

16/6/2020



# COVID-19 in North Macedonia - Update 59

In **North Macedonia**, from **Feb 26 to 15 June 2020, 22:00pm CEST**, there have been **4,155 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 with **193 deaths**.

[NORTH MACEDONIA COVID-19 EPI SITUATION](#)

[EUROPE COVID-19 SITUATION](#)

[NORTH MACEDONIA COVID-19 HEALTH RESPONSE](#)

[NORTH MACEDONIA COVID-19 SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACT AND RESPONSE](#)

[WHO SUPPORT TO NORTH MACEDONIA COVID-19 EMERGENCY](#)

[WHAT IS \[NEW\]](#)

[WEBEX SESSIONS FOR THIS WEEK](#)

**The President of North Macedonia introduced a state of emergency for a period of 8 days (15-22 June 2020).**

*More than six months into this pandemic, the cornerstone of the response remains for every country to find, isolate, test and care for every case, and to trace and quarantine every contact. That is every country's best defense against COVID-19.*

## NORTH MACEDONIA COVID-19 EPI SITUATION

Over the last 72 hours – Data as of 15 June 2020 20:00

- **Total tests performed ( % positive)** : 841 (12.1%), 778 (20.1%) and 1213 (16.2%) on Monday, Sunday and Saturday, respectively.
- **Targeted screening tests (number positive)** : 123 (4) – two cases each in a kindergarten in Shtip and Ohrid
- **New cases**: **460** (102, 162 and 196 new cases registered on each day, respectively)
- **Recovered**: 29 COVID-19 patients
- **Fatalities**: 22 new COVID-19 deaths

Cumulative registered COVID-19 as of 12 June – **3700** (Incidence=178.1/100.000) – [see daily curve](#)

- **Cases among health workers**: **371 (10% of all cases)** of which 249 (67%) have recovered and one death case is registered.
- **Tests performed**: 41 049 SARS-CoV-2 tests. Daily testing capacity is approx. 1200 tests.
- **Patients recovered**: 1694 COVID-19 patients.
- **Fatalities**: **171** COVID-19 fatalities (CFR 4.6%) are registered.
- **Gender distribution**: More women are infected with coronavirus than men (1894 and 1806 respectively). However, **65% of all deaths are men**.
- **Comorbidity**: 76.6% of death cases
- **Age distribution**: **Median age at infection: 44 years**; largest number of cases is in >60-year: 20.5%; >60-year: 66% of all deaths; but the highest age specific incidence of 251.0 / 100,000 is registered in the age group of 50-59 years (698 patients); 0-9-year: 187 confirmed COVID-19 cases; 10-19-year: 192 confirmed

16/6/2020

Figure 1. North Macedonia – Daily confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths (n=4057) and deaths (n=188) by 15 June 2020

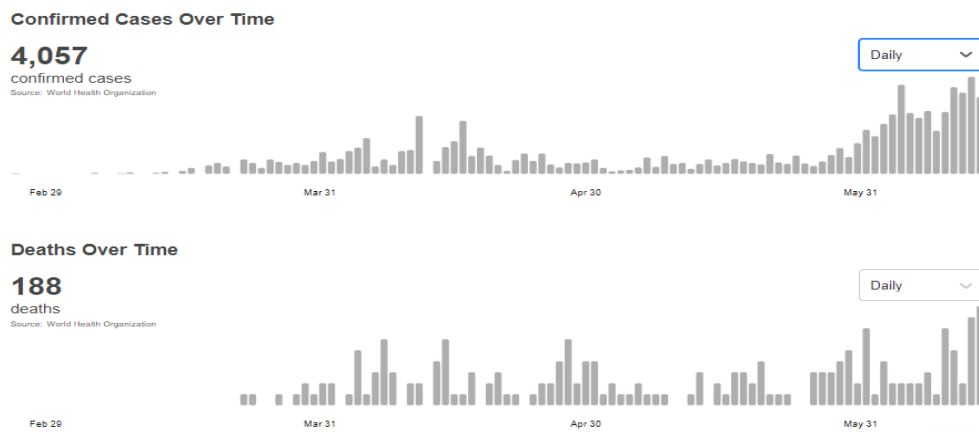
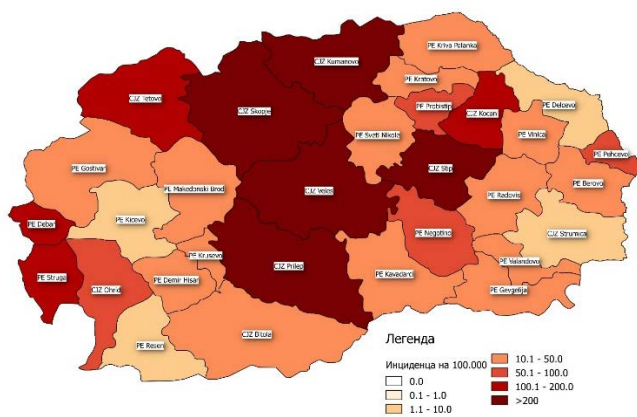


