



**GOVERNOR NORTHAM - COVID-19 BRIEFING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020**

Case Information

Total Cases: 26,746 (+1,676 from 5/11)
 People Hospitalized: 3,520 (+220 from 5/11)
 COVID-19-Linked Deaths: 927 (+77 from 5/11)
 People Tested: 180,084 (+12,326 from 5/11)
 Unique People Tested: 160,077 (+10,641 5/11)

COVID-19 Outbreaks Statewide: 278 (+7 from 5/11)

Long Term Care Facilities: 164 (+4)
 Congregate settings: 65 (+3)
 Correctional facilities: 21
 Healthcare settings: 21
 Educational setting: 7

(Change since 5/11/20)

| <u>CITY</u> | <u>Total Cases</u> | <u>Hospital-izations</u> | <u>Deaths</u> | <u>CITY</u> | <u>Total Cases</u> | <u>Hospital-izations</u> | <u>Deaths</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Charlottesville | 68 | 15 (+1) | 2 | Newport News | 171 (+7) | 36 | 10 |
| Danville | 41 (+2) | 13 | 1 | Norfolk | 327 (+19) | 52 | 5 |
| Hampton | 148 (+2) | 29 (+1) | 3 | Petersburg | 53 (+5) | 18 (+1) | 2 |
| Harrisonburg | 607 (+24) | 39 (+4) | 21 | Portsmouth | 213 (+5) | 39 (+1) | 8 |
| Hopewell | 45 (+6) | 11 | 0 | Richmond | 592 (+46) | 102 (+10) | 18 |
| Lexington | 5 | 0 | 0 | Staunton | 21 (+3) | 3 (+3) | 0 |
| Lynchburg | 72 (+3) | 6 | 1 | Williamsburg | 42 | 9 | 3 |
| Martinsville | 2 | 1 | 0 | Winchester | 73 (+7) | 3 (+1) | 1 |

Governor Northam's Briefing Notes: Wednesday, May 13, 2020

DMV Service Centers Reopening on May 18 in 7-8 regions for very select services

- Starting Monday, May 18, a few DMV customer service centers will be reopened for a select number of services. Initially starting with 11 customer service centers in 7 of 8 Virginia regions of the Commonwealth. The Northern Virginia service centers will not open at this time.
- Limited Services for those things required in-person – Obtaining an original drivers license, original vehicle registration or title, disabled parking permits and vital records. Services are by appointment only. Customers will wait in their vehicles. Online services should be used wherever possible.

Testing

- Doing more testing and getting closer to our goals.
- 8,845 tests were done yesterday. Closer to our goal
- Pharmacies and drug stores are stepping up to help with testing. RiteAid is testing in two sites, performing more than 1200 swab PCR tests through Monday, May 11.
- Grateful to retailers for increased testing.
- In coming days, he will share exciting news about WalMart and their testing efforts.
- The testing ramp up is critical to Phase 1 reopening

Childcare

- Recognize that working parents need a safe and healthy place for their children so that they can return to work. During Phase 1, childcare continues to prioritize the children of all working families while abiding by social distancing and cleaning requirements. The health and safety of children families and staff are a top priority.
- Employees needing childcare so they can return to work can call 866-KIDS-TLC

Reiterated that Phase 1 reopening represents a small step forward. We will remain vigilant and will monitor health data closely. Continue to stay 6' from others, wear face coverings. Remember it is Safer at Home unless you need to go out. We cannot act as though things are back to normal, because they are not

If specific regions are not meeting the health metrics he will work with them. Northern Virginia is one of these regions. It is our most populous region and it shares workers between DC and Maryland. While the percentage positive tests are trending downward, Northern Virginia still has a lot of positive cases. That is why he has delayed Phase 1 in Northern Virginia for two weeks.

