

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Daily Update: 20 July 2020



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM



Situational analysis

Source: WHO data 19 July 2020

Region	Confirmed cases		Deaths	
	New	Total	New	Total
Globally	166 735	14 043 176	4 496	597 583
Africa	17 625	579 091	197	9 546
Americas	70 377	7 376 748	2 777	305 285
Eastern Med	13 712	1 374 503	488	34 226
Europe	18 195	3 060 525	281	206 965
Sout East Asia	43 453	1 391 407	636	33 543
Western Pacific	3 373	260 161	117	8 005



South Africa:

(National Department of Health statistics on 19 July)

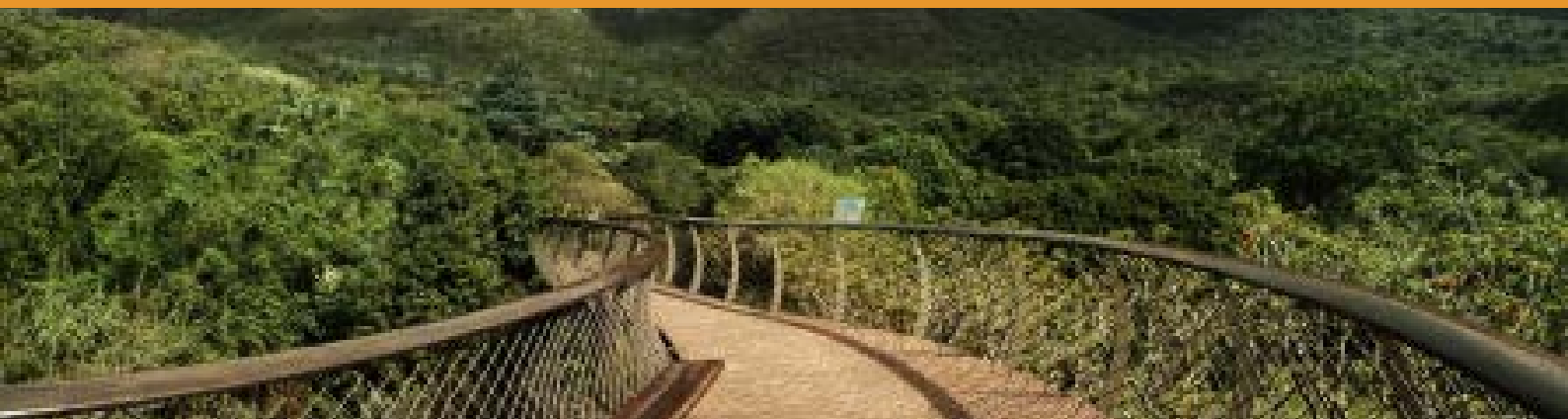
	Total Cases	Percentage	Deaths	Recoveries
South Africa	364 328		5 033	191 059
Eastern Cape	63 181	17.3%	825	44 317
Free State	9 993	2.7%	47	1 103
Gauteng	133 617	36.7%	986	58 512
KwaZulu-Natal	43 215	11.9%	416	11 005
Limpopo	4 928	1.4%	33	2 042
Mpumalanga	7 129	2%	44	1 958
North West	14 006	3.8%	48	2 890
Northern Cape	2 266	0.6%	15	772
Western Cape	85 926	23.6%	2 619	68 410

Visit: www.sacoronavirus.co.za for the latest updates. SA Tourism will make updates available on www.southafrica.net.

