



WHO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION REPORT-114

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Total (new) cases in
last 24 hours

Globally

4 170 424 cases (81 577)

287 399 deaths (4 245)

Western Pacific Region

163 201 cases (1 329)

6 578 deaths (51)

European Region

1 780 316 cases (24 527)

159 799 deaths (1 918)

South-East Asia Region

110 932 cases (5 031)

3 746 deaths (149)

Eastern Mediterranean Region

284 270 cases (10 243)

9 259 deaths (121)

Region of the Americas

1 781 564 cases (37 847)

106 504 deaths (1 955)

African Region

49 429 cases (2 600)

1 500 deaths (51)



Dubai economy now threatened by virus—AFP

Global News

- Work and exercise restrictions ease in England.
- Wuhan to test all residents after handful of new infections.
- UK economy shrinks by record 5.8pc as virus crisis escalates.
- Deaths from preventable diseases in children under 5 could rise by 45pc over next six months: UN report.
- Thailand reports no new coronavirus cases for first time since March 9.
- Asian equities slip as second wave fears come into focus.

Global Response

- Virus 'eminently capable' of spreading through speech: study.
- Coronavirus may never go away and people will just have to learn to live with it: WHO.
- Spanish antibody study points to 5% of population affected by coronavirus.
- Ferozsons subsidiary inks agreement with Gilead for manufacturing 'experimental drug' remdesivir.
- Belgium set to reopen schools, markets, museums and zoos.
- Merkel urges Germans not to jeopardise coronavirus achievements.

