

# COVID-19 UPDATE

WEBINAR

## The Future of COVID-19: Research, Vaccines and How to Move Forward

Thursday, April 23 at 1:00 pm EDT

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)





The Institute for County Government and the University of Florida IFAS Extension will host a panel of experts from UF Health to provide an update on testing, research and vaccines as well as discuss steps on moving forward.

**Thursday, April 23 | 1:00 p.m. (EDT)**

This webinar is a follow up to an April 2, 2020 webinar: The Science of COVID-19. A recording of "[The Science of COVID-19](#)" is available to [watch on our website](#).

### MEDICAL EXPERTS:



**Glenn Morris, MD, MPH, & TM**  
Director  
Emerging Pathogens Institute



**John Lednický, PhD**  
Research Professor  
University of Florida



**Ira Longini, PhD**  
Professor of Biostatistics  
University of Florida

## FAC Publishes "Counties on the Frontline" Report

Florida's counties are on the front lines of our state's response to the coronavirus pandemic. During this unprecedented public health emergency and the aftermath of an economic crisis, counties are committed to strong intergovernmental cooperation to mitigate COVID-19 and its far-reaching impacts on the health of Floridians and the state's economic drivers.

This report highlights what counties across the state are doing as a part of the COVID-19 response and explains why county governments are important and the essential services they provide to all Florida residents.

[FAC COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

[Governor's Executive Orders](#)

[County COVID-19 Websites](#)

[County COVID-19 Policies & Ordinances](#)

[State Agency Executive Orders](#)

[FAC Partner Resources](#)

[FAC Updates](#)

[Spreadsheet of FAC's Data](#)  
(updated daily at noon)

[External Resources](#)

[Latest Updates](#)

[News Articles](#)



**\$3.5  
BILLION**

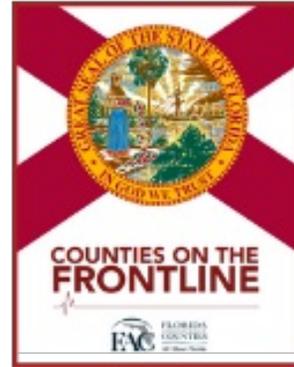
Florida counties spent \$3.5 billion on health and human services in FY 2016-17, accounting for 8 percent of total county expenditures.



Florida counties maintain 70,372 miles of roads throughout the state; the counties collectively spent \$2.05 billion on road and street facilities in FY 16-17.



Thirty-three Florida counties spent \$1.28 in FY 16-17 on public transit systems that connect people, communities, and economies.



## Q&A with the CDC

### Can the COVID-19 virus spread through drinking water?

The virus that causes COVID-19 has not been detected in drinking water. Conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, such as those in most municipal drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19.

Share this report with your communities to explain all that you're currently doing! [Click here](#) to download the report.

## Governor Ron DeSantis' Re-Open Florida Task Force Executive Committee

Today, Governor Ron DeSantis hosted a conference call with members of the Re-Open Florida Task Force Executive Committee to discuss the re-opening of Florida's economy.

Members of the Re-Open Florida Task Force Executive Committee are as follows:

- Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez, Lieutenant Governor of Florida
- Jimmy Patronis, Florida Chief Financial Officer
- Ashley Moody, Florida Attorney General
- President Bill Galvano, President, Florida Senate
- Speaker Jose Oliva, Speaker, Florida House of Representatives
- Senator Wilton Simpson, President-Designate, Florida Senate
- Representative Chris Sprowls, Speaker-Designate, Florida House of Representatives
- Commissioner Richard Corcoran, Commissioner of Education
- Jamal Sowell, President & CEO, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
- Mayor Carlos Gimenez, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
- Mayor Dale Holness, Mayor, Broward County
- Mayor David Kerner, Mayor, Palm Beach County
- John Couris, President & CEO, Tampa General Hospital
- Josh D'Amaro, President, Walt Disney World Resort
- Todd Jones, CEO, Publix Super Markets
- Syd Kitson, Chairman, Board of Governors for the State University System
- Paul Reilly, Chairman & CEO, Raymond James Financial
- Alex Sanchez, President & CEO, Florida Bankers Association
- Eric Silagy, President & CEO, Florida Power & Light Company
- John Sprouls, CEO, Universal Orlando Resort, Executive Vice President, Universal Parks & Resorts
- Patrick Sunderlin, Vice President, Global Supply Chain, Lockheed Martin Corporation
- Joe York, President, AT&T Florida and Caribbean

## FEMA Releases COVID-19 Pandemic Best Practices

FEMA and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) are collecting and sharing best practices and lessons learned from the whole-of-America response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The best practices are intended to help medical practitioners, emergency managers, and other critical stakeholders learn from each other's approaches and apply solutions to current response and recovery operations.

The [FEMA Coronavirus Emergency Management Best Practices](#) page provides a one-stop shop to explore best practices and lessons learned across all levels of government, private sector, academic institutions, professional associations, and other organizations. HHS has a comprehensive [Novel Coronavirus Resources](#) page that highlights technical resources and information for the medical community and emergency responders.

