

Vietnam confirms 21 more cases in new virus outbreak

3 August 2020



A flower vender wearing a face mask to protect against the coronavirus waits for customers in Hanoi, Vietnam, Monday, Aug. 3, 2020. Vietnam has tightened travel and social restrictions after the country's death toll of COVID-19 to six. (AP Photo/Hau Dinh)

Vietnam has confirmed 21 more coronavirus cases linked to three hospitals in the central city of Da Nang, the health ministry said Monday. The country, which had lifted many restrictions after more than three months with no local infections, now has 196 cases in the new outbreak.

Fifteen of the new cases were in Da Nang, Vietnam's most popular beach destination, while six others were in neighboring Quang Nam province. All were patients or relatives of [patients](#) at the three hospitals in Da Nang, where the outbreak emerged, the ministry said.

Vietnam had been widely praised for its success in controlling its initial outbreak of the coronavirus, with no reported cases of local transmission for 99 days. But nine days ago, a case was confirmed at a Da Nang hospital.

The virus has now spread to six parts of the

country, including three [large cities](#), forcing authorities to reimpose virus restrictions. Officials have confirmed three deaths, the country's first from the virus.

The [health ministry](#) said 40% of the new cases show no symptoms.

"The asymptomatic cases are a danger for transmission in the community," acting health minister Nguyen Thanh Long said. "Therefore, we must not overlook any [suspected cases](#)."

On Monday, the army deployed a mobile lab truck to Da Nang to increase testing capacity in the city.



A seller hands flowers to a customer, both wearing face masks, in Hanoi, Vietnam, Monday, Aug. 3, 2020. Vietnam has tightened travel and social restrictions after the country's death toll of COVID-19 to six. (AP Photo/Hau Dinh)



People wearing face masks ride motorcycles in Hanoi, Vietnam, Monday, Aug. 3, 2020. Vietnam has tightened travel and social restrictions after the country's death toll of COVID-19 to six. (AP Photo/Hau Dinh)

During a government meeting on Monday, Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc urged all provinces to control the outbreak in early August, calling it a "crucial time."

"Each family must be a fortress and each citizen must be a warrior to keep the outbreak from spreading widely in the community," Phuc said.

He urged residents to be vigilant to help control the virus and ensure health security. But he said there shouldn't be a rush to close businesses because [health](#) should be balanced with economic security.

© 2020 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

APA citation: Vietnam confirms 21 more cases in new virus outbreak (2020, August 3) retrieved 23 October 2020 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-08-vietnam-cases-virus-outbreak.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.