

# Dept. of Military Affairs: Wisconsin National Guard tops 50,000 specimens collected at mobile testing sites around the state

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Wisconsin National Guard specimen collection teams collected over 5,500 specimens May 19 and its cumulative total collected for COVID-19 testing reached nearly 52,000 as 25 teams continue to operate across Wisconsin supporting local health departments and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services with COVID-19 testing efforts.

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. After collecting the specimens at each site, Wisconsin National Guard troops send the test kits to a state lab for analysis, and individual citizens receive their results via a phone call from their local health department or a state call center within three-to-five days following the test.

## **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 20, nearly 7,000 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 3,850 specimens as of May 20.

- **Clark County:** One team began collecting specimens at a long-term care facility in Colby May 20.
- **Crawford County:** One team began collecting specimens at a long-term care facility in Prairie du Chien May 20.
- **Dane County:** Two teams established a community-based testing site at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison May 11. Nearly 4,750 specimens have been collected as of May 20.
- **Chippewa County:** One team began collecting specimens at a long-term care facility in Chippewa Falls May 20.
- **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 7,793 specimens as of May 20 (May 19 daily total: 794). Three teams also set up May 11 a community-based specimen collection site at 5760 W. Capitol Drive (Midtown) and has collected 6,453 specimens as of May 20 (May 19 daily total: 643). One team began collecting specimens May 19 at the Milwaukee Secure Detention Center.
- **Oneida County:** One team established a community-based testing site at Lakeland High School in Minocqua May 20.
- **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 nearly 2,000 specimens as of May 20. One team began collecting specimens at a long-term care facility in Kaukauna May 20.
- **Racine County:** One team established a community-based testing site at Festival Hall in Racine May 18 and has collected 1,000 specimens as of May 20.
- **Rock County:** Two teams established community-based testing sites at Krueger Park and Telfer Park in Beloit May 15 and have collected over 1,500 specimens as of May 20.
- **Trempealeau County:** One team established a community-based testing site at Arcadia High School in Arcadia May 20.
- **Washington County:** One team began collecting specimens at a long-term care facility in Slinger May 20.

#### **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.
- **Clark County:** One team conducted a community-based testing site at Thorp High School in Thorp May 13 and collected nearly 150 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.
- **Florence County:**One team conducted a community-based testing site in Florence May 12 and collected 209 specimens.
- **Fond du Lac County:** One team conducted site-based specimen collection in Fairwater May 16 and collected nearly 50 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.
- **Jackson County:**One team established a community-based testing site at the Jackson County Fairgrounds in Black River Falls May 19 and collected over 170 specimens.
- **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.

- **Lincoln County:** One team collected over 70 specimens at a senior living facility in Tomahawk May 18.
- **Marathon County:** One team established a community-based testing site at North Central Technical College in Wausau May 19 and collected over 220 specimens.
- **Marinette County:** One team conducted community-based testing site in Crivitz May 12-14 and collected nearly 770 specimens.
- **Menominee County:** One team established a community-based testing site at the Menominee Department of Transit Services in Keshena May 15-19 and collected over 1,050 specimens.
- **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. Additionally, one team collected over 160 specimens May 12 at the Felmer O. Chaney and Marshall E. Sherrer Department of Corrections facilities. One team collected over 100 specimens at the Department of Corrections Women's Center in Milwaukee May 18.
- **Portage County:** One team collected nearly 350 specimens at a community-based testing site at Portage County Health and Human Services in Stevens Point May 11-12.
- **Price County:** One team collected 51 specimens at a community-based testing site at the DNR Ranger Station in Prentice May 17.
- **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. One team conducted a community-based testing site at Burlington High School in Burlington May 11-15 and collected 1,662 specimens. A team collected nearly 650 specimens at a Department of Health Services facility in Union Grove May 14-16. One team collected over 230 specimens May 19 at an industrial facility today in Sturtevant.
- **Rusk County:** One team collected nearly 120 specimens at a community-based testing site at the Rusk County Fairgrounds in Flambeau May 14.
- **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.

- **Sawyer County:** One team collected over 100 specimens at a community-based testing site at the Winter Fire Hall in Winter May 14. One team collected 262 specimens at a community-based testing site at the Hayward Wesleyan Church in Hayward May 15.
- **Sheboygan County:** One team tested nearly 170 staff and residents at the Sunny Ridge Health and Rehabilitation Center April 5.
- **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. One team conducted site-based specimen collection in New Richmond May 18 and collected nearly 40 specimens.
- **Trempealeau County:** One team established facility-based specimen collection in Whitehall May 16 and collected 25 specimens.
- **Walworth County:** One team collected more than 400 specimens at a food-processing facility in Darien May 7-8. One team collected over 225 specimens at a community-based testing site at West Park in Darien May 11-12.
- **Waukesha County:** One team operated a community-based testing site at the Waukesha County Expo Center in Waukesha May 9-12 where it collected nearly 925 specimens.
- **Wood County:** One team collected over 250 specimens at a community-based specimen collection site in Wisconsin Rapids May 8-9.

As of May 20, Wisconsin National Guard teams had collected 51,997 specimens statewide; 5,521 specimens were collected on May 19.

In addition, approximately 30 troops are working at a call center that informs people of their COVID-19 test results.

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 13 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.

Teams of 15 troops are serving as medical and administrative staff at two separate

state-run voluntary self-isolation facilities in Milwaukee and Madison, while another 8 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 served on State Active Duty 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, nearly 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.