

# Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report – 67

Data as reported by national authorities by 10:00 CET 27 March 2020

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Two new countries/territories/areas from the Region of the Americas [2] have reported cases of COVID-19.
- The total global number of COVID-19 cases has surpassed 500 000.
- Addressing the Extraordinary Summit on COVID-19, the WHO Director-General called on G20 leaders to fight, unite, and ignite against COVID-19. More information can be found [here](#).
- WHO concluded the technical support mission to Egypt on 25 March 2020. More information can be found on the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office site [here](#).
- OpenWHO celebrates 1 million enrollments today. Seventy percent of the total enrollments are on COVID-19 resources, reflecting the critical role the platform is playing in supporting the response to the pandemic. On 25 March, a new course was launched describing how to design and operate treatment centres for the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 resources are hosted on two learning channels: one for courses in official WHO languages [here](#) and a second for courses in additional national languages [here](#).
- The number of countries implementing additional health measures that significantly interfere with international traffic has increased since the declaration of COVID-19 as a public health emergency of international concern. The United Nations World Tourism Organization launched a Crisis Committee to review the impact of the outbreak on the aviation, shipping and tourism sectors and propose innovative solutions for recovery. Greater detail can be found in *Subject in Focus* overleaf.

## SITUATION IN NUMBERS total (new) cases in last 24 hours

### Globally

509 164 confirmed (46 484)  
23 335 deaths (2501)

### Western Pacific Region

100 018 confirmed (960)  
3567 deaths (27)

### European Region

286 697 confirmed (36 414)  
16 105 deaths (2155)

### South-East Asia Region

2932 confirmed (396)  
105 deaths (26)

### Eastern Mediterranean Region

35 249 confirmed (2807)  
2336 deaths (174)

### Region of the Americas

81 137 confirmed (5425)  
1176 deaths (111)

