



# School Nurse COVID-19 Updates

Erika Yoney, State School Health Consultant and Susan Klammer, Epidemiologist

April 1, 2020

PROTECTING, MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF ALL MINNESOTANS

ABOUT COVID-19

Prepare and Prevent

Information for Travelers

Information for Health Professionals

Information for Schools

Information for Businesses

Information for First Responders

What MDH is Doing

Materials and Resources

coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), please see [Evaluating and Testing for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#).

**Situation Update**

Latest information, including persons under investigation (PUI).

**Information for Travelers**

Travel guidance and recommendations during the outbreak.

**Prepare and Prevent**

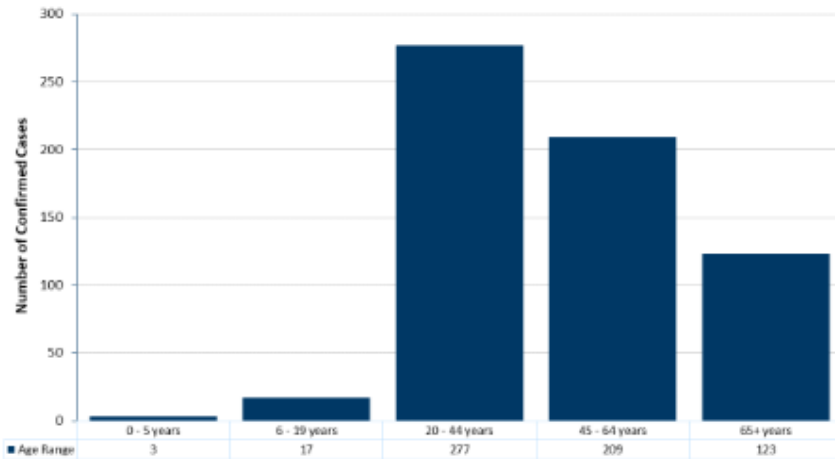
What you can do to protect

**Information for Health Professionals**

# Situational Awareness

# New Case Data on MDH COVID-19 Website

## Demographics



	Median Age	Age Range
All cases	46	5 months - 104 years
Non-hospitalized cases	42	5 months - 104 years
Hospitalized cases	63	6 - 95 years
Hospitalized cases in ICU	62	33 - 95 years
Deaths	86	58 - 95 years

Gender: 52% female, 48% male, 0% other

- Ability to subscribe to data updates
- [Situation Update for COVID-19 Disease \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/situation.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/situation.html)

## COVID-19 Updates

[Student Instruction COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Food and Nutrition COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Special Education COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Supporting Students COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Healthy Eating](#)

[Minnesota Student Survey](#)

[Recovery Programs](#)

[School Health Services](#)

## Contact

[COVID-19.Questions.MDE@state.mn.us](mailto:COVID-19.Questions.MDE@state.mn.us)

Governor Tim Walz and Education Commissioner Mary Cathryn Ricker have announced that all Minnesota public school districts and charter schools will implement a Distance Learning Period beginning on March 30, 2020, until at least April 30, 2020. [Read Executive Order 20-19](#). The pair previously announced that all Minnesota public schools closed from March 18 through March 27, 2020, to allow districts and charter schools to develop distancing learning plans, which they will now begin implementing on March 30, 2020.

## About COVID-19

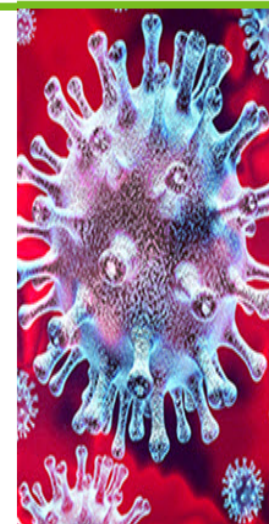
Staff, parents and students may have questions and concerns about the novel (new) coronavirus outbreak, now called coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is closely monitoring the situation and coordinating with other state and local agencies to share information as it becomes available.

