



COVID-19
RESPONSE

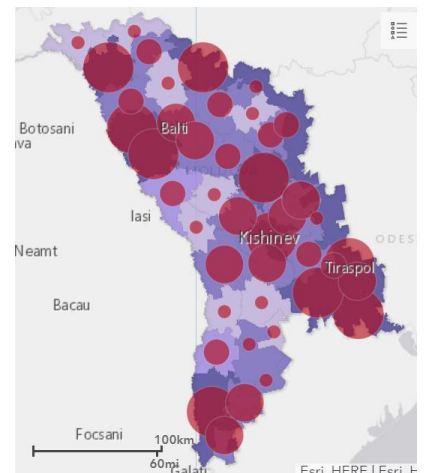
Coronavirus Disease – Covid 19 Situation Report No. 12 (28 April 2020)



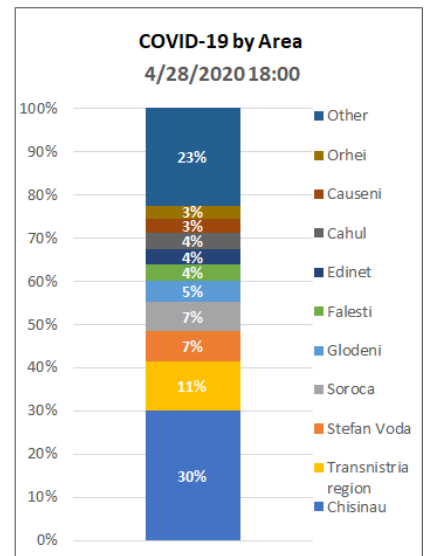
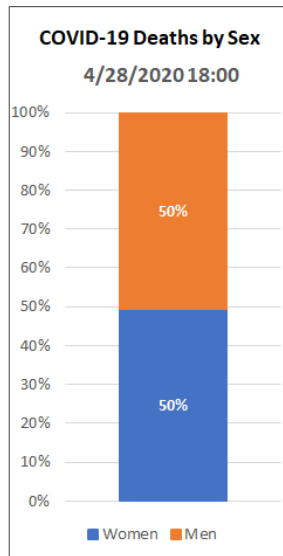
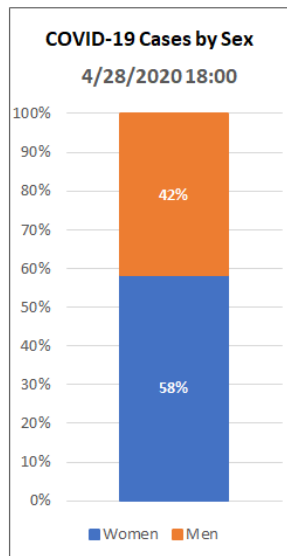
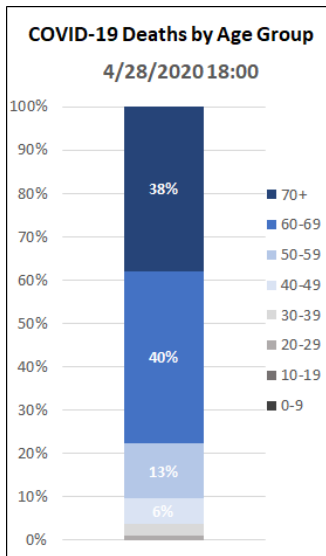
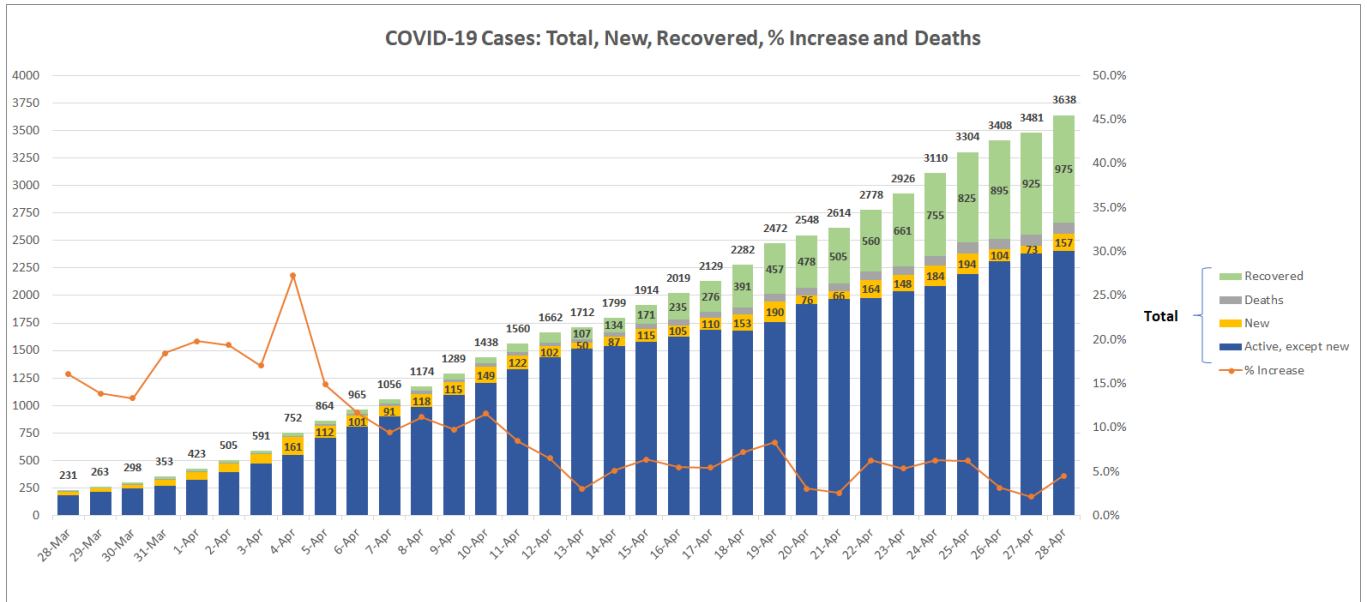
This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners.

