

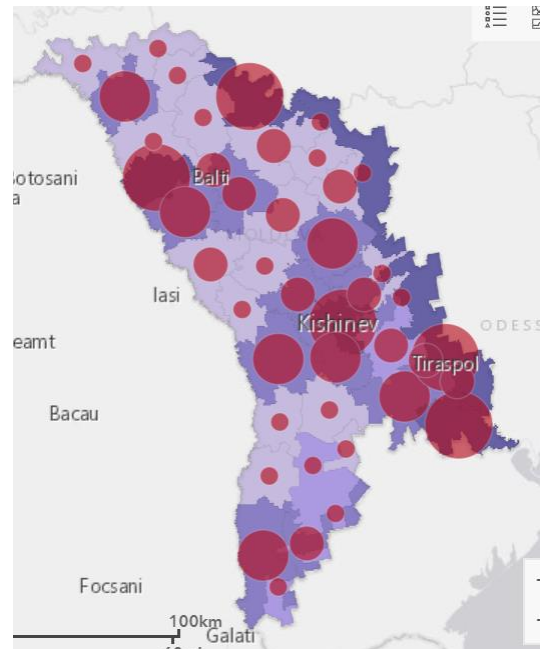
Coronavirus Disease – Covid 19
Situation Report No. 9 (16 April 2020)



This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners.

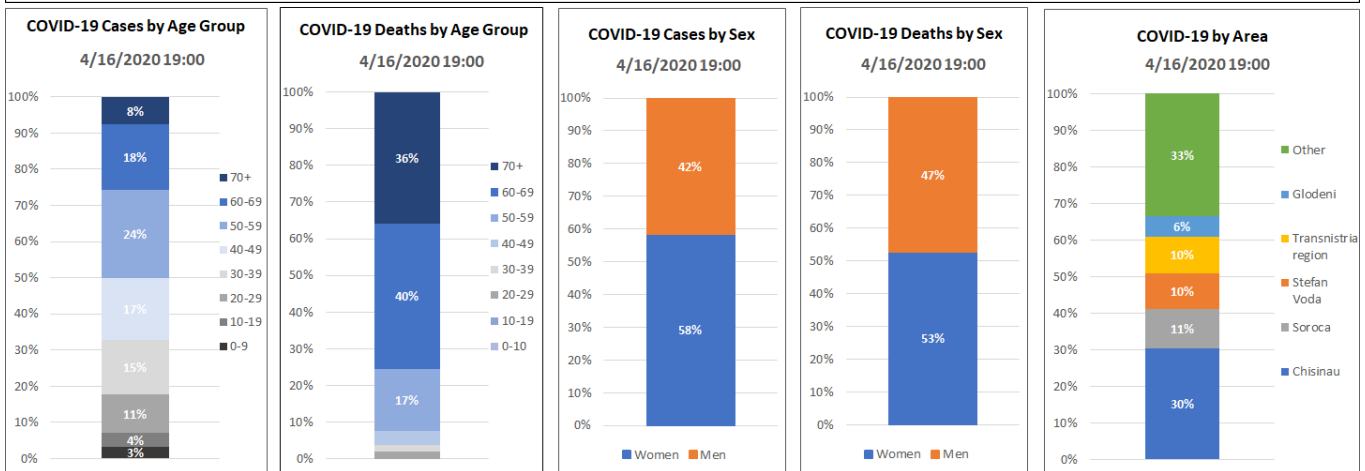
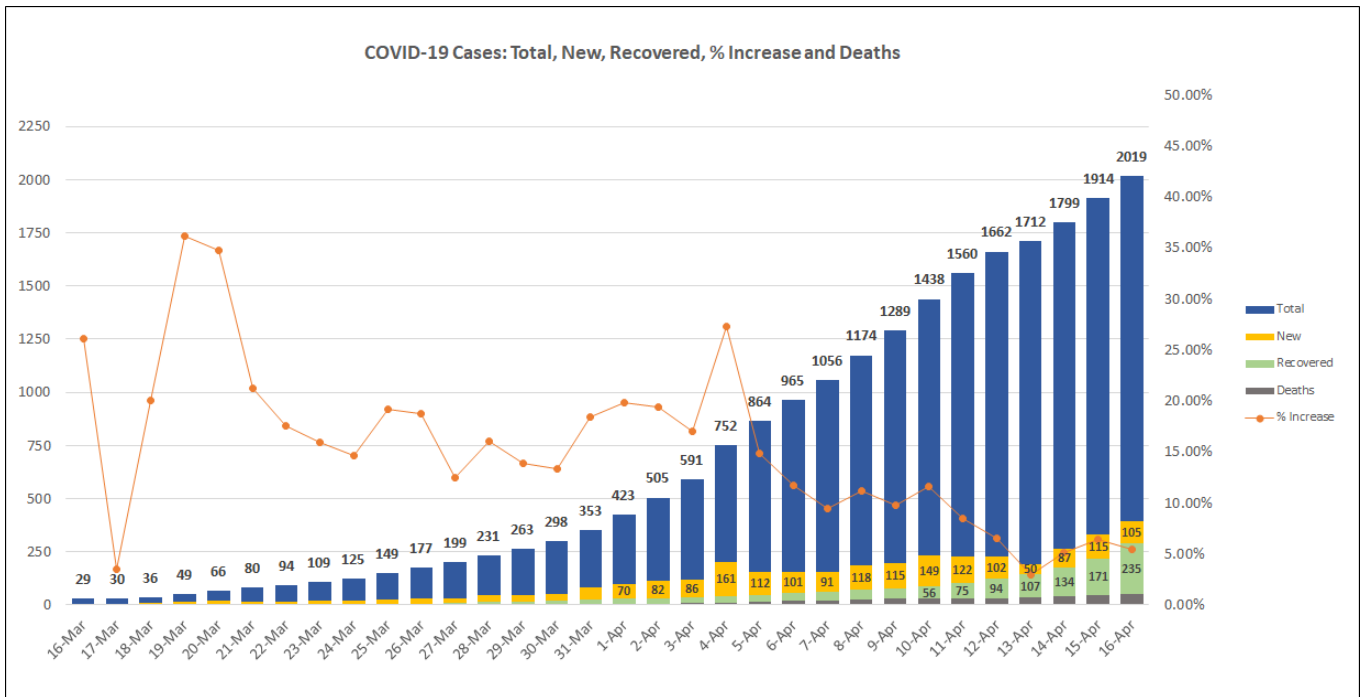
Highlights – data as reported by national authorities*

