

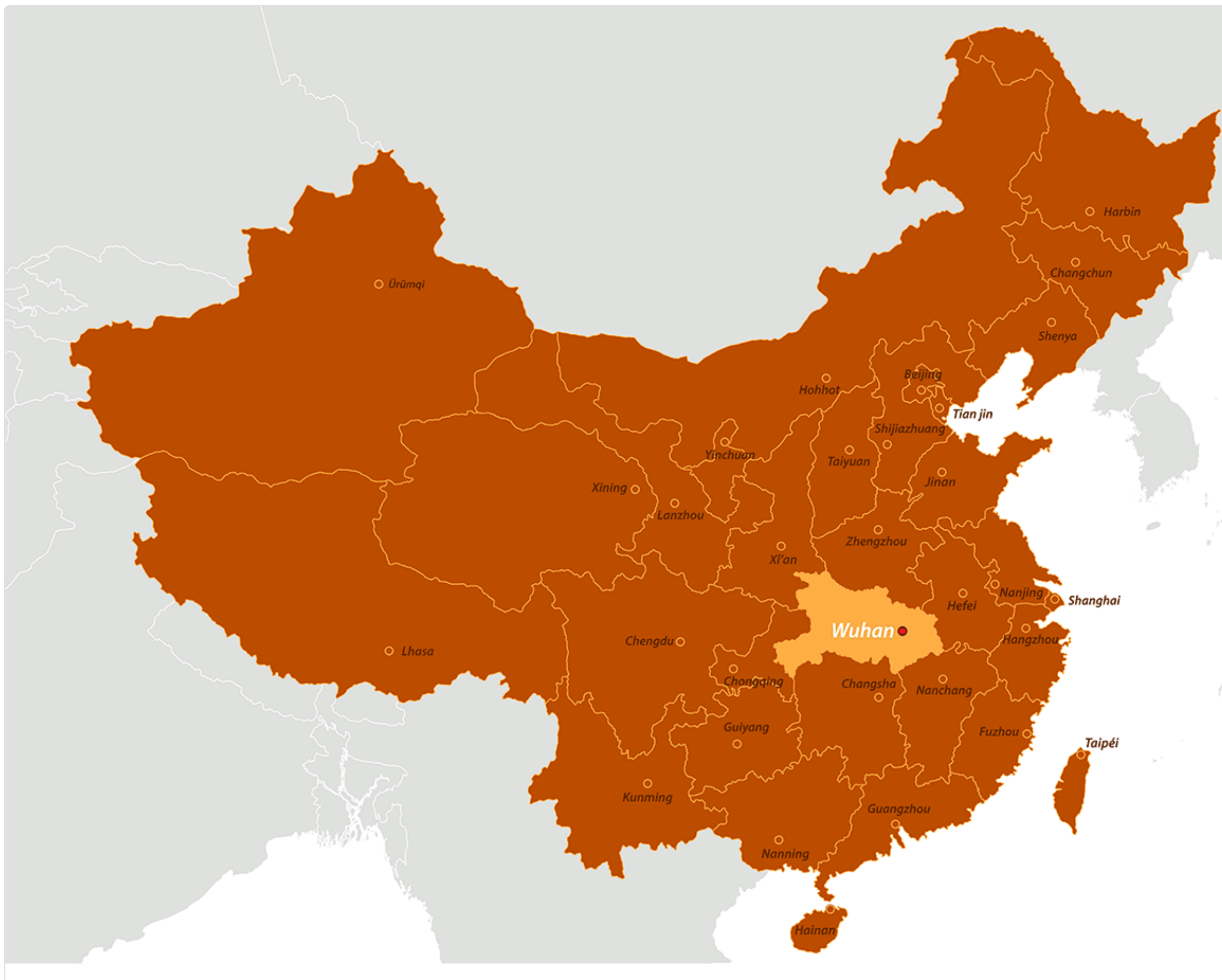
2019 Novel Coronavirus, Wuhan, China

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV), Wuhan, China

This is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation and CDC will provide updated information as it becomes available, in addition to updated guidance.

Updated January 17, 2020

Situation Summary



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak caused by a novel (new) coronavirus in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. Chinese authorities identified the new coronavirus, which has resulted in more than 40 confirmed human infections in China with [two deaths reported](#). A number of countries are actively screening incoming travelers from Wuhan and exported cases have been confirmed in [Thailand](#) and [Japan](#).

Chinese health authorities posted the full genome of the so-called “2019 novel coronavirus” or “2019-nCoV” in [GenBank](#), the NIH genetic sequence database, and in the Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data ([GISAID](#)) portal.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people such as has been seen with [MERS](#) and [SARS](#).

Many of the patients in the outbreak in Wuhan, China have reportedly had some link to a large seafood and animal market, suggesting animal-to-person spread. Some patients in the outbreak reportedly have not had exposure to animal markets, suggesting that some limited person-to-person spread is occurring.

There are ongoing investigations to learn more. This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

Risk Assessment

Outbreaks of novel virus infections among people are always of public health concern. The risk from these outbreaks depends on characteristics of the virus, including whether and how well it spreads between people, the severity of resulting illness, and the medical or other measures available to control the impact of the virus (for example, vaccine and treatment medications).

[Chinese health authorities](#) have reported that many patients in China visited a large seafood and animal market. They additionally report that several hundred health care workers caring for outbreak patients are being monitored and no spread of this virus from patients to health care workers has been detected. They report no sustained spread of this virus in the community, but there are indications that some limited person-to-person spread is occurring. Cases outside China have all occurred in travelers from Wuhan.

There is much more to learn about how the 2019-nCoV virus spreads, severity of associated illness, and other features of the virus. Investigations are ongoing. Based on current information, however, the immediate health risk from 2019-nCoV to the general American public is deemed to be low at this time. Nevertheless, CDC is taking proactive preparedness precautions.

What to Expect

Access to the full genetic sequence of 2019-nCoV will help identify infections with this virus going forward. More cases may be identified in the coming days, including more in countries outside China, and possibly in the United States. Given what has occurred previously with MERS and SARS, it's likely that some limited person-to-person spread will continue to occur.

CDC Response

- CDC is closely monitoring this situation and is working with WHO.

- CDC has established an Incident Management Structure to optimize domestic and international coordination to emerging public health threat.
- CDC has updated its interim [travel health notice](#) for this destination to provide information to people who may be traveling to Wuhan City and who may get sick.
- CDC laboratories currently have the capacity to detect 2019-nCoV by sequencing the virus and comparing the sequences against the genetic sequence that are publicly posted. CDC also is using the genetic sequence data provided by China to begin work on a test to detect this virus more easily. Currently, testing for this virus must take place at CDC.
- On January 17, CDC will begin entry screening of passengers on direct and connecting flights from Wuhan China at the three main ports of entry in the United States.
- On January 17, CDC issued an updated interim [Health Alert Notice \(HAN\) Advisory](#) to inform state and local health departments and health care providers about this outbreak.

Other Available Resources

The following resources are available with information on 2019-nCoV

- [CDC Travelers' Health: Novel Coronavirus in China](#)
- [CDC Health Alert Network Advisory Update and Interim Guidance on Outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) in Wuhan, China](#)
- [CDC Health Alert Network Advisory information for state and local health departments and health care providers](#)
- [CDC Information on Coronaviruses](#)
- [World Health Organization, Coronavirus](#) 