



COVID-19
RESPONSE

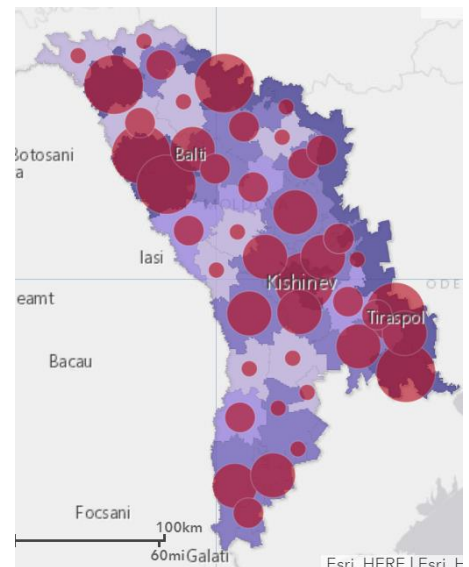
Coronavirus Disease – Covid 19 Situation Report No. 11 (23 April 2020)



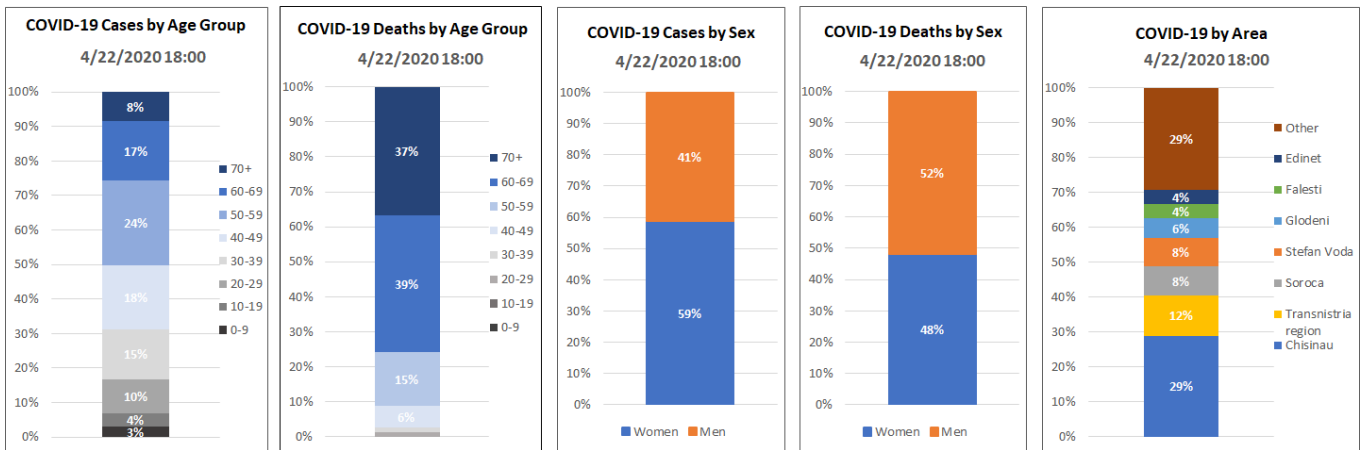
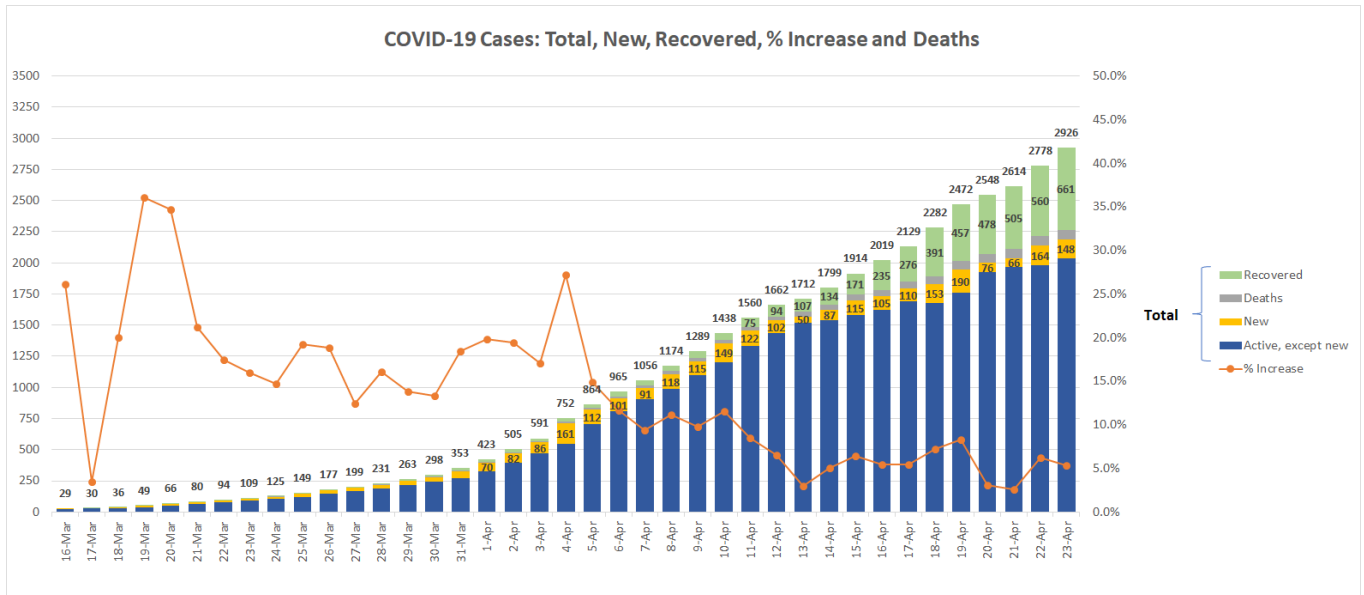
This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners.

