WHO figures for cases detected in Kosovo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identified:</th>
<th>4,057 (69.82% increase from June 25 to July 8)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active:</td>
<td>1,945 (70.76% increase from June 25 to July 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovered:</td>
<td>2,036 (67.02% increase from June 25 to July 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casualties:</td>
<td>76 (245.16% increase from June 25 to July)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 140 patients hospitalized: 10 under intensive care, 66 on oxygen-therapy and 64 are stable.
- 1,881 patients are in homecare.

Note: Statistics for tables and graphs provided by the WHO, (graphs updated 9 July 2020, 09:00 hours, death case graphs 8 July 2020, 09:00 hours)

Global Cases according to WHO (Data updated: 2020/7/8, 6:56pm CEST)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total COVID-19 cases:</th>
<th>11,669,259</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total COVID-19 deaths</td>
<td>539,906</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1 Basic principles of statistics dictate that cases should be registered only once in the place of detection rather than the place of residence or nationality to avoid double-counting. Due to Kosovo’s status under Security Council resolution 1244 and the fact that health care facilities in Kosovo are not fully integrated, there have been occurrences of some cases being counted by the Institutes of Public Health in Pristina as well as in Belgrade. The Institute of Public Health in Pristina has provided data of cases detected in Kosovo as well as cases of some Kosovo habitual residents detected in Serbia. This number is not reflected in data above. The Institute of Public Health “Batut” in Belgrade provides data segregated by origin/residence for cases detected in Serbia, making it possible to identify the number of COVID-cases detected in Serbia related to habitual residents from Kosovo. This number is reflected in the column above. In an effort to provide numbers segregated by place of detection, and to avoid double-counting, WHO has been reporting numbers for cases detected in Kosovo (including non-residents detected in Kosovo and excluding residents of Kosovo diagnosed outside of Kosovo). This number is reflected in Column above and is the source of all of the graphs presented. UNKT has chosen to present all three numbers in the interest of full transparency and to enable breakdown by municipality of origin, reflective of the difficulties associated with monitoring case numbers during a global pandemic.
Global Guidelines and Recommendation

**WHO guidelines and information to facilitate effective management of COVID-19 pandemic**

WHO has developed specific guidance for preventing and combating COVID-19 in different aspects. The guidelines have been shared with relevant institutions in Kosovo and translated into Albanian and Serbian languages:

- **Returning to Workplace** - emphasising employers’ responsibility to provide for gradual and safe return and working from home when possible. [LINK](#)
- **Use of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)** [LINK](#)
  - WHO produced infographics for easier promotion in [English](#), Albanian & Serbian
- **Mass gatherings** are not recommended by WHO, as indoor gatherings are the highest single amplifiers of transmission. See [LINK](#)
- **Contact Tracing of COVID-19** cases and potential cases, is a community based person centered approach with a 14 self-isolation focus [LINK](#)
- **WHO’s Guidance on Global Surveillance for COVID-19**, provides other definitions of cases, such as suspected, probable and confirmed [LINK](#)
- **WHO’s Laboratory Testing Strategy Recommendations** [LINK](#) & Laboratory Testing in Suspected Cases [LINK](#)

Reproduction rate of COVID-19 in Kosovo has a factor of 1.3 according to WHO. It means that 100 people will transmit the virus to 130 other people. To contain the pandemic, the undertaken measures need to bring down the Reproduction rate under the factor 1.

**UNICEF guidelines regarding safe return to school**

**UNICEF Guidance for Re-Opening of Preschools and Kindergartens** post COVID - 19 [LINK](#), as well as **Prevention and Control in Schools** was shared and discussed with Kosovo institutions in the event return to school takes place in September 2020. [LINK](#)

Recommendations include mandatory absence of students and staff with symptoms, hygienic measures, access to water, sanitation, and decontamination procedures, as well as promotion of physical distancing and use of PPEs

Ministry of Health published the following guidelines:

- **A Manual for COVID-19 Prevention and Control** was issued on June 16, 2020 based on WHO recommendations, containing guidelines on prevention measures at workplaces, shopping malls, gastronomy, as well as polling station guidelines. For more details please see Links in [Eng](#) / [Alb](#) / [Ser](#).