SOUTH AFRICA NEWS

TOURISM RELATED ARTICLES

- The Minister of Tourism, Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane, during a recent Global Travel and Tourism Resilience Council (GTTRC) virtual summit, highlighted that South Africa's government is working on a 'unified system of protocols' before submitting them to the [World Travel and Tourism Council \(WTTC\) for a Safe Travel Stamp](#). She said the comprehensive Tourism Recovery Strategy – developed by South African Tourism and the Tourism Business Council South Africa, in conjunction with a number of industry associations – was currently being considered by Cabinet.
- [Public enterprises minister Pravin Gordhan said on Sunday that while the government had agreed last week to "mobilise funding" for SAA, work was still being done on where the funds would come from and in what form. Funding could be mobilised from various sources including prospective equity partners. The funding for SAA is critical to the success of the business rescue process, out of which the government plans to establish a new airline.](#)
- [Minister of Transport Fikile Mbalula announced that three additional South African airports will reopen for business travel from July 21. These include East London Airport, George Airport and Kimberley Airport](#)
- [The Free State is planning "extreme measures" to lure tourists to the province – South Africa's second least visited – over the next 12 months. The Free State Gambling, Liquor and Tourism Authority this week formally started to solicit proposals from advertising agencies to help put it on the map through destination marketing over the course of the year. The targets are big, and the current situation grim, the request for proposals shows](#)
- [E-hailing services, such as Uber and Bolt, will be treated the same as minibus taxis in upcoming rule changes, transport minister Fikile Mbalula says. That means they'll be able to fill up their cars to 100% capacity, as long as they keep windows slightly open. Uber and Bolt, though, will be sticking to their current rules on limiting capacity, at least for now. The companies can set their own terms of service, imposing stricter rules than government regulations](#)
- [Glenton De Kock, CEO of the Southern African Association for the Conference Industry \(SAACI\), wants to encourage the government to consider re-opening exhibitions in the coming months as the Events Safety Guidelines are comprehensive and will ensure track-and-tracing inclusive of pre-screening for delegates and visitors to any size exhibition. He says that the longer lead times to allow better preparations is a common operating requirement due to the need to prepare venues and also ensure that all attendees have completed the required documentation](#)
- [Disgruntled alcohol manufacturers and restaurateurs will not take government's U-turn lying down. They are concerned about the retrenchments that will follow after the renewed ban on the sale of alcohol came into effect last week. Richard Rushton, chief executive of alcoholic drinks maker Distell, has said that government has lost R3.5 billion in taxes because of the ban. From the 945 000 direct and indirect jobs in the industry, 110 000 were lost in the first part of the lockdown. And if the ban continues, about 13 000 jobs will be lost per week](#)
- [The biggest-ever united protest in the history of South Africa's restaurant industry is set to take place on Wednesday as hundreds of eateries, coffee shops and takeaway establishments countrywide will be participating in the 'Million seats on the streets' protest against Covid-19 restrictions to trade. Tables and chairs will be used to block roads outside various restaurants between 12:00 and 14:00 on Wednesday as part of the peaceful protest to highlight the massive impact of Covid-19 lockdown regulations on the industry](#)
- [Tourism operators in Mpumalanga took part in a peaceful demonstration drive from White River to the government buildings in Nelspruit on Friday \(July 17\) to protest restrictions that are crippling the tourism industry](#)



GENERAL COVID-19 RELATED ARTICLES

- [Over the weekend, health minister Zweli Mkhize appealed to South Africans to do more to help break the cycle of infection. He said that the government has mobilised every resource, every faculty and wherewithal at their disposal to effect the necessary interventions. He mentioned that they are extremely concerned that South Africans are letting down their guard at a time when the spread of infection is surging. There is poor or no social distancing in communities. Masks are being abandoned or not worn properly and there is laxity setting in around frequent hand washing](#)
- [The World Health Organisation in Africa's growing concern for SA's rapidly increasing infection rate of Covid-19 has forced it to offer to provide technical support to help curb the spread of the respiratory disease](#)
- [The impasse between Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga and teacher unions over the unions' demand of a total shutdown of schooling due to the spiralling Covid-19 pandemic is set to continue this week. On Saturday, Motshekga's spokesperson Elijah Mhlanga dismissed reports that Ramaphosa had ordered Motshekga to cancel schooling](#)
- [Southern African Agri Initiative \(Saai\), an agricultural interest network for farmers, has launched a court application to have the ban on the sale and consumption of wine in restaurants set aside. Vinpro, which represents the wine industry, estimates that the SA wine industry — which employs about 300,000 people — would lose close to 18,000 jobs and that nearly 80 wineries and 350 wine grape producers would close their business in the next year. This was due to the previous five-week ban on exports and nine-week ban on domestic sales. It said the new ban on domestic sales will have unintended consequences which include further job losses throughout the value chain](#)
- [The SA Medical Research Council has released its model, used to justify the new alcohol ban, which projects that an eight-week ban would lead to an 18% reduction in trauma patients in hospitals.](#)

GLOBAL NEWS

- [The Japanese government said that it will go ahead with its divisive plan to spur domestic travel by offering subsidies for accommodation and transport fees on 22 July, although a rebound in Covid-19 cases in the capital will see the virus-hit Tokyo removed from the campaign. The government hopes that local economies and the overall domestic tourism sector would get a boost from increased consumer spending after a prolonged virus-triggered slump, which in turn would benefit the broader recession-hit economy](#)
- [The Maldives opened to international visitors on 15 July. International visitors will be allowed only on resort islands and live aboard boats. On 01 August, guest houses and hotels on inhabited islands will be allowed to reopen. According to an announcement from the Maldives Marketing & PR Corp, tourists are not required to pay an additional fee, produce a certificate or test result indicative of negative status for Covid-19 prior to entry into Maldives. For tourists without symptoms, there is no requirement for quarantine either](#)
- [Prime Minister Boris Johnson has said life in the UK could return to normal by November. He told a press that all remaining coronavirus social distancing measures could be lifted in time for Christmas and the lifting of current 'work at home' guidance for employers will start from August](#)

Further updates or information, please email mediaq@southafrica.net