Highlights – data as reported by national authorities*

- One more coronavirus-related death has been reported today, bringing the total number of deaths to 103. Since the last report, the number of deaths increased by 24, with 10 deaths being reported on Saturday alone, representing the highest number of deaths recorded in a single day since the beginning of the outbreak. The case fatality rate currently stands at 2.8%.
- Another 157 cases were reported today after the processing of 695 tests, bringing the total number of confirmed cases to 3,638, which represents a 4.5% increase compared to yesterday. The average daily growth rate over the past 7 days stands at 4.8%.
- Approximately a quarter of all cases continue to be health care workers. Nearly 900 doctors, nurses, medical assistants and other staff from the health care sector have been infected with the virus since the beginning of the outbreak.
- Out of the total number of confirmed cases, 975 patients have recovered, which represents over a quarter of all cases. At the same time, 222 patients are in serious condition. The number of active cases currently stands at 2,560.
- 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. Transnistria region, Soroca and Stefan Voda follow in the list of most affected areas, accounting for approximately 7-11% of all cases each. Glodeni, Cahul, Falesti, Edinet, Causeni and Orhei, which have also surpassed the 100-case mark, account for another 3-5% of all cases each. Taken together, the areas above account for over 75% of all cases. All other areas have fewer than 100 cases each and account for the remainder of cases. If the number of cases per 100,000 people is considered, Stefan Voda, Glodeni, Soroca, Edinet, Falesti and Chisinau, in the order listed, continued to be most affected by the disease.
- With approximately 38% of deaths from the disease having occurred in people older than 70, and more than 3 in 4 deaths having occurred in people over 60, older adults remain at a much higher risk of being seriously affected by the disease. Furthermore, over 90% of all deaths have been reported in patients over 50 years of age.



