

## Coronavirus Disease - COVID 19

Weekly Situation Report No. 35 (09 October 2020)

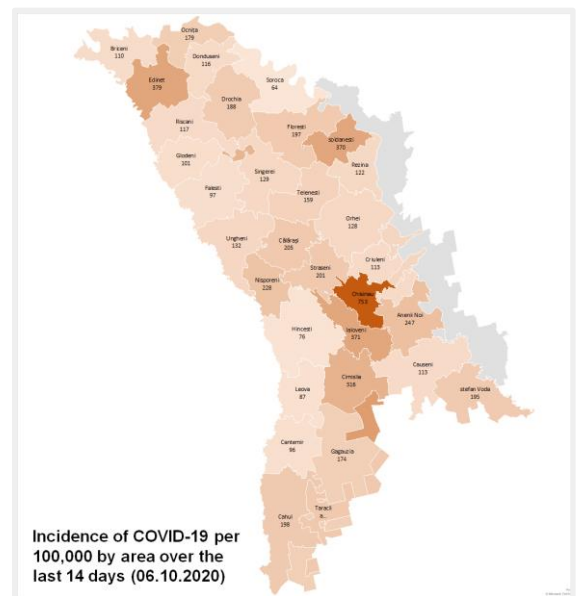


*This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners. From 18 September 2020 programme updates will be produced at the end of the month. All past sitreps can be accessed [here](#)*

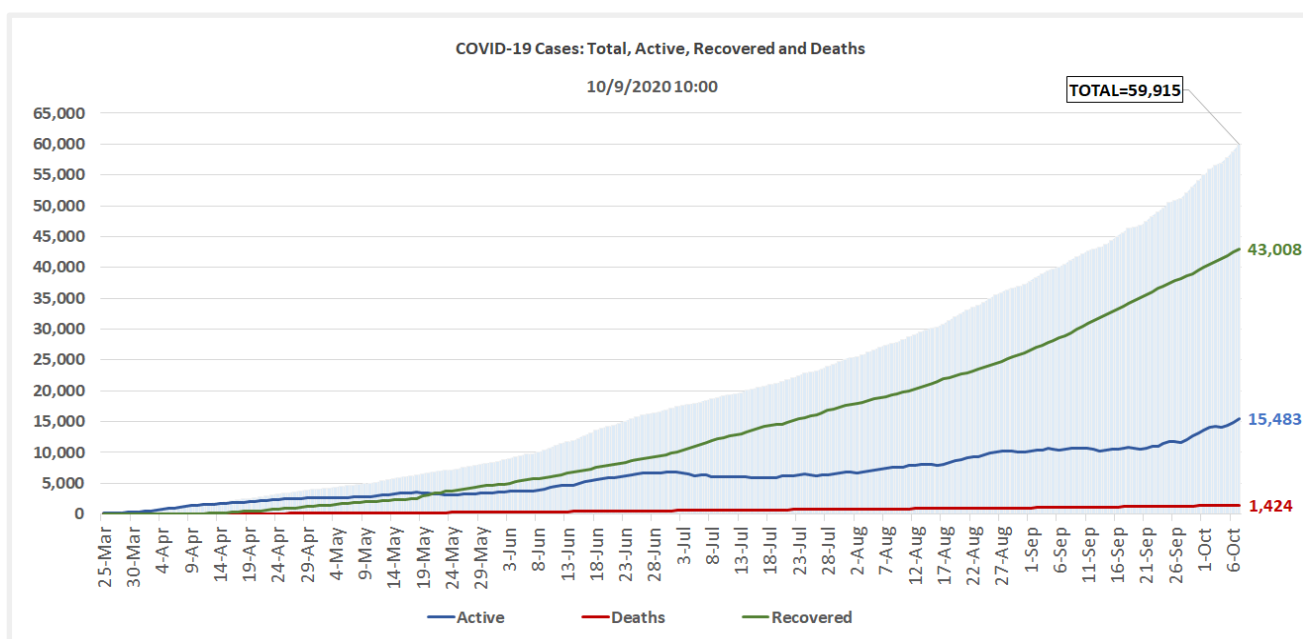
## Highlights – data as reported by national authorities

