

# Pregnancy and COVID-19



Of course, pregnant women need to follow the same guidelines that all of us do in order to avoid COVID-19—wash your hands, avoid touching your face, social distancing. But there are extra considerations to keep in mind:

### Are pregnant women more likely to develop severe symptoms of COVID-19?

Although data shows pregnant women are more prone to developing more severe flu symptoms, there is no evidence yet that this data applies to COVID-19.

### What should a pregnant woman do if she has COVID-19 symptoms?

Women who are expecting should always call their doctor before they go into the office, to limit their chance of contracting or spreading the virus. [The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists](#) has provided guidelines about how to manage pregnant patients who may have COVID-19.

### What is the risk of a fetus or newborn catching the disease?

There have been only a few small studies exploring this topic. So far, most show no or very low risk of passing the virus to a newborn. Also, the virus has not been found in amniotic fluid or breast milk.

Source of data and more information:  
[Harvard Health Publishing: Pregnant and worried about the new coronavirus?](#)  
[WHO: Q&A on COVID-19, pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding](#)

## New CDC guidelines on cloth face coverings



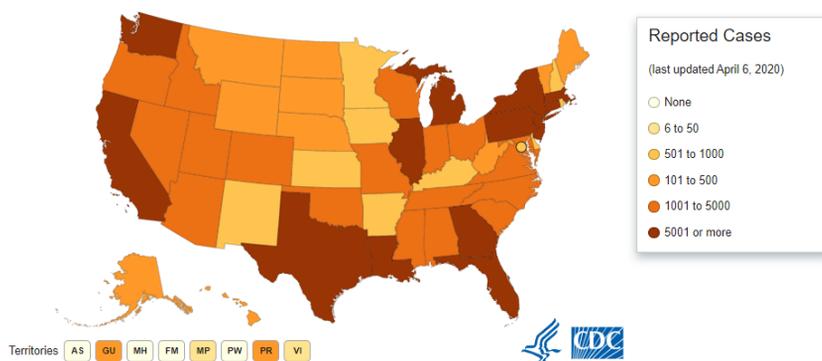
Some people infected with COVID-19 remain asymptomatic for up to two weeks. Others never show symptoms at all. Yet anyone with this virus can transmit it to others, which is why the CDC now recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public. Here's how to make and wear a cloth face covering:

[CDC: How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering](#)

[CDC: How to Make Your own Face Covering](#)

Source of data and more information:  
[CDC: Recommendation Regarding the Use of Cloth Face Coverings, Especially in Areas of Significant Community-Based Transmission](#)

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



Source of data and more information:  
[Centers for Disease Control](#)

### Case Totals

Current as of 12:50PM on 4/7/2020

Worldwide	1,380,211
Recovered	295,764
Deaths	78,226
Active cases	1,006,221
<b>(95% mild condition; 5% serious)</b>	
Closed cases	373,990
<b>(79% recovered; 21% deaths)</b>	
U.S. cases	377,605

Source of data and more information:  
<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>



MYTH

## MYTH: COVID-19 isn't transmitted in hot climates.

COVID-19 can be transmitted in all areas, including hot/humid and cold climates.



Source of data and more information:

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

# Legislation Updates



### Federal Coronavirus Relief Bill

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), signed into law March 27, expands unemployment insurance benefits for those who are unemployed, partially employed or unable to work due to COVID-19. The expansion includes three provisions that increase the amount and duration of weekly payments and who qualifies for the benefit.

### Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)

Those who are eligible for payments will receive an additional \$600 per week from April 5 to July 31, 2020.

### Pandemic Unemployment Emergency Compensation (PUEC)

The PUEC extends the duration of unemployment insurance benefits by 13 weeks for a maximum of 39 weeks. The extended benefits payments are available through December 31, 2020. Any of the additional 13 weeks of benefits received before July 31, 2020 should include the additional \$600 FPUC payment.

### Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)

The PUA extends unemployment eligibility to include those not covered by traditional unemployment benefits, such as independent contractors, freelancers and gig workers. The PUA covers employees whose businesses have closed or had their hours cut because of COVID-19.

Each state will administer the new and extended benefits. Visit the U.S. Department of Labor [Unemployment Benefits Finder](#) to learn more about each state's approach and how you can apply for unemployment benefits.

### Business Relief

The CARES Act provides relief to help businesses keep workers in a few ways:

- Small business loans to keep workers at current salaries, continue employee benefits and cover other operating expenses.
- Direct support to airlines to continue to pay and provide benefits to employees.
- Federal loan guarantee and tax credits to help businesses retain employees.

Please visit the U.S. Treasury Department's [website](#) for more information.

### Health Care Support

The bill also provides help for the health care industry to expand COVID-19 testing and allocates federal funds to hospitals and health care providers to help offset expenses related to COVID-19 treatment and lost revenue. Other measures to address health care needs include:

- Increased Medicaid reimbursement for COVID-19-related treatments by 20%
- Accelerated Medicare payments to critical access hospitals and relaxed Medicare requirements for post-acute care providers
- Expanded telehealth options

Please visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [website](#) for more information.

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