



# NATIONAL COMMISSIONER OF THE ICELANDIC POLICE

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL  
PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT



Applies to: The media, [almannavarnir.is](http://almannavarnir.is), Administration and Chief Epidemiologist's contacts.

## STATUS REPORT

Date: 06.04.2020

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 [Directorate of Health](http://Directorate of Health) website, the [National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police](http://National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police) website and the [covid.is](http://covid.is) 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 [App Store](http://App Store) and on [Google Play](http://Google Play). 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](http://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](http://heilsuvera.is), using a personal electronic certificate.

[See more information here.](#) A certificate of isolation must be acquired from your personal doctor.

Currently there are 1.562 confirmed cases in Iceland and 1.096 are in isolation. Total 1.146 infections that occurred in country, but the origin of 86 infections is unknown at present time. About 27.880 samples have been taken so far, 1.556 the last 24 hours. Six people, diagnosed with Covid-19, have died.

According to statistics from the general hospital, there are now 35 individuals infected with Covid-19, of which ten are in the Intensive Care Unit – six on a ventilator. 983 individuals are currently under special observation on the outpatient ward, 108 of which are children under observation by the Children's Hospital. 476 individuals have recovered after the infection, and 41 individual has been released from hospital.

### Rakning - COVID-19

Help the civil protection authorities' contact tracing team trace possible COVID-19 infections in Iceland.

#### How does the app work and what information does it store?

The app records your movements and stores them safely on your device. Under certain circumstances the contact tracing team may send you a notification asking you to send them the data. You can then send the data to the civil protection authorities' contact tracing team with one click. This is to make it easier to trace any infections during the COVID-19 epidemic.

Your device will store location information for the last 14 days. Older data will be automatically deleted.

Only your telephone number is stored in a central user database and no other information is sent there.



Sign in to Rakning

## Weekend's press conferences

### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> of April:

Participants: **Víðir Reynisson**, Chief Superintendent of Police, **Alma D. Möller**, Director of Health; and **Sara Dögg Svanhildardóttir**, who has recovered from Covid-19.

- **Motivations:**

That social distancing is upheld in shops, and that customers show respect.

That people in quarantine limit their movements as much as possible, and do not travel around the country.

That people stay home during Easter and do their shopping in a timely fashion.

That people stay vigilant regarding possible infections, as there are a few examples of group infections where people weren't cautious.

The Director of Health thinks that it is likely the pandemic might be reaching its peak concerning growth, and that situation will then be reached in the healthcare system a week up to ten days later.

The healthcare system in the Westfjords of Iceland is facing a challenging situation, and therefore The Director of Health appealed to nurses and paramedics to offer their assistance by contacting [hvest@hvest.is](mailto:hvest@hvest.is).

Sara Dögg Svanhildardóttir described getting infected with Covid-19. She underlined the emotional factor connected to getting infected, like worries about having possibly infected other people and guilt – feelings that must be dealt with. She stressed that everyone download the Rakning C-19 app, used to trace infections.

The Chief Superintendent of Police said that the bad weather forecast for the weekend would provide a good opportunity to practice travelling indoors – as people are being encouraged to do over the Easter period.

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> of April:

Participants: **Páll Matthíasson**, director of the general hospital, **Óskar Reykdalsson**, director of the healthcare units in the Reykjavik area, **Víðir Reynisson**, Chief Superintendent of Police, and **Þórólfur Guðnason** Chief Epidemiologist.

Víðir started the press conference by thanking artists and the media for producing and broadcasting quality material to the general public, for entertainment and uplifting. He also thanked all the people who have donated funds and gifts to vital projects and other good causes.

- Currently about 400 individuals have recovered from COVID-19. Ongoing infections are now 1.058 and seem to have somewhat peaked.
- About 25.000 samples have currently been taken and processed, or from 7% of the population. About 5% of the population are either in or have been in quarantine. Þórólfur believes actions that have been taken have proved successful in protecting the healthcare system and the hospitals. At the same time emphasizing there is little margin for leniency because group infections, as seen in a few smaller municipalities, can easily flare up.
- A few municipalities are facing great challenges, particularly in The Westman Islands, Hvammstangi, Bolungarvík and Ísafirði. The Chief Epidemiologist and the Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management are in close communication with these places. Currently plans for what will happen after the ongoing ban of gatherings ends on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May are being developed and will be introduced in time. The vital part is to be vigilant for possible group infections, and important that people follow instructions.
- The Healthcare Units stresses that people call ahead before showing up. The director says this is crucial so people that might be infected with COVID-19 do not come in contact with other patients in need of healthcare service for other reasons.

