboratories that currently report directly to CDC should continue sending that data.

## PETS AND OTHER ANIMALS

- CDC has created a Pets and Other Animals section on its COVID-19 website. This updated section includes—
    - COVID-19 and Animals, which explains the risk of spread of COVID-19 between humans and animals
    - If You Have Pets, which provides information about how to protect pets from possible infection with COVID-19
    - If Your Pet Tests Positive, which includes steps to take if a pet becomes ill with COVID-19
    - Guidance for Veterinary Clinics, which outlines what is known about animal-to-human transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19, how to protect staff and patients during the pandemic, and how to develop infection control and response plans

## MMWRS

## PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSES TO COVID-19 CASES IN CORRECTIONAL AND DETENTION FACILITIES—LOUISIANA, MARCH-APRIL 2020

- CDC published Public Health Responses to COVID-19 Cases in Correctional and Detention Facilities—Louisiana, March-April 2020 on May 8.
- In Louisiana, 46 facilities have reported 489 COVID-19 cases among incarcerated or detained persons and 253 cases among staff members.
- Louisiana developed a COVID-19 Management Assessment and Response (CMAR) tool. It worked with CDC to use CMAR to assess the awareness and understanding of CDC's correctional facility guidance in 24 facilities.

- The assessment found that limited capacity to individually quarantine people exposed to the virus and inability to engage in social distancing likely contributed to the spread of illness.
- In the future, the CMAR tool could be used to assess COVID-19 management practices and guide strategies to mitigate COVID-19 transmission in settings with inherent constraints to some infection control recommendations.

## IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON ROUTINE PEDIATRIC VACCINE ORDERING AND ADMINISTRATION—UNITED STATES, 2020

- CDC published Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Routine Pediatric Vaccine Ordering and Administration — United States, 2020 on May 8.
- While staying at home during the COVID-19 outbreak has helped to slow the spread of the virus, it has also resulted in delays and decreases in the number of children getting their recommended vaccines.
- Data from two systems—CDC's Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) provider ordering data and the Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD) vaccine administration data—show decreases in ordering and administering of childhood vaccines during the first four months of 2020.
- Now and as local and state public health measures like stay-at-home orders are lifted, it's essential that parents make sure their children continue to be protected from deadly vaccine-preventable diseases.
- When social distancing begins to ease up, infants and children who are not protected by vaccines may be more vulnerable to diseases like measles and whooping cough.
- Vaccines are an essential part of well-child visits and should continue while local and state public health authorities implement measures to prevent COVID-19, like stay-at-home orders.

## DATA RESOURCES

- The May 8 edition of COVIDView, a weekly surveillance summary of US COVID-19 activity, provides updates for week 18 (April 26-May 2).
  - Nationally, levels of influenza-like illness, levels of COVID-19-like illness, and the percentage of specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) continue to decline.
  - Mortality attributed to COVID-19 also decreased compared to week 17 but remains elevated above baseline and may increase as additional death certificates are counted.