



WHO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION REPORT-75

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Total (new) cases in
last 24 hours

Globally

1 051 635 confirmed (79332)

56 985 deaths (6664)

Western Pacific Region

110 362 confirmed (1432)

3809 deaths (49)

European Region

583 141 confirmed (41333)

42 334 deaths (5231)

South-East Asia Region

6528 confirmed (647)

267 deaths (22)

Eastern Mediterranean Region

65 903 confirmed (3667)

3592 deaths (154)

Region of the Americas

279 543 confirmed (32070)

6802 deaths (1202)

African Region

5446 confirmed (183)

170 deaths (6)



China observed three minutes of silence nationwide today to mourn the thousands of “martyrs” who died in the fight against the pandemic—AP

Global News

- Global cases pass 1.2 million.
- Pandemic threatens survival of European Union, Spanish PM warns.
- Malala, Charlize Theron back UN chief's calls for global ceasefire amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- Deaths in New York pass 3,000.
- Trump warns of big spike in coronavirus fatalities in US.
- Spain notes consecutive drop in coronavirus deaths for second day at 809.

- Coronavirus lockdown: Delhi struggles to feed migrants left behind.
- Coronavirus - the worst is yet to come, UK warned.
- African economics face “complete collapse” if virus not controlled.
- Tehran could see virus resurgence.

Global Response

- Air India relief flight gets special message from Pakistan.
- UAE helps Pakistan in fight against coronavirus, sends medical aid.
- Neymar donates \$1 million to battle coronavirus in Brazil.
- Coronavirus: Malawi president takes 10% pay cut.
- PIA flights bring British citizens to UK.
- Lufthansa and British Airways announce massive reduction in workforce.



A man carries home groceries during a nationwide 21 day lockdown in an attempt to contain coronavirus disease outbreak in Umlazi township near Durban, South Africa on March 31, 2020—Reuters

Local News

- Coronavirus pandemic: Confirmed cases surge past 2,900 in Pakistan.
- Chinese doctors hail steps taken by Punjab govt. to curb coronavirus spread.
- Chinese doctors advise Punjab to ensure lockdown for at least 28 days.
- Lack of coordination between Centre and Sindh likely to affect coronavirus relief efforts: report.
- 45 people caught illegally travelling from Karachi to Mansehra.
- Deepak Perwani designs protective bodysuits for Pakistani medics.

