

County of Inyo



HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Public Health

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- Current Statistics as of: March 13, 2020

	Global	United States	California	Inyo County	Mono County
Confirmed Cases	134,443	1,215	246	0	0
Deaths	4,970	36	4	0	0

- As of 3/13/2020 there are zero confirmed cases of COVID-19 in both Inyo and Mono Counties. It is understandable that you may feel anxious about the outbreak. It can be difficult to ignore information from less reputable sources while we are being inundated but it is important to get your facts from reliable sources to help you accurately determine your risks and in order to take reasonable precautions (such as regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub in the absence of soap and water). Reliable guidance is updated regularly on the CDC and CDPH websites which are provided below.

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

CDPH: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>

Current Statewide Information & Recommendations

(new information highlighted in yellow)

- The COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking water. Should the virus make its way into public drinking water, conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, such as those in most municipal drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19. If your drinking water comes from a private well and you are concerned you may consider approaches that remove bacteria, viruses, and other pathogens, including certified home treatment devices but again, the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking water.
- It is recommended that non-essential professional, social, and community gatherings be postponed for at least the remainder of March, regardless of the sponsor. The timely implementation of aggressive strategies that create social distance and those that reduce close contact of people not regularly together, including limiting gatherings, has proven

effective in prior pandemics at delaying rates of transmission and reducing illness and death.

Please see the below specifications and link to the complete CDPH guidance:

- Large gatherings that include 250 people including gatherings such as concerts, conferences, and professional, college, and school sporting events
- Smaller gatherings held in venues that do not allow social distancing of six feet per person including gatherings in crowded auditoriums, rooms or other venues
- Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 people including gatherings such as those at retirement facilities, assisted living facilities, developmental homes, and support groups for people with health conditions.

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Gathering_Guidance_03.11.20.pdf

If you proceed with a gathering that is allowed under this guidance, Inyo County Health and Human Services requests that you use event messaging and communications to promote everyday preventive health messages to your participants and staff, which include:

- Promote messages that discourage people who are sick from attending events.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects daily.
- Recommend that participants minimize close contact (e.g., no hand shaking or hugging)
- Create refund policies for paid events or remote participation capability such as live stream that permit participants the flexibility to stay home when they are sick, need to care for sick household members, or are at high risk for complications from COVID-19.
- Provide COVID-19 prevention supplies at your events, to the extent supplies are available. Plan to have extra supplies on hand for event staff and participants, including sinks with soap, hand sanitizers, and tissues. Promote proper and frequent hand hygiene.
- Isolate staff or participants in a designated space who become ill with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 at the event and provide a clean disposable procedure facemask, to the extent available, to wear for those who become ill. It is not necessary to distribute masks to healthy participants.
- Implement a strategy to prevent the theft of prevention supplies.

Local Action

(new information highlighted in yellow):

- In order to help protect Inyo County's older adults from COVID-19 Inyo County is temporarily suspending senior activities and congregate meal services in accordance with the California Department of Public Health's recommendation to limit gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 to no more than 10 people. The same precautionary measure is occurring in Mono County at the Walker Senior Center (530)495-2323. The home delivered meals program will not be disrupted and if a senior who is registered to receive congregate meals in Bishop, Big Pine, Independence, or Lone Pine would like to receive home delivered meals please call the Bishop Senior Center at (760)873-5240, seniors registered to receive congregate meals in Tecopa should call the Tecopa Senior Center at (760)852-4264.
- Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health, Inyo County has suspended all non-essential work related travel for Inyo County employees.
- In accordance with the Ca Dept of Corrections and Rehabilitation's announcement, Inyo County Sheriff's Office will suspend all inmate visitations at the Inyo County Jail effective immediately. This action will remain in effect until further notice. Inmates will still be available to visit with their attorneys after confirmation that the attorneys have no signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

Local Information & Recommendations
(new information highlighted in yellow):

- If you find yourself requesting 911 services for any event (related to COVID-19 or not) please alert the dispatcher if COVID-19 related symptoms are present so that the responding agencies can take appropriate precautions.
- All employers and businesses should be ready to implement strategies to protect their workforce from COVID-19 while ensuring continuity of operations. All sick employees should stay home and away from the workplace, respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene should be encouraged, and routine cleaning of commonly touched surfaces should be performed regularly. Identify essential business functions, essential jobs or roles, and critical elements within your supply chains (e.g., raw materials, suppliers, subcontractor services/products, and logistics) required to maintain business operations. Plan for how your business will operate if there is increasing absenteeism or these supply chains are interrupted.
- School guidance: Inyo County HHS Public Health division met with Superintendents from local school districts today to review CDPH guidance for schools and will remain in contact. At this time Inyo County School District schools are not closing however, parents may see schools cancelling or postponing large gathering events.

- Northern Inyo Healthcare District and Mammoth Hospital are prepared to safely screen, diagnose, and care for patients with respiratory illness, including Coronavirus – COVID-19, however testing is only being done as medically necessary. Both hospitals are working in collaboration with local Health Departments. If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, please call your healthcare provider for medical advice.
- The California Department of Public Health website is updated constantly as updates become available. The designated COVID-19 guidance page is provided below:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Guidance.aspx>