



COVID-19
RESPONSE

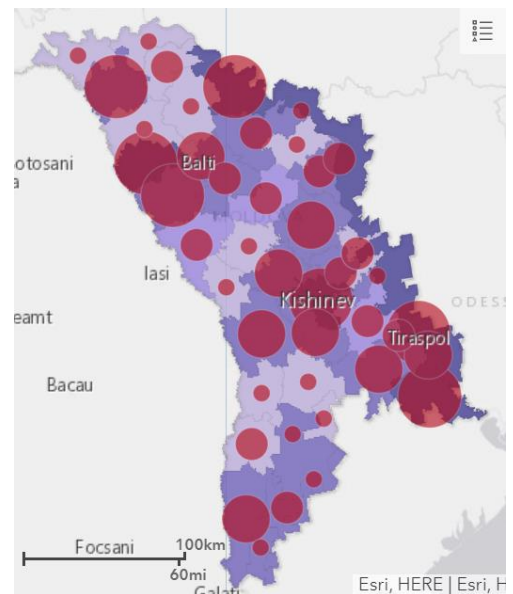
Coronavirus Disease – Covid 19 Situation Report No. 10 (21 April 2020)



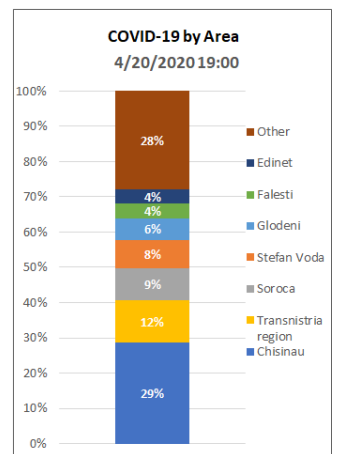
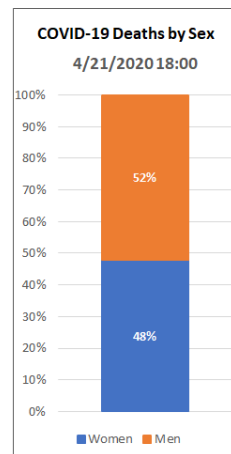
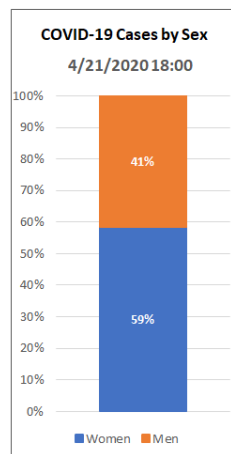
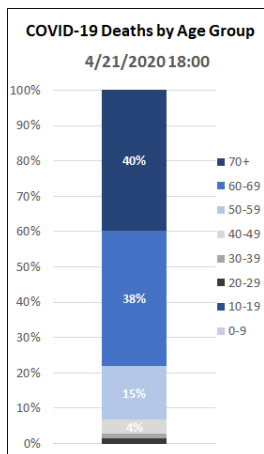
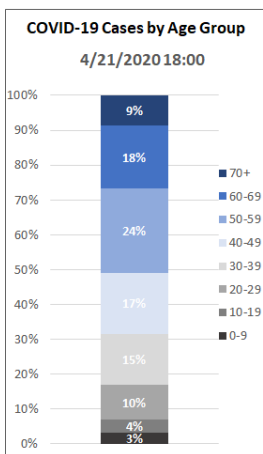
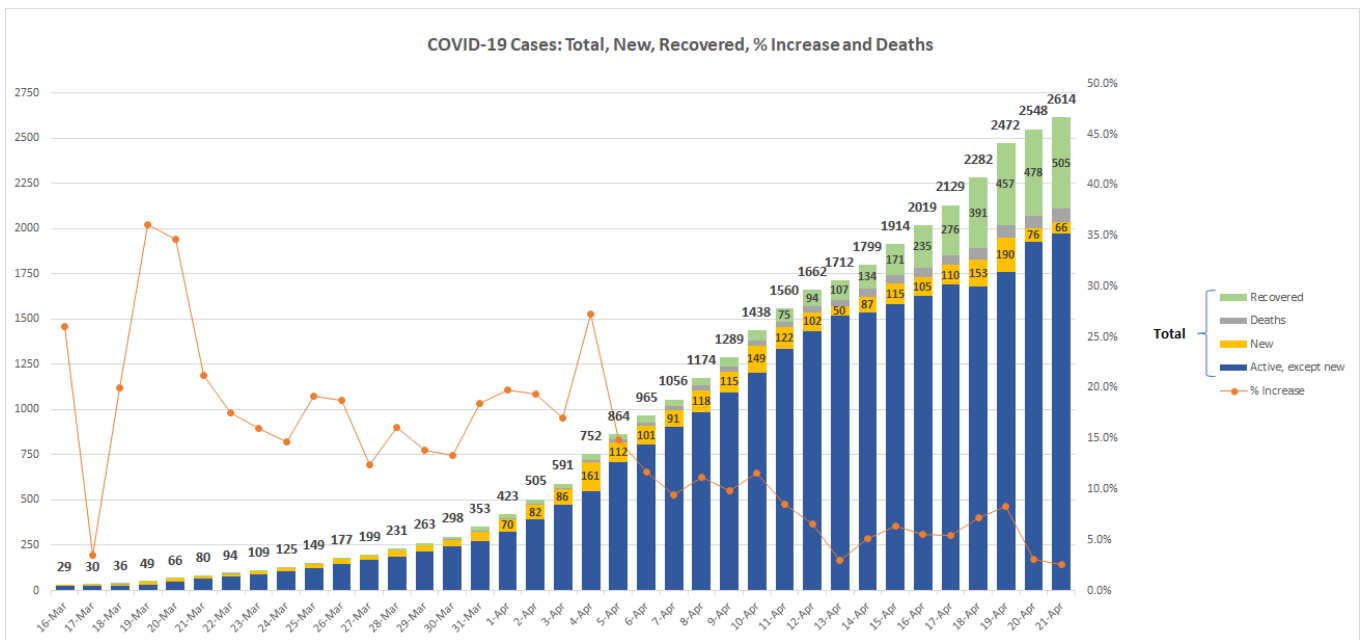
This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners.