- More women continue to be infected with the virus than men, 58% vs. 42%. However, the percentage of men and women who have died from the disease is practically the same, and the case fatality rate among men is higher than among women, 3.4% vs.2.4%.
- The number of suspected cases stands at 162, and about 39,500 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

- It is likely that a general easing of restrictions will occur from 4 May, additional details to be released by the Emergency Commission. UN Agencies, Funds, and Programmes will continue with working from home as per current practice.
- On 27 April, the United Nations launched the [UN Framework for the immediate socio-economic response to Covid-19](#). How the UN continues to frame its response and the development of longer-term recovery strategies will be guided by this framework, as will the priorities of the Secretary-General's Covid-19 Response and Recovery MPTF and the Moldova MDTF Covid-19 Window.

- The UN Resident Coordinator and WHO briefed Ambassadors from US, UK, France, Germany, Romania, and the EU on Tuesday.

Update on Testing: Covid-19 testing is performed in the following laboratories.

Public laboratories:

- National Reference Laboratory of the National Agency for Public Health in Chisinau – 600 tests/day
- Regional NAPH lab in Balti (North part) – 160 test/day
- Regional NAPH lab in Cahul (South part) – 160 test/day
- Diagnostic Center in Chisinau – 100 test/day
- Hospital for dermatology and Communicable disease in Chisinau – 70 test/day

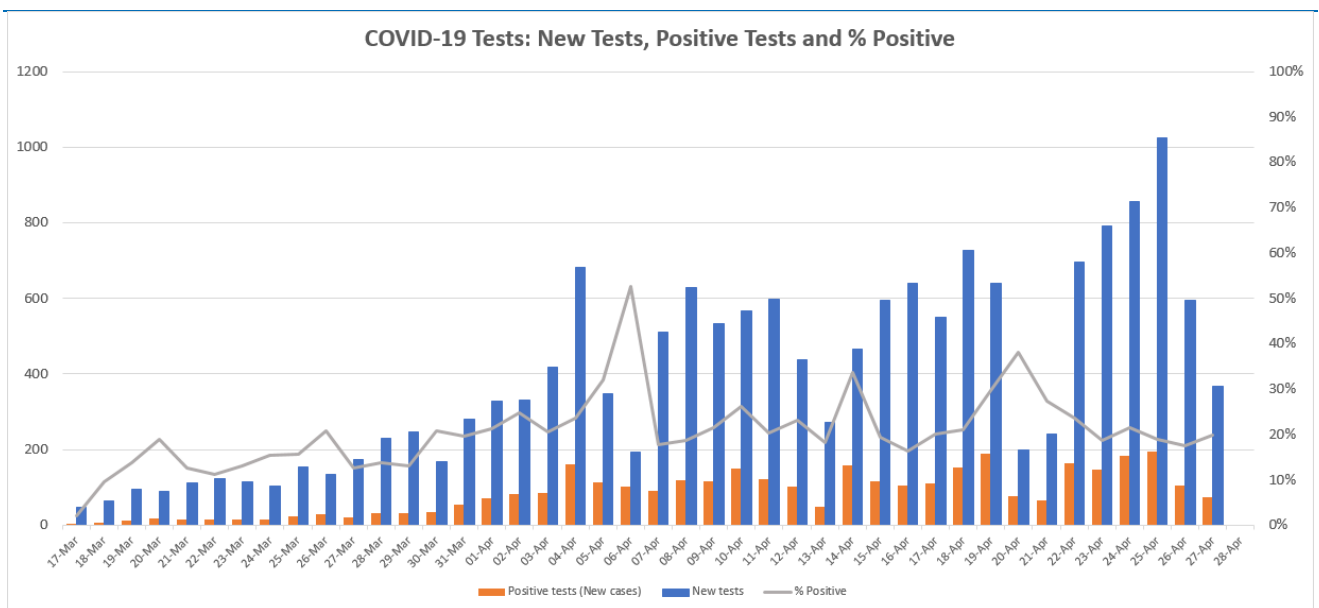
Subtotal public labs – around 1,000 tests/day

Private labs in Chisinau:

- Invitro diagnostic - 200
- MedExpert - 200
- AlfaDiagnostics – 70

Subtotal private labs – around 500 tests/day

Moldova Lab Strategy is in line with the [WHO Laboratory testing strategy recommendations for Covid-19](#) and there is a plan to expand possibilities and capacities, including the usage of GeneXpert kits when available.



