



Written by [Charles Scaliger](#) on February 3, 2020

Citing Coronavirus, China Locks Down Wenzhou and Its 9 Million People

https://media.blubrry.com/1462062/mcdn.podbean.com/mf/web/ki946u/Citing_Coronavirus_China_Locks_Down_Wenzhou_and_Its_9_Million_People.mp3

Podcast: Play in new window | [Download](#) ()

Subscribe: Android | RSS | More

In an ominous new development, the Chinese government has locked down the city of Wenzhou, China's 15th largest, a growing sign that the coronavirus outbreak is defying efforts of the Chinese government to contain it. Wenzhou is a very important industrial, technological, cultural, and academic center on the coast of southern Zhejiang Province, across from Taiwan. Wenzhou has become the first Chinese city outside of the Wuhan area to be locked down.



Wenzhou's nine million inhabitants are known for their strong business aptitude, and are nicknamed the "Jews of China." Wenzhou is also known for producing hundreds of world-class mathematicians, and for forging close ties with Taiwan's tech sector. The city also has one of China's largest concentrations of Christians, who have sporadically come under severe persecution since the Chinese communists came to power in 1949.

Zhejiang Province has the highest incidence of coronavirus outside central Hubei Province, where Wuhan is located, with more than 660 confirmed infections, at least 265 of them in Wenzhou.

As of now, the total number of confirmed coronavirus cases has risen above 17,000, while the death toll has surpassed 360 — significant numbers, to be sure, but still far from constituting an apocalyptic pandemic.

What has been apocalyptic has been the Chinese government's response to the Wuhan virus. With its lockdown of a major city more than 800 kilometers (497 miles) from Wuhan, it has signaled its willingness to go to any lengths to maintain the appearance of control. Whether such appearances, and the fears that have triggered them, are warranted, remains to be seen.

Graphic: dk_photos/iStock/Getty Images Plus

Related article:

[Quarantine and Wuhan: Government Power in Times of Epidemic](#)



Subscribe to the New American

Get exclusive digital access to the most informative,
non-partisan truthful news source for patriotic Americans!

Discover a refreshing blend of time-honored values, principles and insightful perspectives within the pages of "The New American" magazine. Delve into a world where tradition is the foundation, and exploration knows no bounds.

From politics and finance to foreign affairs, environment, culture, and technology, we bring you an unparalleled array of topics that matter most.



Subscribe

What's Included?

- 24 Issues Per Year
- Optional Print Edition
- Digital Edition Access
- Exclusive Subscriber Content
- Audio provided for all articles
- Unlimited access to past issues
- Coming Soon! Ad FREE
- 60-Day money back guarantee!
- Cancel anytime.