Protocol for Health Safety in Aviation based on European Union Aviation Safety Agency-EUASA recommendations and European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control –ECDC was issued on May 20, 2020. It includes technical details on preventive measures for staff, management, and passengers. Available in [Albanian](#) and [Serbian]. Note: Pristina Airport was opened on June 20, 2020. Travellers must be at the airport 3 hours prior to the flight.
Restrictive Measures by Kosovo Institutions

For detailed timeline of measures by Kosovo authorities up to the end of June 2020, please see LINK. **During June 2020 most of restriction were lifted:** 1. As of June 1, all Kosovo ground crossing points are opened; 2. As of June 7, Individuals entering to Kosovo are not required to provide a negative COVID-19 test and are not obliged to enter quarantine. 3. Bus lines will use only 50% of their capacity & usage of PPE is mandatory in the bus. 4. As of June 28, airport is opened

Following an incremental loosening of restrictions during the month of June and after the recent spike in new infections from June 1-30 at a rate of approx. 265.69%, the government introduced a set of new restrictions on Sunday evening effective from July 6, 2020. Drastic increase of COVID-19 cases is related to the behavioral changes after the lifting of highly restrictive measures and the unsatisfactory compliance with government recommendations.

**On July 1**, a list of 28 new measures was introduced. These measures LINK have been articulated and entered into force on July 6, 2020. These measures include among other, some restructuring in the health system, stricter implementation of the mandatory PPE in public indoor spaces, and movement restrictions in a form of curfew from 21:00 hours to 05:00 hours next morning, for cities with highest number of cases, including Prishtinë/Pristina, Vushtrri/Vučitrn, Prizren and Ferizaj/Uroševac. Unofficial English translation of full measures can be found at LINK.

**From July 8** four municipalities in the north, north Mitrovica, Leposavić/q, Zubin potok/ Zubinpotok, Zvečan/Zveçan, are under quarantine, and only essential goods and services, as well as health emergencies can move in and out. These municipalities are also under nightly lock down from 21:00 hours to 05:00 hours next morning.

**Preventive Measures by Kosovo healthcare system**

**Testing of COVID-19 case in Kosovo:** Only the Molecular, Microbiological Referent Lab of the Kosovo Institute for Public Health (IPH) is certified to do Real Time-PCR tests. **No other institutions, private or public are certified to conduct such tests.** According to the IPH, there is work in progress to certify private labs to test COVID-19 cases through serological testing. With the support of WHO, new laboratory capacities will be developed in regional IPH centers for serological testing, while RT-PCR will continue to be done only in IPH in Prishtinë/Priština.

Currently, testing is taking place of symptomatic cases, in line with WHO guidance. IPH continues to test first and close contacts of COVID-19 positive cases and continues the tracking of cases.

**On July 5,** an unusual high number of COVID-19-related deaths reported at the University Clinical Center of Kosovo in Pristina, with total of 11 cases. Kosovo Police announced that they will investigate these deaths. On the request of the public prosecutor, forensic medicine conducts autopsy, as well as full investigation is on the way to be conducted.

Minister of Health announced several times that Kosovo government is preparing a plan for mass testing. The mass testing plan is not a public document yet. According to WHO, mass testing is expensive and very difficult to manage.
IPH is preparing for an Epi-serological survey (a blood immunological testing that can tell if an individual has had COVID-19), however with no exact timeline of implementation. It is expected that the survey will give an indication of level of “herd immunity”. Like any other survey, it would have to be based on random selected sample of population.

Capacity of Health Care system of Kosovo

**Public Health Care system in Kosovo** University Clinical Center of Kosovo-UCCK in Prishtinë/Priština has a capacity of total 2000 beds, with additional 2000 beds in 7 regional Hospitals: Prizren, Peja/Peć, Gjakovë/Dakovica, Mitrovicë/Mitrovica (south), Gjilan/ Gnjilane, Ferizaj/Uroševac, Vushtrri/Vučitrn. Infectious Disease ward at UCCK has 120 beds, currently fully utilized. It also has 6 Intensive Care Units, also fully utilized.

