

# COVID – 19 Tajikistan Situation Report # 17 8 October 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 8 September – 7 October 2020. The next report will be issued on or around November 8, 2020.

**10055 (+1263)\***  
Confirmed cases of COVID 19

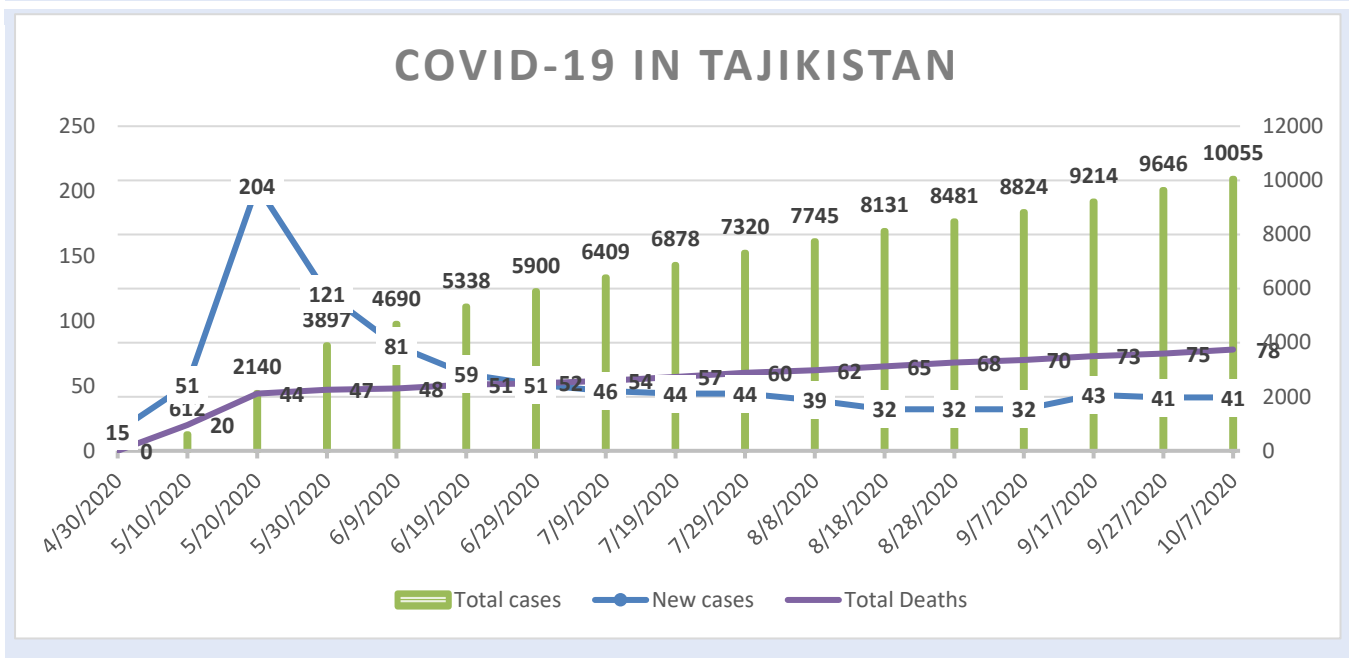
**78 (+8)\***  
Deaths

**8876 (+ 1256)\***  
Total recovered from COVID-19

**56**  
Patients are under medical supervision in hospitals

\*new cases since September 7, 2020 (Situation Report # 16)

Data as of 7 October 2020 (19:07 local time), Ministry of Health and Social protection of the Population, Tajikistan



