

Weekly update on COVID-19

8 - 15 April 2020



Crisis snapshot

As of 15 April 2020

Confirmed cases

1 918 138

Confirmed deaths

123 126

Confirmed recoveries

> 300 000

Countries &
territories affected

213

Global Level Risk

Very high

Key links

[COVID-19 web page](#)

[Case dashboard](#)

[Daily situation reports](#)

[Donors and partners](#)

[Response in countries](#)

[Rolling updates](#)

Public health response and coordination highlights

[Response strategy updated](#)

Published on 14 April to help guide the public health response to COVID-19 at national and subnational levels.

[New guidance issued](#)

Updated guidance on rational use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), mass gatherings, supporting migrants and refugees in host countries, food safety, and critical preparedness, readiness and response actions.

[Partners Platform utilized](#)

95 countries have uploaded their national plans and 140 donors have contributed PPE supplies while WHO continues negotiations with Chinese manufacturers for access to PPE production, the organization has managed to purchase protection items on a big scale.

[COVID-19 Essential Supplies Forecasting Tool launched](#)

Through the collaboration of WHO with the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) and UNICEF, COVID19 Essential Supplies Forecasting Tool (COVID-19 ESFT) has been launched. The tool is designed to help governments, partners, and other stakeholders to estimate potential requirements for essential supplies to respond to the current pandemic of COVID-19.

Strategic supply chain

COVID-19 pandemic is resulting in an acute shortage of essential supplies, including PPE, diagnostics, and biomedical products. On April 8 2020, WHO announced a Supply Chain Task Force, bringing together UN and non-UN actors. The task force aims, among others, to provide strategic direction ensuring that the most critical gaps in supplies are identified and met in a timely fashion. Co-chaired by WHO and WFP, the task force includes senior representatives of, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR as well as from the Department of Operational Support.

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COVID-19 supply shipments by 10 April 2020

	Surgical masks	N95 masks	Examination gloves	Gowns	Goggles	Face shields
AFRO	87 650	11 400	127 800	16 579	1920	8310
EMRO	274 000	17 820	444 000	61 472	3800	15 100
EURO	181 080	3950	199 100	23 748	3500	1900
PAHO	66 000	1840	68 000	9916	1100	7100
SEARO	260 000	24 715	160 000	14 000	5250	6500
WPRO	151 050	8050	126 000	6563	3703	1580
Total	1 019 780	67 775	1 124 900	132 278	19 273	40 490

COVID-19 supply shipments by 10 April 2020

WHO contributed more than US\$3.3 million for transport, through charters flights provided by WFP, of medical supplies generously donated by Jack Ma Foundation to 52 African countries.

	Masks	Detection kits	Medical disposable protective clothing	Face shields
Quantity	5 400 000	1 084 800	40 010	60 000
Received per country	100 000	20 089	741	1 111

Appeals and funding

COVID-19 Strategy Update

WHO released an updated COVID-19 strategy on 15 April. This [update](#) aims to help guide the public health response to COVID-19 at national and subnational levels, and to update the global strategy to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also provides guidance for countries preparing for a phased transition from widespread transmission to a steady state of low-level or no transmission.

Global Strategic Preparedness & Response Plan (SPRP)

SPRP was released on beginning of February and runs until the end of April. WHO has been engaging donors and the public to mobilize support for the COVID-19 response. Donors have contributed through traditional bilateral contribution agreements (status of funding raised can be found [here](#)) and the recently launched COVID-19 International Solidarity Response Fund and the Contingency Fund for Emergencies. An updated SPRP will be released early May.

Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP)

The [GHRP](#) released on 25 March 2020, GHRP is a joint effort by members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), to analyse and respond to the direct public health and indirect immediate humanitarian consequences of COVID-19, particularly on people in countries already facing other crises. According to the plan US\$2 billion are required between April and December 2020 for additional humanitarian interventions, above and beyond existing humanitarian needs, due to COVID-19. As part of GHRP WHO is appealing for [US\\$450 million](#).

