

**EPI**·WIN

# WHO Information Network for Epidemics



**World Health  
Organization**

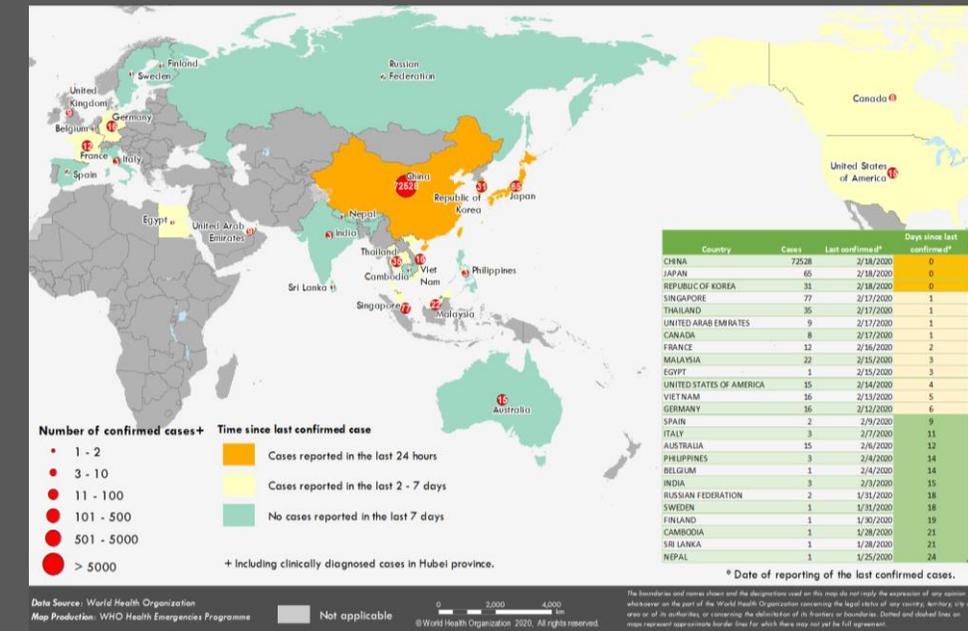
**Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)**