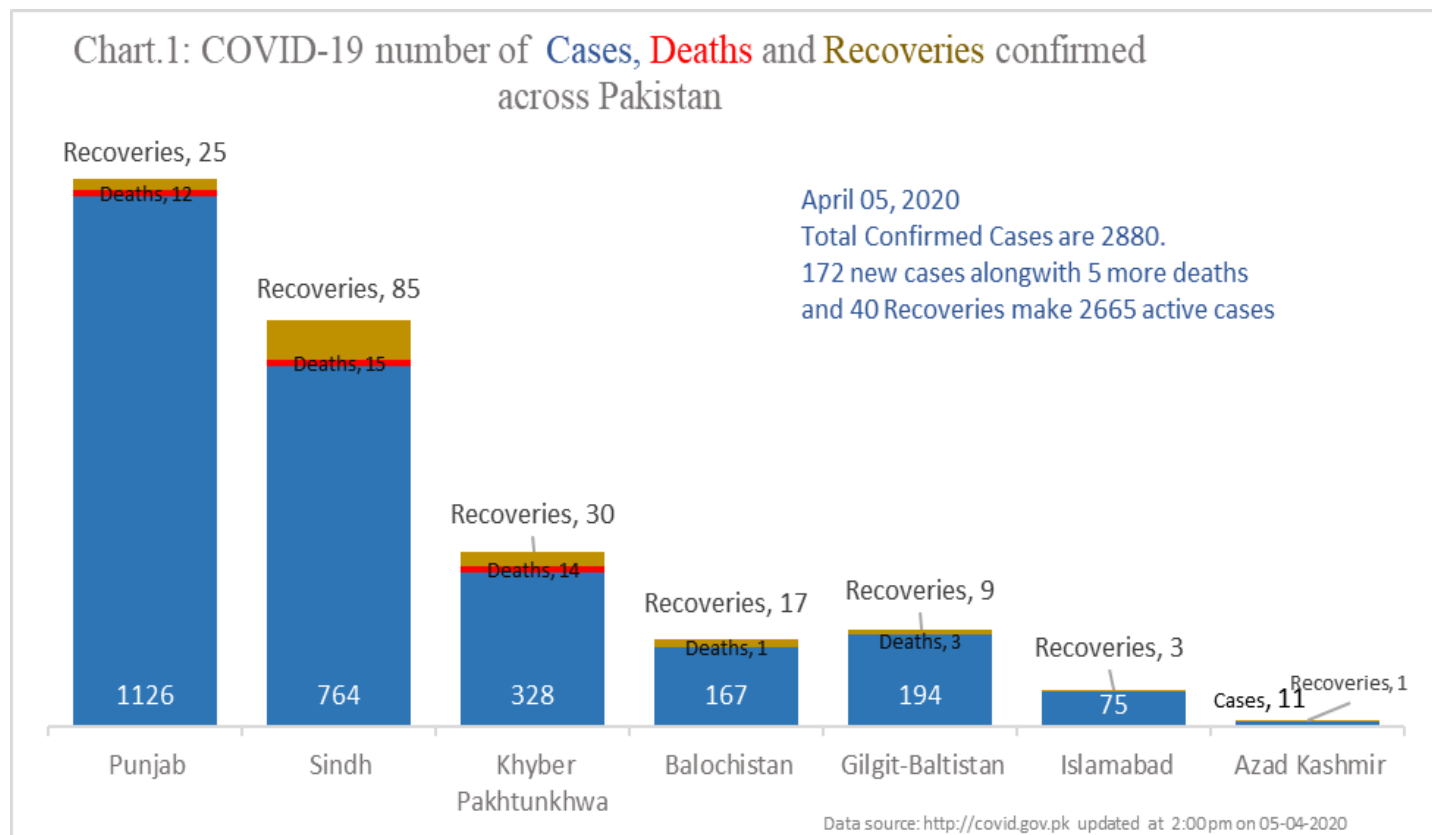
Local Response

- After winning coronavirus battle, Pakistan will emerge as the welfare state that was envisioned: PM Imran.
- 74 pilgrims from Iran reach quarantine centre in Jhang.
- 13 more coronavirus patients recover in Balochistan as total tally reaches 32.
- Pakistan govt. convenient targets when world powers are helpless against coronavirus: Asad Majeed
- Chaman, Torkham borders to be opened from tomorrow for four days.
- 44 doctors suspended for refusing duties in Taftan.
- Govt to distribute ration to 150,000 poor families in first phase: CM Jam Kamal.
- PIA stops Karachi operations after pilots suspected of contracting coronavirus.
- Thousands of daily wagers to be hired for plantation.



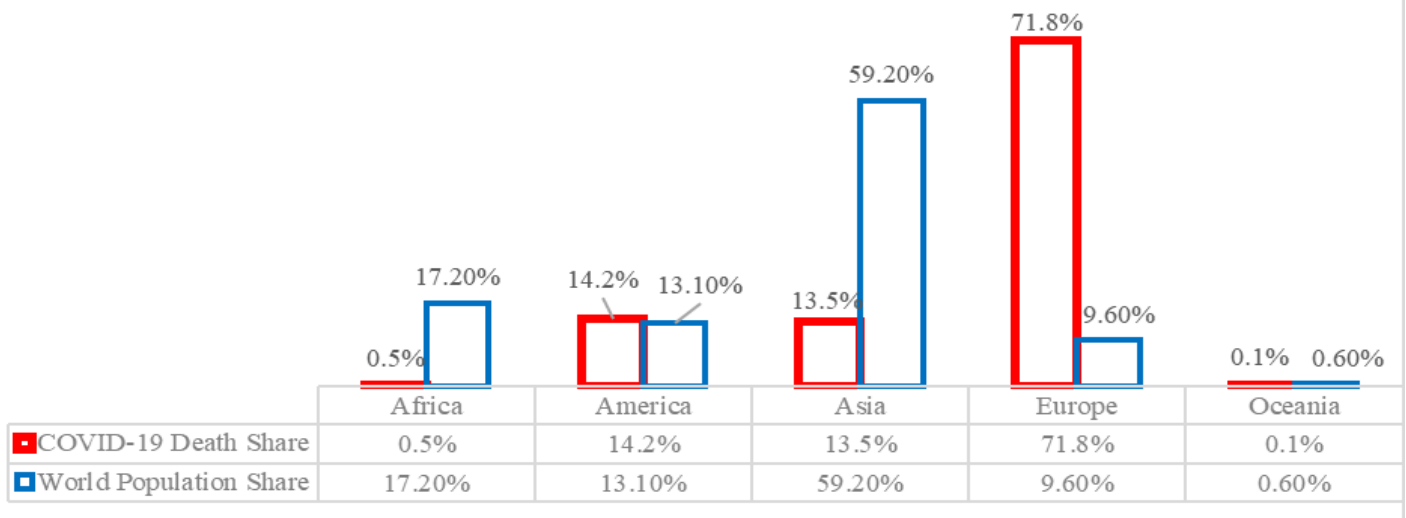
Coronavirus: Scientists brand 5G claims 'complete rubbish'—*Getty Images*