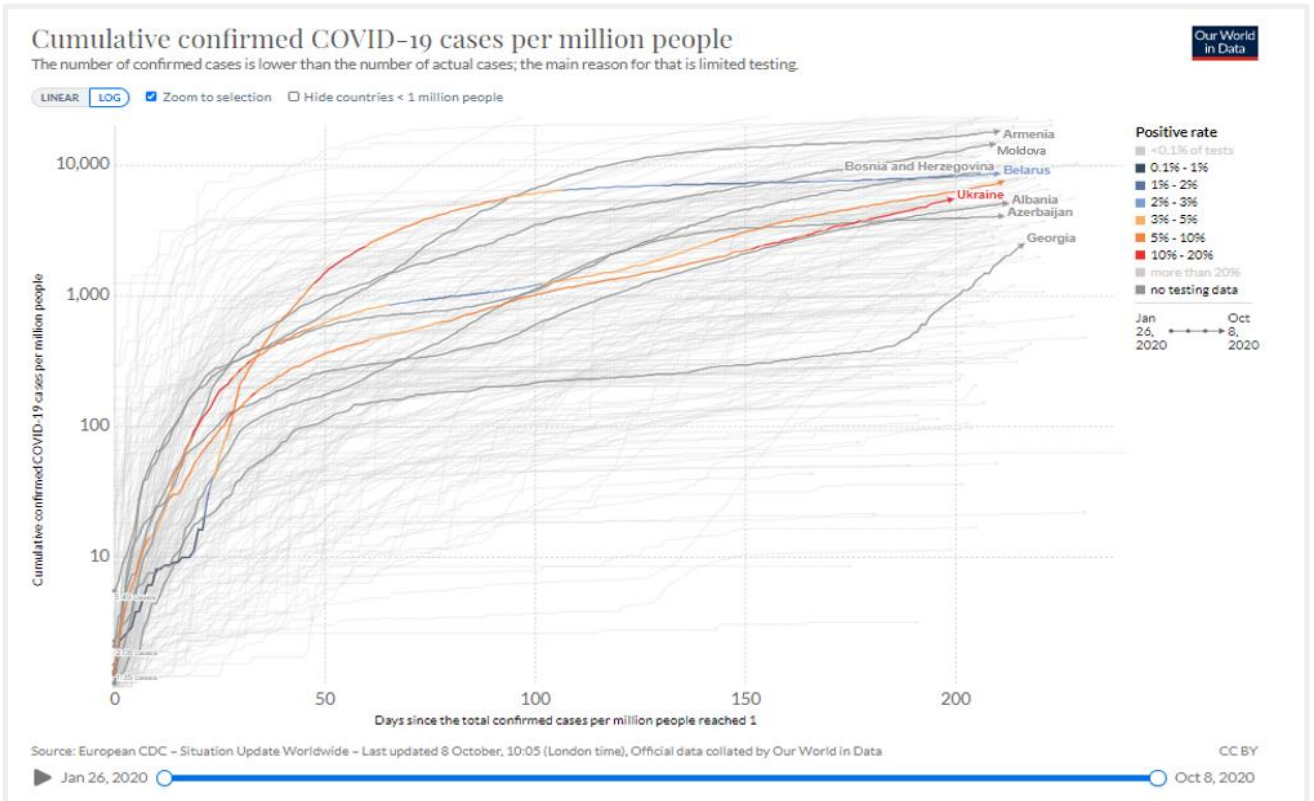
Data as at 9/10/2020, 10:00 a.m.

- The number of cases continued to grow over the past week, with a new record number of daily cases - 1,121 - being reported on Thursday of this week and another 1,062 cases being reported on Wednesday. The average number of daily cases over a seven-day period now stands at 836, which is over 100 cases more compared to the same figure last week. The total number of reported cases currently stands at 59,915. The total number of active cases increased to 15,483, which represents 25.8% of all registered cases;
- The overall crude cumulative incidence of cases per 100,000 stands at 1,725, 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 168 and over the last 14 days is 316, with both figures registering an increase over the past week;
- The number of deaths continued to grow, with a total of 88 deaths being reported over the last seven days. The average number of daily deaths over the same period is 12.57, which is somewhat higher than the 12.00 figure registered last week. The total number of deaths reached 1,424. The case fatality rate, at the same time, dropped slightly to 2.4%. 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 43,008. This represents 71.8% of all cases;
- Weekly figures reflect an accelerated growth in the number of confirmed cases. The total number of new cases registered last week is 5,704, which represents a 33.3% increase compared to the previous week. The contagion rate (R0) also increased to 1.17 last week but decreased slightly since then and now stands at 1.14;

