

2019 Coronavirus Situation Update – As of 3/31/2020 – 4:00 p.m.

For Immediate Release: March 31, 2020

Marion County Joint Information Center

Contact: Rachel Garner, Asst Director, Public Information Officer
Marion County Public Health Department
641-828-2238 x 223

YOUR ACTIONS MATTER. PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE. STAY INFORMED.

COVID-19 Community Spread Confirmed in Iowa, Marion County Leadership take additional measures to limit the spread within the county. There are no current reported, positive cases in Marion County.

The Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a rapidly, changing situation. Due to detection of substantial community spread in Iowa, new recommendations are being made and new mitigation measures should be implemented immediately for Marion County residents.

- Community spread occurs when individuals have been infected with the virus in an area and cannot specifically identify the source of the infection, or do not know how or where they became infected.
- The CDC recommends the following home isolation measures be taken if you are sick and if you will not have a test to see if you are still contagious. You can leave your sick room and home when:
 - No fever for at least 72 hours (3 days) **AND**
 - Other symptoms have improved **AND**
 - It has been 7 days since you started feeling sick.

President Trump has made a proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak

- The President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America: 15 Days to Slow the Spread as of 3/16/20. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/03.16.20_coronavirus-guidance_8.5x11_315PM.pdf

THE PRESIDENT'S CORONAVIRUS GUIDELINES FOR AMERICA

15 DAYS TO SLOW THE SPREAD

Listen to and follow the directions of your **STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES**.

IF YOU FEEL SICK, stay home. Do not go to work. Contact your medical provider.

IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE SICK, keep them at home. Do not send them to school. Contact your medical provider.

IF SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS TESTED POSITIVE for the coronavirus, keep the entire household at home. Do not go to work. Do not go to school. Contact your medical provider.

IF YOU ARE AN OLDER PERSON, stay home and away from other people.

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A SERIOUS UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITION that can put you at increased risk (for example, a condition that impairs your lung or heart function or weakens your immune system), stay home and away from other people.

For more information, please visit [CORONAVIRUS.GOV](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

THE PRESIDENT'S CORONAVIRUS GUIDELINES FOR AMERICA

DO YOUR PART TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS

Even if you are young, or otherwise healthy, you are at risk and your activities can increase the risk for others. It is critical that you do your part to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Work or engage in schooling **FROM HOME** whenever possible.

IF YOU WORK IN A CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INDUSTRY, as defined by the Department of Homeland Security, such as, healthcare services and pharmaceutical and food supply, you have a special responsibility to maintain your normal work schedule. You and your employers should follow CDC guidance to protect your health at work.

AVOID SOCIAL GATHERINGS in groups of more than 10 people.

Avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts—**USE DRIVE-THRU, PICKUP, OR DELIVERY OPTIONS.**

AVOID DISCRETIONARY TRAVEL, shopping trips, and social visits.

DO NOT VISIT nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE:

- Wash your hands, especially after touching any frequently used item or surface.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Dispose or change into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.
- Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.

[CORONAVIRUS.GOV](https://www.coronavirus.gov)

School operations can accelerate the spread of the coronavirus. Governors of states with evidence of community transmission should close schools in affected and surrounding areas. Governors should close schools in communities that are near areas of community transmission, even if those areas are in neighboring states. In addition, state and local officials should close schools where coronavirus has been identified in the population associated with the school. States and localities that close schools need to address children's needs of critical responses, as well as the additional needs of children.

