



March 12, 2020 Public Update

Situation Overview

KDHE continues to closely monitor an outbreak of a respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus named coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The outbreak first started in Wuhan, China, but cases have been identified around the world including in the United States. The first case in the United States was announced January 21, 2020.

Kansas has announced four presumptive positive cases of COVID-19. The first case was announced March 7. The three new cases were announced March 12.

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Kansas Test Results	
<i>Updated 3/12/20 at Noon</i>	
Positive (confirmed)	4
Negative	74

KDHE Response Activities

- Other labs in the state are beginning to test for COVID-19. These labs are asked to send all results to KDHE. KDHE will continue reporting/announcing results from these labs for Kansas cases.
- KDHE will update its website with the number of positive and negative tests daily, Monday — Friday by 5 p.m. Any further presumptive positive cases will be announced via press release moving forward.
- KDHE is no longer reporting Persons Under Investigations as this is no longer feasible due to numbers changing.
- KDHE has created a toolkit of Kansas-specific guidance to help local public health departments engage with their community partners on COVID-19 planning. It can be found on the KDHE website: www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus. New information is added daily.
- KDHE has a phone-bank operation that is staffed during regular business hours through March 13. The phone number is **1-866-534-3463** (1-866-KDHEINF). KDHE also has an email address for general inquiries, COVID-19@ks.gov. Media inquiries should continue being directed to KDHE Communications.