

Cerro Gordo County Joint Information Center

COVID-19



MEDIA RELEASE

(Mason City) – Friday, July 17th, 2020

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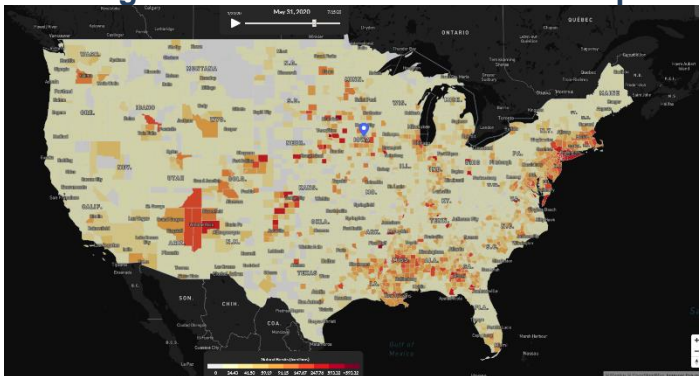
COVID-19 Joint Information Center Update

Data Snapshot

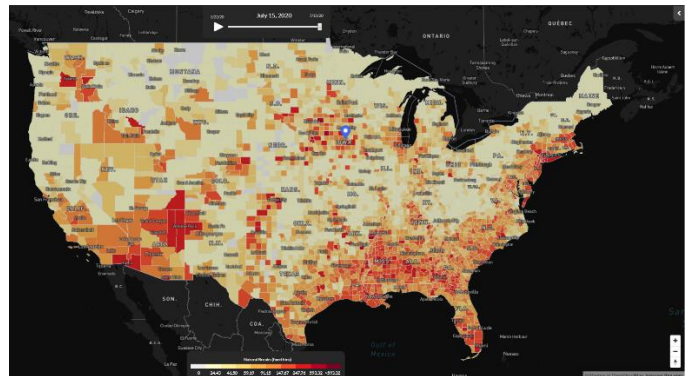
- 37,668 total lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Iowa (07/17/2020).
 - 388 total lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Cerro Gordo (07/17/2020).
- 782 deaths in Iowa
 - 11 deaths in Cerro Gordo
- 9,807 COVID-19 tests administered at the mobile testing unit (07/16/2020).

A status report of monitoring and testing of COVID-19 in Iowa, including county-level data, provided by the Iowa Department of Public Health can be found at <https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/#CurrentStatus>.

Tracking COVID-19 in Near Real Time: Open-Source Data Tool Shows Effects of COVID-19



Case Count across the United States May 31st, 2020



Case Count across the United States July 15th, 2020

Since COVID-19 struck the United States, there has been a constant call for real-time, local-level data. The University of Chicago Center for Spatial Data Science's US COVID Atlas is helping to answer that call.

This interactive, open-source data tool offers invaluable insights for users looking to gain a deeper understanding of the novel coronavirus's spread across the country and within their own county and state. Updated daily, the Atlas allows users to compare county-level COVID-19 data and see how the virus has spread over time, including showing emerging and persistent hotspots. Users can also examine overlays of Native American tribal communities, hyper segregated cities, and communities in the South to paint a clearer picture of places that share a greater burden of the pandemic.

These data on COVID-19 cases and viral spread is only part of the story. We know that there are stark differences in health and opportunity based on where you live—particularly for those with lower incomes, in rural communities, and in communities of color. The coronavirus pandemic has brought these inequities front and center.

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To better understand where we are, we need to understand where we have been and what led us here. The Atlas features key County Health Rankings measures that provide this context—from children in poverty to residential segregation to access to medical care.

By seeing the social and economic conditions that influence health alongside near real-time COVID-19 data, state and local leaders can use the US COVID Atlas as they move through reopening phases, navigate their COVID-19 response and recovery, allocate resources, and tailor and implement strategies.

Businesses Both Local and National Begin Implementing Mask Requirements

With the scientific community unanimously backing the use of masks and cloth facial coverings for preventing the spread of COVID-19, more and more businesses are beginning to implement mask mandates for entry onto their grounds. The JIC would like to remind everyone to keep multiple masks with you at all times, understand how to properly wear your mask, and launder your masks daily. Not only will these masks allow you entry to many businesses and establishments within your community, it will help stop the spread of COVID-19 and save lives.

For more information on how to properly wear your mask, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html>

For more information on how to properly launder your masks, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wash-cloth-face-coverings.html>

If you are a business interested in implementing your own mask policy please visit www.maskofwellness.com. The Mask of Wellness public health initiative supports and promotes 'COVID-Conscious' businesses so together we can keep north Iowa open. The website also provides a directory of businesses that have signed up for the initiative and those that are requiring patrons to wear masks before entering.

As a reminder, wellness starter kits are available to any local businesses who sign up for the Mask of Wellness. Simply forward your Mask of Wellness confirmation email to the appropriate contact below and they will set you up with a wellness starter kit. Kits are available on a first-come, first-served basis and can be picked up at the Mason City Chamber of Commerce Center (9 N Federal Ave, Mason City) and the Clear Lake Chamber (205 Main Ave, Clear Lake) beginning on Wednesday, July 8 and on weekdays between 9AM-4PM.

Mask of Wellness confirmation emails can be sent to:

- Mason City: chamber@masoncityia.com
- Clear Lake: stacy@clearlakeiowa.com

Questions about the wellness starter kits can be directed to:

- admin@northiowacorridor.com

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