



CITY OF BISMARCK DAILY BULLETIN

April 8, 2020

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health (BBPH) Update

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health announced the kick-off of a 'Homebody Hero' campaign that supplies a broad variety of creative ideas designed to serve as a guide for activities that anybody can

do at home to help them stay healthy, active and occupied throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. To participate in the 'Homebody Hero' campaign, follow Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health at www.facebook.com/BBPH.gov. Renae Moch, Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Director, reported contact tracing teams continue to see high numbers of contacts for those testing positive.

According to Director Moch, the US Surgeon General predicts this week to be our Pearl Harbor or 911 for COVID-19, meaning it will be the hardest and saddest for Americans with many deaths, as they anticipate a peak across the nation.

Please tell your friends, family, and anyone who will listen to **STAY HOME!**



- **Drop-off location for homemade masks donations announced**

National Medical Resources will be serving as a drop-off location for individuals to donate homemade masks. Their address is 2792 E Broadway Ave in Bismarck and they will have a drop box available between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

- **The “Operation Drive-in” pilot project deployed over the weekend**

A pilot project intended to identify positive cases earlier and slow the spread of COVID-19 was implemented in Amidon and Gladstone last weekend. Seven hundred thirty-five (735) tests were completed during these two days. See more [details](#).

- **North Dakota Positive Test Rates**

Governor Burgum reported that we have a 3.1% positive rate for the tests coming back in North Dakota. That is the 3rd lowest rate in the country. In addition, North Dakota is doing 8.9 tests per 1,000 individuals which is the 10th best testing rate in the nation. This is very positive compared to all the states in the nation.

- **National Public Health Week**

April 6 – 12, we celebrate the 25th year of National Public Health Week. Though a pandemic response effort is not what we had planned for this week, we are doing our best to move forward and get through this as a team. Renae Moch says she couldn't be prouder of the Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health staff and how they have all come together to work through this ever-changing, unprecedented time.