To ensure a surge capacity, the University Clinical Center of Kosovo, in addition to Infectious Disease ward, is adjusting to purpose Dermatology and Pulmonology Ward, as well as Sport Medicine. With Infections disease clinic saturated, patients are being placed in Sport Medicine ward with 38 beds with 30 respirators and additional equipment. Additional adjustment to be made by 10 July to further increase capacity for additional 55 beds. Currently in Pristina, full capacity of Infectious disease clinic and practical capacity of Sports medicine is being used. Regional Hospitals started taking some caseload, by referring severe cases to University Clinical Center.

United Nations Kosovo Team response to COVID-19 health and socio-economic impacts

UN Kosovo Team continues to work with an integrated approach to strengthen the health system response while mitigating the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. To have a clearer picture on the impacts of COVID-19, a **Rapid Socio-Economic Assessment on the impact of COVID-19** was implemented by UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA. The research shows that the socio-economic impacts is visible among businesses and households with women proportionally more affected than men. Overall, households are worried on how to be able to cope financially over the next months. In terms of job losses, most affected industries are construction (23%) and hospitality (14%). Full document is available in [English, Albanian & Serbian](#).

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**Health workers affected by COVID-19:** Two hundred (200) cases out of 3,313 are healthcare workers, out of which 90 doctors and 110 nurses & others, making for 6.04% of total cases by July 5, 2020.

**Gender dimension of COVID-19 Response:** Led by UN Women, UNKT continues to monitor the situation of domestic (DV) and gender-based violence (GBV). Through joint UNKT efforts, DV/GBV shelters have been supplied with items to meet their needs from the first weeks of COVID-19 outbreak, followed by a broad awareness raising campaigns about the availability of shelters as an essential service. The multi-stakeholder Security and Gender Group (SGG) remains pro-active in ensuring a gender-sensitive COVID-19 response.
Asylum Seekers, refugees and migrants, Internally Displaced Persons and Voluntary Returnees

Currently, there are around 90 asylum seekers in Kosovo. Legal advice and psychological assistance is available. A decrease of movements of irregular arrivals has been reported. Situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) at collective shelters is monitored regularly, and UNHCR’s partner organization “Advancing Together” has launched counselling phone line to support and assist returnees, IDPs and members of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities during the pandemic. The phone line 0800 200 20 free of charge.

A WHO Europe, Mission from Copenhagen, will be visiting Kosovo from July 10-17, 2020. The purpose of this mission is for WHO Europe experts to see firsthand the challenges Kosovo is facing while managing the COVID-19 outbreak. During this mission, WHO experts will be meeting with representatives from IPH, Ministry of Health, Office of the Prime Minister, University Clinical Center, and UN agencies and partners. The outcomes of this mission will allow WHO to fine tune their support for local health authorities in Kosovo to better respond to the outbreak.

Human Rights and COVID-19: Unfortunately, the recent weeks has seen cases of attacks on human rights such as attack on minority, especially returnee families during April, May and beginning of June in municipalities of Istog/k, Klinë/a and Prizren. Overall, the measures to contain COVID-19 continue to have an impact on the realization of economic and social rights in Kosovo, particularly on the right to an adequate standard of living, which is likely to persist. The crisis also continues to disproportionately affect the rights of groups and persons in vulnerable situations as well as members of non-majority communities in Kosovo (especially K-Roma, K-Ashkali, and K-Egyptians), all of whom need urgent assistance. Robust and targeted socio-economic interventions that focus on reaching and addressing the specific needs of those most in need first are therefore needed to help Kosovo “build back better” from the impacts of COVID-19. Also important to note that the ongoing crisis continues to exacerbate pre-existing challenges related to the right to information and language rights in Kosovo with respect to obtaining COVID-19-related information, most notably for the K-Serb community and persons with disabilities. Finally, vigilance is needed to prevent attacks against non-majority communities that have multiplied in the COVID-19 context, impacting the right to property, and often targeting returnees. Close monitoring and interventions are also needed to address the ongoing and increased instances of gender-based and sexual violence.

