

April 17, 2020

JIC Update

COVID-19 JIC UPDATE 4/17/2020

Please note: The JIC update will be issued Monday through Friday.

Governor's Press Conference

The Governor held a press conference at 11:00 a.m. today.

Governor's Press Releases

Iowa schools to extend closures through end of school year

Des Moines- Gov. Kim Reynolds and the Iowa Department of Education announced today that all school districts and nonpublic schools will be closed for the remainder of the school year and will continue to offer continuous learning to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This also includes the cancellation of spring sports activities.

"While I would like nothing more than to open up our schools and classrooms in May, we have to prioritize the health and safety of Iowans," said Gov. Reynolds. "With our students at home, we must rely on continuous learning plans that are in place and prepare school districts for 'Return to Learn' in the fall. I greatly appreciate the work of Director Ann Lebo and all our school administrators, educators, and staff during this unprecedented time."

The decision, which was announced today during Gov. Kim Reynolds' press conference, is based on recommendations from the Iowa Department of Public Health to ensure the health and safety of Iowa students, teachers, school administrators and other school staff.

"Iowa teachers should be commended for how quickly they have transitioned from the classroom to online and distance learning," said Iowa Department of Education Director Ann Lebo. "Our schools have really stepped up to the plate and worked hard to develop and implement continuous learning solutions in only a matter of weeks. We appreciate everything schools and families are doing to support children's well-being while continuing to support their academic progress while school buildings are closed."

The governor and the Iowa Department of Education also announced that the state of Iowa will:

- Waive instructional time requirements for the remainder of the 2019-2020 regularly scheduled academic year for schools that continue to provide continuous learning through one of two approved options, voluntary educational enrichment opportunities, required educational services, or a combination of the two.
- Require schools to submit a Return to Learn Plan to the Iowa Department of Education by July 1 outlining ways they will address disruptions to learning as a result of COVID-19. This could include summer school, enrichment activities or other opportunities to address the needs of learners.
- Waive the requirement that schools start no earlier than Aug. 23, allowing school districts and nonpublic schools to make local decisions about the length of their 2020-2021 academic year.

The governor had previously ordered schools to close through April 30. All of Iowa's 327 public school districts, as well as 179 nonpublic schools, currently offer continuous learning through one of the approved continuous learning options outlined above. Continuous learning encompasses a variety of approaches used

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to extend learning beyond brick and mortar buildings — online learning, e-learning, distance learning, including paper packets, and virtual learning.

School buildings will remain closed through the end of the school year except for approved meals site locations participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Summer Food Service Program and those providing temporary emergency childcare.

An announcement on summer sports activities and when other school-sponsored activities can resume will be made by June 1.

Additional COVID-19 cases in Iowa, additional deaths confirmed

Des Moines -Today, the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) has been notified of 191 additional positive cases for a total of 2,332 positive cases. There have been additional 926 negative tests for a total of 19,460 negative tests to date, which includes testing reported by the State Hygienic Lab and other labs.

According to IDPH, an additional 4 deaths were also reported, 183 are currently hospitalized, and 1,007 Iowans have recovered.

The additional 4 deaths were reported in the following counties:

Black Hawk County, 1 older adult (61-80 years)

Scott County, 1 older adult (61-80) years)

Tama County, 1 elderly adult (81+)

Washington County, 1 older adult (61-80) years)

The state of Iowa has released a dashboard on coronavirus.iowa.gov that will be updated daily to include comprehensive tracking of COVID-19 in Iowa. The new dashboard includes cases, deaths, and tests conducted in each county. The state is now providing demographic information that was not previously provided as well as Iowa’s epidemiological curve.

