

# What you need to know

## Coronavirus summary

April 2, 2020

### Does COVID-19 spread on surfaces?



We're all familiar with the "stay six feet away" rule when it comes to avoiding person-to-person transmission of COVID-19. But what about the many different materials we touch throughout the day?

According to a new study from the New England Journal of Medicine, here's how long the COVID-19 virus can live on different surfaces:

- Copper – up to 4 hours
- Cardboard – up to 24 hours
- Plastic and stainless steel – up to 72 hours

The amount of viable virus decreases sharply over these times, so touching an infected object still remains a low-risk way of contracting COVID-19.

The study does show that when the virus becomes airborne within the droplets of a cough or sneeze, it can stay suspended in the air for about 30 minutes – which may have implications for first responders and health care professionals.

Source of data and more information:

[NIH: New coronavirus stable for hours on surfaces](#)

[NY Times: How Long Will Coronavirus Live on Surfaces or in the Air Around You?](#)



### Coronavirus and your pets

**Is social distancing necessary when it comes to your pets?**

The CDC says there's no evidence that animals are carriers of the COVID-19 infection, and also hasn't received any confirmed reports of pets or other animals contracting the virus.

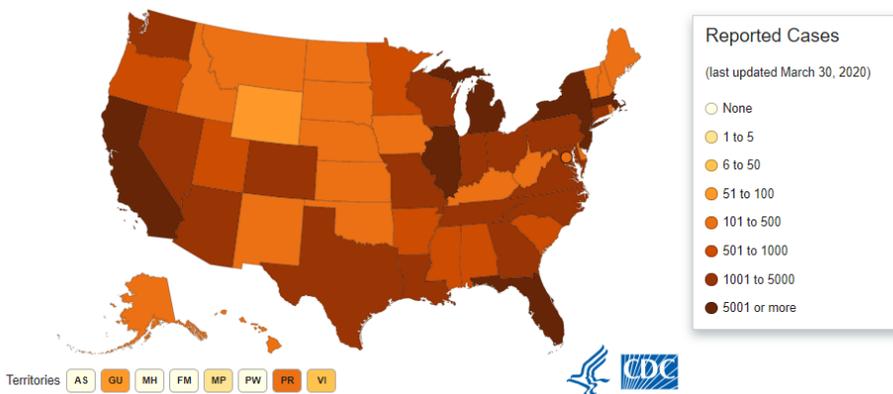
However, anyone with COVID-19 should limit their contact with pets – just as they would with people – and wash their hands before and after they touch or care for them.

Source of data and more information:

[CDC: If you have animals](#)

[CDC: Frequently Asked Questions](#)

### States Reporting Cases of COVID-19 to CDC\*



Source of data and more information:

[Centers for Disease Control: Plan, Prepare and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019](#)

[U.S. Department of Labor, Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#)

### Case Totals

Current as of 4PM on 3/31/2020

Total U.S. cases 186,101

Total deaths 3,603

Jurisdictions 55 reporting cases

(50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands)

### Source of Exposure

Current as of 4PM on 3/31/2020

Travel-related 1,110

Close contact 3,128

Under investigation 181,863

## MYTH



# MYTH: COVID-19 only affects older people.

People of all ages and races can be infected by COVID-19; however, older people are more at risk of severe illness.

Source of data and more information:

[World Health Organization-Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) advice for the public: Myth busters](#)

# Legislation Updates and Lincoln Resources



## Stimulus Package

On March 27, President Trump approved a \$2.2 trillion economic stimulus package that will provide one-time payments to many Americans. The bill also enhances unemployment benefits for those who have been recently laid off due to coronavirus complications.

We've included a brief summary below.

**Eligibility:** Individuals earning up to \$75,000 or married couples earning up to \$150,000 will receive \$1,200 each. For those earning more than \$75,000 (single) or \$150,000 (married), the rate will decrease by \$5 per every \$100 earned above those amounts. See full summary for more information.

**Timing:** The government has stated that Americans will receive payment within three weeks. Americans do not need to apply; payments will automatically be issued based on tax filing.

**Unemployment:** The bill adds \$600 per week for up to four months to standard unemployment benefits.

## Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) (HR6201)

We have updated our [FFCRA summary](#) to include Department of Labor issued [guidance for employers](#).

Clarifying details include:

- The FFCRA effective date
- How to determine employer size
- How to calculate benefit entitlement related to overtime or part-time workers
- How to determine rate of pay
- Retroactivity of benefits

## State and Paid Family Leave Plan Updates

(Click on the state name for more information):

### [New Jersey](#)



On March 25, New Jersey enacted legislation that ensures COVID-19-impacted workers will have access to leave care for themselves and for impacted family members. Read our full summary [here](#).

## Lincoln Resources

Our [COVID-19 Guidance Hub](#) includes extensive resources for employers and employees, including:

- Lincoln's response to COVID-19 legislation
- Update FAQs
- Resources for employers, including expert guidance for employees, active federal and state responses to COVID-19 and legislation updates
- Business continuity preparedness

We also have [podcasts](#) available on Mental Health in a Time of Crisis, and Disability, Leave and COVID-19.

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