Daily Case Summary COVID-19

### 19 March 2020 1000GMT

## Introduction

As the disease progresses in Europe, Asia is seeing a rise in their number of cases. Ironically, these are imported cases coming from Europe. The United Kingdom has taken a bold move to increase the immunity of their population to decrease the reservoir where the virus could hide. This is based on a paper published recently by the Imperial College of London (https://www.imperial.ac.uk/media/imperial-college/medicine/sph/ide/gida-fellowships/Imperial-College-COVID19-NPI-modelling-16-03-2020.pdf ).

## News

### WHO News

More than 200,000 cases of COVID-19 have been reported to WHO, and more than 8000 people have lost their lives. More than 80% of all cases are from two regions – the Western Pacific and Europe. WHO continues to recommend that isolating, testing and treating every suspected case, and tracing every contact, must be the backbone of the response in every country.

### CDC News

The CDC has published white papers for preparing health practices for the outbreak. Furthermore, the White House has edited a directive to slow the progression of the disease, "15 days to slow the spread" (https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/03.16.20\_coronavirus-guidance\_8.5x11\_315PM.pdf )

## Evolution Worldwide

### Asia

**China** : Central China's Hubei Province reported zero new suspected case of COVID-19 for two consecutive days. The hard-hit province reported one new confirmed case and 11 deaths Tuesday, bringing the total confirmed COVID-19 cases to 67800. The newly confirmed case was reported in Wuhan, the provincial capital and epicentre of the outbreak. As of Tuesday, Hubei had seen no newly confirmed COVID-19 cases for 13 consecutive days in its 16 cities and prefectures outside Wuhan.

**Myanmar** : One person who had been tested for COVID-19 but was still waiting for the results died in Mandalay Region on Tuesday, while six others tested negative for the disease. The government has cancelled all public gatherings across the country, including the annual Thingyan Festival, and has shut down cinemas and preschools. On Sunday the government banned all foreign travellers who had visited Hubei province in China and the Daegu-Gyeongbuk region in South Korea. Travellers from other places in South Korea will have to undergo a 14-day home quarantine, while travellers from other parts of China will undergo a 14-day hospital quarantine. Travellers arriving from Italy, Germany, France, Spain or Iran must undergo a hospital quarantine or leave the country.

**Singapore** : Singapore reported 47 new COVID-19 cases, taking the total in the country to 313. This is the highest number of confirmed daily cases reported so far. Of the new cases, 33 are imported, and includes 30 returning Singapore residents who were infected overseas. As part of enhanced efforts to tackle the spread of COVID-19, MOH said it is advising Singaporeans to defer all travel abroad, and that Singaporeans coming back from overseas will have to serve a 14-day self-isolation.

**South** **Korea** : The emergence of new coronavirus clusters near South Korea’s densely populated capital is raising fears of runaway cases nationwide, despite an aggressive strategy of testing and tracking infections that has been credited with bringing the country’s outbreak under control . March 13 was the first time since the outbreak on January 20 in which the number of recoveries, 177, was larger than the number of those who newly tested positive, 110.

### Europe

**Belgium**: Belgium’s National Security Council (CNS) announced further emergency measures effective March 18 until at least April 5 to curb the COVID-19 outbreak. Borders will remain open, but all non-essential services and gatherings will be prohibited. The number of people diagnosed with COVID-19 over the past 24 hours has risen to 243. A hundred patients are now in intensive care. In all 496 people are in hospital, a jump of 135 in comparison with yesterday. A further four people with COVID-19 have died. This takes the death toll to 14. The youngest patient to die was 59.

**France** : France has had its highest numbers of deaths from COVID-19 in a day, with 89 deaths in France and a total to 264, an increase of almost 51%. Confirmed cases in France rose by 1404 on Wednesday from the day before - an increase of 18% - bringing the total to 9134.

**Germany**: 3328 additional cases were reported, bringing the total number to 11302 cases. This represents a sharp increase in the number of cases, and marks the third day in a row with over 1,000 cases reported in 24 hours. In addition, 7 new deaths have been confirmed, bringing the total number of deaths to 27 in the country.

**Italy** : Italy has had its highest numbers of deaths from COVID-19 in a day, with 475 more fatalities for a total of 2978. Italy has registered 35713 cases. The Italian government threatened on Wednesday to ban all outdoor exercise as the coronavirus death toll soared and frustration grew over the number of people defying a nationwide lockdown order.

**Moldova**: The first death was confirmed by health authorities. Details about the individual are limited. The report indicates that local authorities have imposed a state of emergency and have banned all foreigners from entering by plane from any country affected by the coronavirus.

**Norway** : The -19 outbreak continues at more or less the same pace and numbers continue to rise with about 150/day. 28522 tested, 1582 tested positive, 85 admitted to hospital and 6 deaths. More than 8000 health professionals are in quarantine. There is so far only 1 confirmed case offshore. Foreigners arriving from anywhere but Sweden/Finland are confined/quarantined at the nearest hotel, unless they have a work-permit for critical positions and are healthy (without high-risk exposure or travel in the last 14 days).

**Spain**: 2501 additional cases were reported, bringing the total number to 13910 cases. This marks the second day in a row with over 2000 cases reported within 24 hours, and the sixth consecutive day with over 1000 new diagnoses. In addition, 113 new COVID-19 associated deaths have been confirmed, bringing the total number of deaths to 623 in the country. Spain has the second-highest number of cases within Europe, behind Italy.

**Turkey**: The first death was confirmed.

### Middle East/Africa

**Bangladesh**: The first death was confirmed by the Bangladesh Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research. A media report indicates that the affected individual was a 70-year-old woman with underlying medical conditions who was a close-contact of a previously confirmed case from abroad.

**Burkina** **Faso**: The first death was confirmed.

**Iran** : Iran on Wednesday reported its single biggest jump in fatalities from the coronavirus as another 147 people died, raising the country’s overall death toll to 1135. The nearly 15% spike in deaths — amid a total of 17361 confirmed cases in Iran — marks the biggest 24-hour rise in fatalities since Iranian officials first acknowledged infections of the virus in mid-February. Even as the number of cases grows, food markets were still packed with shoppers and highways were crowded as families traveled ahead of the Persian New Year.

### Americas

**Canada** : Health officials suggested Wednesday the country is already facing community spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 due to the large spike in cases over the past week. There are 655 cases of COVID-19 in the country.

**United** **States** : As of Wednesday morning, at least 7796 people were confirmed to have been infected with COVID-19. At least 114 people have died in connection with the disease. All 50 states have now reported a case of COVID as West Virginia declares their first case.

## New Events

Djibouti, Gambia, Kyrgyzstan, Montserrat and Montenegro have reported their first case(s) of COVID-19.