

# NATIONAL COMMISSIONER OF THE ICELANDIC POLICE





DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL
PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

Applies to: The media, almannavarnir.is, Administration and Chief Epidemiologist's contacts.

STATUS REPORT		
Date: 03.04.2020	Time: 17:00	Location: Civil Protection Crisis Coordination Centre / Directorate of Health /Chief Epidemiologist
Emergency / Distress Phase: COVID-19		

#### **Developments**

Every effort is being made to distribute information and advice to the public, public bodies and companies. All instructions can be found on the <u>Directorate of Health</u> website, the <u>National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police</u> website and the <u>covid.is</u> information website.

Rakning C-19 The Rakning C-19 app has been launched. It is an important link in the widespread work that is taking place due to COVID-19. The app will help to trace people's movements and trace the contact they have had with others, in case of infection or suspicion of infection. The app is available on the <a href="App Store">App Store</a> and on <a href="Google Play">Google Play</a>. A total of 75 thousand people downloaded the app in the first 24 hours. English Polsku

#### Quarantine attestation/certificate

People must be registered as being in quarantine in order to get a quarantine attestation/certification. They will either have been quarantined due to having been travelling or have been registered as being under quarantine by a health-care clinic or by the contact tracing team by order of the Chief Epidemiologist.

- People with electronic certificates can register themselves for quarantine at heilsuvera.is (only quarantine mandated by the authorities, cf. the above, but not self-imposed).
  - People who do not have an electronic certificate can register for quarantine at their local health-care clinic.
- When the registration has been made, the quarantine certificate/attestation can be downloaded from heilsuvera.is, using a personal electronic certificate.

See more information here. A certificate of isolation must be acquired from your personal doctor.

#### The Medical Hotline and Heilsuvera are under a lot of pressure.

Heilsuvera receives around 500 net chats every 24 hours. We urge everyone to read the information available on the heilsuvera.is website. In case of serious illness, please contact your health-care clinic during day-time working hours, or the Medical Hotline via the 1700 telephone number.

The number of people in Iceland with confirmed infections is currently 1,364, with 1,024 in isolation. There are a total of 965 domestic infections and 90 of unknown origin. A total of 22,195 samples have been taken, including 1.265 in the last 24 hours. Four people diagnosed with COVID-19 in Iceland have passed away.



According to the National University Hospital there are currently 43 patients in the hospital with COVID-19, of which 11 are in intensive care and 8 on respirators. 931 are being monitored by the COVID-19 outpatient unit, including 104 children who are being monitored by the Children's Hospital. 336 individuals have recovered and 30 individuals have been discharged from the hospital.

# Today's press conference

Participants: Víðir Reynisson, Chief Superintendent of Police; Þórólfur Guðnason, Chief Epidemiologist; Alma D. Möller, Director of Health; and Páll Matthíasson, Director of the National University Hospital.

- The first patient to be released from intensive care and to be taken off the respirator has been moved to a general ward.
- Today's numbers continue to show a similar percentage of infected individuals among those sampled and the majority of positive samples continues to come from people who are already under quarantine. This confirms that the methodology that is being used is working.
- The Minister of Health has announced that the ban on social gatherings will be extended to 4 May. It is unlikely to be lifted any sooner.
  - Stricter measures will continue to be taken wherever there are group infections, such as in the Westman Islands, in Hvammstangi and now possibly in the West Fjords. We wish to reiterate that people should follow the rules and that municipalities, vulnerable individuals and the public need to stay aware of the risk of such infections.
- Around 75 thousand people have downloaded the new contact tracing app that was introduced yesterday, which is beyond our wildest hopes.
- According to data from deCODE, there have been very few community-acquired infections.
- A new prediction has been published at <a href="https://covid.hi.is/">https://covid.hi.is/</a> and is not substantially different from the previous prediction. The predictions have proved accurate, except for the number of serious cases and intensive care cases, which is a little better than the worst-case prediction. This may possibly be because of a lack of data, since the predictive model is largely based on data from China, where the health-care services may not have been able to fully respond to the need. Intensive care services are therefore under-represented in the data.

CS Reynisson urged the public to prepare for the Easter holidays by practising staycationing inside their homes over the weekend.

