

Aftershocks rattle Croatian capital a day after strong quake

March 23 2020



Firefighters carry a person on a stretcher after an earthquake in Zagreb, Croatia, Sunday, March 22, 2020. A strong earthquake shook Croatia and its capital on Sunday, causing widespread damage and panic. (AP Photo)

Croatia has experienced a series of aftershocks a day after a strong earthquake caused widespread damage, killing a 15-year-old girl and

injuring at least 27 other people amid a partial coronavirus lockdown of the capital.

Seismologists said Monday more than 50 weaker temblors have been felt in Zagreb since a 5.5 magnitude quake struck the capital early Sunday, triggering panic, the evacuation of hospitals and structural damage, including the city's iconic cathedral and other historic buildings.

The strongest aftershock was around noon Monday and measured 3.7. It sent some people rushing out of their homes into public parks despite earlier warnings from authorities against large gatherings in public areas to avoid the spread of COVID-19.

Officials said a 15-year-old girl died in a Zagreb hospital on Monday from injuries she suffered during the earthquake on Sunday. A further 26 people were injured, 17 seriously; 250 houses were damaged and 59 people had to be housed in temporary shelters.

Interior Minister Davor Bozinovic announced new restrictive measures intended to combat the spread of the virus, including a ban on people leaving their homes except to buy food and medicine, seeking medical attention or going to work.

"We are fighting two crises at the same time," Bozinovic said. "One is against the coronavirus and the other is against the consequences of the earthquake."

There are 315 coronavirus cases confirmed in Croatia as of Monday.



Croatian soldiers clear debris from the street after an earthquake in Zagreb, Croatia, Sunday, March 22, 2020. A strong earthquake shook Croatia and its capital on Sunday, causing widespread damage and panic. (AP Photo/Darko Bantic)



One of the damaged spires, left, of Zagreb's iconic cathedral is seen after an earthquake in Zagreb, Croatia, Sunday, March 22, 2020. The cathedral was rebuilt after it toppled in the 1880 earthquake. A strong earthquake shook Croatia and its capital on Sunday, causing widespread damage and panic. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)



People rest in park after an earthquake in Zagreb, Croatia, Sunday, March 22, 2020. A strong earthquake shook Croatia and its capital on Sunday, causing widespread damage and panic. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)



People carry incubators for newborn babies as the hospital is evacuated after an earthquake in Zagreb, Croatia, Sunday, March 22, 2020. A strong earthquake shook Croatia and its capital on Sunday, causing widespread damage and panic. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)



Firemen inspect the damage after an earthquake in downtown Zagreb, Croatia, Monday, March 23, 2020. Croatia experienced a series of aftershocks a day after a strong earthquake triggered widespread damage and injured over 20 people in the capital. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)



A man uses his phone as he looks at the damage after an earthquake, in downtown Zagreb, Croatia, Monday, March 23, 2020. Croatia experienced a series of aftershocks a day after a strong earthquake triggered widespread damage and injured over 20 people in the capital. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)



Firemen inspect damage after an earthquake in downtown Zagreb, Croatia, Monday, March 23, 2020. Croatia experienced a series of aftershocks a day after a strong earthquake triggered widespread damage and injured over 20 people in the capital. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)



Firemen inspect damage in downtown Zagreb, Croatia after the earthquake, Monday, March 23, 2020. Croatia experienced a series of aftershocks a day after a strong earthquake triggered widespread damage and injured over 20 people in the capital. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)



A couple walk past a car damaged by the earthquake in downtown Zagreb, Croatia, Monday, March 23, 2020. Croatia experienced a series of aftershocks a day after a strong earthquake triggered widespread damage and injured over 20 people in the capital. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)



Pedestrians walk past a car damaged by the earthquake in downtown Zagreb, Croatia, Monday, March 23, 2020. Croatia experienced a series of aftershocks a day after a strong earthquake triggered widespread damage and injured over 20 people in the capital. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)

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