



FACT SHEET: DOD Support To COVID-19 Pandemic Response As of March 25, 2020

The Department of Defense (DOD) is taking action along a number of fronts to support President Trump's whole-of-government pandemic response efforts. These include:

DOD Medical Capabilities:

- Vaccines: DOD has five vaccine initiatives at different stages of development.
- Antiviral Medication: DOD has three antiviral therapeutic studies underway and the FDA is enabling their production through the Emergency Use Authority Process for applicable DOD candidates established in the FY18 NDAA.
- Hospital Ships: Navy Medicine core staff have begun reporting for the USNS Comfort and USNS Mercy deployments. The USNS Mercy will deploy to Los Angeles with healthcare operations due to begin on or around April 1. The USNS Comfort will deploy to New York City with healthcare operations due to begin on or around April 4. Both Hospitals ships will be able to provide trauma and other healthcare support freeing up the civilian medical systems to focus on COVID-19 patients.
- Combat Support Hospitals:
 - Army - The Army recently issued "Prepare to Deploy" orders to three (3) Army Hospital Centers; 627th Hospital Center (Fort Carson), 531st Hospital Center (Fort Campbell, KY) and 9th Hospital Center (Fort Hood, TX) to provide medical support to civil authorities. These units are deploying to Seattle, Washington, and New York, New York with advance echelons (ADVON) potentially departing as early as tonight, 24 March 2020.
 - DOD is exploring the use of Army Combat Support Hospitals (248 beds) and Navy Expeditionary Medical Facilities (150 beds) to provide trauma support for civilian medical systems to allow them to focus on COVID-19.
 - Air Force – The U.S. Air Force flew an en-route patient staging system for the Italian Ministry of Defense to Aviano, Italy, capable of supporting 40 patients in a 24-hour period.
- Stockpiles: DOD is making essential supplies available from DOD stockpiles, including:
 - 2,000 ventilators,
 - Five million N95 breathing masks, and
 - COVID-19 testing in 14 military health labs.
- Quarantine Facilities: DOD is providing 13 bases to temporarily house U.S. Citizens and legal permanent residents who require mandatory quarantine as they re-enter the United States, including passengers from the Grand Princess cruise ship.
- Medical Facility Planning: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has received five Mission Assignments from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to support medical facility planning, and USACE has more than 250 personnel providing support. Two of the FEMA Mission Assignments are for National Activation and to provide initial planning and engineering support nationwide to address possible medical facility shortages in the United States, and one of the FEMA Mission Assignment is issued specifically for New York for facility assessments, planning, engineering, design, contracting, and construction of alternate care facilities, the other two were issued for alternate care facility in California and the USACE Headquarter for a Fusion Cell for disaster planning.



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- Support to FEMA: U.S. Army North, in response to a FEMA request, activated ten Defense Coordinating Elements, co-located with each FEMA regional headquarters, to coordinate federal military assistance requests. They are also waiting on a potential tasking order to send a Combat Support Hospital to Washington state.
- Defense Industrial Base: DOD is actively engaging with the Defense Industrial Base to ensure the health and safety of their workers as well as maintain critical national security activities. To that end, the Department of Homeland Security published guidance identifying the critical infrastructure workforce on Thursday, March 19. The Department of Defense provided additional guidance on the critical infrastructure workforce for defense on Friday, March 20. DOD acknowledges there still may be conflicts between the federal and local guidance and has designated the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) as the single point of contact.

National Guard:

- To date, over 9,000 Air and Army National Guard Members are supporting governors in all states, territories, and the District of Columbia. The support to governors includes, but is not limited to, medical operations, transportation, food delivery, logistics, manning call centers, interagency coordination, command and control, and planning future operations. Key state efforts are focused on ramping up testing sites in areas most effected by COVID-19, infection prevention, and medical supply and PPE distribution. Site building includes erecting tents and providing generators, then establishing medical capacity.
- On March 22, the President activated the National Guard in Title 32 status for Washington, California, and New York, which provides federal funding for National Guard support in those states but retains them under the operational control of state governors.

Protecting Service Members:

- Stop Movement Order: DOD has stopped almost all Permanent Change of Station (PCS) and Temporary Duty government-funded movement of servicemembers, DoD civilian personnel and DoD families.
- Social Distancing: All large social gatherings and ceremonies have been postponed. Telework opportunities are being maximized for eligible personnel.
- Treatment: TRICARE is utilizing tele-medicine where possible and strongly encouraging those beneficiaries with COVID-19 symptoms to use the Nurse Advice Line instead of walking into an MTF or clinic to avoid community spread.

DoD COVID-19 Patient Totals, March 23, 2020

	Current Cases*	Hospitalized	Recovered	Deaths
Military	133(+22)	7(+4)	4	0
Civilian	44(+12)	3	1(+1)	0
Dependent	35(-2)	2(-1)	0	0
Contractor	31	3(-1)	0(-1)**	1(+1)

*Total DoD Cases (Current and Recovered) is 249 **Changes due to erroneous previous reporting