

## Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19

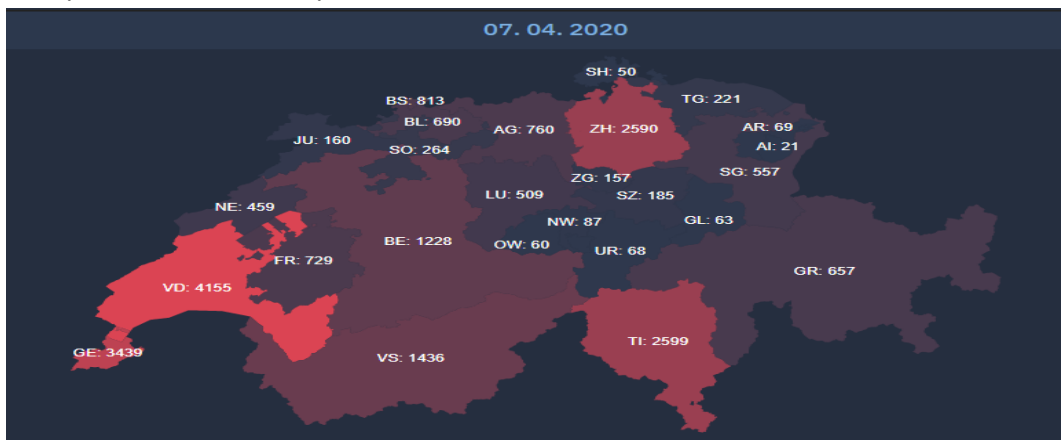
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- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 77,300 worldwide, with the vast majority in Italy (17,127) and Spain (13,798). There have been more than 1,380,000 global cases in 206 countries.
- Every day, all around the world, nurses and midwives provide essential care services and save lives, including during the current COVID-19 outbreak. WorldHealthDay2020: Support Nurses and Midwives. "One of the lessons I hope the world learns from COVID-19 is that we must invest in health workers – not only to protect lives, but also to protect livelihoods, tweeted Director General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
- The WHO has published the document "Advice on the use of masks in the context of COVID-19". This document provides advice on the use of masks in communities, during home care, and in health care settings in areas that have reported cases of COVID-19. It is intended for individuals in the community, public health and infection prevention and control (IPC) professionals, health care managers, health care workers (HCWs), and community health workers.
- "Africa can't and won't be a testing ground for any vaccine," said Director General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. When asked about the doctors' suggestion during the WHO's coronavirus briefing, Dr Tedros became visibly angry, calling it a hangover from the "colonial mentality". *"It was a disgrace, appalling, to hear during the 21st Century, to hear from scientists, that kind of remark. We condemn this in the strongest terms possible, and we assure you that this will not happen,"* he said.
- The rate of new infections and deaths from the novel coronavirus in Spain has increased after a week-long decline. Some 743 people have died in the past 24 hours – a 5.7% increase in total deaths.
- Italy reports health worker deaths: Ninety-four doctors have died of coronavirus, the Italian Association of Doctors said Tuesday. Twenty-six nurses have also died after contracting the virus, according to the Italian Federation of Nurses.
- Novartis Chief Executive Vas Narasimhan recently told the SonntagsZeitung newspaper that, of its portfolio, the antimalarial drug hydroxychloroquine offered the best hope in the fight against Covid-19. "Pre-clinical studies in animals as well as the first data from clinical studies show that hydroxychloroquine kills the coronavirus," Narasimhan said.
- In Italy, the target of bringing down the reproductive number (R0) to 1 has been reached. Now the goal is to bring it below 1. Earlier in the epidemic, it was as high as 3. This value represents the average number of people to which a single infected person will transmit the virus. An epidemic with a reproductive number below 1 will gradually disappear. An estimated 30,000 lives have been saved as an effect of the lockdown measures, according to Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS).
- Because of Covid-19, healthcare facilities worldwide are under severe pressure. Many countries are struggling to stop the spread of the virus to prevent hospitals from being overloaded. Switzerland has one of the highest numbers of confirmed coronavirus cases per capita. Hospitals therefore face a major challenge. Hospital beds are being cut throughout Europe. Outside Europe, too, there are only a few exceptions in this trend of eliminating hospital beds. The most striking example is South Korea, which now has considerably more beds in acute care than it did ten years ago.