WHO funding mechanisms

COVID-19 International Solidarity Response Fund (ISRF)

United Nations Foundation, Swiss Philanthropy Foundation and WHO established the COVID-19 ISRF to support the response. The ISRF enables private individuals, corporations and institutions to directly contribute to global response efforts through www.COVID19ResponseFund.org

The WHO Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE)

CFE enables WHO to respond in real-time, playing a critical role in responding to outbreaks around the world in the most vulnerable countries with weak health systems. WHO has released US\$10 million for urgent preparedness and response COVID 19 activities globally through the [CFE](#)

Research and development highlights

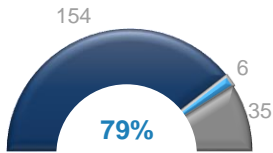
[An international randomized trial of candidate vaccines against COVID-19](#) was launched on 9 April 2020. This trial will enable the evaluation of the benefits and risks of each promising candidate vaccine within 3-6 months.

[WHO also released the Target Product Profiles for COVID-19 Vaccines](#) to define the preferred and minimally acceptable profiles for human vaccines for long term protection of persons at high ongoing risk of COVID-19, and for reactive use in outbreak settings with rapid onset of immunity.

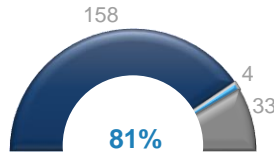
[More updates on research and development here.](#)

GLOBAL INDICATORS

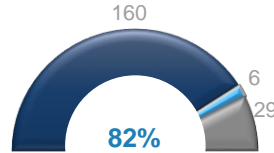
Countries have a COVID-19 preparedness response plan



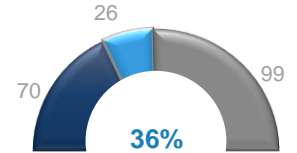
Countries have a functional multi-sectoral, multi-partner coordination mechanism for COVID-19



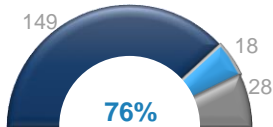
Countries have communicated COVID-19 prevention and preparedness messages to the population



Countries have a COVID-19 community engagement plan



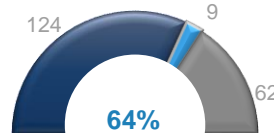
Countries have COVID-19 event-based surveillance



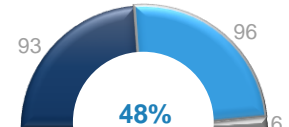
Countries have COVID-19 laboratory testing capacity



Countries have a clinical referral system in place to care for COVID-19 cases



Countries have an IPC programme and WASH standards within all healthcare facilities^b



■ Yes ■ No ■ Missing data

1 352 246 ENROLMENTS FOR OpenWHO COVID-19 COURSES

	Introduction of COVID-19 (16 languages)	340 427 users (9% increase)
	eProtect Respiratory Infections (7 languages)	73 524 users (19% increase)
	Clinical Care for SARI (6 languages)	53 369 users (18% increase)
	IPC for COVID-19 (12 languages)	384 863 users (14% increase)
	Country preparedness & response planning (5 languages)	383 976 users (11% increase)
	SARI Treatment Facility Design (1 language)	113 087 users (31% increase)

INCREASING THE KNOWLEDGE BASE AND COUNTRY UPTAKE OF WHO TOOLS

INVESTIGATION PROTOCOLS
Transmission dynamics and severity



Intention confirmed: 49 countries
(AFR 18, AMR 4, EMR 2, EUR 14, SEAR 2, WPR 9)

Implementation started: 25 countries
(AFR 6, AMR 4, EMR 2, EUR 8, SEAR 0, WPR 5)

Progress shared with WHO: 3 countries
(AFR 0, AMR 0, EMR 0, EUR 2, SEAR 0, WPR 1)

SURVEILLANCE PLATFORM
COVID-19 sentinel surveillance by GISRS



Sentinel surveillance reported: 24 countries
(AFR 1, AMR 14, EMR 0, EUR 5, SEAR 0, WPR 4)

Sentinel specimens tested in Week 12: 17 461

Percent positive for COVID-19: 10.3%

Notes

- a. Data collected from 194 Member States and 1 territory through the WHO Regional Offices. The term “countries” should be understood as referring to “countries and territories”
- b. The indicator for infection prevention and control (IPC) was based on the International Health Regulations State Parties Annual Reporting (SPAR) results from 2019, or 2018 results if 2019 data was not available c. incremental percentage compared to last week data

REGIONAL UPDATES

African Region (AFRO)

Since the beginning of the response, WHO has trained 6179 health workers in the region, including 662 IPC trainers. On 10 April, 498 nurses from 42 African countries attended an IPC training session. WHO has also deployed 232 experts to 39 countries in the region.