Highlights – data as reported by national authorities*

- Three more coronavirus-related deaths have been reported today, bringing the total number of deaths to 79. The case fatality rate currently stands at 2.7%.
- Another 148 cases were reported today after the processing of 792 tests, bringing the total number of confirmed cases to 2,926, which represents a 5.3% increase compared to yesterday.
- Approximately a quarter of all cases continue to be health care workers. Over 700 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, 661 patients have recovered. At the same time, 218 patients are in serious condition. The number of active cases currently stands at 2,186.
- 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 8-12% of all cases each. Glodeni, Edinet and Falesti, which have also surpassed the 100-case mark, account for another 4-6% of all cases each. Taken together, these seven areas account for 70% 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, Edinet, Falesti and Chisinau, in the order listed, have been most affected by the disease.
- The distribution of cases by age has remained largely unchanged. Individuals in the 50-59 age group continue to be most affected, accounting for approximately a quarter of all confirmed cases. Those in the 40-49, 60-69 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 remain at a much higher risk of being seriously affected by the disease. While only 8% of all confirmed cases are people older than 70, approximately 37% of deaths from the disease have occurred in this age group. Also, more than 3 in 4 deaths have occurred in people over 60, and more than 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, 59% vs. 41%. However, the percentage of men who have died from the disease is slightly higher than that for women, 52% vs. 48%. The case fatality rate among men is also higher than among women, 3.4% vs. 2.2%.
- The number of suspected cases stands at 116, and about 39,000 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

- A development partners meeting was held on April 23. All partners undertaking ad hoc support to Covid-19 response support are encouraged to also share the details of this with the Aid Coordination Centre asistenta.covid19@gov.md. This includes both past one-off interventions (for holistic record keeping and transparency), ongoing projects, and proposals for future engagement. Understanding that the Ministry of Finance remains the entry point for ODA.
- Video of frontline workers produced by RCO and WHO with the MoHLSP and Mol with the support of the Swedish Government can be found [here](#).

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

- Starting April 27, 2020, the State Agency for Public Services through the territorial divisions will resume the provision of the following public services:
 - registration of vehicles in a special mode;
 - documentation of drivers;
 - birth registration, with the issuance of a birth certificate;
 - Marriage registration.
- Starting April 22, 2020, allow the sale of products in packaging and catering by catering enterprises in accordance with the code KEDM 56.10, with the exception of: express buffets, ice cream street trailers, mobile trailers selling. Food; cooking at market stalls; restaurants and bars related to transport, retail outlets selling takeaway food.
- Resumption of individual training is allowed (general physical training) in open public places for members of national teams, with mandatory compliance to reduce the spread of Covid-19 infection. Members of national teams must carry a certificate with their identity and identity card confirming membership of the national team, issued by the National Sports Federations.

