

# What's Going Around: A Weekly Communicable Disease Report

## Diseases and Conditions Reported During January 19-25, 2020

*This report is a weekly snapshot of communicable diseases reported in El Paso County, as well as a report of disease trends and local health alerts. El Paso County Public Health's Communicable Disease Program partners with the medical community and the public to limit and stop the spread of diseases in our community.*

### Diseases Reported January 19-25, 2020:

- 3 Animal Bites— 2 pediatric, 1 adult
- 1 Campylobacteriosis— adult
- 1 Encephalitis— pediatric
- 1 Giardiasis— adult
- 8 Hepatitis C, Chronic— adults
- 25 Influenza, Hospitalized— 4 pediatric, 21 adults
- 1 Legionellosis— adult
- 4 Pertussis— 1 pediatric, 3 adults
- 3 Shigellosis— 1 pediatric, 2 adults
- 2 Strep Pneumo Invasive— 1 pediatric, 1 adult

### Additional Reports:

- Total hospitalized influenza cases in El Paso County from September 29, 2019– January 25, 2020: 175
- Total number of animals that have tested positive for rabies in 2020: 0
- Gastrointestinal illness complaints, possibly foodborne, associated with a retail food establishment: 1

### Health News: Update on Novel Coronavirus

- The CDC continues to closely monitor the rapidly evolving outbreak of the 2019-nCoV.
- The immediate health risk to the general American public remains low at this time though travel advisories and restrictions are in place.
- To date, there have been no confirmed cases in Colorado. As of February 3, 2020, the 11 confirmed cases in the U.S. have been in Washington, Illinois, California, Massachusetts, and Arizona.
- The CDC lab has experienced a large influx in specimens for testing. In order to ensure sustainability, specimen testing procedures have been updated to the following:
  1. If you suspect your patient may be a case, call EPCPH immediately at 719-578-3220 or 719-235-2278.
  2. After speaking to EPCPH, collect **two** nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs.
  3. Run a full respiratory panel to include influenza with one of the collected NP swabs. Save the other NP swab for possible additional testing.
  4. If the results are negative, EPCPH will consult with Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) for approval to send the second NP swab to CDC.
- For more information please follow this link:  
[www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus](http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus)

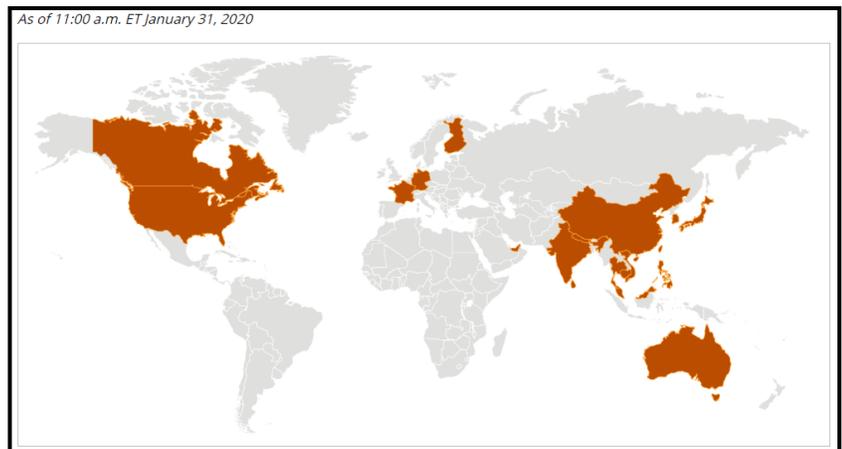
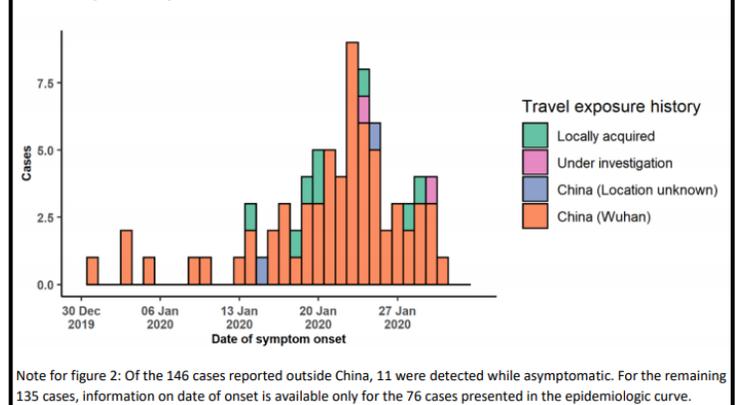


Figure 2: Epidemic curve of 2019-nCoV cases (n=76) identified outside of China, by date of onset of symptoms and travel history, 2 February 2020



**Questions? Please Contact:**

**El Paso County Public Health CD/TB Program**  
 Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 (719) 578-3220; after-hours emergency: (719) 235-2278  
 Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
 (303) 692-2700; after-hours emergency: (303) 370-9395  
[www.elpasocountyhealth.org](http://www.elpasocountyhealth.org)  
[Reportable Diseases and Conditions List](#)