

Dept. of Military Affairs: Wisconsin National Guard conducting mobile testing at sites around the state

Posted on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

>> **WisPolitics is now on the State Affairs network. Get custom keyword notifications, bill tracking and all WisPolitics content. [Get the app or access via desktop.](#)**

A total of 25 specimen collection teams from the Wisconsin National Guard continue to operate across Wisconsin supporting local health departments and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services effort to increase the state's COVID-19 testing capacity. A total of 21 teams are operating today and all 25 will be operating statewide tomorrow.

The teams, comprised of more than 600 Citizen Soldiers and Airmen in total, established mobile testing sites at locations ranging from correctional facilities and health clinics, to private businesses, and community-based testing sites.

A number of specimen collection sites have ongoing operations including:

- Brown County: Operations began at the Resch Center April 30 for focused-community testing for select businesses and their families. The Resch Center site opened for community-based testing May 4. As of May 12, more than 3,184 specimens had been collected at the Resch Center. Another Wisconsin National Guard specimen collection team began supporting a second community-based testing site that opened at Casa ALBA in Green Bay May 6 and has collected nearly 988 specimens as of May 12.
- Dane County: Two teams established a community-based testing site at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison May 11. Nearly 350 specimens had been collected as of May 12.
- Florence County: One team established a community-based testing site in

Florence May 12.

- Marinette County: One team established a community-based testing site in Crivitz May 12.
- Milwaukee County: One team continues supporting two local health clinics after arriving in Milwaukee the week of April 20. Three teams established a community-based specimen collection site May 11 at 2701 S. Chase Avenue (UMOS) and it has collected over 950 specimens as of May 12. Three teams also set up May 11 a community-based specimen collection site at 5760 W. Capitol Drive (Midtown) and has collected over 950 specimens as of May 12. Additionally, one team will begin collecting specimens May 12 at the Felmer O. Chaney and Marshall E. Sherrer Department of Corrections facilities.
- Outagamie County: One team established a community-based testing site at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton May 11. This site also supports Winnebago and Calumet counties. The team has collected over 150 specimens as of May 12.
- Portage County: One team established a community-based testing site at Portage County Health and Human Services in Stevens Point May 11 and has collected nearly 200 specimens as of May 12.
- Racine County: One team established a community-based testing site at Burlington High School in Burlington May 11 and collected just over 350 specimens as of May 12.
- Walworth County: One team established a community-based testing site at West Park in Darien May 11 and collected just under 125 specimens as of May 12.
- Waukesha County: One team established a community-based testing site at the Waukesha County Expo Center in Waukesha May 9. The mobile testing site will be open May 9 and May 11-12. The team has collected nearly 600 specimens as of May 12.

Previously concluded missions include:

- Ashland County: One team completed a community-based specimen collection mission at Lake Superior Primary School in Ashland May 7. The team collected approximately 150 specimens.

- Barron County: One team supported a community-based specimen collection mission at the St. Croix Casino Campground in Turtle Lake May 3-4. The team collected 230 specimens.
- Brown County: One National Guard team on site at a food processing facility that began April 28 and concluded by 2 May and collected 738 specimens.
- Buffalo County: Community-based testing in Alma concluded May 1, where a National Guard team collected nearly 200 specimens.
- Burnett County: One National Guard team supported a community-based testing site in Burnett County May 5 and collected 130 specimens.
- Crawford County: One National Guard specimen collection team collected nearly 300 specimens from a factory in Prairie Du Chien May 5.
- Dodge County: One team collected over 400 specimens at a food processing facility in Beaver Dam May 8-9.
- Dane County: One team tested more than 1,000 staff and inmates at the Dane County Jail in Madison from April 24-27.
- Douglas County: One National Guard team supported a community-based testing site in Solon Springs May 6 and collected more than 170 specimens.
- Eau Claire County: One team supported a community-based testing site at Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire May 10-11 and collected just over 500 specimens.
- Grant County: One team tested more than 270 staff and residents at the Orchard Manor senior living facility in Lancaster April 25. Another team collected more than 230 specimens at a factory in Platteville May 4.
- Kenosha County: More than 650 specimens collected April 28-29 at the Kenosha County Pre-trial facility and Kenosha County Detention Center. One team tested more than 130 individuals at a Pleasant Prairie meat processing facility May 2. Another team collected more than 400 specimens after completing a mission at meat packing facility in Kenosha May 7.
- Milwaukee County: One team tested nearly 1,000 staff and inmates at the

Milwaukee County House of Corrections, and a second team completed more than 500 tests at a local meat processing facility April 28. A third team completed testing at a food processing facility in Milwaukee May 4 and collected more than 450 specimens. Another team collected more than 100 specimens at a meat-processing facility in Milwaukee May 8.

- Racine County: One team collected more than 160 specimens at a food processing facility in Burlington May 4. Another team collected more than 150 specimens at a medical facility in Sturtevant May 7-8.

- Sauk County: More than 175 specimens collected during testing in Baraboo that concluded April 29; Lake Delton seasonal staff dormitory testing concluded April 25 with approximately 175 specimens collected. Another team collected more than 130 specimens at a community-based testing site May 7 in Spring Green.

- Sheboygan County: One team tested nearly 170 staff and residents at the Sunny Ridge Health and Rehabilitation Center April 5.

- St. Croix County: One team collected nearly 230 specimens at a community-based specimen collection site in Baldwin May 8 and one team collected nearly 190 specimens at a community-based specimen collection site in River Falls May 9.

- Walworth County: One team collected more than 400 specimens at a food-processing facility in Darien May 7-8.

- Wood County: One team collected over 250 specimens at a community-based specimen collection site in Wisconsin Rapids May 8-9.

As of May 12, Wisconsin National Guard teams had collected nearly 17,849 specimens statewide, 4,564 specimens were collected on May 11.

The Wisconsin National Guard has fulfilled a variety of roles across the state since its response to the COVID-19 pandemic began after a March 12 public health emergency declaration from Gov. Tony Evers. Ongoing Wisconsin National Guard missions include a warehousing mission where 20 Citizen Soldiers are assisting the Wisconsin Department of Health Services at a state warehouse receiving personal protective equipment (PPE) shipments from around the state, repackaging them, and redistributing them to areas in need.

In addition, teams of 12 troops are serving as medical and administrative staff at

two separate state-run voluntary self-isolation facilities in Milwaukee and Madison, while another 30 are serving at a Milwaukee County-run self-isolation facility.

Meanwhile a team of Guard members is supporting the Dane County Coroner's Office and assisting their office with mortuary affairs operations.

The Wisconsin National Guard has completed a number of other missions since the state's response began in March including when it sent a team of six medics to a senior living facility in Grafton for three days to augment the staff after a COVID-19 outbreak resulted in a temporary staffing shortage.

More than 2,400 Citizen Soldiers and Airmen mobilized to support the Wisconsin Elections Commission during the April 7 election, where they served as poll workers across 71 of Wisconsin's 72 counties. Guard troops also procured and distributed hand sanitizer, wipes, spray bottles, and PPE to polling sites statewide in advance of the election.

Another 160 Guard members will once again serve as poll workers during the May 12 special election in Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District.

Guard members also transported a group of Wisconsin citizens returning from a cruise ship with confirmed COVID-19 cases back to their homes in mid-March after a weeks-long ordeal.

All told, more than 1,400 Citizen Soldiers and Airmen from the Wisconsin National Guard are now serving in direct support of the state's response to COVID-19 in a variety of statuses.