Figure 2. North Macedonia – COVID-19 incidence per 100,000 people, per city, as of 12 June 2020

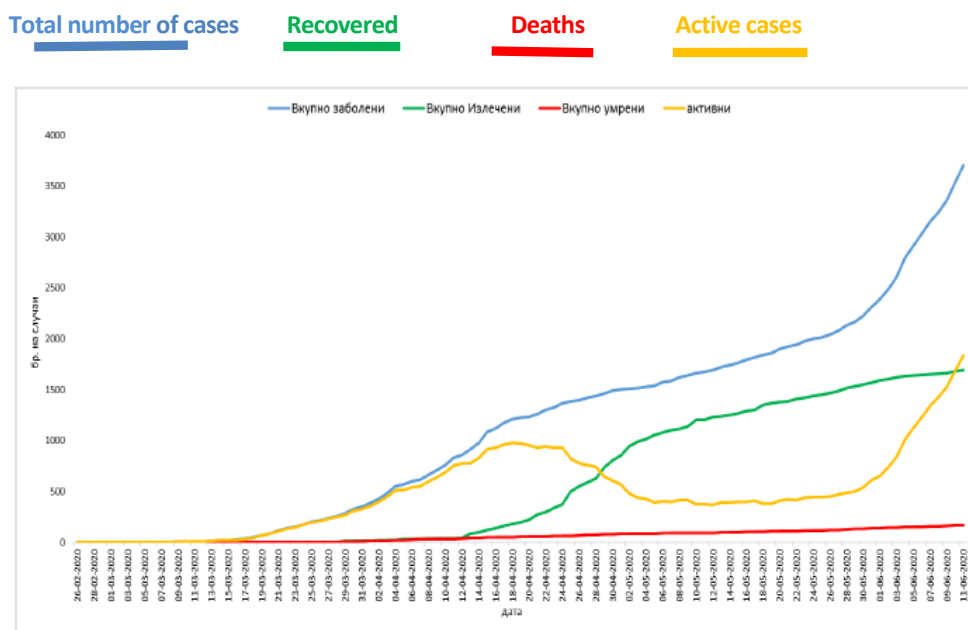


Geographic spread and deaths: COVID-19 cases are registered in **32 cities**. The most affected city is **Skopje with 1677 cases (45%)**.

The **highest cumulative incidence per 100,000 inhabitants is registered in Shtip (440.5 / 100,000), Kumanovo (433.8 / 100,000), Skopje (271.5 / 100,000), Prilep (237.1 / 100,000), Veles (224.9 / 100,000) and Debar (201.8 / 100,000)** while an incident rate with over 100 patients per 100,000 inhabitants was registered in **Struga, Tetovo and Kochani**. **83% of all deaths are registered in Skopje, Kumanovo, Tetovo, Struga and Prilep**.

All data can be accessed at [www.iph.mk](http://www.iph.mk)

Figure 3. North Macedonia – COVID-19 statistics as of 12 June (n=3700)