#### Information sharing and projects

The civil protection authorities' Coordination Centre coordinates all action and disseminates information regarding COVID-19 all over the country.

The Icelandic Coast Guard The Coast Guard's surveillance aircraft, TF-SIF, landed at Gardemoen Airport in Oslo just before four o'clock, to pick up two medical transportation pods that are important for medical transport of individuals with COVID-19. One pod will be delivered to the National University Hospital and the other to Akureyri Hospital. Responders, such as the Coast Guard, fire services and Mýflug Air Ambulance service, can use the pods if they need to transport infected individuals to hospital. The pods are intended to make medical transport of COVID-19 patients easier and to reduce the risk of transmission.

The National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police's Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management asked the Coast Guard to send the TF-SIF crew to bring back the pods from Norway to Iceland. TF-SIF took off from Reykjavík Airport at noon and will be returning tonight.

The Red Cross Due to the strain on the Red Cross telephone helpline 1717 and the net chat at 1717.is, the Ministry of Social Affairs has decided to support the service. The support will boost up the helpline and net chat to aid people, such as families, children and young people, people with disabilities, the elderly and people of foreign origin

**The Red Cross and ICE-SAR** urge the public to stay home during the Easter holidays and will be publishing advertisements to that effect in the next few days.

during these unprecedented times. This will better enable the Icelandic Red Cross to fulfil its mission.

**Health-care workers** at the Coordination Centre are looking at housing that may be used as a reserve hospital, in cooperation with the National University Hospital. They are also putting together an overall plan for all health-care institutions on COVID-19 responses. They are also looking into protective gear and how to ensure that there is always a good stock of necessary gear available.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs' Consular Service The Consular Service has handled more than 4,500 inquiries since mid-March. They continue to concentrate on assisting those who are abroad but wish to return home. Part of that effort has been to directly contact 3,500 people who are registered in their database. Of those, around 3,100 have arrived home or intend to stay abroad, but around 300 are on their way home or have not been able to find an easy way to get home. Icelandair will make a flight to and from Alicante on 8 April and fares can be bought through the Icelandair website. This will be the last scheduled direct flight between Spain and Iceland for the next several weeks. The flight is intended to meet the needs of Icelandic residents in Spain who want to return to Iceland now that most flights for the next several weeks have been cancelled, and is being made under an agreement between the Icelandic government and Icelandair. The civil protection authorities and the foreign service are closely monitoring the repatriation efforts of the Nordic countries and other European countries and working together to help Icelandic residents to get on those flights. This is the only way to get home from those countries that have completely closed their borders, and more people will be making use of such flights in the days to come. For example, 130 people made use of a flight from Poland to Iceland this week, carried out by the airline LOT at the request of the Polish authorities. Around 20 persons have made use of flights organised by the Danish, German, British, French and Finnish authorities from Central- and South-America, Africa, Eastern Europe and Asia, including Wuhan.

#### Response to a COVID-19 infection in Bolungarvík

- One COVID-19 infection has been confirmed at Berg nursing home in Bolungarvík. Two additional residents are in isolation and samples from them are being transported to Reykjavík for analysis. A total of 8 residents are under quarantine, which makes a total of 11 people. Berg is part of the West Fjords Health-Care Institution.
- Most of the Berg staff, a total of 17 people, are under quarantine and the staff of Ból are also under quarantine.
- Ból is a home for a disabled children that is operated in housing attached to Berg. Staff from other departments of the West Fjords Health-Care Institution have been brought in to help, to the extent possible. The reserve team has been called on to step in and some people will be arriving today from other parts of the country to help. The nursing home staff are under a lot of pressure and there will be need for more well-trained staff in the next several days and weeks.
- Stricter COVID-19 measures are also being taken in Ísafjörður, Hnífsdalur and Bolungarvík