During the last 24 hours, 172 new cases have been confirmed by different laboratories, bringing the national tally to 2880. Three deaths from KP and one from Punjab and Sindh each have been reported in the last 24 hours. There are a total 45 deaths and 170 recoveries across the country, see Chart.1.



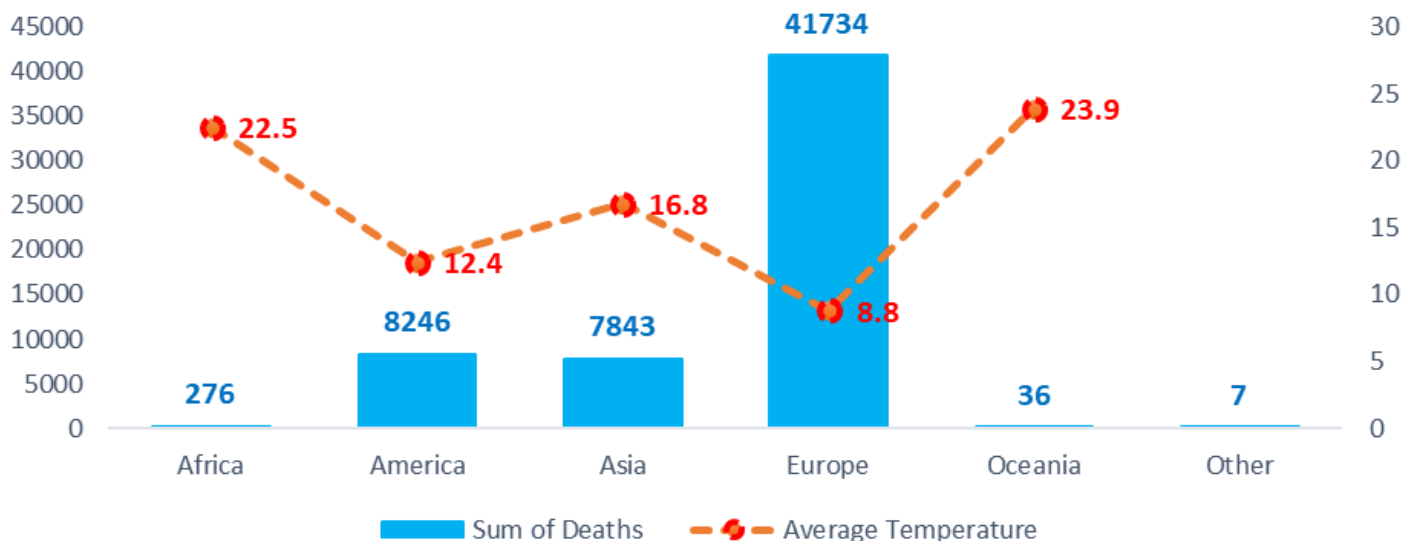
It is observed that most populous continents of the world have less deaths from COVID-19. In Africa total deaths by COVID-19 is only 0.5% of world total deaths by COVID-19, while Africa's share of the total world population is 17.20%. Asia is the most populous continent of the world but death share with COVID-19 is 13.5%. Europe which is just 9.60% of total world population, have highest death share of 71.8% of world total deaths by COVID-19, see Chart.2.