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

- April 27 - April 30, 2020 are declared holidays for all units in the budget sector and self-managed public institutions/authorities, except: 1.1. medical, public health and ancillary services for public health institutions, rescue, emergency and social assistance services; 1.2. administrative authorities in the field of national defense, public order and national security; 1.3. educational institutions of all levels (early education, primary, secondary, technical vocational, higher education, extracurricular and special

education), which will ensure the development of the distance learning process ; 1.4. IP "Public Services Agency", National Social Insurance House, National Agency for Employment; 1.5. National Bank of Moldova. 2. The recovery of these days will be carried out in the manner established by the Government, after the lifting of the state of emergency.

- Starting from 27 April, people are allowed to use the parks, in groups of no more than 3 people, respecting the social distance. 7. Resumption from 27 April 2020, with mandatory compliance with the rules for reducing the spread of Covid-19 infection, of retail activities of all types of goods, through specialized commercial units, except those located in shopping malls and markets (including car markets).
- Starting from 25 April at 8:00 am, a quarantine regime was introduced in the village of Cismichioi and the village of Etulia, Vulcanesti district.
- The traffic of public transport in Chisinau and Balti municipalities is stopped on 27 April, 2020.

Security:

- NTR

Transnistria Region:

- The de facto leader has extended the state of emergency in the Transnistria Region until 15 May. The initial state of emergency was announced on 17 March for 19 days (until 5 April), with an additional extension. Until 15 May, only local residents, holders of special passports, diplomats, and drivers accompanying goods will be able to enter the region. The de facto leader noted that only when there is clear evidence that the peak number of cases has been reached and surpassed, will the de facto authorities revisit the current restrictions with an eye to putting a clear plan in place to ease the restrictions.

Economic Impact:

- The recent restrictions on export of cereals imposed by the countries in the region (Russia, Romania) will probably increase the exported volumes of cereals from the Republic of Moldova. The mentioned restrictions and low level of precipitation during the last months represent a risk to food security situation and will impact cereal production and distribution in the country.

Aid Coordination

- The World Bank approved on 24 April a EUR 52.9 million loan from the [International Development Association](#) (IDA) to the Republic of Moldova for an Emergency Covid-19 Operation. The project will help Moldova take effective and timely action to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic by strengthening the country's national healthcare system and mitigating social risks.
- IMF Executive Board approved on 22 April a US\$235 million in Emergency Assistance to Moldova to address the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Development Partners who are supporting the Covid-19 response are invited to share information about their bilateral support with the Center asistent@covid19.gov.md. 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
- **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 so that contributions can be mapped and the requirements kept up to date. For more information send an email to laura.fiorotto@un.org. Please note that commitments of funding made locally can only be updated on the system through the giving organisation / country HQ focal point.

Response of UN System in Moldova

- UNICEF together with IOM and UN Women is developing a project to the Secretary General Trust Fund on Covid-19 Response and Recovery under the coordination of RCO and MHLSP.
- UNICEF submitted the forecast for procurement of the second tranche of PPEs for health staff in an amount of around 500,000 USD to its global Supply Division in Copenhagen.

Procurement support and Equipment

- UNICEF supported the distribution of WASH supplies to the Makarenco school children and personnel in the Transnistria region, which covers the needs of the institution for four months, with support from USAID.
- UNICEF is supporting MHLSP in procurement of vaccines and equipment for cold chain for Immunization programme, procurement of ARV treatment and HIV tests for HIV Control Programme.
- UNICEF submitted the forecast for procurement of 20,000 Covid-19 tests.
- UNICEF submitted the request for procurement of 150 oxygen concentrators on behalf of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection to be covered by WB loan.
- UNDP: The entire amount of 10 ventilators ordered through GPU from China manufacturer shall be ready for dispatch on 30 April, as per recent communication. Transportation and logistics arrangements are currently under discussion. Updates to be provided.
- UNDP provides support to the Unit of Implementation, Coordination and Monitoring of Health Projects (MoHLSPP) for procurement of ARVs (AntiRetroVirals) given the stock out. The total amount is 35k USD. The order has been placed with GPU Copenhagen.
- UNDP has on-going discussion with Endava (Private Sector Company) for a contribution in the total amount of 35k USD for procurement of PPEs.
- Centralized procurement by UNDP for the beneficiaries of EU funded SCBM and EU4Moldova projects, as well as Migration and Development project, is on-going. Part of the PPEs and supplies have been handed over last week to the beneficiaries. Masks, gloves, digital thermometers – ongoing procurement.

