



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

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**COVID-19 Daily Update**

**New Case in California**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has confirmed an infection with the virus that causes COVID-19 in California in a person who reportedly did not have relevant travel history or exposure to another known patient with COVID-19. At this time, the patient's exposure is unknown. This case brings the total number of COVID-19 cases in the United States to 15.

**Japan School Closures**

Japan has ordered all elementary, junior high and high schools nationwide to close from Monday through spring break, which typically ends in early April.

**Testing in Hawaii**

We have the three components of the test kit in Hawaii. There was a concern about one of the components, but the CDC has said the state's laboratory can start the verification process now. The state could have testing capacity as early as next week.

Today, the CDC updated the definition of a Person Under Investigation (PUI) to account for travelers to other areas. CDC has posted updated Criteria to Guide Evaluation of PUI for COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>.

The DOH medical advisory issued yesterday also encourages clinicians to reach out to the health department to discuss testing if they have a patient hospitalized with severe respiratory illness and no identified source of exposure.

### **Business continuity preparedness**

Should the situation escalate in Hawaii, state and county agencies are actively preparing for continuity of business operations to deal with the potential threat of COVID-19's impact. In addition to prevention, the goal is to enable ongoing operations during a public health emergency.

### **National travel advisories**

The U.S. State Department has issued a [Level 3 Travel Warning Avoid Non-essential Travel for South Korea](#).

The U.S. State Department has issued a [level 4 travel advisory](#) asking people not to travel to China due to the COVID-19 outbreak. There is limited access to adequate medical care in affected areas. A level 2 travel advisory has been issued for [Japan](#) and advises people to exercise increased caution especially for older adults and those with medical conditions.

Before you travel, check out Travel Advisories and Alerts for your destination(s) at [www.travel.state.gov/destination](http://www.travel.state.gov/destination). The [State Department](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) provide specific advice to travelers on their websites.

Per the Department of Transportation, the Diamond Princess cruise ship is NOT coming to Hawaii and has not made any requests to do so.

### **Prepare now for potential risks**

The public health response is multi-layered, with the goal of detecting and minimizing COVID-19. While there are no cases of COVID-19 identified in Hawaii at this time, state health officials do expect to eventually identify cases in Hawaii because this is a global health threat to our entire nation. At this time, the imminent threat here in Hawaii is low. Nevertheless, state and county agencies are intensifying their preparations.

The Department of Health is advising people to take steps now to prepare should the risk of community spread increase.

Prepare a family plan should there be a COVID-19 outbreak in Hawaii. A family plan worksheet can be downloaded from: [https://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/files/2016/03/bw\\_emergency\\_plan.pdf](https://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/files/2016/03/bw_emergency_plan.pdf).

- If you have a large family in one home, consider what measures you can take to prevent the spread of illness. For a comprehensive list of specific measure you can take, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html#precautions>
- Prepare a kit similar to those used during hurricane seasons. These should include a 14 day supply of food, water and other necessities. For more information, visit this site: <https://health.hawaii.gov/prepare/protect-your-family/prepare-an-emergency-kit/>.



Set aside an emergency supply of any needed medication and keep a copy of your prescriptions in case you run out of medication. The DOH recommends a three-month supply. For more information, visit [https://health.hawaii.gov/prepare/files/2018/06/Plan\\_To\\_Be\\_Ready.pdf](https://health.hawaii.gov/prepare/files/2018/06/Plan_To_Be_Ready.pdf)

**SITUATION IN NUMBERS**  
total and new cases in last 24 hours

**Globally**  
82 294 confirmed (1185 new)

**China**  
78 630 confirmed (439 new)  
2747 deaths (29 new)

**Outside of China**  
3664 confirmed (746 new)  
46 countries (9 new)  
57 deaths (13 new)

**WHO RISK ASSESSMENT**

China                    Very High  
Regional Level    High  
Global Level        High

- Don't forget supplies for your pets.

**No cases of COVID-19 identified in Hawaii at this time**

Currently, there are no cases of COVID-19 identified in Hawaii. DOH is actively preparing for possible cases and working with state, county, and federal partners including the medical community in Hawaii. The following summary as of Feb. 27 shows the number of individuals being monitored or under quarantine because of their recent travel to China. These individuals were identified through screening by federal officials at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport. These numbers fluctuate often as travelers arrive, depart, or begin and end their self-monitoring with supervision by DOH.

**COVID-19 Summary of Numbers as of Feb. 27, 2020  
(updated as new information becomes available)**

Number of Confirmed Case(s)	0
Number of Persons Under Investigation (current, testing pending)	0
Number of Persons Under Investigation (closed, testing negative)	0
Number of Persons Under Quarantine	0
Number of Persons Self-Monitoring with DOH supervision	80

Of the 80 individuals who are self-monitoring with public health supervision, 73 are on Oahu, 5 are on Hawaii Island, 1 is on Maui, and 1 is on Kauai.

**Confirmed:** Meets CDC criteria and positive test result received from a certified laboratory.

**Person Under Investigation (PUI):** Meets CDC criteria for investigation and testing pending.

**Quarantine:** Individuals are required to remain in a designated location and separated from others. They are actively monitored by Department of Health staff. Quarantine is enforceable by law.

**Monitoring:** Individuals voluntarily remain at home and refrain from work, school, gathering places, and public transit. They communicate daily with Department of Health staff.

**Preventing the spread of misinformation and disease**

The Department of Health is committed to sharing information as it becomes available. People are urged not to spread misinformation or inaccurate statements that are not confirmed, and keep updated and informed on the situation.

Everyone can help prevent the spread of respiratory illness with these everyday actions.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Sign up for public notifications at [health.hawaii.gov/news/covid-19-updates](https://health.hawaii.gov/news/covid-19-updates).

### **Screening of arriving passengers at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport in Honolulu**

Foreign nationals who have been in mainland China within the last 14 days are being denied entry into the U.S. This includes not only people with a China passport, but all foreign nationals per [Department of Homeland Security guidance](#). The exception is U.S. citizens, legal permanent U.S. residents or their immediate family.

Enhanced screening procedures are in place at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport to help keep the public and traveling community safe. An additional feature is the non-contact thermal temperature scanners that are used for incoming passengers from China. [Airport passenger screening](#) continues to be conducted by federal authorities from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP). For additional information on the airport screening process [submit a media request to CDC](#).

### **Wearing Masks**

A mask can be effective if you are ill and can prevent the spread of your illness. A mask is not effective to wear when you are well and want to protect yourself from someone who is ill.