Chart.2: Continents' Population share and Covid-19 Death share



Does the Higher temperatures and humidity significantly reduce the spread of the coronavirus? It is eventually observed that countries with warmer and humid climate have fewer coronavirus deaths are reported than countries with colder and less humid climate. Oceania with highest average temperature of 23.9 °C have 36 deaths only, the lowest number of deaths with COVID-19. Similarly in Africa average temperature is 22.5 °C and the number of deaths are 276. In Europe with average temperature of 8.8 °C have 41,734 deaths the maximum number of deaths by COVID-19. Americas with average temperature of 16.8 °C have 7,843 deaths, see Chart.3.

Chart.3: Average Temperature and COVID-19 Deaths



The Economic Impact of CoVID-19 in Pakistan: Facts and Foresights

Where concurrent trends of a global outbreak have been highlighted by many, CoVID-19 continues the chain by emerging as the heart of the debates in 2020. In measures to contain the spread of the virus, nations throughout the globe have contributed heavy investments giving a blow to their economies. Struggling to maintain the social distancing among public, one of the initial steps taken by Pakistan was to halt the PSL. According to estimates by the Planning Commission, the curb in trade (imports and exports) can strike a 4.6% loss on GDP, about Rs. 700-800 million in quantified form till April-June in FY20. About 60 pc of Pakistan's exports industry is textile relying on Chinese imports for its chemicals and dyes. As a result, KSE struck about 20 pc to a decrease in the last two weeks of trading, according to The Economic Times. But luckily, where it had experienced a 37% loss in market capitalization, KSE has hiked a 12.5% jump as on April 3, 2020, according to The Express Tribune, producing the highest weekly return. Investors gearing towards a safe-haven have started investing in gold and dollars, bringing cash-shortage to the limelight in the end of FY20 and the beginning of FY21. According to the Asian Development Bank, , the local currency is expected to drop about 9.8% against the US dollars in the first half of 2020. Moreover, Pakistan will experience a 2.6 per cent deceleration in her GDP for FY20. The Asian Development Outlook 2020 estimates that this year will also face 11.5 accelerated inflation; 16.3% and 14.5% inflation in rural and urban food prices respectively. The economic land-sliding has paved way for other nationwide economic loopholes in the long-run. Pakistan's aviation sector is likely to face a \$63 million loss if the flights continue to suspend for the upcoming months, as per The Economic Times. Similarly, with the assistance of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics in estimating the statistics, the Planning Commission provided the international donors with a foresight in the country's economic health. According to estimates, the current population of Pakistan living below the poverty line is expected to rise from 50-60 million to 125 million. Furthermore, with the harvest season of wheat approaching closer, it is highly probable that the agricultural economy of Pakistan will face heavy losses if the pandemic continues to halt the activities. In addition, the crisis of worst locust infestation in 2 decades has further damaged the cotton, wheat and other crops, according to ADB. Despite the forlorn conditions amid the CoVID-19 crisis, it is imperative to hope for a better future. On the brighter side, this crisis has provided us with an opportunity to stand together and face the struggles of a common citizen of Pakistan. **(Written by Fatima Hasnain, a student at the Department of Development Studies, PIDE)**

8 out of 10 deaths reported in the U.S. have been in adults 65 years old and older (CDC)



Among adults with confirmed COVID-19 reported in the U.S.:

- Estimated percent **requiring hospitalization**
 - 31-70% of adults 85 years old and older
 - 31-59% of adults 65-84 years old
- Estimated percent requiring **admission to intensive care unit**
 - 6-29% of adults 85 years old and older
 - 11-31% of adults 65-84 years old
- Estimated percent **who died**
 - 10-27% of adults 85 years old and older
 - 4-11% of adults 65-84 years old

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/older-adults.html>

COVID-19: Timeline of a Pandemic (Feb. 1, 2020 – Feb. 4, 2020)

Feb. 1 — In China, confirmed cases now total 14,380 and the death toll rises above 300.

Feb. 2 — The first 2019-nCoV death outside China is reported in the Philippines. The patient was a 44-year-old Chinese male, and known companion of the 38-year-old woman who tested positive for 2019-nCoV on Jan. 30 and the first case in the Philippines. It also imposes travel ban for travelers coming from China, Hong Kong, and Macao, and a 14-day quarantine period for Philippine residents.

Overseas donations flood into China, while citizens scrutinize organizations receiving donations for the response. The local Red Cross in Hubei province faces criticisms over the slow delivery of donated medical supplies, as cases in Hubei, the epicenter, reach over 11,000. Confirmed cases now at 17,205, bringing total global cases to 17,386, with 362 deaths.