Assessment and Data

- This week the 10th edition of the Work Report on use of big data for Covid-19 awareness and response for the Government was produced and key insights shared with the Government; two more reports will be produced in the current week at the usual 48 hours interval; the counterparts in the Government shared with the task force team specific insights on how the generated intelligence is incorporated into the decision-making process.

Health

- UNICEF, in partnership with WHO, Institute of Mother and Child Health and National Agency of Public Health organized one one-line training course for family doctors and nurses from primary health care on supervision of growth and development of a healthy infant and young child and importance to re-start the routine immunization of children on 28 April reached family doctors and nurses.
- On 24 April, a hand over event took place, with the participation of the EU Ambassador, UNDP Resident Representative, Mayors of Cahul and Ungheni, for Personal Protective Equipment procured within:
 - EU-funded Confidence Building Programme (Personal Protective Equipment for 11 healthcare institutions on both riverbanks and vulnerable groups)
 - The EU-funded EU4Moldova: Focal Regions Programme (Personal Protective Equipment to healthcare institutions and Local Public Authorities from 70 communities from Cahul and Ungheni districts)

Gender

- UN Women, at the request of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection and with the financial support of Sweden, offered a second batch of assistance to the 36 territorial structures social from all over the country. It includes 28,000 protective suits worth about \$ 174,000 and is intended for front line welfare system personnel providing services to vulnerable categories of the population during the pandemic. Equipment from both lots were purchased from local production companies to support local business under crisis conditions caused by the consequences of Covid-19.

Education and youth

- UNICEF supported MECR in the organization of the strategic meeting of the Coordination Council on External Assistance in the Education Sector on 24 April. Under the leadership of MECR, the donors and development partners discussed the support needs to address the Covid-19 Pandemic and major priorities under the draft Covid-19 Response Plan that is being prepared by MECR and will be shared with all donors and development partners active in the country for comments and inputs. UNICEF presented the mechanism and process of the Global Partnership for Education's Multiplier Education Sector Plan Implementation Grant. MECR expressed the interest to apply for the respective grant in partnership and collaboration with the donors and development partners, based on the Covid-19 Response Plan, which related lessons learnt are also expected to further augment the robustness of the soon to be developed 2030 Education Sector Plan and related medium-term action plan for the next five years, and thereby to contribute to building a resilient education system in Moldova.

Communications

- UNFPA engaged an epidemiologist and psychologist who trained, on a voluntary basis, 15 young girls and boys how to talk to older people and offer emotional support to solitary persons above 65 years of age from 16 communities. 2 photo-cards of involved experts, with a call to action to protect older people, were elaborated and published on the UNFPA [Facebook](#) page and [Twitter](#) pages, reaching an impact of more than 5k. A press release was issued on the UNFPA [website](#).
 - UNICEF produced a photo gallery and a video from the distribution of supplies to the children and personnel of the Macarenco school in the Transnistrian region.
 - UNDP organized on 24 April public handover events for EU support for fighting Covid-19 for Ungheni and Cahul districts, and both banks of Nistru river. The events were broadcasted live on Facebook (12,400 views for Cahul and Ungheni and 20,400 views for cross-river support) and raw video footage was sent to TV stations. Video testimonials were produced and distributed via social media. The news was picked up by 53 media outlets.
 - UNDP supported leaders from 35 communities to strengthen relationships with diaspora representatives in order to set up initiatives against Covid-19 at local level and build other cooperation plans for further development actions.
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