



International Medical Corps field teams distribute personal protective equipment and hygiene supplies to volunteers cleaning up areas affected by the Beirut port explosion.

Worldwide, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases has grown to more than 40 million, and the number of deaths has increased to more than 1.1 million. The number of new daily cases throughout the world continues to grow, with the last week averaging nearly 375,000 cases per day, along with more than 5,000 deaths per day.

The United States is currently experiencing a third peak in COVID-19 cases. Thus far, there is no sign that the growth in new cases is slowing. Each of the three peaks in COVID-19 cases in the United States has primarily been associated with different regions of the country. The first peak was principally located in New York and New Jersey; the second peak was driven by outbreaks in Florida, Texas, California and Arizona; and the third peak is occurring throughout more rural states in the Midwest and west of the country.¹ The United States currently sits at approximately 60,000 new confirmed cases and 750 deaths per day. As cases surge in more than 35 states, Dr. Anthony Fauci has suggested that Americans consider canceling holiday social gatherings. The warning from the infectious disease specialist comes as small household gatherings have been driving the uptick in cases, especially among individuals in their 20s and 30s.²

Europe is also going through an explosion of new cases across the continent. Countries throughout the region are seeing high numbers, with some experiencing confirmed new cases at a rate not yet seen on the continent. Thus far, in this second wave, most governments have avoided national-level lockdowns, in an attempt to limit the burden put on the economy by imposing broad restrictions on movement and business. Instead, most have turned to a regional approach to slowing the spread of the virus. France has rolled out curfews in numerous cities and has limited the number of people who can gather in homes. Spain is imposed local lockdowns of varying degrees in multiple regions, including Catalonia

FAST FACTS

- According to the Johns Hopkins University tracker, which consolidates data from a range of sources, as of October 21, there have been 40,886,174 confirmed cases of COVID-19 reported in 188 countries and regions.
- In the US, we are supporting 38 hospitals across the country—including in California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Puerto Rico and Texas—with a range of services and equipment, including emergency medical field units, supplies and volunteer staff.
- We have screened more than 2.1 million people for COVID-19 at our global missions and have distributed more than 17.9 million pieces of personal protective equipment and infection prevention and control items to supported health facilities.
- We have trained more than 18,000 frontline healthcare professionals on COVID-19 prevention and control measures.

¹ <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/09/01/816707182/map-tracking-the-spread-of-the-coronavirus-in-the-u-s>

² <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/10/15/coronavirus-covid-live-updates-us/>

and Madrid. The Netherlands has mandated a lockdown in which all restaurants, bars and cafes can serve only takeout orders, and all alcohol sales and public consumption is banned after 8:00 p.m. Germany has also imposed at least one local lockdown, with schools, nurseries, and restaurants forced to close for two weeks in Berchtesgaden. Italy has mandated indoors and outdoors mask-wearing, and has given mayors the power to close public spaces after 9:00 p.m. Ireland has imposed a partial national lockdown in which indoor social gatherings are banned, while outdoor gatherings are limited to two households and must be held no more than three miles from the homes of those gathering.³

International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps continues to provide essential medical assistance and training in the 28 countries where we operate. Highlights from our global response include the following.

United States Response

In the US, International Medical Corps has partnered with hospitals, clinics and nursing homes in California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Puerto Rico and Texas to respond to COVID-19. To date, we have distributed more than 5 million items of PPE, including 1.8 million KN95 masks, 1.8 million surgical masks, 1 million isolation gowns, 200,000 N95 masks, 100,000 face shields and 100,000 cloth face masks. Additionally, International Medical Corps has focused on increasing critical-care capacity by donating medical equipment such as ICU monitors, high-flow nasal oxygen units, portable ultrasounds, defibrillators and several other types of equipment. International Medical Corps has also provided hospitals with emergency medical field units and clinical volunteers to strengthen emergency and critical-care capacity during the pandemic.

United States Response				
 Locations	States/Territories: 8	Hospitals: 38		Nursing homes: 51
 Volunteers	MDs: 16	Nurses: 44	EMTs: 3	Paramedics: 8
 Infrastructure	Field Units: 56	HVACs: 48	Generators: 4	Trailers: 4 Containers: 2
 Equipment	Beds: 150	Ventilators: 7	Portable ultrasounds: 16	
	Pulse oximeters: 120	Suctions: 9	Defibrillators: 2	
	Medical consumables:	Anesthesia pumps: 1	Patient monitors: 143	
 PPE	K95 masks: 1,836,860	Surgical masks: 1,873,000	Surgical gowns: 1,004,500	
	N95 masks: 200,000	Face shields: 108,000	Nitrile gloves: 2,100	

In South Texas and Puerto Rico, International Medical Corps continues to work closely with hospital leadership to provide support through innovative technical platforms, oxygen monitoring and data collection throughout the hospitals. In addition, we continue to support long-term care facilities throughout Los Angeles County by providing PPE and training on infection prevention and control (IPC) measures.