Best practices are organized around five themes:

- *Helping People*, which includes best practices on topics such as crisis counseling resources and anticipating and attending to civil rights;
- *Government Operations* best practices such as public information and continuity of operations considerations;
- *Private Sector and Infrastructure*, which includes best practices for commercial trucking and food stores;
- *Recovery Planning and Implementation*, to include the newly released FEMA Disaster Financial Management Guide and economic recovery considerations; and
- *Medical Supplies and Equipment*, including best practices for the preservation of personal protective equipment while ensuring workers are protected.

---

## DEO Provides Reemployment Assistance Update

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) is providing an update on the efforts made to enhance the Reemployment Assistance program due to the negative economic impacts presented by COVID-19.

### Reemployment Assistance Processed Claims

From Sunday, March 15 – Wednesday, April 15, 2020, 141,451 claims have been through the initial monetary determination process. This means that a decision has been made on whether the claimant is monetarily eligible to receive Reemployment Assistance, in addition to what the amount of their weekly benefits will be.

### Reemployment Assistance Claims Paid

From March 15 to April 15, DEO has made 121,102 payments to Floridians in Reemployment Assistance benefits totaling \$47,544,993. This includes 33,623 individual Floridians who applied for Reemployment Assistance benefits after March 15.

This week, 23,801 checks for \$600 have been mailed to Floridians for their benefits available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act.

### Reemployment Assistance Initial Claims

DEO is seeing historic increases in Floridians filing for Reemployment Assistance. Initial claims, which are new individuals requesting assistance, filed for Reemployment Assistance are provided below:

- For the week ending March 21, Florida received 74,313 applications for Reemployment Assistance.
- For the week ending March 28, Florida received 228,484 applications for Reemployment Assistance.
- For the week ending April 4, Florida received 169,885 applications for Reemployment Assistance. \*
- For the week ending April 11, estimates are that Florida received 175,306 applications for Reemployment Assistance. \*

*\*Florida Reemployment Assistance claim numbers are not official until the U.S. Department of Labor releases them each Thursday at 8:30 a.m.*

For additional updates including DEO's response to provisions in the CARES Act, their system enhancements, and their mobile app, please [click here](#).

---

## DEO Announces Launch of Rebuild Florida Critical Facility Hardening Program

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) announced \$75 million is now available to local governments through the Rebuild Florida Critical Facility Hardening Program. The Rebuild Florida Critical Facility Hardening Program allows local governments and state agencies to increase the resilience of critical facilities that serve a public safety purpose for local communities.

The funds are allocated through the U.S. Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) newly created Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) program formed in response to the 2016 to 2017 presidentially declared disasters.

Local governments and state agencies may apply individually or partner with non-profits and non-

governmental agencies for funding to propose projects that meet program requirements, including benefiting low-to-moderate income (LMI) populations.

The application window will be open for 75 days and DEO staff will be available to provide technical assistance to communities during the application process. **The deadline to complete an application is June 30, 2020.** For more information about the program, including how to complete an application, visit the Rebuild Florida Critical Facility Hardening Program's [webpage](#).

To provide local governments and state agencies with more information about the Rebuild Florida Critical Facility Hardening Program, **DEO will host a webinar at 2:00 p.m. (EST) on Wednesday, April 22, 2020.** Click [here](#) to register.

## Send FAC Your Photos or Videos! Images or Videos of the Response: Counties on the Frontline

Local Governments are the first line of defense and the first to take action in recovery. During this unprecedented global emergency, we would like to share your images or videos from your county's and community's response to the COVID-19 crisis. Whether it's logistics and staging, community response or neighbor helping neighbor, please share your images or videos with us and your fellow counties.

[Submit a Photo or Video](#)



Firefighters Charities of Pasco and Ford of Port Richey hit the streets to donate \$25 gift cards to random people getting groceries. In all, \$2000.00 was donated.

## Department of Health Resources

The Florida Department of Health's [COVID-19 Case Dashboard](#) is updated twice daily with the total number of cases in Florida.

Today, as of 11 a.m., there are 26,660 total\*\* Florida cases. More information on a case-by-case basis can also be found [here](#).

Confirmed Cases in Florida Residents	25,942
Confirmed by DOH	2,935
Tested by private labs	23,007
<b>Characteristics of Florida Resident Cases</b>	
FL resident diagnosed & isolated out of state*	9
Deaths	789
<b>Cases in Non-Florida Residents</b>	
Confirmed by DOH	106
Tested by private labs	612

<b>Total Cases Overview</b>	26,660
Traveled	1,594
Contact with confirmed case	7,070
Travel & contact with confirmed case	1,322
Unknown and Under Investigation	15,956

\*\*Total cases overview includes positive cases in Florida residents and non-Florida residents tested in Florida.

# COVID-19 COUNTY RESPONSE DASHBOARD

FROM THE INSTITUTE FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Arming counties with the information they need to stop the spread of the coronavirus in their communities.