**2019 - 2020**

**Update #11 25.02.20**

# Distribution of cases of COVID-19 as of 24 February\*

Globally: 79 331 confirmed cases and 2595 deaths



# Cases by country/territory/area (as of 24 February)

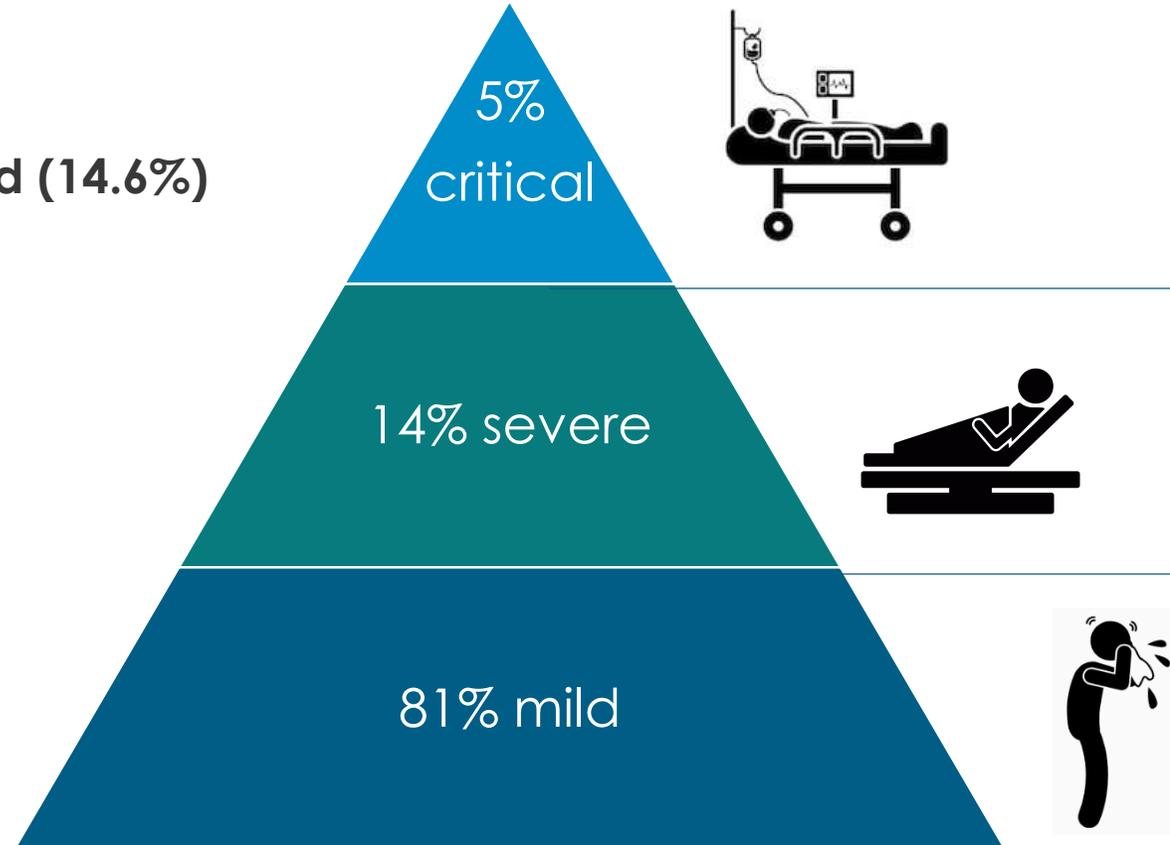
Country/Territory/Area	Total confirmed cases	New confirmed cases (last 24 hours)	Total deaths
China	77262	415	2595
Republic of Korea	763	161	7
Japan	144	12	1
Italy	124	48	2
Singapore	89	0	0
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	43	15	8
Thailand	35	0	0
United States of America	35	0	0
Australia	22	0	0
Malaysia	22	0	0
Germany	16	0	0
Viet Nam	16	0	0
United Arab Emirates	13	0	0
France	12	0	1
Canada	9	0	0
The United Kingdom	9	0	0
India	3	0	0
Kuwait	3	3	0
Philippines	3	0	1
Russian Federation	2	0	0
Spain	2	0	0
Belgium	1	0	0
Cambodia	1	0	0
Egypt	1	0	0
Finland	1	0	0
Israel	1	0	0
Lebanon	1	0	0
Nepal	1	0	0
Sri Lanka	1	0	0
Sweden	1	0	0
International conveyance (Diamond Princess)	695	61	3
<b>Total Outside China</b>	<b>2069</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>79331</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>2618</b>

# Largest, most recent study from China CDC (n=72,314)

- 44,672 confirmed (61.8%)
- 16,186 suspected (22.4%)
- 10,567 clinically-diagnosed (14.6%)
- 889 asymptomatic (1.2%)

- **Distribution**

- 81% mild
- 14% severe
- 5% critical
- 2.3% fatal (CFR)



# Transmission of COVID-19

## The spread of COVID-19 between humans is being driven by droplet transmission

- The virus is transmitted from a sick person to a healthy person through respiratory droplets when the sick person coughs, sneezes or talks close to another person.
- Current diagnostic tests have occasionally yielded positive results from seemingly asymptomatic people.
- These positive results are not a conclusive indication that asymptomatic people are contagious. People may have been exposed and infected but are NOT necessarily transmitting the disease. More investigations into potential other routes of transmission are ongoing.
- What has been reported so far is that the main driver of transmission is droplet transmission from people with symptoms.



# Characteristics of COVID-19 compared to other viruses

Disease	Reported cases (n)	Deaths reported (n)	Case fatality ratio %	R0
Seasonal influenza (1)	3-5 million (severe)	290,000-650,000	0.1	1.3
SARS	8098	774	9.5	2.2 - 3.7
MERS (2)	2494	858	35	<1
COVID-19 (3)	75,204	2009	2	1.4 - 4.9

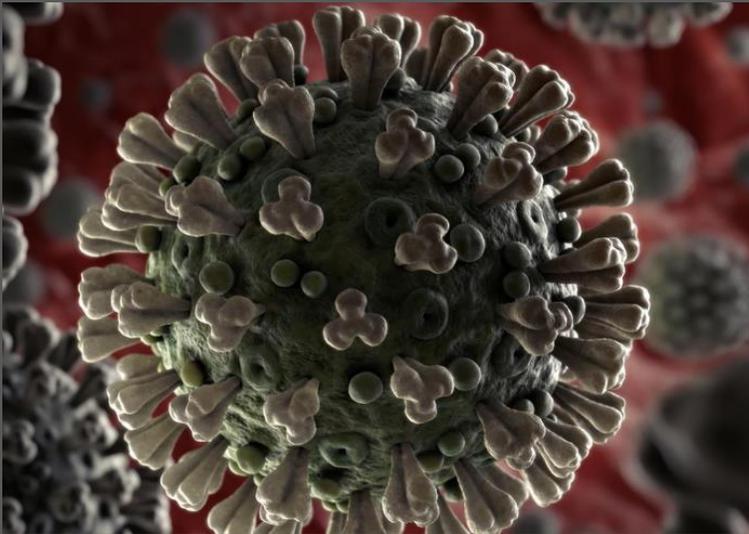
[1] Global burden estimates of annual epidemics

