



Warren C. Evans
Wayne County Executive

COVID-19 OUTBREAK

SITUATION REPORT - 160.1

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

For Operational Period: September 18-20 2020

WORLDWIDE

31,274,861 Cases

965,636 Deaths

UNITED STATES

7,005,686 Cases

204,122 Deaths

MICHIGAN

128,087 Cases

6,969 Deaths

OUT-WAYNE COUNTY

18,103 Cases

1,287 Deaths

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) announced that the state has secured agreements from nearly all of the state's health insurers to waive all out-of-pocket costs for COVID-19 testing and treatments through the end of 2020, including copays, deductibles, and coinsurance. At least through year's end, consumers with these individual and group health plans will not be charged cost-sharing for medically appropriate COVID-19-related treatment. Under the U.S. Families First Coronavirus Response Act, consumers with health insurance through other insurers not named in the state agreement currently have COVID-19 coverage without out-of-pocket costs during the federal public health emergency, which is currently set to expire in late October.
- The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [updated guidance](#) on its website to say coronavirus can commonly spread "through respiratory droplets or small particles, such as those in aerosols," which are produced even when a person breathes. "Airborne viruses, including COVID-19, are among the most contagious and easily spread," the site now says. Previously, the [CDC page](#) said that Covid-19 was thought to spread mainly between people in close contact -- about 6 feet -- and "through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks."
- A [commentary](#) published in the New England Journal of Medicine suggests that face masks may inadvertently be giving people COVID-19 immunity, and reducing the severity of the virus in those who become infected. Wearing masks may reduce the infectious dose (the amount of virus someone is exposed to at the start of infection), and, subsequently, the impact of the disease. As data has emerged in recent weeks suggesting that there can be strong immune responses from even mild or asymptomatic coronavirus infection, researchers say that any public health strategy that helps reduce the severity of the virus - such as mask wearing - should increase population-wide immunity as well.
- Two new international [studies](#) strongly suggest that COVID-19 is transmissible on long-haul airline flights. The first study traced 217 passengers and crew members from a Vietnam Airline flight with one symptomatic passenger, and identified 16 new coronavirus cases. Twelve of the people who became infected had been seated in business class along with the symptomatic passenger. The second study investigated four passengers who all travelled on the same flight and were asymptomatic at the time, but tested positive for COVID-19 5-11 days later. To prove that transmission occurred between the four patients, the researchers sequenced their viruses and found "the near full-length viral genomes from all four patients were 100% identical." Both studies appear in the November 2020 edition of *Emerging Infectious Diseases*.

UPCOMING POP-UP TESTING SITES

- September 26-27: Taylor (Taylor Sportsplex, 13333 Telegraph Rd)
- October 10-11: Dearborn Heights

ACTIONS TAKEN

- The Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHOC) is at FULL ACTIVATION.

USEFUL RESOURCES

[Readiness for Schools](#)

[Find a Testing Site Near You](#)

[Return to School Roadmap](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Wayne County](#)

[Michigan.gov/coronavirus](#)

[COVID-19 Workplace Toolkit](#)

[Save-A-Life Program](#)

[COVID-19 Educational Materials](#)

[Prevent Flu](#)

Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233 and TTY 1-800-787-3224

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