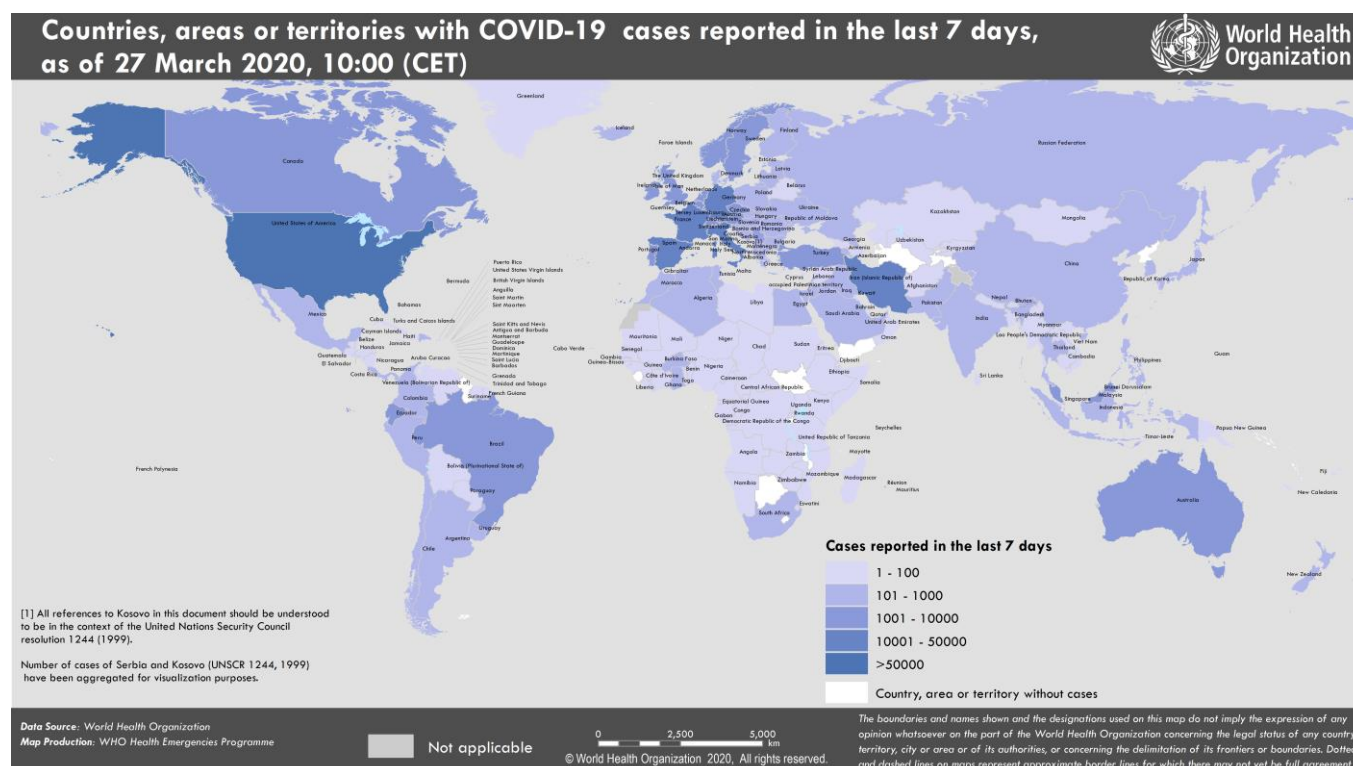
### African Region

2419 confirmed (482)  
39 deaths (8)

### WHO RISK ASSESSMENT

Global Level      Very High

Figure 1. Countries, territories or areas with reported confirmed cases of COVID-19, 27 March 2020



## SUBJECT IN FOCUS: Additional health measures significantly interfere with international traffic

As of 25 March, 136 countries have implemented additional health measures that significantly interfere with international traffic as defined under Article 43 of the International Health Regulations (2005) (Table 1).

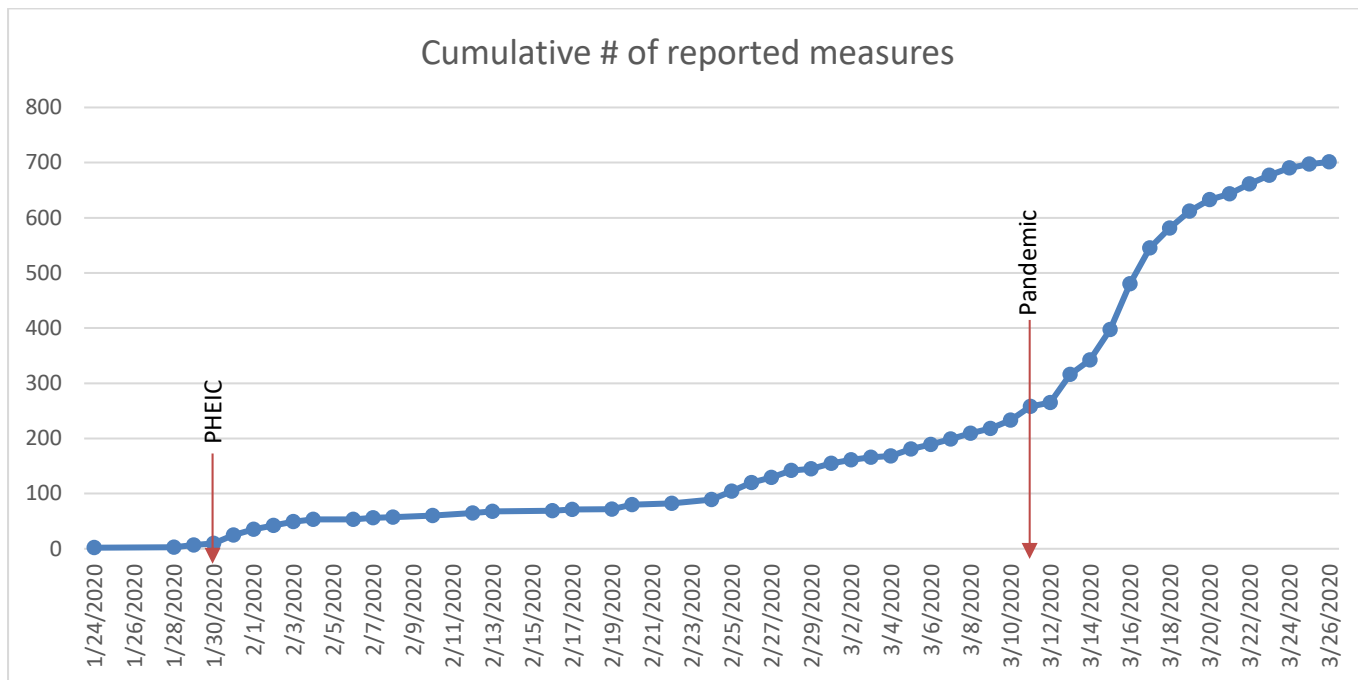
**Table 1. Number of States Parties officially reporting additional health measures that significantly interfere with international traffic (i.e. more than 24h delay), under Article 43 of the IHR (2005) (by WHO region)**