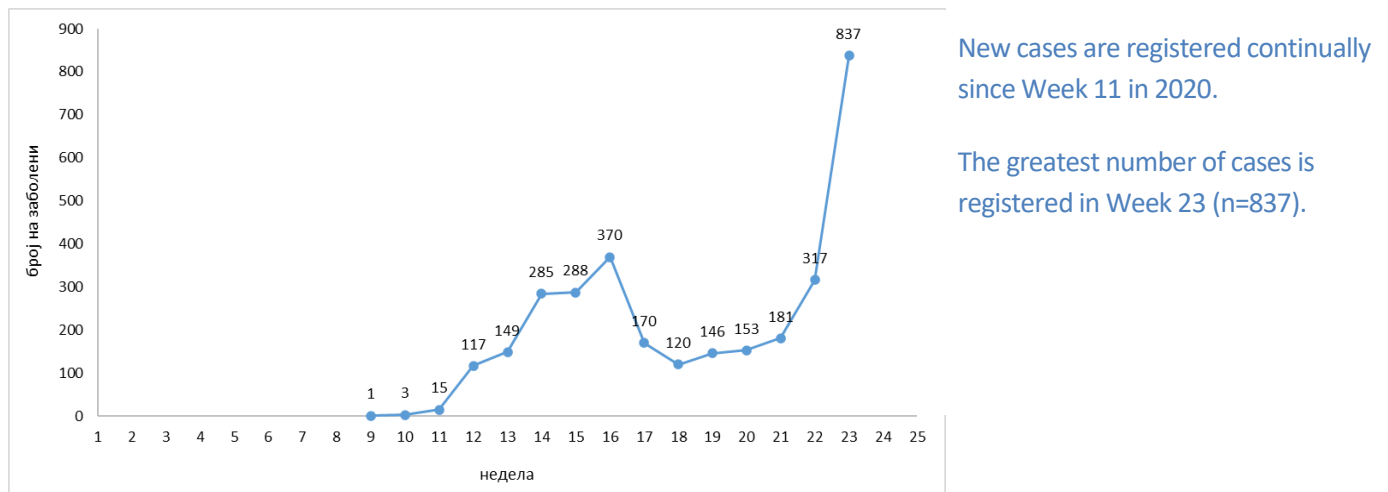
☹️ % Change of 14-day Cumulative Death Incidence is **▲72%**

☹️ % Change of 14-day Cumulative COVID-19 Case Incidence is **▲322%**

☹️ Effective Reproduction Number - **1.3 (1.1 – 1.5)**  
Clusters phase

16/6/2020

**Figure 4. Distribution of number of COVID-19 patients in North Macedonia by laboratory confirmation week, 23/2020 (n=3152)**



**EUROPE COVID-19 SITUATION AS OF 15 JUNE 2020 IN LAST 7 DAYS; WWW.COVID19.WHO.INT**

- Over the past 14 days, cumulative cases across the Region increased **11% to 2,421,369 cases** (from 2,290,218 cases on 01 June 2020) and cumulative deaths increased by **2% to 188,440 deaths** (from 178,729 deaths on 01 June 2020).
- The situation in countries with the highest cumulative case count, mostly in Western Europe, seems to be stabilizing (e.g., Italy, Belgium, Spain, France, Germany, and United Kingdom) with a consistent decline in the 14-day cumulative incidence;
- **Continued growth in case numbers is still observed in several countries**, mostly in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (e.g., **North Macedonia**, Israel, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Uzbekistan) excluding countries with few cases / deaths or exceptional reporting.
- **For countries/territories with 1000 or more cases, the biggest growth in % change of 14-day cumulative incidence was reported in North Macedonia, Israel, Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Uzbekistan.**
- 18 (of 55) countries have shown an increase in the number of new cases greater than 10% in the past two weeks including:
  - **>100%** - **Andorra** (2,867% - low incidence), **North Macedonia** (322%), **Israel** (317%), **Slovenia** (214% - low incidence), **Bulgaria** (179%), **Albania** (149%), **Greece** (146% - low incidence), **Bosnia & Herzegovina** (124%), **Azerbaijan** (101%),
  - **40-99%** - **Sweden** (90%), **Armenia** (62%), **Uzbekistan** (60%), **Republic of Moldova** (59%), **Ukraine** (45%),
  - **<40%-10%** - **Cyprus** (39%), **Portugal** (21%), **Romania** (15%), **Serbia** (12%).