[2] Data from 2012 till November 2019

[3] Data as of 20 February 2020

# Frequently asked questions

# HOW DOES COVID-19 SPREAD?



Credit: Getty images

- People can catch COVID-19 from others who have the virus. The disease can spread from person to person through small droplets from the nose or mouth which are spread when a person with COVID-19 coughs or exhales. These droplets land on objects and surfaces around the person. Other people then catch COVID-19 by touching these objects or surfaces, then touching their eyes, nose or mouth. People can also catch COVID-19 if they breathe in droplets from a person with COVID-19 who coughs out or exhales droplets. This is why it is important to stay more than 1 meter (3 feet) away from a person who is sick.
- WHO is assessing ongoing research on the ways COVID-19 is spread and will continue to share updated findings.

# SHOULD I WORRY ABOUT COVID-19?

 World Health Organization

Reduce risk of **coronavirus infection**

- 

Frequently clean hands by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water
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When coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue - throw tissue away immediately and wash hands
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Avoid close contact with anyone that has fever and cough

If you are not in an area where COVID-19 is spreading, or if you have not travelled from one of those areas or have not been in close contact with someone who has and is feeling unwell, your chances of getting it are currently low. However, it's understandable that you may feel stressed and anxious about the situation. It's a good idea to get the facts to help you accurately determine your risks so that you can take reasonable precautions. Your healthcare provider, your national public health authority and your employer are all potential sources of accurate information on COVID-19 and whether it is in your area. It is important to be informed of the situation where you live and take appropriate measures to protect yourself. (See [Protection measures for everyone](#)).

If you are in an area where there is an outbreak of COVID-19 you need to take the risk of infection seriously. Follow the advice issued by national and local health authorities. Although for most people COVID-19 causes only mild illness, it can make some people very ill. More rarely, the disease can be fatal. Older people, and those with pre-existing medical conditions (such as high blood pressure, heart problems or diabetes) appear to be more vulnerable ([additional protection measures](#))

# SHOULD I WEAR A MASK TO PROTECT MYSELF?



Credit: Euronews

- People with no respiratory symptoms, such as cough, do not need to wear a medical mask. WHO recommends the use of masks for people who have symptoms of COVID-19 and for those caring for individuals who have symptoms, such as cough and fever. The use of masks is crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone (at home or in a health care facility).
- WHO advises rational use of medical masks to avoid unnecessary wastage of precious resources and mis-use of masks ([see Advice on the use of masks](#)). Use a mask only if you have respiratory symptoms (coughing or sneezing), have suspected COVID-19 infection with mild symptoms, or are caring for someone with suspected COVID-19 infection. A suspected COVID-19 infection is linked to travel in areas where cases have been reported, or close contact with someone who has travelled in these areas and has become ill.
- The most effective ways to protect yourself and others against COVID-19 are to frequently clean your hands, cover your cough with the bend of elbow or tissue and maintain a distance of at least 1 meter (3 feet) from people who are coughing or sneezing.

# HOW LONG DOES THE VIRUS SURVIVE ON SURFACES?



Credit: Packari

- It is not certain how long the virus that causes COVID-19 survives on surfaces, but it seems to behave like other coronaviruses. Studies suggest that coronaviruses (including preliminary information on the COVID-19 virus) may persist on surfaces for a few hours or up to several days. This may vary under different conditions (e.g. type of surface, temperature or humidity of the environment).
- If you think a surface may be infected, clean it with simple disinfectant to kill the virus and protect yourself and others. Clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, or nose.

**Stigma is harmful to people and  
to the outbreak response**

# The impact of stigma

Stigma can....

- drive people to hide the illness to avoid discrimination.
- stop people from seeking health care immediately and
- prevent people from adopting healthy behaviors.



Dr. Tedros

"This is the time for facts, not fear.  
This is the time for science, not rumors.  
This is the time for solidarity, not stigma.