WHO Region	Announcement posted on the WHO Event Information Site (EIS)								TOTAL new reports
	6 Feb	12 Feb	21 Feb	28 Feb	5 Mar	12 Mar	19 Mar	26 Mar	
AFR	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	22 (#) 1 update	23
AMR	10	2	-	-	1* 5* updates	1	11 12 updates	6 17 updates	31
EMR	-	1	-	1* 1* update	1*	-	1 1 update	1	5
EUR	2	1	2	5 (3*) 1* update	2*	5 3 updates	18 19 updates	6 20 updates	41
SEAR	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	4 8 updates	11
WPR	9	3	2	1* 6* updates	- 8* updates	3 updates	2 4 updates	8 12 updates	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>136</b>

NOTE 1: numbers in parenthesis illustrate the number of reports – new or updates - received since previous announcement; NOTE 2: (\*) designates that the State Party reports on measures directed to other countries in addition to China. Since 17 March, all countries report measures towards more than one country. NOTE 3: (#) Supporting document to be provided by Country or Regional Office. NOTE 4: AFR = African Region; AMR=Americas Region; EMR= Eastern Mediterranean Region; EUR= European Region; SEAR= South-East Asia Region; and WPR= Western Pacific Region

WHO has shared information with Member States every week since 6 February 2020 through the Event Information Site, a secure platform accessible by national IHR focal points and United Nations (UN) agencies. The majority of measures relate to the denial of entry of passengers from countries experiencing outbreaks, followed by flight suspensions, visa restrictions, border closures, and quarantine measures. Figure 1 shows the cumulative number of restrictions in relation to the time of the declaration of COVID-19 as a public health emergency of international concern (30 January 2020), and the characterization of the situation as a pandemic (11 March 2020).

**Figure 1. Cumulative number of reported additional health measures**



WHO has maintained weekly technical coordination with the aviation and tourism sectors. Interim guidance on the management of ill travellers at Points of Entry was [published](#) on 19 March. IATA recently [published](#) the third economic analysis, providing estimates of the economic impact of these travel restrictions. On 25 March, the UN World Tourism Organization launched a [Crisis Committee](#), bringing together actors from the aviation, shipping and tourism sectors to review the impact of the outbreak on these sectors and propose innovative solutions for recovery. WHO has a technical advisory role in this committee.

## SURVEILLANCE

**Table 2. Countries, territories or areas with reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths. Data as of 27 March 2020\***

Reporting Country/ Territory/Area <sup>†</sup>	Total confirmed ‡ cases	Total confirmed new cases	Total deaths	Total new deaths	Transmission classification <sup>§</sup>	Days since last reported case
<b>Western Pacific Region</b>						
China	82078	117	3298	5	Local transmission	0
Republic of Korea	9332	91	139	8	Local transmission	0
Australia	2985	186	13	2	Local transmission	0
Malaysia	2031	235	23	4	Local transmission	0
Japan	1387	96	46	1	Local transmission	0
Philippines	707	71	45	7	Local transmission	0
Singapore	683	52	2	0	Local transmission	0
New Zealand	338	76	0	0	Local transmission	0
Viet Nam	153	12	0	0	Local transmission	0
Brunei Darussalam	114	5	0	0	Local transmission	0
Cambodia	98	2	0	0	Local transmission	0
Mongolia	11	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Lao People's Democratic Republic	6	3	0	0	Under investigation	0
Fiji	5	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Papua New Guinea	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	6
<b>Territories**</b>						
Guam	45	8	1	0	Local transmission	0
French Polynesia	30	5	0	0	Local transmission	0
New Caledonia	14	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
<b>European Region</b>						
Italy	80539	6153	8165	660	Local transmission	0
Spain	56188	8578	4089	655	Local transmission	0
Germany	42288	5780	253	55	Local transmission	0
France	28786	3866	1695	364	Local transmission	0
The United Kingdom	11662	2129	578	115	Local transmission	0
Switzerland	10714	1000	161	58	Local transmission	0
Netherlands	7431	1019	434	78	Local transmission	0
Austria	7029	1141	52	18	Local transmission	0
Belgium	6235	1298	220	42	Local transmission	0
Turkey	3629	1196	75	16	Local transmission	0
Portugal	3544	549	60	17	Local transmission	0
Norway	3156	240	14	2	Local transmission	0
Israel	3035	666	10	5	Local transmission	0
Sweden	2806	296	66	24	Local transmission	0
Czechia	2062	408	9	3	Local transmission	0
Denmark	1877	153	41	7	Local transmission	0
Ireland	1819	255	19	10	Local transmission	0
Luxembourg	1453	120	9	1	Local transmission	0
Poland	1221	170	16	2	Local transmission	0
Russian Federation	1036	196	3	1	Local transmission	0
Romania	1029	123	17	4	Local transmission	0
Finland	958	78	4	1	Local transmission	0
Greece	892	71	26	4	Local transmission	0
Iceland	802	65	2	0	Local transmission	0
Slovenia	577	49	5	1	Local transmission	0

