

# Turkey pledges to step up virus testing

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Turkey hopes to step up coronavirus testing to reach up to 15,000 people per day, Health Minister Fahrettin Koca said in an address to parliament on Wednesday.

"Over 10,000 COVID-19 tests have been completed until today," he said.

"We believe the number of tests will increase even more. Our [goal](#) is to conduct at least 10-15,000 tests per day."

Turkey has thus far recorded two deaths from coronavirus and a total of 191 cases.

Turkish authorities have announced a series of measures to limit the spread of the virus by temporarily shutting schools and universities as well as [public spaces](#) including cinemas and mass prayers.

Koca said the ministry has obtained the [contact information](#) for 372,000 people who have recently come from abroad.

"We are monitoring them through family doctors. We called 130,000 such individuals yesterday (Wednesday) alone to brief them," he said.

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