COVID-19 Case Reports, North Dakota Department of Health

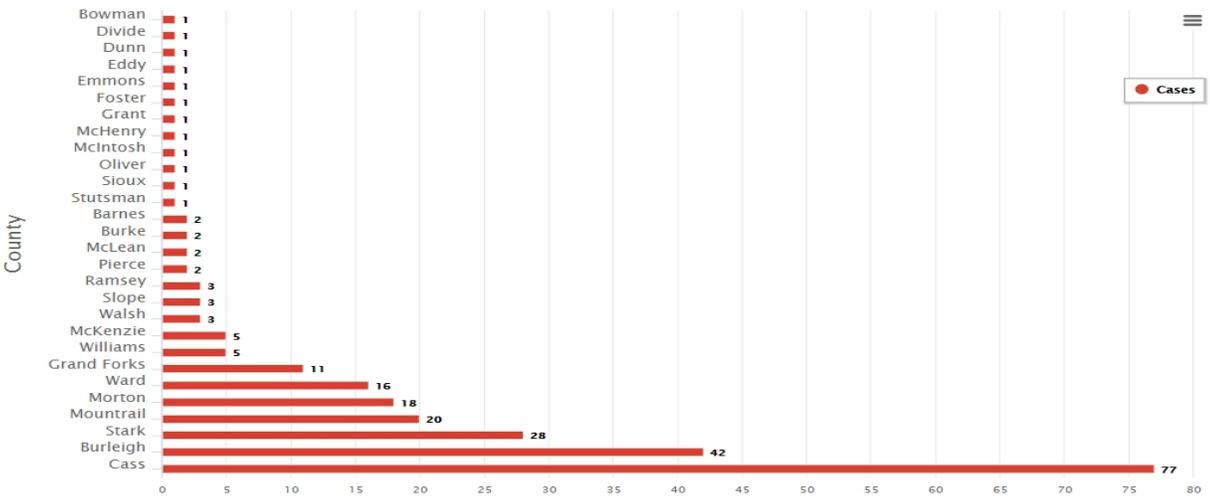
Coronavirus Cases

Updated around 11:00 AM daily
 Last updated: 4/8/2020 at 11:54 AM



As of April 8, Burleigh County still has the second highest number of positive cases. There are now 251 positive COVID-19 cases in the state of North Dakota. Of those new cases, **three of the positive cases were in Burleigh County, for a total of 42 positive cases in Burleigh County.** Sixteen individuals are currently hospitalized throughout the state. The first, positive, pregnant case in North Dakota was confirmed April 2, 2020. ([CDC Guidance for Pregnant Women](#)) There have been four COVID-19 related deaths in the state.

Confirmed Positive Cases by County





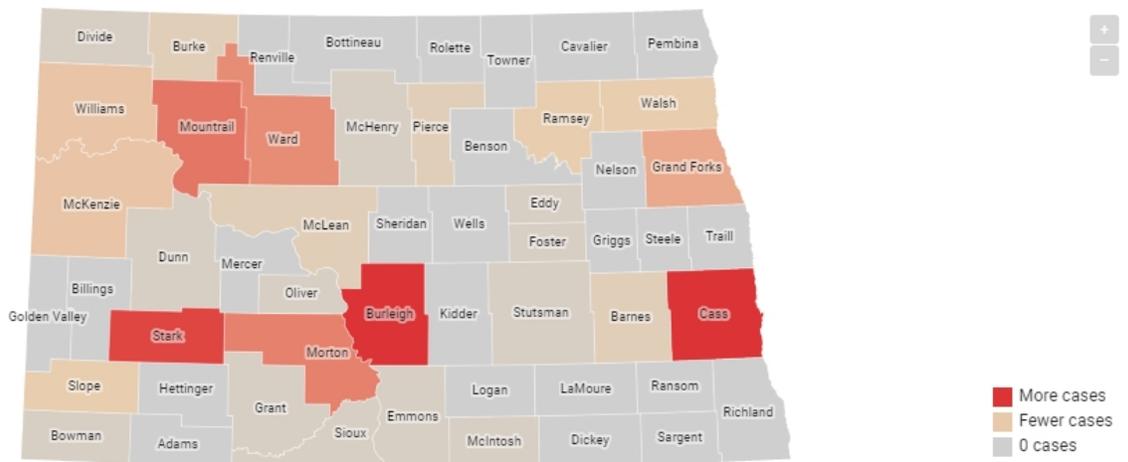
Trending Curve

Best viewed on desktop or in landscape mode on mobile (i.e. holding the phone sideways)



County Map

Use two fingers to zoom or scroll on mobile.



Source: ND Department Of Health · Created with Datawrapper

COVID-19 Recommendations

There is still a need to emphasize the importance of social distancing as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control. Everyone has an individual responsibility for the health and safety of our community during this COVID-19 pandemic. [Learn more about social distancing and how to protect yourself](#)

The [CDC recommends](#) wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), **especially** in areas of significant community-based transmission. CDC also advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Face coverings should not be N-95 or medical grade masks. Face coverings can be surgical masks or masks made at home from a scarf or bandanna.

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health (BBPH) continues to assist the state with contact tracing for individuals identified as positive for COVID-19.

Individuals identified as close contacts of someone testing positive with COVID-19 will receive a phone call from the North Dakota Department of Health or the local public health department. You will then be provided with the appropriate steps to take next. Additionally, if a school or daycare is involved, letters will be sent to all parents. [See more information.](#)

SOCIAL DISTANCING IS A PRIORITY NOT A CHOICE

- STAY 6 FEET APART FROM OTHERS
- BE GOOD NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS BY STAYING APART

We want to see what you are doing!
Share your photos with us:

@BBPH.gov • #socialdistancebbph

6 FEET APART

NDdH COVID-19 HOTLINE: 7 AM - 10 PM
(p) 1.866.207.2880

BBPH: M-F • 8 AM - 5 PM
(p) 701.355.1540
(e) bbph@bismarcknd.gov

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health

What to do if you have symptoms of COVID-19:

- Individuals who think they may have COVID-19 but have minor symptoms should **self-isolate at home**.
- Individuals seeking medical attention should call before they go in. Symptoms of COVID-19 in people who have been exposed can include fever, cough and shortness of breath.
- The symptoms may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure. For questions related to COVID-19, the public can call the ND Department of Health hotline at 1-866-207-2880 from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., 7 days a week.