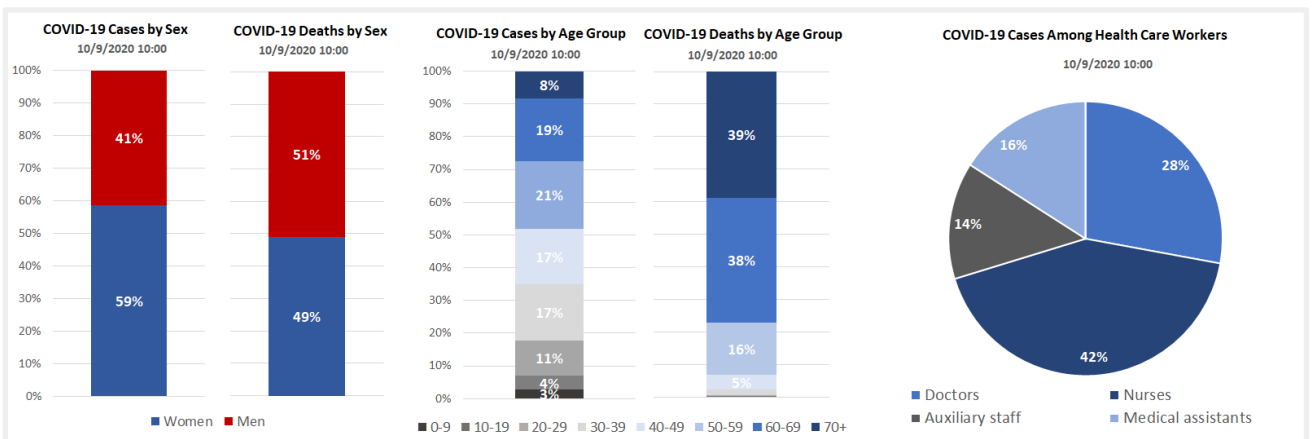
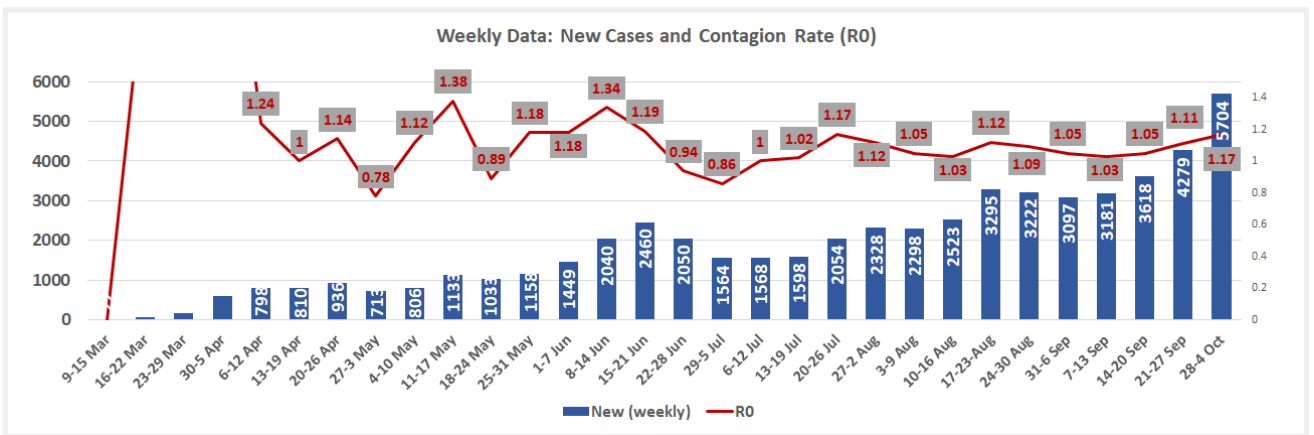


