



## Round Table Report 7 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 06 September 2020 and as of 07 September 2020, 230 144 new cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) and 8 929 new deaths have been reported.

New cases have been reported from Asia (115 006), America (81 010), Europe (26 013), Africa (8 030) and Oceania (85). The five countries reporting most new cases are: India (90 802), United States (30 555), Brazil (14 521), Argentina (9 924) and Colombia (8 065).

New deaths have been reported from America (6 926), Asia (1 586), Africa (244), Europe (168) and Oceania (5). The five countries reporting most new deaths are: Ecuador (3 800), Bolivia (1 610), India (1 016), Brazil (447) and United States (403).

**Summary:** Since 31 December 2019 and as of 07 September 2020, 27 150 797 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) have been reported, including 889 256 deaths.

#### Cases have been reported from:

**Africa:** 1 300 143 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are South Africa (638 517), Egypt (99 863), Morocco (72 394), Ethiopia (58 672) and Nigeria (55 005).

**Asia:** 7 710 554 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are India (4 204 613), Iran (386 658), Bangladesh (325 157), Saudi Arabia (320 827) and Pakistan (298 903).

**America:** 14 231 407 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are United States (6 276 421), Brazil (4 137 521), Peru (689 977), Colombia (666 521) and Mexico (634 023).

**Europe:** 3 877 368 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Russia (1 025 505), Spain (498 989), United Kingdom (347 152), France (324 777) and Italy (277 634).

**Oceania:** 30 629 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Australia (26 279), Guam (1 619), New

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Zealand (1 425), French Polynesia (694) and Papua New Guinea (497).

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

**Deaths have been reported from:**

**Africa:** 31 302 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are South Africa (14 889), Egypt (5 530), Algeria (1 556), Morocco (1 361) and Nigeria (1 057).

**Asia:** 150 910 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are India (71 642), Iran (22 293), Indonesia (8 025), Iraq (7 512) and Turkey (6 673).

**America:** 494 693 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are United States (188 941), Brazil (126 650), Mexico (67 558), Peru (29 838) and Colombia (21 412).

**Europe:** 211 544 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are United Kingdom (41 551), Italy (35 541), France (30 701), Spain (29 418) and Russia (17 820).

**Oceania:** 800 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are Australia (753), New Zealand (24), Guam (14), Papua New Guinea (5) and Fiji (2).

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

**EU/EEA and the UK:**

As of 07 September 2020, 2 373 856 cases have been reported in the EU/EEA and the UK: Spain (498 989), United Kingdom (347 152), France (324 777), Italy (277 634), Germany (250 799), Romania (95 014), Belgium (88 273), Sweden (84 985), Netherlands (74 715), Poland (70 824), Portugal (60 258), Ireland (29 672), Austria (29 308), Czechia (28 156), Denmark (17 547), Bulgaria (17 050), Croatia (11 964), Greece (11 524), Norway (11 120), Hungary (8 387), Finland (8 225), Luxembourg (6 896), Slovakia (4 614), Slovenia (3 174), Lithuania (3 083), Estonia (2 516), Iceland (2 141), Malta (2 014), Cyprus (1 509), Latvia (1 428) and Liechtenstein (108).

As of 07 September 2020, 182 839 deaths have been reported in the EU/EEA and the UK: United Kingdom (41 551), Italy (35 541), France (30 701), Spain (29 418), Belgium (9 907), Germany (9 325), Netherlands (6 234), Sweden (5 835), Romania (3 893), Poland (2 120), Portugal (1 840), Ireland (1 777), Austria (736), Bulgaria (671), Denmark (627), Hungary (624), Czechia (436), Finland (335), Greece (284), Norway (264), Croatia (198), Slovenia (130), Luxembourg (124), Lithuania (86), Estonia (64), Slovakia (37), Latvia (35), Cyprus (21), Malta (14), Iceland (10) and Liechtenstein (1).

**EU:**

As of 07 September 2020, 2 013 335 cases and 141 013 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.