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of April:

Participants: **Víðir Reynisson**, Chief Superintendent of Police, **Alma D. Möller**, Director of Health, **Þórólfur Guðnason**, Chief Epidemiologist, **Páll Matthíasson**, director of the general hospital, and **Anna Birna Jensdóttir**, general manager of the nursing home Sóltún.

Two patients have died from a COVID-19 infection in the last 24 hours. The total number of people who have died is now 6. The pandemic is in similar linear growth as before, and follows well the prediction model from the University of Iceland. As

before the number of people in need of ICU treatment is in line with the worst case scenario prediction.

Plan regarding possible uplifting of the gathering ban is being developed, also rules regarding foreign tourists planning to visit Iceland. All possible changes after the gathering ban that expires on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May will be introduced in time.

The Director of Health said that according to statistics from abroad there is a significant death rate amongst patients in need of ICU treatment. New treatments are constantly being developed. The Director appealed to people living outside of Reykjavík to register and offer their help, especially nurses with experience working in the ICU.

The director of the general hospital said that the pandemic should soon reach its peak, and the hospital is preparing for that. Also there are no signs of children in risk groups getting severe symptoms after contracting the virus.

About 2800 elderly people live in nursing homes in Iceland, and are in need of constant care. Their average age is 85 years. The director of the nursing home Sóltún said that a visiting ban has put quite a strain on the residents and their families. However the ban has proven effective and important that it will be kept in place for the time being. The nursing homes in Iceland are following special guidelines for COVID, that is updated regularly.

It is important for relatives to be aware that their loved ones are not in social isolation in their nursing homes. Because of the gathering ban employees of the homes are currently working more with each individual, instead of group activities. It is very important relatives respect the visit ban over the Easter period – their loved ones are not alone.

Víðir expressed his disappointment over many Icelanders travelling around Iceland during the weekend. He also stressed that it's not a good idea to invite the extended family over for Easter supper this year. The ongoing situation calls for more creative thinking regarding family gatherings in the current situation.

### 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** TF-GRO, one of the helicopters from the Coast guard, flew to Ísafjörður today with ten people from the healthcare backguards group to assist with the ongoing crisis in the Westfjords of Iceland. The helicopter also delivered pins and masks and picked up possible COVID-19 samples for testing in Reykjavík.

**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.

**Rescue services:** Because of severe weather and poor road conditions the rescue services have transported people infected with COVID-19, possible COVID-19 samples from the countryside to Reykjavík for testing and healthcare workers to and from work. Also members of the rescue services have assisted in distributing food to the elderly.

**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.

### **Further actions in the Westfjords because of COVID-19 infections**

A resident in a nursing home in Bolungarvík died yesterday from a Covid-19 infection. Two other residents in the nursing home are infected with the virus, and other three residents are in isolation. Five residents are in quarantine without having any symptoms.

Kindergartens and schools in Suðureyri, Flateyri, Þingeyri and Súðavík will be closed from the 6th of April 2020. However children on priority lists will receive daycare in Kindergartens and schoolchildren in the 1st and 2nd grade.

Gathering ban will now limit gathering of groups larger than five people (this does not apply to families living in the same household).

The number of customers in bigger shops (>150 square meters) will be limited to 30 people.

Enhanced actions in Ísafjörður, Hnífsdalur and Bolungarvík from the 1st of April are still in effect.

### **Reaction team to prevent breach of service to vulnerable groups**

A special reaction team to prevent breach of service to vulnerable groups has been established in close cooperation with the Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management. The team is tasked with providing service to groups that are vulnerable, and although the situation is in a fairly good state, new challenges are faced every week. This week information about wellbeing of children that live in difficult social situations was acquired, but fewer notifications to the child protective services was of concern.

### **Ministry of Social Affairs Rights Watch**

This week the Ministry of Social Affairs Rights Watch had a meeting where the situation of disabled people in Iceland because of Covid-19 was discussed. How service to this group can be upheld and flow of information can be secured. It is very important all groups of society in Iceland have a voice in this situation and are able to receive important information.

### **The website [www.covid.is](http://www.covid.is)**

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 [Our Wellbeing](#) mental health button was updated today with added information and assistance in all parts of the country.