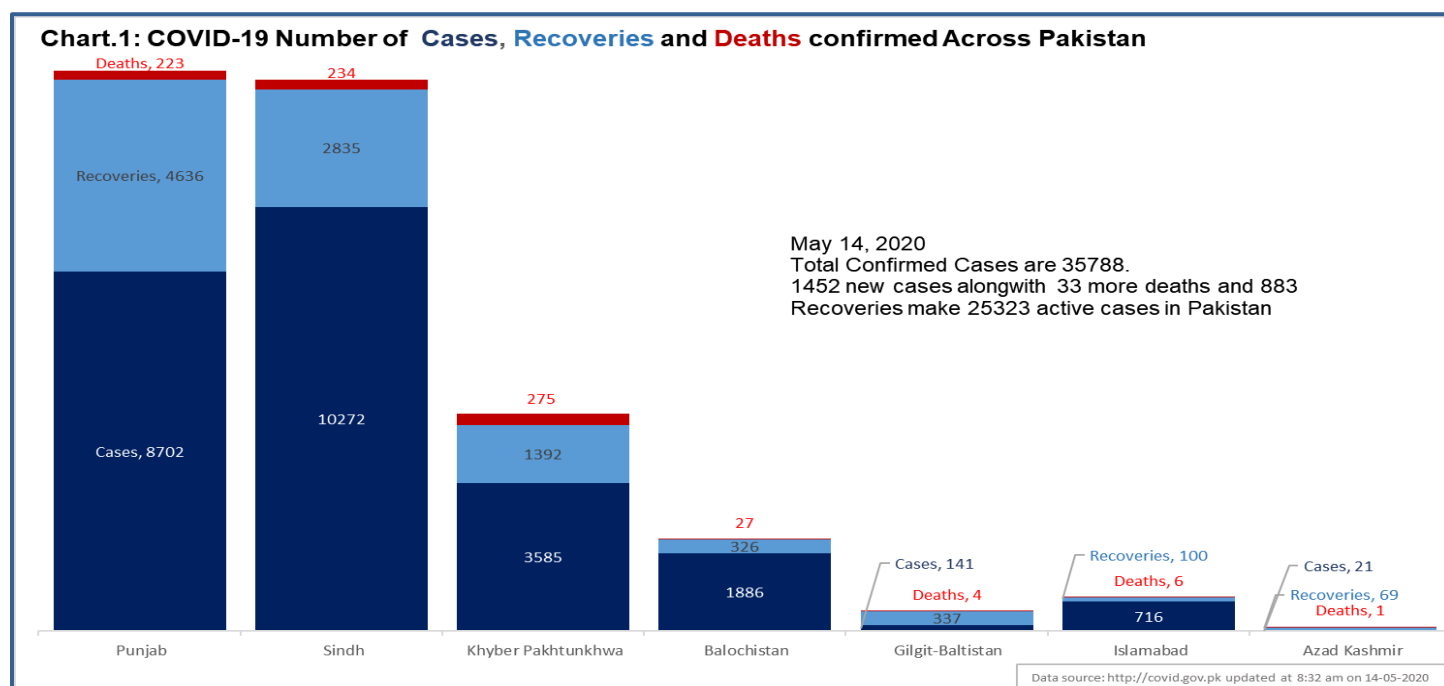
Local News

- 16 die in Sindh as active COVID-19 cases climb to 10,272.
- No exams for inter, matric students: Saeed Ghani.
- Pakistan's outbreak 'not as bad' as European countries despite poverty, weak health sector: Shibli Faraz.
- World will 'completely' change because of pandemic: Senator Ateeq Shaikh.
- Pakistan's coronavirus recoveries stand at 9,695.
- Trade resumes with Iran after Zero Point opens in Taftan.
- KP govt. bans Youm-i-Ali processions; majalis to be allowed with SOPs.

Local Response

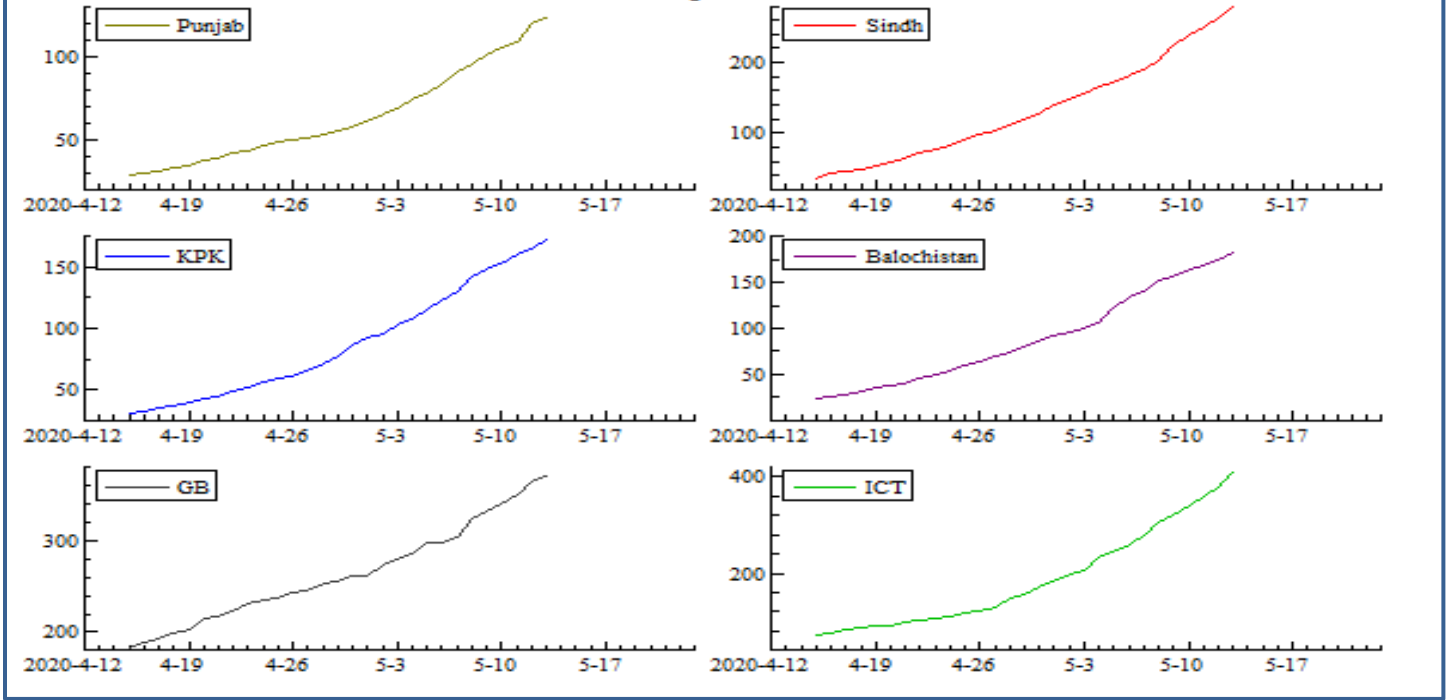
- Dozens of shops sealed in Lahore for not following SOPs.
- Rehman Malik calls for Senate resolution on free testing of poor people.
- FM tells counterparts Covid-19 in Pakistan not growing rapidly.
- Taraweeh SOPs to also apply on Eid prayers, no procession to be allowed: interior ministry.
- NCOC reviews implementation of SOPs, country's coronavirus situation.
- Overseas Pakistanis allowed to bring back bodies of Covid-19 victims.
- Punjab govt. issues SOPs for gyms, barbershops, beauty salons.
- Protective equipment provided to all officials, says Karachi police chief.

