

Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19

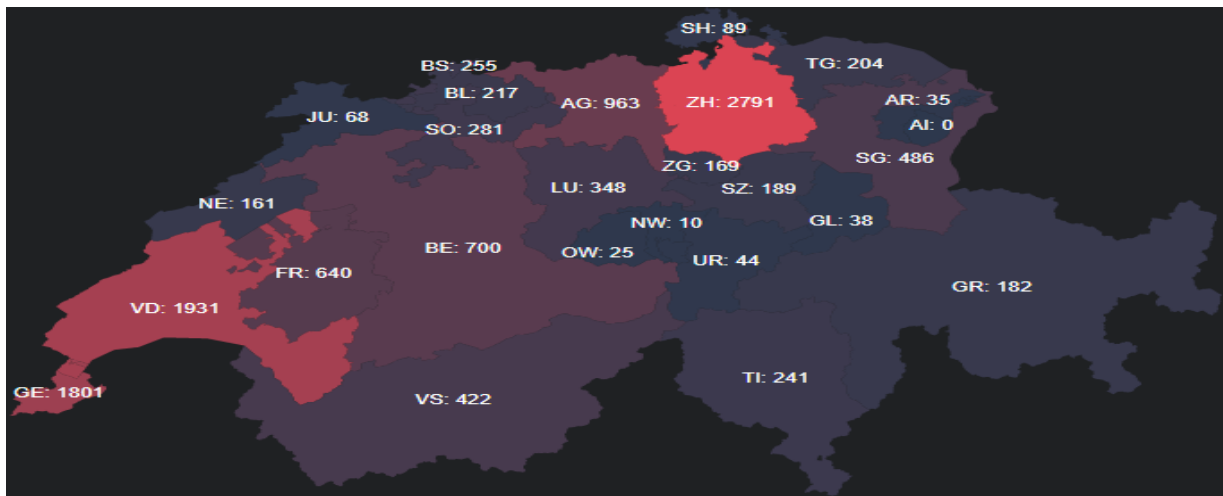
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- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 874,454 worldwide, with the highest number of deaths in USA (191,151) and Brazil (124,729). There have been more than 26,548,620 global cases in 210 countries and territories. [1]
- As millions of children are heading back to school, the World Health Organization says those aged 6 to 11 should wear masks in some cases to help fight the spread of coronavirus. Children in general face less severe virus symptoms than do adults, with the elderly the most vulnerable to severe infection and death. Now WHO says decisions about whether children aged 6 to 11 should wear masks should consider factors like whether Covid-19 transmission is widespread in the area where the child lives; the child's ability to safely use a mask; and adult supervision when taking the masks on or off. *"Luckily, the vast majority of children who are infected with the virus appear to have mild disease or asymptomatic infection, and that's good news,"* said Maria Van Kerkhove, technical chief of the UN health agency's emergencies program. She still cautioned that some children can develop severe cases of coronavirus and even die. WHO advises a "risk-based approach" for kids aged 6 to 11 that balances various factors. *"Everyone agrees how important it is that schools are operating safely. We've outlined how that can be done in terms of physical distancing and hand hygiene stations, respiratory etiquette, the potential use of masks by either the workers or the children themselves,"* Van Kerkhove said. [2]
- The WHO is "not expecting to see widespread vaccination for coronavirus until the middle of next year," spokesperson Margaret Harris told on Friday. There are currently 34 vaccines globally carrying out human trials, according to WHO, with 142 vaccine candidates currently in the pre-clinical trial phase. Harris emphasized the importance of safety and efficiency checks saying that phase three trials will "take much longer" in order to see "how truly protective and safe" any vaccine is. [3]
- The first peer-reviewed results of Phase 1 and Phase 2 clinical trials of Russia's coronavirus vaccine, which is named Sputnik-V, have been published in the medical journal The Lancet on Friday. Results from the two 42-day trials – which each included 38 healthy adults – "have a good safety profile with no serious adverse events" among participants, The Lancet said in a press release, noting that the vaccine-induced antibody responses in all participants. Naor Bar-Zeev, deputy director of the International Vaccine Access Center at Johns Hopkins University said in a linked comment that the studies are *"encouraging but small,"* according to The Lancet. Bar-Zeev will peer reviewed it. [3]
- The reproduction rate is just under 1, meaning there is no exponential growth, Stefan Kuster told the media in Bern on Friday. The situation is also stable in terms of hospitalizations and deaths, he said. *"At the moment we're not talking of a second wave; we're talking of a slow increase in infections. The efforts of the population and the cantons are bearing fruit."* Kuster said it is impossible to predict how the situation will develop. *"That depends on people returning from abroad, on the effect of the resumption of major events, and on autumn, which could have an influence."* On Wednesday the government announced a series of conditions for the resumption of mass events in Switzerland, which have been limited since March to curb the spread of coronavirus infections. [4]
- Swiss pharma giant Roche says it has received Emergency Use Authorization from the United States for a test to quickly detect whether a patient has Covid-19 or one of two forms of influenza. [4]

