90 total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Kosovo, out of 1029 lab tests.

35 are hospitalized
53 are self-isolated recovering at home
1 is the number of casualties associated with the COVID-19 infection in Kosovo

394 are quarantined as suspected
1603 suspected cases have been contacted and are under surveillance

1 is the number of cases with severe condition.

Global statistics from WHO at 18:00 hours

571,678 confirmed cases
26,495 deaths
201 countries, areas or territories with identified cases

Highlights of data & information reported by Kosovo institution and WHO

As of 28 March of 2020, 18:00 hours, there are 90 total cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19. 394 are quarantined, while 35 are hospitalized, there are 3 cases with severe condition. One 82-year-old man has died.

At this stage of the COVID-19 outbreak, the most important is to prevent a sharp increase of new infections. Therefore, the most urgent recommended preventive instructions and messages to the population is to follow the government measures and stay-at-home, self-isolate, keep social/physical distance and frequent washing of hands.

First recovered patient in Kosovo released home today.

Measures by the government and public institutions

The government took early preventive measures and closed schools on 12 March 2020 and declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency on 15 March.

Updated measures undertaken, including new curfew schedule, by the government are:
- Curfew hours changed and now are from 17:00 to 06:00.
- Licensed pharmacies will operate after 17:00 with a rotational on-duty shifts. The list of the pharmacies operating during curfew is provided in the https://bit.ly/3bCpvR1 by Pharmacists Chamber of Kosovo. These measures are undertaken to further mitigate new infections and are complementary to earlier measures adopted by the government to prevent and contain the spread of the COVID-19, e.g., suspension of public gatherings including cultural, sport, and other events, closure of bars, restaurants, pubs, clubs, shopping malls except for pharmacies, bakeries and grocery shops, parks and main squares.

Central banking authority issued a specific measure making possible for all parties, individuals and business to delay installment of all mortgages and loans. Overall, measures are largely respected by the population, and police are present on the streets to ensure continued compliance. 22 persons have been arrested by the police for non-complying to curfew measures within the last 24 hours.
Most international air travel to Kosovo is suspended as of 16 March 2020. Military flights and airplanes carrying cabin crew allowed to land in Pristina Airport for outgoing passengers. There is an exception for incoming medical flights. From 18 March, there is an exemption for incoming flights allowed to carry Kosovo Passport holders. International travel by land is restricted to all travelers except Kosovo passport holders, staff of diplomatic/consular missions, international organizations, foreigners with residence in Kosovo, and freight. Every person, irrespective of nationality entering Kosovo is placed under mandatory 14-day quarantine/isolation. Intercity transport is suspended as well as organized international transport of passengers.

Pristina municipality has further limited the operation of the local bus transport, which now operate from 06:00-16:30.

Taxi Services are available only during 06:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs.
Currently all emergency and other core government functions are fully functional. The Ministry of Health today has received 7,000 new tests while the request for additional 10,000 has been initiated. Approximately 300 volunteers are helping health workers, coordinated and instructed by the Ministry of Health. The Ministry's special website https://www.kosova.health/en/ contains current official Kosovo statistics and measures to prevent further transmission of the disease. Also, visitors at the website can do an interactive self-evaluation to verify for COVID-19 symptoms. There is also a possibility to register for volunteering at the same website. The emergency phone line for the public is 038 200 80 800 (0.02 cents per minute).

There are 120 beds at the Infectious Disease Clinic of University Clinical Centre in Pristina and 140 respirators from public and private institutions on standby for patients.

New curfew measures of Pristina are more similar to those of Belgrade, except for limitations in movement for people older than 65. The Serbian government announced on 26 March that they had made efforts to ensure the supply of basic alimentary products and the provision of 430 beds at the Clinical Hospital Centre and 1,600 beds in student dormitories in North Mitrovica, with additional doctors and medical staff.

On 25 March, a platform of K-Serbian organizations issued a statement to underscore the need to improve support to non-majority communities since the COVID-19 outbreak (including lack of announcements in Serbian). Correct and timely information to all communities needs more attention from every authority.