Estonia	538	134	1	0	Local transmission	0
Croatia	495	77	2	1	Local transmission	0
Serbia	457	73	7	3	Local transmission	0
Armenia	329	39	1	1	Local transmission	0
Hungary	300	39	10	0	Local transmission	0
Lithuania	299	25	4	0	Local transmission	0
Bulgaria	264	22	3	0	Local transmission	0
Latvia	244	23	0	0	Local transmission	0
Andorra	231	18	3	0	Local transmission	0
Slovakia	226	10	0	0	Local transmission	0
San Marino	218	10	21	0	Local transmission	0
Ukraine	218	62	5	0	Local transmission	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	213	40	3	0	Local transmission	0
North Macedonia	201	24	3	1	Local transmission	0
Albania	186	12	8	3	Local transmission	0
Republic of Moldova	177	28	2	1	Local transmission	0
Cyprus	146	14	3	0	Local transmission	0
Malta	134	5	0	0	Local transmission	0
Kazakhstan	125	28	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Azerbaijan	122	29	3	1	Local transmission	0
Belarus	86	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Uzbekistan	83	18	0	0	Local transmission	0
Georgia	81	4	0	0	Local transmission	0
Montenegro	67	15	1	0	Local transmission	0
Kyrgyzstan	58	14	0	0	Local transmission	0
Liechtenstein	56	5	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Monaco	19	0	0	0	Local transmission	4
Holy See	4	0	0	0	Under investigation	1
<b>Territories**</b>						
Faroe Islands	140	8	0	0	Local transmission	0
Kosovo <sup>[1]</sup>	79	8	1	0	Local transmission	0
Gibraltar	35	9	0	0	Local transmission	0
Guernsey	34	4	0	0	Local transmission	0
Jersey	32	14	1	1	Local transmission	0
Isle of Man	26	3	0	0	Local transmission	0
Greenland	6	1	0	0	Under investigation	0
<b>South-East Asia Region</b>						
Thailand	1136	202	5	1	Local transmission	0
Indonesia	893	103	78	20	Local transmission	0
India	724	75	17	4	Local transmission	0
Sri Lanka	106	4	0	0	Local transmission	0
Bangladesh	48	9	5	1	Local transmission	0
Maldives	13	0	0	0	Local transmission	11
Myanmar	5	2	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Bhutan	3	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Nepal	3	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Timor-Leste	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	6
<b>Eastern Mediterranean Region</b>						
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	29406	2389	2234	157	Local transmission	0
Pakistan	1057	0	8	0	Local transmission	1
Saudi Arabia	1012	112	3	1	Local transmission	0
Qatar	549	12	0	0	Local transmission	0