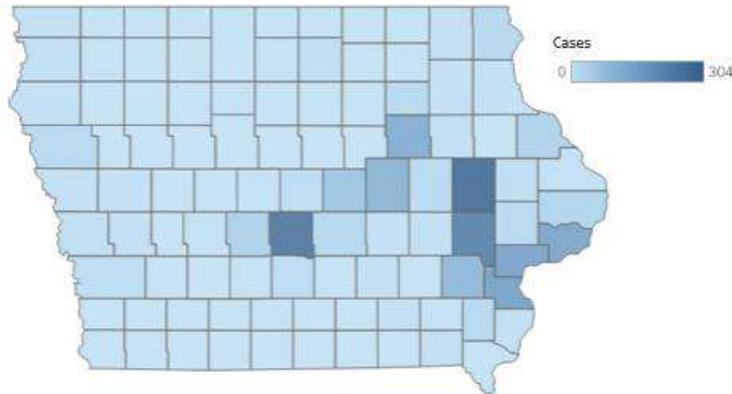
Map Data

https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

COVID-19 in Iowa

Data as of 4/16/2020 10:00 AM

Confirmed Cases by County
Hover or click on a county for details



Total Confirmed Cases	Total Deaths
2,332	64
Total People Tested	Total Confirmed Cases Recovered
21,792	1,007

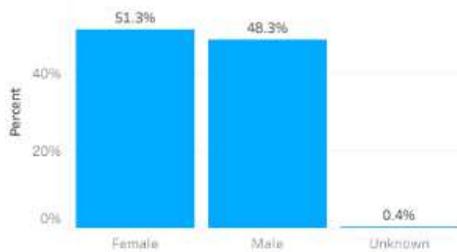
COVID-19 can affect people of any age, but adults in Iowa have been diagnosed with COVID-19 much more frequently than children. Children may still have (and spread) COVID-19, but not be so sick that they go to the doctor and get tested. Further, testing remains limited and physicians may not test children with mild disease, so they may be less likely to be reported as having COVID-19. Adults 60 and older have died more frequently than younger adults and children.