Security:

- NTR

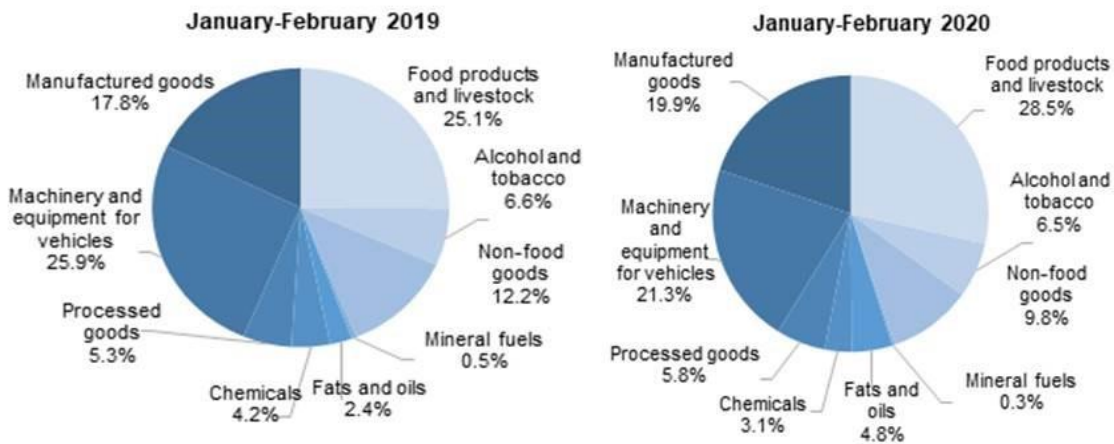
Transnistria Region:

- On 21 April, the de facto leader issued a new decree obliging all TN region “citizens” with any degree of formal medical education, who are not working for region or local health institutions, to register at the military commissariats in order to then be involved in combating Covid in the region for the duration of two months. In theory, this would also include doctors residing on the left bank and working on the right bank to now participate in combating Covid-19 on the left bank. But the de facto authorities have indicated that this will not be the case. These doctors will continue to be able to work on the right bank. However, having said that, the complications to their crossing that existed due to the state of emergency declared still exist.

Economic Impact:

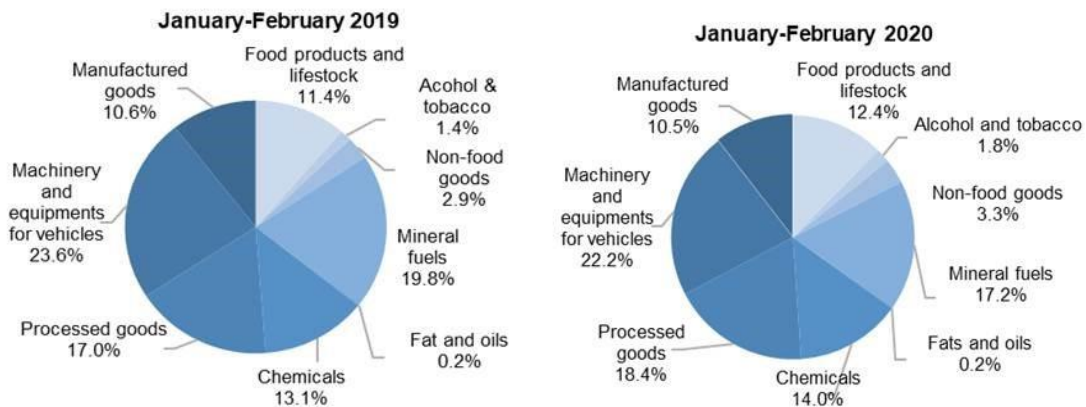
- On the export side, Moldova is likely to be affected by the decrease in economic activity and disruption of supply chains of its main trade partners: EU (notably Romania and Italy), Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Turkey. The timid sign of this tendency is proved by the reduction of export of goods during January-February 2020 by 2.3% compared to the similar period 2019. Worth mentioning that reduction occurred on account of re-export (-24%) while export of domestic goods increased by 6.8% versus the same period 2019. In the first two months 2020, exports to the EU-28 increased by 3.8% (compared to January-February 2019) accounting for 68.5% in the total exports, while exports to CIS countries went down by 7.5% in the same period reaching the share of only 12.9%. Overall, export to traditional trade partners such as Turkey (-29.7%), Italy (-22.6%), Russia (-11.7%), Belarus (-24.7%), Romania (-4.7%) declined, while exports towards other destinations such as Czech Republic, Portugal, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Hungary, Lebanon, Jordan, Australia, Philippines, Singapore and China increased more than twofold each.

