

## Coronavirus Disease - COVID 19

Weekly Situation Report No. 34 (25 September 2020)



COVID-19  
RESPONSE

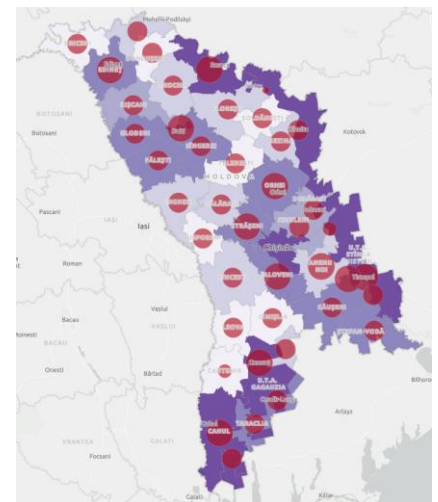


*This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners. From 18 September 2020 programme updates will be produced at the end of the month. All past sitreps can be accessed [here](#)*

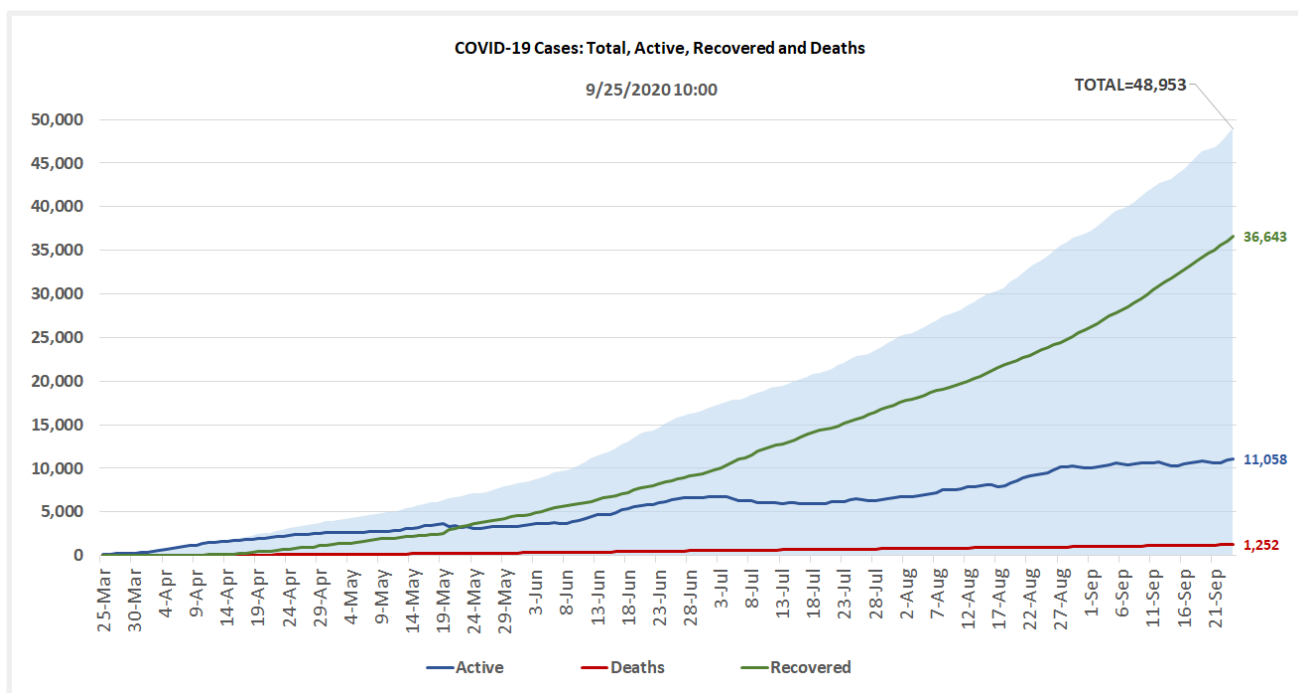
## Highlights – data as reported by national authorities

