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COVID-19 pandemic in Senegal

The **COVID-19 pandemic in Senegal** is part of the worldwide pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The virus was confirmed to have reached Senegal on March 2, 2020.

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Background

On 12 January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed that a novel coronavirus was the cause of a respiratory illness in a cluster of people in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, which was reported to the WHO on 31 December 2019.^{[2][3]}

The case fatality ratio for COVID-19 has been much lower than SARS of 2003,^{[4][5]} but the transmission has been significantly greater, with a significant total death toll.^{[6][4]}

Timeline

COVID-19 pandemic in Senegal



Disease	COVID-19
Virus strain	SARS-CoV-2
Location	Senegal
First outbreak	France
Index case	Dakar
Arrival date	2 March 2020 (4 months, 1 week and 4 days)
Confirmed cases	6,459 (as of 27 June) [1]
Active cases	2,102 (as of 27 June)
Recovered	4,255 (as of 27 June)
Deaths	102 (as of 27 June)

COVID-19 cases in Senegal ()
Deaths Recoveries Active cases

Mar Apr May Jun Jul Last 15 days

Date	# of cases	# of deaths
2020-06-26	6,354 (+1.9%)	98 (+4.3%)
2020-06-27		
2020-06-28		
2020-06-29		
2020-06-30		
2020-07-01		

On	2	2020-07-02	
March		2020-07-03	
2020,	a	2020-07-04	
54-year-		2020-07-05	
old man		2020-07-06	
from		2020-07-07	
France was		2020-07-08	
the first		2020-07-09	
confirmed		2020-07-10	
case of			
COVID-19			
in			

Sources: various news sources and state health department websites. See Timeline Table and Timeline narrative for sources.

Senegal,^[7] living in the Almadies Arrondissement of Dakar, having been tested positive at the Pasteur Institute in Dakar.^[7] He had travelled on Air Senegal on 29 February 2020.^[7] Senegal became the second Sub-Saharan country to report confirmed cases after Nigeria.

The second confirmed case of COVID-19 was a French expat who came to Dakar from France. They are quoted as being in a "comfortable" condition.^[8]

By 4 March, the number of cases rose to four, with both cases being foreign nationals.^[9] The first case was the wife of the first case in Senegal, who arrived in the country on 19 February. The other case was a Briton from London, who came to Senegal on 24 February.

Basketball Africa League postponed the start of their inaugural season on 6 March 2020, which would have taken place in Dakar.^[10] This came as fear mounted over religious events and travel, especially those related to the Grand Magal, a Mouride festivity which occurs in Touba.^[11]

On 10 March, Senegalese Health Minister Abdoulaye Diouf Sarr told local press that the government would call off religious events if advised to do so. On the same day, a Senegalese national returning from Italy confirmed positive, becoming the fifth case in the country.^[12]

On 12 March, five more cases were announced in Senegal, which were family members of a confirmed case of the Senegalese national returning from Italy.^[13] One of the victims was in the holy city of Touba, despite many people being convinced by clerics that they were immune to the coronavirus.^[14]

As of 15 March, there were 24 confirmed cases in Senegal.^[15] Senegal imposed travel restrictions, banned cruise ships, and closed schools for three weeks in response to the coronavirus. They also banned public gatherings for a month, including Muslim and Christian pilgrimages.^[16]

On 23 March, Senegal declared a state of emergency.^[17]

Senegal experienced a 30% rise in COVID-19 infections on May 11^[18] and eased restrictions on mosques and churches and relaxed the curfew on May 12.^[18] Senegal has reported 1,886 coronavirus cases and 19 deaths.^[18]

See also

- COVID-19 pandemic in Africa

- [COVID-19 pandemic by country and territory](#)
- [2020 in Senegal](#)
- [HIV/AIDS in Africa](#)
- [Western African Ebola virus epidemic](#)
- [1918 Spanish flu pandemic](#)
- [1957–1958 influenza pandemic](#)

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External links

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- Senegal: Opening Mosques During Pandemic Divides Muslim Community (VOA) (<https://allafrica.com/stories/202005190173.html>)
- Senegal: "My main weapons: my smartphone and my voice" (<https://allafrica.com/stories/202006021066.html>)

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This page was last edited on 13 July 2020, at 10:11 (UTC).

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