[Steps to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick](#)

If you are being tested, find what you need to know in the [NDDOH guide](#).

SOCIAL DISTANCING

How to be #InThisTogetherND... 6 feet apart

AVOID:
Social gatherings of 10 or more, sleepovers, crowded retail stores, malls, workouts at gyms, mass transit, visitors to your house, travel by cruise, being within 6 feet of others

USE CAUTION:
Getting takeout, grocery shopping, picking up medication, traveling, interacting with people 6+ feet away from you, using drive-thrus

SAFE TO DO:
Take a walk, yard work, clean your home, read a book, listen to music, family game night, go for a drive, group video chats, watching TV or a movie, take an online course



Facebook Live Updates

- Assistant City Administrator Jason Tomanek, along with Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Director Renae Moch, provided information on the combined response by the City of Bismarck and Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health to the COVID-19 pandemic. Watch today's update or view future Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health updates [here](#) at 11 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- City of Bismarck Mayor Steve Bakken provides a City Update on Monday mornings regarding the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Be sure to watch Mayor Bakken's City Update every Monday at 10 a.m. [here](#).



City of Bismarck News

- **Bismarck offers virtual option for public meeting attendance and participation**
Due to ongoing public health concerns related to COVID-19, the City of Bismarck is encouraging citizens to provide their comments for consent agenda, and regular agenda items on the Bismarck City Commission agenda by alternative methods. View the details [here](#).
- **City of Bismarck Arbor Day event postponed**
The annual Arbor Day event scheduled to take place on Friday, May 1, has been postponed until fall due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and ND State Department of Health to limit social gatherings and practice social distancing. Once a new date has been determined, the city will announce it to the public through the [City website](#), social media and local media sources.
- **Reminder from Bismarck Fire Department that burning yard waste is prohibited**
The Bismarck Fire Department reminds residents that the City of Bismarck's Code of Ordinance prohibits the burning of yard waste within City limits. Yard waste includes: leaves, dry grass, weeds, and brush. Please refer to the Bismarck Public Works Department's [webpage](#) for information about the proper disposal of yard waste.
- **Bismarck Public Works reminds residents to continue to bring their garbage containers out to the curb, and to place them on the boulevard or driveway apron.** Please make sure all garbage is bagged, inside and outside of the container. If it is outside the garbage container and not bagged, it will not be picked up. Large items such as furniture, mattresses, cardboard, etc. should be taken to the Bismarck landfill. Landfill hours are Monday – Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. For more information visit www.bismarcknd.gov.
- **Building Inspections Services Division COVID-19 protocol developed**

To reduce exposure and to protect the general public and our city employees, inspections will be suspended for all projects where access to an occupied dwelling unit is required. We are working hard to continue to provide inspections services during this unprecedented time and appreciate everyone's flexibility while we prioritize lower risk locations such as new residential and commercial projects, including healthcare facilities and critical infrastructure. [More details here.](#)

