



# Round Table Report

## 21 September 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 the previous RT report published on 20 September 2020 and as of 21 September 2020, 253 567 new cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) and 3 554 new deaths have been reported.

New cases have been reported from Asia (118 253), America (90 050), Europe (37 371), Africa (7 831) and Oceania (62). The five countries reporting most new cases are: India (86 961), United States (39 852), Brazil (16 389), France (11 569) and Argentina (9 276).

New deaths have been reported from Asia (1 773), America (1 391), Europe (265), Africa (119) and Oceania (6). The five countries reporting most new deaths are: India (1 130), Brazil (363), United States (251), Mexico (235) and Argentina (204).

**Summary:** Since 31 December 2019 and as of 21 September 2020, 31 091 469 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) have been reported, including 961 352 deaths.

#### Cases have been reported from:

**Africa:** 1 408 440 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are South Africa (661 211), Egypt (102 015), Morocco (101 743), Ethiopia (68 820) and Nigeria (57 242).

**Asia:** 9 420 535 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are India (5 487 580), Iran (422 140), Bangladesh (348 916), Saudi Arabia (329 754) and Iraq (319 035).

**America:** 15 704 633 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are United States (6 804 814), Brazil (4 544 629), Peru (768 895), Colombia (765 076) and Mexico (697 663).

**Europe:** 4 524 724 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Russia (1 103 399), Spain (640 040), France (453 763), United Kingdom (394 257) and Italy (298 156).

**Oceania:** 32 441 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Australia (26 898), Guam (2 117), New Zealand (1 464), French Polynesia (1 318) and Papua New Guinea (517).

**Other:** 696 cases have been reported from an international conveyance in Japan.

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**Deaths have been reported from:**

**Africa:** 33 950 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are South Africa (15 953), Egypt (5 770), Morocco (1 830), Algeria (1 672) and Nigeria (1 098).

**Asia:** 175 992 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are India (87 882), Iran (24 301), Indonesia (9 553), Iraq (8 555) and Turkey (7 506).

**America:** 532 540 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are United States (199 509), Brazil (136 895), Mexico (73 493), Peru (31 369) and Colombia (24 208).

**Europe:** 217 942 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are United Kingdom (41 777), Italy (35 707), France (31 285), Spain (30 495) and Russia (19 418).

**Oceania:** 921 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are Australia (849), Guam (34), New Zealand (25), Papua New Guinea (7) and Fiji (2).

**Other:** 7 deaths have been reported from an international conveyance in Japan.

**EU/EEA and the UK:**

As of 21 September 2020, 2 868 502 cases have been reported in the EU/EEA and the UK: Spain (640 040), France (453 763), United Kingdom (394 257), Italy (298 156), Germany (272 337), Romania (112 781), Belgium (102 201), Netherlands (93 684), Sweden (88 237), Poland (79 240), Portugal (68 025), Czechia (49 240), Austria (38 557), Ireland (32 933), Denmark (21 847), Hungary (18 866), Bulgaria (18 863), Greece (15 142), Croatia (14 922), Norway (12 645), Finland (8 980), Luxembourg (7 804), Slovakia (6 677), Slovenia (4 420), Lithuania (3 744), Estonia (2 924), Malta (2 634), Iceland (2 346), Cyprus (1 600), Latvia (1 525) and Liechtenstein (112).

As of 21 September 2020, 186 228 deaths have been reported in the EU/EEA and the UK: United Kingdom (41 777), Italy (35 707), France (31 285), Spain (30 495), Belgium (9 948), Germany (9 386), Netherlands (6 270), Sweden (5 865), Romania (4 435), Poland (2 293), Portugal (1 899), Ireland (1 792), Austria (766), Bulgaria (761), Hungary (686), Denmark (635), Czechia (503), Finland (339), Greece (338), Norway (267), Croatia (248), Slovenia (133), Luxembourg (124), Lithuania (87), Estonia (64), Slovakia (39), Latvia (36), Cyprus (22), Malta (17), Iceland (10) and Liechtenstein (1).

**EU:**

As of 21 September 2020, 2 459 142 cases and 144 173 deaths have been reported in the EU.

**Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC):**

On 30 January 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 constitutes a PHEIC. On 11 March 2020, the Director-General of the [WHO](#) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic. The [third](#) and [fourth](#) International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee meeting for COVID-19 were held in Geneva on 30 April and 31 July 2020, respectively. The committee concluded during both meetings 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 eleventh update of its [rapid risk assessment](#). A [dashboard](#) with the latest updates is available on ECDC's website.

## Other news

**Brucellosis outbreak – Lanzhou, China – 2019 -2020**

Sources : [Media 1](#), [media 2](#)

According to [media](#), the Health authorities of Lanzhou in Gansu province, China, confirmed last week that 3245 people have tested positive for *Brucella spp* in an outbreak linked to aerosols from a biopharmaceutical plant producing *Brucella* vaccines (live attenuated vaccine) for animal husbandry. Another [media](#) source reported that an additional 1401 people have preliminary tested positive. No fatalities have been reported. The leak occurred from late July to late August 2019 and the first infections were reported in November 2019 in a near-by Veterinary Research Institute. The use of expired sanitizers has been pointed out to be the cause of the release of contaminated waste gas in the area.

Brucellosis, also known as Malta fever or Mediterranean fever, can cause symptoms including headaches, muscle pain, undulant fever and fatigue. While these may subside, some symptoms can become chronic or persistent, like arthritis or swelling in certain organs (e.g. liver and spleen).

In the EU/EEA, around 350-500 laboratory-confirmed brucellosis cases are reported annually. The most common transmission route is via contact with animals (occupational exposure among farmers) or through ingestion of unpasteurised dairy products. Airborne transmission has been reported among slaughterhouse workers and in laboratories. Handling of *Brucella* in laboratories requires BSL-3 level safety.

**Action:** no action, ECDC will closely monitor the situation.

## Rapid risk assessment under production

Rapid Outbreak Assessment (ROA) on a multi-country *S. Typhimurium* outbreak (EPIS UI-636) with EFSA.

Rapid Risk Assessment (RRA) "Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the EU/EEA and the UK – twelfth update: increased transmission" to be circulated to the EC and MS on 23 September 2020.

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: -

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#### Duty Officers:

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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: -