Feb. 3 — China launches a clinical trial of Gilead's antiviral drug remdesivir, previously tested in patients with Ebola, against the 2019-nCoV, just as China's Huoshenshan Hospital in Wuhan starts operations. The hospital was built in 10 days and is dedicated to treating 2019-nCoV patients.

In Hong Kong, hospital workers go on strike to demand that the government impose total border closure with mainland China, where cases total 20,438, bringing total confirmed cases globally to 20,625, and 426 deaths. Chinese officials call on the U.S. not to overreact and cause panic over 2019-nCoV.

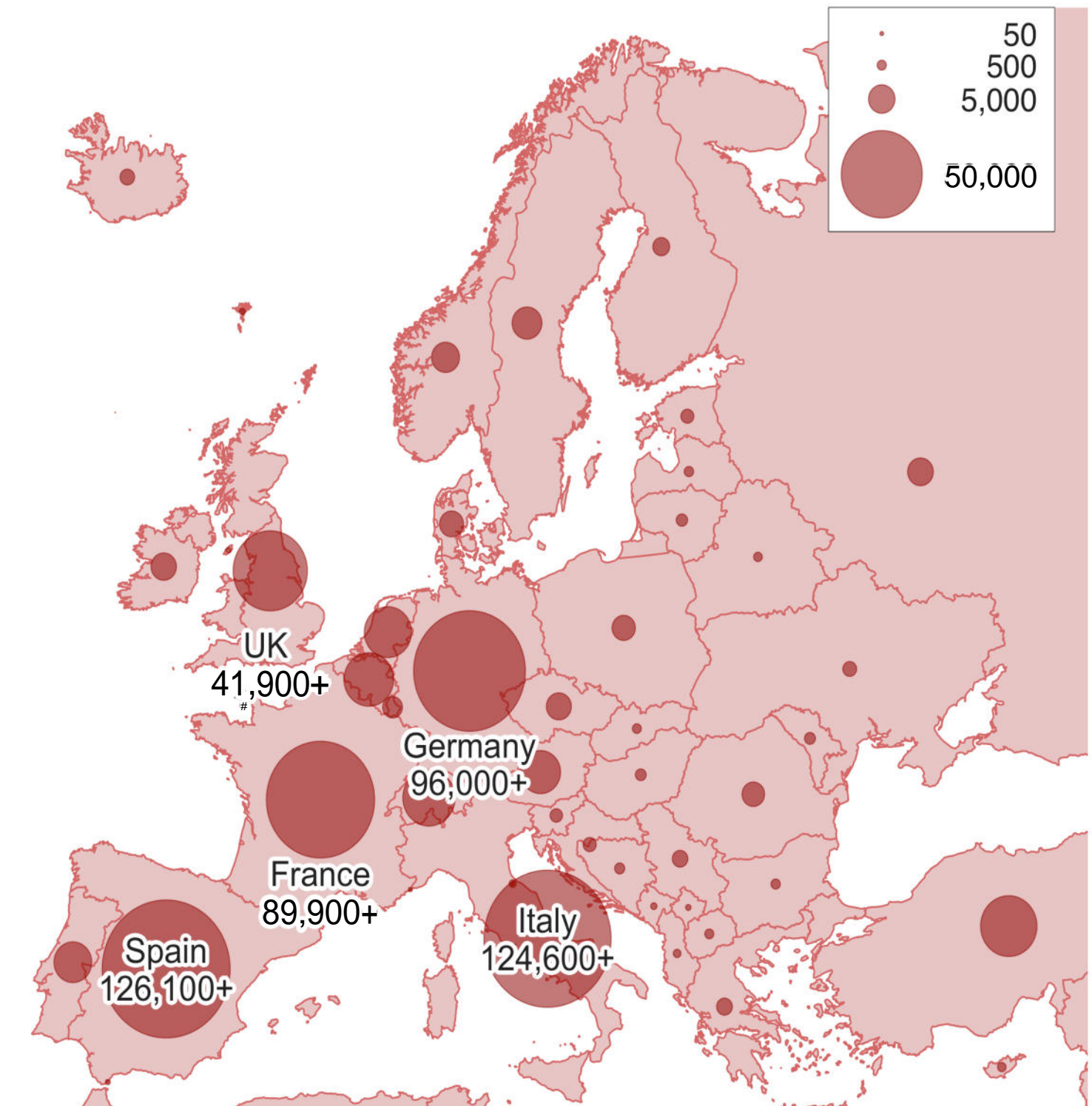
The World Bank releases a statement saying it is reviewing financial and technical resources that can be mobilized to support countries affected by the 2019-nCoV outbreak. WHO meanwhile launches its own dashboard of 2019-nCoV confirmed cases in China and globally.