Children and Youth: In September, 345,540 children may return school. UNICEF has focused recent work on advising the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation-MESTI on the safe reopening of schools as well as what additional support is needed to support children who fell far behind in schooling results because of lacking intern access and support environment. UNICEF’s Guidance for Re-Opening of Preschools and Kindergartens post COVID-19 is available LINK, the Prevention and Control in Schools, in case the government plans the return to school in September 2020 on following LINK.

UNDP during June and July delivered 40 mobile ventilators to the University Clinical Center of Kosovo (UCCK) funded by the governments of Norway, Switzerland, and Luxemburg. Set of PPE and hand sanitizer were also delivered to Emergency Management Agency as well as Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare. For more on delivered assistance by UNKT agencies, please refer to the table on the last page.
Secretary-General’s policy initiatives:
June 19 World of Work and COVID-19;
June 9 The Impact of COVID-19 on Food Security and Nutrition;
June 3 COVID-19 and People on the Move;
May 21 Verified campaign on trusted factual COVID-19 information;
May 20 Impact of COVID-19 in Africa;
May 13 COVID-19 and the Need for Action on Mental Health;
May 8 Appeal against Hate and Xenophobia;
May 6 A Disability-Inclusive Response to COVID-19;
May 1 Impact of COVID-19 on Older Persons;
April 23 COVID-19 and Human Rights: We are all in this together;
April 17 Debt and COVID-19: A Global Response in Solidarity;
April 16 Impact of COVID-19 on Children;
April 9 Impact of COVID-19 on Women;
April 5 Appeal against gender-based violence and COVID-19;
March 31 Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity: Responding to socio-economic impacts; and

UNKT integrated response and offer to mitigate the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 is summarised in the recently launched Socio-Economic Response Plan. The Plan is based on the Rapid Socio-Economic Impact Assessment results, and anchored around 5 pillars, focusing on health first, followed by, protecting people, economic recovery, macroeconomic response and social cohesion and community resilience. The plan follows global guidance and offers an integrated approach by putting people first and addressing health, social and economic recovery simultaneously. It proposes sustainable solutions to “building back better” and has been prepared in coordination with local and international stakeholders.

Emergency Health Response and Assistance-The UN Kosovo Team agencies, funds and programmes have been working from onset of the COVID crisis to strengthen the Health system response through procurement of PPEs as well as other needed medical equipment and supplies. In parallel, agencies have distributed emergency food and non-food items to vulnerable families.

Currently in Kosovo UN facilitated assistance is financed by a combination of re-purposing of relevant programmes, core funding and special earmarked multilateral and bilateral contributions. Donors to date include: Austria, Canada, EU, Germany, Japan, Luxemburg, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, USA, [Note: The table will be updated, as the goods are delivered].
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items/Delivered by</th>
<th>UNOPS</th>
<th>UNFPA</th>
<th>UNICEF</th>
<th>IOM</th>
<th>UN Women</th>
<th>UNDP</th>
<th>UNHCR</th>
<th>WHO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fully equipped Ambulance Cars</td>
<td>10pcs</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Mobile ventilators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>40pcs</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other clinical equipment &amp; apparatus</td>
<td>1,192pcs</td>
<td>898pcs</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tests and related items</td>
<td>6,000pcs</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>12,400pcs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Different PPE and disposable equipment &amp; disinfected for staff &amp; patients - Pcs</td>
<td>266,200 packs</td>
<td>4,000 packs</td>
<td>159,520 packs</td>
<td>1,760 packs</td>
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<td>10,800 packs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hygienic packs and other non food items</td>
<td>40 packs</td>
<td>20,000 packs</td>
<td>252 packs</td>
<td>40 packs</td>
<td>3,073 packs</td>
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<td>40 packs</td>
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<td>IT equipment</td>
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<td>36 packs</td>
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