



Harrison-Clarksburg Health Department

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For Immediate Release

HCHD encourages public to continue decrease the spread of COVID-19

Clarksburg, WV (April 20, 2020, 2PM) —

	United States	West Virginia	Harrison County
Confirmed cases	761,911	902	30
Total Deaths	40,724	24	1

Harrison-Clarksburg Health Department is helping to coordinate with the local nursing homes and our state partners, as needed, to assist with the executive order by Gov. Justice to test all nursing home residents and staff. In Harrison County we have approximately 647 nursing home residents and 950 nursing home staff for an approximate total of 1600 tests. We expect to see an increase of our positive tests as a result of this broad testing. The current level of percentage of positive tests is 4% of tests performed in WV which could be a number as high as 64 new positive tests. Because Harrison County has not yet had a positive test related to a nursing home, we are hopeful this number will be much smaller.

HCHD responded to WV Veterans Nursing Facility in Clarksburg, WV today to observe and assist with the first round of testing in our county. The facilities are finding it challenging to obtain enough testing material and make arrangement to have testing done.

On April 17, 2020, Gov. Justice issued an Executive Order, <https://governor.wv.gov/Documents/2020%20Executive%20Orders/Executive-Order-April-17-2020-Nursing-Home-Testing.pdf> directing the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources with the assistance of West Virginia National Guard to test every nursing home resident and staff member throughout the state.

Residents and staff members who have previously been tested will be retested to ensure the most up-to-date results possible. The Governor has directed that this effort begins immediately to provide more aggressive support to West Virginia's nursing home population.