NEWS ALERTS AND UPDATES – April 17, 2020

NATIONAL:

- Total cases: 661,712 (1,282 probable)
- Total deaths: 33,049 (4,226 probable)

**Total jurisdictions includes 50 states, District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S Virgin Islands.

COVIDView: Key Updates for Week 15, ending April 11, 2020

This CDC report provides a weekly summary and interpretation of key indicators that have been adapted to track the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. While influenza-like illness (ILI) declined, it is still elevated and laboratory confirmed COVID-19 activity continues to increase as do COVID-19 severity indicators (hospitalizations and deaths).

Read Weekly COVIDView Summary here.

Key Points

- CDC has modified existing surveillance systems, many used to track influenza and other respiratory viruses annually, to track COVID-19.

- Nationally, the percentage of laboratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 continued to increase.

- Visits to outpatient providers and emergency departments (EDs) for illnesses with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 are elevated compared to what is normally seen at this time of year but decreased compared to levels reported last week. At this time, there is little influenza virus circulation. The levels of people presenting for care with these symptoms is likely due to COVID-19 but may be tempered by a number of factors including less ILI overall because of widespread adoption of social distancing efforts and changes in healthcare seeking behavior.

- The overall cumulative COVID-19 associated hospitalization rate is 20.0 per 100,000, with the highest rates in persons 65 years and older (63.8 per 100,000) and 50-64 years (32.8 per 100,000). Hospitalization rates for COVID-19 in older people are higher than what is typically seen early in a flu season.

- Based on death certificate data, the percentage of deaths attributed to COVID-19, pneumonia or influenza increased from 17.8% during week 14 to 18.8% during week 15.
STATE:

As of April 16:

- **27,528** positive cases (+1,346)
- **985** deaths (+95)

Approximately 258,800 tests have been conducted. At least 202,208 results have been received and 13,200 are pending.

California Health and Human Services Agency is releasing this information as an open dataset. This includes dashboards for hospital data and statewide case statistics.

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**Racial Demographics – A More Complete Picture**

As of April 16, data on race and ethnicity is complete for 66 percent of COVID-19 cases and 90 percent of deaths reported to the California Department of Public Health. As testing expands and our work to get more complete information by race and ethnicity advances, the distribution by race and ethnicity for cases may change. As information on race and ethnicity is...
becoming more complete on reported deaths, our data shows that African Americans/Blacks represent a disproportionately higher number of deaths compared to their representation in California’s population. Another group of heightened concern are Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders, although the number of deaths in this population are small and therefore limits statistical comparison.

### California COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by Race/Ethnicity

**April 17, 2020**

**Numbers as of April 16, 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percent Cases</th>
<th>Percent Deaths</th>
<th>Percent of CA Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Americans/Blacks</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiracial</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GOVERNOR NEWSOM UPDATES:**

**Governor Newsom Taps California Business, Labor, Health Care and Community Leaders for New Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery**

Brings together Californians from across diverse range of the state’s economy to develop recommendations for a plan that works for all Californians, with a focus on the regions and communities hardest hit by the pandemic. [Read Full PR](#)
Daily Press Conference: Governor Gavin Newsom provides an update to the State’s response to COVID-19. [Watch here](#)

Governor Newsom Signs Executive Order on Actions in Response to COVID-19

The order addresses upcoming admissions criteria for the CSU system, background checks for essential workers, and deadline extensions to real estate licenses, to name a few. [Read Full PR](#)

Governor Newsom Announces Appointments 4.16.20 [Read more here.](#)

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Webinars: A comprehensive listing of all CDE webinars. Updated. [Learn more here.](#)

LOCAL:

April 17, 2020 – No New Confirmed Cases

Humboldt County’s total case count remains 52 as no new cases of COVID-19 were confirmed today.

*Social distancing and other measures have been successful in limiting COVID-19 transmission, according to Humboldt County Health Officer Dr. Teresa Frankovich. “The goal as we move forward is to always have the pace of growth in cases at a level that allows the health care system to meet the need. This will be critically important as we look toward easing shelter-in-place regulations down the road.”*

*Dr. Frankovich cautioned that the virus is still circulating in our community. “We all must understand that even small, incremental changes in our current order are likely to lead to some increase in transmission,” she said. “The situation will need to be monitored closely, and we will have to have all of our infrastructure in place, such as robust testing, adequate case investigation capacity and other measures in the Governor’s framework.”*

A total of 1,614 county residents have been tested since the outbreak began. Humboldt County’s testing rate of 1,137 per 100,000 residents exceeds the estimated state rate of 666 per 100,000 and the national rate of 1,075 per 100,000 people. The rate of confirmed cases in the county stands at 38 per 100,000 residents, with the state rate nearly double that at an
estimated 72 cases per 100,000. The estimated U.S. rate is 209 confirmed cases per 100,000 people.

The following information is based on the most recent data available for all confirmed cases:

- Contact to a Known Case: 23
- Travel-Acquired: 20
- Community Transmission: 8
- Under Investigation: 1

For more information on what these numbers mean and regional demographics. Read more.

**FEATURED VIDEOS FROM HUMBOLDT COUNTY JOINT INFORMATION CENTER**

- **COVID Minute: April 16:** [Small Business Resources](#)
  In today's COVID Minute, Scott Adair, Director of Economic Development, talks about resources for small businesses impacted by COVID-19.

- **April 17, 2020 | Yurok Tribe COVID-19 Tribal Update**
  Yurok Tribal Chairman Joseph L. James talks about the steps the tribe is taking to protect the community from COVID-19.

- **April 17, 2020 | Media Availability-** [Dr. Teresa Frankovich](#)

**HCOE COVID RESOURCES**