- The weekly number of deaths decreased to 79 last week, which is 5 less than the previous week or a 6% decrease. However, the number of serious cases increased to 667 during the same period, which is nearly 100 cases more compared to the week prior. The number of serious cases continued to increase further this week, reaching 731 in the last seven days;
- The weekly number of recoveries remained relatively stable over the past couple of weeks, but against the background of rapidly increasing cases, this trend is concerning given the widening gap between new cases and recoveries, which is contributing to an increase in active cases. The total number of recoveries last week was 3,113;
- The share of health care workers in the total number of cases remained around 11%. Over 6,500 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 44% of all confirmed cases, remains the most affected area if the number of cases is considered. Transnistria region, Balti, ATU Gagauzia and Ialoveni follow in the list of most affected areas, accounting for 3-8% 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 4,000 cases per 100,000, Chisinau remains the most affected area in the country. The capital city is followed by Balti, Ialoveni and Basarabeasca, which have surpassed the 2,000-cases mark per 100,000, and Taraclia, Edinet, ATU Gagauzia, Straseni and Soroca, 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. Taraclia, Stefan Voda, Leova, Cahul and Cantemir, for example, have some of the highest contagion rates in the country, which range between 1.4 and 1.8. The contagion rate in Chisinau is 1.2;
- 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, 2.9% vs. 2.0%;
- Real time figures and graphs can be accessed [here](#) in Romanian and in Russian [here](#). This site has more than 2.08 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.



## Overview & Announcements

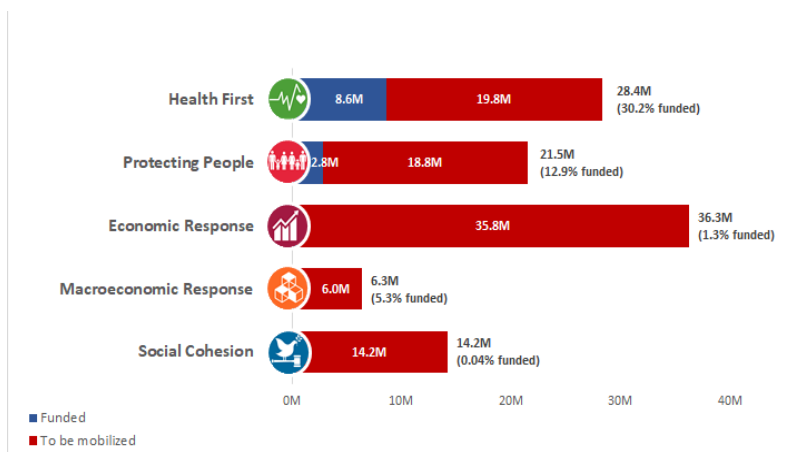
- The United Nations [COVID-19 Socio-Economic Response and Recovery Plan](#) for Moldova has been updated

The Plan has been updated to include a summary of the impact of COVID-19 and related measures in the country. The analysis covers five key pillars for the response with a complete analysis of vulnerable groups and the challenges they are facing. Contains 99 projects/actions through over 40 partnerships at a required value of \$106 million. More than 18 donors are working with the UN to provide support during the emergency.

Actions/ projects	Requirements	Funded	Repurposed funds from 2020 budget
<b>99</b>	<b>\$ 106.7 M</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>7%</b>



Required & Funded by Pillar



- The Chisinau Municipality will increase the number of hospital beds for COVID patients

In a [press release from October 8](#), the Chisinau Mayor's Office announced the municipality will add 110 additional beds (out of which 6 with ICU) for COVID patients. The beds will be arranged in the Municipal Clinical Hospital "Gheorghe Paladi" and will be available starting with October 9.

- Impact of the drought and COVID-19 on agriculture

On October 7, Minister Perju (MARDE) participated in the FAO's Regional Dialogue for Europe and Central Asia on the impact of COVID-19 on the economy and the measures to mitigate the consequences of COVID-19.

On October 8, the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment (MARDE) together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) organized an online dialogue with the participation of all development partners within the agricultural sector, to discuss the socio-economic impact of the drought and COVID-19 on agriculture, food and living standards of our country, especially in rural areas.

- Impact of COVID-19 on air pollution in Moldova

UNDP and MARDE organized a follow-up discussion on the topic of [impact of COVID-19 on the air pollution](#) in Moldova, particular focus being placed on level of air pollution in main industrial and urban areas, with

participation of technical staff in the MARDE and Environmental Agency; partners discussed the possibilities to integrate EO data into the M&E framework on air pollution and pollutants.

- **UNDP Social and Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) final report presented and procurement support**

The UN Socio-Economic Impact Task Force meeting organized on 7 October during which the UNDP Social and Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) final draft report was presented by PwC, with the participation of key partners from the Government (Ministry of Finance, State Chancellery, Ministry of Economy, National Bureau of Statistic) and development partners. Further consultations on the draft will be conducted with partners and national counterparts. A communication plan is being prepared for the dissemination of the SEIA results.