16/6/2020

## Indicators for Top 10 Countries and Countries of Interest

Country	Cases	Deaths	Transmission scenario	Effective R	Overall Trend	Cumulative Cases per 100,000 population	14-day Cumulative Cases per 100,000 population	% Change in 14-day Cumulative Incidence
Russian Federation	537210	7091	Clusters	1 (1 – 1.1)	Stable	368.27	83.86	-1.50
United Kingdom	295889	41698	Community	0.9 (0.9 – 1)	Stable	438.16	31.29	-31.98
Spain	243928	27136	Community	0.8 (0.7 – 0.9)	Decreasing	521.92	9.63	-44.30
Italy	236989	34345	Community	0.9 (0.8 – 0.9)	Decreasing	391.39	6.56	-47.65
Germany	186461	8791	Community	0.9 (0.9 – 1)	Stable	223.26	5.56	-34.74
Turkey	178239	4807	Community	1 (0.9 – 1)	Stable	213.64	17.14	-1.44
France	157220	29407	Community	0.9 (0.8 – 1)	Stable	241.40	8.39	-41.49
Belgium	60029	9655	Community	0.9 (0.7 – 1)	Stable	520.21	14.28	-46.86
Belarus	53973	308	Community	1 (1 – 1.1)	Stable	571.00	120.78	-11.54
Sweden	51614	4874	Community	1.3 (1.2 – 1.4)	Increasing	514.27	140.21	90.19
Ukraine	31810	901	Community	1.1 (1 – 1.2)	Stable	72.31	17.73	44.50
Poland	29392	1247	Community	1 (0.9 – 1.1)	Stable	77.58	14.80	6.63
Israel	19008	300	Pending	1.4 (1.1 – 1.6)	Increasing	223.12	22.74	317.25
Armenia	17064	285	Community	1.2 (1.1 – 1.3)	Increasing	576.93	256.01	62.18
Kazakhstan	14809	77	Clusters	0.9 (0.9 – 1)	Stable	79.83	18.87	-28.09
Azerbaijan	9957	119	Clusters	1.2 (1.1 – 1.3)	Increasing	99.10	44.42	101.09
Uzbekistan	5103	19	Clusters	1.1 (1 – 1.3)	Stable	15.47	4.37	60.07
Tajikistan	5035	50	Pending	0.8 (0.7 – 1)	Stable	54.02	11.85	-57.65
North Macedonia	4057	188	Clusters	1.4 (1.2 – 1.6)	Increasing	194.72	87.88	321.89
Albania	1590	36	Clusters			55.19	16.83	148.60

### Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus - WHO DG briefed EU Development Ministers

Dr Tedros exchanged with EU development ministers on the COVID-19 situation and the progress made in the implementation of the €36 billion Team Europe package against COVID-19 and its socio-economic consequences. In his intervention, Dr Tedros thanked the EU and its Member States for its leading role supporting the COVID-19 response and for bringing forward the COVID-19 resolution at the 73rd WHA. In their conclusions, Ministers stressed the need for global cooperation and solidarity; expressed support to WHO's role in coordinating the response; highlighted the need to strengthen health security and to prepare for future health crises; and recalled that building and strengthening health systems and ensuring the health and safety protection of health and social care personnel is essential to tackle COVID-19. [More](#).

### European Union weekly update highlights

#### EU Health Ministers discussed EU4Health Programme and Vaccines strategy

EU Health Ministers exchanged views on the proposed "EU4Health" programme for 2021-2027. During the meeting, Ministers broadly welcomed the new EU4Health programme and its objectives and stressed that it was important to ensure effective governance involving member states and ensure synergies with other EU programmes. Ministers also reflected on the proposed EU vaccines strategy aimed at securing early access for EU citizens to safe and efficient vaccines against COVID-19, highlighting the importance of the strategy and called for full transparency and involvement of member states. Ministers also highlighted that it was crucial to guarantee fair distribution of vaccines among member states. [More](#)

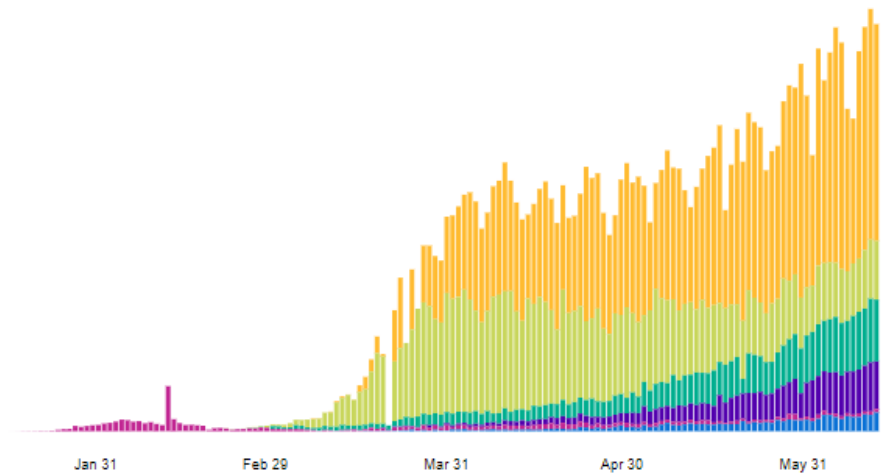
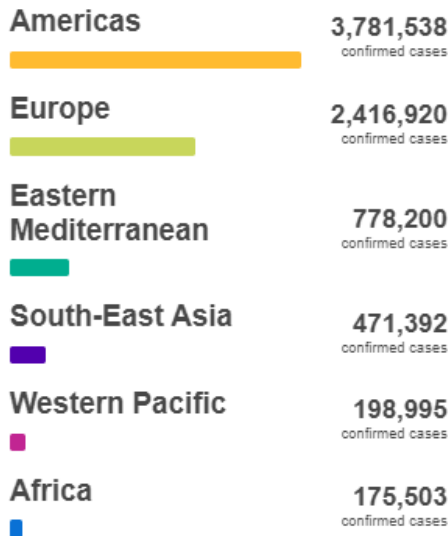
The EIB approved € 7.5 billion of new financing incl. € 3.2 billion for COVID-19 public health, elderly care and targeted business support; € 1.5 billion for clean transport; additional backing for higher education, renewable energy and urban development; and € 1.9 billion for health and private sector investment outside Europe. [More](#)

