

Timeline

Dates of punishment	Numbers of cases	Important cases	Dates of key events, background
DECEMBER			
- Dec 10			Wei Guixian , one of the earliest known patients, starts feeling ill.
- Dec 27			Wuhan health officials are told that a new coronavirus is causing the illness.
- Dec 30		<p>Dr Ai at Wuhan Central Hospital shared information with other doctors and some of them posted the info on WeChat about the new virus. Authorities called Dr Ai in for “talk” and warned her not to spread such alarming information.</p> <p>Dr Li Wenliang was one of several in Wuhan who sounded the first alarms and released initial evidence online.</p>	<p>Wuhan health commission notifies hospitals of a “pneumonia of unclear cause” and orders them to report any related information.</p> <p>Commission sends directive prohibiting doctors and nurses from disclosing any information about the outbreak to the public.</p>
- Dec 31			China tells the World Health Organization’s China office about the cases of an unknown illness. Wuhan City Health Commission disclosed 27 mysterious pneumonia cases.
JANUARY - 406 CASES			
- Jan 1		Police summoned 8 doctors .	An official at the Hubei Provincial Health Commission orders labs , which had already determined that the novel virus was similar to SARS, to stop testing samples and to destroy existing samples.
- Jan 3		Police summoned Dr Li Wenliang on Jan 3 for questioning and “reprimanded” him.	China's National Health Commission (NHC), the nation's top health authority, ordered institutions not to publish any information related to the unknown disease, and ordered labs to transfer any samples they had to designated testing institutions, or to destroy them. The order, which Caixin has seen, did not

			specify any designated testing institutions.
- Jan 6-10			Wuhan City held Legislative & Consultation Annual Congress
- Jan 11-17			Between Jan 11-16, Wuhan Health Commission did not disclose any new cases to avoid “negative news” while the Congress was in session. Important CCP meeting held in Wuhan, where the Wuhan Health Commission insists there are no new cases.
- Jan 18		1 individual penalized	
- Jan 20			Xinhua News Agency mentions the coronavirus epidemic and Xi’s actions to fight it for the first time. Wuhan announced 136 new cases of patients tested positive. Chinese expert Zhong Nanshang told state media that the new coronavirus could jump from human to human. 14 medical workers were already infected.
- Jan 23-24			Wuhan and then Hubei Province are put under lockdown.
- Jan 31		Dissident Guo Quan detained	
- Jan 21-31		A total of 396 individuals penalized.	Jan 24 was Chinese New Year’s Eve. Many social media messages from frontline doctors and nurses, calling for help with dwindling medical supplies, were circulating the Internet. On Jan 31, WHO declared coronavirus outbreak “a public health emergency of international concern.” On the same day, with new cases found in Tibet, coronavirus infections reached all Chinese provinces, municipalities, and regions.

FEBRUARY - 467 CASES			
- Feb 6		Citizen reporter Chen Qiushi disappears	Dr. Li Wenliang died of COVID-19 infection.
- Feb 9		Citizen reporter Fang Bin detained	
- Feb 15		Legal advocate Xu Zhiyong detained	
- Feb 21		At least 31 cases occurred or were reported after the Ministry of PS made the announcement on Feb 21 and before the end of Feb.	China's Ministry of Public Security announces that police handled 5,511 cases involving "fabricating and deliberately disseminating false and harmful information" as of this day.
- Feb 26		Citizen reporter Li Zehua detained	
MARCH - 23 CASES			
- Mar 14		Tycoon Ren Zhiqiang detained	
Unknown date	1 case		

注释 Note:

1. 因为信息不全，这里采用的日期有些是事发日期，有些是信息报道日期，有些是估计的。Due to the lack of complete and accurate information, here the dates we used are either based on available dates of occurrence of events or dates of reports published about them, and some dates are estimated.
2. 有些报道只提供了至某月某日为止这样的时间段，这种情况的处理办法，是把事发日期放在报道日期之前。Some reports only provided a period of time. In these cases, we would estimate that the events had taken place before the dates on which the reports were published.