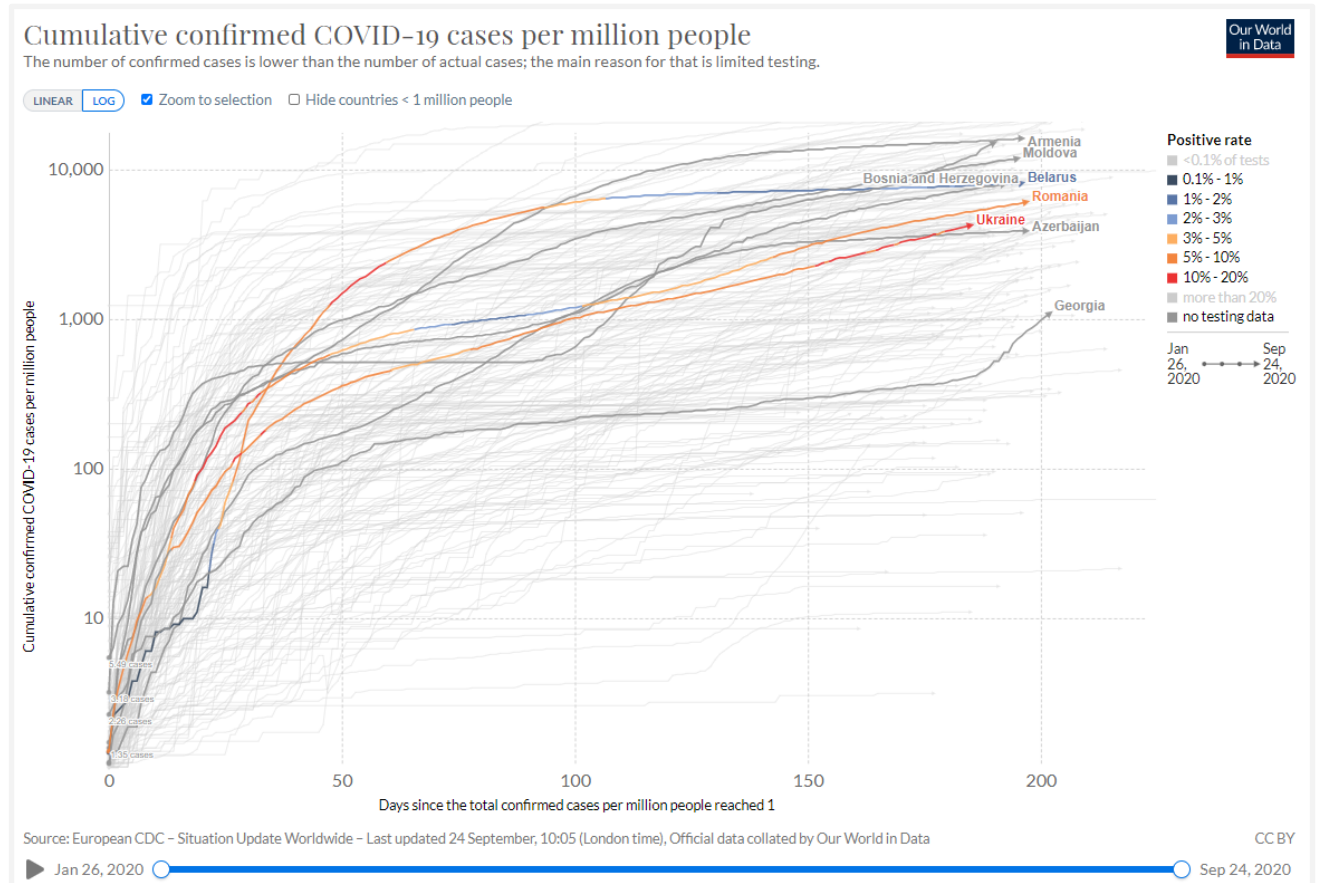
Data as at 25/09/2020, 10:00 a.m.

