



Join our #SafeHands4Lebanon Challenge.

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Highlight

- A total of 26,970 (1,737 today) confirmed cases from 20 countries (Syria new) in the East Mediterranean Region and total deaths are at 1,871 (132 today).
- As COVID-19 cases continue to increase, many countries are requesting individuals to stay at home in self-quarantine. WHO EURO has released a guide on how to stay physically active during self-quarantine. Information can be found [here](#).
- There has been a rise in criminals disguising themselves as WHO to steal money or sensitive information. WHO urges individuals to stay alert and to verify the authenticity of the request. Information on protecting yourselves against scams as well as reporting the scam to WHO can be found [here](#).

Global update

as per WHO dashboard 23 March 2020 at 8pm

Globally cases	332,935 (40,793 new)
Countries, areas or territories with cases	189 countries (3 new)
Total deaths	12,784 (1,726 new) (CFR: 3.4%)
Confirmed cases in China	81,601 (103 new)

WHO RISK ASSESSMENT
Global Level - Very High

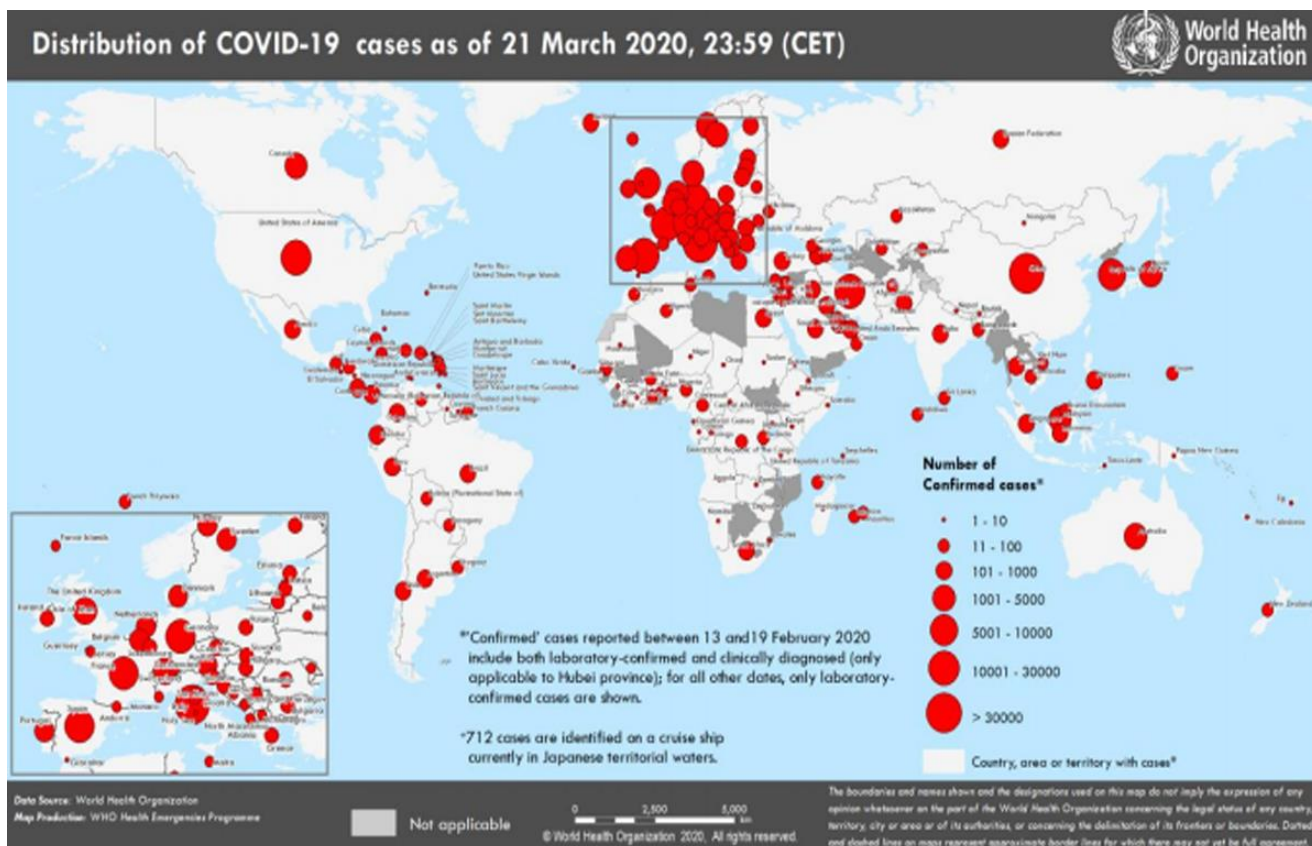


Figure 1. Countries, territories or areas with reported confirmed cases of COVID-19, 22 March 2020

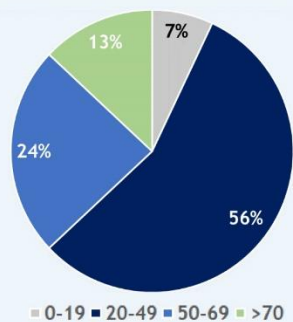


Distribution of COVID-19 cases as reported by the Epidemiological Surveillance Unit at the MOPH [dashboard](#) at 8pm