During the last 24 hours, 1452 new cases have been confirmed by different laboratories, bringing the national tally to 35788. Sixteen deaths from Sindh, nine from Punjab and eight from Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa have been reported in the last 24 hours. There are a total 770 deaths and 9695 recoveries across the country, see Chart.1.



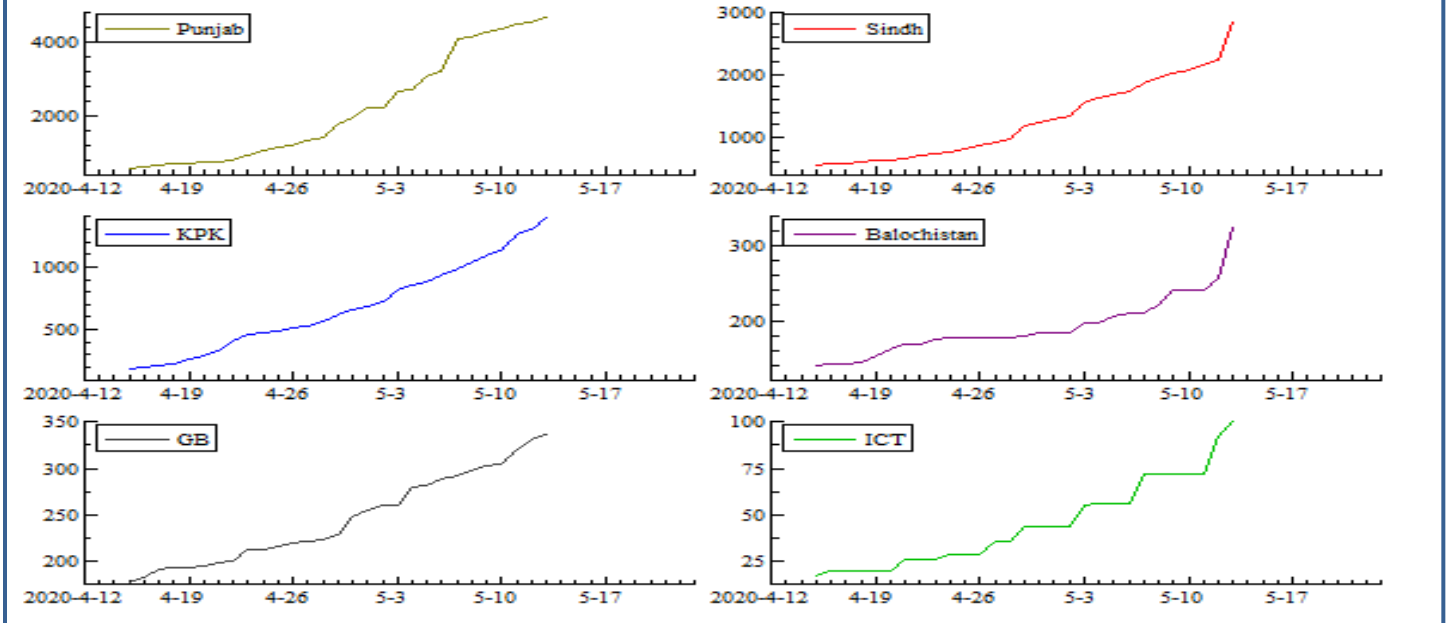
Since the provincial lockdown was eased on 15 April 2020, the number COVID-19 cases is increasing rapidly in Pakistan. COVID-19 is a contagious disease, expected to spread more in denser areas. Cases per million provides a better insight of the spread of pandemic in distinct regions of Pakistan. Unfortunately the ICT (Islamabad Capital Territory) area report highest per million COVID-19 cases since the start of May 2020 and it reaches to 411 cases per million of population on 13 May 2020, see Chart.2. GB follows ICT with 370 case per million of population on 13 May 2020, while Punjab remains lowest per million COVID-19 cases during the period amongst studied regions. In the analyses of cases per million of population it is found that ICT and GB are most vulnerable regions. As a matter of fact these regions have above average literacy rate, particularly ICT area has comparatively better per capita income and health facilities. It was expected that COVID-19 cases will be more contained in these areas as compare to other less literate regions of Pakistan; one expected reason might be arrival of already infected expatriates/pilgrims from other infected areas of the world. A serious social distancing is required to combat the COVID-19 outbreak.