### The website <u>www.covid.is</u>

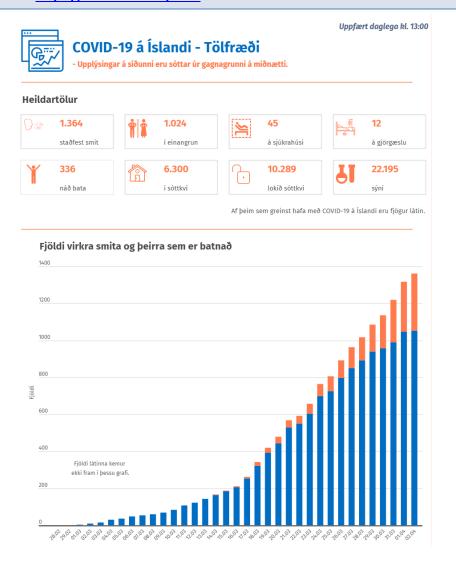
Statistical information about the disease is updated once a day and published at 13:00h on the covid.is website. The website contains information about the measures that have been taken in Iceland due to the COVID-19 disease. The website is in constant development and is regularly updated. The <a href="Our Wellbeing">Our Wellbeing</a> mental health button was updated today with added information and assistance in all parts of the country.

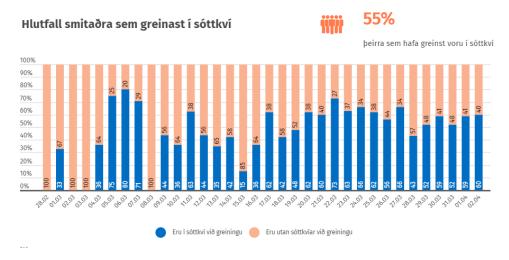
#### **Upcoming:**

- Press conferences are held every day at 14:03h.
- The next COVID-19 coordination meeting will be held on Monday 6 April at 9:00h.

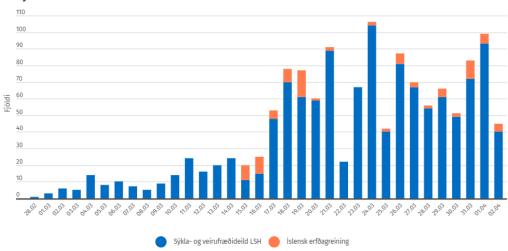
## **Status**

## Iceland – today's status – <a href="https://www.covid.is/data">https://www.covid.is/data</a>



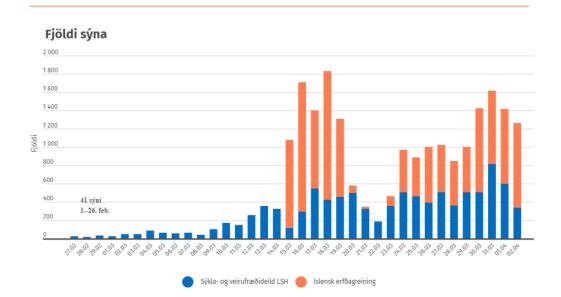




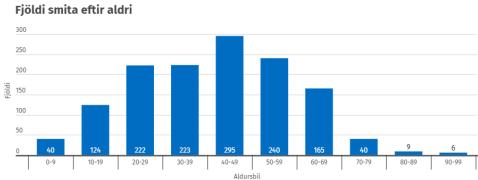


Download data

Þegar gefnar eru út upplýsingar um hve smituðum hefur fjölgað mikið frá deginum áður er það ekki alltaf svo að sambærileg tala birtist í súlu dagsins. Ástæðan er sú að birting upplýsinga um smit taka mið af því hvenær sýnið var tekið en ekki hvenær það var greint.



## Fjöldi smita eftir kyni **Uppruni** smits Óþekktur 90 Download data Download data Smit / sóttkví eftir landshlutum Höfuðborgarsvæði Suðurnes 288 128 Austurland Norðurland eystra Norðurland vestra 32 80 Vestfirðir 27 289 26 Vesturland 162 Óstaðsett 38 1189 Útlönd Download data Fjöldi smita eftir aldri



## Coronavirus - Global spread

According to Johns Hopkins, **1,041,126 individual cases** of COVID-19 have been confirmed today and **55,132 individuals** have died. Some **221,262 individuals** have already **recovered** from the illness. According to the ECDC, the epidemic is currently considered to be a moderate public health threat for healthy individuals and very high threat for older adults and individuals with chronic underlying conditions. Cf. the <u>European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)</u> website for information on the development in each country. Cf. the ECDC risk assessment.