- Seven more coronavirus-related deaths have been reported today, bringing the total number of deaths to 53. The case fatality rate calculated based on the number of cases confirmed through laboratory testing currently stands at 2.6%.
- Another 105 cases were reported today after the processing of 640 tests, bringing the total number of cases confirmed through laboratory testing to 2,019¹, which represents a 5.5% increase compared to yesterday. The average daily growth rate of confirmed cases over the past 7 days stands at 6.7%.
- Out of the total number of confirmed cases, 235 patients have recovered. At the same time, 195 patients are in serious condition. The number of active cases currently stands at 1,731.
- In terms of geographical distribution, Chisinau, with approximately 30% of all confirmed cases, remains the most affected area in the country if the number of cases is considered. Soroca, Stefan Voda and the Transnistria region follow in the list of most affected areas, accounting for approximately 10-11% of all cases each. Glodeni, which has also surpassed the 100-case mark, accounts for another 6% of all confirmed cases. Taken together, these five areas account for approximately 65% of all cases. All other areas have fewer than 100 cases each and account for the remainder of cases.
- If the number of cases is considered, individuals in the 50-59 age group continue to be most affected by the disease, accounting for approximately a quarter of all confirmed cases. Those in the 60-69, 40-49 and 30-39 age groups follow, accounting for 15%-18% of all cases each. Children and adolescents continue to be the least directly affected groups. However, if the number of deaths is considered, older adults are clearly at a higher risk of being seriously affected by the disease. While only 8% of all confirmed cases are people older than 70, more than 35% of deaths from the disease have occurred in this age group. Also, approximately 3 in 4 deaths have occurred in people over 60, and almost 95% of all deaths have been reported in patients over 50 years of age.



¹ If clinically diagnosed patients are considered in the calculation, the total number of cases stands at 2,154. Disaggregated data is only available for cases confirmed through laboratory testing. Hence, the remainder of the section only refers to this category of cases.

- More women continue to be infected with the virus than men, 58% vs. 42%. Slightly more women have also died from the disease compared to men, 53% vs. 47%. However, the case fatality rate among men is higher than among women at the moment, 3.0% vs.2.4%.
- The number of suspected cases stands at 172, and nearly 40,000 people are quarantined at home.
- Real time figures and graphs can always be accessed [here](#) in Romanian and in Russian [here](#).