Countries	Deaths	Cases	Recovered
USA	191,151	6,338,331	3,575,866
Brazil	124,729	4,046,150	3,247,610
India	68,878	3,971,670	3,067,672
Mexico	66,329	616,894	430,287
UK	41,527	340,411	N/A
Italy	35,507	272,912	208,490
France	30,706	300,181	87,206
Peru	29,405	670,145	489,886
Spain	29,234	488,513	N/A
Iran	22,044	382,772	330,308
Colombia	20,618	641,574	489,151
Russia	17,649	1,015,105	832,747
South Africa	14,563	633,015	554,887
Chile	11,422	416,501	389,409
Belgium	9,899	86,544	18,513
Argentina	9,468	451,198	331,621
Germany	9,399	249,063	224,600
Canada	9,141	130,493	115,444
Indonesia	7,832	187,537	134,181
Iraq	7,359	252,075	191,368
Ecuador	6,648	116,360	102,051
Turkey	6,511	274,943	248,087
Pakistan	6,335	297,512	282,268
Netherlands	6,237	73,208	N/A
Sweden	5,835	84,985	N/A
Egypt	5,479	99,425	75,415
Bolivia	5,288	118,781	65,884
China	4,634	85,102	80,263
Bangladesh	4,412	321,615	216,191
Saudi Arabia	4,015	319,141	295,063
Romania	3,812	92,595	39,626
Philippines	3,737	232,072	160,549
Guatemala	2,804	76,358	64,399
Ukraine	2,761	130,951	59,676
Poland	2,100	69,820	49,820
Panama	2,046	94,914	68,198
Switzerland	2,013	43,532	36,500
Honduras	1,954	63,158	11,618
Portugal	1,833	59,457	42,576
Dominican Republic	1,801	96,629	70,871
Ireland	1,777	29,206	23,364
Kazakhstan	1,588	106,121	98,585
Algeria	1,529	45,469	32,006
Afghanistan	1,409	38,304	29,713
Japan	1,319	69,599	59,524
Morocco	1,253	66,855	51,223
Kyrgyzstan	1,060	44,199	39,389
Nigeria	1,048	54,588	42,627
Moldova	1,047	38,906	27,017
Israel	991	125,755	99,487
Armenia	891	44,461	39,257
Ethiopia	856	55,213	20,283
Sudan	823	13,189	6,612
El Salvador	744	26,099	15,347
Australia	737	26,136	22,169
Austria	735	28,729	24,513
Serbia	721	31,772	30,387
Oman	705	86,380	81,828
Belarus	701	72,485	71,510
Bulgaria	658	16,775	11,935
Bosnia and Herzegovina	636	20,804	14,120
Denmark	627	17,547	15,586
Hungary	621	7,382	3,944
North Macedonia	609	14,871	12,054
Kenya	589	34,884	21,059
Yemen	571	1,979	1,180
Azerbaijan	543	37,031	34,419
Kuwait	537	88,243	79,417
Costa Rica	460	44,458	17,855