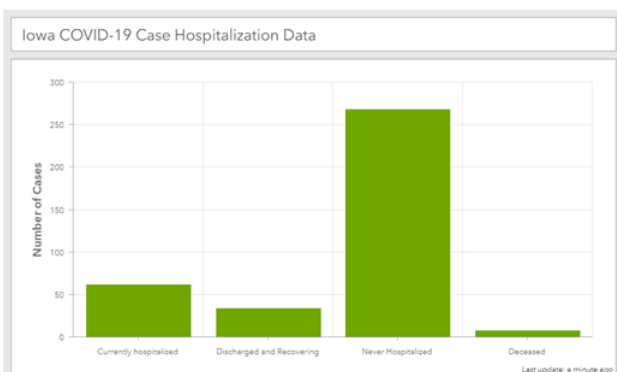
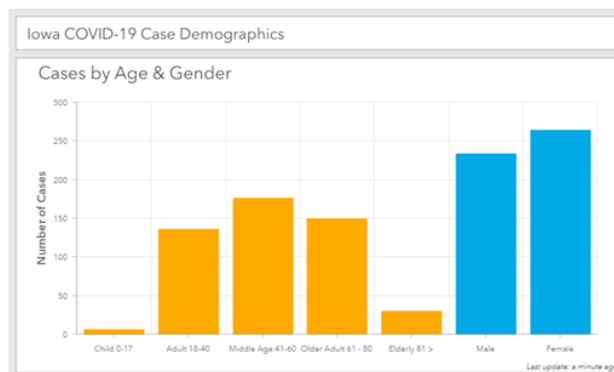
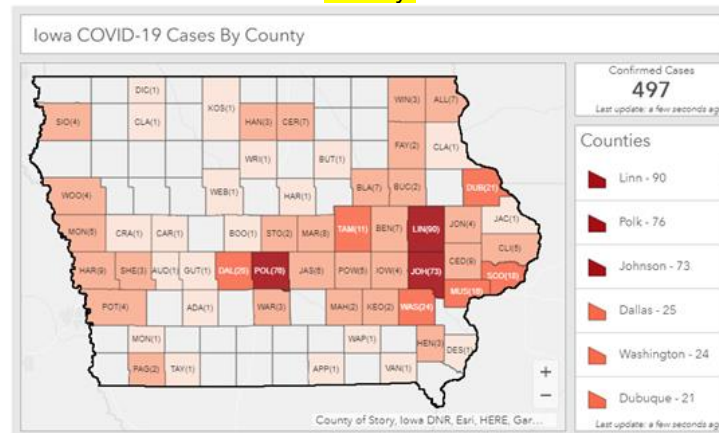
Older people are particularly at risk from the coronavirus. All states should follow federal guidance and halt social visits to nursing homes and retirement and long-term care facilities. In states with evidence of community transmission, bars, restaurants, food courts, gyms, and other indoor and outdoor venues where groups of people congregate should be closed.

All information included in this Situation Report is current as of the time and date identified above. All Information in regular text is current information. All text with ~~strike through~~ text identify outdated or completed information. New information is **highlighted**.

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COVID-19 New Details:

3/31/20 The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) has been notified of 73 additional positive cases of Iowans with COVID-19, for a total of 497 positive cases. One death was reported in Muscatine County, a middle-aged (41-60) resident. There have been a total of 6,888 negative tests to date, which includes testing reported by the State Hygienic Lab and other labs. There are no reported positive cases in Marion County.



COVID-19: U.S. at a Glance*† (Source: cdc.gov)

- Total cases: 163,539
- Total deaths: 2,860
- Jurisdictions reporting cases: 55 (50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands)
- Since 03-13-2020 Marion County has had 43 tests that were negative.
- 3/29/20 President Trump said on Sunday that federal guidelines urging Americans to social distance to slow the spread of the coronavirus will remain in place for another month and could last until June; Trump said the guidelines will continue to ask Americans to socially distance until **April 30**.
- IDPH is encouraging us to remind people on the job; Take your temperature **BEFORE** coming to work and if you have a temp OR any respiratory symptoms that are not usual for you (ex; allergies, chronic cough) stay home!
- **POISON ALERT:** Serious Toxicity from Chloroquine and Hydroxychloroquine. As CQ and HCQ are being revitalized for the treatment of CoVID-19, it is important to remember the severe toxicity associated with its use. Ensure that patients are locking up these medications and not stockpiling, as even one tablet can be very toxic or fatal to a child. Contact the Iowa Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222 as soon as a CQ or HCQ exposure is suspected
<https://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/7/Poison%20Alert%202020-03-25.pdf>