Feb. 4 — Hong Kong reports its first death of a patient with 2019-nCoV. The 39-year-old man had travel history from Wuhan, the outbreak's epicenter. This is the second death linked to the 2019-nCoV reported outside mainland China, after the Philippines. The total number of deaths from 2019-nCoV stands at 492, and confirmed cases globally over 24,000.

Belgium reports its first case of 2019-nCoV. The patient was one of the nine people repatriated from Wuhan over the weekend.

Source: <https://www.devex.com/>

Cases of coronavirus in Europe



Source: Johns Hopkins University. Updated: 5 Apr 10:30 BST

BBS

Experts' View

If mobile phone surveillance will help to slow down the spread of the virus then it must be done. But it is imperative that the government is transparent about which agencies are collecting what data and why that data is required. The data collected must be tied to public health goals and steps must be taken to ensure that it is not used for other purposes. Moreover, we must question if the data collection infrastructure being built to respond to the pandemic will be dismantled once the threat has been dealt with. Where Covid-19 is being used to justify the strengthening of the surveillance apparatus, we must ensure that this surveillance apparatus will not be a permanent fixture, aiding other agencies to achieve other goals. While these questions may take a back seat to the more urgent need of responding to a very serious health crisis, they must be kept in mind and must serve as a reminder of the need to expand the digital economy while proactively mitigating the risks that come with it.

(Anum Malkani, DAWN)

Our decision-making process must be able to value both the right to subsistence and the right to protection against disease and strike a balance to the extent that they don't seem as competing rights in this moment. Pakistan can't afford an extended lockdown. But Pakistan also can't continue business-as-usual with hundreds of thousands getting infected by the virus or dying. Neither can we swing from one extreme of severe lockdown to the other of opening things up completely based on public opinion and whether more folks dread Covid-19 or financial misery. **(Babar Sattar, THE NEWS)**

Experts' Opinion

The government needs to recognize that this isn't just one big epidemic. It's lots of outbreaks at different stages that all need to be tackled locally through local teams, and local action plans in each area so measures can be lifted over time. **(Professor Allyson Pollock, a consultant in public health and director of the Newcastle University Centre for Excellence in Regulatory Science)**

The government and state institutions also have to overcome their weakness in dealing with religious actors and affairs. Power elites have to make a firm decision that religion and religious actors will not be used for any political purposes. Second, there is a need to encourage religious scholarship instead of religious brands, parties, sects and individuals. Post-pandemic Pakistan should have a clear vision about its future. **(Muhammad Amir Rana, DAWN)**

World Health Organization
Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) advice for the public: Myth busters

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are dry cough, tiredness and fever. Some people may develop more severe forms of the disease, such as pneumonia. The best way to confirm if you have the virus producing COVID-19 disease is with a laboratory test. You cannot confirm it with this breathing exercise, which can even be dangerous.

