



# Round Table Report

## 17 December 2020

For restricted use

This report summarizes the ECDC daily roundtable discussion and provides update on threats detected and monitored by Epidemic Intelligence.

### Active threat

#### COVID-19 associated with SARS-CoV-2 – multi-country (world) – 2020

**Sources:** This update is based on multiple official sources, including [WHO updates](#), Ministries of Health, National Health authorities and official social media accounts. Detailed updates are presented on the [ECDC website](#) and [ECDC COVID-19 dashboard](#).

**Update:** Since week 2020-49 and as of week 2020-50, 4 389 490 new cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) and 76 047 new deaths have been reported.

New cases have been reported from America (2 100 034), Europe (1 663 002), Asia (507 725), Africa (117 843) and Oceania (886). The five countries reporting most new cases are: United States (1 499 756), Brazil (298 412), India (206 897), Russia (193 158) and Turkey (188 713).

New deaths have been reported from Europe (34 988), America (30 200), Asia (8 353), Africa (2 483) and Oceania (23). The five countries reporting most new deaths are: United States (16 867), Brazil (4 461), Italy (4 442), Mexico (4 236) and Russia (3 800).

**Summary:** Since 31 December 2019 and as of week 2020-50, 71 554 018 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) have been reported, including 1 613 671 deaths.

#### Cases have been reported from:

**Africa:** 2 381 003 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are South Africa (860 964), Morocco (399 609), Egypt (121 575), Ethiopia (116 769) and Tunisia (111 361).

**Asia:** 16 782 206 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are India (9 884 100), Iran (1 108 269), Indonesia (617 820), Iraq (574 634) and Bangladesh (490 533).

**America:** 30 889 863 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are United States (16 256 754), Brazil (6 901 952), Argentina (1 498 160), Colombia (1 425 774) and Mexico (1 250 044).

**Europe:** 21 446 672 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Russia (2 653 928), France (2 376 852), United Kingdom (1 849 403), Italy (1 843 712) and Spain (1 751 884).

**Oceania:** 53 569 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Australia (28 031), French Polynesia (15 747), Guam (7 106), New Zealand (1 740) and Papua New Guinea (725).

**Other:** 705 cases have been reported from an international conveyance in Japan.

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**Deaths have been reported from:**

**Africa:** 56 342 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are South Africa (23 276), Egypt (6 920), Morocco (6 624), Tunisia (3 894) and Algeria (2 596).

**Asia:** 290 130 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are India (143 355), Iran (52 196), Indonesia (18 819), Iraq (12 579) and Pakistan (8 832).

**America:** 785 462 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are United States (299 177), Brazil (181 402), Mexico (113 953), Argentina (40 766) and Colombia (39 053).

**Europe:** 480 572 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are Italy (64 520), United Kingdom (64 170), France (57 911), Spain (48 013) and Russia (46 941).

**Oceania:** 1 159 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are Australia (908), Guam (118), French Polynesia (96), New Zealand (25) and Papua New Guinea (8).

**Other:** 6 deaths have been reported from an international conveyance in Japan.

**EU/EEA and the UK:**

As of week 2020-50, 15 130 100 cases have been reported in the EU/EEA and the UK: France (2 376 852), United Kingdom (1 849 403), Italy (1 843 712), Spain (1 751 884), Germany (1 337 078), Poland (1 135 676), Netherlands (612 746), Belgium (611 284), Czechia (581 079), Romania (556 335), Portugal (348 744), Sweden (341 029), Austria (320 036), Hungary (283 870), Bulgaria (179 449), Croatia (175 886), Slovakia (132 984), Greece (124 534), Denmark (109 758), Slovenia (96 314), Lithuania (95 021), Ireland (76 185), Luxembourg (41 272), Norway (41 003), Finland (30 810), Latvia (25 675), Estonia (18 055), Cyprus (15 101), Malta (11 254), Iceland (5 557) and Liechtenstein (1 514).

As of week 2020-50, 375 930 deaths have been reported in the EU/EEA and the UK: Italy (64 520), United Kingdom (64 170), France (57 911), Spain (48 013), Poland (22 864), Germany (21 975), Belgium (18 170), Romania (13 385), Netherlands (10 034), Czechia (9 609), Sweden (7 667), Hungary (7 130), Bulgaria (5 688), Portugal (5 559), Austria (4 400), Greece (3 625), Croatia (2 640), Ireland (2 124), Slovenia (1 459), Slovakia (1 175), Denmark (941), Lithuania (825), Finland (461), Luxembourg (396), Norway (393), Latvia (349), Malta (174), Estonia (149), Cyprus (78), Iceland (28) and Liechtenstein (18).

**EU:**

As of week 2020-50, 13 232 623 cases and 311 321 deaths have been reported in the EU.

Other news:

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**Media** reports that two healthcare workers in Alaska developed reactions after receiving the Pfizer vaccine. This event will not disrupt the vaccine roll-out plans. One case has no history of allergies but experienced an anaphylactic reaction. The second case developed eye puffiness, light-headedness and a scratchy throat; the reaction was not considered anaphylaxis.

**ECDC comment:** anaphylactic reactions following vaccinations are rare but as for all injectable vaccines, recipients of vaccines should remain in the facilities where they have received the vaccine for at least 15 minutes, as per WHO recommendation, and the vaccination facilities should be equipped to treat such adverse events.

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC):

On 30 January 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 constituted a PHEIC. On 11 March 2020, the Director-General of WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic. The [third](#), [fourth](#) and [fifth](#) International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee meetings for COVID-19 were held in Geneva on 30 April, 31 July and 29 October 2020, respectively. During these meetings, the committee concluded that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to constitute a PHEIC.

**Assessment:** For the last available risk assessment, please visit [ECDC dedicated webpage](#).

**Actions:** ECDC has published the thirteenth update of its [rapid risk assessment](#). A [dashboard](#) with the latest updates is available on ECDC's website. ECDC [rapid risk assessment](#) on the risk of increase of COVID-19 infection related to end-of-year festive season has been published on 4 December 2020.

## Risk assessment under production

A Threat Assessment Brief "Rapid increase of a SARS-CoV-2 variant with multiple spike protein mutations in the United Kingdom" will be circulated on Friday 18 December and published on 21 December.

Joint ECDC and EFSA rapid outbreak assessment to be produced on Salmonella Enteritidis contamination in

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poultry products from Poland to be published in week 03-2021.

## Expert deployment

One EPIET fellow is deployed to DRC until 21 December 2020 to support response activities related to the Ebola outbreak.

The Round Table Report contains information that could be considered sensitive or is still under verification. Its distribution is restricted to intended users only.

### Participants

Senior Management: -

EI and Response Head of Section: -

#### Duty Officers:

24/7: -

Threat Detection: -

Rapid Assessment and Outbreaks: -

Communication: -

#### Representative of:

Epidemic Intelligence: -

Response: -

Vaccine Preventable Diseases: -

Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases: -

Food and Water-borne Diseases: -

Influenza: -

Microbiology Coordination: -