16/6/2020

Figure 5: Comparison Epi curve of confirmed COVID-19, by date of report and WHO region through 15 June 2020 for all WHO Regions

### Case Comparison

WHO Regions



Source: World Health Organization

### Situation in numbers (by WHO Region)

Total (new cases in last 24 hours)

<b>Globally</b>	<b>7 823 289 cases (132 581)</b>	<b>431 541 deaths (3 911)</b>
<b>Africa</b>	<b>175 503 cases (7 937)</b>	<b>4 111 deaths (113)</b>
<b>Americas</b>	<b>3 781 538 cases (69 770)</b>	<b>201 848 deaths (2 596)</b>
<b>Eastern Mediterranean</b>	<b>778 200 cases (19 649)</b>	<b>17 077 deaths (437)</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>2 416 920 cases (18 141)</b>	<b>188 350 deaths (349)</b>
<b>South-East Asia</b>	<b>471 392 cases (15 953)</b>	<b>12 927 deaths (401)</b>
<b>Western Pacific</b>	<b>198 995 cases (1 131)</b>	<b>7 215 deaths (15)</b>

\*Remember to check the European Region Situation Dashboards available in both [ENGLISH](#) and [RUSSIAN](#) for the latest, verified information on the COVID-19 situation in the Region.

\*\*Access a Mobile Friendly Version of the European Region COVID-19 Situation Dashboard [HERE](#)

### NORTH MACEDONIA COVID-19 HEALTH RESPONSE – in past 72 hours

#### Test, Trace and Isolate

- About 200 staff of the local self-government in Struga are in self-isolation until Monday (22 June) after one of the employees tested positive.

#### Public Health Measures

- The President introduced a state of emergency for a period of 8 days (15-22 June 2020),** upon a proposal

16/6/2020

submitted by the Government. An agreement is reached to hold elections on 15 July and in this regard the decision to declare state of emergency is aimed at enabling smooth preparation of the elections in particular the implementation of measures to protect the public health during the election process.

- **The protocol for safe election process** is prepared by the Commission for Infectious Diseases and it is based on medical and epidemiologic arguments and on maintaining distance, frequent disinfection and wearing protective equipment.
- **MoH is considering publicly announcing the names of those who should be in self-isolation** as many people who need to self-isolate refuse to accept the self-isolation decisions due to various reasons.
- The working hours of the malls are back to normal (10:00-22:00) except for Sunday which remains a non-working day.

### Physical Infrastructure

- Despite the increase of COVID-19 cases, **there are enough beds in the health facilities** as only 14% of the COVID-19 patients are hospitalized and 86% are asymptomatic or have a mild clinical manifestation. A total of **318 COVID-19 patients** are hospitalized in the infectious departments throughout the country.
  - The installed hospital right next to the Clinic for Infectious Diseases has 70 beds, none of which are occupied, 8 September Hospital has 113 occupied beds out of 400 and at the Clinic for Infectious Diseases 95 patients are currently hospitalized, and no new patients are hospitalized in the past 24 hours. The Clinical Hospital in Bitola is fully occupied, one-third of the Ohrid Hospital and half of the capacities in Clinical Hospitals in Tetovo and Shtip are occupied. The Kavadarci Hospital is completely available, and it can be used as a regional COVID-19 center.
  - At the Clinic for Infectious Diseases, **37 patients are on oxygen support** and no patients are on respirators. At 8 September Hospital, **10 patients are on respirator and 21 patients have severe clinical manifestation.**

### Health Workforce

- **The health system is activated and mobilized to support the COVID-19 response.** Three doctors and 27 medical nurses from all over the country are designated to support the work of the Clinic for Infectious Diseases and 6 doctors and 27 medical nurses are designated to support the work of the 8 September Hospital.