Highlights – data as reported by national authorities*

- Three more coronavirus-related deaths have been reported today, bringing the total number of deaths to 73. The case fatality rate currently stands at 2.8%.
- Another 66 cases were reported today after the processing of 241 tests, bringing the total number of cases confirmed through laboratory testing to 2,614, which represents a 2.6% increase compared to yesterday. Since the last report, all clinically diagnosed patients have been tested for the virus. Hence, the total number of cases reported above includes all confirmed cases in the country.
- Out of the total number of confirmed cases, 505 patients have recovered. At the same time, 195 patients are in serious condition. The number of active cases currently stands at 2,037.
- 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, Falesti and Edinet, which have also surpassed the 100-case mark, account for another 4-6% of all cases each. Taken together, these seven areas account for over 70% of all cases. All other areas have fewer than 100 cases each and account for the remainder of cases.
- The distribution of cases by age has remained largely unchanged. 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 remain at a much higher risk of being seriously affected by the disease. While only 9% of all confirmed cases are people older than 70, approximately 40% 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 higher than that for women, 48% vs. 52%. The case fatality rate among men is also considerably higher among men than women at the moment, 3.5% vs.2.3%.
- The number of suspected cases stands at 113, and nearly 40,000 people are quarantined at home.
- From 21 April two additional laboratories, both in Chisinau, will start their activity: the Republican Medical Diagnostic Center and the Hospital of Dermatology and Communicable Diseases.
- Real time figures and graphs can always be accessed [here](#) in Romanian and in Russian [here](#).



Overview of Key Decisions & Announcements

- A Russian chartered aircraft carrying items (PPE and test kits) landed in Chisinau from China on 19 April. The items were procured by the MoHLSP, many local companies, and UNICEF. Government has announced additional support will be arriving from Turkey this week.
- A Development Partners meeting will be held at 13.00 Thursday 23 April. A link has been sent to the sitrep recipient list.