***We are all in this together."***

# Social stigma associated with COVID-19

**A guide to preventing and addressing social stigma co-developed by WHO, IFRC and UNICEF**  
**Below are some examples of dos and don'ts when talking about the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19):**

**DO** - talk about the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

**Don't** - attach locations or ethnicity to the disease, this is not a “Wuhan Virus”, “Chinese Virus” or “Asian Virus”.

The official name for the disease was deliberately chosen to avoid stigmatisation - the “co” stands for Corona, “vi” for virus and “d” for disease, 19 is because the disease emerged in 2019.

**DO** - talk about people “acquiring” or “contracting” COVID-19

**Don't** talk about people “transmitting COVID-19” “infecting others” or “spreading the virus” as it implies intentional transmission and assigns blame.

Using criminalising or dehumanising terminology creates the impression that those with the disease have somehow done something wrong or are less human than the rest of us, feeding stigma, undermining empathy, and potentially fuelling wider reluctance to seek treatment or attend screening, testing and quarantine.

**DO** - speak accurately about the risk from COVID-19, based on scientific data and latest official health advice.

**Don't** - repeat or share unconfirmed rumours, and avoid using hyperbolic language designed to generate fear like “plague”, “apocalypse” etc.

**DO** - talk positively and emphasise the effectiveness of prevention and treatment measures. For most people this is a disease they can overcome. There are simple steps we can all take to keep ourselves, our loved ones and the most vulnerable safe.

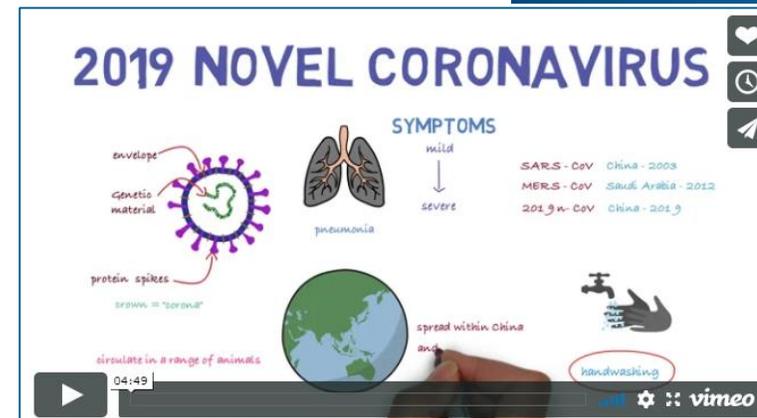
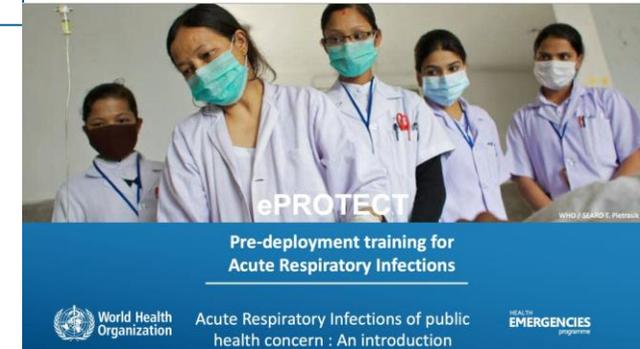
**Don't** - emphasise or dwell on the negative, or messages of threat. We need to work together to help keep those who are most vulnerable safe.

**DO** - emphasise the effectiveness of adopting protective measures to prevent acquiring the new coronavirus, as well as early screening, testing and treatment.

# Training resources

# COVID-19 training resources

- Public health preparedness for mass gathering events  
<https://extranet.who.int/hslp/training/enrol/index.php?id=135>
- Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) <https://openwho.org/courses/COVID-19-IPC-EN> )
- ePROTECT for respiratory diseases  
<https://openwho.org/courses/eprotect-acute-respiratory-infections>
- WHO Critical Care Severe Acute Respiratory Infection course  
<https://openwho.org/courses/severe-acute-respiratory-infection>
- Emerging respiratory viruses, including COVID-19: methods for detection, prevention, response and control  
<https://openwho.org/courses/introduction-to-ncov>



# More information

## WHO sources:

COVID-19 website: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

WHO Travel Advice: <https://www.who.int/ith/en/>

Email: [EPI-WIN@who.int](mailto:EPI-WIN@who.int)

Website: [www.EPI-WIN.com](http://www.EPI-WIN.com)