Egypt	495	39	24	3	Local transmission	0
Bahrain	458	39	4	0	Local transmission	0
Iraq	382	36	36	7	Local transmission	0
Lebanon	368	35	6	2	Local transmission	0
United Arab Emirates	333	0	2	0	Local transmission	1
Morocco	275	50	10	4	Local transmission	0
Jordan	212	40	0	0	Local transmission	0
Kuwait	208	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Tunisia	197	24	5	0	Local transmission	0
Oman	109	10	0	0	Local transmission	0
Afghanistan	80	0	2	0	Local transmission	1
Djibouti	12	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Syrian Arab Republic	5	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Somalia	3	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Sudan	3	0	1	0	Imported cases only	2
Libya	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	2
<b>Territories**</b>						
occupied Palestinian territory	84	20	1	0	Local transmission	0
<b>Region of the Americas</b>						
United States of America	68334	4764	991	107	Local transmission	0
Canada	3555	146	35	0	Local transmission	0
Brazil	2433	0	57	0	Local transmission	1
Chile	1306	164	4	1	Local transmission	0
Ecuador	1211	0	29	0	Local transmission	1
Peru	580	100	9	0	Local transmission	0
Panama	558	0	8	0	Local transmission	1
Argentina	502	115	8	2	Local transmission	0
Dominican Republic	488	96	10	0	Local transmission	0
Mexico	478	0	5	0	Local transmission	1
Colombia	470	0	4	0	Local transmission	1
Uruguay	217	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Costa Rica	201	0	2	0	Local transmission	1
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	91	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Cuba	67	10	1	0	Local transmission	0
Trinidad and Tobago	61	1	1	0	Local transmission	0
Honduras	52	0	1	1	Local transmission	1
Paraguay	41	0	3	0	Local transmission	1
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	39	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Jamaica	26	0	1	0	Local transmission	1
Guatemala	24	0	1	0	Local transmission	1
Barbados	18	0	0	0	Local transmission	2
El Salvador	13	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Dominica	11	4	0	0	Local transmission	0
Haiti	8	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Grenada	7	6	0	0	Local transmission	0
Suriname	7	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Bahamas	5	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Guyana	5	0	1	0	Local transmission	8
Antigua and Barbuda	3	0	0	0	Imported cases only	2
Saint Lucia	3	0	0	0	Imported cases only	3

Belize	2	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Nicaragua	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	5
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	14
<b>Territories**</b>						
Guadeloupe	76	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Martinique	66	0	1	0	Imported cases only	1
Puerto Rico	64	13	2	0	Imported cases only	0
French Guiana	28	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Aruba	19	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
United States Virgin Islands	17	0	0	0	Imported cases only	3
Saint Martin	11	0	0	0	Under investigation	1
Cayman Islands	8	0	1	0	Imported cases only	1
Bermuda	7	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Curaçao	7	1	1	0	Imported cases only	0
Saint Barthélemy	3	0	0	0	Under investigation	11
Anguilla	2	2	0	0	Local transmission	0
British Virgin Islands	2	2	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Montserrat	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Sint Maarten	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	3
Turks and Caicos Islands	2	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
<b>African Region</b>						
South Africa	927	218	0	0	Local transmission	0
Algeria	305	41	21	4	Local transmission	0
Burkina Faso	146	0	3	0	Local transmission	1
Ghana	132	64	3	1	Local transmission	0
Senegal	105	6	0	0	Local transmission	0
Mauritius	81	34	2	0	Imported cases only	0
Côte d'Ivoire	80	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Cameroon	75	5	1	0	Local transmission	0
Nigeria	65	19	1	0	Local transmission	0
Democratic Republic of the Congo	54	3	4	1	Local transmission	0
Rwanda	50	9	0	0	Local transmission	0
Kenya	25	0	1	1	Local transmission	2
Madagascar	24	5	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Togo	24	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Uganda	14	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
United Republic of Tanzania	13	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Ethiopia	12	0	0	0	Imported cases only	2
Niger	10	8	1	1	Imported cases only	0
Namibia	8	3	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Seychelles	7	0	0	0	Imported cases only	5
Benin	6	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Equatorial Guinea	6	0	0	0	Imported cases only	5
Eritrea	6	2	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Eswatini	6	2	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Gabon	6	0	1	0	Imported cases only	4
Central African Republic	5	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1