Northern Virginia leaders that joined and spoke at the briefing electronically:

City of Falls Church – Mayor Tarter , Chair Northern Virginia Regional Council
Fairfax County – Jeff McKay, Chair Board of Supervisors
Arlington County – Libby Garvey, Chair Board of Supervisors
Loudoun County – Phyllis Randall, Chair Board of Supervisors
Prince William County – Anne Wheeler, Chair Board of Supervisors
City of Alexandria - Mayor Justin Wilson

- Governor – We are emphasizing data rather than dates
- We are in frequent communication with Maryland Governor Hogan and DC Mayor Hogan. Collectively, these leaders are to be thanked and commended.
- We all share the same priorities that public health is number one

Support for local governments

- \$650 million in federal CARES Act dollars sent to local governments to help them respond to CV-19 crisis.
- We have additional federal dollars and that will be used for increased testing and contact tracing.
- The Virginia Department of Health is looking to hire more contact tracers. They have worked through several staffing companies and have received over 3000 resumes for these jobs thus far.

Governor sent a reminder that this is National Skilled Nursing Week. Our nursing homes and long-term care facilities have been very vulnerable. We thank these skilled nurses and recognize their hard work.

Dr. Oliver

26,746 positive cases (+946)
 927 deaths (+360)
 180,084

African American Cases: 4,837 (which is 23% of cases w/ demographic data on race and ethnicity)
 Latin X: 7,711 (43%)

African American Deaths: 201 is 25%
 Latin X deaths: 73 is 10%

As we move to Phase 1 it is critical to contain this disease. They will identify, isolate, and contact those that have been exposed to the disease. The Virginia Department of Health is hiring supervisors in regional areas for this new workforce to augment the 604 current contact tracers. The VDH needs 15-30 contact tracers per 100,000 of population. Their plan is to start at the 15 and ramp up from there, as needed.

Q&A

Q. What will happen once contact tracers identify a case?

A Dr. Oliver: When someone is a contact (exposed to the disease), we ask if they are feeling well and what their symptoms are. Then we arrange for testing to occur. If they are a primary contact to the index case, they would be asked to self-quarantine and they will be followed up with.

Q. 1) Is Northern Virginia the only Virginia region being delayed into Phase 1 or have any others asked?
 2) Will tests for every nursing home staff and residents be tested in the next two weeks?

A. Governor: 1) To-date only one region has requested a delay entering Phase 1. If there are others that are concerned, he has not heard from them. If there are, they should go through the same process that the Northern Virginia region went through.

A. Governor 2) Our goals on testing and staff at nursing homes: 260 long term care facilities in Virginia. We are committed to testing all those facilities. Two weeks is perhaps an ambitious goal. We will test them all as quickly as we can. The National Guard is helping us and nursing homes can also use private labs. The approach is an “all hands on deck” and the goal is to test all of them. If we are able to test all of

them in the next weeks, there may be reasons we need to go back and test again. The more staffing, PPE, and testing capabilities we have, the better off we will be.

Q. As we enter Phase 1 and we have the potential for increased cases, is there specific modeling that you will be looking at? Hospitalization capacity?

A. Governor: 1) Yes, we are following all the parameters and the same data that we've been looking at all along. Assuming this Fall and Winter the lack of a vaccine, we are preparing for months and years down the road. We, as a nation, were caught flat-footed with this pandemic. We are now planning ahead.

Q. Governor 2) We have a surge capacity. This is a novel virus and we are learning every day how this virus is affected elderly, children, etc. It is hard to say what we will need right now, but we are preparing for it.

Q. 1) Have staffing levels been decreased and state prisons in order to protect staff? 2) What percentage is the staffing level currently at?

A. Secretary Moran: 1) We have not experienced a significant staffing shortage. We are separating units where there are infections. The efforts with testing at correctional facilities has gone well and they have been doing point prevalence testing. They are separating, quarantining, and taking all necessary actions.

Q. There are those, Governor, who thank you for keeping Virginians safe, and there are those who say that you, Governor, have wrecked Virginia's economy, how do you relate to this? Is it too much to ask that law enforcement enforce these Phase 1 restrictions that are going into place?

A. Governor: We will give agencies and law enforcement the ability to enforce the Phase 1 guidelines. He is a carrot person and not a stick person.

A. Governor: We realize we are in the middle of a health and an economic crisis. Until we can get the health crisis behind us, our economy cannot recover. So, the health crisis is our focus right now. We must all work together to get the health crisis under control in order to get the economic recovery underway.

Next briefing, Friday May 15

Post Memorial Weekend, they will be moving briefings to two per week --- on Tuesday/Thursday