

# COVID – 19

## Tajikistan Situation Report # 15

### 18 August 2020



UNITED NATIONS  
TAJIKISTAN



COVID-19  
RESPONSE

This report is produced by the Office of UN Resident Coordinator and OCHA HAT in collaboration with international partners. It covers the period of 21 July – 18 August 2020. The next report will be issued on or around September 4, 2020.

**8131(+ 1116)\***

Confirmed cases of COVID 19

**65 (+7)\***

Deaths

**6935 (+ 1194)\***

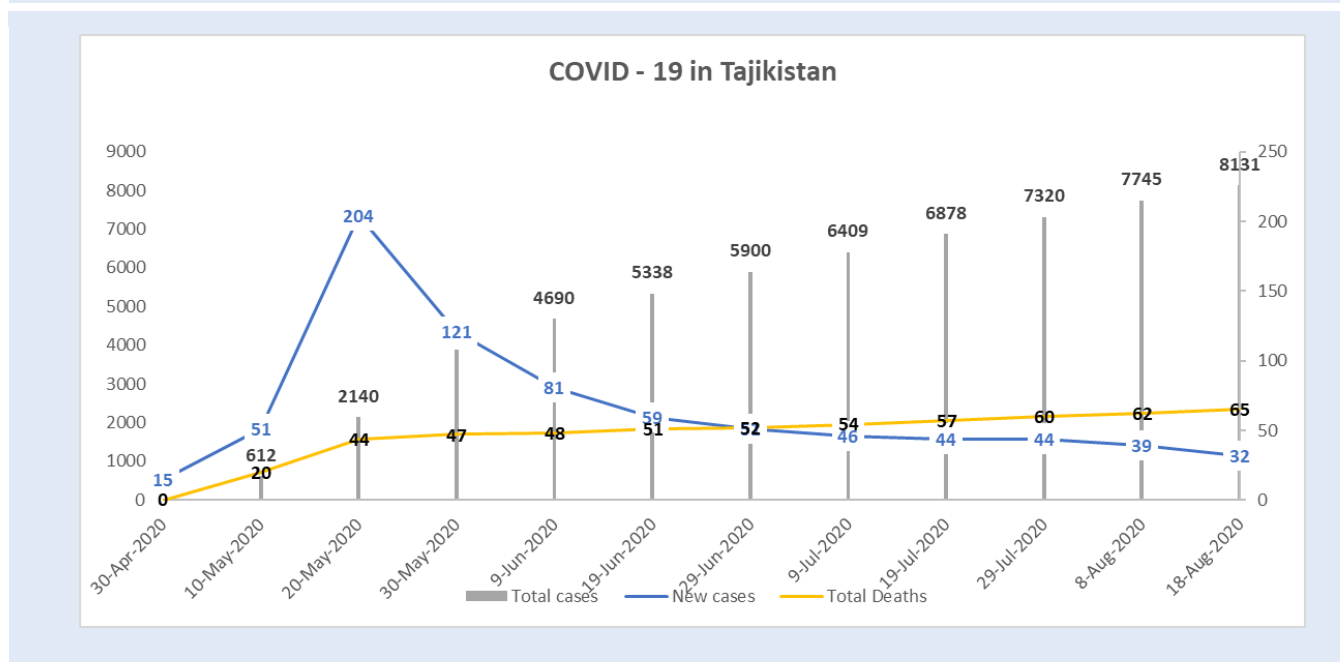
Total recovered from COVID-19

**73**

Patients are under medical supervision in hospitals

\*new cases since July 22, 2020 (Situation Report # 14)

Data as of 18 August 2020 (18:01 local time), Ministry of Health and Social protection of the Population, Tajikistan