## Tajikistan situation overview

- As of 7 October 2020, the number of cumulative cases has increased to a total of 10055. During the reporting period, 8 new deaths attributed to COVID-19 were reported, bringing the total number to 78. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MoHSP) reports that 8876 (88,2%) of infected people have recovered. Cases are being reported from all the regions of the country.
- The crude cumulative incidence rate is 107,0 per 100.000 population and 8.4 deaths per 1 000 000 population. The 30-day infection cases average is 40.7, an 11% increase compared to the previous month's period (36.4). The effective reproduction number  $R_t$  is constant since late May and is estimated to be slightly below 1.
- No changes have been introduced to existing public health measures, which are limited to compulsory "mask regime" and social distancing in public places, as well as a ban for mass gatherings. Nonetheless, the introduced measures are not heavily enforced and are rarely observed by the public. However, the bans for mass prayers in mosques and limitations of the wedding ceremonies to 30 – 40 people is obeyed properly.
- Presidential elections in the country will be held on October 11, 2020. Responsible authorities report that voting process will be organized with consideration of public health measures, including scanning of body temperature at the entrance and ensuring social distancing inside the premises. All the polling stations will be equipped with necessary protective supplies, such as surgical masks and disinfectants.
- The 2020 Population and Housing Census is being conducted in Tajikistan during October 1 – 15, 2020. Census personnel, especially enumerators interacting with population, have been provided with Personal Protective Equipment to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Set of other online and remote solutions have been introduced to the census process aiming to reduction of face to face events.
- Airports in Tajikistan remain formally closed for regular flights, except for Dushanbe International. Railway routes remain open for cargo. Repatriation charter flights take place irregularly, and Dushanbe International Airport

serves regular flights on the route Dubai-Dushanbe-Dubai. The Civil Aviation Agency under the Government of Tajikistan announced that regular flights to Istanbul, Turkey and Urumqi, China from Dushanbe International Airport will resume as of early October 2020. Meanwhile, WFP Global Passenger Service announced the cancellation of their Sharjah-Dushanbe-Sharjah passenger flights as of October 12, 2020.

- The border crossing points with neighboring countries remain closed for civilians and open for cargo import/export.
- Markets have been fully operational and staple food commodities have been available in all monitored food markets during the reporting period. The latest Tajikistan Market Situation Update covering the period of 14-29 September 2020 can be found in Annex 1.

## Decisions and measures undertaken by the Government

- On September 2, 2020 the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on COVID-19 (Standing Committee) approved the Charter of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Public Engagement and Raising Awareness among population about the risks and ways to prevent the spread of new coronavirus infection (RCCE Task Force). The RCCE Task Force is an interagency executive and organizational body, under the authority of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan (on social sector and work with population) and reports to the Standing Committee. The RCCE Task Force will work through seven sub-groups, focusing on content and its production, interaction with media, public relations, management of hotlines, cooperation with development partners, as well as monitoring and evaluation. Each subgroup will be led by the appointed state entity and will meet twice per month. UNICEF, who was leading the establishment of the RCCE Task Force will continue its engagement in its operationalization.
- Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan is currently updating the COVID-19 Country Preparedness and Response Plan from 19 March 2020 (CPRP). The revision of the Plan has been initiated in line with the recommendations of the COVID-19 Technical mission of WHO experts to Tajikistan back in May 2020. Revision process includes national consultations throughout October 2020, while the final revisions will be presented at National Workshop in early November 2020.

## 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 group of Russian experts from Rospotrebnadzor have completed their mission under the WHO Global Outbreak and Response Network (GOARN). Their mission focused on good laboratory practice for increased testing capacity, development of a COVID-19 laboratory system and training, designing renovation plans for 3 laboratories, opening a new diagnostics laboratory in GBAO, and the implementation of the project for the National Serological Study of COVID-19 among healthcare workers.
- After a review process with various governmental institutions, international partners are continuing to implement the COVID-19 Humanitarian Emergency Response Strategy under the guidance of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoESCD). Through the CoESCD emergency infrastructure, AKDN, SDC and other partners from the REACT network are working in all regions of Tajikistan along the four main objectives of 1) supporting the response of the Ministry of Health; 2) supporting and monitoring disease surveillance and economic emergency reporting; 3) providing humanitarian assistance; and 4) supporting governmental infrastructure for potential quarantining and social distancing measures.

## Needs

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in partnership with the Government of Tajikistan, has launched the Report on the assessment of the impact of COVID-19 outbreak on lives, livelihoods, and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in Tajikistan. The full report can be found at: <https://untj.org/?p=15131>

## 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)**