Situation in northern Kosovo

The Ministry of Finance and Transfers has introduced an emergency package from the 170 million euro allocated by the government to address the socio-economic impact on a short term:
- Social assistance has increased for 30 EUR per recipient for the next two months.
- For private sector, coverage of salaries up to 170 EUR and postponement of tax payments for two months.
- Subsidizing the rent for SME’s of up to 50% of the total amount.
- Additional 10 million EUR for municipalities with COVID-19 cases will be distributed if the movement and other restrictions are prolonged.
- 300 EUR in addition to the base salary stimulus for the health workers, firemen and police officers for this and the next two months.
- 100 EUR in addition to base salary of employees of supermarkets, pharmacies and bakeries for this and the next two months.
- 130 EUR assistance for this and the next three months for each employee who have lost their jobs during the COVID-19 outbreak.
- 2 million EUR for the minority community targeting initiatives and projects for improvement of the conditions for those that have been affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Posters in English/Albanian/Serbian, Romani, Turkish and Arabic are being disseminated and placed in locations visible to specific communities by UN agencies, their partners and Ministry of Health. Gender dimensions of the impact will be significant, including as reported by shelters and Agency for Gender Equality, there is a slight increase in incidents of gender-based violence.

A number of Kosovo Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children, including voluntary returnees cannot follow the distant learning having no access to certain TV programmes. So far, 55 returnee children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have been identified by UN who are not able to follow the Education learning distance platform; 10 Egyptian returnee children in Ali Ibra/Kolonia, Gjakove/Djakovica Municipality; 15 Ashkali children in Ferizaj/Urosevac, 6 Roma in Plemetin/Plementina, Obiliq/Obilic Municipality; 14 Egyptian and Roma children in Peje/Pec and 10 in Klinac/Klinavac, Kline/Klina Municipality.
UN remains operational. All UN agencies have activated their Business Continuity Plans (BCP) with non-critical staff working and operational from home. Response activities are developed with partners to strengthen capacities of authorities to respond effectively to the COVID-19 outbreak as well as vulnerable groups and families.

### United Nations Family in Kosovo

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### Response of the UN system in Kosovo

WHO is the lead agency for health related coordination with Ministry of Health. Overall coordination led by the UN RC/DC. WHO remains in continuous contact with Ministry of Health and Institute of Public Health in supporting an effective response.

OpenWHO now hosts trainings on 6 different topics to support the coronavirus response, for a total of 38 COVID-19 courses in a variety of UN and national languages mainly directed to health professionals and clinicians. The Albanian version is requested. These include:

WHO has developed courses on the following topics to support the COVID-19 response:

- A general introduction to emerging respiratory viruses, including novel coronaviruses ([available in](https://bit.ly/3dBiDp4))
- Clinical care for Severe Acute Respiratory Infections ([available](https://bit.ly/3bz8Aii));
- Health and safety briefing for respiratory diseases - ePROTECT ([available](https://bit.ly/2WWV5Fn))
- COVID-19 Operational Planning Guidelines and COVID-19 Partners Platform to support country preparedness and response ([available in](English-[https://bit.ly/2yjnaMR and coming soon in additional languages]); and
- Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) Treatment Facility Design ([available in](English-[https://bit.ly/39pRVwb and coming soon in additional languages)].

All UN agencies are having regular contact with respective counterparts in the government and other central and local level institutions. Additionally, agencies are exploring with partners how to redirect current programme funding to extend possible to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.

UNMIK delivered a package of PPEs needed to the Ministry of Health yesterday. The donation contained: 1500 surgical masks, 100 disposable protective gowns, 25 pcs of protective goggles, 1500 examination gloves, 10 pcs of bio-hazardous bags and 100 single use gowns.

UNDP is preparing a rapid socio-economic impact assessment in coordination with other UN agencies, UNICEF and UN Women in particular, as well as with World Bank. UNDP in coordination with WHO will also support the inter-institutional COVID-19 coordination committee led by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

UNOPS will procure urgent health supplies supported by the EU in coordination with WHO and Ministry of Health.