- **Find which City departments are providing essential services and how to reach them** [here](#).
- **The Downtowners Association and the City of Bismarck have partnered to establish temporary curbside pickup zones in Downtown Bismarck**
Please help to support our local businesses as you continue to follow the health guidelines for safety during COVID-19. There are currently 8 zones in Downtown Bismarck. [View the map.](#)
- **We encourage the public to follow Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health and the City of Bismarck on our social media sites** for essential information. For the most updated and timely information related to COVID-19, visit the City of Bismarck web site at www.bismarcknd.gov and follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/BBPH.gov/>, <https://twitter.com/BBPublicHealth>, www.facebook.com/bismarcknd.gov and www.twitter.com/BismarckNDGov.
- **Emergency Alert Feature is Now Activated on the City of Bismarck Website.** This Emergency Alert Feature provides you with the latest news and information on COVID-19 and the actions the City of Bismarck is taking in response to it. To receive real-time updates via text and email from the alert system on your handheld devices [sign up for "Notify Me"](#).
- **Stay Connected with the City of Bismarck Mobile App** Download Bismarck's mobile app to stay connected to official city resources, news, and information from your smart phone, tablet or other hand-held devices. [Sign up today!](#)
- **Remember that live meeting coverage of government meetings** is available for viewing on Government Access Channels 2 & 602HD or listen to the meeting at Radio Access 102.5 FM Radio, or stream [Government Access](#) and [Radio Access 102.5](#).

Executive Orders

- **Governor Doug Burgum issued executive orders on Tuesday designed to help address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic for school districts, agribusiness, fuel retailers and others in North Dakota. These actions include:**
 - [Giving school districts the same flexibility](#) to hold mail ballot-only elections for special elections that was provided for school board elections and the June 2020 election. View more details [here](#).
 - [Suspending the requirement](#) that a school district conduct a written performance review for every teacher, principal and assistant/associate superintendent employed for more than three years. Written performance reviews will still have to be conducted for those employed for less than three years. This provides flexibility for evaluations and will help allow teachers and administrators to continue focusing on providing distance learning to make sure every North Dakota student receives a quality education.



- [Allowing winter-grade fuel](#) to be sold until May 20 instead of the traditional April 1 cutoff date. The state has an oversupply of winter-grade fuel due to the travel restrictions and economic downturn resulting from the COVID-19 emergency.
- [Suspending the pesticide applicator certification](#) for the use of non-restricted disinfectants during this public health emergency.
- Burgum had previously issued an order directing state agencies to identify any state laws, rules or regulations that hinder or delay their ability to render maximum assistance or continue to deliver essential services to citizens during the COVID-19 crisis. State elected officials and other executive branch offices were invited to do the same.
- **Governor Burgum signed two executive orders Monday designed to slow the spread of COVID-19 in North Dakota and to protect the most vulnerable by limiting visitation to long-term care facilities.**
 - The first [executive order](#) requires individuals who test positive for COVID-19, as well as family and household members residing with the infected individual, to self-quarantine in their place of residence for no less than 14 days or as directed by order of the State Health Officer.
 - In Monday's second [executive order](#), Burgum suspended visitation to long-term care facilities.
- **Unemployment Benefits**

Governor Burgum signed an [executive order](#) waiving the mandatory one-week waiting period for unemployment benefits. Learn more details [here](#).
- **Governor Burgum extended the [executive order](#) for closures from April 6 to April 20**

This includes state facilities, restaurants (other than take out or delivery) personal care services and more.
- Find more information about the state's COVID-19 response [here](#) or at [ND Response](#).

North Dakota State Government

- **Care19, a free mobile app, is now available**

Gov. Doug Burgum and the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) in partnership with ProudCrowd, creators of the popular Bison Tracker app, launched a free mobile app, Care19, to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in North Dakota. Find more information [here](#).
- **Citizens urged to follow safety precautions when using videoconferencing tools**

The public was alerted today to new cybersecurity threats tied to video conferencing platforms which are becoming increasingly popular given the global increase in remote work and learning environments. North Dakota Information Technology's Cyber Operations Center has also issued a security risk assessment and associated guidelines for video conferencing platforms that can be [accessed at this link](#).

- **Insurance Department and insurance companies collaborate to benefit North Dakota consumers**

Insurance Commissioner Jon Godfread applauded the issuance of "Shelter-in-Place-Payback" to car insurance drivers insured by Allstate and the creation of the "Return of Premium Relief Fund" by American Family Insurance. See more information on these programs [here](#).