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- IDPH has announced that there is a need for blood donations. Information can be found at: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/coronavirus--covid-19--and-blood-donation.html>
- 3/26 Governor's Press Conference - Governor Reynolds announced additional closures for retail stores as well as extending existing closures (restaurants, bars, gyms, casinos, theaters, etc) both through April 7th. She also ordered the suspension of elective surgeries and dental procedures. Governor Reynolds also ordered enhanced health screenings for all staff at healthcare facilities, including nursing homes. The full Public Health Emergency Declaration can be found here: <https://governor.iowa.gov/press-release/gov-reynolds-signs-new-proclamation-continuing-state-public-health-emergency-0>
- 3/25/20 With Coronavirus Deal Struck, Congress Moves to Take Up Relief Package: Legislation to provide direct financial checks to many Americans, expand unemployment insurance, offer health-care providers additional resources <https://www.wsj.com/articles/trump-administration-senate-democrats-said-to-reach-stimulus-bill-deal-11585113371>
- **Gov. Reynolds announced a new COVID-19 Website:** <https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/>
- Gov. Reynolds emphasized social distancing:
 - Send 1 person out of the household to run essential errands/buy essential groceries
 - Do not send your child to childcare if at all preventable
 - Work from home if in any way possible
 - Stay home if you're sick
 - Stay home if you're not sick

What can Marion County residents do to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19?

- Please follow all media releases regarding COVID-19 in Marion County, Iowa by visiting:
 - Facebook: <https://fb.me/MarionCountyIAResponsetoCOVID19>
 - Latest video: <https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2F111833463775395%2Fposts%2F120709032887838%2F&data=02%7C01%7Crgarner%40marioncountyiowa.gov%7Cd980251b312c41308ae708d7d5af12a8%7Cb921ca4de7b642cc9528d09de2341a0f%7C0%7C0%7C637212820218467472&data=IhTspQxj2LmazL1Kn07P%2BbBMF7Sk0KkcSC82lYQ5bwo%3D&reserved=0>
 - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MarionCoCOVID19>
- Stay well by eating healthy and continue regular exercise. Here is ISU Extension's Words on Wellness, April edition, click here for ideas: <https://iastate.box.com/s/lj6c0i0s87zr60y115jn03o4cg2bjblj>

Local News in Marion County:

- **The Marion County Board of Supervisors and guests will hold a press conference Wednesday at 1 p.m. to update residents regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Tune into 92.1 KNIA or watch the live feed by following this link:** <https://www.facebook.com/KNIAKRLS/>
- Response to COVID-19: City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation - Parks, Trail and Playgrounds are currently open to the public, but please follow the CDC guidelines for social distancing (6 ft.) and personal hygiene. Please keep gatherings to less than 10 people and if you are not feeling well please stay home.
- 3/30/20 The City of Pella and the Pella Community School District have closed all playgrounds and play structures to the public. In addition, the City of Pella has closed the tennis courts and pickle ball courts. For more information visit <https://www.cityofpella.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=864>
- Iowa National Guard's 1133rd Transportation Company out of Mason City made a special delivery to Marion County to deliver supplies to first responders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic <https://www.kniakrls.com/2020/03/27/national-guard-soldiers-deliver-supplies-to-marion-county-first-responders/>

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- **COVID-19 Potential Fraud Scam Alert, 3/24/2020**
 - **FNS has already received at least one report of a potential scam targeting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants.**
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/scam-alerts>

