

Updates on COVID-19 in Republic of Korea

24 April 2020

O As of 0:00, 24 April 2020, a total of 10,708 cases (including 1,023 imported cases) have been confirmed, of which 8,501 cases (79.4%) have been discharged from isolation. Newly confirmed cases are 6 in total.

[Table 1. Total	confirmed	and	suspected	cases
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			Tested p	ositive			
Period (since 3 Jan)	Total	Confirmed	Discharged from isolation	Under isolation	Deceased	Being tested	Tested negative
As of 0:00 23 April (Thurs)	583,971	10,702	8,411	2,051	240	10,139	563,130
As of 0:00 24 April (Fri)	589,520	10,708	8,501	1,967	240	9,600	569,212
Difference	(+)5,549	(+)6	(+)90	(-)84	0	(-)539	(+)6,082

[Table 2. Imported cases in Korea (as of 0:00, 24 April 2020)]

				Region	/Country			Where of	confirmed	Nationality		
	Total	China	Asia ex-China	Europe	Americas	Africa	Australia	Point of Entry	Community	Korean	Other	
New	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	
Total	1,023	17	112	442	448	3	1	426	597	937	86	
Iotai	1,023	(1.7%)	(10.9%)	(43.2%)	(43.8%)	(0.3%)	(0.1%)	(41.6%)	(58.4%)	(91.6%)	(8.4%)	

^{*} Figures may change based on findings from ongoing local epidemiological investigation efforts.

- O Epidemiological links have been found for 80.9% of the total cases; 9.6% are either under investigation or sporadic cases. More details on the epidemiological links within each province or city are shown in Table 3.
- O In Pohang, Gyeongbuk Province, one person tested positive from testing conducted for entry to Marine Corps Education and Training Group. Infection prevention/control measures and epidemiological investigation are underway.
- O KCDC released interim analysis of epidemiological investigation on cases linked to Uijeongbu St. Mary's Hospital in Gyeongqi Province.
- From 30 March to 21 April, 57 cases within the hospital (patients = 26; nurses = 3; physicians = 2; janitors = 2; caregivers = 10; family/guardians = 14) and 15 cases from local transmission to communities (family = 6; Hantan River Spa Hotel = 7; Asan Medical Center = 2) were confirmed.
- According to the epidemiological investigation, there was a patient who started showing symptoms before symptom onset (26 March) of the index case of this cluster. Also, one person who had been discharged from inpatient care at this hospital was confirmed on 20 March. Therefore, it is presumed that transmission occurred in the hospital before 20 March. The infection source has not been identified.



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- Some confirmed cases are not from the 8th floor where the index case was receiving inpatient care.

Therefore, it is presumed that transmission between different floors occurred by movement of healthcare workers, caregivers, and/or patients.

- Once the cluster outbreak was identified, central and local governments worked together for response.
 58 additional cases were found through their efforts at tracking discharged patients, family/guardians, and caregivers no longer working at the hospital and contact monitoring.
- By testing all contacts, 22 (30.6%) asymptomatic infected persons were identified early. No secondary transmission from asymptomatic case occurred.
- O Stressing that COVID-19 outbreak is still ongoing even though the number of new confirmed cases has been small lately, KCDC asked people to actively cooperate in Social Distancing and asked people to be careful this weekend regarding religious facilities and nightlife facilities.
- KCDC recommends people to participate in religious functions via non-face-to-face methods such as online worship/meetings. Religious facilities that host on-site events must check people for fever, keep distance between people, require everyone to wear facemasks, and refrain from activities that may cause respiratory droplets to travel such as choir, shouting, or chanting.
- People in high-risk groups (e.g. pregnant women, elderly aged 65 or older, people with chronic illness) should especially stay away from visiting enclosed spaces with a lot of people.
- Nightlife entertainment venues are also recommended to refrain from operating as much as possible. Such venues that remain operating must comply with infection prevention/control measures including checking people for fever or respiratory symptoms and disinfecting/ventilating thoroughly.
- People are recommended to refrain from visiting any enclosed space with poor ventilation or any place that are frequented by a lot of people. People who cannot avoid visiting such enclosed/crowded places should keep at least 2 meters away from other people, wear a facemask, refrain from handshakes, wash hands, and refrain from touching eyes/nose/mouth.
- KCDC also stressed that people who have suspected COVID-19 symptoms should not go to work or leave home and should go to a screening center to be tested.
- KCDC also urged people to get tested early if more than 2-3 people at work or family unit develop COVID-19 suspected symptoms such as fever or coughing.



