

Situations like the coronavirus pandemic can quickly become a catalyst for social conflict due to misinformation, rumours and fake news, as we've seen in the past. Every day we continue to see more false information shared throughout our communities, confusing citizens and leaving them unsure where to ask their questions.

The Liberia Coronavirus CivicActs Campaign (CCC) captures rumours and perceptions among communities to eliminate information gaps and debunk rumours before they can do more harm.

COVID-19 Stats for Liberia

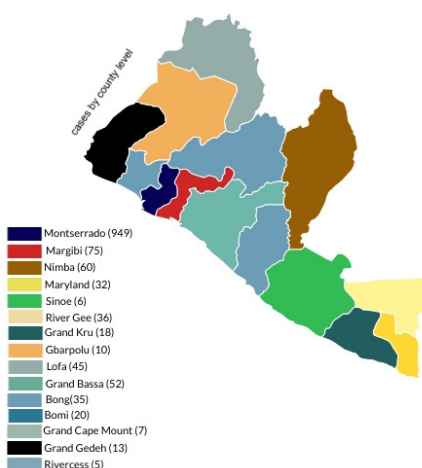
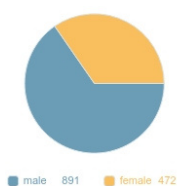
1363 confirmed cases

2.6% of all confirmed cases are so far active
91% of all confirmed cases have so far recovered
6% of all confirmed cases have so far died
0.03% of Liberia's total population (5 million) already affected by coronavirus

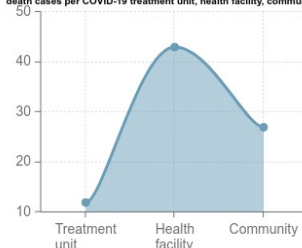


Age range of the affected case is 1 month to 74 years with median age of 41 years

cases by gender



death cases per COVID-19 treatment unit, health facility, community



Daily case update as of Oct. 9, 2020

3

new confirmed case

No

new death case

No

new recovery case

27

contacts under follow up

Active mobile hotlines: 4455 & +23177 763 8190

Questions → Facts

Is it true that domestic animals like dogs and cats should not be raised by households anymore because the COVID-19 infection came from animals and raising these animals will just increase the chances of another disease outbreak in the future?

The exact source of the current outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is still unknown, but we know that it originally came from an animal, likely a bat. At this time, there is no evidence that animals, including pets, play a significant role in spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered low. More studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by COVID-19. We are still learning about this virus, but it appears that it can spread from people to animals in some situations.

Is it true that the World Health Organization (WHO) is responsible for the shortages of PPE and respiratory devices for health workers and COVID-19 patients in Liberia?

Most countries, including Liberia, have experienced resource shortages, including shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE) and ventilators, during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. In order to guarantee these resources for their own nation's health workers, governments around the world are bargaining for their share in a strangled global supply chain. For example, countries such as Taiwan, Thailand, Russia, Germany, the Czech Republic, and Kenya have blocked the export of all face masks. There have additionally been reports of PPE and ventilator exports being intercepted and delivered to the country with the highest bid. In any case, WHO is not responsible for the shortage in PPE and respiratory devices for health workers and COVID-19 patients in Liberia.

Is it true that the most effective way to kill the coronavirus in an infected person is by giving them a huge quantity of safe drinking water every single day of the week?

While drinking water is one of the healthiest things you can do, drinking water frequently is not an effective way to kill COVID-19 in infected patients. The suggestion is that drinking water every 15 minutes would wash any virus down the esophagus so it can't get into our lungs. When we're exposed, there are thousands of viruses that we come into contact at any given time. It's highly unlikely you would wash all that virus down your throat and ultimately into your stomach. The primary way the virus is transmitted is through respiratory droplets in the air, directly into the respiratory system. Chances are that some of that virus would have already made its way into your nose before you start drinking water. Plus, we often contaminate ourselves by touching our nose, allowing the virus to immediately enter our respiratory tract.

Frontline Voices



LACK OF ADEQUATE EQUIPMENT LEADS TO COVID-19 TESTING DELAYS

“The lack of adequate testing materials is the primary reason for the delay in processing COVID-19 certificates for travelers who travel outside of Liberia.

There are limited laboratory materials to bring out testing results faster as expected by the travelers. Usually, it takes 72 hours after the COVID-19 test for one to receive results and subsequently a travel certificate if they are traveling.

The result takes 72 hours before being released to NPHIL for printing of certificates.

The Automatic Voice Response (AVR) Machine that was used during the Ebola Crisis is down and the COVID-19 health team is now using only two Roche machines, one of which is a Polymerase Chain Response (PCR) Machine for the test. The AVR Machine is used to facilitate the management of chronic health conditions, while the PCR Testing is used to amplify small segments of DNA. The Roche Machine saves time and is economical.