WHO is distributing supplies to enable countries to test for COVID-19. To date, 44 countries in the region have the capacity to test for the COVID-19 virus.

On 10 April, WHO held a virtual learning session on COVID-19 case management. Over 1000 participants from 58 countries attended, the majority from Africa.

On 9 April, WHO introduced the weekly reporting platform to AFRO IHR National Focal Points.

On 8 April, WHO and partners held a meeting to explore the use of Emergency Medical Teams (EMT) concepts, tools and approaches to scale-up the clinical case management of COVID-19 patients in the African Region.

For full details see [AFRO Report](#).

Americas (PAHO)

Guidance and strategies to streamline [ethics review and oversight](#) were published.

An update was released to guide countries on the [use of Chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine](#) to treat COVID-19 cases

Recommendations to support Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) with configurations on triage areas for patients with respiratory symptoms were released.

European Region (EURO)

[New WHO tools launched to help hospitals manage surge in COVID-19 patients](#). The tools will assist health planners across the WHO European Region to prepare for the surge in COVID-19 patients needing acute and intensive care in hospitals.

[Alcohol does not protect against COVID-19; access should be restricted during lockdown](#)

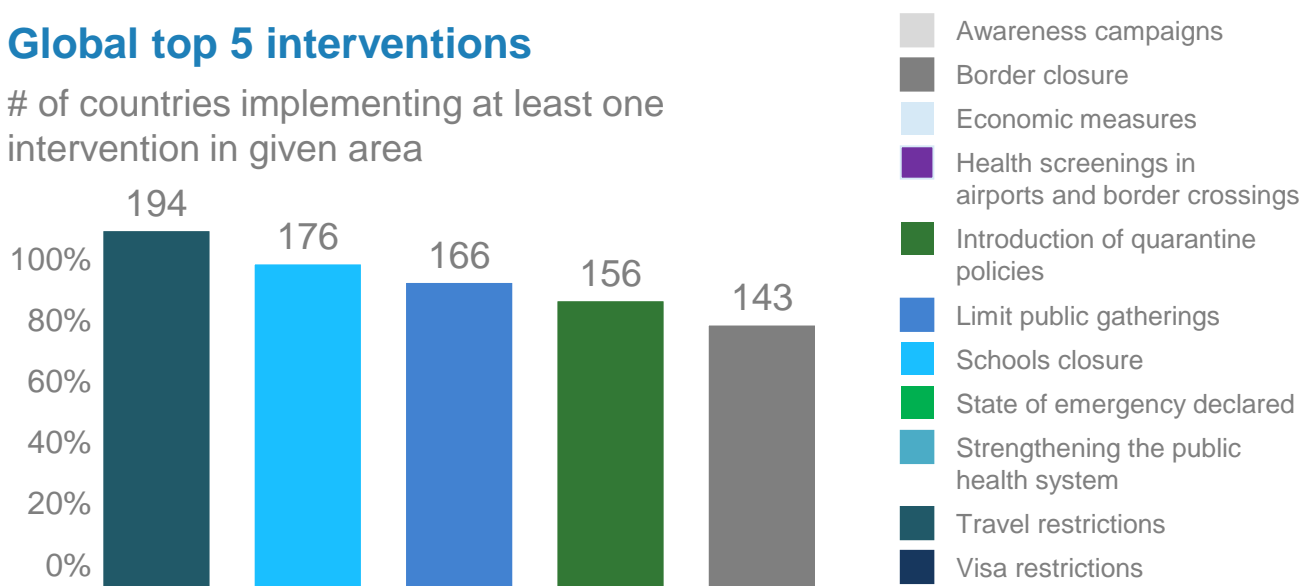
Western Pacific Region (WPRO)

[Staying safe during season of religious and cultural events, amid the COVID-19 outbreak](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL MEASURES

Global top 5 interventions

of countries implementing at least one intervention in given area



Regional top 5 interventions