## Tajikistan situation overview

- As of 18 August 2020, the number of cumulative cases has increased to a total of 8131. During the reporting period, 7 new deaths attributed to COVID-19 were reported, bringing the total number to 65. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MoHSP) reports that 6935 (85,2 %) of infected people have recovered. Cases are being reported from all the regions of the country.
- The cumulative incidence rate is 84.4 infections per 100 000 and 6.8 deaths per 1 000 000 people. The 14 day incidence is 6.0 per 100 000, a 6% decrease compared to the previous 14 day period. As reported previously, this may be attributed to a continued lack in testing capacity in the country.
- Public health measures in force are limited to compulsory “mask regime” and social distancing in public places, as well as a ban for mass gatherings. These includes bans for mass prayers in mosques, including the Eid-el-Adha and Friday prayers and limiting wedding ceremonies to 30 – 40 people.
- In line with the decision of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on COVID-19, all educational facilities (pre-schools, schools, Universities, etc.) have started the academic year on 17 August 2020, countrywide. The Ministry of Education and Science has issued Procedures and General Recommendations on preparing educational facilities for the beginning of the academic year, as well as on organizing educational processes with consideration of epidemiological conditions in the country.
- As of 15 August 2020, public transport in Dushanbe has been putted in full capacity. Prior, only 35% of the public transport was operational.
- The restriction of public transport between Khujand city and districts is lifted in the region. At present, there are no limitations or restrictions for in-country movement.
- Airports remain closed for regular flights, while railway routes remain open for cargo. Currently, only Dushanbe International Airport serves repatriation charter flights and regular flights on the route Dubai-Dushanbe-Dubai,

which are conducted twice per week. WFP Aviation Service also operating through August (bi-weekly, Mondays and Wednesdays) to/from Dushanbe International Airport.

- The border crossing points with neighboring countries remain closed for civilians and open for cargo import/export (although only on points with customs terminals).
- Markets have been fully operational and staple food commodities have been available in all monitored food markets during the reporting period. The full July monthly update on COVID-19 and Food Security can be found in Annex 1. The latest Tajikistan Weekly Market Situation Update for the week August 10 – 14, 2020 can be found in Annex 2.

### COVID-19 socio-economic update

Although the economy recorded better than expected growth, the Covid-19 pandemic is taking its toll on livelihoods and welfare. Tajikistan's economy grew by 3.5% in the first half of 2020 on the back of a relatively strong industrial (9.2%) and agriculture growth (8.2%).<sup>1</sup> However, wholesale & retail trade contracted by 5.2%. There was a 20% drop in the hotel and other hospitality services. At the household level, people are already cutting down on expenditure amidst an increase in job losses.<sup>2</sup> Around 41% of households reported reducing food consumption which is a 17 percentage points increase from May 2020. The number of households that reported no member having worked in the last seven days increased from 20% (March 2020) to 40% (May 2020).

<sup>1</sup>TAJSAT Socioeconomic Situation Report Jan-Jun 2020.

<sup>2</sup><https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/factsheet/2020/07/13/economic-and-social-impacts-of-covid-19-update-from-listening-to-tajikistan>

### Decisions and measures undertaken by the Government

- Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan has initiated the development of the "COVID-19 Response Plan for the Agriculture Sector". The planning process will identify the vulnerabilities and actions to address the impacts of COVID-19 on the agriculture sector and will aim at small holder farmers and small-scale producers.

### Response

- **Healthcare and medical supply** – The overview of assistance provided by International Partners (including bilateral assistance) prepared by the DCC Working Group on Health can be found at: <https://untj.org/dcc/covid-19/>
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved an additional \$2.5 million grant to Tajikistan to improve laboratory diagnostic and testing capacity. The grant will also finance the procurement of medical equipment or other measures to help the government meet its most urgent gaps in fighting the pandemic.

### Needs

- Tajikistan continues facing a shortage in laboratory equipment and consumables. Laboratory Situational Analysis concerning COVID-19 Response in Tajikistan conducted by WHO identified a full list of laboratory needs to improve the existing testing capacities in the country.
- A FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission in Tajikistan took place from July 15 till July 25, 2020. The Mission conducted a thorough examination of the 2020 food crop production, assessed the overall food supply/demand situation for the 2021 marketing year in the country and the household food security situation. The Report is due by end of August 2020.

### Coordination arrangements

- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee on COVID-19 preparedness and response (Standing Committee) chaired by the Prime Minister continues to lead and coordinate the state COVID-19 operation. Similarly, Standing Committees have been established at all administrative levels by local authorities, as well as within all Ministries and Agencies.
- Overall coordination of development partners in Tajikistan on COVID-19 preparedness and response is undertaken by the UN Resident Coordinator with the technical guidance of WHO, in the frame of the COVID-19 Response Group.

## Communication and information sharing:

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- To contribute to regular Situation Reports and to be included in the mailing lists, please contact:  
**Shahlo Rahimova, OCHA NDRA @ +992939999451; [rahimova@un.org](mailto:rahimova@un.org)**
- For any urgent information related to COVID-19 (situation, needs, response etc.), please contact:  
**Dr. Safarov Abdulakhad, NPO WHO @ +992 98 515 23 32; [safarova@who.int](mailto:safarova@who.int)**