

# The global spread

The coronavirus has spread around the world since emerging in a market in the central Chinese city of Wuhan



China  
**7,711**  
people have been infected  
**170**  
Deaths so far

**Homemade solution:** Children wearing plastic bottles as makeshift protective kits in Beijing. • GETTY IMAGES

**AUSTRALIA**  
**8** patients have now been confirmed in Australia – six who arrived in the country from Wuhan – and are being treated in hospitals in Sydney, Melbourne and Gold Coast

**CAMBODIA**  
**1** case has been reported – a 60-year-old man who arrived from Wuhan, and is now stable

**CANADA**  
**2** Canada has confirmed two cases so far, and is calling a third case “presumptive”

**U.S.**  
**6** The first case of human-to-human transmission was reported on Thursday

**FINLAND**  
**1** A tourist from Wuhan tested positive for the virus on Wednesday and was being treated in isolation in hospital

**JAPAN**  
**14** The cases include two human-to-human transmissions

**INDIA**  
**1** A woman, a student at Wuhan University, is in isolation at a hospital

**FRANCE**  
**5** The most recent case is the daughter of an elderly Chinese tourist who is in serious condition in hospital

**GERMANY**  
**4** The cases include the first of human-to-human transmission on European soil

**UAE**  
**4** All from a Chinese family that arrived from Wuhan recently

**TAIWAN**  
**8** Patients include two female Chinese nationals in their 70s who arrived in the country as part of a tour group

**THAILAND**  
**14** Six new cases include five of a family

**SOUTH KOREA**  
**6** cases– five of them travelled from Wuhan

**SRI LANKA**  
**1** A 43-year-old Chinese tourist from Hubei province

**VIETNAM**  
**5** Three new cases, all Vietnamese citizens who returned from Wuhan, were reported on Thursday

**FLIGHT RADAR**  
A number of airlines have said they are halting or reducing flights to China

**AIRASIA** | **AIR FRANCE** | **AIR INDIA** | **AMERICAN AIRLINES** | **BRITISH AIRWAYS** | **CATHAY PACIFIC** | **DELTA** | **LUFTHANSA** | **UNITED AIRLINES**

**CORONAVIRUS ANATOMY:** Spike glycoprotein: Affects the way that the virus binds to a host cell and infects it

**RNA:** Viral ribonucleic acid carries genetic blueprint

**CAPSID:** Protein shell protects RNA

**Map not to scale**

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## Deadliest day for China in fight against virus

38 deaths reported in 24 hours, taking the toll to 170

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**  
WUHAN

China reported its biggest single-day jump in novel coronavirus deaths on Thursday, as global fears deepened with more infections confirmed overseas, including three Japanese evacuated from the outbreak's epicentre.

The World Health Organization, which initially downplayed a disease that has

now killed 170 in China, was readying to meet on Thursday to decide whether to declare it a global emergency.

At least 20 countries have confirmed infections. Airlines began cancelling flights servicing China on Wednesday, and more followed suit on Thursday.

**Lockdown in liner**  
Meanwhile, more than 6,000 tourists were put under lockdown aboard a cruise ship at an Italian port on Thursday after two Chinese passengers were isolated over fears they could be

carrying the coronavirus. Beijing has taken extraordinary steps to arrest the spread of the virus, including effectively quarantining more than 50 million people in Wuhan and surrounding Hubei province.

The government on Thursday reported 38 new deaths in the preceding 24 hours, the highest one-day total since the virus was detected late last year. All but one of the new deaths were in Hubei.

The number of confirmed new cases also grew steadily to 7,711, the National Health

Commission said. Another 81,000 people were under observation for possible infection.

Thousands of foreigners have been trapped in Wuhan since it was sealed off last week. Massive cities like Beijing and Shanghai were also eerily quiet as countless people followed advice to stay indoors, or at least wear masks when venturing out.

Japan and the United States on Wednesday became the first countries to organise airlifts from Wuhan for their citizens. A second U.S. flight is planned in the

coming days. Britain was planning an evacuation of around 200 of its citizens early on Friday morning. Australia and New Zealand were among others organising similar operations.

Tokyo on Thursday reported that three people who were aboard the first evacuation flight had tested positive for the virus after landing back in Japan.

Two of the three infected passengers showed no symptoms, according to Japanese authorities, underscoring the difficulty detecting the coronavirus.

Russia said on Thursday it was closing the border with China to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus and would stop issuing electronic visas to Chinese nationals.

“We have to do everything to protect our people,” Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin told a government meeting.

## Nurse held for poisoning babies with morphine

The infants developed breathing issues

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**  
FRANKFURT AM MAIN

A nurse in Germany has been arrested on suspicion of poisoning five newborn babies with morphine, officials said on Thursday, adding that the infants had survived.

The woman was taken into custody on Wednesday after investigators found an oral syringe containing breast milk mixed with morphine in her locker at Ulm University Hospital in southern Germany.

The premature and newborn babies, who were between one day and five weeks old and staying in the same hospital room, suddenly all developed breathing problems “at almost the same time” in the early hours of December 20, said Ulm police chief Bernhard Weber. “Only because of immediate action taken by the staff could the five lives be saved,” he said.

The nurse taken into custody has yet to be formally charged but faces five counts of attempted manslaughter and grievous bodily harm, Ulm prosecutor Christof Lehr told reporters.

She denies poisoning the babies, he added. Prosecutors believe the nurse who was arrested acted with premeditation and “accepted that the babies could die” as a result of her actions, Mr. Lehr said.

Without witnesses, Republicans, who control the Senate, say the trial could end as early as Friday with Mr. Trump's acquittal, which would leave him in office and allow him to claim vindication just as the Democratic Party holds its first nominating contest for the November 3 election in Iowa on Monday.

Mr. Trump will hold a rally in the State on Thursday night. Democrats accuse the Republican President of abusing his power by using congressionally approved

military aid as leverage to get a foreign power to smear former Vice-President Joe Biden, a leading contender for the Democratic nomination.

The Democratic-led House of Representatives approved the two articles of impeachment in December. Lawyers for Mr. Trump and the House Democrats who are managing the prosecution in the Senate trial will spend Thursday answering questions from lawmakers, read aloud by U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts.

On Friday, each side was expected to present what amount to closing arguments.

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