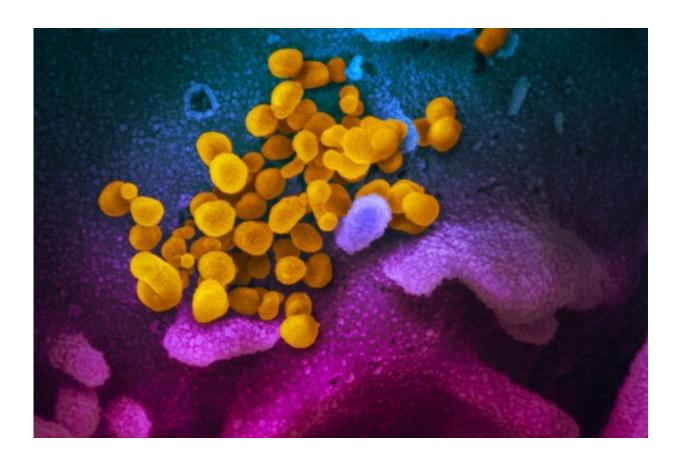# Detected coronavirus cases top 350,000 worldwide

March 23 2020

This scanning electron microscope image shows SARS-CoV-2 (yellow)—also known as 2019-nCoV, the virus that causes COVID-19—isolated from a patient, emerging from the surface of cells (blue/pink) cultured in the lab. Credit: NIAID-RML

Detected coronavirus cases have topped 350,000 across the world since

the pandemic broke out late last year, according to an AFP tally at 1700 GMT on Monday compiled from official figures.

At least 350,142 infections, including 15,873 deaths, have been detected worldwide, mostly in China, which has 81,093 cases, and Italy with 63,927.

The official figures likely only reflect a fraction of the real number of infections, as many countries only test cases needing hospitalisation.

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Citation: Detected coronavirus cases top 350,000 worldwide (2020, March 23) retrieved 26 April 2024 from https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-03-coronavirus-cases-worldwide.html