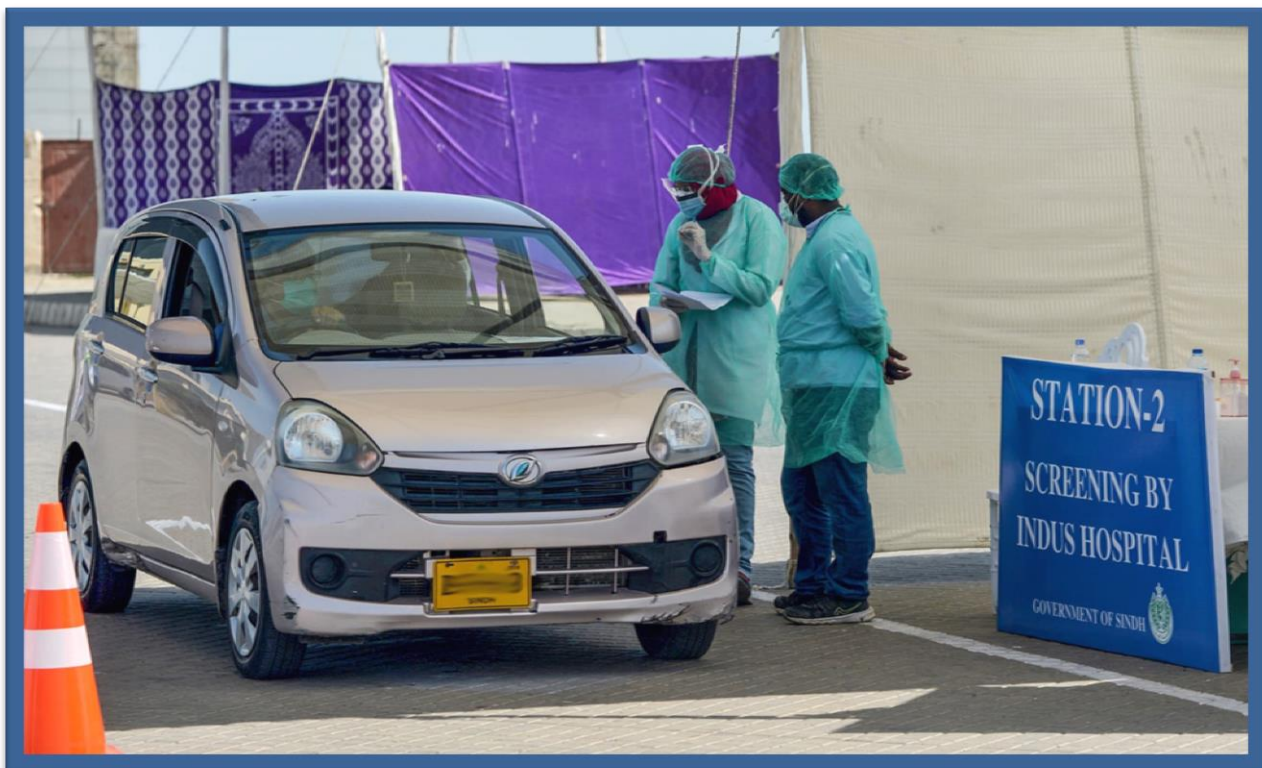
FACT:

Being able to hold your breath for 10 seconds or more without coughing or feeling discomfort **DOES NOT** mean you are free from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) or any other lung disease.



World Health
Organization

#Coronavirus #COVID19



Pakistan's first Covid-19 Drive through testing center—*DAWN*

COVID-19 READS

1. First Statistical Signs Of The COVID-19 Recession
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/miltonezrati/2020/04/01/first-statistical-signs-of-the-covid-19-recession/#1fb43ebf999e>
2. Pakistan ill-equipped to fight COVID-19: Healthcare workers
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/pakistan-ill-equipped-fight-covid-19-healthcare-workers-200404095933357.html>
3. How Hospitals Are Using AI to Battle Covid-19
<https://hbr.org/2020/04/how-hospitals-are-using-ai-to-battle-covid-19>
4. Coronavirus map of the US: latest cases state by state
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/ng-interactive/2020/apr/04/coronavirus-map-us-latest-cases-state-by-state>
5. When will a coronavirus vaccine be ready?
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/04/when-will-a-coronavirus-vaccine-be-ready>
6. Doctor's Note: Why will it take so long for a COVID-19 vaccine?
<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/doctor-note-long-covid-19-vaccine-200403163646558.html>
7. How COVID-19 will change GCC labor markets
<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/04/gulf-covid19-coronavirus-change-gcc-labor-markets-crisis.html>
8. 1 Million Bangladeshi Garment Workers Lose Jobs Amid COVID-19 Economic Fallout
<https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/04/03/826617334/1-million-bangladeshi-garment-workers-lose-jobs-amid-covid-19-economic-fallout>
9. How COVID-19 will change GCC labor markets
<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/04/gulf-covid19-coronavirus-change-gcc-labor-markets-crisis.html>
10. Coronavirus: Anger as migrants sprayed with disinfectant in India
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-52093220>
11. Can a face mask protect me from coronavirus? Covid-19 myths busted
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/05/face-mask-protect-coronavirus-covid-19-myths-busted>
12. Can an Old Vaccine Stop the New Coronavirus?
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/03/health/coronavirus-bcg-vaccine.html>

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