

## Tell us whether you accept cookies

We use [cookies to collect information](#) about how you use GOV.UK. We use this information to make the website work as well as possible and improve government services.

Accept all cookies

Set cookie preferences

[Home](#) > [Infectious diseases](#)

Guidance

## Number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and risk in the UK

Find out the number of cases and risk level in the UK, what to do if you have symptoms, and what the government is doing about the virus.

Published 24 January 2020

Last updated 18 March 2020 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Department of Health and Social Care](#) and [Public Health England](#)

Contents

- [What to do if you have symptoms](#)
- [Number of cases](#)
- [Risk level](#)
- [Recent government action](#)
- [Further information](#)

Go to [NHS.UK/coronavirus](#) for information about the virus and how to protect yourself.

[Sign up for email alerts](#) to get the latest information.

[Video: How to wash your hands properly](#)

### What to do if you have symptoms

Stay at home for 7 days if you have either:

- a high temperature
- a new continuous cough

if you live with other people, they should stay at home for 14 days from the day the first person got symptoms.

This will help to protect others in your community while you are infectious.

Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

You do not need to contact NHS 111 to tell them you're staying at home.

Testing for coronavirus is not needed if you're staying at home.

Read the [guidance about staying at home](#).

## Number of cases

As of 9am on 18 March 2020, 56,221 people have been tested in the UK, of which 53,595 were confirmed negative and 2,626 were confirmed positive. 103 patients in the UK who tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) have died.

## Cases identified in England

[Confirmed cases in each local authority and NHS region](#) are published by Public Health England (PHE).

## Risk level

The risk to the UK has been raised to high.

## Recent government action

The government published its [coronavirus action plan](#) on 3 March.

On 10 February, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock, announced [strengthened legal powers to protect public health](#).

[The Health Protection \(Coronavirus\) Regulations 2020](#) have been put in place to reduce the risk of further human-to-human transmission in this country by keeping individuals in isolation where public health professionals believe there is a reasonable risk an individual may have the virus.

## Further information

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): UK government response](#)

[Travel advice: coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance for health professionals and other organisations](#)

---

Published 24 January 2020

Last updated 18 March 2020 [+ show all updates](#)

---

## Related content

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): UK government response](#)

[COVID-19: infection prevention and control](#)

[Foreign travel checklist](#)

---

Detailed guidance

[High consequence infectious diseases \(HCID\)](#)

[Travel advice: coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

---

Collection

[COVID-19: guidance for health professionals](#)

---

## Explore the topic

### [Infectious diseases](#)

Is this page  
useful?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Is there anything wrong with this  
page?](#)

## Coronavirus (COVID-19)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): what you need to do](#)

## Transition period

[Find out what it means for you](#)

## Services and information

[Benefits](#)

[Births, deaths, marriages and care](#)

[Business and self-employed](#)

[Childcare and parenting](#)

[Citizenship and living in the UK](#)

[Crime, justice and the law](#)

[Disabled people](#)

[Driving and transport](#)

[Education and learning](#)

[Employing people](#)

[Environment and countryside](#)

[Housing and local services](#)

[Money and tax](#)

[Passports, travel and living abroad](#)

[Visas and immigration](#)

[Working, jobs and pensions](#)

## Departments and policy

[How government works](#)

[Departments](#)

[Worldwide](#)

[Services](#)

[Guidance and regulation](#)

[News and communications](#)

[Research and statistics](#)

[Policy papers and consultations](#)

[Transparency and freedom of information releases](#)

## OGI

All content is available under the [Open Government Licence v3.0](#), except where otherwise stated



© Crown copyright