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

- NTR

Security:

- NTR

Transnistria Region:

- Restrictions related to the movement of citizens during the Easter holidays have been maintained. Visiting cemeteries is prohibited (except for funeral processions), and the celebration of the Orthodox Radonitsa, a holiday commemorating the dearly departed, has been postponed until the beginning of June.
- A Transnistrian Region Civil Society group has created a center to help the elderly during the Covid-19 crisis. The center has already provided medicine and food to about 700 pensioners.

Economic Impact:

- The 2020 Public Budget adjustment was approved by Cabinet of Ministers with the revenue side expected to decline by 14.4%, out of which a decline by 2.8% will occur in the mandatory health insurance fund, consolidated local budgets will be in a decline by 0.1%, while social insurance budget will witness a modest increase of 1.6% due to transfers from the state budget (the own proprietary revenues of CNAS will be in decline), revenues from taxes and duties will reduce by 2.1%, and funds aimed at implementation of donor-funded projects (incl. budget support) will decrease by 0.1%. On the expenditure side, the national public budget will increase its spending by 4.8% compared to the approved 2020 budget prioritizing such sectors like health, social protection, education, as well as funding of measures for Covid-19 impact reduction. Capex will also decrease compared to the planned amounts, yet will reach the level of 3.8% of GDP. The draft budget shall be approved by the Parliament.
- The IMF approved disbursement in the amount of \$US 235 mln to support Moldova's government in financing health care related and macroeconomic stability measures aimed at mitigating impact of Covid-19. Russia's Government approved loan in the amount of EUR 200 mln for infrastructure modernization.
- On the global arena, US crude oil prices dropped down to unprecedented lowest-ever levels caused by decline in demand partly due to Covid-19 related closures and lockdowns. This downward trend continued even after the OPEC+ agreed to reduce extraction of oil to backstop the price levels.

Aid Coordination

- A Russian chartered aircraft carrying items (PPE and test kits) landed in Chisinau from China on 19 April. The items were procured by the MoHLSP, many local companies, and UNICEF.
- 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. Focal person in RCO: laura.fiorotto@un.org and veaceslav.palade@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

- [UN Secretary-General's Covid-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund](#) has been launched. A total of \$1,000,000 was allocated for the Republic of Moldova under the first call for projects. UN Women, UNICEF and IOM are developing a project document for the allocation of the resources. The focus of the project will be on 1) enhancing the capacity of the health system to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic (equipment, PPEs, etc), protective equipment for non-health ministries (police, prison service, social workers, border police), 2) support to the border police on infection control, prevention, surveillance and border infrastructure improvement; 3) provision of immediate and preventive supplies that will be delivered to targeting affected groups of vulnerable women including women survivors and victims of violence; women living in shelters, HIV and AIDS positive women, disabled women, and the older women; and women migrants.

Procurement support and Equipment

- The UNICEF shipment of professional protective and medical equipment for health workers, was delivered on 19 April from Shanghai by charter aircraft (Russian). The total value of the supplies donated by UNICEF in this batch equals USD 116,479. The lot includes 649 Infra-red non-contact thermometers and 40,320 high filtration masks.
- The Resident Coordinators Office and USAID are mapping companies in Moldova that can supply required items for Covid-19 response. DPs interested on accessing to this information can send an email to laura.fiorotto@un.org

Assessment and Data

- The real time monitoring dashboard on Covid-19 developed with UNFPA is now available in [Russian-language version](#). The Russian version of the platform was developed with the support of NGO "Positive Initiative" and UNFPA, being part of UN Moldova's efforts to ensure the accessibility of information for all people and promote social inclusion. In addition, the dashboard was updated with a new graph that shows number of confirmed COVID19 cases disaggregated simultaneously by age and sex.
- The rapid gender assessment was launched last week by UN Women, in partnership with Center Partnership for Development and CBS-Axa. Phone based data collection is ongoing, targeting about 1,200 respondents, and

is expected to be completed by 24 April. These respondents also include the Roma population. The assessment will further inform the response particular from a gendered perspective.

