

Current Covid-19 Events

March 4, 2020

(Highlight and open links below for the full story)

COVID-19 v. Flu

[How does the Coronavirus Compare with the Flu?](#) – The flu kills about 0.1% of the people that catch it, while the COVID-19 virus may kill as high as 2% or the same rate as the flu epidemic of 1918. The COVID -19 seems to be more contagious than the flu (each confirmed case infects 2.2 others)

United States

[Latest on COVID-19 in WA](#) – AFT represented healthcare facilities are hit by Covid-19.

[Coronavirus Deaths Tied to Nursing Center Came Earlier Than Anyone Knew](#) – Nursing home in Washington hit hard with virus, but communication and doubts trigger anxiety too.

Other articles:

- <https://www.thenewstribune.com/news/state/washington/article240761641.html>
- <https://www.vox.com/science-and-health/2020/2/29/21159055/coronavirus-death-us-south-korea-cases>
- <https://www.thenewstribune.com/news/state/washington/article240761641.html>

[Coronavirus death toll rises to 9 in Washington state](#) – 100 cases in 15 states. Immigration Services closed, lives disrupted across the states due to school closings, event cancelations, etc.

[NYC School Shuts Over Coronavirus Fears](#) – Washington State health officials announced four more deaths from the coronavirus; three of the victims were residents of a Seattle-area nursing home

[Coronavirus Cases Mount as Second Person Dies in U.S.](#) - Two people die of COVID-19 in the United States – both victims were at a nursing facility in Seattle. Now, there is a confirmed case in NY.

[Two new cases of coronavirus in Washington State](#) – Teenager is presumptive positive for COVID-19 closes school and is quarantined for 14 days. Also, two cases in San Francisco found without direct link to travel to foreign hot spots.

[First death for coronavirus in the United States confirmed in Washington State.](#) – President urges country to remain calm in the face of the first death in the US from the virus. Travel bans extended. Nursing facility may be reason for epicenter.

[Washington state declares state of emergency](#) – more than 50 patients report “respiratory symptoms or hospitalized with pneumonia.”

AFL-CIO

[Coronavirus: COVID-19. Be vigilant. Be prepared. Don't panic.](#) – New two-page worker centered flier offering advice and more information about preparation and protection.

CDC

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Update](#)— CDC is hosting a conference call explaining “What Clinicians Need to Know to Prepare for COVID-19 in the United States.”

Global Outbreak

Italy

[COVID-19 cases jump in Iran as Italy toll rises: Live updates](#) - Iran announces 205 new infections in last 24 hours as Italian authorities say the number of cases has exceeded 1,000.

South Korea

[Over 4,200 infected with COVID-19 in S. Korea, 26 dead](#) – most dead are 50-80 with comorbidities; most isolate themselves because healthcare is overwhelmed.

Iran

[COVID-19 cases surge in South Korea, Italy, and Iran](#) - Iran reported 385 more cases, up sharply from 205 reported yesterday, for a total of 978 cases. Eleven more people died, raising Iran's fatality count to 54. Of today's new cases, 170 were from Tehran.

Japan

[To contain COVID-19, Japan urges companies to let employees work from home](#) – workplace culture in Japan being reexamined to curb spread of virus

United States

[Authorities report 2nd coronavirus death in U. S.](#) - 74 cases and two deaths have been confirmed in the U.S.

[The Problem with Telling Sick Workers to Stay Home](#) - The culture of the American workplace puts everyone's health at unnecessary risk.

National Affiliate Union resources:

American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO <https://www.aft.org/coronavirus>

Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO <https://www.afacwa.org/coronavirus>

California Nurses Association-NUA <https://www.nationalnursesunited.org/2019-nCoV>

International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO <https://www.iaff.org/coronavirus/>

Other web resources: CDC Emergency Preparedness and Response:

https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2020/han00428.asp?deliveryName=USCDC_511-DM21359

February 25, 2020

Case Definition

[Changes to China's case definition of COVID-19 creates a spike in cases](#) – China adopts a new case definition that now includes both laboratory-confirmed cases and clinically diagnosed cases.

Treatment

[NIH clinical trial of remdesivir to treat COVID-19 begins](#) – Remdesivir is a broad-spectrum antiviral treatment previously used to treat Ebola and has shown some success with treating SARS and MERS

Transmission

[Spreading 'much faster than I expected'](#) – Covid-19 worries professionals because it is more deadly than the flu and spreads like the flu.

[Covid-19 found in urine as well](#) – The State Key Laboratory of Respiratory Diseases working with Zhong Nanshan's team isolated Covid-19 in urine and feces.

Funding

[White House to ask Congress for emergency coronavirus funding](#) – Secretary Alex Azar notified Congress need to shift funds to fight virus.

Global Outbreak

Italy

[Europe Confronts Coronavirus as Italy Battles an Eruption of Cases](#) – Venice's carnival celebrations on hold as 10 towns are shut down after 150 Covid-19 cases documented near Milan.

South Korea

[Coronavirus: infected health official leading South Korea's fight against Covid-19 is member of Shincheonji Church of Jesus doomsday cult](#) – A senior health official at the forefront of the virus fight found to be member of doomsday cult tests positive for Covid-19.

Iran

[Iran reports 12 dead, 61 infected with COVID-19; government pledges transparency](#) - Twelve people have died and 61 people have been infected with COVID-19.

Japan

[Rise in COVID-19 cases in Japan prompts travel advisory revisions](#) - Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi confirmed Friday that the nine countries — Israel, the Solomon Islands, Thailand, Samoa, Tonga, Micronesia, Kiribati, Bhutan and South Korea — had issued warnings against travel to Japan.

Reliable Resource Websites

- [2019-nCoV Overview for EMS Agencies](#) (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration)
- [2019-nCoV Situation Overview](#) (CDC)
- [Interim Guidance for Healthcare Providers](#) (CDC)
- [Preparedness Checklist for 2019-nCoV](#) (CDC)
- [Infection Control for Suspected 2019-nCoV Patients](#) (WHO)
- [Frequently Asked Questions: 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#) (CDC)