#### **Upcoming:**

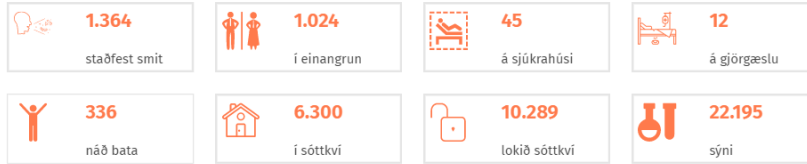
- Press conferences are held every day at 14:03h.
- The next COVID-19 coordination meeting will be held on Tuesday 7 April at 9:00h.



## COVID-19 á Íslandi - Tölfræði

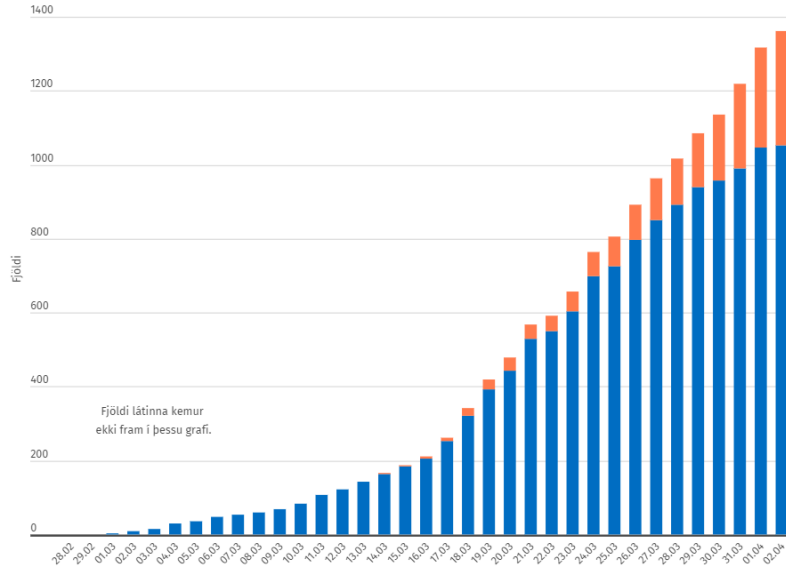
- Upplýsingar á síðunni eru sóttar úr gagnagrunni á miðnætti.

### Heildartölur



Af þeim sem greinst hafa með COVID-19 á Íslandi eru fjögur látin.