### Case Management

- 23 units of convalescent plasma donations are being secured so far in 2020, providing blood plasma for treatment of 23 COVID-19 patients.
- At the Zane Mitrev Clinic a patient has recovered from COVID-19 through hemofiltration, which is the first registered case in the world. The patient was received in critical condition by the Clinic and immediately operated on, after which his blood was filtered from infective mediators. The patient who was confirmed to have COVID-19 was tested three times after his recovery, all of which came back negative for the virus.

### Essential Health Services

- To prevent the spread of the virus, **the regular chronic interventions are interrupted**, and only the urgent and necessary interventions are provided.

### Risk Communication and Behavioral Insight

- Health Minister urged the parents to make sure that children and young people wear protective masks and are not gathering since they are usually asymptomatic but can spread the infection.

### Borders and Travel

- The Government adopted a **protocol for visitors transiting through the country**, either through the land crossings with neighboring Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Kosovo and Serbia, or through the international airport

16/6/2020

in the capital Skopje. Transiting visitors are allowed to remain in the country for up to five hours and will be obliged to fill out a form upon entry in North Macedonia and to hand it over to the border police at the exit as proof of the duration of transit. Macedonian citizens can leave the country, but they are obliged to sign a statement at the exit that they will not request government support in case of a problem while abroad. Upon re-entry, they must present to border authorities the results of a diagnostic test taken within the past 72 hours and need to sign a statement for mandatory 14-day self-isolation. In case when PCR results are not available or are not valid then people are subject to a mandatory 14-day state quarantine.

- **Greece will open the land borders with North Macedonia and Albania on July 1.** Only a few border crossings will be operational, including Evzoni (Bogorodica) to North Macedonia. Regarding airlines, flights from North Macedonia and Albania will be allowed between June 15-30, but only for specific purposes not for tourists, and only to the Athens-based airport. As of July 1, all tourists arriving in Greece will have to fill out a form – Passenger Load Factor – including data on their contacts in Greece. COVID-19 tests will be made by random selection, and possible positive cases will be sent to a 14-day hotel quarantine.
- The Montenegrin Institute of Public Health has updated the list of countries whose arrival in the country is not subject to special restrictions and North Macedonia was not on the list this week either.
- **Wizz Air extended the suspension of all flights to and from North Macedonia until 13 July.**

### NORTH MACEDONIA COVID-19 SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACT AND RESPONSE

- About 140,000 jobs are saved through the governmental measure for subsidization of the payment of salaries for April, May and June in the companies affected by COVID-19 crisis as part of the second set of measures for supporting the economy during the pandemic, according to Finance Ministry estimates.
- Citizens can request a return of the VAT as late as 31 July 2020, after numerous complaints by the citizens that they have clicked to donate the VAT return on the application to the COVID-19 fund by mistake or have changed their minds. Citizens use the VAT Return Application on their mobile phones to scan receipts from retail businesses and gain 15 % of VAT return from the total VAT calculated in the final price of the product or service. In addition, the **Government adopted a decree to stimulate purchase of domestic products towards revitalizing the Macedonian economy. Citizens who buy domestic products will now get 20% VAT return when scanning their fiscal receipts within the MyVAT project, instead of 15%.**
- Since the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country, many citizens were forced to purchase certain products online, which led to **increase of the e-shopping activities in North Macedonia** according to data from the National Bank of Macedonia (NBRM).
  - Data shows that there has been an annual growth of credit transfer transactions of 4.9 %, an increase in transactions in physical persons of 1.3 %, and a slight decline of 0.7 % in legal persons since the beginning of the health crisis in the country. Physical have entities started utilizing the benefits of online banking more. The number of electronic credit transfers initiated by citizens has increased by a whopping 30.3 % annually, i.e. a 21.4 % increase monthly. Citizens used computers for payments. Specifically, in payments done via computer, there is a high annual growth in March of 26.4 %, i.e. a 27.2 % monthly growth, twice as high as the annual growth in the first quarter of this year which amounted to 13.8 %.
- **117 companies with a total number of 3,001 employees have been approved funds from the interest-free crediting line “Covid 2”** for overcoming consequences from the COVID-19 pandemic. So far, 1.6 million euros have been paid to 83 out of the 117 companies that were approved funds. “Covid 2” was open for all businesses from all sectors compared to the crediting line “Covid 1”, where only companies from the sectors of tourism, catering and transport were allowed to apply. For “Covid 1” the Development Bank of Macedonia received applications from 704 companies, of which 476 were approved, and will gain around 316 million denars, while 286 applications were rejected because the companies did not fulfil certain conditions for gaining the finance. Both crediting lines are part of the governmental measures for maintaining the liquidity of companies in time of pandemic.

