

Infographic: There's no such thing as 'too young' to be hospitalized by coronavirus

Getting infected by COVID-19 isn't just a worry for the elderly.

That's one of the [first findings about the virus](#) in the US, according to a new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

While fatalities were highest in people over 85 years old, catching [COVID-19](#) can result in hospitalization and admission to an intensive care unit for a range of ages, it said. Of the more than 500 people known to be hospitalized, 18% were 45-54 years and 20% were aged 20-44 years.

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"Clinicians who care for adults should be aware that [COVID-19](#) can result in severe disease among persons of all ages," says the report, titled [Severe Outcomes Among Patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) (COVID-19). "Social distancing is recommended for all ages to slow the spread of the virus."

The findings come as the World Health Organization (WHO) warned against complacency, after media reports showed [young people in many countries ignoring the advice](#) to practise social distancing.

"Although older people are hardest hit, younger people are not spared," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a news conference. "I have a message for young people: you are not invincible, this virus could put you in hospital for weeks or even kill you."

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