- The growth in new coronavirus cases has accelerated, with a new record number of daily cases - 786 - being reported on Wednesday of this week and another 721 cases being reported on Thursday. The average number of daily cases over a seven-day period now stands at 567, which is nearly 100 cases more compared to the same figure last week. The total number of reported cases currently stands at 48,953. The total number of active cases increased to 11,058, which represents 22.6% of all registered cases;
- The overall crude cumulative incidence of cases per 100,000 stands at 1,409, placing Moldova near the top of countries with some of the highest incidence of cases in Europe and in the region. The crude cumulative incidence of cases over the last seven days is 114 and over the last 14 days is 209, with both figures registering an increase over the past week;
- The number of deaths continued to grow, with a total of 82 deaths being reported over the last seven days. The average number of daily deaths over the same period is 11.71, which is considerably higher than the 9.14 figure reported last week. The total number of deaths reached 1,252. The case fatality rate, at the same time, remained at 2.6%. The average age of patients who have died from the disease is 66.4, with over 90% of all deaths having been reported in patients 50 years of age and older;
- The number of patients who have recovered from the disease now stands at 36,643. This represents 74.9% of all cases;
- The deterioration in the pandemic situation in the country is also reflected in the weekly figures. After hovering between 3,000-3,300 cases for a few weeks, the weekly number of cases increased to 3,618 last week, which represents a 13.7% increase in the number of new cases compared to the previous week. The contagion rate (R0) increased slightly as well to 1.05 last week and remained close to this level;

