Overall strategy

The World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) encourages countries to improve detection of COVID-19 transmission, to respond to detection with quick and targeted measures, and to focus efforts on preventing transmission among the vulnerable.

Key highlights

- New cases of COVID-19 were reported in 18 Western Pacific Region (WPR) countries or areas within the past seven days (Australia 69, Cambodia 2, China 273, Fiji 1, French Polynesia 2 456, Guam 364, Japan 4 784, Republic of Korea 779, Marshall Islands 1, Malaysia 5 753, Mongolia 10, New Caledonia 1, New Zealand 28, Northern Mariana Islands 4, Papua New Guinea 9, Philippines 14 017, Singapore 49, Solomon Islands 5, Viet Nam 31).

- Three countries or areas in the WPR that had reported cases in the past have reported no new cases within the past seven or more days (Brunei Darussalam, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, and Wallis and Futuna).

- American Samoa, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu have not reported a case to date.

### Epi update COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member States</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>countries or areas reporting cases in the past 7 days</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>28,636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>countries or areas reporting ZERO cases for more than 7 days</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>747,162</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Deployments COVID-19 response

- Total deployments: 255
- Deployments completed: 146
- Actively supporting country offices: 60
- Actively supporting regional office: 25
- Currently supporting remotely: 24

### Supplies and logistics

Personal protective equipment for health workers shipped to 21 countries or areas (as of 4 November 2020)

- Surgical masks: 7,689,616
- Particulate respirators: 1,632,495
- Medical gowns: 476,219
- Goggles: 312,370
- Face shields: 748,072
- Bottles (100mL) alcohol-based hand rub: 20,565
- Pairs of gloves: 3,443,370
- Laboratory tests shipped: 333,792
Weekly situation updates

● In the WPR, 21 countries and areas have reported COVID-19 cases since December 2019. Between 28 October to 3 November 2020, a total of 28,636 cases with 378 deaths have been reported, for a cumulative 747,162 cases with 15,714 deaths (proportion of fatal cases (PFC) 2.1%) as of 4 November 2020, 10:00 (GMT+8). Available data indicate most countries or areas in the WPR have identified imported cases\(^1\) or localized community transmission. Community transmission continues to increase in Malaysia and the Philippines. While most regions in the Philippines remain at localised transmission, the National Capital Region, Region III, and Region IV-A are in widespread community transmission. French Polynesia, Guam are also in large-scale community transmission. In Papua New Guinea, the National Capital District and Western Province indicate large-scale community transmission, and all other provinces show no to low levels of localized transmission. Figure 1 shows the geographical distribution of cases reported in the last seven days.

● Globally, 46,840,783 COVID-19 cases with 1,204,028 deaths have been reported in 219 countries or areas (2.6% PFC), as of 3 November 15:17 CEST. New cases continue to increase in countries or areas of the Eastern Mediterranean Region, the Region of Americas, and the European Region, while the trend is decreasing in the South-East Asian Region and African Region.

Figure 1. Countries or areas with reported confirmed cases of COVID-19, covering the period from 28 October to 3 November 2020, as of 4 November 2020 10:00 (GMT+8)

\(^1\) 0-No cases—no cases detected and no clear signals of transmission for at least 28 days (or two incubation periods); 1-Imported cases—cases reported in the past 28 days are imported or linked to importation within 3 generations, and there are no clear signals of local transmission; 2-Localized community transmission—cases reported in the past 28 days are localized and cannot be linked to importations, though most are linked to a cluster, and there are no clear signals of large-scale community transmission; 3-Large-scale community transmission—most cases reported in the past 28 days have no known link to a cluster and are spread across the area, and there are clear signals of increasing transmission and severe outcomes.
Figure 2. Current selected non-pharmaceutical interventions in countries or areas due to COVID-19, covering the period from 28 October to 3 November 2020, as of 4 November 2020 10:00 (GMT+8)

Figure 3. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases in countries or areas with >5,000 cases, covering the period from 28 October to 3 November 2020, as of 4 November 2020 10:00 (GMT+8)
Figure 4. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases in countries or areas with <5 000 cases, covering the period from 28 October to 3 November 2020, as of 4 November 2020 10:00 (GMT+8)