COVID-19 in Iowa

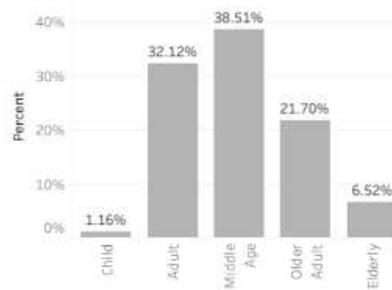
Confirmed Cases by Demographic

Data as of 4/16/2020 10:00 AM

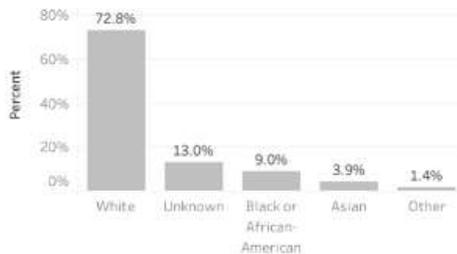
Confirmed cases by sex



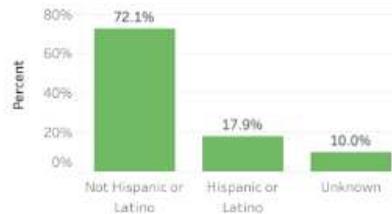
Confirmed cases by age group



Confirmed cases by race



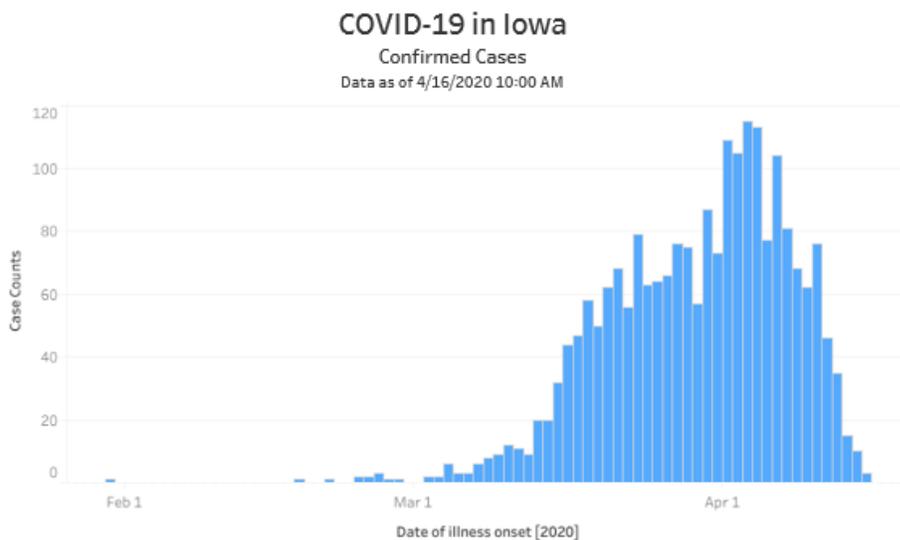
Confirmed cases by ethnicity



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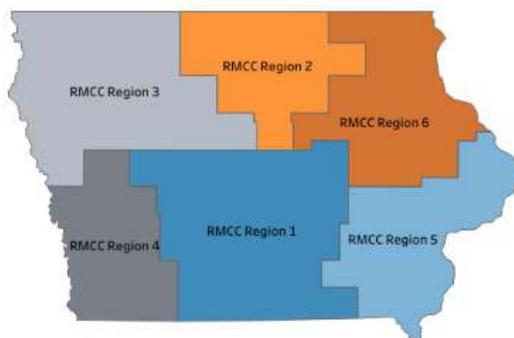
This chart shows the progression of the COVID-19 outbreak in cases and deaths over time, also known as an epidemiologic curve. Confirmed cases are people who tested positive. This is the curve that people are referring to when they say we want to "flatten the curve." Public health advises Iowans to stay home as much as possible in order to spread out the onset of disease over time, so that our healthcare system can continue to provide care to those who need it. While it's likely that there are more people in Iowa who have gotten sick with COVID-19 and not had a test, IDPH believes the shape of the curve is still informative; the number of people in our state who have had COVID-19 has been increasing through this time period. Because of the incubation period and how long a person is infectious, it will take some time to observe the impact of mitigation strategies. It should be noted that recent illnesses may not have been diagnosed or reported yet and data is updated as new information is received.



COVID-19 data are reported as timely, accurately and completely as we have available. Data are updated as we receive information that is more complete and is subject to change.

Regional Medical Coordination Centers (RMCC) Hospital Data Summary

Data as of 4/15/2020 10:00 AM



Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients	Total Inpatient Beds
175	7,937
COVID-19 Patient Admitted in last 24 hours	Total ICU Beds available
24	569
COVID-19 Patients in ICU	Available Ventilators
84	694
Patients on Ventilators	
48	

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Additional Information Resources

State of Iowa

<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/>

State of Iowa COVID-19 page with resources for residents from case numbers, state agency resources, and health information.

CDC

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

This page provides information on COVID-19 from the CDC. At the bottom of the page you can sign up to receive a COVID-19 newsletter.

Iowa Department of Public Health

Guidance for making homemade masks which can be found here:

https://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/7/Homemade%20Mask%20Design%20Guidance%203_28_20.pdf

Everyone needs help sometimes, Iowans who are experiencing stress, anxiety or fear related to COVID-19 can visit Your Life Iowa through the following sources:

- Web <https://yourlifeiowa.org/>
- Call: 855.581.8111
- Text: 855.895.8398

IDPH continuously updates information on their COVID-19 page. Find new press releases here:

https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Iowa Workforce Development

Iowans who may qualify for unemployment due to COVID-19 or under the CARES Act can find information and a link to apply online here: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/>

Iowa Business Recovery Assistance

Iowa businesses can receive relief assistance for qualifying business concerns. More information can be found at: <https://www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/businessrecovery.com>

Volunteer Iowa

Volunteer Iowa has set up an online volunteer event page for COVID-19-related volunteer opportunities. Opportunities are listed on the statewide online volunteer portal:

http://volunteeriowa.galaxydigital.com/need/?s=1&need_init_id=3002

Volunteer Iowa is also working to get volunteer centers, food banks, etc. to populate their volunteer needs on the portal so individuals have a resource to search for volunteer opportunities.