267 cases of COVID-19

17 health-care workers

4 associated deaths



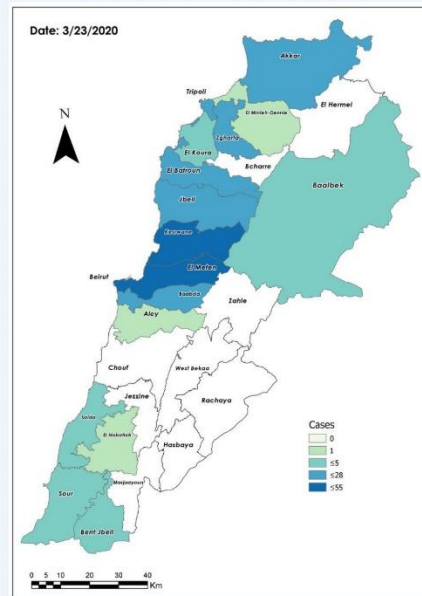
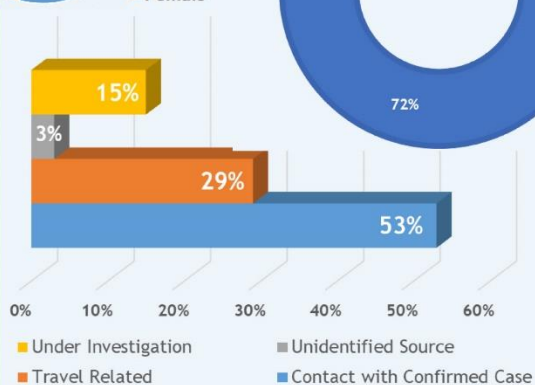
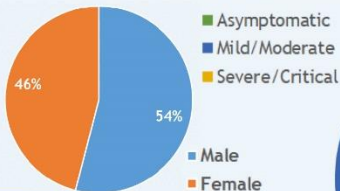
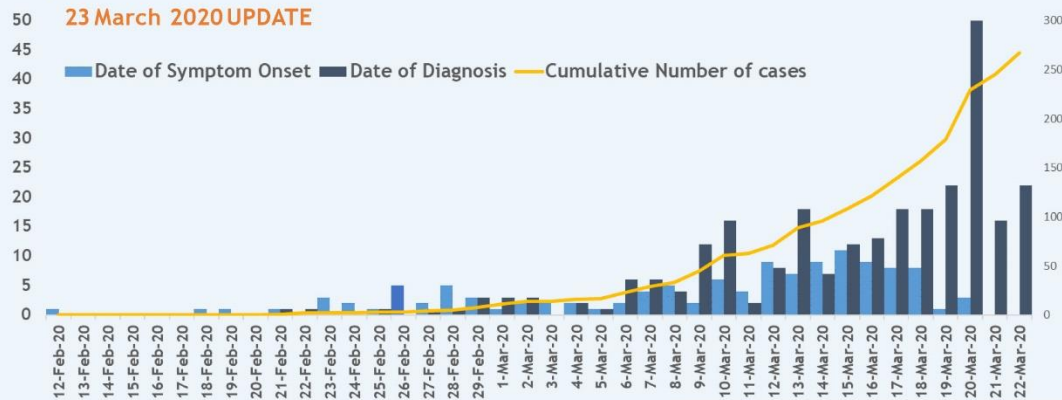
2913 cumulative calls received at call center

223 Referred to RHUH

Age (years)	Deaths [n(%)]	CFR
<10y	0 (0%)	0%
10-19y	0 (0%)	0%
20-29y	0 (0%)	0%
30-39y	0 (0%)	0%
40-49y	0 (0%)	0%
50-59y	2 (50%)	6%
60-69y	0 (0%)	0%
70-79y	1 (25%)	6%
80+y	1 (25%)	7%
Total	4 (100%)	1.50%

Integrated surveillance of COVID-19 in Lebanon

23 March 2020 UPDATE



Question and answers

How to clean and disinfect surfaces?

Regular household soap or detergent should be used first for cleaning, and then, after rinsing, regular household disinfectant containing 0.5% sodium hypochlorite (i.e., equivalent to 5000 ppm or 1 part bleach to 9 parts water) should be applied for all surfaces. At least 10 minutes contact time is required to kill the virus.

No. Spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body will not kill viruses that have already entered your body. Spraying such substances can be harmful to clothes or mucous membranes (i.e., eyes, mouth). Be aware that both alcohol and chlorine can be useful to disinfect surfaces, but they need to be used under appropriate recommendations.

Can spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body kill the new coronavirus?



#2019nCoV

Is the disinfection of the outdoors effective?

The disinfection measures recommended by WHO are for surfaces and spraying/fumigating of the disinfectant is done in closed spaces. Outdoors disinfection (Spraying disinfectants in the air) is not proven to be effective. In fact, spraying disinfectants over a large area and repeatedly may cause environmental pollution and should be avoided.

Air quality improvements and COVID-19

One remarkable observation related to COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown of countries affected is the decline in air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

Data from the European Space Agency shows that concentrations of nitrogen dioxide, fell drastically, especially over hard-hit northern Italy as that country entered lockdown causing less traffic and industrial activities. Similarly, NASA reported that the lockdown wiped out 25 percent of China's carbon emissions in its first month by reducing coal consumption, oil refining, airline traffic and other sources.

The coronavirus lockdown likely saved tens of thousands of lives by reducing air pollution which is an eye opener on overlooked chronic and long-term health threats such as air pollution.

For more detailed data, [click here](#).

WHO technical guidance

COVID-19: How to include marginalized and vulnerable people in risk communication and community engagement.

[Click here](#).

Useful Links

- WHO real time [dashboard](#)
- WHO [COVID-19 page](#)
- Protect yourself ([English/Arabic](#))
- Q&A ([English/Arabic](#))
- WHO Lebanon [website](#)
- WHO Lebanon [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)

Important numbers

- MOPH Hotline 1214
- Airport quarantine section 01-629352
- Preventive medicine center 01-843769 | 01830300
- Call Centre 76-592699

- Preventive medicine center 01-843769 | 01-830300
- Call Centre 76-592699
- Epidemiological Surveillance Unit 01-614194 | 01-614196