

Klamath County Public Health

COVID-19 chronology

December 2019 through February 2020

February 29, 2020

A Washington state man in his 50s with underlying health conditions, becomes the first COVID-19 fatality on US soil.

Congressman Greg Walden held a press conference in Medford.

[Click here to see the press conference](#)

February 28, 2020

Oregon announced its first presumptive case of novel coronavirus, COVID-19. Health officials continue investigating as they urge good hand hygiene, covering coughs and staying home if you are sick.

[Click here to read the news release.](#)

February 26, 2020

The Director of the Pan American Health Organization, Carissa F. Etienne, recommended that countries intensify their plans to prepare and respond to COVID-19 given the appearance of cases of new coronavirus disease in the Region of the Americas.

As of 6 a.m. Geneva time, China reported 78,190 cases to WHO, including 2718 deaths. On Feb. 25, only 10 new cases were reported in China outside of Hubei province.

14 countries that have had cases have not reported a case for more than a week, and even more importantly, 9 countries have not reported a case for more than two weeks: Belgium, Cambodia, Finland, India, Nepal, Philippines, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka and Sweden.

Outside China, there are 2,790 cases in 37 countries, and 44 deaths. On Feb. 25, the number of new cases reported outside China exceeded the number of new cases in China for the first time. The sudden increase of cases in Italy, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Korea were concerning. There were cases linked to Iran in Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait and Oman.

February 24, 2020

As of 6 a.m. Geneva time, China reported a total of 77,362 cases of COVID-19 to WHO, including 2618 deaths. In the previous 24 hours, China reported 416 new confirmed cases, and 150 deaths.

The WHO-China joint mission concluded its visit and delivered its report. The team traveled to several different provinces, including Wuhan, and made a range of findings about the transmissibility of the virus, the severity of disease and the impact of the measures taken.

- They found that the epidemic peaked and plateaued between the 23rd of January and the 2nd of February, and has been declining steadily since then.
- They found that there has been no significant change in the genetic makeup of the virus.
- They found that the fatality rate is between 2% and 4% in Wuhan, and 0.7% outside Wuhan.
- They found that for people with mild disease, recovery time is about two weeks, while people with severe or critical disease recover within three to six weeks.

February 21, 2020

As of 6 a.m. Geneva time, China reported a total of 75,567 cases of COVID-19 to WHO, including 2,239 deaths.

In the previous 24 hours, China reported 892 new confirmed cases, and 118 deaths. The significant decline in new confirmed cases was partly due to another change in the way China reports numbers. The previous week China started reporting clinically-diagnosed cases, in addition to laboratory-confirmed cases. They switched back to reporting only suspected and lab-confirmed cases.

This may indicate that the health system in Wuhan regained the ability to test all suspected cases. As a result, some cases that had been clinically-confirmed were subtracted from the total because they tested negative.

Outside China, there were 1,152 cases in 26 countries, and 8 deaths.

February 20, 2020

As of 6 a.m. Geneva time, China reported 74,675 cases of COVID-19 to WHO, including 2,121 deaths.

The data from China continued to show a decline in new confirmed cases. Outside China, there were 1,076 cases in 26 countries, with a total of seven deaths. In the previous 24 hours, the Islamic Republic of Iran reported five cases, two of which died. This was the first report from Iran.

Of all cases outside China, more than half were among passengers on the Diamond Princess cruise ship. The first passengers had disembarked, providing they have a negative test, no symptoms and no contact with a confirmed case in the previous 14 days.

February 16, 2020

The World Health Organization announced a total of nine confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

February 14, 2020

Egypt announces the first case of the coronavirus, according to a joint statement by Egypt's Ministry of Health and the WHO. This is the first case reported in Africa.

February 11, 2020

The WHO names the virus COVID-19.

February 10, 2020

Chinese President Xi Jinping inspects efforts to contain the virus. A team of international experts from WHO arrive in China to assist with containing the outbreak.

February 8, 2020

A 60-year-old US national dies in Wuhan on Feb. 6. The US Embassy in Beijing confirms the death.

February 7, 2020

Dr. Li Wenliang from Wuhan dies from the coronavirus. Wenliang was targeted by police for trying to sound the alarm on the virus back in December.

February 2, 2020

A man from the Philippines dies from the coronavirus. This is the first death reported outside of mainland China since the outbreak began.

January 31, 2020

The Trump administration announces that they will deny entry to foreign nationals who have been to China in the last two weeks.

January 30, 2020

First case of person-to-person transmission of the virus in the US is reported.

January 21, 2020

Washington state officials confirm the first case on US soil.

January 20, 2020

139 new cases come up according to China officials, a third death is reported. The National Institutes of Health announce that they are working on a vaccine against the coronavirus.

January 17, 2020

A second person in China dies from the virus. The United States responds to the outbreak by implementing screenings for symptoms in San Francisco, New York and Los Angeles.

January 16, 2020

Japanese authorities confirm that a Japanese man who traveled to Wuhan is infected with the virus.

January 11, 2020

The first death is announced by the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission. A 61-year-old man died on Jan. 9 due to respiratory failure caused by severe pneumonia. The man was exposed to the virus at the seafood market.

January 7, 2020

The virus is identified as a novel (or new) coronavirus by Chinese authorities.

January 1, 2020

The Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market is closed by Chinese health authorities. It's discovered that wild animals sold there could be the source of the virus.

December 31, 2019

The virus is unknown at this point. Reports of pneumonia detected in Wuhan, China are sent to the World Health Organization. Wuhan Municipal Health says these cases occur between Dec. 12 and Dec. 29.