

# Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

## Awareness for Public Transportation Agencies

### Fact Sheet



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## Overview

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. Chinese authorities identified the new coronavirus, which has resulted in thousands of confirmed cases in China, including cases outside Wuhan City. Additional cases have been identified in a growing number of other international locations, including the United States. There are ongoing investigations to learn more.\*

Employee risks of occupational exposure to a virus may vary from very high to low risk. The level of risk depends in part on whether jobs require proximity to people potentially infected with the virus, or whether they are required to have either repeated or extended contact with known or suspected sources of a virus.

## Steps to Prepare Now

- ✓ Educate and train employees on proper hand hygiene, cough etiquette, and social distancing techniques.
- ✓ Understand and develop work practice and engineering controls that could provide additional protection to your employees and customers, such as the proper selection, use, and disposal of personal protective equipment.
- ✓ Review, upgrade, or modify, as needed, your agency's Standard Operation Procedures for cleaning and disinfecting of railcars, buses, and other transport vehicles.
- ✓ Coordinate with local public health departments, utilize your agency's website, social media, or other outlets to list facts or information, such as developing a Q&A page.
- ✓ Coordinate with local media to provide relevant facts.
- ✓ Develop or update your agency's Disaster Plan to include emergency preparedness. Review the plan and conduct employee training and drills regularly.

## Resources

Each transit agency is encouraged to take the actions deemed appropriate for their system. Geographical location or system size are just a few items to consider when developing your Prevention or Preparedness Plans. For additional guidance, the following references are available:

- [CDC Novel Coronavirus Information](#)
- [Occupational Safety and Health Administration 2019 Novel Coronavirus Guidance](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) National Pandemic Strategy](#)
- [National Transit Safety Research and Assistance Center Epidemics and Pandemics Information](#)
- [Transit Cooperative Research Program Public Transit Emergency Preparedness Against Ebola and Other Infectious Diseases: Legal Issues](#)
- [Transportation Research Board's National Cooperative Highway Research Program Guide for Public Transportation Pandemic Planning and Response](#)

## Questions

For more information, please contact us through [FTA's website](#) or call 202-366-4043.

\*Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

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