Chart 2: COVID-19 Cases Per Million Population



Besides increasing COVID-19 infectious cases the number of recoveries is also increasing gradually. Since mid-April 2020 Punjab reports more recoveries than any other region in Pakistan, see Chart.3. ICT region reports fewer recoveries during the period, as on 13 May 2020, 100 recoveries reported in the region. Recovery from infection takes time, it is expected that number of recoveries in Pakistan will soon converge to the world average recovered cases.

Chart 3: COVID-19, Number of Recoveries



Pros and Cons of Microsoft Team

In the current situation of Global Pandemic, halting all academic activities could make this outbreak even worse. Global tech Giant Company Microsoft has updated its recent software for communication purpose which has indeed make significant change in academic activities. But transforming all the academic activities into digital form of communication may have some loopholes causing academic disturbance, which will be discussed briefly in this note:

Pros

- During such time of Pandemic it is indeed a very good step to transform the normal classes into online classes which actually minimize the academic time wasting of students.
- Maybe it will take a session or training to get familiar with this software but once it is done it will be a great opportunity for students who can't afford to visit the institute can take classes at home.
- Many conveyance expenses will be reduced resulting in less or no transportation charges for students.
- Sharing soft documents within class is a bit hard process one can share any document to each other in just one tap away.
- It will decrease the communication gap between supervisor and students.
- It resulted in Productivity gains and enriched communication.
- It is top listed free software to use, and it has significantly increased the transparency. Keeping everyone in a loop and make everyone feel that they know what is going on.
- MS team benefitted us by seamless moving students to a digital workplace. Since it is a fully cloud based solution. Being able to access information from anywhere on any device is a huge business benefit.

Cons

- While transforming normal class environment to the digital class rooms there should be considered training and IT support service from the institute which is hard to find, causing students to suffer missing their credit hours and ultimately their career. Training and workshops to make student and teachers familiar with this software is a much avoided thing that I've experienced.

- I faced difficulty while joining the Microsoft teams causing me to miss half of my lecture.
- There is many disturbance when more than one student has to ask the question, it totally derail the whole thinking process.
- Teachers mostly work with psychology of student while being in the classroom by seeing their body language which is not possible in term of MS Team.
- MS team software developers' needs to identify the mistakes in sharing screen problem, there are some connection reported that exists maybe because of overload on the servers.
- It is hard for students to concentrate on the lecture while being sitting in their own home, or room.
- Many of the students have home away from Internet signals; every single individual consideration is important thing for which they have paid to institute already.
- Being added as a guest in MS team won't allow the user to participate in class.