Overview of Key Decisions & Announcements

- While we see some positive trends in Western Europe, Covid-19 remains a serious threat and we are seeing rapid escalation across Eastern Europe. In Moldova we are only at the beginning of the crisis we must continue to respect hygiene and social distancing practices.
- The Secretary-General's Covid-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund has now gone live with contributions from Norway, Denmark and the Netherlands. Moldova has received an initial allocation of \$1,000,000.

- The [COVID-19 real-time monitoring platform](#) is now available in [Russian](#). The Romanian version of the site is receiving roughly 60,000 views a day and this translation will help this information reach a broader audience. This was developed with the support of AO Positive Initiative and UNFPA
- UNICEF globally is leading joint UN efforts to access substantial quantities of critical items such as PPE and supplies for intensive care, through a joint tender where the overall allocation principles of supplies will be guided by [WHO and the Supply Chain](#) Inter-Agency Coordination Cell. UNICEF issued this Request for Proposal (RFP) for PPE products to cover the forecasted PPE needs for Covid-19 response from participating UN Agencies.

Global announcements

- Yesterday, the **Secretary-General** announced a UN Communications Response Initiative on Covid-19 to promote facts and science while countering a “[dangerous epidemic of misinformation](#).”
- [Statement by the Secretary-General on the World Health Organization](#)

Update on Restrictions*

*these are subject to changes and amendment and should be viewed as an overview and not as a definitive source for decision making

- Nothing to report

Security:

- Nothing to report

Transnistria Region:

- According to local media sources in the Transnistria Region, 199 confirmed cases of Covid-19 were registered. Eleven people have died. Each of them had serious complicating factors. To date, a single person has recovered fully. Several people who entered the Slobodzeya coronavirus hospital in the first wave of the spread of coronavirus are still awaiting the results of their tests to determine whether they are Covid-19 free.

Economic Impact:

- The IMF released a Global Economic Outlook that projected the global economy to contract by -3% in 2020, however it is expected to bounce back to 5.8% growth rate in 2021 based on the assumption that the pandemic crisis ends in Q3 2020. Compared to similar countries in the region and its neighbors, Moldova’s economic projections are moderate, indicating -3% contraction that is more than twice less than in Ukraine (-7.7%) and substantially lower than in Romania (-5%). It is projected that Moldova will get back to the original pace by 2022 of 3.8% growth rates.

Aid Coordination

- The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance S. Puscuta sent a letter to the Development Partners informing briefly on the temporarily established platform Center for Coordination of Assistance to eliminate the consequences of Covid-19 pandemic (attached).
- The Ministry of Health, Labour, and Social Protection published a list today of more than 130 NGO’s, associations, and private sector entities who have donated to the National Covid-19 Response. The full list can be accessed [here](#)
- Development Partners who are supporting the Covid-19 response are invited to share information about their bilateral support with the Center (above) and the Resident Coordinator's Office will be handing over all of the information compiled to date. The UN will continue to work in close cooperation with the Center in order to avoid duplication of efforts. Focal person in RCO: laura.fiorotto@un.org and christine.petre@un.org

- The UN System in Moldova has opened a [Covid-19 Response and Recovery Window](#) in an already operational Multi-Donor Trust Fund. This is open to embassies and donor organisations for financial contributions.
- **WHO Partnership Platform** <https://covid-19-response.org/> contains the needs assessment for supplies, equipment etc approved by the government. The total value of the outstanding requirement currently stands at \$35m. All partners are invited to participate. For more information send an email to laura.fiorotto@un.org.

Response of UN System in Moldova

Procurement support and Equipment

- With USAID support, UNICEF procured WASH related supplies to MoldExpo triage Covid-19 Centre.
- EUBAM will donate to the MD Border Police 36 digital thermometers, 1,500 protective shields, antiseptic spray 240 btl (5 Ltr each).
- A flight (Russia sponsored) is due to arrive in Moldova on 18 April with a large quantity of supplies (PPE, test kits, etc) and equipment purchased by the Government, Private Sector, and the United Nations (UNICEF).
- UNICEF submitted a request through its global supply division on procurement of medical equipment for assisted breathing

