

NM: COVID-19 cases increase to 65

Written by gallupsun
Sunday, 22 March 2020 15:59

SANTA FE – New Mexico state health officials on Sunday announced eight additional positive tests for COVID-19.

Per the state Department of Health, the most recent cases are:

Two new cases in Bernalillo County:

- A female in her 60s.
- A male in his 30s.

Two new cases in Doña Ana County:

- □ A female in her 50s.
- A female in her 20s.

One new case in McKinley County:

- □ A male 9 years old.

One new case in San Juan County:

- □ A male in his 50s.

Two new cases in Santa Fe County:

- □ A male in his 30s.
- A male in his 40s.

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Including the above newly reported cases, New Mexico has now had a total of 65 positive tests for COVID-19:

- Bernalillo County: 34
- Doña Ana County: 4
- Lea County: 1
- McKinley County: 2
- Sandoval County: 7
- San Juan County: 1
- San Miguel County: 1
- Santa Fe County: 10
- Socorro County: 2
- Taos County: 3

The Department of Health has detected community spread. The agency reports that given the infectious nature of the virus it is likely other residents are infected but yet to be tested or confirmed positive. To that end, [additional restrictions enacted by order of the secretary of health Thursday](#) are intended to **aggressively minimize person-to-person contact and ensure spread is mitigated by social distancing and isolation**. Certain businesses are mandated closed; others have been instructed to limit operations. New Mexicans are strongly urged to limit travel to only what is necessary for health, safety and welfare.

The New Mexico Department of Health has active investigations into the positive patients, which includes contact-tracing and swabs of symptomatic individuals who have had contact with the positive cases.

State officials have vigorously encouraged all New Mexicans to practice social distancing procedures: **stay home**, particularly if you are sick.

Every New Mexican must work together to stem the spread of COVID-19.

New Mexicans who report symptoms of COVID-19 infection, such as fever, cough, or shortness

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of breath, should call their health care provider or the NMDOH COVID-19 hotline immediately (**1-855-600-3453**).

People without those symptoms do not need to be tested for COVID-19. This is allergy season, and allergy symptoms such as sneezing or itchy eyes, nose or throat do not indicate a need for testing. While the state is gratified that COVID-19 testing is increasingly available, we need to prioritize testing for persons with symptoms of COVID-19 infection – fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

New Mexicans who have non-health-related questions or concerns can also call **833-551-0518** or visit newmexico.gov, which is being updated and finalized as a one-stop source for information.