



# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update

## Yap Department of Health Services

May 14, 2020



### In YAP:

# of confirmed cases in Yap: 0

# of current PUI in Yap: 0  
*(Person Under Investigation is one who has COVID-19 symptoms.)*

# of PUM in Yap: 0  
*(Person Under Monitoring is one without symptoms but has been in contact with a PUI or confirmed case, or has come from a place with confirmed COVID-19 cases and requires quarantine monitoring.)*

### In FSM:

# of confirmed cases in Chuuk: 0  
Pohnpei: 0  
Kosrae: 0

### Nth Pac. Region:

# of confirmed cases in Guam: 153 ( 5 death)  
CNMI: 19 ( 2 death)  
Palau: 0  
RMI: 0

### Globally as of 5/13/20:

**WHO Sit Rep**  
# of confirmed cases: 4,170,424  
# of deaths: 287,399

### SUMMARY OF COVID-19 SITUATION—Report # 26

**International:** W.H.O says across the globe, countries have implemented a number of control measures to respond to COVID-19, with the objective of slowing down transmission and reducing mortality.

W.H.O. has issued considerations for school-related public health measures to guide decision-makers and educators on how or when to reopen or close schools in the context of COVID-19. These decisions have important implications for children, parents or caregivers, teachers and other staff, communities, and society at large.

A series of factors should be considered when deciding on whether to open or to close schools, such as the epidemiology of COVID-19 nationally and in the local area, health system and public health capacity to respond to outbreaks as well as the school settings and ability to maintain COVID-19 prevention and control measures that protect children. Thus, additional important factors to include in the assessment are risk of non-return to school, risk of widening disparity in educational attainment, access to meals for children who need them, the possibility of domestic violence aggravated by economic uncertainties, and the need to maintain schools at least partially open for children whose caregivers are 'key workers' for the country.

These school-related considerations also provide recommended measures on hygiene, daily practices, physical distancing and tele-schooling to guide school reopening. These recommendations are provided through questions and answers and can be used as a checklist under topics such as: school resources and infrastructure; policy for educators and school staff; safety and security of the children; hygiene and practices at schools; and communication with parents and students.

Finally, it is crucial to monitor the protective measures implemented to ensure their effectiveness and impact not only on educational objectives but also on health and well-being of the children, parents, family and school staff. This risk-based approach needs to be implemented through inclusive and early collaboration between the school and the community.

During this unique and challenging period, it is important for decisionmakers, educational institutions and caregivers to maintain flexibility and modify approaches to ensure learning and sharing of good practices in order to do what is best for the children, students, school staff, and community.

**National:** On May 13th, 2020, a ceremony was held in Palikir with FSM President David Panuelo to celebrate the first disbursements of financial assistance through the Economic Stimulus Package. Although presently focused on the tourism sector, there are plans to extend assistance to other sectors. Approximately \$567,074 has been disbursed to 55 businesses throughout the Nation. Recipients of this funding include 11 businesses in Yap, 18 businesses in Chuuk, 20 businesses in Pohnpei, and 6 businesses in Kosrae. At the States, checks were disbursed through the FSM Department of Finance field offices. The total number of affected tourism sector businesses in the FSM is approximately 184.

**Local:** The Yap Department of Health Services (DHS) confirmed that the family of the Human Remains (HR) that arrived into Yap on the evening of May 14, 2020 submitted all the relevant documents required prior to arrival of the HR. The casket was met by the Hazmat and Public Health team who fumigated and disinfected the casket at the airport before its release to the family for burial within 24 hours.

On May 13, 2020, DHS had its weekly zoom conference call with the Pacific Islands Health Officers Association (PIHOA) and US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) during which DHS presented a short video of the COVID-19 isolation and quarantine infrastructure, medicines, medical supplies and equipment and hand wash stations in preparation for COVID-19. PIHOA and CDC were impressed with Yaps progress. During this meeting PIHOA also informed DHS that it was sending some more medical supplies on the May 14, 2020 cargo flight. These include 8 boxes of CDC IRR Abbot ID Now (24 tests/box), 30 boxes of CDC IRR GenXpert (10 tests/box), 3 boxes of CDC IRR Viral Transport Media (VTM) with Swabs (100/box), 10 boxes WHO GenXpert (10 tests/box) and 1 box of WHO VTM (40/box). These are all COVID-19 testing kits and accessories.

The Yap Lab has plans to expand its facilities to cater for increased testing capacity for not only COVID-19 but other needed lab functions. The plan is still in its preliminary stages. More information will be provided as plans progress.

Important points to remember. Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 can be any or all of the following: Runny Nose and/or Dry Cough and/ or Sore throat for 3-4 days and/or Generalized body pain and/or Shortness of Breath and/or Fever and/or Diarrhea and more recently loss of taste and/or smell. Call the COVID-19 Hotline on 350-4161 if you feel or fall sick with any one of the above symptoms before you go to the hospital for advice and further instructions.

**FOR REGULAR COVID-19 UPDATES:** Radio V6AI 1494 AM (Mon., Wed., Fri.) 8:45am in English. 9.45am and every hour after till 10.45pm in local languages; & 5pm News Bulletin. Also check out <https://www.facebook.com/Waab-Community-Health-Center-554531107958008>