Iowa Legal Aid

Individuals with questions of a legal nature can call the COVID-19 Legal Information Hotline at 1-800-332-0419. The hotline was developed in partnership with Iowa Legal Aid, the Iowa State Bar Association, and the Polk County Volunteer Lawyer Project. The hotline can assist Iowans with business and compliance issues and other personal legal concerns. More information at <https://www.iowalegalaid.org/>.

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[Iowa Secretary of State](#)

Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate announced his office plans to mail an absentee ballot request form to every active registered voter in the state ahead of the June 2 primary. The forms will be sent in mid-late April and will include prepaid postage for return mailing to county auditors. See the press release for additional information.

https://sos.iowa.gov/news/2020_03_31.html

[Iowa Department of Human Rights](#)

The Iowa Department of Human Rights provides COVID-19 information in multiple languages at the following website: <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/node/1868/> - **NEW**

[Small Business Loans](#)

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has issued a disaster declaration for the state of Iowa as of January 31, 2020, and continuing. The declaration allows pandemic-impacted small businesses to apply for low-interest support loans. The declaration comes after Gov. Kim Reynolds submitted a federal funding request via the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program.

Applications can be made via the SBA's website: <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. Applicants can monitor the status of their applications online after submission.

For questions, please contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center at 1-800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Additional resources for businesses can be accessed at www.safeguardiowa.org.

[Emergency Interpretation Hotline](#)

The Iowa International Center offers a free phone interpretation hotline for emergency situations. These services are offered for emergency personnel (police, fire, paramedic, ER, domestic violence shelters) when they determine that language is a barrier to providing appropriate services at:

<https://iowainternationalcenter.org/local-resources/emergency-interpretation/>

[Rumor Control](#)

The World Health Organization has introduced a rumor control website that also has downloadable graphics. It is available: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters>

FEMA is operating a rumor control page at <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus-rumor-control>

FEMA also provides other resources like fact sheets: <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus>

Federal Coronavirus Site: <https://www.coronavirus.gov/>

The CDC also addresses this on their site: 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

Medicare Scams and Fraud information: <https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus>. Iowans can contact Iowa Senior Medicare Patrol for information about scams and to report Fraud. Iowa Senior Medicare Patrol is housed in the Iowa Insurance Division. <https://shipp.iowa.gov/smp/>

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FDA Fraudulent COVID-19 kits Information: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-alerts-consumers-about-unauthorized-fraudulent-covid-19-test-kits>. Overall Website: <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-issues/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

Comparison of Surrounding States to Iowa

As of 4/17/2020, the following is an overview of actions taken by Iowa and surrounding states concerning disaster declarations, shelter in place orders, school closures, business closures, and travel restrictions.

STATE	GOVERNORS DISASTER PROCLAMATION	PRESIDENTIAL MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION	GOVERNORS SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER	PUBLIC SCHOOLS	NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESS CLOSURES	TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS BETWEEN STATE BORDERS
Iowa	COVID-19 Emergency Declaration	Major Disaster Declaration Approved 3/23/2020	None	Closed the remainder of school year	Closed until 4/30/2020	None
Illinois	COVID-19 Emergency Declaration	Major Disaster Declaration Approved 3/26/2020	Entire State of Illinois until 04/30/2020	Closed until 04/30/2020	Closed until further notice	None
Missouri	COVID-19 Emergency Declaration	Major Disaster Declaration Approved 3/26/2020	Entire state of Missouri until 05/03/20	Closed the remainder of school year	4/24/2020	None
Nebraska	COVID-19 Emergency Declaration	Major Disaster Declaration Approved 04/04/2020	None	Closed until further notice	Closed until further notice	None
Wisconsin	COVID-19 Emergency Declaration	Major Disaster Declaration Approved 04/04/2020	Entire State of Wisconsin until 4/25/2020	Closed until further notice	Closed until further notice	None
Minnesota	COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Signed	Major Disaster Declaration Approved 04/07/2020	Entire State of Minnesota until 5/04/2020	Closed until further notice	Closed until further notice	None

HSEMD

JIC staff continues to post on social media.

Facebook: @IowaHSEMD

Twitter: @IowaHSEMD

How Do I ...

FIND INFO ON MY UTILITY PAYMENT?

COVID-19 in IOWA