16/6/2020

- **The foreign exchange reserves have increased by 603.8 million euros** since the beginning of June 2020, according to data from the National Bank of Macedonia (NBRM). The foreign exchange reserves are twice bigger than those in 2008 during the global economic crisis.
- According to the State Statistical Office data, **the turnover index in industry, total, in April 2020, in comparison with April 2019, was 49.2**. The total turnover by Main Industrial Groupings in April 2020, in comparison with April 2019, was lower in Intermediate goods, except energy by 23.8 %, Capital goods by 80.2%, Durable consumer goods by 42.5 % and Non-durable consumer goods by 29.2 %. The turnover index in industry, total, in April 2020, in comparison with March 2020, was 59.1, while in the period January-April 2020, in comparison with January-April 2019, the turnover index in industry, total, was 84.8.
  - According to the State Statistical Office data, the turnover index in industry on domestic market, in April 2020, in comparison with April 2019, was 82.4. The turnover in industry on domestic market, by Main Industrial Groupings in April 2020, in comparison with April 2019, was lower in Intermediate goods, except energy by 9.2 %, Capital goods by 24.3 %, Durable consumer goods by 43.1 % and Non-durable consumer goods by 20.6 %. The turnover index in industry on domestic market, in April 2020, in comparison with March 2020, was 83.2, while in the period January-April 2020, in comparison with January-April 2019, the turnover index in industry on domestic market, was 97.7.
  - According to the State Statistical Office data, the turnover index in industry on non-domestic market, in April 2020, in comparison with April 2019, was 39. The turnover in industry on non-domestic market, by Main Industrial Groupings in April 2020, in comparison with April 2019, was lower in Intermediate goods, except energy by 28.9 %, Capital goods by 82 %, Durable consumer goods by 45% and Non-durable consumer goods by 35.2 %. The turnover index in industry on non-domestic market, in April 2020, in comparison with March 2020, was 49.7, while in the period January-April 2020, in comparison with January-April 2019, the turnover index in industry on non-domestic market, was 81.2.
- According to the data of the State Statistical Office, **the number of tourists in April 2020 was 741, and the number of nights spent by tourists was 4,690**. The number of tourists in April 2020, compared to April 2019, decreased by 99.1 %, and the number of nights spent decreased by 97.2 %.
  - The number of domestic tourists in April 2020, compared to April 2019, decreased by 97.7 %, while the number of foreign tourists decreased by 99.7 %.
  - The number of nights spent by domestic tourists in April 2020, compared to April 2019, decreased by 96.1 %, whereas the number of nights spent by foreign tourists decreased by 97.8 %.
  - In the period January - April 2020, compared to the same period last year, the number of tourists decreased by 47.9 %: the number of domestic tourists decreased by 43.0%, while that of foreign tourists decreased by 50.3 %.
  - In the period January - April 2020, compared to the same period last year, the number of nights spent decreased by 46.9 %: the number of nights spent by domestic tourists decreased by 41.6 %, while those by foreign tourists decreased by 50.4 %.
- **The price of fuels will increase by one to 1.5 denars**. The decision increases the retail prices of oil derivatives by an average of 1.98%.
- Since the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country, many citizens were forced to purchase certain products online, which led to increase of the e-shopping activities in North Macedonia according to data from the National Bank of Macedonia (NBRM).
- Data shows that there has been an annual growth of credit transfer transactions of 4.9 %, an increase in transactions in physical persons of 1.3 %, and a slight decline of 0.7 % in legal persons since the beginning of the health crisis in the country. Physical have entities started utilizing the benefits of online banking more. The number of electronic credit transfers initiated by citizens has increased by a whopping 30.3 % annually,



