

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Daily Update: 31 March 2020



Situational analysis

Source: WHO data 30 March 2020

Region*	Confirmed cases***		Deaths***	
	New	Total	New	Total
Globally**	58 411	693 224	3 215	23 106
Western Pacific	987	103 775	23	3 649
European Region	31 726	392 757	2 535	23 962
South East Asia	375	4 084	19	158
Eastern Med	3 552	46 329	145	2 813
Americas	21 289	142 081	484	2 457
Africa**	482	3 486	9	60

The WHO media conference outlined yesterday the six steps that any country can take, regardless of the size or scenario, to fight the virus:

- Expand, train and deploy your public health force
- Implement a system to find every suspected case
- Ramp up testing capacity and availability
- Identify and adapt key facilities you will use to treat and isolate patients
- Develop a clear plan to quarantine contacts
- Refocus the whole of government on suppression and containing COVID-19



Spread

More than 75 % of reported cases are currently in eight countries: USA, Italy, Spain, China, Germany, France, Iran and the UK.
The USA is now the epicentre of the outbreak.



South Africa:

According to the latest statement by the Minister of Health, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 is 1 326 and three deaths. Visit: www.sacoronavirus.co.za for the latest updates
SA Tourism will make updates available on www.southafrica.net on how the lockdown measures will impact tourism.

SOUTH AFRICA NEWS

- [In a national address: Ramaphosa announces mass screening and testing campaign](#)
- [SA Express seek UIF assistance to pay salaries as acting CEO resigns](#)
- [Sars has refunded businesses to the tune of R2.4bn since start of lockdown](#)
- [‘Chinese lockdown kept our citizens safe from virus in Wuhan’: Ramaphosa](#)
- [SA Tourism tells Mzansi to stay indoors: Don’t travel now so you can travel later](#)
- [We have to ensure the safety and sanity of doctors on the frontlines](#)
- [Ramaphosa: Junk status won’t derail coronavirus fight](#)
- [Pandor set to announce whether govt will assist South Africans stranded abroad](#)
- [Solidarity Relief fund ‘can’t provide relief’ for SMMEs](#)

GLOBAL NEWS

- [Engineers from F1 teams and University College London have developed a new breathing aid for coronavirus patients](#)
- [MIT post free plans online for an emergency ventilator that can be built for US\\$100](#)
- [Uber offer NHS staff in the UK 200 000 free trips and 100 000 free meals](#)
- [Portugal has temporarily given all migrants and asylum seekers full citizenship rights, granting them full access to the country’s healthcare as the outbreak escalates](#)
- Saudi Arabia announced free treatment of anyone infected, regardless of whether they are citizens, residents or in the country illegally
- Eunice Yoon, the Beijing Bureau Chief for CNBC, reported on a media conference hosted by the China Ministry of Industry and Information Technology: resumption of work rate for small, medium-sized enterprises nationwide was 76 %, rate for industrial enterprises of a ‘certain size’ was 98,6 % and return of workers was at 89,9 %. [Hubei airports are also seeing a rebound in passengers](#)
- [Hungary’s parliament voted 173-53 to give PM Viktor Orban the right to rule by decree indefinitely in response to the epidemic](#)
- [The US Federal Reserve estimated that job losses could total 47 million, unemployment rate may hit 32 % \(the unemployment rate during the Great Depression peaked at 24,9 %\)](#)
- [Norway predicted that their economy may contract by 4 % this year](#)
- [Major US airlines have announced that they are temporarily suspending beverage service and cutting meal service to cut costs and reduce the number of items flight attendants touch](#)
- [It has been confirmed that the Tokyo Olympics will start on 23 July and end on 8 August 2021](#)

For more information or updates, please email mediaq@southafrica.net

