



Round Table Report

17 March 2021

For restricted use

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

Active threats

COVID-19 associated with SARS-CoV-2 – multi-country (world) – 2019-2021

Update: Since the previous RT report published on 16 March 2021 and as of 17 March 2021, 129 906 new cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) and 2 601 new deaths have been reported in the EU/EEA.

New cases have been reported from EU/EEA. The five countries reporting most new cases are: France (29 975), Italy (20 376), Poland (14 394), Czechia (14 029) and Germany (13 435).

New deaths have been reported from EU/EEA. The five countries reporting most new deaths are: Italy (502), France (408), Poland (372), Germany (249) and Czechia (245).

Summary: Since 31 December 2019 and as of 17 March 2021, 24 363 444 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) have been reported in the EU/EEA, including 581 592 deaths.

EU/EEA cases:

As of 17 March 2021, 24 363 444 cases have been reported in the EU/EEA: France (4 108 108), Italy (3 258 770), Spain (3 200 024), Germany (2 594 764), Poland (1 931 921), Czechia (1 426 991), Netherlands (1 166 090), Romania (868 799), Portugal (814 897), Belgium (812 932), Sweden (725 289), Hungary (532 578), Austria (495 068), Slovakia (339 538), Bulgaria (287 568), Croatia (251 865), Ireland (227 663), Greece (223 789), Denmark (221 842), Lithuania (206 290), Slovenia (201 461), Latvia (94 602), Estonia (89 331), Norway (81 301), Finland (67 851), Luxembourg (57 926), Cyprus (40 344), Malta (27 061), Iceland (6 087) and Liechtenstein (2 694).

EU/EEA deaths: As of 17 March 2021, 581 592 deaths have been reported in the EU/EEA: Italy (103 001), France (91 196), Germany (73 905), Spain (72 565), Poland (47 578), Czechia (23 902), Belgium (22 572), Romania (21 698), Hungary (17 421), Portugal (16 707), Netherlands (16 099), Sweden (13 172), Bulgaria (11 579), Austria (8 714), Slovakia (8 669), Greece (7 196), Croatia (5 697), Ireland (4 552), Slovenia (4 220), Lithuania (3 416), Denmark (2 395), Latvia (1 777), Finland (801), Estonia (745), Luxembourg (693), Norway (641), Malta (357), Cyprus (241), Liechtenstein (54) and Iceland (29).

EU:

As of 17 March 2021, 24 273 362 cases and 580 868 deaths have been reported in the EU.

1/6

Other news

Roche has designed a new cobas SARS-CoV-2 Variant Set 1 Test that is designed to detect key spike mutations in virus variants associated with increased human-to-human transmission. The test runs on widely used high-throughput systems and is designed for research purposes only.

A Phase 2/3 **study** (called the KidCOVE study) of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine has started in a paediatric population. The study is expected to enrol 6 750 health paediatric participants between six months and 12 years of age and is being conducted in collaboration with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), part of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response at the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Canada's National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has expanded its **recommendation** for the use of AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine to people over the age of 18, now including those 65 years of age and over. NACI still recommends that in the context of limited vaccine supply, initial doses of mRNA vaccines should be prioritised for those at highest risk of severe illness and death and highest risk of exposure to COVID-19.

SARS-CoV-2 variant P.1 spread in the EU/EEA:

Two European genomic clusters of SARS-CoV-2 variant P.1 have been detected by screening of data from GISAID EpiCoV. One containing 36 sequences has the earliest sample collection date of 31 Jan 2021 and has so far only been detected in Belgium, across several different regions. The other cluster containing 133 sequences was first detected in Italy, earliest sampling date 7 Jan 2021. It has been found in several regions of Italy, and also in Bavaria in Germany (16 sequences, with earliest collection date 12 Feb 2021). The spread of P.1 in the EU/EEA is of concern as the variant has been associated with increased transmissibility and reduction of neutralisation by convalescent sera, it is the dominating variant in Brazil where the epidemiological situation is currently very serious.

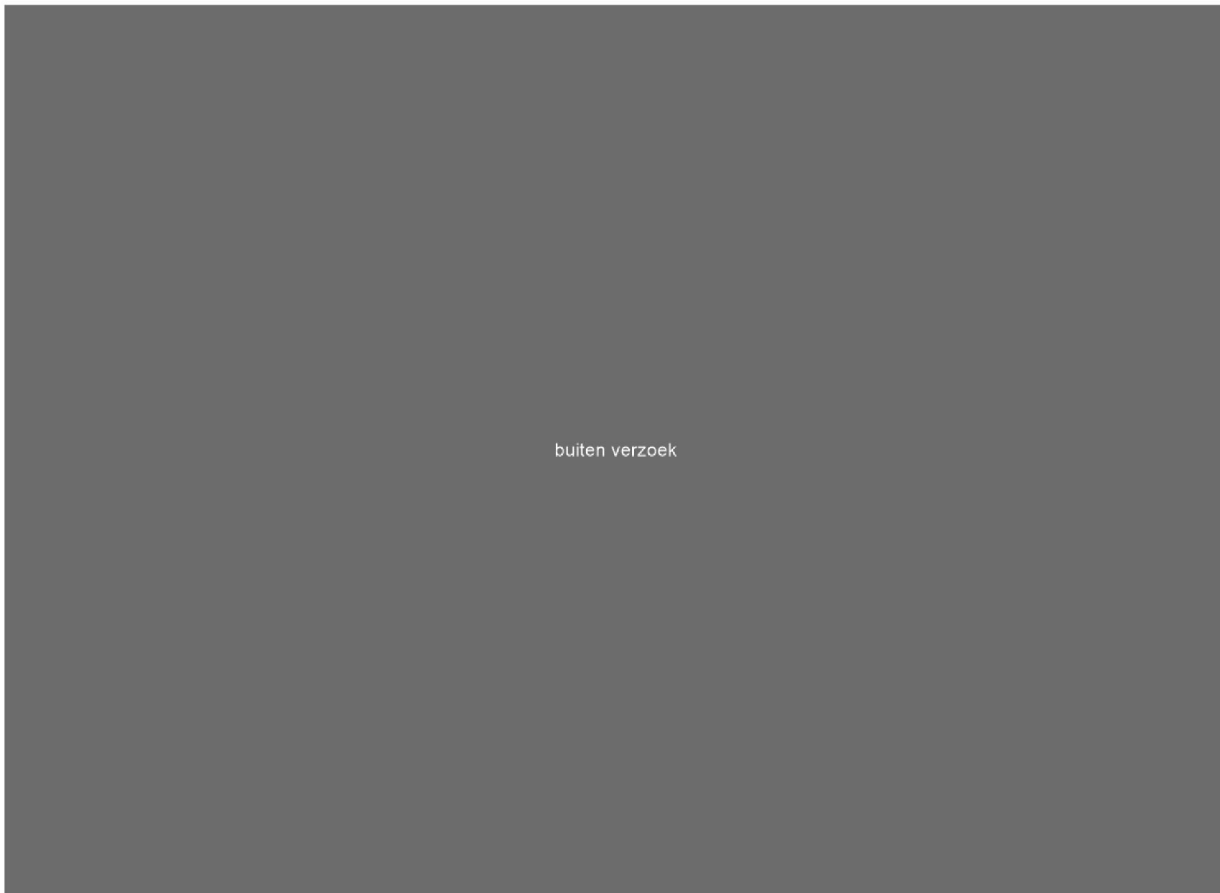
Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC):