16/6/2020

i.e. a 21.4 % increase monthly. Citizens used computers for payments. Specifically, in payments done via computer, there is a high annual growth in March of 26.4 %, i.e. a 27.2 % monthly growth, twice as high as the annual growth in the first quarter of this year which amounted to 13.8 %.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF WHO NORTH MACEDONIA ACTION IN COVID-19 TIMES

- The weekly Laboratory Workshop was held on 15 June at 12:00 to discuss questions related to the COVID-19 virus laboratory work and to exchange information. The focus this week was Pooling of samples - the Frankfurt Adjusted COVID-19 Test Method presented by *prof. Dr. Michael Schmidt, German Red Cross Blood Donation Service Institute Frankfurt, Germany*.
- WHO and MOH are preparing a virtual review of the COVID-19 response in the country that will include areas of case management, public health measures, tracing and testing, mass gatherings, essential health services and risk communication. The meetings are planned for Thursday and Friday 18 and 19 June 2020.

## WHAT IS [NEW]?

**DG's Statement – WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 – 15 June** can be accessed in full [Here](#). **Dr. Tedros'** key messages focused on:

- Last week, China reported a new cluster of cases in Beijing, after more than 50 days without a case in that city. More than 100 cases have now been confirmed. The origin and extent of the outbreak are being investigated.
- Influenza affects every country every year, and takes its own deadly toll. Co-circulation of COVID-19 and influenza can worsen the impact on health care systems that are already overwhelmed.
- Influenza surveillance has either been suspended or is declining in many countries, and there has been a sharp decline in sharing of influenza information and viruses because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- There has been a 62% decrease in the number of virus shipments to WHO Collaborating Centres, and a 94% decrease in the number of influenza viruses with genetic sequence data uploaded to the GISAID database.
- These disruptions may have short- and long-term effects, such as the loss of capacities to detect and report new influenza viruses with pandemic potential.

## Public Health and Social Measures

- The latest update using simulation exercise **COVID-19 Simex Packages** is now available [Here](#) in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

## Research and Development

- A draft report on the **Feasibility, potential value and limitations of establishing a closely monitored challenge model of experimental COVID-19 infection and illness in healthy young adult volunteers** is now available [Here](#). The content of this document is not final, and the text may be subject to revisions by the public before publication. The document may not be reviewed, abstracted, quoted, reproduced, transmitted, distributed, translated or adapted, in part or in whole, in any form or by any means without the permission of the WHO.

## Other WHO News

- **New** - The **COVID 19: WHO Europe an Region Operational Update: Epi Weeks 21-22 (18-31 May)**' is now available [Here](#).
- The **WHO HQ weekly update** is now available [Here](#).

16/6/2020

### Learning resources

- **The Interreg Europe policy learning platform on COVID-19: territorial and economic impacts on European Regions** has highlighted several reports ([Here](#)):
  - An OECD report titled 'The territorial impact of COVID-19: managing the crisis across levels of government' that explores the role of regions in responding to the COVID-19 crisis.
  - A second OECD report titled 'Policy Implications of Coronavirus Crisis for Rural Development', and it looks at opportunities and challenges for rural regions emerging from the COVID-19 crisis.
  - A report published by Spatial Foresight titled 'Understanding the Territorially Diverse Implications of COVID-19 Policy Responses' that explores the territorial impact of the COVID-19 crisis.

### WEBEX SESSIONS FOR THIS WEEK

---

#### **Information Management and Decision-Making Regarding Personnel during the COVID-19 Outbreak in Israel**

24 June from 16:00 – 17:00pm CEST

Register for the webinar [Here](#).

Following the WHO declaration on the COVID-19 global outbreak, the Israeli Ministry of Health (MoH) established a national headquarters. The "Human Resources" headquarters, managed by the Nursing Division of the MoH, established a fast and reliable infrastructure for data processing to present accurate data related to more than 100 medical organizations providing the daily updated situation reports (SITREPs).

---

**Gender webinar today** on addressing **gender-based violence in the context of COVID-19 in Europe and Central Asia** – we hope that you will be able to attend. Please use the link in flyer or below to connect. The webinar will begin at **11:00 Copenhagen time**, with an RD intervention followed by country presentations.

Meeting Link: <https://bit.ly/3cQpRDR>

Meeting Password: 427719

---