Global Response

International Medical Corps is focused on ensuring continuity of operations in its existing programming in nearly 30 countries while taking decisive action to respond to COVID-19 cases. We are continuing to distribute PPE and IPC items to our supported healthcare facilities while providing training and support to frontline healthcare workers on the proper use of such equipment and the epidemiology of COVID-19. Additionally, our facilities are continuing to screen patients for COVID-19 and raise awareness—through traditional and remote activities—throughout communities. International Medical Corps also is participating with global, regional and local coordination bodies to support their COVID-19 response

³ <https://www.bbc.com/news/explainers-53640249>

and ensure that our staff can respond to the outbreak while continuing to deliver critical healthcare services. Highlights from our response this week include activities in the following countries.

- In **Cameroon**, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to persist, while the government and its response partners fight to maintain hygiene, social distancing and surveillance efforts in the face of a general perception that COVID-19 is receding. The coming weeks will be critical as the country resumes everyday life and business despite ongoing community transmission. Nearly 7 million children resumed school on October 5, after more than 31,850 schools were closed in March.

Moreover, Cameroon is currently at the height of the rainy season, when the population is more vulnerable to the spread of diseases such as typhoid, cholera, malaria and hepatitis E, and impassable roads make it harder to access humanitarian assistance. International Medical Corps has been responding to COVID-19 by screening patients, training healthcare workers on prevention and treatment, teaching people in refugee camps about COVID-19 and how to prevent it, and distributing PPE to frontline health staff. Since March 27, our team has been implementing a COVID-19 response and prevention project in the Minawao refugee camp in the Far North, which hosts more than 60,000 refugees, and where malnutrition is widespread. To date, health teams have trained 60 health workers and 186 outreach volunteers in COVID-19 prevention, screened 7,261 patients for COVID-19 and reached 140,209 people with COVID-19 prevention messaging. Over the last month, we trained 78 community health volunteers on infant and young-child feeding in a COVID-19 context, to strengthen the nutrition and health of children during the pandemic. The mission has distributed 38,229 hygiene and PPE items to community health workers and frontline staff in the Far North, North and East regions, including 11,429 masks and 20,035 bars of soap. In Cameroon's East region, we have trained 93 community health workers, who have reached 60,041 people in vulnerable communities with COVID-19 prevention education. We also recently started a gender-based violence (GBV) program in the East region that seeks to improve access for 8,000 women and children to GBV services in a COVID-19 context. In August, we trained 21 staff in psychological first aid, enabling them to provide emotional and physiological support to patients and families affected by COVID-19.

- In the **Central African Republic**, International Medical Corps was asked by the USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) to lead the Community Engagement Committee, a consortium that also includes Oxfam, the Danish Refugee Council and Concern Worldwide, to support the country's COVID-19 response. Activities that will target more than 373,500 community members began in Bangui and its major corridors. The program will strengthen response capacity for COVID-19 detection at the primary healthcare level, improve community hygiene activities and improve psychosocial support for infected patients and their communities. The program will also target children who live on the streets, benefitting a very large and vulnerable portion of CAR's urban youth. So far, we have distributed almost 68,725 bars of soap. Additionally, International Medical Corps supported three treatment centers in hospital settings and reached 571,714 community members through COVID-19 awareness-raising activities, all through traditional, face-to-face methods. We have screened 9,063 patients for COVID-19, with 352 patients identified as suspected COVID-19 cases. We also have begun working on a program to build upon existing local-response capabilities to ensure coordinated and complementary activities for the community and most vulnerable. Activities include preparedness and response support for COVID-19 health services at Bria, Bambari and Birao health centers and hospitals by setting up a screening room for triage and isolation of patients, providing case management through a 20-bed inpatient facility at each hospital, and procuring PPE, pharmaceuticals, and medical supplies and equipment.
- In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, despite entering a second phase of reopening, the country has recorded a 20% decrease in the number of new COVID-19 cases over the past week. Our DRC mission has trained 2,353 frontline staff and community health workers (CHWs) on COVID-19 case management, IPC, community-based surveillance and risk communication for behavior change. To date, 587,819 people have been screened for COVID-19 at supported facilities, with 4,097 identified as suspected cases. The DRC mission has completed training on IPC for all staff members at the facilities we support. So far, we have reached 84,507 community members through traditional means of communication, such as awareness-raising activities by CHWs, community-based organizations and community action groups. Additionally, we have reached more than 118,240 community members through remote measures, such as COVID-19 prevention messages disseminated through SMS and radio. The DRC mission has so far distributed more than 110,000 hygiene items and PPE to its community health workers, patients and frontline staff, including 89,438 gloves, 3,575 gowns, 5,785 masks for healthcare workers, 1,805 masks for patients and 390 face



International Medical Corps is responding to COVID-19 around the world, including in Cameroon, Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, shown on the map above.

shields, among others. International Medical Corps continues to partner with the Ministry of Health in responding to the pandemic by strengthening IPC measures in supported health facilities across North Kivu, South Kivu and Tanganyika provinces, targeting 82 health facilities under our COVID-19 response.

International Medical Corps' Impact at a Glance				
Number of Supported Facilities Provided with COVID-19 Activities	868	146	31	39
	Primary Health Facilities	Hospitals	COVID-19 Treatment Centers	Mobile Medical Clinics
Community Members Reached Through COVID-19 Awareness-Raising Activities	 1.9M	Traditional		 742K
				Remote
PPE and IPC Items Distributed	 17.3M	PPE		 613K
				IPC