Chad	5	2	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Guinea	5	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Mozambique	5	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Congo	4	0	0	0	Imported cases only	5
Cabo Verde	3	0	0	0	Imported cases only	5
Liberia	3	0	0	0	Local transmission	5
Mauritania	3	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Zambia	3	0	0	0	Imported cases only	4
Zimbabwe	3	1	1	0	Imported cases only	0
Angola	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	5
Gambia	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	2
Guinea-Bissau	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Mali	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
<b>Territories**</b>						
Réunion	135	41	0	0	Local transmission	0
Mayotte	50	15	0	0	Local transmission	0
<b>Subtotal for all regions</b>	<b>508452</b>	<b>46484</b>	<b>23328</b>	<b>2501</b>		
International conveyance (Diamond Princess)	712	0	7	0	Local transmission	11
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>509164</b>	<b>46484</b>	<b>23335</b>	<b>2501</b>		

\*Numbers include both domestic and repatriated cases

†The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

‡Case classifications are based on [WHO case definitions](#) for COVID-19.

§Transmission classification is based on WHO analysis of available official data and may be subject to reclassification as additional data become available. Countries/territories/areas experiencing multiple types of transmission are classified in the highest category for which there is evidence; they may be removed from a given category if interruption of transmission can be demonstrated. It should be noted that even within categories, different countries/territories/areas may have differing degrees of transmission as indicated by the differing numbers of cases and other factors. Not all locations within a given country/territory/area are equally affected.

Terms:

- **Community transmission** is evidenced by the inability to relate confirmed cases through chains of transmission for a large number of cases, or by increasing positive tests through sentinel samples (routine systematic testing of respiratory samples from established laboratories).
- **Local transmission** indicates locations where the source of infection is within the reporting location.
- **Imported cases only** indicates locations where all cases have been acquired outside the location of reporting.
- **Under investigation** indicates locations where type of transmission has not been determined for any cases.
- **Interrupted transmission** indicates locations where interruption of transmission has been demonstrated (details to be determined)

\*\* "Territories" include territories, areas, overseas dependencies and other jurisdictions of similar status

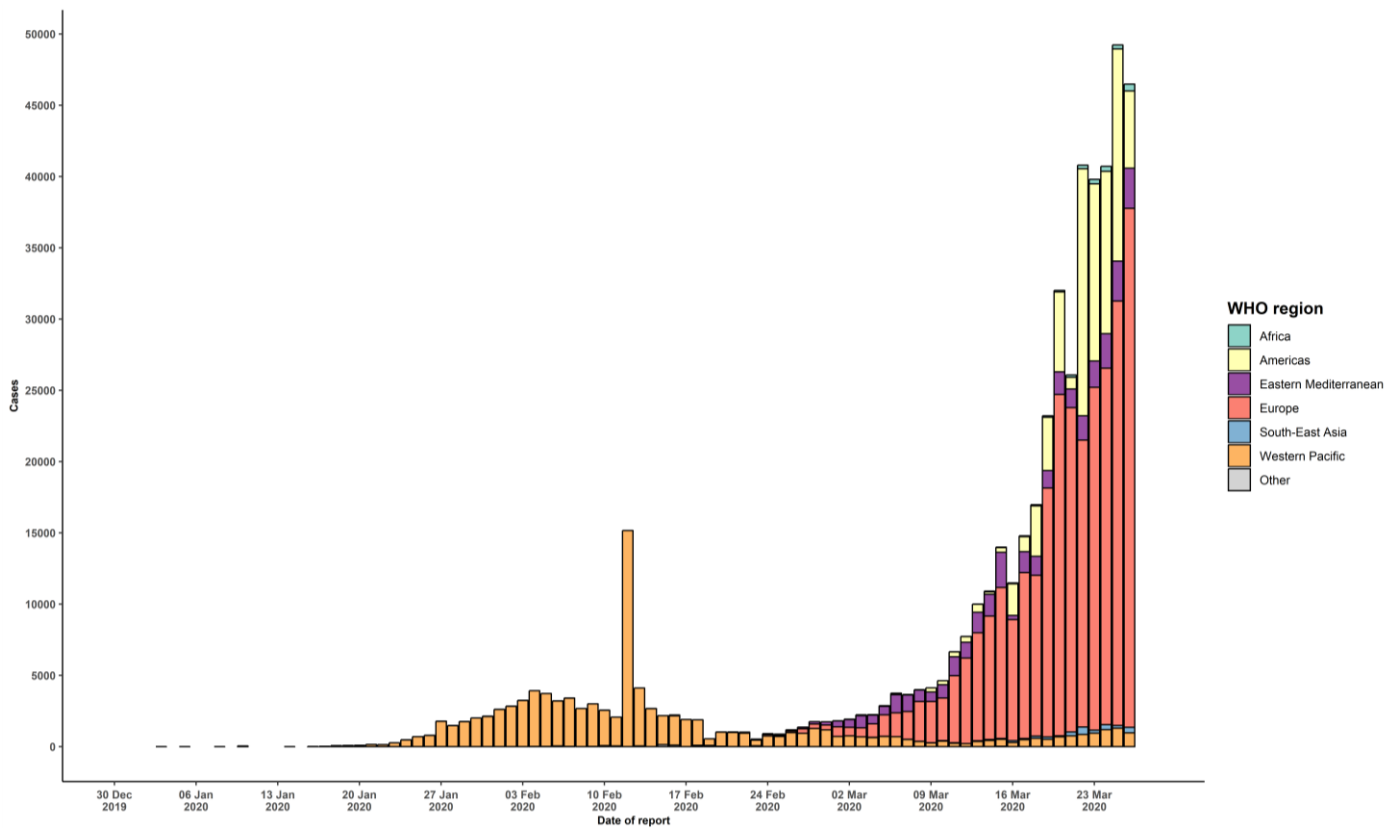
[1] All references to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

