



RÍKISLÖGREGLUSTJÓRINN

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Applies to: Media, Department of Civil Protection and Emergency, Management, administration and Chief Epidemiologist

STATUS REPORT

Dags: 05.03.2020

Time: 17:30

Location: Coordination center /Directorate of Health /Chief Epidemiologist

Alert phase due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Event description

Currently 35 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 have been confirmed. The patients are all in isolation at their homes. Currently 377 people are in quarantine as a precaution after being potentially exposed to the virus.

The Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management is working according to the Alert phase protocol as well as according to the National pandemic plan.

State of play

Covid-19 Global cases

Today, 5 March 2020, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally is 96.888 and 3.305 people have succumbed to the virus (3.5%). According to [John Hopkins](#) 53.638 individuals have recovered after falling ill. ECDC has now estimated the risk associated with COVID-19 infection as moderate to high. See the ECDC [webpage](#) for updated developments. Their risk assessment is [here](#).

China, South-Korea, Iran, Italy Ischgl ski resort in Austria are now considered as high risk areas for the COVID-19. Anyone with residence in Iceland traveling from these areas, even if they arrive from airports from outside these areas, are obliged to go into a 14 day quarantine. Ten individuals are in quarantine in Tenerife. They will likely arrive in Iceland on Saturday 7 March 2020 after being in 12 days of quarantine and will spend the remaining two days at their homes in quarantine.

Europe, USA, Canada	Cases	Deaths
Source ECDC 5. mars 11:00 am		
Italy	3089	107
France	285	4
Germany	262	0
Spain	200	1
United Kingdom	85	0
Norway	56	0
The Netherlands	38	0
Sweden	35	0
Austria	29	0
Iceland	26	0
Belgium	23	0
Greece	10	0
Denmark	10	0
Croatia	9	0
Czech Republic	8	0
Finland	7	0
Ireland	6	0
Portugal	5	0
Romania	4	0
Hungary	2	0
Estonia	2	0

Lithuania	1	0
Slovenia	1	0
Liechtenstein	1	0
Luxemburg	1	0
Poland	1	0
Latvia	1	0
United States	106	11
Canada	33	0

Iceland. State of play

- Two more cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Iceland today.
- Confirmed cases of COVID-19 are 35. One case remains ambiguous.
- All of them, including the two latest cases had been traveling in Northern-Italy and Austria. They had all gone into quarantine before on advice of directorate of health.
- Today, 25 samples were analyzed in Landspítali, University Hospital. Efforts are being made to increase the capacity of the lab. 377 samples have been analyzed.
- Iceland is committed to keeping its residents and visitors as informed and prepared as possible. Given the small population of Iceland this is easily achieved. Iceland has not diagnosed any cases of infections transmitted in Iceland, the steps taken have so far been proven effective.
- Icelandic authorities have taken preventive steps to contain the potential spread of the COVID-19 virus in the country. As Iceland has few entry points and the lowest population density in Europe, the country has been able to move swiftly to identify, communicate with and, where necessary, quarantine Icelandic residents who have been travelling from high risk areas.
- Over 400 people are in quarantine. Residents of Iceland that arrive from areas with high risk of infection are advised to self-isolate for 14 days as a precaution. There are no restrictions in place for tourists and there are no restrictions in place for travel to Iceland.
- The National Commission of the Icelandic Police, the Chief of Police in the Greater Reykjavík Area and the Chief Epidemiologist are now working to trace the pathways of infection in connection with these new cases. Over the past two days, the team has contacted approximately 300 people.
- Tomorrow, Friday, a meeting will be held with police chiefs, district physicians, port managers, the Coast Guard, the National Transportation Office, the Epidemiologist and the Customs Director for guidance on harbor security and COVID-19.
- The tourism industry and tourists have been briefed with information sheets, the information screens of Safetravel have been updated. Information has been sent to embassies. [The Icelandic travel](#) board has put published information site as well as Inspired by Iceland.
- The Foreign Ministry has contacted the Icelanders staying in quarantine in Tenerife. They will be tested for the virus tomorrow and if the tests are negative they can fly to Iceland from Tenerife.
- 1800 individuals have registered with the MFA's database tracking residents in Iceland who are traveling abroad. It is possible to register [here](#).
- The National Commission of the Icelandic Police, the Directorate of Health and the Chief Epidemiologist published a memo today citing their concerns of current and impending strikes. They challenged the parties currently in collective bargaining negotiations to seek all possible ways to end the current strike action and also prevent the actions currently envisaged.
- The next public information meeting will be held Friday 6 March 2020, at the Rescue center, Skógarhlíð 14 at 14:00.
- The next coordination meeting will be held Friday, 6 March at 08:15.

