



This is a rapidly changing situation and this document will be updated as new information is available. Last updated: 3-29-20

What information about positive COVID-19 cases is being released to the public?

Yavapai and Coconino County Health Departments release information about the total number of cases in each county. In some, but not all instances, counties will release information about the specific community where a person confirmed with COVID-19 resides. Due to the Health Insurance and Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA), county health departments will not release any information that facilitates identification of any individuals with COVID-19.

Does the lack of information put me at greater risk?

Due to testing being limited to the seriously ill, the longer incubation periods associated with coronavirus and the presence of asymptomatic persons with COVID-19, people should assume the presence of coronavirus regardless of confirmed testing. Your best defense against the spread of coronavirus is the same before and after a confirmed case in the general public: strict social distancing, hygiene and disinfection practices.

What do I do if I learn that an employee or patron at a business where I have recently been tests positive?

There are no special instructions for those who may have shared general public space with someone who is later confirmed to have COVID-19. Social distancing, good hygiene and disinfection are the best ways to protect against the spread of COVID-19, regardless of what is known about confirmed cases. Limited testing, longer incubations periods of coronavirus and asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 make it possible that there are many more cases of COVID-19 than those confirmed by testing. If you have known contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19 you should call your healthcare provider.

In what circumstances would health departments reach out to individuals who may have had contact with someone infected with coronavirus?

Health departments investigate each confirmed case of COVID-19 and contact individuals with close contact with anyone confirmed to have COVID-19.

Can I get tested if I think I may have been in contact with someone with COVID-19?

Testing materials and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) remain in short supply. For this reason, it is unlikely you will be tested for assumed or potentially even known limited contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19. Presently, people with mild to moderate symptoms are being told to self-quarantine but are not getting tested.. If you feel that you may have COVID-19, call you healthcare provider.

Why is there more information on social media than from government sources?

Individuals may choose to disclose information. Government and business sources cannot release information until information is confirmed and that information is restricted by HIPAA. Please note, information on social media is often not confirmed, incomplete, inaccurate and/or misleading. For this reason, individuals should avoid summarizing information they have learned, even from expert sources on social media and other platforms. Rather, individuals should provide links directly to credible sources of information.

Where do I get accurate information?

You should go directly to county and state health departments for accurate information. The Yavapai County Health Department can be found [here](#). The Coconino County Health Department can be found [here](#). The State Department of Health and Human Services can be found [here](#).

How often is information about positive COVID-19 cases updated?

Information about the total tests administered, presumptive positive cases, confirmed positive cases, negative cases and pending cases are reported daily.



Why aren't more screening tests being performed after discovering a positive case of COVID-19?

Currently, limited tests and a limited supply of PPE do not allow for broad precautionary testing and screening of the general public. Also, evidence suggests transmission is most likely in situations with prolonged close exposure, not general public contact. Lastly, guidelines on avoiding spread of the disease are consistent regardless of confirmed presence of COVID-19 in a community or at specific locations within a community.