Table 1. Countries or areas with reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths, covering the period from 28 October to 3 November 2020, as of 4 November 2020 10:00 (GMT+8) (n = 747 162)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country or area</th>
<th>New cases (cumulative)</th>
<th>New deaths (cumulative)</th>
<th>Change in 7-day average</th>
<th>Days since last reported case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Samoa</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>69 (27 610)</td>
<td>2 (907)</td>
<td>-6.0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
<td>0 (148)</td>
<td>0 (3)</td>
<td>-0.14</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>2 (292)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>-0.29</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>273 (92 045)</td>
<td>0 (4 746)</td>
<td>9.43</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook Islands</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>1 (34)</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Polynesia</td>
<td>2 456 (8 949)</td>
<td>12 (38)</td>
<td>81.86</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guam</td>
<td>364 (4 748)</td>
<td>5 (80)</td>
<td>-21.57</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>4 784 (102 900)</td>
<td>56 (1 786)</td>
<td>85.86</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiribati</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea, Republic of</td>
<td>779 (26 925)</td>
<td>13 (474)</td>
<td>8.14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>0 (24)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>-0.14</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>5 753 (34 393)</td>
<td>25 (263)</td>
<td>-94.57</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall Islands, Republic of the</td>
<td>1 (1)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micronesia, Federal States of</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>10 (350)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>-0.57</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## New science

- Influenza remains a threat to human health and a potential burden on the healthcare system, despite COVID-19 prevention and control measures also helping to prevent transmission. The authors highlight the joint guidelines developed by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the WHO Regional Office for Europe (WHO EURO) to maintain influenza surveillance systems both in primary and secondary care this winter. This will ensure virological and epidemiological data are available for situational assessment of the intensity and impact of influenza viruses and will also inform the selection of vaccine components for the February 2021 vaccine composition meeting.

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### References

New guidance

- A new WHO Interim Guidance on *Prevention, identification and management of health worker infection in the context of COVID-19* was published on 2 November 2020. This document is intended for occupational health departments, infection prevention and control departments or focal points, health facility administrators and public health authorities at both the national and facility level.

- The WHO Interim Guidance *Harmonized health service capacity assessments in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic* was updated on 30 October 2020. This interim guidance is an update to the earlier version published on 31 May 2020 as “Harmonized modules for health facility assessment modules in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic”. In this update, module content has been further refined and developed.

New communications materials

When we’re worried or afraid, we can begin to automatically divide the world into ‘us’ vs ‘them’.

That’s how stigma starts. Instead, let’s make a conscious effort to show our support for one another during this pandemic.

Together, we can overcome #COVID19.

#SolidarityNotStigma

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)
Show those around you the importance of being kind to frontline workers

Nurse Meilani, thank you for fighting COVID every day, you’re saving lives. I hope my daughter grows up to be brave like you.

#SolidarityNotStigma

Do you know a health worker or someone else working on the frontlines of #COVID19?

Let them know that you’re thankful for everything they’re doing.

#SolidarityNotStigma will stop this #coronavirus

Key information and announcements

Finance and administration

- A total of 255 deployments have been made in the WPR since the onset of the pandemic. At present, 60 experts are supporting WHO Country Offices, 25 experts are supporting the WHO Regional Office from Manila, and 24 experts continue to provide remote support.

Health service delivery

- In collaboration with the University of Melbourne, WHO convened the first revised Health Law Forum for the Western Pacific on 29 October 2020. With a different topic each month, the forum aims to explore the legal dimensions of COVID-19 to support the public health response in the Western Pacific Region. This month’s focus was on digital technology for health, including digital contact tracing tools.
Information and planning

- WHO WPRO and WHO EURO held a joint meeting with Member States entitled “When COVID-19 Meets Seasonal Influenza 2020-2021” on 29 October 2020. This provided Member States with an opportunity to share experiences on how they prepared for and managed their 2020 seasonal influenza during the COVID-19 pandemic in comparison with previous influenza seasons, and an opportunity to enhance relationships in the area of emergency preparedness and response. The Vice Minister for Health of China participated together with senior health officials from Germany, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

- WHO WPRO has continued the weekly monitoring of non-pharmaceutical interventions in Member States across the region. Updated information is available in the WPRO dashboard.

- WHO WPRO has continued monitoring of COVID-19 case incidence and transmission levels with Member States across the region. The national transmission assessment of Japan, Pacific Island Countries, and the Republic of Korea have been added to the WPRO dashboard.

Partner coordination

- Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) launched the inaugural Orientation to International Outbreak Response Virtual Workshop targeted specifically to Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) specialists. The two-day virtual workshop trained 31 IPC specialists from Japan on the processes, realities and challenges of working as an IPC specialist in the field during a GOARN deployment. This workshop was a collaborative effort between GOARN, WHO WPRO, WHO HQ IPC team and Japanese GOARN Partners including the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Tokyo, Japan.

Strategic communication

- A new content package has been developed to tackle stigma and discrimination related to COVID-19. The content aims to encourage people to show solidarity with those commonly affected by stigma during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- WPRO has published a story featuring a personal story of an Australian woman who was diagnosed with generalized anxiety disorder, to which the recent additional regulations and restrictions brought by COVID-19 have contributed. The story draws attention to experiences of people whose mental health has been affected by the pandemic. The story is available on the WPRO website.