Due to differences in reporting methods, retrospective data consolidation, and reporting delays, the number of new cases may not always reflect the exact difference between yesterday's and today's totals. WHO COVID-19 Situation Reports present official counts of confirmed COVID-19 cases, thus differences between WHO reports and other sources of COVID-19 data using different inclusion criteria and different data cutoff times are to be expected.

New countries/territories/areas are shown in red.



Figure 2. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19, by date of report and WHO region through 27 March 2020



## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

WHO's strategic objectives for this response are to:

- Interrupt human-to-human transmission including reducing secondary infections among close contacts and health care workers, preventing transmission amplification events, and preventing further international spread\*;
- Identify, isolate and care for patients early, including providing optimized care for infected patients;
- Identify and reduce transmission from the animal source;
- Address crucial unknowns regarding clinical severity, extent of transmission and infection, treatment options, and accelerate the development of diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines;
- Communicate critical risk and event information to all communities and counter misinformation;
- Minimize social and economic impact through multisectoral partnerships.

\*This can be achieved through a combination of public health measures, such as rapid identification, diagnosis and management of the cases, identification and follow up of the contacts, infection prevention and control in health care settings, implementation of health measures for travelers, awareness-raising in the population and risk communication.

## PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

- To view all technical guidance documents regarding COVID-19, please go to [this webpage](#).
- WHO has developed interim guidance for laboratory diagnosis, advice on the use of masks during home care and in health care settings in the context of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak, clinical management, infection prevention and control in health care settings, home care for patients with suspected novel coronavirus, risk communication and community engagement and Global Surveillance for human infection with novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV).
- WHO is working closely with International Air Transport Association (IATA) and have jointly developed a guidance document to provide advice to cabin crew and airport workers, based on country queries. The guidance can be found on the [IATA webpage](#).
- WHO has been in regular and direct contact with Member States where cases have been reported. WHO is also informing other countries about the situation and providing support as requested.
- WHO is working with its networks of researchers and other experts to coordinate global work on surveillance, epidemiology, mathematical modelling, diagnostics and virology, clinical care and treatment, infection prevention and control, and risk communication. WHO has issued interim guidance for countries, which are updated regularly.
- WHO has prepared a [disease commodity package](#) that includes an essential list of biomedical equipment, medicines and supplies necessary to care for patients with 2019-nCoV.
- WHO has provided recommendations to reduce risk of [transmission from animals to humans](#).
- WHO has published an [updated advice for international traffic in relation to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV](#).
- WHO has activated the R&D blueprint to accelerate diagnostics, vaccines, and therapeutics.
- OpenWHO is an interactive, web-based, knowledge-transfer platform offering online courses to improve the response to health emergencies. [COVID-19 courses can be found here](#) and courses in [additional national languages here](#). Specifically, WHO has developed online courses on the following topics:
  - A general introduction to emerging respiratory viruses, including novel coronaviruses (available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Hindi, Indian Sign Language, Persian, Portuguese, Serbian and Turkish);
  - Clinical care for Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (available in English, French, Russian, Indonesian and Vietnamese);
  - Health and safety briefing for respiratory diseases - ePROTECT (available in Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Indonesian and Portuguese);
  - Infection Prevention and Control for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) (available in Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese and Serbian); and
  - COVID-19 Operational Planning Guidelines and COVID-19 Partners Platform to support country preparedness and response (available in English and coming soon in additional languages).
- WHO is providing guidance on early investigations, which are critical in an outbreak of a new virus. The data collected from the protocols can be used to refine recommendations for surveillance and case definitions, to characterize the key epidemiological transmission features of COVID-19, help understand spread, severity, spectrum of disease, impact on the community and to inform operational models for implementation of countermeasures such as case isolation, contact tracing and isolation. Several protocols are available [here](#). One such protocol is for the investigation of early COVID-19 cases and contacts (the "[First Few X \(FFX\) Cases and contact investigation protocol for 2019-novel coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) infection](#)"). The protocol is designed to gain an early understanding of the key clinical, epidemiological and virological characteristics of the first cases of COVID-19 infection detected in any individual country, to inform the development and updating of public health guidance to manage cases and reduce the potential spread and impact of infection.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

