



## Background

On 31 December 2019, the Government of China reported a cluster of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause in Wuhan, Hubei Province. A novel coronavirus was identified in January 2020 (COVID-19, formerly 2019-nCoV). Since then, cases have been reported in several countries and other parts of China.

On 30 January 2020, the WHO Director-General declared the COVID-19 outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

The situation is changing rapidly. For the latest, please check the resources below.

## Resources

### *Publications*

**\*NEW\*** [Preparing for large-scale community transmission of COVID-19](#)

### *Web pages*

[WHO global webpage on COVID-19](#)

[WHO Regional webpage on COVID-19](#)

[Global dashboard](#)

### *Research*

[R&D blueprint](#)

[Global research on COVID-19](#)

### *Situation reports*

[Latest SitReps](#)

**\*NEW\*** *Donors and partners*

[Global Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan](#) (Feb to April 2020)

[Funding](#)

[Donor alert](#) (4 February)

### *Twitter accounts*

[@WHO](#)

[@WHOWPRO](#)

NOTE: Twitter is usually the first place where official case counts are reported, as well as other updates

### *Latest news*

**\*NEW\*** [UN releases US\\$ 15 m to help vulnerable countries battle COVID-19](#) (1 March)

**\*NEW\*** [WHO Director-General's opening remarks at media briefing on COVID-19](#) (28 Feb)

[WPRO RD commentary: Time for all of us to play our part in fight against COVID-19 in the Pacific](#) (14 Feb)

[Media resources \(WHO HQ press briefing audio recordings and transcripts\)](#)

### *Technical guidance*

Interim guidance on the following topics is available from [this web page](#):

- Surveillance and case definitions
- Laboratory guidance
- Clinical management for suspected novel coronavirus
- Home care for patients with suspected novel coronavirus
- Infection prevention and control
- Risk communications and community engagement
- Country readiness
- Reducing transmission from animals to humans

### *Travel advice*

**\*UPDATED 29 FEBRUARY\*** [International travel and health](#)

### *Advice for the public*

**\*UPDATED 23 FEB\*** [Q&A on coronaviruses](#)

[How to protect yourself from getting infected](#)

[Advice on the use of masks](#)

[Myth busters](#)