



**Pender County Situation Report #20 - COVID-19 Event
March 31, 2020 - The County is operating at EOC Status Level 3.**

Changes from Previous Report Highlighted in Yellow

1. Incident Name COVID-19 Event	2. Operational Period (Date / Time) 03/11/2020 – Ongoing.	3. Date Prepared: 03/31/2020	4. Report No: 20
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5. Type of Incident: Pandemic

6. Declaration Information:

Date Issued	Declaration	Remarks
03/10/2020	State of Emergency	Governor Roy Cooper declared a State of Emergency. North Carolina Emergency Operations Center has been activated.
03/11/2020	Pandemic	The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic.
03/13/2020	National Emergency	President Trump declared a national emergency to open access to up to \$50 billion for states and territories to respond to COVID-19.
03/17/2020	State of Emergency	Surf City and Topsail Beach declared a State of Emergency on March 17, 2020.
03/25/2020	Major Disaster	President Trump approved a Major Disaster Declaration for the State of North Carolina.
03/30/2020	State of Emergency	Pender County, Atkinson, and Burgaw declared a State of Emergency on March 30, 2020.

7. Current Situation: EOC IS OPERATING AT A LEVEL 3 STATUS. Level 3 is a hazard specific response to an incident. This incident requires the assistance of several State agencies. The Emergency Operations Center is activated but only staffed with essential personnel. The EOC is not operating on 24-hour shifts. The EOC is only functioning during standard business hours, with minimal weekend staffing.

Weather: Today: Cloudy, with a high near 68. East wind 11 to 13 mph, with gusts as high as 22 mph.
 Tonight: Showers, mainly after 7pm. The rain could be heavy at times. Low around 46. Northeast wind 13 to 16 mph, with gusts as high as 24 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New precipitation amounts between three quarters and one inch possible.
 Tomorrow: A chance of showers, mainly before 8am. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 59. North wind 15 to 17 mph, with gusts as high as 23 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%. New precipitation amounts of less than a tenth of an inch possible.

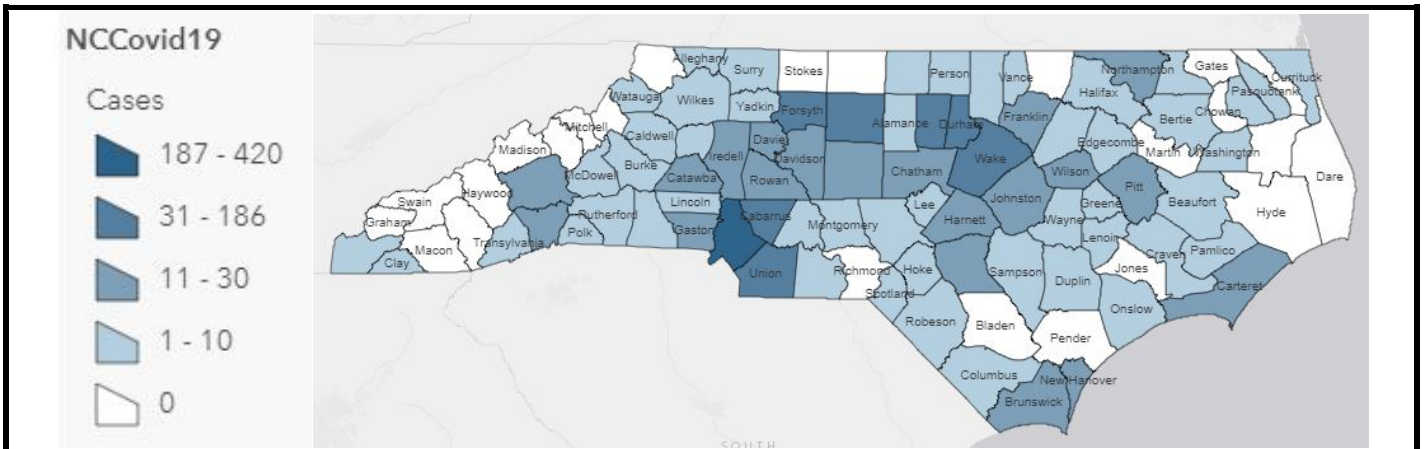
Fire Weather: RP-3: An approaching storm system will bring wetting rains today through early Wednesday. Rain should begin inland between 4-5 PM, and at the coast between 5-7 PM. High pressure will build in for the latter part of the week and early weekend with significantly cooler temperatures. Wind profile analysis/fire control over flat terrain is Favorable. Fog potential for tonight is Low.