FIGURE 5: Structure of Moldova’s exports (NBS, 2020)



- Contrary to this, imports during the January-February 2020 grew by 5.6% compared to similar period in 2019. Majority of imports were from the EU-28 (47.3%), while import from CSI went down by 2.1% compared to the same period of 2019 reaching 27.1% of total imports. In terms of structure, import of natural gas (-28.2%) and energy (-38.1%) substantially declined as a result of businesses lockdown, while there was substantial increase on production factors such as metal processing machinery and mineral chemicals (increased by 2.3 times each), seeds (+1.5 times), livestock (+29.4%), animal oils and fats (+1.6 times), and food products such as dairy and eggs (+43.3%), alcohol (+36.8%) and tobacco (+28.9%), etc.

FIGURE 6: Structure of Moldova’s imports (NBS, 2020)



Aid Coordination

- *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*
- **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.

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.

Procurement support and Equipment

- The 700 kg lot of PPE procured by UNICEF was cleared by customs and delivered to the MHSPF warehouse SanFarmaco yesterday. It includes more than 40K high filtration masks and more than 600 no contact thermometers.
- Forecast for procurement of the second tranche of PPE for health staff in the amount of around 500,000 USD was submitted to UNICEF global Supply Division.
- At UNICEF Moldova initiative a request on procurement of medical equipment for assisted breathing was compiled in cooperation with MHLSP, WHO and WB and submitted to UNICEF Supply Division for further procurement. UNICEF Supply Division is compiling the respective Agreement with the Government.
- UNDP procured and distributed additional 200 units protective gowns to the National Administration of Penitentiaries on top of the previously delivered 80 units and 200 units to the Center of Forensic Medicine.
- A centralized procurement by UNDP for the Inclusive Growth Cluster for Covid-19 response delivered to the UN House:
 - Protective gowns – 1,800 units
 - Disinfectant solution – 672 kg
 - Protective shoes – 300 pairs
 - Disinfectant soap (5L) – 162 units
 - Sprayers – 8 units
 - Hand sanitizers – 3,850 pieces

Assessment and Data

- The technical team meeting of the Big Data for Covid-19 Response Task Force was organized on 22 April to discuss the findings of the 008 Work Report. The next technical meeting is planned for 24 April, with participation of a delegated epidemiologist from WHO. So far, 8 working reports were produced for the Government to raise awareness on the aggregated mobility and potential risks of spread of Covid-19.

Health

- UNICEF Moldova initiated an intervention aiming at youth mental health on the Youth Clinics platform.
- UNFPA has launched a new regional online [hotline “ART-Help”](#) to address urgent needs of people living with HIV and key populations who have difficulties receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) and reproductive health and gender-based violence counselling and services due to the Covid-19 pandemic and associated quarantines, border closures, lockdowns and disruptions in supplies chains and service provision. The hotline was developed in partnership with the Eurasian Network of Women. The hotline is bilingual (Russian, English) and operates in Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Ukraine. It will also provide information and referral for those temporarily (due to border closures) staying in Germany, France, Italy, Check Republic, Poland, Spain and Turkey.
- Support to 14 doctors living in TN and working on the right bank (temporary accommodation, per diem and transportation) is covered through the EU-funded Confidence Building Measures programme. More healthcare workers are expected to join.

Socio-Economic Impact Task Force

- The meeting of the Social and Economic Impact Task Force was held on 22 April where the WB Emergency Support Programme and the PM Economic Council support to the business sector were presented and discussed. UNDP is in the process of consulting TORS/scope of assessment with agencies and partners.

Education and youth

- UNICEF chaired the regular UN Coordinated Education Task Force in the context of the Covid-19 crisis this week.
- UNICEF continued discussions and participation in the Regional Initiative on LearnIn platform introduction and use in the context of Covid-19 and beyond. Plans are prepared for the regional initiative to be rolled out with national networks for LearnIn for its use in the countries for the Covid-19 and beyond.
- A 3 days on-line training on positive parenting during Covid-19 pandemics for 171 regional ECD TOTs was launched by MECR with UNICEF support. Further on, these 171 TOTs will organize regional training for local TOTs using 16 on-line modules on positive parenting developed with UNICEF support. These modules will help educators to support parents and caregivers to talk about Covid-19 pandemics with small children; explain the necessity of staying at home; organize a secure environment for children at home; engage in early education activities through fun and play the whole family including mothers and fathers; use non-violent disciplining methods; teach children to respect personal hygiene; deal with toxic stress and mental issues etc. The trainings are organized with the additional financial support provided by the Global Partnership for Education Secretariat to be used by MECR for better planning to Covid-response.
- UNICEF and TEKEDU developed a digital UPSHIFT program for engaging young people generating social innovations tackling youth issues related to Covid-19.