Health

- 600 persons living with HIV were delivered their ARV treatment at home on the whole territory of the country by the staff of NGOs and social centers by 15 April. UNAIDS and WHO supported the development of the algorithm, approved through the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection Order nr. 130 and NGOs staff capacity building. UNAIDS redirected financial resources – 10.000 USD to ensure a secure delivery of drugs through procurement of masks, disinfectants and gloves for the NGO staff involved in the delivery.
- UNAIDS and UNODC is evaluating with the Union of Harm reduction associations the possibilities to redirect about USD 5000 on procurement of PPE for the staff involved in the provision of HIV prevention services in people who inject drugs, sex workers and men who have sex with men.
- 44 people living with HIV, illegal migrants got their ARV treatment in hosting countries (most of them in Russia, Italy, Germany, Portugal). They were supported by the NGOs active in Moldova.
- UNICEF is engaging the Youth Health Centers (YK) in an awareness raising and behavior change communication initiative, using the health belief model (HBM) on the mental health and wellbeing of adolescents and young people.
- UNICEF Moldova advocates for ensuring the continuum of care to pregnant women, infants, and children under-3 including breastfeeding, infant and young child feeding, and immunization catch up at the level of primary health care.
- UNFPA, in close collaboration with WHO, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, State University of Medicine and Pharmacy and the National Agency for Public Health – supported an online training programme designed and conducted at the national level for healthcare personnel working in Perinatal Centers all over the country (three-level system of perinatal care). The issues discussed on-line with over 80 healthcare providers - covered the aspects on Covid-19-related epidemiological situation and the preventive measures to combat the transmission of infection and protect the healthcare personnel and patients; triage of cases and perinatal care in case of pregnant women with Covid-19; clinical management of severe complications caused by Covid-19 infection in pregnant women etc. Sexual and reproductive health is a significant public health issue during humanitarian and emergency situations, therefore antenatal, perinatal and postnatal care, as well as other sexual and reproductive health services, such as family planning, including contraception, treatment of STIs, including HIV, safe abortion services, and others, should remain available as essential health services, including during current epidemic.

- UNFPA also advocates for continuous provision by Youth Friendly Health Centers and Family Doctors of SRH information, counselling and modern short- and long-acting contraceptives (including emergency contraception) during the Covid-19 pandemic response.
- The Cross-River Health Platform, supported by EU Confidence-Building Measures Project implemented by UNDP, translated into Russian the Covid-19 instructions for doctors prepared by the Ministry of Health Labor and Social Protection, with aims to enhance knowledge and skills of doctors on the left bank of Nistru river.
- On 15 April, a 3-day online marathon was held with the participation of about 1,100 representatives of local public authorities from all districts of the country. The WHO, together with the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection team of the Republic of Moldova, UNDP and the Congress of Authorities Local Moldovans discussed with the local elected officials about the Covid-19 epidemic, the epidemiological situation for each territory, about the role of communication with the population and the public health interventions that must be undertaken to stop and stop the transmission of the disease. The webinars were also approached:
 - Regular and pro-active communication in crisis situations and the involvement of communities in response and response activities contributes to the control of disease outbreaks in villages and cities and ensures that people and risk groups comply with protective measures.
 - Local communication and collaboration with the family doctor, police, church servants and other local leaders are essential in monitoring, reporting cases, monitoring contacts, caring for patients, providing care and mobilizing local support for any logistical and operational needs.
 - General actions at community level regarding the prevention and control of Covid-19 infection at the local level. Actions aimed at risk groups of the population.
 - Actions needed for the establishment of quarantine at local level. Actions in case of registration of a death case in the locality.
 - Necessary Actions needed at community level during Easter.
- WHO supported the implementation of a webinar for health workers on oxygen therapy for children, health and child care during the Covid-19 pandemic. The webinar also included a practical demonstration of applying oxygen therapy and intubation on the manikin.

