

# MONITOR & MITIGATE

## The Impact of COVID-19 on Public Safety

### COVID-19 Topic Dashboard: A Resource For the First Responder Community

The COVID-19 Topic Dashboard brings together key resources and evidence-based findings to equip the first responder community with practical insights to cope with COVID-19 and future pandemics. The dashboard includes:

- Individual reports for 15 different topics related to COVID-19 and first responders;
- The official project literature review approved by the Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate; and
- Additional guidance materials that will help first responders monitor and mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

The dashboard is derived from a comprehensive literature review conducted as part of the Monitor and Mitigate project.

#### Navigating the Dashboard

Across 15 topics, the dashboard captures different aspects of how COVID-19 affects first responders. Each topic includes:

- An introduction to the topic;
- Identified key and consistent findings;
- Limitations of available research; and
- A Resources Roundup with easy access to up-to-date information regarding COVID-19.

Often these topics overlap. For example, a review of physical and mental health of first responders is tied to both training and vaccinations.



#### Resource Referrals

For project news and updates:

- Visit [start.umd.edu/COVIDFirstResponders](http://start.umd.edu/COVIDFirstResponders) & [secondsight-ts.com/covid19-topic-dashboard](http://secondsight-ts.com/covid19-topic-dashboard)
- Subscribe to START's newsletter at [start.umd.edu/newsletters](http://start.umd.edu/newsletters)
- Follow us on social media with #COVIDFirstResponders

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- ▶ About the COVID-19 Literature Review

#### RELEVANT FOR



#### SO WHAT?

The COVID-19 Dashboard serves as a free resource for the first responder community to plan COVID-19 responses and prepare for future pandemics.

The Dashboard provides easy access to research, external guidance materials, and recommendations for first responders.

#### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The goal of the project is to measure the impact of COVID-19 on first responders, identify and share best practices organizations can put in place to protect themselves in the short term, and identify strategies to make first responder organizations more resilient to pandemics in the future.

## NEW RESEARCH

1. A March [CDC study confirmed the protective benefits of the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines](#) when used in a first responder environment.
2. In a Phase III study, [Pfizer, BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine continues to show high efficacy](#).

## IN THE NEWS

Learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine rollout and how first responders can access the vaccine:

1. Go to the CDC website to [find a vaccination site](#) near you.
2. Review the CDC website to [learn about preparing for the vaccine](#).



There are a variety of ways that you can contribute to this effort and help protect your brothers and sisters in the first responder community:

1. Participate in an [online study](#) with the START and Second Sight Team.
2. Contribute your data to the [IAFC First Responders Personnel Impact Survey](#).
3. Visit the [COVID-19 Topic Dashboard](#) and share with your colleagues in the first responder community.

## Topic Organization

The 15 identified topics capture the different ways that the COVID-19 pandemic impacts first responders:

- Initial topics assess short-term concerns of the pandemic such as preparedness, changes in demand, and staffing; and
- Later topics discuss long-term concerns of the pandemic including training, mental health, and communication.

First responder organizations can systematically identify areas that require attention and develop future action plans.

## Purpose of the COVID-19 Literature Review

The literature review focuses on research that is generalizable to the first responder community. The review maintains three goals:

1. Report on collected research relevant to COVID-19;
2. Characterize the literature as a whole, areas of concentration, as well as gaps in research; and
3. Identify needed future research of high relevance to the first responder community.

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