Written by Nouman Ahmed; a student at the Department of Business Studies, PIDE



The new coronavirus may never go away and populations around the world will have to learn to live with it, the World Health Organisation warned Wednesday.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are people with tuberculosis likely to be at increased risk of COVID-19 infection, illness and death?

While experience on COVID-19 infection in tuberculosis (TB) patients remains limited, it is anticipated that people ill with both TB and COVID-19 may have poorer treatment outcomes, especially if TB treatment is interrupted.

Older age, diabetes and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are linked with more severe COVID-19 and are also risk factors for poor outcomes in TB.

TB patients should take precautions as advised by health authorities to be protected from COVID-19 and continue their TB treatment as prescribed.

People ill with COVID-19 and TB show similar symptoms such as cough, fever and difficulty breathing. Both diseases attack primarily the lungs and although both biological agents transmit mainly via close contact, the incubation period from exposure to disease in TB is longer, often with a slow onset.

Do COVID-19 and tuberculosis spread in the same way?

While both tuberculosis (TB) and COVID-19 spread by close contact between people the exact mode of transmission differs, explaining some differences in infection control measures to mitigate the two conditions.

TB bacilli remain suspended in the air in droplet nuclei for several hours after a TB patient coughs, sneezes, shouts, or sings, and people who inhale them can get infected. The size of these droplet nuclei is a key factor determining their infectiousness. Their concentration decreases with ventilation and exposure to direct sunlight.

COVID-19 transmission has primarily been attributed to the direct breathing of droplets expelled by someone with COVID-19 (people may be infectious before clinical features become apparent). Droplets produced by coughing, sneezing, exhaling and speaking may land on objects and surfaces, and contacts can get infected with COVID-19 by touching them and then touching their eyes, nose or mouth. Handwashing, in addition to respiratory precautions, are thus important in the control of COVID-19.

Source: World Health Organization

COVID-19: Timeline of a Pandemic (March 19, 2020 — March 20, 2020)

March 19 — Cases of COVID-19 surpass 200,000 globally. It took over three months to reach the first 100,000 confirmed cases and just 12 days to reach the next 100,000.

World Food Programme Executive Director David Beasley tests positive for COVID-19 after returning to the U.S. following a visit to Canada.

The Rockefeller Foundation commits \$20 million to the COVID-19 response, with a particular focus in Bellagio, Italy; New York, NY; Washington, DC; Nairobi, Kenya; and Bangkok, Thailand.

"For the younger patients the bigger risk is developing pulmonary fibrosis after surviving the disease," says Dr. Frank Minja, associate professor of radiology and biomedical imaging at Yale University School of Medicine during a conference call hosted by the Africa CDC. "This may be something as radiologists we may be diagnosing for years to come as more and more patients are being exposed to this disease," Minja says.

For the first time since the outbreak began, Wuhan reports no new cases.

March 20 — The Asian Development Bank is making adjustments to its annual meeting this year. The bank is moving its full annual meeting to Sept. 18-21, in Incheon, South Korea. Meanwhile, its board of governors will meet on May 22 in Manila, Philippines, to consider the bank's financial statements and net income allocation.

WHO says it's identified some producers in China that have agreed to supply WHO with personal protective equipment. The agency is now finalizing arrangements and coordinating shipments in order to refill its warehouse in Dubai and make global shipments.

WHO launches a health alert messaging service through WhatsApp and Facebook. People can access this service by sending "hi" to this WhatsApp number: +41 798 931 892.

"One of the things we are learning is that although older people are the hardest hit, younger people are not spared. Data from many countries clearly show that people under 50 make up a significant proportion of patients requiring hospitalization," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesu says at a press conference.

Papua New Guinea, Cape Verde, Zimbabwe, and Madagascar report first cases of COVID-19.

Mauritius, Fiji, Chad, Niger, and Haiti report first cases of COVID-19.