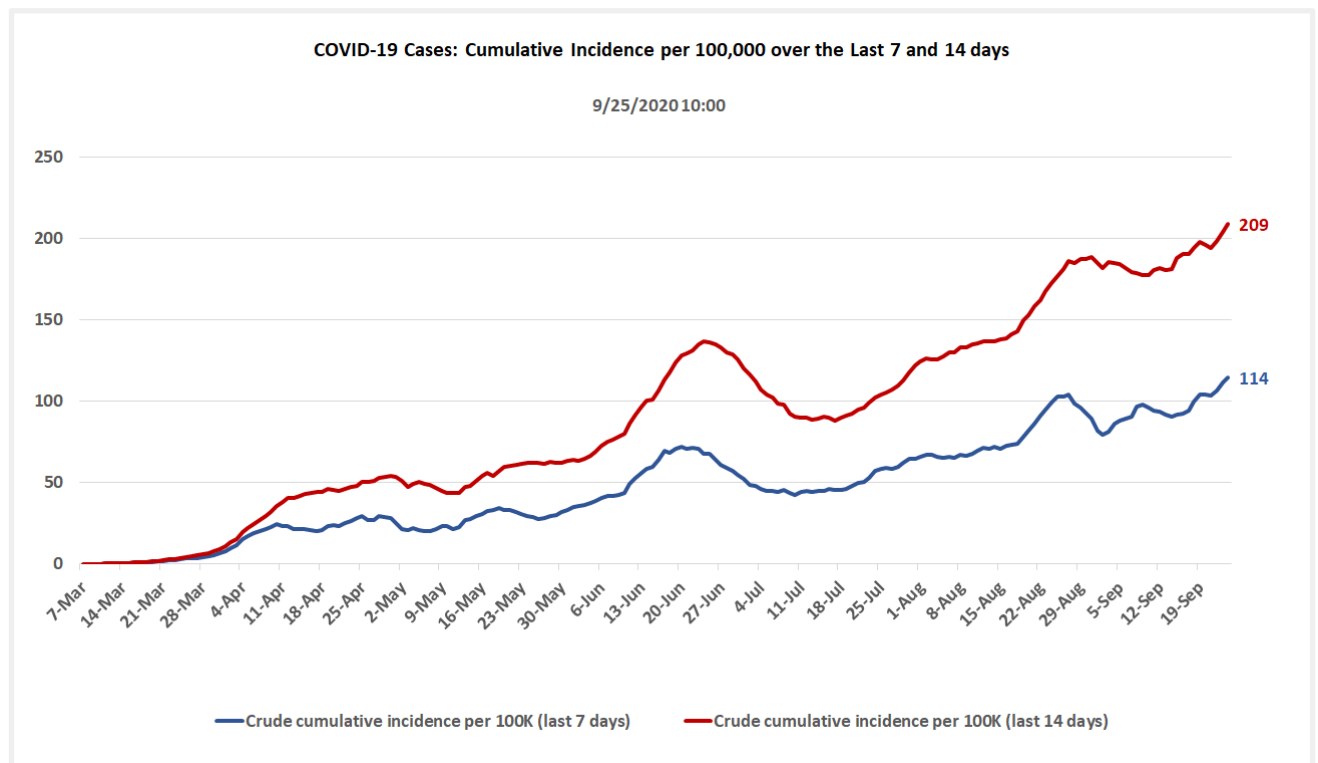


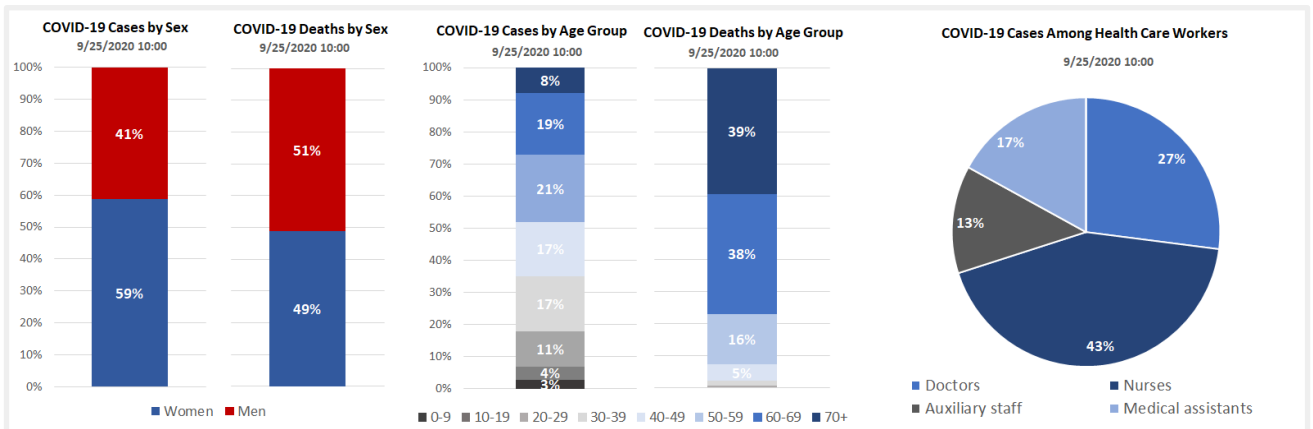
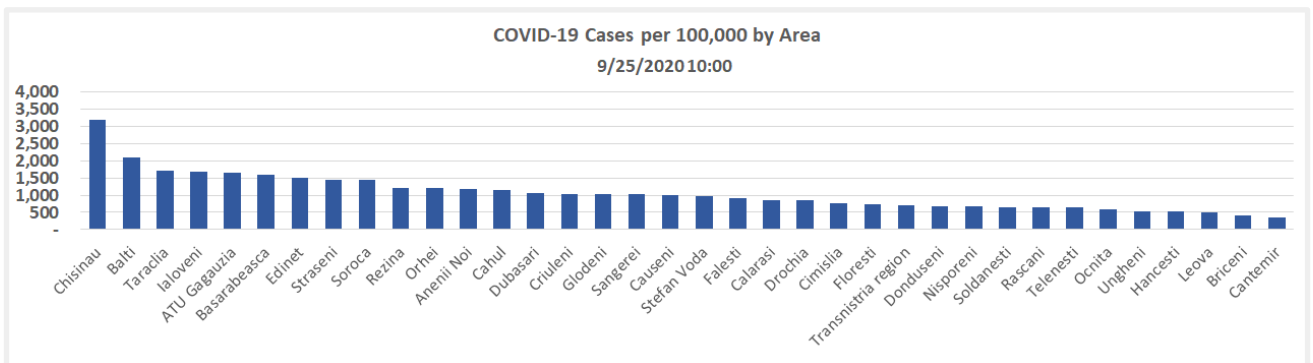
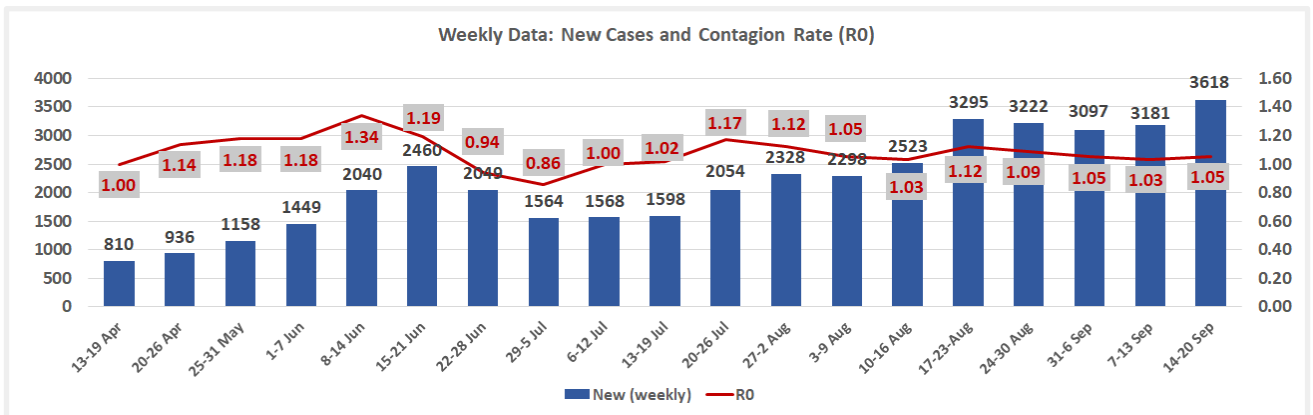
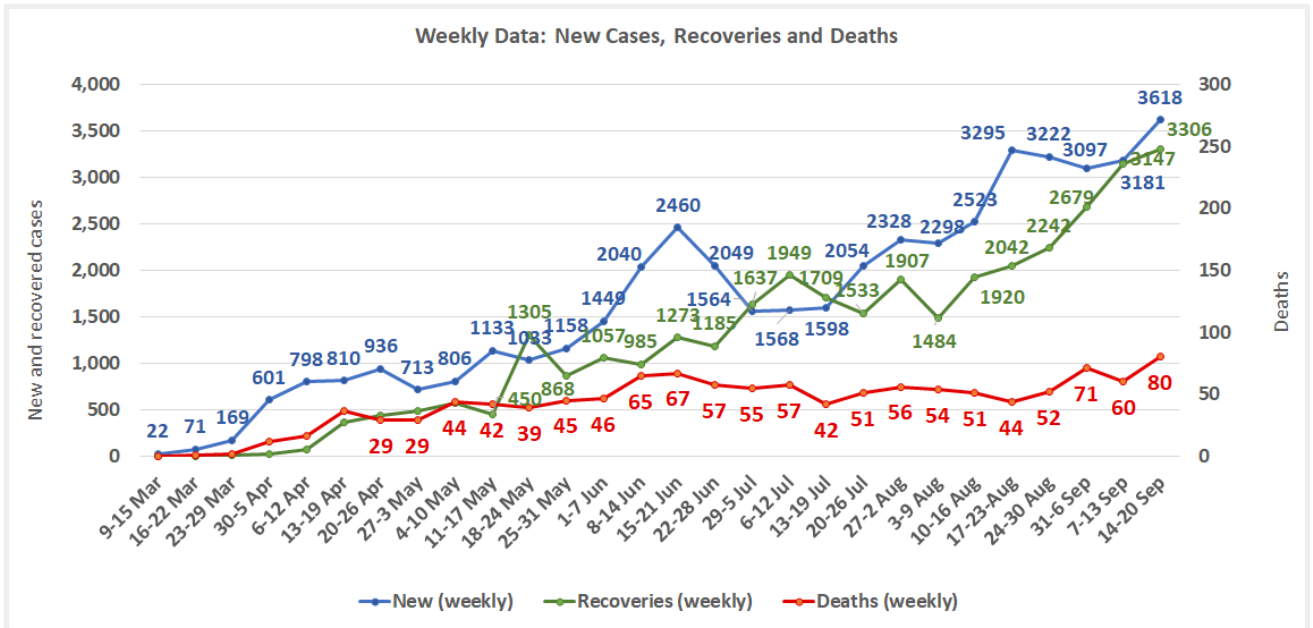
- The weekly number of deaths increased to 80 last week, which is 20 more than the previous week or a 33% increase. In addition, the number of serious cases increased to 576 last week and continued to increase further this week, reaching 582 in the last seven days;
- Although the weekly number of recoveries registered a modest 5.1% improvement last week, the gap between the weekly number of recoveries and weekly number of cases started to widen again. With 3,306 recoveries being reported last week, the gap now is of about 300 cases;
- The share of health care workers in the total number of cases decreased slightly to 11.3%. Over 5,500 doctors, nurses, medical assistants and other staff from the health care sector have been infected with the virus since the beginning of the outbreak;
- In terms of geographical distribution, Chisinau, with 43% of all confirmed cases, remains the most affected area if the number of cases is considered. Transnistria region, ATU Gagauzia, Balti and Ialoveni follow in the list of most affected areas, accounting for 3-7% of all cases each. All other areas have 2% or less of the total number of cases each. If the size of the population is considered, with nearly 3,200 cases per 100,000, Chisinau remains the most affected area in the country. The capital city is followed by Balti, which has surpassed the 2,000-cases mark per 100,000, and Taraclia, Ialoveni, ATU Gagauzia and Basarabeasca, which have surpassed the 1,500-case mark per 100,000;
- The contagion rate is also uneven across the country, with certain districts registering considerably higher rates than others. Leova, Drochia, Ocnita and Soroca, for example, have some of the highest contagion rates in the country, which range between 1.3 and 1.5. The contagion rate in Chisinau is 1.1;
- More women continue to be infected with the virus than men, 59% vs. 41%. However, the percentage of men who have died from the disease is slightly higher than that of women, 51% vs. 49%. Furthermore, the case fatality rate among men continues to be higher than among women, 3.2% vs. 2.1%;
- Real time figures and graphs can be accessed [here](#) in Romanian and in Russian [here](#). This site has more than 2 million views to date.