Communications

- UNICEF communicated extensively in the media about the delivery of the personal protection equipment for firstline medical workers, including [a media release](#), a [photo gallery](#), a [video](#) and an [interview](#) with the UNICEF Country Representative.
- UNFPA produced and disseminated a positive human interest story about safe pregnancy and delivery during Covid times. The [story of Nina Cristel from Chisinau](#), as well as concerns of pregnant women and medical recommendations to avoid the disease, was widely covered in mass-media by eight (8) [media channels](#).
- UNFPA produced and disseminated the Covid-19 Guidance Document for Maternity Services. It is available on the UNFPA Moldova website in [English](#) and [Russian](#).
- UNFPA continues to communicate with young people about mental health and emotional well-being during the quarantine period. Following the launch of [“My Choice is to be OK”](#) online programme, the 1st [short video with psychologist Sergiu Toma](#), was produced and disseminated (with Russian translation). The video reached

an audience of nearly 13,000 people. All communication materials related to this program are visible on the [Ministry of Education, Culture and Research Facebook page](#).

- UNFPA continues to engage with youth-led #StayHome campaign focusing on intergenerational solidarity. [Alex lordache](#), popular photographer (17.9k followers), had a video-call with his grandmother and posted a story (24H) on Instagram and Facebook with #StayHome message and care for grandparents.
- UNFPA Assistant Representative [was live on Morning Show at Moldova1 TV](#), speaking about the #Stay Home campaign and promoting the messages about intergenerational solidarity, social distance and other precaution measures against Covid.
- UNDP has produced video testimonials with two experts, Angela Stafii, life coach and Doctor of Philosophy and Dr. Loretta Handrabura, gender and education specialist, on mental health and how to manage reactions and expectations, and respectively the challenge for teachers of learning quickly distance learning platforms and adapting to the situation.
- Story and video published about a Moldovan toymaker, supported four years ago by the EU via UNDP, who shifted his production to visors for doctors and police officers, distributing protective materials free of charge.
- UNDP distributed a press-release on donation of a batch of 400 protective gowns to the Center of Forensic Medicine and the National Administration of Penitentiaries.
- UNDP supports the first 15 communities (out of the 35) beneficiaries of “Migration and Local Development Project” to conduct local communications campaigns in order to collect funds and goods for socially vulnerable people during the pandemic period.

Human Rights

- OHCHR initiated the creation of an NGO Task Force on Covid-19 and Human Rights. 50 NGOs, working at national and local level, including six NGOs from the Transnistria region and one NGO from UTA Gagausia, joined the Task Force. The Task Force aims to be a platform for sharing knowledge, information, and experience of conducting work in the context of Covid-19, and for discussing various human rights issues that they encounter in the context of the state’s response to Covid-19, as well as advocacy actions they may want to undertake jointly.
- As a starting point, an on-line survey was conducted among the members of the NGO Task Force. The main challenges and issues identified through the survey are the following: economic/financial issues; limited access to services (public, social, medical services, including rehabilitation services); increase in partner and domestic violence; increase in discriminatory attitudes, including with regard to labor rights; lack of possibility of elderly, and people with disabilities to ensure their basic needs (food, hygiene and medicine); limited/lack of access to distance education especially for children from socially vulnerable families, families with many children, children with special education needs including children with disabilities, due to limited access to ICT; limited access of the population to information that is accessible to all, including to ethno-linguistic minorities, persons with disabilities and persons with low levels of literacy. Another important issue highlighted by the representatives of CSOs refers to the lack of transparency and non-involvement of citizens/civil society organizations in decision-making processes.
- The Covid-19 pandemic, according to the survey, particularly affects following groups of people: the older people, people with disabilities, socially vulnerable families; victims and survivors of domestic violence; persons who are under state custody (prisoners, persons with disabilities and elderly people placed in residential institutions); specialists in the medical and social field; persons involved in seasonal work, and daily worker; migrants, mainly women migrants; and the small and medium enterprises.
- The CSOs are providing support to people in vulnerable situations, by providing necessary products including food, medicine, and hygienic products, and by providing phone and on-line consultations to people. Some of the CSOs are concerned that their beneficiaries are not receiving the support needed given their obligations under ongoing projects. CSOs would benefit from more flexibility of the donor community in terms of the possibility of reallocating funds within their projects for ensuring the basic needs of people in vulnerable situations.