

Updates on COVID-19 in Republic of Korea

8 May 2020

 \odot As of 0:00, 8 May 2020, a total of 10,822 cases (including 1,118 imported cases) have been confirmed, of which 9,484 cases (87.6%) have been discharged from isolation. Newly confirmed cases are 12 in total.

[Table 1. Total reported/tested cases]		[Table	1.	Total	reported/tested	cases]	
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			Tested posi	tive (PCR)				
Period (since 3 Jan)	Total	Confirmed	Discharged from isolation	Under isolation	Deceased	Awaiting test result	Tested negative (PCR)	
As of 0:00 7 May (Thurs)	649,388	10,810	9,419	1,135	256	8,429	630,149	
As of 0:00 8 May (Fri)	654,863	10,822	9,484	1,082	256	8,867	635,174	
Difference	(+)5,475	(+)12	(+)65	(-)53	0	(+)438	(+)5,025	

[Table 2. Imported cases in Korea (as of 0:00, 8 May 2020)]

				Region	Where of	confirmed	Nationality				
	Total	China	Asia ex-China	Europe	Americas	Africa	Australia	ia Point of Entry Community Ko		Korean	Other
New	11	0	8	0	3	0	0	3	8	9	2
Total	1,118	19 (1.7%)	151 (13.5%)	462 (41.3%)	482 (43.1%)	3 (0.3%)	1 (0.1%)	470 (42.0%)	648 (58.0%)	1,010 (90.3%)	108 (9.7%)

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

○ In relation to the case confirmed on 6 May from Yongin City, Gyeonggi Province, other than the 1 contact confirmed on 7 May, more additional cases (1 co-worker, 12 from Itaewon) have been confirmed. In total, 15 cases have been confirmed to date. Public health authorities are working on identifying additional potential contacts that visited the restaurants, accommodations, night clubs, and other venues visited by the confirmed case and conducting epidemiological investigation to find the source of infection. (The figures on Tables 1 and 3 are based on cases reported to KCDC before 0:00 of 7 May and may differ from above.)

O KCDC noted that anyone who visited KING CLUB (0:00-3:30), TRUNK (01:00-01:40), or QUEEN (3:30-3:50) in Itaewon District (in Yongsan-gu, Seoul) on 2 May around the time period above are likely to have been exposed to the virus. KCDC asked people who visited these venues at above times to:

- (1) Stay home
- (2) Contact a local public health center or dial 1339 (KCDC call center) to report your history of visit to the above venues and follow the instructions of the public health center.
- (3) If having fever or respiratory symptoms, visit a screening clinic to get tested, wearing a facemask and using a personal car.



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 \odot KCDC mentioned that people who visited any nightlife venue (such as clubs and bars) in Itaewon District on 2 May during 0:00 – 4:00 a.m. should also observe their symptoms carefully and get tested if they develop suspected symptoms.

○ KCDC asked people to refrain from using publicly used indoor venues such as nightlife venues and urged those who do visit such venues to wear a facemask, minimize time spent, sit far apart from other people, cooperate with body temperature and symptom checks at the entrance, and carefully follow any other infections prevention measures.

- The managers or workers of the venue should ventilate the space frequently, disinfect surfaces of frequently touched objects (such as entrance doorknob, table, chair) at least once a day, If customers need to wait before entering, the venue should issue a numbered ticket to customers or ensure that they queue in line while maintaining 1 meter distance from each other.

○ To strengthen COVID-19 surveillance system, KCDC is planning to increase the number of tertiary hospitals under monitoring for Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) surveillance system from 13 to 42 starting 9 May.

- (COVID-19 testing is already in operation since 28 February)

- On 3 May, COVID-19 was added to Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) surveillance for outpatients and inpatients at 214 hospital-grade medical institutions.

- Pathogens for surveillance: 12 species of virus and bacteria \rightarrow 13 species including SARS-CoV-2
- Also, for more close monitoring of pathogens causing respiratory infections including COVID-19, a new laboratory surveillance system will be implemented and begin to take effect within May, starting with laboratory testing departments of private sector medical institutions.

○ KCDC reminded and urged everyone to actively participate in the "Distancing in Daily Life" campaign, intended to help people pursue their everyday life and infectious disease prevention at the same time, especially during the weekend.

- "5 Basic Infection Prevention Rules for Everyone":
- (1) Stay home for 3-4 days if you get sick.
- (2) Keep a distance of two arms' length between you and other people.
- (3) Wash your hands for 30 seconds. Cough/sneeze into your sleeve.
- (4) Ventilate your space at least twice a day and disinfect regularly.

- (5) Keep in touch with family and friends even while maintaining physical distancing.

○ KCDC recommends religious communities to utilize non-face-to-face methods of gathering such as online streaming. Religious communities that meet host gatherings on sight need to check people for elevated temperature, maintain distance between people, have people wear facemasks, and refrain from providing meals to eat together or activities that cause respiratory droplets to disperse such as singing or shouting.



