



Current Situation: COVID-19

April 15th,
2020 Update

Monitoring the Virus

Globally, there have been [2,047,731 confirmed cases of COVID-19](#), including 133,354 deaths.

WHO Regions

Europe
977,596
confirmed cases

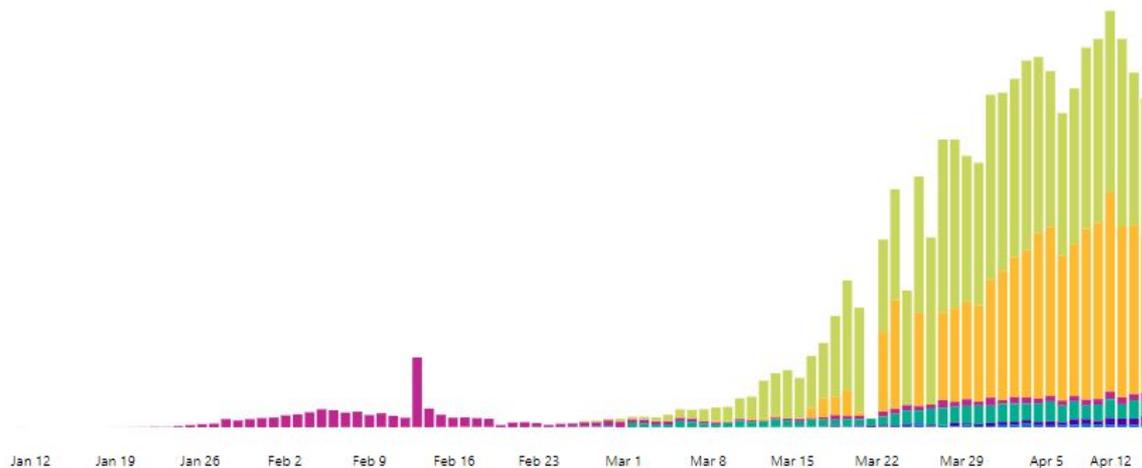
Americas
673,361
confirmed cases

Western Pacific
124,204
confirmed cases

Eastern Mediterranean
107,389
confirmed cases

South-East Asia
20,287
confirmed cases

Africa
11,367
confirmed cases



[Click here for interactive chart.](#)

Trump Halts Funding for WHO



Trump announced plans to [withhold funding while a review is conducted](#) of the WHO's response to the outbreak.

This decision is [based on his claims](#) that the WHO was "severely mismanaging and covering up the coronavirus crisis, specifically the initial outbreak in Wuhan, China."

Decision Sparks Reactions Around the Globe

Vocal Opposition

Leaders from various organizations [condemn the move](#), while [China and the European Union](#) urge Trump to reconsider.

[Bill Gates tweeted today](#), "Their work is slowing the spread of COVID-19 and if that work is stopped no other organization can replace them. The world needs @WHO now more than ever."

Agencies Respond with Calls for Unity & Urgency

WHO director-general [Tedros responded saying](#), "There is no time to waste. WHO's singular focus is on working to serve all people to save lives and stop the COVID-19 pandemic."

[UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres](#) says, "it is also not the time to reduce the resources for the operations of the World Health Organization or any other humanitarian organization in the fight against the virus."



COVID-19 in the U.S.

New York Still Battling Virus

Death toll increased by [over 3,700 as victims](#) who died without a diagnosis have been added.

Gov. Cuomo [mandates wearing facial coverings](#) while in public due to take effect statewide on Saturday.

Pressure Mounting for Testing

Senate Democrats call on the Trump administration [to launch \\$30 billion effort](#) to ramp up testing.

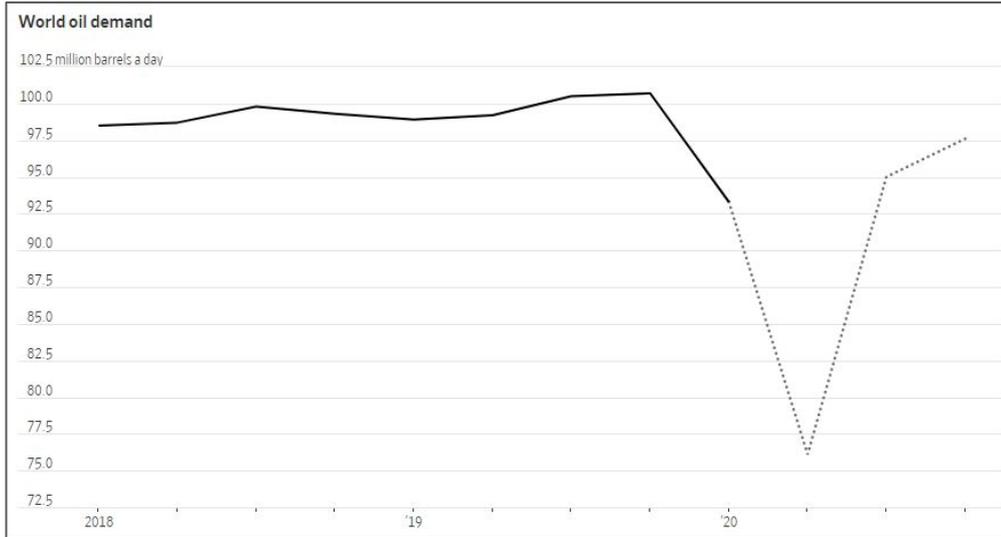
[Los Angeles announced](#) that anyone with virus symptoms can get a test within one day.

New York City to [manufacture its own](#) coronavirus testing kits.

[Source](#)



Economic Effects from Shutdowns



[Source](#)

Markets Struggling

U.S. retail sales posted their [largest drop on record](#) in March, falling by 8.7%. Stocks fell today as a result of new [data highlighting the scope](#) of the coronavirus' impact.

Similar reactions shown overseas, [the pan-continental Stoxx Europe 600 retreated 3.2%](#). [Major Asian benchmarks](#) also fell.

Global oil demand projected to fall by [record 9.3 million barrels](#) a day.

Challenges & Obstacles

Elections Held in South Korea

South Korea added extra measures to mitigate threat of coronavirus [while holding elections](#) nationwide.

Unexpected Obstacles

[In Iraq, some believe stigmas surrounding illness and quarantine](#) could be hindering efforts to properly identify and contain the spread of the virus.



Study on Social Distancing Measures



A [study published](#) by researchers at Harvard finds that intermittent [social distancing measures may be necessary into 2022](#) unless medical developments are made such as a vaccine or increased critical care capacity.

Impact on Other Global Efforts

Concerns Over Other Disease Mitigation

More than [117 million children at risk of missing out on measles vaccines](#), as COVID-19 surges and immunization campaigns are postponed.

COVID-19 measures also create [obstacles for malaria prevention activities](#) with delays and shortages on supplies ahead of the rainy season, when malaria transmission is at its highest.

New Joint Aid Efforts

First [UN solidarity flight departs Addis Ababa](#) carrying vital COVID-19 medical supplies to all African nations in a collaboration of various agencies.

CDC - 'Stop the Spread of Rumors'

See how the CDC is combating misinformation and rumors on their [website](#).



SHARE FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.

This information is current as of April 15th, 2020.
Further updates will be sent in future briefings.



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