UNICEF continued yesterday distribution of 2000 family hygiene kits through Red Cross of Kosovo to families in need in Decan, Junik, Peje, Istog, Dragash and Prishtina. UNICEF has shared new materials on social media in Romani language in order to reach out to the marginalized communities.

UNHCR and IOM follows closely the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on situation of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees and advocates for making available information to these groups on how they can protect themselves and others from the COVID-19.
The total number of asylum-seekers remains 191. Although no major numbers of new migrants are reported, there are few signals that point to new entries, including women and children. Ministry of Internal Affairs and Public Administration reports that three migrants have been quarantined at the detention center for foreigners in Vranidoll. As of 26 March, the center has been designated as a quarantine for those seeking international protection and new migrants. This is a very welcome and commendable action. The ministry reports of need for protective material: masks, gloves, disinfectants and protective clothing. Families in centers will be assisted by UNICEF with hygienic packages as of next week.

IOM and the Office of Language Commissioner is actively working with all central level institutions to ensure equal access to services and information to all citizens, as per Law on the use of languages, and support them in dissemination of official announcements. IOM supports translations, disseminating information and creating tailor made COVID-19 content on VocUp platform (#sta-yathome video, and promotion of online language learning).

Global support to fighting COVID19, and support for Kosovo

On 21 March EU announced a support package for Kosovo: 5 M for immediate needs; 50 M to ease socio-economic impact, and up to 13 M in budget support.

The UN launched this week a $2 billion global humanitarian response plan to fund the fight against COVID-19 in the world’s poorest countries.

During the G-20 virtual summit on Thursday 26 March, UN SG Guterres addressed the G-20 with three key messages: “First, to suppress the transmission of COVID-19 in a coordinated way as quickly as possible must be our common strategy. Second, we must work together to minimize the social and economic impact. While the liquidity of the financial systems must be assured, our overarching emphasis must be on the human dimension. This is a human crisis, not a financial one. We need to concentrate on people, keeping households afloat and businesses solvent, able to pay their workers. Third, we must set the stage for recovery that builds a more sustainable, inclusive and equitable economy, guided by our shared promise — the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. All our efforts need to be underpinned by a strong commitment to respect for all human rights for everyone, without stigma. Recovery must address the inequalities, including gender inequalities, that are leaving so many more people vulnerable to social and economic shocks,”

GIS representation of confirmed COVID19 cases in Kosovo

Developed by UNMIK JARU
For more information, visit or contact UN Kosovo Team (15 Agencies and the Coordination Office)

Web: www.unkt.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/UNKosovoTeam
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNKosovoTeam
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/unkosovoteam/

UN Development Coordinator Ulrika Richardson –
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNKT_DC

UNDP
Website: https://www.ks.undp.org/content/kosovo/en/home.html
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/UNDP.Kosovo
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNDP_Kosovo

UNICEF
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UNFPA
Website: https://kosovo.unfpa.org/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/unfpakosovo/
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UnfpaKosovo

Kosovo authorities
Ministry of Health:
Website: http://msh.rks-gov.net/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Ministria-e-Shëndetësisë-597689407055317

Institute of Public Health:
Website: www.niph-rks.org/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/InstitutiiKosovesperAdministratePublike

WhatsApp established an automatic information line. Send a message containing “hi” over WhatsApp to +41225017615. This will open a dialogue box enabling you to obtain direct information from WHO, UNICEF and UNDP partner with WhatsApp. The aim is to get real-time health information to billions around the world on COVID-19: The WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Hub provides simple, actionable guidance for health workers, educators, community leaders, nonprofits, local governments and local businesses and offers general tips and resources to reduce the spread of rumors and connect with accurate health information. https://www.whatsapp.com/coronavirus

To stay up to date with the latest information, please visit:

World Health Organization: https://tinyurl.com/yyx6vexyp
WHO guidance for countries: https://tinyurl.com/sz5zrl9
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation: https://tinyurl.com/tpr4rzc