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- The elderly (65 y/o or older) and other high-risk groups should also:
- (1) Remember to take medications for existing chronic illnesses.
- (2) Stay home.
- (3) Call public health center and visit screening clinic when sick.
- (4) Stay away from any enclosed/crowded space that makes it difficult to keep 2 meters of distance from other people.
- (5) Stay in touch with loved ones on a regular basis.

○ For Parents' Day (8 May), KCDC advised people to refrain from visiting older parents in nursing homes or convalescent hospitals since they can be highly vulnerable to infection.

○ KCDC reminded the public to stay home and not go to work if having fever or respiratory symptoms and to call the KCDC call center (1339 or area code + 120) or contact a local public health center if having prolonging fever over 38 degrees or aggravating respiratory symptoms.

- KCDC urged people to visit a screening center to get tested especially if two or more persons within a household unit or travel group unit develop COVID-19 suspected symptoms.



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orea Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

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

				Co	nfirmed o	ases				
Region	Total	Importe d cases	Sub- total	Shin- cheonji	Other clusters	Contacts of confirmed cases	Imported cases	Other*	New cases	Other major clusters
Seoul	637	257	357	8	264	16	69	23	0	Guro-gu call center (98), Dong-an Church-PC Cafe (20), Manmin Central Church (41), etc.
Busan	140	27	84	12	53	18	1	29	2	Onchun Church (39), Suyeong-gu Kindergarten (5), etc.
Daegu	6,859	24	6,115	4,510	678	923	4	720	3	Second Mi-Ju Hospital (196), Hansarang Convalescent Hospital (128), Daesil Convalescent Hospital (100), Fatima Hospital (37), etc.
Incheon	97	45	48	2	34	5	7	4	0	Guro-gu call center (20), etc.
Gwangju	30	14	16	9	0	1	6	0	0	
Daejeon	41	11	21	2	11	8	0	9	0	Korea Forest Engineer Institute (3), etc.
Ulsan	44	13	24	16	2	3	3	7	0	
Sejong	46	3	42	1	38	3	0	1	0	Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (30), gym facilities (8)
Gyeonggi	684	169	471	29	327	53	62	44	2	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	Mary's Hospital (50), etc. Apartments in Wonju City (3), Uijeongbu St. Mary's Hospital (10), etc.
Chung- buk	47	7	32	6	18	6	2	8	1	Goesan-gun Jangyeon-myeon (11)
Chung- nam	143	13	120	0	118	1	1	10	0	Gym facilities in Cheonan (103), research center in Seosan (9), etc.
Jeonbuk	19	10	4	1	3	0	0	5	1	
Jeonnam	16	8	5	1	1	2	1	3	0	
Gyeong- buk	1,366	11	1,224	566	468	190	0	131	0	Cheongdo Daenam Hospital (120), Bonghwa Pureun Nursing Home (68), pilgrimage to Israel (49), Gyeongsan Seo Convalescent Hospital (66), Yecheon-gun (41), 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	470	470	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
	10,822	1,118	8,681	5,212	2,076	1,235	158	1,023	12	1

* Not classified into a cluster or under investigation

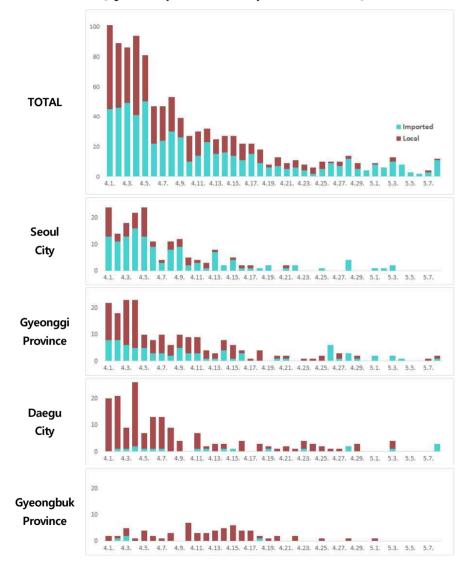
* The interim classification is based on the reporting location, which may change depending on further epidemiological investigation.



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[Figure 1: Daily confirmed cases by chain of transmission]





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[Table 4: Age distribution of severe cases]

Age group	Total	Severe	(%)	Very severe	(%)
Total	24	5	(100.0)	19	(100.0)
80 or above	8	2	(40.0)	6	(31.6)
70-79	10	2	(40.0)	8	(42.1)
60-69	3	1	(20.0)	2	(10.5)
50-59	1	0	(0.0)	1	(5.3)
40-49	2	0	(0.0)	2	(10.5)
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)

[Table 5: Cases tested positive after discharge]

	Total	(%)
Total	369	(100.0)
80 or above	30	(8.1)
70-79	23	(6.2)
60-69	39	(10.6)
50-59	63	(17.1)
40-49	50	(13.6)
30-39	49	(13.3)
20-29	90	(24.4)
10-19	18	(4.9)
0-9	7	(1.9)

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