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[Table 3: Regional distribution and epidemiological links of the confirmed cases]

Confirmed cases										
		Clusters								
Region	Total	Imported cases	Sub- total	Shin- cheonji	Other clusters	Contacts of confirmed cases	Imported cases	Other*	New cases	Other major clusters
Seoul	628	247	357	8	262	18	69	24	0	Guro-gu call center (98), Dong-an Church-PC Cafe (20), Manmin Central Church (41), etc.
Busan	136	23	84	12	53	18	1	29	1	Onchun Church (39), Suyeong-gu Kindergarten (5), etc.
Daegu	6,842	18	6,102	4,510	662	926	4	722	2	Second Mi-Ju Hospital (196), Hansarang Convalescent Hospital (128), Daesil Convalescent Hospital (100), Fatima Hospital (37), etc.
Incheon	92	41	47	2	34	5	6	4	0	Guro-gu call center (20), etc.
Gwangju	30	14	16	9	0	1	6	0	0	
Daejeon	40	10	21	2	11	8	0	9	0	Korea Forest Engineer Institute (3), etc.
Ulsan	43	12	24	16	1	4	3	7	0	M:
Sejong	46	3	42	1	38	3	0	1	0	Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (30), gym facilities (8)
Gyeonggi	660	152	466	29	320	55	62	42	1	Grace River Church in Seongnam (72), Guro-gu call center-Bucheon SaengMyeongSu Church (48), Uijeongbu St.
Gangwon	53	14	32	17	15	0	0	7	0	Many's Hospital (50), etc. Apartments in Wonju City (3), Uijeongbu St. Mary's Hospital (10), etc.
Chung- buk	45	5	32	6	18	6	2	8	0	Goesan-gun Jangyeon-myeon (11)
Chung- nam	141	11	120	0	118	1	1	10	0	Gym facilities in Cheonan (103), research center in Seosan (9), etc.
Jeonbuk	17	8	4	1	3	0	0	5	0	
Jeonnam	15	7	7	1	3	2	1	1	0	Manmin Central Church (2)
Gyeong- buk	1,364	10	1,219	566	461	192	0	135	1	Cheongdo Daenam Hospital (120), Bonghwa Pureun Nursing Home (68), pilgrimage to Israel (49), Gyeongsan Seo Convalescent Hospital (66), Yecheon-gun (38), etc.
Gyeong- nam	117	14	85	32	46	6	1	18	0	Geochang Church (10), Geochang Woongyang-myeon (8), Wings Tower (10), etc.
Jeju	13	8	1	0	0	0	1	4	0	
Airport	426	426	0 8,659	0 5,212	2.045	0 1,245	0 157	0	1	
Total	10.708	1,023 (9.6)	(80.9)	5,212 (48.7)	(19.1)	1,245	(1.5)	1,026 (9.6)	6	

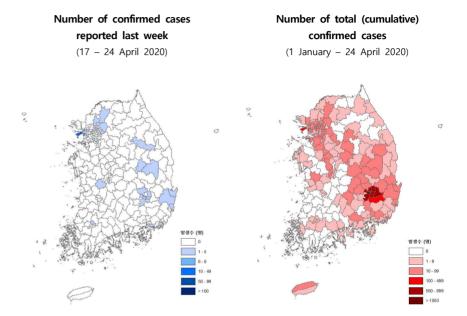
^{*} Not classified into a cluster or under investigation



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[Figure 1: Distribution of confirmed cases based on location reported]



[Table 4: Age distribution of severe cases]

Age group	Total	Severe	(%)	Very severe	(%)
Total	42	10	(100.0)	32	(100.0)
80 or above	7	2	(20.0)	5	(15.6)
70-79	18	2	(20.0)	16	(50.0)
60-69	12	5	(50.0)	7	(21.9)
50-59	3	1	(10.0)	2	(6.3)
40-49	2	0	(0.0)	2	(6.3)
30-39	0	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
20-29	0	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
10-19	0	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
0-9	0	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)

^{**} The interim classification is based on the reporting location, which may change depending on further epidemiological investigation.



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[Table 5: Distribution of cases that retested positive]

Age group	Total	(%)
Total	207	(100.0)
80 or above	19	(9.2)
70-79	9	(4.3)
60-69	22	(10.6)
50-59	35	(16.9)
40-49	28	(13.5)
30-39	33	(15.9)
20-29	48	(23.2)
10-19	8	(3.9)
0-9	5	(2.4)

[Figure 2: New cases (for last 2 weeks) by chain of transmission]