Education and youth

- Youth recommendations, collected on the U-Report platform (31.8 users), on optimization of remote learning were shared with MECR and the UN Coordinated Education Task Force for Covid-19.
- Based on MECR request, UNICEF supports the development of on-line methodology and modules on positive parenting for educators, and training of TOTs and local trainers on working with parents during pandemics. The first on-line training will start in the period of 21-23 April.
- UNICEF in Moldova is taking part in a Europe and Central Asia regional campaign, focused on psychosocial wellbeing of parents with young children in countries under lockdown.
- UNICEF initiated the discussions with MECR and partners to develop sports video lessons for children and youth during quarantine and is working through the Geneva-based European Broadcasting Union (EBU) to explore ways of further leveraging EBU member stations in Moldova.
- UNFPA, in partnership with the MECR, [launched](#) a new psychological assistance program for youth in the context of Covid-19 - "[My choice is to be OK](#)". The program will run from April to July 2020 and will include 24 online sessions, including 18 in Romanian and four in Russian. The sessions will focus on how to cope with the complex learning program and social isolation, how to deal with stress, managing anxiety, fear and panic, preventing gender-based violence and others. The sessions will be LIVE streamed on the Facebook page of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, being accessible for all those who wish to participate. They will be held twice a week, on Wednesday at 4 pm and on Saturday at 11 am. The recorded sessions will be available later for young people who have not been able to watch during the live streaming and will serve as informational support for teachers in working with students.

- UNFPA globally is launching the [#YouthAgainstCOVID19 campaign](#) in partnership with youth networks and the company Prezi. The campaign will feature a series of six videos featuring youth leaders and using the innovative technology developed by our partners at Prezi. The videos will focus on various themes related to the COVID-19 crisis, from general information on the virus to its impact on sexual and reproductive or mental health. It will also showcase concrete actions that young people can take to contain the pandemic and provide support in their communities while respecting precaution measures. The video templates designed for the campaign by Prezi are meant to be reusable by all young people so that they can share them with their friends and relatives, add their ideas and inputs, and translate the content in their local language.
- The People's Advocate is conducting an on-line survey on the opinion of 12th grade pupils with regards to the process of on-line training for Bacalaureate exams. The survey is open until 23 April.

Socio Economic

- The 3rd meeting of the Socio-Economic Task Force, chaired by UNDP, was held on Wednesday 15 April, with participation of Mr. Adrian Ermurachi, Deputy Secretary General, State Chancellery, Ms. Lilia Palli, State Secretary Min. of Economy, Ms. Nelea Rusu, State Secretary of MoHLSP as well as representatives of development partners and UN System. The participants exchanged information on the current socio-economic impacts and projections of impact of the Covid-19 crisis. The participants also informed about planned assessments with the view to ensure coordination and alignment with Government plans for immediate to medium-term response and recovery plans.
- With the support of the UNDP project "Migration and Local Development", funded by SDC, a Covid-19 prevention webinar was organized on April 15 for the employees of the 35 Territorial Employment Agencies that offers support in the process of job seeking to persons, including those citizens returning from abroad.
- Needs: Women living with HIV involved in a mentoring program within the Joint UN action on human rights on both banks of Nistru river inform about lack of resources to procure food for their families, as well as hygiene products and water to ensure proper Covid-19 prevention.

Communications

- UNDP distributed a press-release on planned socio-economic impact assessment of Covid-19 on most vulnerable groups of population and SMEs in all sectors, transmitted by 14 media outlets.
- With support of UNDP Moldova and the Congress of Local Public Authorities, presidents of districts, mayors and civil servants participated in a series of webinars (13-15 April) with the specialists of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection and WHO to epidemiological situation at district level and measures to contain Covid-19. The events were attended overall by 1,100 participants.
- UNICEF engaged popular child vloggers to encourage people to stay home while observing Easter, reaching out to 15K online.
- The webinar on breastfeeding during Covid-19 organized by UNICEF and WHO reached 25K people.
- The statement of UNICEF and Religions of peace calling upon all communities to adapt faith gatherings, rituals and services to honour health authorities' guidance on public gatherings, physical distancing and other critical matters of public health was widely distributed to the media, given the upcoming Easter holidays.
- UNFPA continues the youth-led #StayHome campaign focusing on intergenerational solidarity. The TV presenter Lili Lozan was involved in the campaign with a [selfie-video message](#) about the need to take care of parents/grandparents during the social isolation period. The video reached nearly 25 K views on the Facebook and Instagram page of the Network of Youth Centres.
- UNFPA produced a [video spot](#) to support the launch of "My choice is to be OK" program. The video will promote the online youth counseling sessions targeting adolescents and young people aged 14-20 yrs.

- UNFPA is supporting the development of 10 short video messages with key recommendations from psychologists to support the mental health and well-being of young people during the Covid-19 outbreak.
- Following submission of application for Grant managed by Sweden Ministry of Foreign Affairs intended for Risk Communication activities on Covid-19, representative of MFA has informed that decision of contributing 340 000 Swedish kronor (equivalent of approx. USD 34,075) to this project