Relief/Resources

- Mental Health Hotline: Crossroads of Pella Licensed Counselor, **Free of Charge!** For more information call Jim at 641-629-0019.
- Needing someone to pick up groceries, run some errands, or just someone to talk to? Crossroads of Pella can help, call 641-628-1212.
- All food relief and other resources regarding information for Marion County schools and residents will be updated live. Please check this link daily as information is rapidly changing:
https://comarionia-my.sharepoint.com/:w/g/personal/rgarner_marioncountyiowa_gov/EaVqpX3oKqpPmDspZ-NLi4wB91dogcoNveQFsSQhCmbksA?e=EpUvvc

Childcare/Schools

- Child Care Guidance in Response to COVID-19: Parent Referral Hotline 855-244-5301 or www.iowaccrr.org/families
- Iowa DHS has created a real time map with all of the available childcare resources for essential employees who are in need of childcare for their children. To see childcare availability in your area, please visit:
<https://iowa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/cabe69b5e2494259ab6c820c249e0f19>

Hospitals

Please continue to maintain your routine, medical care. If you have concerns about coming to your hospital or clinic, please contact your physician for other options. Telemedicine is being offered through many medical insurance plans. Call your medical insurance provider for more details. Not maintaining your critical appointments and not having your necessary prescriptions refilled could lead to complex, medical conditions that could greatly affect your overall health.

- **Pella Regional Establishes Patient Assessment Center** - PELLA, Iowa –Pella Regional Health Center has established a Patient Assessment Center (PAC) that will begin seeing patients with respiratory or infectious symptoms beginning on Friday, March 27. The PAC will be located off of Jefferson Street (map below) to the west of the Orthopaedic Center on Pella Regional's campus.
 - Patient and Visitor Screenings and Restrictions are in Place at **Pella Regional Health Center** beginning at 6:30 am on Tuesday, March 17th . Please visit <https://www.pellahealth.org/> for more details.
- **Knoxville Hospital & Clinics** Limits Public Entrances, Implements Screening in Vehicles
 - See a provider without leaving your house! Use KHC's Mobile Express Care to schedule a virtual visit with your primary care provider or a COVID-19 clinical screening and be seen by one of our Mobile Express Care providers on your mobile device, tablet or laptop. To schedule your Mobile Express Care appointment and for more details, visit <https://knoxvillehospital.org/clinics/request-covid-19-clinical-screening-virtual-visits-only/>
 - Acute Respiratory Clinic will held on KHC's campus on Sunday, March 29, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. You must enter campus via Howard Street for an initial screening. If further examination is required, KHC staff will see you while you remain in your vehicle.

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- Beginning Wednesday, March 18, Knoxville Hospital & Clinics (KHC) is limiting the number of public entrances to campus. All patients and visitors will be screened in their vehicles prior to entering the KHC campus.
- Please visit <https://knoxvillehospital.org/> for more details.
- Working on a remote clinic at the Bell Avenue Clinic to treat patients with COVID-19 symptoms to help maintain a safe facility for all patients. Will continue to work on an offsite clinic in the event of a COVID-19 surge.
- The **Knoxville Good Samaritan Free Clinic** at the Activity Center will be closed as of March 23rd.

Other County Information

- Please note that the Clerk of Court and all Court activities have been relocated to the new courthouse at 614 E. Washington. Court operations remain functional. You are encouraged to call the Clerk of Court if you have any specific questions. All other county government operations remain closed to the public. Please refer to the JIC for more information for each specific office.
- In accordance with President Trump's "15 Days to Control the Spread," the Marion County Board of Supervisors urges residents to suspend all non-essential travel (including work and vacation travel) until further notice.
- The Marion County Board of Supervisors approved the suspension of certain county government functions effective 3/18/20. Most departments are closed to the public but are still available by phone and/or email.
 - Please visit https://www.marioncountyiowa.gov/covid_19.htm for this and other county related information and closures.
 - More detailed information can be found at this link: https://comarionia-my.sharepoint.com/:w/g/personal/rgarner_marioncountyiowa_gov/EQb7Ekfu2VGvkm812u8RgBbWK0SUzjY91QhkQIMXeFGA?e=KhgKFs
- EMS/First Responders
 - 9-1-1 still active. Will be asked a set of questions upon calling related to COVID-19.
 - Doorway triage will look different: will be asked a set of COVID-19 related questions to provide first responders limited exposure.
 - Will be wearing different PPE – do not be alarmed. This is procedure and does not indicate any exposure to a patient with COVID-19.
- Please take note of all the ways you can continue to shop local to stimulate our local economy all while keeping you and your family safe.
<https://www.knoxvilleiachamber.com/covid-19-community-resources/>
<https://pella.org/pellanow/>
- Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/share-facts.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fshare-facts.html
- Interim Guidance for Administrators and Leaders of Community- and Faith-Based Organizations to Plan, Prepare, and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/guidance-community-faith-organizations.html>