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**, **fourth**, **fifth** and **sixth** International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee meeting for COVID-19 were held in Geneva on 30 April 2020, 31 July 2020, 29 October 2020, and 14 January 2021, respectively. The committee concluded during these meetings that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to constitute a PHEIC.

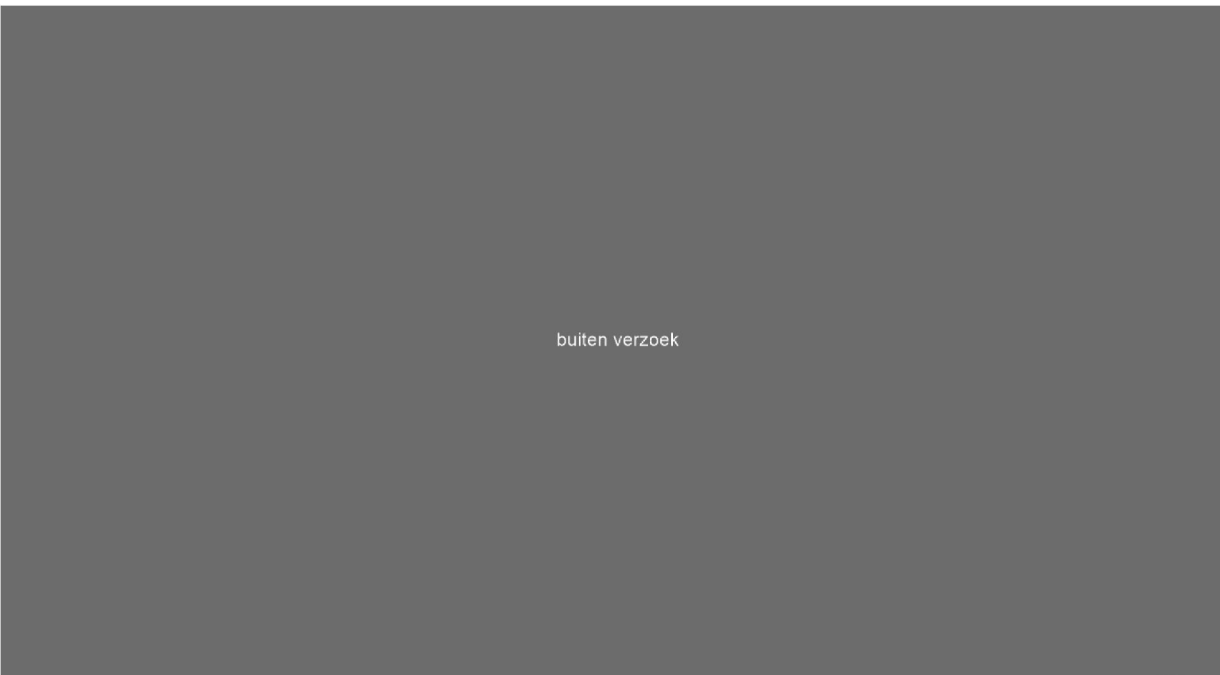
Assessment: For the last available risk assessment, please visit [ECDC's dedicated webpage](#).

Actions: ECDC has published the 14th update of its [rapid risk assessment](#). A [dashboard](#) with the latest updates is available on ECDC's website. ECDC's [rapid risk assessment](#) on the risk related to the spread of new SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern in the EU/EEA was published on 29 December 2020, and a [first update](#) published on 21 January 2021.

buiten verzoek



buiten verzoek



buiten verzoek

buiten verzoek

buiten verzoek

measures are described.

buiten verzoek

Risk assessment under production

Rapid risk assessment on Emergence of hypervirulent *Klebsiella pneumoniae* ST23 carrying carbapenemase genes in EU/EEA countries, to be circulated to MS on 16 March 2021 and published on 17 March 2021.

Expert deployment

One EPIET fellow has been deployed in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, until 21 March 2021 to work with GOARN on the Go.Data implementation to strengthen the COVID-19 surveillance and response.

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: -