The PCR Testing which Liberia is carrying out, is more standard and there are no fees attached. The AVR Machine runs 92 samples for over four to six hours and the Rush Machine also takes 92 samples and the processing time lasts for up to 4-6 hours. Only one out of four GeneExpert Machines at the Laboratory is functional, and the GeneExpert Machine takes four samples at a time while its processing lasts up to an hour.

Travelers need to understand that Liberia is not carrying out a “Rapid Diagnostic Test,” as done in other areas, but a real PCR and must therefore exercise patience until the end of the 72-hour timeline given to them for receiving their certificates. I like to clarify that our lab turnaround time is 24-72 hours, which provides us the space to collect specimens and issuance of travel certificates within 72 hours. It’s a probability that you could do your test today and get the result tomorrow or after 72 hours, but that’s not binding on us.”

KEY AREAS OF INTERVENTIONS

1 Strengthening Health Systems Supporting efficient functioning of health systems in Liberia to reduce new infection and contain the spread; coordination of actors involved in the response, under the leadership of WHO; contact-tracing and emergency deployment of crisis response surge capacity and logistical capacity of health systems, including fast-track procurement and payment of Health Workers.



2 Inclusive and Integrated Crisis Management and Multi-Sectoral Response Communication of critical risks, strengthening the social contract and mitigation of socio-economic impacts; promoting communication and advocacy to reduce stigma and promote social cohesion; strengthening community mobilization and surveillance, including cross-border surveillance and cooperation; scaling up alternative livelihoods, strengthening community-police relations through community policing; promoting contactless payment systems and solutions; facilitating delivery of basis social services at decentralized levels; contributing to socio-economic impact studies, particularly on MSMEs and vulnerable/marginalized groups and analyses to support expansion of the fiscal space; ensuring human rights and improving access to justice; promoting inclusive socio-economic and political participation.



3 Socio-Economic Impact and Recovery



Facilitate post-recovery operation, working through the early recovery cluster and through its programmes create and scale up opportunities for livelihoods in communities; foster financial inclusion, particularly for women, youth and the rural poor; strengthen cross-border cooperation policy analyses and create the space for stronger private sector engagement in Liberia's recovery and development, including through improving the rule of law, and access to justice; reinforcing the government's ability to delivery basis services in counties; mobilize resources for Liberia's recovery and longer term development.

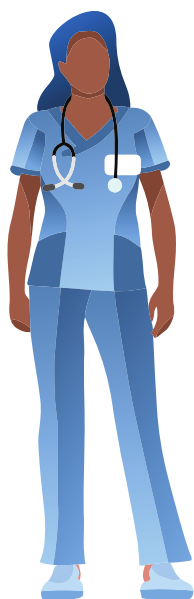
COVID-19 Security Response Liberia National Police Hotlines

Montserrado

- Zone 1 Bushrod Island: 0770800501, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 2 Central Monrovia: 0770800502, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 3 Congo Town: 0770800503, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 4 Garnesville/Barnesville: 0770800504, 0770800911, 0770800990
- Zone 5 Paynesville: 0770800505, 0770800911, 0770800990
- Zone 6 Brewerville: 0770800506, 0770800911, 0770800990
- Zone 7 Corwell: 0770800507, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 8 Paynesville ELWA/Rehab/RIA Highway: 0770800508, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 9 Somalia Drive/Jacob Town: 0770800509, 0770800911
- Zone 10 Vai Town, up to Freeport.: 0770800510, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 11 Mont Barclay - Kakata Highway up to 15 Gate: 0770800511, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Other Senior Police supervisors numbers:
 - 0770800117 - Chief of Patrol and head of Zone and depots
 - 0770800142 - Head of Monrovia Region
 - 0770800125 - ERU Chief
 - 0770800121 - PSU Chief
 - 0770800190 - Chief of Small Arms
 - 0770800109 - Senior Inspector

Follow these steps to help prevent the spread of coronavirus

- Stay at home unless you provide an essential service.
- Keep washing your hands frequently with soap for a minimum of 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) if soap and water are not available.
- Cover your nose and mouth (with your elbow or a tissue) when sneezing.
- Avoid crowded places and practice physical distancing. If you think you have been exposed to someone with coronavirus, quarantine yourself for a minimum of 14 days and monitor any symptoms.
- The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has confirmed six new possible coronavirus symptoms. They are chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headaches, a sore throat,
- new loss of taste and smell. The original reported symptoms remain fever, tiredness and a dry cough.



Do you have any **questions** about coronavirus? Have you heard any **rumors**? Send us your questions at **ccc@accountabilitylab.org** so we can address them!