### Fjöldi virkra smita og þeirra sem er batnað

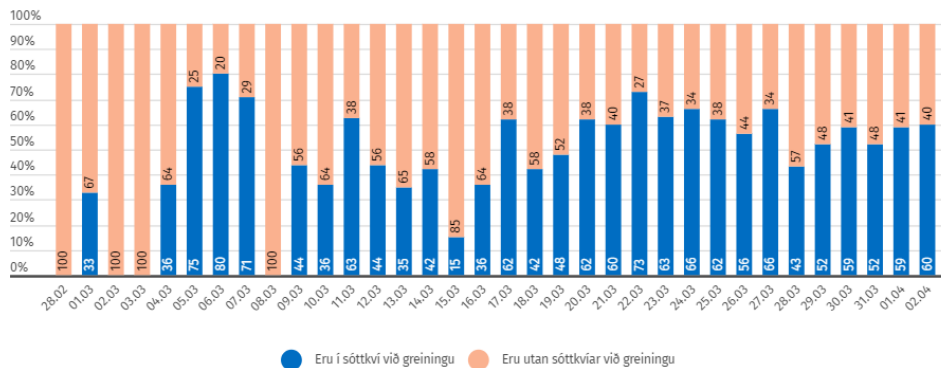


### Hlutfall smitaðra sem greinast í sóttkví

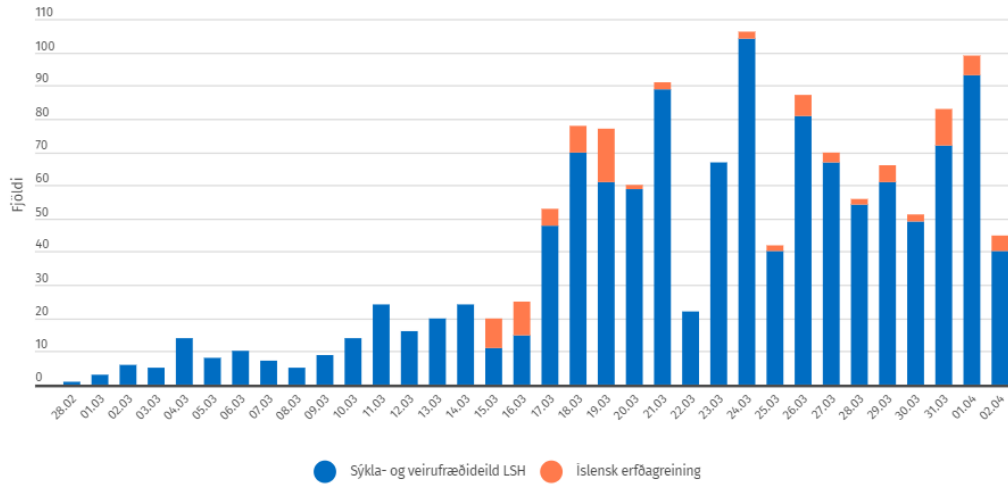


**55%**

þeirra sem hafa greinst voru í sóttkví



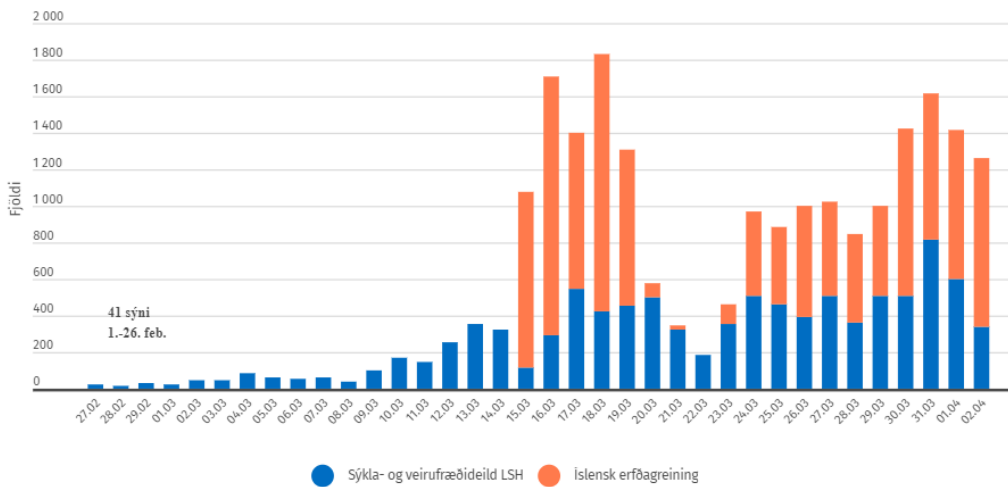
## Fjöldi smita



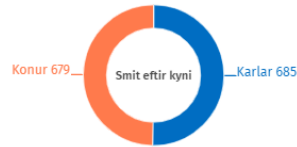
[Download data](#)

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

## Fjöldi sýna

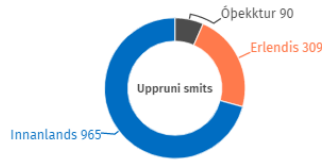


### Fjöldi smita eftir kyni



Download data

### Uppruni smits



Download data

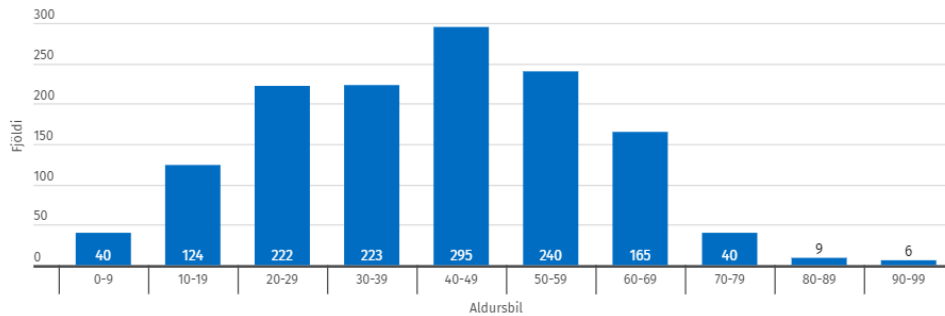
### Smit / sóttkví eftir landshlutum



Landshluti	Smit	Sóttkví
Höfuðborgarsvæði	1006	3313
Suðurnes	64	288
Suðurland	128	609
Austurland	6	101
Norðurland eystra	37	269
Norðurland vestra	32	80
Vestfirðir	27	289
Vesturland	26	162
Óstaðsett	38	1189
Útlönd	0	0

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 [European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control \(ECDC\)](https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en) website for information on the development in each country. Cf. the ECDC risk assessment.