MDH has posted information on their website at [Information For Schools, Colleges, and Universities on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#). Please share this information with your school administrators and health personnel, and ask them to share information with parents as they deem appropriate. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has posted [updated COVID-19-specific school preparedness/planning guidance on its website](#). Please also review [CDC's Pandemic Preparedness Resources](#) for more information about what schools and other organizations can be doing to help protect our communities.

This is an evolving situation, so check back to the [MDH Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) website](#) often for the latest information. For assistance with health-related questions about the coronavirus outbreak, [email the Minnesota Department of Health](#).

## Federal Waiver Application

U.S. Secretary of Education [Betsy DeVos announced on March 20, 2020](#), students impacted by school closures due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic can bypass standardized statewide assessments for the 2019–20 school year. The U.S. Department of Education has made a waiver process available to any state that is unable to assess its students due to the ongoing national emergency, providing relief



Check the Minnesota Department of Health website often for updates about COVID-19

[Sign up for email alerts](#)

### Related offsite resources:

[Governor Walz - Executive Orders](#)

[Child Care Information for Families and Providers](#)

[Archive](#)

# Updates from MDE

- The decision about presence in buildings is a district level decision made based on:
  - School and student needs
  - MDH recommendations for safety
  - Labor agreements

# Employee Screening

- It is recommended that you screen all employees prior to allowing them to enter your business.
- Have you had close contact with someone who was diagnosed or suspected to have COVID 19 within the last 14 days?
- Close contact means:
  - A person has been within 6 feet of a COVID-19 case or suspected COVID-19 case for a period of time. Close contact can occur while caring for, living with, or visiting with a COVID-19 case

**OR**

  - A person has had direct contact with body fluids of a COVID-19 case or suspected case from being coughed on, been intimate with, etc.
- Have you had a fever (100.4 degrees F or higher), shortness of breath, muscle aches, sore throat, or a new or increased cough in the last 7 days?
- If an employee says **YES** to either of these questions, **they should not report to work.**

- Masks are not required for working with well populations
- [Interim Guidance on Facemasks as a Source Control Measure \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/maskssource.pdf)  
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/maskssource.pdf>)
- [Interim Guidance on Alternative Facemasks \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/masksalt.pdf)  
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/masksalt.pdf>)

- NOT closed under the stay at home order
- Childcare centers can continue to use playgrounds
- Create a schedule so groups are not mixing
- Have students wash hands before and after
- If possible wipe handles etc. between groups
- Utilize other active recess strategies



Transmission risk through nebulizers is low but possible

In the childcare setting, seriously consider if a child requiring nebulizer treatments should be in the group setting and confer with primary care

MDH has released guidance regarding the use of aerosolized medication specific to those with COVID or those suspect cases

- [Interim Statement on Infection Prevention and Control for the Administration of Nebulized Medication to Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/aerosol.pdf)  
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/aerosol.pdf>)

# Childcare Staffing Lists

- **Testing:** Child care providers who have notified us of their willingness to care for children of emergency workers have been officially added to the state's priority list for COVID-19 testing. However, because of today's nationwide lack of testing capacity, the state lab is not able to test all prioritized groups. The only priority groups currently being tested are hospitalized patients, health care workers, and residents of communal living sites. The Governor's office is working closely with our federal delegation, local universities, health systems, and other laboratories in the state to increase lab testing capacity. Emergency workers and child care providers *are* a prioritized group for the next level of testing once more capacity is online.
- **Care availability:** It is assumed that schools have a site and if you do not currently have enrollment to open a site, the contact information for families should be publicly available and clearly communicated

- Travel Guidance (all international travel is Level 3 and NY, NJ and CT domestically):  
[Travel \(https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html)
- [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility \(https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/disinfecting-building-facility.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/disinfecting-building-facility.html)

# Thank you.

Email MDH: [health.schools.covid19@state.mn.us](mailto:health.schools.covid19@state.mn.us)

Email MDE: [COVID-19.Questions.MDE@state.mn.us](mailto:COVID-19.Questions.MDE@state.mn.us)