Businesses

- **Focuses on manufacturers and their supply chain:** Mike O'Donnell, Program Director at Iowa State University Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS), will conduct a webinar on how CIRAS can assist manufacturing firms with supply chain disruptions and other challenges caused by COVID-19. Join us to learn what resources are available and how CIRAS could help you.

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- This is an open webinar and there is no need to register. To join this webinar please either use the link provided (<https://zoom.us/j/2716190371>) or dial in using your phone 1-312-626-6799 and then type in the meeting ID: 2716190371# US (Chicago).
- Please note that anyone calling in on their phones won't be able to ask questions. We encourage you to join via Zoom so you can ask questions. If you are only able to join via phone, please email your questions in advance to David Maahs at dmaahs@DSMpartnership.com.
- Summary of Bipartisan Agreement on “CARES” Act: Released Wednesday, March 25, 2020 <https://www.marioncountyiowa.com/covid-19-news/cares-act>
- For business related resources visit: https://comarionia-my.sharepoint.com/:w/g/personal/rgarner_marioncountyiowa_gov/EV3KltDJDAdPvhlq_U_6UvQBhxBqgAfv6gieL0GECGaFYw?e=6u4Xso

Useful links regarding COVID-19

- At President Trump's direction, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today is issuing an unprecedented array of temporary regulatory waivers and new rules to equip the American healthcare system with maximum flexibility to respond to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-makes-sweeping-regulatory-changes-help-us-healthcare-system-address-covid-19>
- For more information regarding COVID-19 related unemployment insurance claims, please visit the Iowa Workforce Development site at <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/>
- Marion County residents can find the most up-to-date information regarding COVID19 by visiting us at our website at <http://www.marioncountyiowa.gov/>, the Iowa Department of Public Health Coronavirus, and the Centers for Disease Control Coronavirus.
- You can also learn more by visiting <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus>. Along the left side of the screen, you will find guidance for your business and organization, health care, long term care, the general public, schools, travel and prevention.
- Information regarding how COVID-19 is impacting us globally: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/>
- For press releases, articles and news updates related to the Governor's vision for Iowa, please visit <https://governor.iowa.gov/newsroom>
- If you need assistance finding food, paying housing bills, accessing free childcare, or other essential services, find your local 211 or dial 211 to speak to someone who can help. <http://www.211.org/services/covid19#FAQ>
- COVID-19 DHS Resources
Guidance is rapidly changing as the COVID-19 pandemic unfolds. Please check regularly for the latest information <https://dhs.iowa.gov/COVID19>
- What to Know About Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Your Mental Health <https://dhs.iowa.gov/COVID19>
- When symptoms associated with your anxiety have affected your ability to function in some part of your life, it's time to reach out. Reach out to your healthcare provider and discuss your concerns.
 - Many insurers are covering telehealth for mental health services at this time. www.YourLifeIowa.org or live chat, text (855-895-8398) or phone (855-581-8111)
- Talking to Children About COVID-19 (Coronavirus): A Parent Resource [https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)
- COVID-19 Information By and For People with Disabilities <http://www.gmsavt.org/>