Countries	Cases	Deaths	Recovered
USA	377'605	11'784	21'222
Spain	140'511	13'897	43'208
Italy	135'586	17'127	24'392
Germany	105'519	1'902	36'081
France	98'010	8'911	17'250
China	81'740	3'331	77'167
Iran	62'589	3'872	27'039
UK	55'242	6'159	135
Turkey	30'217	649	1'326
Switzerland	22'242	811	8'056
Belgium	22'194	2'035	4'157
Netherlands	19'580	2'101	250
Canada	17'046	345	3'794
Austria	12'599	243	4'046
Portugal	12'442	345	184
Brazil	12'345	581	127
S. Korea	10'331	192	6'694
Israel	9'006	60	683
Sweden	7'693	591	205
Russia	7'497	58	494
Australia	5'919	48	2'547
Norway	5'869	88	32
Ireland	5'364	174	25
Chile	5'116	43	898
Czechia	4'944	88	172
India	5'172	137	382
Denmark	5'071	203	1'491
Poland	4'666	129	191
Romania	4'417	197	460
Malaysia	3'963	63	1'321
Ecuador	3'747	191	100
Pakistan	4'005	55	429
Philippines	3'764	177	84
Japan	3'906	92	592
Luxembourg	2'970	44	500
Saudi Arabia	2'795	41	615
Indonesia	2'738	221	204
Peru	2'561	92	997
Thailand	2'258	27	824
Serbia	2'447	61	118
Finland	2'308	34	300
Mexico	2'439	125	633
UAE	2'076	11	167
Panama	2'100	55	14
Qatar	1'832	4	131
Dominican Republic	1'956	98	33
Greece	1'832	81	269
South Africa	1'749	13	95
Iceland	1'586	6	559
Argentina	1'628	55	338
Colombia	1'579	46	88
Algeria	1'468	193	113
Singapore	1'481	6	377
Ukraine	1'462	45	28
Croatia	1'282	18	167
Egypt	1'322	85	259
Morocco	1'141	83	88
Estonia	1'149	21	69
New Zealand	1'160	1	241
Iraq	1'122	65	373
Slovenia	1'059	36	102
Moldova	1'056	22	40
Hong Kong	936	4	236
Lithuania	880	15	8
Armenia	853	8	87
Hungary	817	47	71
Bahrain	811	4	458

Diamond Princess	712	11	619
Belarus	861	13	54
Bosnia and Herzegovina	754	33	68
Kuwait	743	1	105
Cameroon	658	9	17
Kazakhstan	685	6	50
Azerbaijan	717	8	44
Tunisia	596	22	25
North Macedonia	599	26	30
Bulgaria	577	23	42
Latvia	548	2	16
Lebanon	548	19	60
Slovakia	581	2	13
Andorra	525	21	31
Cyprus	494	9	45
Costa Rica	467	2	18
Uruguay	415	6	123
Uzbekistan	504	2	30
Albania	383	22	131
Taiwan	376	5	61
Afghanistan	423	14	18
Cuba	396	11	27
Réunion	349	0	40
Burkina Faso	364	18	108
Jordan	349	6	126
Oman	371	2	67
Channel Islands	335	7	34
Honduras	305	22	6
San Marino	277	32	35
Ivory Coast	323	3	41
Palestine	261	1	42
Vietnam	249	0	123
Mauritius	268	7	8
Malta	293	0	5
Montenegro	241	2	4
Nigeria	238	5	35
Senegal	237	2	105
Kyrgyzstan	228	4	33
Ghana	287	5	31
Georgia	195	3	45
Niger	253	10	26
Bolivia	194	14	2
Faeroe Islands	184	0	120
Sri Lanka	185	6	42
DRC	161	18	5
Venezuela	165	7	65
Kenya	172	6	7
Martinique	151	4	50
Mayotte	164	2	15
Isle of Man	150	1	73
Guadeloupe	139	7	31
Brunei	135	1	85
Bangladesh	164	17	33
Guinea	128	0	5
Cambodia	115	0	58
Paraguay	115	5	15
Gibraltar	113	0	60
Trinidad and Tobago	106	8	1

- Daniel Koch warns against naming a number from which the bans should be relaxed. "We take the different numbers and try to make an assessment out of them - together with the specialists and the cantons". It is not something that can be linked to numbers, says Koch.
- Swiss citizens have been advised to resist the temptation to take a break over the Easter weekend despite warming temperatures and people having been cooped up under the same roof for the past few weeks. *"Refrain from travelling for a short while more. Do not travel to the mountains or to popular destinations in Switzerland. Go without that motorcycle tour or excursion. The more strictly we adhere to these measures, the sooner we can pursue normal activities again,"* Stefan Blättler, head of a cantonal policing committee, said at a media conference today.
- China recorded no new deaths yesterday for the first time since January. There were also no locally transmitted infections found yesterday; all new cases were imported from abroad. And tomorrow, the epicenter city of Wuhan will finally lift its lockdown after three months.
- Iran has been seeing a "flattening off" of the number of new coronavirus cases, the WHO East Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO) said in a press conference on Tuesday. "Due to an impressive scaling up of many of the control measures, we have seen a flattening off of the number of cases in Iran and in fact, some suggestion, in recent days of perhaps a decline in the number of new cases," said Richard Brennan, Acting Regional Emergency Director for WHO EMRO. Iran is the worst affected country in the Middle East, with the highest case count and death toll.
- UK PM Boris Johnson is in intensive care after his virus symptoms worsened.
- US officials have warned this will be the worst week yet. The death toll is now more than 11,000. US Surgeon General Jerome Adams said by the end of this week, there will have been two million coronavirus tests completed across the United States.
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## Sources

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