UNDP has received confirmation that Oxygen Concentrators procured with support from Soros Foundation are being prepared for shipment to Moldova.

- **Support to doctors from the left bank of Nistru extended until December 1, 2020**

Support to doctors residing on the left bank of the Nistru and working in health care institutions on the right bank has been extended until December 1, 2020. The support is provided within the EU-funded Confidence Building Measures programme implemented by UNDP. Altogether, 38 people benefitted from the support for temporary accommodation, of which 10 have been recently allowed to commute and phased out. In addition, 4 medics are waiting to be included in the list, i.e. the number of supported doctors till end-November will be 32.

- **Code of Conduct for a free and fair electoral campaign enforced by CEC**

The CEC developed an obligatory Code of Conduct for registered candidates and accredited mass-media involved in covering the campaign. The Code has as objectives to contribute to a free, honest and fair campaign and ensure an objective coverage of all candidates and obstruction of biased information. The Code will be obligatory for signature for all candidates and accredited mass-media.

- **Voter Safety during the Presidential elections**

UNDP and USAID support the Center Electoral Commission for the informational and awareness campaign on COVID-19 safety measures for the 2020 Presidential Elections. A [video graphic explainer](#) was launched and will be promoted on TV and social media until election day (1 November 2020). Also, 4,500 copies of three versions of motivational posters are distributed to all polling stations in the country and abroad.

UNDP and USAID support the "Arci's journey to elections" campaign, launched on International Democracy Day with a puppet theatre show by the Centre for Continuous Electoral Training (CCCET). The third edition of the electoral comics "Arci fights against COVID-19" contains three stories easy to read, easy to understand about voting safety, how to wear correctly a protective mask and how to vote with the help of a mobile ballot box. In October, 12,700 copies of this edition of the electoral comics will reach almost 100 schools in over 50 communities throughout Moldova. The publication is accessible in Romanian, Russian, Ukrainian, Gagauz and Romani.

- **Support to ATU Gagauzia**

On October 1, 2020, UNDP, WHO and UK conducted a [handover ceremony](#) at the Comrat district hospital "Isaac Gurfinkel" of COVID-19 emergency support of personal protective equipment.

- **General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations received support from UNDP and Estonia**

On October 2, 2020, UNDP and Estonia organized a [handover ceremony](#) of equipment that will be used to set mobile centers for quarantine, pre-triage and epidemiological triage near hospital units or other public institutions.

- **Education and Awareness Raising on Vaccines**

During the campaign, "[Vaccinate children, protect your future!](#)", carried out by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection, together with the National Agency for Public Health, with the support of the WHO and UNICEF, [four videos were developed](#), which explain the path a vaccine takes, from creation and testing to administration. The videos aim at spreading the information about the vaccines, their usefulness as well as to counter the fake information on these issues.

- **The Program "I choose to be GOOD with others and with myself" has been launched**

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Research in partnership with UNFPA Moldova launched today, October 8, the Program "I choose to be GOOD with others and with myself". The purpose of the Program is to provide a support for teachers, school managers and parents to maintain psycho-emotional well-being in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **World Bank report "[COVID-19 and Human Capital](#)"**

The WB released the Report "[COVID-19 and Human Capital](#)" that forecasts a decline by 5.2 percent of the Moldovan GDP this year (compared to a previous prediction of 3.1 percent). This is the most significant drop since the global financial crisis in 2008-2009. The World Bank expects a 3.4-percent growth rate in 2021 (compared to four percent previously) and expects that public debt will increase to 33.3 percent of the GDP in 2020 and 35.1 percent in 2021.

## 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**

- The registrations' regime has no changes with all regulations remaining unchanged from the [Decision no. 33 from 28 September 2020](#);
- As the pandemic situation has worsened the Transnistria Region is imposing new restrictions. All institutions providing curative medical treatment have ceased activity. Events involving a large number of spectators, including those outside, have been banned;
- To date no significant measures have been introduced in the territorial units under Code Red;
- The week of September 28 to October 4 saw 52,766 border exits crossings from Moldova. On October 8 there were 11,182 total crossings. 5,169 entered the country (the majority by land from Romania) and only 764 by air. COVID-19 epidemiological data cards remain in use at the crossings.