- **Non-essential ag activities and events should be canceled or postponed**

While agriculture and food have been deemed essential industries by the Department of Homeland Security, agriculture-related activities and events that are not essential to the process of producing food and feed should be canceled or postponed to a later date. [See details](#).

- **Protocols for workers arriving from other countries, states**



Employers should follow certain protocols if they have workers coming from other countries and/or states during this pandemic. From the time of arrival, workers should fill out the North Dakota Department of Health [travel survey](#), have no contact with anyone in the community and quarantine for 14 days.

State Health Officer Mylynn Tuft signed a confinement order directing individuals to quarantine for 14 days if traveling back to North Dakota from all international locations and states in

the U.S. classified as having widespread disease by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [More information here](#).

- **Unemployment Insurance system now accepting new Pandemic-related claim types**

Job Service North Dakota is now able to accept online claims from independent contractors, gig economy workers, self-employed individuals, and workers who may have exhausted the benefits available to them under the regular Unemployment Insurance system. Applicants should go to [jobsnd.com](#) for more information.

- **ND Human Services to issue extra SNAP benefits for March and April [Find more information here](#).**

- **Child Support Program continues to serve parents during COVID-19 pandemic**

Parents with child support cases who have been impacted by job loss or reduced work hours are encouraged to monitor their accounts [online](#) or can contact Child Support customer service at 701-328-5440, toll-free 800-231-4255 or 711 (TTY) during regular business hours and until 7 p.m. CT on Mondays or by [email](#).

- **Fund set up for donations to aid COVID-19 response**

Are you looking for ways to support your community during this crisis? The best way is to donate directly to a trusted, local organization. If they can't accept donations, or if you prefer, you can give to the ND COVID-19 Community & Nonprofit Response Fund at the North Dakota Community Foundation. [www.ndcf.net](#)



- **Personal protective equipment being accepted**
Donations of personal protective equipment also are being accepted to ensure health care workers and first responders are protected as they respond to COVID-19. Commercially-produced supplies can be dropped off at NDDOT district locations. [Details here.](#)
- Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem reminds North Dakota residents to check the facts to [avoid being fooled by a coronavirus-related scam](#). Information is also available by calling toll-free 1-800-472-2600.
- The Burleigh County Courthouse is restricting public access due to COVID-19. Contact them at 701-355-1350 or website <https://www.bismarcknd.gov/93/Municipal-Court> for instructions regarding alternate communications (phone, email, website, mail, drop box).
- Effective March 23, 2020, Bis-Man Transit restricted public access to its facility and implemented changes to Capital Area Transit (fixed-route) and Paratransit service until further notice. Call 701-258-6817 or visit <https://bisantransit.com/> for more information.

Information and Resources

- [Daily Bulletin](#)
- [City of Bismarck website](#)
- COVID-19 information [NDDoH website](#)
- COVID-19 Hotline 7 am-10 pm, 7 days a week: 1-866-207-2880
- [Centers for Disease Control](#)
[Español](#)
- Mental Health Resources
 - [FirstLink Help Line 211](#) or Dial 2-1-1
 - [ND Human Services COVID-19 Behavioral Health Resources](#)
 - West Central Human Service Center 24-Hour Crisis Line Call 701-328-8899 or toll-free 1-888-328-2112
- [NDResponse.gov](#)
- [COVID19 Resources for Business](#)
- Department of Commerce [resources for businesses](#)
- [ND Response: COVID-19 Personal, Family and Community Support](#)
- [ND Attorney General Consumer Protection consumer complaints](#) call toll-free 1-800-472-2600
- [Federal Trade Commission Tips for Coronavirus Scams](#)
- [Where to Go for Help Resources](#)
- [Missouri River system Game and Fish boat ramp access status](#)
- Follow us on www.facebook.com/BBPH.gov and www.twitter.com/BBPublicHealth
- www.facebook.com/bismarcknd.gov and www.twitter.com/BismarckNDGov
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