Source: Our World in Data, <https://ourworldindata.org> \*Some differences may exist between the data included in the charts above and the data mentioned in the rest of this section because of the difference in the population number used in the calculations.





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## Overview of Key Decisions & Announcements

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- This week has seen days with consecutive record high numbers of cases and shows Moldova is on a similar trend as the rest of Europe. As restrictions are relaxed across a multitude of areas, community engagement in strictly following safety measures is all the more important to ensure the safety of individuals and communities;
- The Extraordinary National Commission for Public Health met on September 24 and are moving to a more decentralized risk management / alert levels at a raion level, this will be calculated and shared by the National Agency for Public Health every 14-days. Raion level public health commissions will then establish public health measures based upon the agreed alert level;
- In the context of the International Day of Older Persons and UN75 global conversation, UNFPA with the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection will launch a policy brief on the impact on older persons of Covid-19 on 30 September entitled “**Creating bridges between young and older persons to overcome the pandemic**”;
- The [Government finalized](#) the negotiations and signed a funding agreement with the EC for implementation of the project „EU4Moldova: Support for the health system response to COVID-19 pandemic and implementation of AA related reforms”. The project budget is EUR 9 million for a period of 6 years and will aim at strengthening the capacity of the health system, improving the monitoring and oversight of the financial sector, increasing the transparency of the justice system and strengthening of local media;
- An assessment has been published by the UNHCR on the [Impact of COVID-19 on Refugees, Asylum-Seekers and Stateless Persons in the Republic of Moldova](#);
- A thematic brief has been produced by UNDP on [Digitalization of public services in Moldova in the COVID-19 era](#);
- An assessment by UN Women, the Roma National Center, and the Government of Sweden was produced on [The effects of the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic on the Roma population in the Republic of Moldova](#).

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## Update on Restrictions\*

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

- The state of emergency in public health instituted by the Decision no. 10 from 15 May 2020 remains in force through 30 September 2020. The status post 30 September has not yet been published;
- According to the [Decision No 31](#) from 24 September 2020 of the National Commission for Emergency in Public Health there are a series of relaxations to the limitations imposed before. These permissions are organization of exhibitions and fairs in open air with following of the sanitary measures and organization of cultural events (theatres, concerts) in inside/closed spaces with 50% of the capacity to be used only;

- The same Decision stipulates the earlier imposed social distance, including in schools, of 1.5 meters and 4 sq.m per student can now be reduced to 1m and 2sq.m respectively. This may imply that schools might increase the number of in-person attendance, reduce or cancel the shifts practice etc;
- New measures to prevent and control COVID-19 infection at the entry to the Republic of Moldova from September 14, 2020. A list of countries with additional restrictions can be accessed [here](#);
- The de facto authorities in the Transnistria Region have extended the Covid-19 entry and exit regime until December 1st, along with other measures.