Czechia	426	26,452	18,663
Cameroon	415	19,604	18,448
Venezuela	402	49,877	40,574
UAE	387	72,766	63,158
Paraguay	373	19,959	10,251
Uzbekistan	338	42,998	40,392
Finland	336	8,225	7,350
S. Korea	331	20,842	15,783
Albania	301	9,844	5,732
Zambia	292	12,639	11,572
Senegal	289	13,881	9,723
Ghana	280	44,713	43,577
Greece	279	11,200	3,804
Nepal	271	44,236	25,561
Norway	264	11,160	9,348
Libya	262	16,445	1,910
DRC	259	10,125	9,367
Haiti	210	8,301	5,870
Zimbabwe	206	6,678	5,263
Qatar	201	119,637	116,538
Madagascar	198	15,187	14,075
Croatia	195	11,428	8,530
Bahrain	192	53,433	50,013
Lebanon	179	18,963	5,338
Malawi	175	5,593	3,516
Palestine	170	25,142	16,437
Mauritania	160	7,106	6,588
Nicaragua	141	4,668	2,913
Slovenia	134	3,079	2,440
Malaysia	128	9,385	9,092
Mali	126	2,807	2,203
Luxembourg	124	6,811	N/A
Syria	124	2,973	681
Ivory Coast	119	18,208	17,045
Angola	113	2,805	1,144
Montenegro	104	5,165	4,164
Congo	102	4,628	1,742
Cuba	100	4,214	3,474
Gambia	99	3,120	1,295
Somalia	97	3,332	2,696
Hong Kong	94	4,851	4,456
Eswatini	94	4,720	3,789
Namibia	87	8,323	3,611
Lithuania	86	3,004	1,920
Tunisia	84	4,394	1,681
Equatorial Guinea	83	4,965	4,390
Liberia	82	1,306	1,163
Chad	77	1,018	908
Suriname	73	4,215	3,318
Sierra Leone	71	2,035	1,600
Tajikistan	69	8,724	7,515
Niger	69	1,177	1,091
Estonia	64	2,456	2,157
CAR	62	4,729	1,807
Guinea	61	9,579	8,726
French Guiana	61	9,251	8,772
Djibouti	60	5,387	5,327
Thailand	58	3,431	3,277
Burkina Faso	55	1,375	1,075
Gabon	53	8,538	7,335
Andorra	53	1,199	909
Bahamas	50	2,386	893
Channel Islands	48	631	575
South Sudan	47	2,533	1,290
Uruguay	44	1,636	1,437
Guyana	44	1,401	805
San Marino	42	735	660
Cabo Verde	41	4,125	3,502
Mayotte	40	3,374	2,964
Benin	40	2,194	1,738
Slovakia	37	4,300	2,693

- The reproduction “R” number of Covid-19 in the UK remains between 0.9 and 1.1, the government said on Friday, indicating that the rate of infection is most likely either broadly stable or slightly growing. The latest growth rate for the whole of the country is between -1% and 2%, the government said, meaning the number of new infections is somewhere between shrinking by 1% and growing by 2% every day. [5]
- The Japanese government has said it will cover the cost of coronavirus vaccines for its entire population, as it aims for a comprehensive inoculation against the pandemic. The government has also announced it will establish funds to compensate people who suffer from any possible side effects caused by vaccines. The plans were outlined in documents distributed at a briefing by the economy minister, Yasutoshi Nishimura, who also heads the coronavirus response. [5]
- The regional government of Madrid, the worst-affected part of Spain, has announced that no more than 10 people will be allowed to meet indoors from Monday and has also capped the number of people permitted to attend religious services and funerals. [3]
- Thailand is racing ahead with contact-tracing after detecting its first domestic coronavirus infection in more than three months, health officials have said, with tests conducted on nearly 200 people with possible exposure to the new case. Thailand reported its first non-imported case in after more than 100 days on Thursday, after a prisoner a day earlier had tested positive for the coronavirus during a mandatory test for new inmates. [5]



Newly reported cases since 01.06 in Switzerland. [6]

- **Funding opportunity for researchers**

PRACE (Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe) Fast Track Call for Proposals

- <https://prace-ri.eu/prace-support-to-mitigate-impact-of-covid-19-pandemic/>

The US Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program - a call for proposals on COVID-19

- <https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/ProgramFY.htm?programFYId=256400>

Anyone submitting to US (NIH, DoD) or EU Horizon 2020 calls can contact the Grants Office for support: grantsoffice@research.unibe.ch. The Grants Advisors responsible for the ISPM are Aline Schögler (aline.schoegler@research.unibe.ch) and Leah Witton (leah.witton@research.unibe.ch).

Sources

- [1] <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>
- [2] <https://www.pressreader.com/canada/covid-19-news/20200903>
- [3] <https://edition.cnn.com/world/live-news/coronavirus-pandemic-09-04-20-intl/index.html>
- [4] <https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/covid-19-situation--stable--in-switzerland-despite-rise-in-cases/46012736>
- [5] <https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2020/sep/04/coronavirus-live-news-brazil-cases-pass-4m-israel-to-impose-partial-lockdown>
- [6] <https://www.corona-data.ch/>