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

Experts' Opinion

Experts from within the country, including an entire host of doctors, have warned that lifting the lockdown, which was extremely poorly enforced in the first place, at a time when the number of cases and the number of deaths is still expanding is a hugely dangerous step. **(Kamila Hyat, THE NEWS)**

R0 is the average number of people to whom an infected individual can expect to transmit the infection. An R0 of 1 would mean that, on average, an infected person will transmit the infection to one susceptible person. All epidemic control efforts are directed to bringing the number below 1, and in Europe, it is this number that has primarily guided lockdown-related decisions. **(Dr Ali M Mir, THE EXPRESS TRIBUNE)**

In the midst of pandemic, financial adversities have hit almost all income classes in some ways. However the plight of low wage earners, daily wagers and everyone else at the lower end of the curve is incomparable. Many people are not able to maintain their jobs. Women supporting their families have no means of transport anymore. There have been many layoffs. People can't afford to pay their bills. Many of these people have been self-sufficient and never asked for help in the past – but now have to. Thus suggestions like learning a new skill or talent during this lockdown can be very disrespectful and insensitive towards many. **(Dr Tania Nadeem, THE NEWS)**

By and large, countries that were quick to clamp down have fared better than others. It has also been observed that governments led by women — from Finland to Taiwan and New Zealand to Germany — have generally proved more effective in coping with the crisis than many others. It may seem a trifle unfair to compare the relative competence of the governments led by Jacinda Ardern, Angela Merkel and Sanna Marin with the de--monstrable dysfunction of the Trump, John---son and Bolsonaro administrations in this or any other context. But perhaps it wou--ld be equ--ally unwise to dismiss it as a coincidence. **(Mahir Ali, DAWN)**



People gather outside a shopping bazar, after police sealed it for not following the government's precautionary measures, after Pakistan started easing the lockdown, in Karachi—*Reuters*



Employees observe social distancing during their lunch break at a factory during a government-organized tour of the facility in Beijing, China—*Reuters*



People sit while maintaining social distancing for food distribution in Quetta—*Getty Images*



Commuters ride past a COVID-19 coronavirus awareness poster after the government eased a nationwide lockdown—*Getty Images*

COVID-19 READS

1. **Coronavirus has presented China with a historic opportunity — will it take it?**
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/may/14/china-global-leadership-beijing-coronavirus>
2. **Italian doctors find link between Covid-19 and inflammatory disorder**
<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2020/may/13/italian-doctors-find-link-between-covid-19-and-inflammatory-disorder>
3. **Crowded buses and trains: it's the stark new image of Britain's class divide**
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/may/13/crowded-buses-trains-britains-class-divide-coronavirus>
4. **Students will pay the price for this lockdown**
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/women/politics/universities-treating-young-people-scandalously/>
5. **Does asking your cleaner to work make you a bad feminist? Negotiating the Covid-19 rule change**
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/women/work/does-asking-cleaner-work-make-bad-feminist-negotiating-covid/>
6. **The 'official Covid story' is one-sided to the point of deceit**
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/05/14/official-covid-story-biased-selective-point-deceit/>
7. **How to Reopen America Safely**
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/14/opinion/reopen-america-coronavirus-lockdown.html>
8. **A Study Said Covid Wasn't That Deadly. The Right Seized It.**
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/14/opinion/coronavirus-research-misinformation.html>
9. **Countering misinformation about COVID-19**
<https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/countering-misinformation-about-covid-19>
10. **WHO issues guidelines for safe Ramazan practices**
<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2205747/1-issues-guidelines-safe-ramazan-practices/>
11. **Coronavirus may never go away, World Health Organization warns**
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-52643682>
12. **A Geographer's View On Lockdowns: Pakistan Will Have To Pay For Mistakes**
<https://nayadaur.tv/2020/05/a-geographers-view-on-lockdowns-pakistan-will-have-to-pay-for-mistakes/>
13. **Remote work is good for business, and the world**
<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/remote-work-good-business-world-200513095846875.html>
14. **Will a Global Depression Trigger Another World War?**
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/05/13/coronavirus-pandemic-depression-economy-world-war/>

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