## Threats under monthly review

### Poliomyelitis – Multi-country (World) – Monitoring global outbreaks

**Sources:** [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#), [ECDC](#), [ECDC Polio interactive map](#), [WHO DON](#), [WPV3 eradication certificate](#)

**ECDC links:** [ECDC comment on risk of polio in Europe](#), [ECDC risk assessment](#)

**Update:**

Since the previous update and as of 01 September 2020, 113 cases of polioviruses (WPV1, cVDPV2 and cVDPV1) have been reported, 11 of which were caused by the WPV1 strain, 14 by the cVDPV1 strain and 88 by the cVDPV2 strain.

**Wild poliovirus (WPV1):**

Six cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) caused by WPV1 have been reported in Afghanistan  
 Five cases of AFP caused by WPV1 have been reported in Pakistan  
 Additionally, 41 WPV1 environmental samples have been detected: 37 in Pakistan and four in Afghanistan.

**Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV):**

14 cases of cVDPV1 have been reported by Yemen.  
 88 cases of AFP caused by cVDPV2 have been reported from ten countries: Afghanistan (40), Sudan (13), Chad (11), Cote d'Ivoire (10), Democratic Republic of the Congo (6), Somalia (3), Ethiopia (2), Benin (1), Cameroon (1) and Nigeria (1).  
 No new cases of cVDPV3 have been reported.  
 Additionally, 36 cVDPV2 environmental samples have been detected: 19 in Afghanistan, seven in Pakistan, four in Somalia, three in Sudan, two in Mali and one in Cameroon.

**Summary:**

**Wild poliovirus:** Overall in 2020 and as of 01 September 2020, 105 cases have been reported from two endemic countries: Pakistan (65) and Afghanistan (40).

**Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV):** Overall in 2020 and as of 01 September 2020, 15 cases of cVDPV1 have been reported by Yemen (14) and Malaysia (1). In addition, 323 cases of cVDPV2 have been reported from 20 countries: Afghanistan (69), Chad (60), Pakistan (52), Cote D'Ivoire (29), Democratic Republic of the Congo (26), Ethiopia (16), Sudan (13), Ghana (11), Togo (9), Burkina Faso (9), Guinea (8), Cameroon (4), Niger (4), Somalia (3), Angola (3), Benin (2), Nigeria (2), Central African Republic (1), Mali (1), and the Philippines (1). No cases of cVDPV3 have been reported.

[Global guidance from WHO](#) recommends temporarily postponing preventive immunisation campaigns where there is no active outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease. Operationally, polio vaccination campaigns are incompatible with physical distancing recommendations. The guidance calls for countries to prioritise routine immunisation of children in essential service delivery. Therefore, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) has taken the decision to temporarily delay immunisation campaigns.

As part of the GPEI programme, surveillance activities will continue to the extent possible to monitor the evolution of the situation. In addition, comprehensive, context-specific plans to resume efforts are being developed, to be launched whenever and wherever the situation allows.

**Assessment:** The WHO European Region has remained polio-free since 2002. Inactivated polio vaccines are used in all EU/EEA countries. The risk of reintroduction of the virus in Europe exists so long as there are non- or under-vaccinated population groups in European countries and poliomyelitis is not eradicated. According to the report of the European Regional Commission for Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication dated May 2019, one EU/EEA country (Romania) and two neighbouring countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Ukraine) remain at high risk of [a sustained polio outbreak](#). According to the same report, an additional 15 EU/EEA countries are at intermediate risk of sustained polio outbreaks, following wild poliovirus importation or emergence of cVDPV due to suboptimal programme performance and low population immunity. The continuing circulation of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) in two countries shows that there is still a risk of the disease being imported into the EU/EEA. Furthermore, the worrying occurrence of outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV), which only emerge and circulate due to lack of polio immunity in the population, shows the potential risk for further international spread.

To limit the risk of reintroduction and sustained transmission of WPV and cVDPV in the EU/EEA, it is crucial to maintain high vaccine coverage in the general population and increase vaccination uptake in the pockets of under-immunised populations.

**ECDC** endorses WHO's temporary recommendations with regard to EU/EEA citizens who are resident in or long-term visitors (>4 weeks) to countries with potential risk of international spread.

**Actions:** ECDC provides updates on the polio situation on a monthly basis. ECDC monitors polio cases worldwide through epidemic intelligence in order to highlight polio eradication efforts and identify events that increase the risk of wild poliovirus being reintroduced into the EU/EEA.

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ECDC maintains an [interactive map](#) showing countries that are still endemic for polio and have ongoing outbreaks of cVDPV.

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

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