Health

- UN Women with support from Sweden (through Swedish funds) have provided personal protection equipment to 3,279 social assistants and social workers across the country last week. The first lot of personal protection equipment (PPE) locally produced respiratory protection masks and disinfectant solutions. These were delivered this week to 36 Territorial structures of social assistance across the country. These social workers are reaching out to women survivors of violence in shelters, as well as other vulnerable women groups – including the elderly with essential services.
- UNICEF conducted the needs assessment for hygiene materials to be provided to medical, boarding and special education institutions.

Gender

- UN Women is engaging 35 WEPs Companies in Moldova (signatories of Women Empowerment Principles - WEPS) and national and international partners on commitments to promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment particularly focusing on linkages between Covid-19 and gender inequalities at the work place. The ongoing engagement will result in guidance for practical gendered actions to be undertaken by companies on business response as aligned with the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs). A social media campaign on WEPs and actions to be undertaken during the Covid-19 outbreak will be disseminated.
- As an outcome of last week's informative video session, held on Friday with the 30 CSOs, a brief on the good practices and opportunities to address GBV and VAW during the Covid-19 response is under finalization and will be shared to all relevant stakeholders and CSOs during this week.
- As part of the EU Project - Strengthened Gender Action in Cahul and Ungheni Districts -EVA, UN Women got approval for reprogramming of up to 100,000 EURO for interventions in the two focal regions as part of the Covid-19 response.

Education and youth

- As part of the online psychological assistance program for youth "My choice is to be OK" implemented by UNFPA and MECR, two sessions have been conducted last week. 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 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 are LIVE streamed on the Facebook page of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research.
- Based on the request of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, 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 started on 21 April.
- A meeting between the GPE Secretariat, Ministry of Education, Culture and Research was coordinated by UNICEF to discuss GPE support provided now and potential future support to Moldova to address the Covid-19 crisis. The discussion focused on Moldova's eligibility to apply for the GPE Multiplier Fund and use of parts of it to address Covid-19.
- An online meeting of the Sectoral Council in the field of External Assistance in the Education Sector is scheduled for 24 April 1000hrs

Communications

- The video spot with the message celebrate Easter home in safety is being broadcasted on TV channels and widely disseminated on social media. Video was developed by the Resident Coordinators Office with the support of Sweden in collaboration with MoHLSP and WHO.
- WHO has updated informative leaflets/posters with recommendations and restrictions due to Covid-19, primarily disseminated at country's entry points.
- Frontline video with doctors, police officers, military etc. in the process of being produced with the support of the Resident Coordinators Office, WHO, MoHLSP and Sweden. Main messages sent: thank you for staying at home and being healthy and only united we can go through this.
- Floor stickers have been produced and disseminated for 1,200 postal offices, groceries, pharmacies and primary health care offices in rural areas. Action supported by Resident Coordinators Office , WHO, MoHLSP and Sweden.
- A video spot calling people to inform police on violations of restrictions imposed has been developed and widely disseminated online, TV, radio. Video was developed by the Resident Coordinators Office with the support of Sweden in collaboration with MoHLSP and WHO.
- The Resident Coordinator's Office and WHO have offered support to MoHLSP on strategic communication on Covid-19.
- In process a video production on healthy way of #stayinghome. Action done by Resident Coordinators Office, WHO, MoHLSP and supported by Sweden.
- In process development of TV screens on general recommendations on how to protect yourself from coronavirus. Action supported by Sweden.
- A video with thank you to doctors/Happy Easter message coming from patients treated for Covid-19 was developed in collaboration with MoHLSP, WHO with the support of USAID Moldova.
- The [social media resources](#) developed by UN Women in Moldova – including information packages for migrant women, older women, women on the front line and suggestions on their well-being and safety, were adapted and also disseminated at the regional level (Europe and Central Asia).
- Since the beginning of April, Covid-19 related posts on UN Women Moldova Facebook page in total reached 898 165 views; and comments such as [this](#).