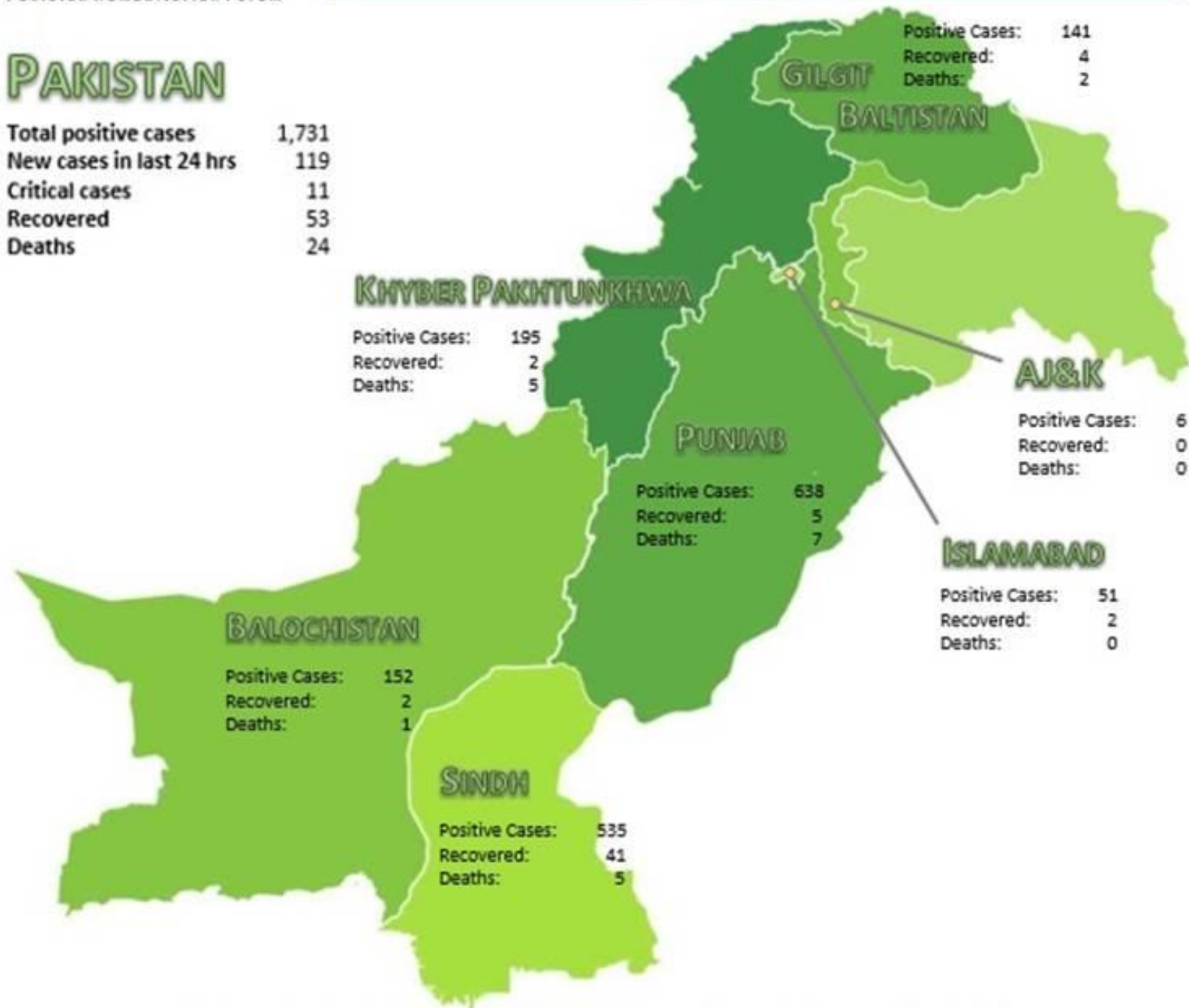


## COVID-19 Situation Report - Pakistan

### 30 March 2020

## PAKISTAN

Total positive cases	1,731
New cases in last 24 hrs	119
Critical cases	11
Recovered	53
Deaths	24



#### National updates:

- The Ministry of Interior has invited non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) to support and cooperate with the national and provincial disaster management authorities in coronavirus relief work. These organizations approved by the government to help with relief work will not have to obtain a No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the next six months.

