

DuPage County Daily Covid-19 Update 3.26.20

Today, the IDPH announced that effective immediately, hospitals will notify the EMS crew, fire chief or Designated Infection Control Officer, within 12 hours, of a positive test for anyone transported by that EMS private or public crew. The notification will include the patient name, date and time the patient arrived at the hospital.

Worldwide statistics from the World Health Organization and CDC provide the following snapshot of cases from earlier today:

Worldwide Cases total 492,056 up from 441,095 yesterday

Deaths Worldwide total 22,175 up from 19,764

Number of People who have recovered worldwide is 118,063 up from 112,036

At this time, worldwide, there are 351,818 (up from 309,205) "active" confirmed cases. Those cases are divided between 'mild condition' cases and 'serious or critical condition' cases.

Worldwide Mild condition cases 334,049 (95%) compared to yesterday with 295,870 (96%)

Serious or Critical Condition cases 17,769 (5%) compared to yesterday with 13,425 (4%)

United States: 68,905 (up from 55,416) confirmed cases (for a point of reference, China has 81,825 cases and 3,287 deaths)

US Deaths: 1,037 (0.015%) compared to yesterday with 789 (0.014%)

Total US Recoveries: 428 up from 379

US Active cases: 67,440 up from 54,248

Mild condition: 65,985 (97.8%) compared to yesterday with 52,694 (97%)

Serious or Critical Condition cases 1,455 (2.2%) up from 1,175 (3%)

Currently, USA has 3 deaths per 1M population. China has 2 deaths per 1M population. Italy has the worst rate of 124 deaths per 1M population. It should be noted that as of yesterday, New York State had a total of 30,811 of the confirmed cases, which has caused other states to contemplate instituting travel rules for New Yorkers.

As I shared with you yesterday, there is a belief that the Coronavirus has infected far more people in the US than testing has thus far shown. It has been repeated many times that the work being done was initiated to “flatten the curve”, which at this time IDPH does not believe has happened here or elsewhere in the US.

Today, Illinois announced that confirmed cases have increased by 673 from 1,865 to 2,538 confirmed cases. This is the largest single day increase. In addition to the many more cases, Dr. Ezike announced 7 additional deaths for a total of 26 lost lives. There have been 16,631 individuals tested at IDPH, commercial or hospital laboratories. Obviously, the additional number of cases is partly due to the additional tests but there are likely many more cases that have not been tested because the individuals don't fit the medical criteria that allows for testing. Dr. Ezike said that the increases were expected but we are under the modeled predictions.

DuPage has increased to 182 cases, which is an increase of 48 cases in one day, but we still only have one death, listed as a Covid-19 death.

The 182 cases in DuPage include 40 DuPage County residents associated with the Willowbrook based long-term care facility. Tomorrow, we will probably be updating the death number because IDPH may be changing the definition of what constitutes a COVID-19 death. We have not received final word on such a change but you will be informed in the next update.

President Trump approved the Governor's request for a National Disaster Declaration, which should provide more funding for the efforts to combat the virus. Some of the funds available will include funding for emergency protective measures. In addition, the Governor's sister, Penny Pritzker, is chairing the Illinois Coronavirus Relief Fund. It has raised \$23 million dollars in just a few days. The resources will be in the form of funds for families and neighborhoods who have suffered economic fallout from COVID-19. The funding will be going to not for profits for emergency food, basic supplies, housing, health care, and child care.

Governor Pritzker and Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot both cautioned residents against violating social distancing guidelines. Both were upset with the fact that many people in Chicago took advantage of the weather yesterday to hit the lakefront, the soccer fields and basketball courts, which Pritzker said threatened their health and assists the virus. Lightfoot was so made that beaches and parks

were ordered closed today. At the same time, Illinois Golf Course owners were allowed to reopen with some restrictions.

I would caution anyone reading into the data provided because it truly is a snapshot in time. Some of the illness numbers, and perhaps death numbers, have changed in the time I began writing the memo. Nonetheless, it provides you information, as of that point in time, to make personal decisions and to provide information to your constituents if asked.

The Illinois Public Health Association announced today that it was donating 30,000 gloves to statewide healthcare providers in an effort to respond to the growing need among frontline healthcare providers for PPE. Our own PPE strike team is tracking distributions and donations. A shipment of supplies was received this morning and requests and priorities are being reviewed continuously throughout the day. The current priorities for PPE are long-term care facilities, first responders and health care facilities.