

COVID-19 Resource Newsletter

Current as of 8/7/2020

Please share relevant information and resources with your community partners.

Schools and Daycares

- Updated! [Decision Tree for People with COVID-19 Symptoms in Youth, Student, and Child Care Programs](#) (MDH)
- Updated! [COVID-19 Prevention Guidance for Youth and Student Programs](#) (MDH)
- [Minnesota State High School League Fall 2020 Return to Participation](#) (MSHSL)
- [Guidance for Delivering Direct Student Support Services: Staff Protective Equipment](#) (MDH)
- [Safe Learning Plan Page](#) (GOV) including [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about EO 20-82 and the Safe Learning Plan, and the PowerPoint Presentation used by Governor Walz.
- [Read the Safe Learning Plan for the 2020-21 School Year document](#) (MDE) which explains the decision-making process and Minnesota is going to approach the upcoming school year which are laid out in
- [Schools and Child Care: COVID-19](#) (MDH)

Business

- Updated! [COVID-19 Preparedness Plan Template and Instructions](#) (DLI) For additional information or assistance in developing a plan, businesses can contact MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation at 651-284-5060 or osha.consultation@state.mn.us.
- Updated! [COVID-19 Preparedness Plan and industry guidance FAQs](#) (DLI)
- Updated! [Frequently asked questions: COVID-19 and school employee rights and protections in the workplace](#) (DLI)
- Updated! [Frequently asked questions for employers and employees](#) (DLI)
- [Stay Safe Guidance for Behavioral Health and Disability Services](#) (DEED)
- Updated! [What to do if an employee has COVID-19](#) (MDH)

Community

- [Considerations for Community-Based Organizations](#) (CDC)

Congregate Living

- Updated! [Interim Guidance on the Prevention of COVID-19 for Employees and Persons Who Use Services in Licensed Group Homes](#) (MDH)
 - Updated! [Interim Guidance on the Management of COVID-19 for Employees and Persons Who Use Services in Licensed Group Homes](#) (MDH)
-

Families

- Talking with Children: Tips for Caregivers, Parents and Teachers, During Infectious Disease Outbreak
 - [Somali](#)
 - [Hmong](#)
 - [Spanish](#)
 - [English](#)
-

Health Care

- [COVID-19 Recommendations for Health Care Workers](#) (MDH) Provides recommendations for health care workers who are ill or living with a person suspected of having COVID-19 regarding self-quarantine and restriction from work.
-

Housing

- [Housing Support](#) (GOV)
-

Long Term Care

- Updated! [Road Map for Conducting a COVID-19 Point Prevalence Survey \(PPS\)](#) (MDH)
-

Masks

- [How to Get a Mask](#) (MDH) Webpage includes a map and listing of places Minnesotans can contact if they are unable to afford a mask or easily obtain one.
 - [Minnesota Homemade Mask Drive](#) (GOV)
-

Media

- [Translated Stay Safe MN Media](#) (GOV) New multilingual graphics

Mental Wellbeing

- [Mental Health Support](#) (GOV)
- The COVID Cares Support service has expanded their services beyond healthcare responders and essential services workers -Now any Minnesotan experiencing stress can call 833-HERE4MN (833-437-3466) for free telephone support from 9am to 9pm every day. The service is a collaboration with volunteers from the Minnesota Psychiatric Society, the Minnesota Psychological Association, the Minnesota Black Psychologists, and Mental Health Minnesota. The free service is also accessible at FastTrackerMN.org where searchers can also find psychiatric and mental health services availability and real-time Substance Use Disorder Treatment program openings.
- [Mental Health Support Resources](#) (MDH) Includes links to a breathing exercise PSA in English, Hmong, Somali and Spanish, and a 30 minute video with experts from each community about coping with the stresses of COVID-19.
- [Disaster Mental and Behavioral Health and COVID-19](#) (MDH) Includes a wide range of resources and information for community, health providers, families, workplaces, and more.

EPI Section

- [Confirmed Cases by Zip Code of Residence](#) (MDH) The downloadable CSV file is found on this webpage in the “Current Report” section
- Positivity Data (update regarding labs)
 - The vast majority to COVID tests are reported electronically, but approximately 2% are still reported via paper, fax, etc. to MDH. In the scenario where labs are reported via non-electronic means, MDH is not receiving data on negative tests results.
 - The positivity rate can only be calculated from labs that report both positive and negative tests. There are some labs that only provide number of positives. Because of this, there are some situations where the number of positives may be lower than the number of cases. If a lab doesn’t report negative tests, positives cannot be included in the positivity rate.
 - Without negative test results, we are unable to include the positives in positivity calculations. This is why the positivity calculation may be smaller than the total number of cases in a county. MDH is working on identifying how to resolve this. At this time, we do not have an ETA on a solution.
 - There are two labs that represent a large proportion of these cases, one of which is the ND PHL. Therefore, this may affect may be more noticeable in counties bordering ND.

Reminders

- There is a webinar series hosted by the Governor’s office and state agencies on accessing benefits and programs during the pandemic. Links to participate in the webinar will be posted on the [Webinars](#) page. Recordings of the first two webinars (Income, Child Care and Food Supports (DHS) and Healthcare (DHS and MNSure)) can also be found on the webpage. Upcoming topics are listed below.

Webinar Topic: Employment Services

When: Thursday, August 12, from 11am to 11:45am

Agency Lead: Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

Webinar Topic: Housing

When: TBD

Agency Lead: Minnesota Housing Finance Agency



Minnesota Department of Health | health.mn.gov | 651-201-5000
625 Robert Street North PO Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975

Contact health.communications@state.mn.us to request an alternate format.

08/07/2020