- The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Chairman Muhammad Afzal said in a press briefing that tomorrow (31 March 2020), Pakistan will receive 100 walk through thermal gates to be placed on airports across the country. Testing capability will be extended to laboratories in Gujarat, Bahawalpur, D I Khan and Abbottabad. In April, Pakistan will have a capacity of 1,200 to 1,500 ventilators. Sindh has been given 5000 testing kits. Pakistan has placed an order of another 3000 ventilators. In the coming weeks 4 to 5 special flights will be flown to China to bring back another 55 tons of Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) and other support.
- Medical staff in Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan have been provided with supplies that will last them for five weeks in order to deal with the pandemic.
- International flights would resume would not resume from 5 April. Currently, there were no Pakistani transit passengers at any airport around the world. Additionally, Pakistan Railways will not resume operations anytime soon in order to stop the spread of the coronavirus.
- The Asian Development Bank has approved a further \$2 million grant to support the Government of Pakistan's efforts to combat Covid-19 across the country. The new grant supplements an initial \$500,000 approved by ADB on 20 March which is already being deployed to support Pakistan's procurement of emergency supplies through UNICEF.
- Prime Minister Imran Khan announced the "Corona Tigers Relief Force", which he said will be comprise of the individuals who will provide food to areas where it is required due to a lockdown. These individuals also will provide people with information about what is self-quarantine and raise awareness. The PM also announced 'Prime Minister's Coronavirus Relief Fund'. Anyone who deposits money in the National Bank of Pakistan account for the fund will not be asked any questions, the deposits in the account will be tax deductible. PM also has ordered removing all hurdles in the way of transportation of goods and opening all national highways to ensure smooth and adequate supply of food items from farms/factories to markets amid "panic buying" due to deadly coronavirus scare.
- The State Bank of Pakistan announced that borrowers availing consumer finance (auto, housing, personal loans, credit card) and those who were regular on their payments till December 31, 2019 can request banks to defer the principal amount for one year without any fee or increase in markups. They will continue to serve the mark-up amount.
- Federal Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination Dr Fehmida Mirza announced that a fund will be created to cover all medical expenses of sportspersons infected with Covid-19.
- Human rights ministry launches helpline for women, children vulnerable to abuse during lockdown. Dial 1099 or call/text us on WhatsApp 03339085709.
- Higher Education Commission (HEC) has formed a programme in which they are inviting proposals on research and innovation on Covid-19 prevention, treatment and on the affects that emerge from it.
- The Sindh government has issued a circular directing private schools across the province to pay its teachers in full and on time, barring them from laying off their non-teaching staff during the closure of educational institutions because of the coronavirus outbreak. The notification also directed schools in the province to issue monthly fee challans instead of the usual bi-monthly or quarterly.
- Sindh government plans to disburse cash to the needy via mobile application through Jazz Cash Transfer like mechanism during the prevailing COVID-19 situation. Needy people will be registered and then verified by the NADRA authorities that only one person from a family gets the facility.
- Islamabad inspector general has instructed that the duty hours of any police official, who is working on the "frontline", should not extend eight hours and must be provided with protective gear. Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) police distributed more than 10,000 surgical masks and gloves amongst its citizens as part of its ongoing fight against Covid-19.

### **Global updates:**

- As of 29 March 2020, one new country reported cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours: The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has warned the coronavirus outbreak threatens to disproportionately devastate the economies of already impoverished countries as they gear up to tackle a health crisis with extremely limited resources, stressing that income losses in those countries are forecast to exceed 220 billion USD. Nearly half of all jobs in Africa could be lost
- The EU released a list of the "critical workers" that must be allowed continued freedom of movement across its internal borders, despite emergency coronavirus measures.
- King Salman Humanitarian Aid & Relief Centre donated an additional contribution of 10 million USD to boost fragile health systems & stop the spread of the coronavirus.
- China reported a drop in new coronavirus infections for a fourth day as drastic curbs on international travellers reined in the number of imported cases. The city of Wuhan, at the centre of the outbreak, reported no new cases for a sixth day as lockdown is gradually lifting from the city.
- First shipment of medical supplies from China arrives in New York. Meanwhile, U.S. President Donald Trump acknowledged that he may be forced to extend the guidelines again at the end of April, but expressed hope that by 1 June 2020.
- Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin asked regional governors to consider introducing a partial lockdown to halt the spread of coronavirus.
- All visitors from the U.S., China, South Korea and most of Europe will be denied entry to Japan under new rules to curb coronavirus infections.
- British airline easyJet has said it has grounded its entire fleet because of the coronavirus pandemic but will still be available for rescue flights to repatriate stranded customers. Meanwhile, U.K. announced that Prince Charles is out of self-isolation, after spending seven days in self-isolation, as per British government's guidelines.
- Poland is expecting a rapid growth in coronavirus cases, Health Minister Lukasz Szumowski said, as the country braces for new restrictions aimed at curbing the pandemic.
- Hungary's parliament approved a bill giving Prime Minister Viktor Orban's government extraordinary powers during the coronavirus pandemic, without setting an end date for their expiration.
- India's ongoing strict COVID-19 lockdown has widely affected HIV-positive and chronic patients with critical conditions who are facing problems accessing health services.
- Austria will require the public to wear basic face masks in supermarkets, where they will be handed out in a bid to slow the spread of the coronavirus
- A U.K. epidemiologist said the coronavirus epidemic in the United Kingdom is showing signs of slowing and antibody tests could be ready in days.
- The government of Nepal extended a nationwide lockdown until 7 April, while international flights will also be banned until 15 April.
- The National Liberation Army (ELN), the largest active guerrilla group in Colombia, will observe a unilateral ceasefire for one month from April 1 in an effort to help stem the spread of coronavirus.
- Expo 2020 Dubai's steering committee has agreed to study postponing the world fair by a year following requests by member states hit by the coronavirus
- Tokyo Olympics will take place from 23 July 23 – 8 August 2021.

**Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Statistics as of 30 March 2020**

	Total Confirmed Cases	Total Deaths	Recovered Cases
<b>China</b>	82,198	3,304	75,923
<b>Top 6 countries with most confirmed cases outside of China</b>			
<b>United States</b>	144,672	2,477	4,865
<b>Italy</b>	97,689	10,779	13,030
<b>Spain</b>	85,195	7,340	16,780
<b>Germany</b>	63,929	560	9,211
<b>Iran</b>	41,495	2,757	13,911
<b>France</b>	40,752	2,606	7,239
<b>Total stats Globally</b>	745,308	35,307	156,875