

WHO Lebanon Daily Brief on COVID-19

18 February 2020

Highlights

- **No confirmed cases have been reported yet in Lebanon.**
- No new countries reported cases of COVID-19 in the past 72 hours.
- Since Yesterday 17 February, WHO has been reporting all confirmed cases, including both laboratory confirmed as previously reported, and those reported as clinically diagnosed (currently only applicable to Hubei province, China).
- To view all technical guidance documents regarding COVID-19, [please go to this webpage.](#)

WHO role in emergency preparedness and response/IHR

- Monitoring outbreak
- Normative guidance
- Technical support for national authorities
- Risk communication
- Filling critical gaps

Situation in numbers as per WHO dashboard

- Globally 73,332 cases (2,003 new)
- Cases reported from **26** countries
- 72,528 confirmed cases in China (1,893 new)
- **1,873** deaths (98 new) (CFR: 2.5%)
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Cases details (WHO sitrep)

- 804 cases outside China (110 new)
- **3 death outside China – Philippines, Japan and France**

Countries with confirmed cases

China: 72,528 Cases
International conveyance
(Japan): 454 Cases (99)
Singapore: 77 Cases (2)
Japan: 65 Cases (6)
Thailand: 35 Cases (1)
Rep of Korea: 31 Cases (1)
Malaysia: 22 Cases
Germany: 16 Cases
Viet Nam: 16 Cases
Australia: 15 Cases
USA: 15 Cases
France: 12 Cases
UAE: 9 Cases
UK: 9 Cases
Canada: 8 Cases (1)
India: 3 Cases
Italy: 3 Cases
Philippines: 3 Cases
Russian: 2 Cases
Spain: 2 Cases
Belgium: 1 Cases
Cambodia: 1 Cases
Egypt: 1 Cases
Finland: 1 Cases
Nepal: 1 Cases
Sri Lanka: 1 Cases
Sweden: 1 Cases

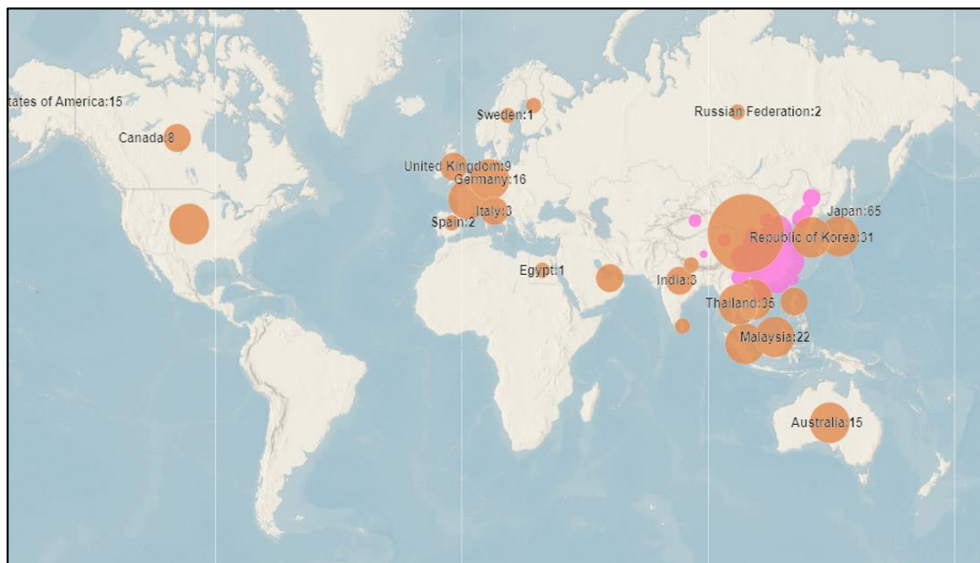


Figure 1 COVID-19 global situation as of 18 February 2020 (WHO dashboard 18 February 2020)

TIPs

From 13 February through 16 February, WHO reported only laboratory confirmed cases for Hubei province as mentioned in the situation report published on 13 February. The change in reporting is now shown in the figures. This accounts for the apparent large increase in cases compared to prior situation reports.

Questions and answers

Q: Is the Eastern Mediterranean Region at risk?

A: Due to the global nature of travel, it is expected that further exported cases of COVID-19 may appear in other countries, and the possibility of other cases arriving in the Eastern Mediterranean Region is likely. WHO's regional office continues to work with countries to scale up preparedness and response measures, and to monitor the rapidly evolving situation to minimize the risk of Novel Coronavirus importation into the Region.

Q: What is the severity of the disease?

A: Current information suggests that the virus can cause mild, flu-like symptoms as well as more severe disease. Patients have a range of symptoms. Based on current data, 82% of cases seem to have mild disease, about 15% appear to progress to severe disease, and some 3% are critical. Chinese authorities report that about 2% of people with the disease have died, although the exact case-fatality ratio is still difficult to assess as the denominator (or number of infections including mild) remains unknown. Fatal cases seem so far to be strongly associated with age. This is a new disease and our understanding is changing rapidly. We will continue to analyse information on both current and any new cases, as this is critical to enhancing our understanding of severity.

****Beware of criminals pretending to be WHO [for more](#)**

Useful links

- WHO real time [dashboard](#)
- WHO [COVID-19 page](#)
- WHO travel advice ([English/Arabic](#))
- Protect yourself ([English/Arabic](#))
- Q&A ([English/Arabic](#))
- WHO Lebanon [Facebook](#)
- WHO Lebanon [Twitter](#)
- WHO Lebanon [Instagram](#)
- WHO [online course](#) on emerging respiratory viruses, including COVID-19

Important numbers

- MOPH Hotline 1214
- Airport quarantine section 01-629352
- Epidemiological Surveillance Unit 01-614194 | 01-614196
- Preventive medicine center 01-843769 | 01830300