Daily Case Summary COVID-19

### 23 March 2020

### Introduction

Italy and Spain continue to see a rise in new cases; Germany on the other hand has seen a decrease. Although we can't identify why, it is certainly a testimonial to early testing and quarantine of positive cases. Germany has a capacity to test more than 12,000 cases/day and implemented extensive testing early on.

As of Sunday evening, COVID-19 has killed over 14,000 people worldwide, with more than 330,000 people having contracted the virus.

On a very positive note, China has not reported any locally acquired cases for several days. All new cases have been imported.

The crisis in Europe drove the European Central Bank (ECB) to launch a €750 billion plan to calm markets and help the Eurozone economy during the coronavirus pandemic.

## News

### WHO News

Wuhan has reported no new cases for the first time since the outbreak started. One of the things learned is that although older people are the hardest hit, younger people are not spared. Data from many countries clearly show that people under 50 make up a significant proportion of patients requiring hospitalization. The message today for young people is that they are not invincible. This virus could put them in hospital for weeks, or even kill them. Even if they don’t get sick, the choices they make about where they go could be the difference between life and death for someone else.

## Evolution Worldwide

### Asia

**China:** There were no new suspected cases of COVID-19 in Wuhan and in the Hubei province for three consecutive days. All new cases were imported and no new domestically-transmitted cases have been recorded in the past 2 days.

**Japan:** A total of 1,089 cases have been confirmed in Japan with at least 41 deaths.

**Singapore:** Over 60 cases have been reported over the past two days, bringing the total number of cases to 455. 144 patients have fully recovered and have been discharged from the hospital.

**South Korea:** At least 8,961 cases have been confirmed in South Korea, including 111 fatalities, more than 70% of the cases are in Daegu.

### Europe

**Austria:** The total number of cases is 3,611, including 16 reported deaths.

**Belgium:** Over 900 cases have been reported in the last two days, bringing the total number of cases to 3743, including 88 fatalities.

**Germany:** The total number of cases is 21,828. Saturday saw a sharp decrease in cases in comparison to Friday, where there were over 5,500 cases reported in a 24-hour period. 16 new COVID-19 deaths have been confirmed, bringing the total number of deaths to 75 in the country. Germany has announced heavy restrictions on contact between people. Angela Merkel must go into quarantine after meeting with an infected doctor.

**Italy:** Over the weekend Italy reported extremely high numbers of new cases, marking the first day with over 5000 and then over 6000 cases reported within 24 hours. Sunday marks the third consecutive day with over 5000 cases reported within 24 hours. The death toll continues to rise with 627 (Friday), 793 (Saturday) and 651 (Sunday) COVID-19 deaths confirmed. Italy has banned any movement inside the country and closed all non-essential businesses as it desperately seeks to stem the spread of coronavirus following the horror weekend in which more than 1,400 people died. Italy has the highest number of COVID-19 cases in the world, and is now considered to be the new epicenter of the pandemic by the WHO.

**Netherlands:** Over 1,200 cases have been reported in the last two days, resulting in a total of 4,204 cases confirmed in the Netherlands, including 179 deaths. The most affected region is Noord Brabant, reporting at least 1,404 cases.

Norway: The outbreak continues at more or less the same pace. Testing remains steady at about 5,000 per day of which approximately 150 come back as positive. Status Sunday (15:30) is 54,393 tested, 2,249 tested positive, 173 admitted to hospital, and 7 deaths. More than 9,000 health professionals are in quarantine. There is so far only 1 confirmed case offshore.

**Spain:** Over the weekend Spain reported high numbers of new cases, marking the first day with over 3,000 and the over 4,000 cases reported within 24 hours. Note that Spain has shown sustained transmission with more than 3,000 cases reported over 24 hours for four consecutive days. Yesterday there were 399 COVID-19 deaths confirmed, bringing the total number of deaths to 1,725 in the country.

**Switzerland:** The total number of cases reported in Switzerland is at least 6,113 with 56 deaths.

**United Kingdom:** At least 5,683 cases have been reported in the UK, including 281 patients who have died. England has reported at least 4792 cases, with 416 cases in Scotland, 347 in Wales, and 128 cases in Northern Ireland.

### Middle East/Africa

**Iran:** 1,028 additional cases were reported in Iran, bringing the total number to 21,638 cases. In addition, there have been 129 new deaths, bringing the total number of deaths to 1,685. Iran continues to be the most affected country in the Middle East.

**Qatar:** At least 494 cases have been reported in Qatar, and 33 patients have recovered.

**Tunisia:** Tunisia has reported at least 75 cases, including three deaths.

**UAE:** At least 153 cases have been confirmed.

### Americas

**Canada:** 369 additional cases were reported in Canada, bringing the total number to 1,371 cases. This represents a sharp increase in cases in comparison to Saturday, where there were 129 cases reported in 24 hours. In addition, 7 new deaths have been confirmed, bringing the total number to 19 deaths in the country.

**Guatemala:** 43 additional cases were reported in Guatemala, bringing the total number to 56 cases. This represents a sharp increase in cases in comparison to yesterday, where there was only 1 new case reported in 24 hours.

**United States:** California has issued a state-wide “shelter-in-place” order to its residents to mitigate the spread of the virus. This order will allow residents to leave their homes to buy groceries or medicine, but forces businesses deemed ‘non-essential’ to close in an effort to limit public interactions. Between early March 20 and March 21 afternoon, 9,769 additional cases were reported in the United States, bringing the total number to 32,640 cases. The states with the highest number of confirmed cases include New York, Washington, New Jersey and California. The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States jumped past those of Iran, Germany and Spain this weekend, making the U.S. the nation with the third highest total in the world at the moment.

## New Countries

The following countries reported their first case(s) of COVID-19:

**20 March:** Barbados, Cape Verde, Chad and Haiti

**21 March:** Angola, Bermuda, Niger, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Zimbabwe

**22 March:** Eritrea and Uganda