GOVERNOR COOPER EXECUTIVE ORDERS (EOs)

- **EO 117 (March 14, 2020):** Limited mass gatherings to 100 persons and closed K-12 public schools.
- **EO 118 (March 17, 2020):** Limited operations of restaurants/bars and broadened unemployment benefits.
- **EO 119 (March 21, 2020):** Facilitated critical motor vehicle regulations, waived regulations to expand access to childcare, and support local health departments.
- **EO 120 (March 23, 2020):** Reduced the mass gathering limit to 50 persons, extended public school closers until at least May 15, 2020, limited long term care visitations, closed entertainment and other service facilities, and provided direction to local governments regarding service delivery as well as employee safety.
- **EO 121 (March 27, 2020):** Issued “stay-at-home” order to take effect at 5:00 PM Monday, March 30, 2020 for a period no less than thirty (30) days, established essential activities and essential businesses, reduced the mass gathering limit to 10 persons, and clarified local authority to establish greater restrictions in accordance with North Carolina law.
- **EO 122 (March 30, 2020):** Helped schools and local governments access state surplus property to help bridge gaps, provided transfer or donation of personal protective equipment (PPE) that state government may have and not need.

The public can subscribe to text updates from NC DHHS regarding COVID-19 by texting COVIDNC to 898211. The following are phone lines staffed by State personnel where COVID-19 specific questions can be directed:

- COVID-19 Public Assistance Hotline. PA applicants are encouraged to call this number with questions: 919-825-2548.
- NC DHHS has set up a help line for COVID-19 related inquiries: 866-462-3821.
- NC 2-1-1 is an information and referral service that families and individuals can call to obtain free and confidential information on health and human services resources within their community.



Note: Map and case numbers are as reported by NC DHHS by 11 a.m. on **March 31, 2020**.

8a. Reported COVID-19 Cases in Pender County: 0

8b. Hospitalizations in Pender County: 0

8c. Fatalities in Pender County: 0

8d. Reported COVID-19 Cases in North Carolina: 1,498 (NC DHHS)

8e. Hospitalizations in North Carolina: 157

8f. Fatalities in North Carolina: 8

9. Quarantine Status: NA

10. Threats or Disruptions to Infrastructure: NA

11. Incident Area: As of today (3/31), the Pender County Health Department is aware of a total of **sixty-four (64) residents of Pender County** who have been tested for COVID-19 by healthcare providers within the county. This includes Pender Memorial Hospital, Pender County Health Department, and other healthcare providers. Of those tests, **forty-four (44)** were confirmed negative, while **twenty (20)** tests are currently pending. There have been no confirmed positive tests. **Note that these numbers may be lower than previous reports due to clarification on patients' county of residence.**

12. External Affairs: Pender County remains in monitoring mode. The Public Information Officer and the communications team are monitoring the County's social media platforms and updating the County's website with accurate information.

13. County Action:

- Pender County School System is feeding students and anyone 18 or younger at 61 sites, information [available here](#).
- Pender County Schools is providing wi-fi hotspots for school-issued devices from 7 AM to 7 PM seven days a week at Pender High, Topsail High, Heide Trask High, and West Pender Middle. There is also a public wi-fi access point in the parking lot of the Pender County Public Library in Burgaw.
- Pender County Government is strongly encouraging appointments for in-person visits, information [available here](#). **In accordance with the governor's order that teleworking be practiced to the maximum extent possible, many staff members began teleworking starting Tuesday, March 31.**
- **Pender County Board of Commissioners Chairman George Brown declared a State of Emergency effective Monday, March 30, 2020.**

14. Other Notes, Issues or Additional Remarks: Pursuant to EO 117 issued March 14, 2020, all persons are urged to maintain social distancing (approximately six feet away from other people) whenever possible and to continue to wash hands, utilize hand sanitizer and practice proper respiratory etiquette (including coughing into elbow).

15. Prepared by: DLA, SLS, TNH

16. Reviewed by: STB