If you are not in an area where COVID-19 is spreading or have not travelled from an area where COVID-19 is spreading or have not been in contact with an infected patient, your risk of infection is low. It is understandable that you may feel anxious about the outbreak. Get the facts from reliable sources to help you accurately determine your risks so that you can take reasonable precautions (see [Frequently Asked Questions](#)). Seek guidance from WHO, your healthcare provider, your national public health authority or your employer for accurate information on COVID-19 and whether COVID-19 is circulating where you live. It is important to be informed of the situation and take appropriate measures to protect yourself and your family (see [Protection measures for everyone](#)).

If you are in an area where there are cases of COVID-19 you need to take the risk of infection seriously. Follow the advice of WHO and guidance issued by national and local health authorities. For most people, COVID-19 infection will cause mild illness however, it can make some people very ill and, in some people, it can be fatal. Older people, and those with pre-existing medical conditions (such as cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease or diabetes) are at risk for severe disease (See [Protection measures for persons who are in or have recently visited \(past 14 days\) areas where COVID-19 is spreading](#)).

## CASE DEFINITIONS

WHO periodically updates the [Global Surveillance for human infection with coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)](#) document which includes case definitions.

For easy reference, case definitions are included below.

### **Suspect case**

A. A patient with acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath), AND a history of travel to or residence in a location reporting community transmission of COVID-19 disease during the 14 days prior to symptom onset.

**OR**

B. A patient with any acute respiratory illness AND having been in contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case (see definition of contact) in the last 14 days prior to symptom onset;

**OR**

C. A patient with severe acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath; AND requiring hospitalization) AND in the absence of an alternative diagnosis that fully explains the clinical presentation.

### **Probable case**

A. A suspect case for whom testing for the COVID-19 virus is inconclusive.

a. Inconclusive being the result of the test reported by the laboratory.

**OR**

B. A suspect case for whom testing could not be performed for any reason.

### **Confirmed case**

A person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms.

- Technical guidance for laboratory testing can be found [here](#).

### **Definition of contact**

A contact is a person who experienced any one of the following exposures during the 2 days before and the 14 days

after the onset of symptoms of a probable or confirmed case:

1. Face-to-face contact with a probable or confirmed case within 1 meter and for more than 15 minutes;
2. Direct physical contact with a probable or confirmed case;
3. Direct care for a patient with probable or confirmed COVID-19 disease without using proper personal protective equipment<sup>1</sup>; OR
4. Other situations as indicated by local risk assessments.

Note: for confirmed asymptomatic cases, the period of contact is measured as the 2 days before through the 14 days *after the date on which the sample was taken* which led to confirmation.

---

<sup>1</sup> World Health Organization. Infection prevention and control during health care when COVID-19 is suspected  
[https://www.who.int/publications-detail/infection-prevention-and-control-during-health-care-when-novel-coronavirus-\(ncov\)-infection-is-suspected-20200125](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/infection-prevention-and-control-during-health-care-when-novel-coronavirus-(ncov)-infection-is-suspected-20200125)