

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) technical guidance: Essential resource planning

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WHO surge calculators

To gauge the need for supplies/equipment and health work force requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic, WHO has developed a suite of complimentary surge calculators – one for supplies and two for health workforce. All tools use the same base epidemiologic assumptions and classify health workforce using standardized International Labor Organization International Standard Classification of Occupations codes, but their outputs are intentionally different due to their primary focus.

[Forecasting supplies, diagnostics and equipment requirements](#)

The **WHO COVID-19 Essential Supplies Forecasting Tool (ESFT)** is designed to help governments, partners, and other stakeholders to estimate potential requirements for essential supplies to respond to the current pandemic of COVID-19. Although it provides an estimation of the number of cases, this calculator is not an epidemiological calculator. The focus of this tool is to forecast essential supplies: it includes estimation of personal protective equipment, diagnostic equipment, biomedical equipment for case management, essential drugs for supportive care, and consumable medical supplies.