

25 March 2020: 1030GMT

Introduction

As the UK heads into lockdown, cases in the US are soaring. The State of New York is particularly affected. Japan has postponed the Summer Olympics to 2021. India will enter lockdown at midnight on 25 March. China is having more and more imported cases, sparking concern that a second wave could be upon us.

Case Summary

Cases worldwide: 424,048

Deaths worldwide: 18,947

Countries affected: 193

(Data taken from [Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases dashboard](#) from Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering)

News

ECDC News

The ECDC has updated their document on social distancing. The document provides additional information about workplace closures. The document also discusses the term 'social distancing' vis-à-vis the practice of 'physical distancing'. It finally discusses the importance of promoting solidarity and mutual community support when social distancing measures are implemented.

[Considerations relating to social distancing measures in response to COVID-19 – second update](#)

Also of note is an article in relation to dead bodies

[Considerations related to the safe handling of bodies of deceased persons with suspected or confirmed COVID-19](#)

Evolution Worldwide

ASIA

China: Reported 78 new cases of the deadly coronavirus on 24 March, with the vast majority brought in from overseas. There is concern that we could be seeing the start of a second wave.

South Korea: 76 new coronavirus cases on 24 March, maintaining a downward trend in new infections. The total number of cases is 9,037, and the total number of deaths is 120. It is the 13th day in a row the country has posted new infections of around 100 or less.

EUROPE

Austria: 1,247 additional cases were reported, bringing the total number to 4,926. The total number of deaths is 25. This is the first time Austria has reported over 1,000 new cases within a 24-hour period.

Belgium: 526 additional cases were reported, bringing the total number to 4,269 cases. In addition, 32 new deaths have been confirmed, bringing the total number of deaths in the country to 122.

France: 3,167 additional cases were reported, bringing the total number to 19,856 cases. The total number of deaths in France is now 860. This is the first day with over 3,000 cases and over 150 deaths reported within a 24-hour period.

Italy: 5,249 new cases were reported, for a total number of 69,176 cases. In addition, 743 new deaths have been confirmed, bringing the total number of deaths to 6,820. This marks the fourth day with over 5,000 cases and the second day with over 700 deaths reported within a 24-hour period.

Norway: Approximately 10,000 tests came back in the last 24h – 226 of which were positive. Status Tuesday (23:30) is 70,608 tested, 2,868 tested positive, 211 admitted to hospital, and 12 deaths. Approx. 8,000 health professionals are in quarantine (decline in the last days). There is so far only 1 confirmed case offshore.

Spain: 6,584 new cases were reported, bringing the total number to 39,673 cases. This is the first day with over 6,000 new cases reported within a 24-hour period and the sixth consecutive day with over 3,000 new cases per day. The total number of deaths in Spain is 2,696.

United Kingdom: 1,427 additional cases were reported, bringing the total number to 8,077 cases. The total number of deaths is 422. The UK has announced that they will go into lockdown.

MIDDLE EAST/AFRICA

Kenya: Nine new cases have been reported in Nairobi, Mombasa, Kilifi and Kwale, bringing the total number of cases to 25.

Morocco: A total of 170 cases have been confirmed, including five fatalities.

Senegal: Seven new cases have been reported, resulting in a total of 86 cases in Senegal.

South Africa: A total of 554 cases have been reported in South Africa.

Tunisia: At least 114 cases have been confirmed, of which four have died.

AMERICAS

Canada: 541 additional cases were reported, bringing the total number to 2,091 cases. This is the first time that the country has reported over 500 cases within a 24-hour period.

Ecuador: 68 new cases were reported, bringing the total number to 1,049 cases. The total number of deaths is 27. On 23 March, 400 new cases and 11 deaths were confirmed.

United States: 9,407 additional cases were reported, bringing the total number to 48,778 cases. This marks the second consecutive day with over 9,000 new cases in a 24-hour period. The states with the highest number of confirmed cases are New York (more than 40%), New Jersey, Washington, and California. The total number of deaths in the US is 588.

NEW COUNTRIES

Belize, Dominica, Isle of Man, Laos and Myanmar have reported their first case(s) of COVID-19.