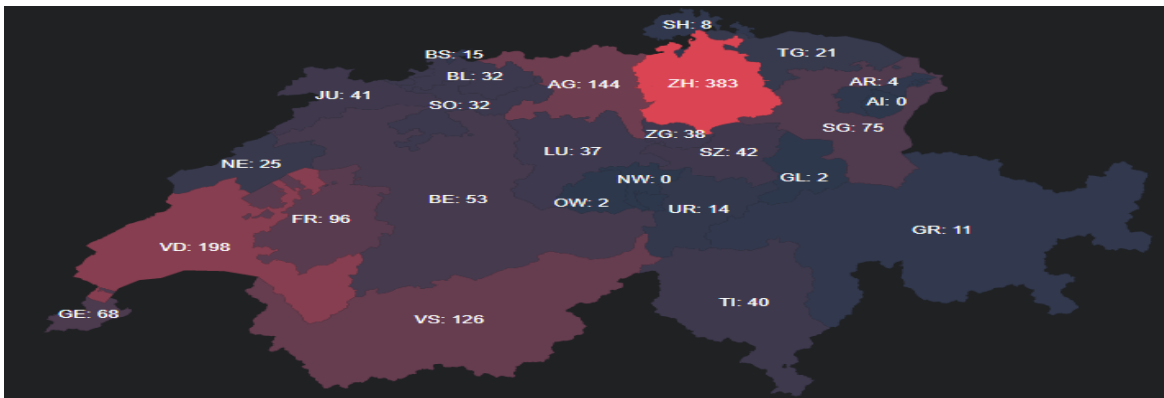# Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19
07.07.2020

- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 543,322 worldwide, with the highest number of deaths in USA (133,302) and Brazil (66,093). There have been more than 11,835,223 global cases in 210 countries and territories.

- Ireland has launched a tracing app to track and contact potential cases of Covid-19 infection. The health minister, Stephen Donnelly, said downloads jumped from 50,000 to 100,000 in an hour on Tuesday morning. *"This is a really good news story. This is a powerful tool in the fight against Covid,"* he said. Developed by an Irish company, Nearform, the app uses Apple and Google software and requires Bluetooth. It is designed to facilitate contact tracing and symptom tracking. The app does not tell you whether you have tested positive for coronavirus but if you do test positive you can give the app permission to notify people with whom you have been in close contact. Officials said the application respected privacy, with users in control of their own data, the information anonymized, and no centralized database.

- Latin America and the Caribbean now account for 50% of the COVID-19 cases in the Americas, and the number of registered cases continues to accelerate, Reuters reports. *"This is a pandemic of staggering proportions and we have no option but to continue to put all our energy into controlling it,"* said the regional director of the WHO, Carissa Etienne, in a virtual briefing with Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) directors on Tuesday. Marcos Espinal, PAHO director for communicable diseases, said Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro's positive test result showed that *"this virus in unpredictable and does not respect race, class or people in power, despite security around any president."* Bolsonaro's infection proves the need to strengthen social distancing recommendations and the use of masks to mitigate the spread of coronavirus in Brazil, he added. Two months ago, the United States accounted for 75% of the COVID-19 cases in the Americas, Etienne said, warning that the WHO sees acceleration of cases in several U.S. states, most of Central America and most of South America.

- Four new coronavirus field hospitals have opened in Mumbai as India's death toll from the disease passed 20,000. Hospitals in densely populated cities such as Mumbai and Delhi are struggling to cope with the epidemic in the country, which has around 720,000 infections – the world's third-highest. The Mumbai region, where about a quarter of India's 20,100 deaths have occurred, has experienced a new surge in cases, forcing authorities to build makeshift hospitals and quarantine facilities.

- Silent transmission could be responsible for half of coronavirus cases in the US, according to a study published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The term "silent transmission" means the virus is transmitted through asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic patients, who are harder to find and trace. The study, led by Alison Galvani of Yale University and colleagues, used coronavirus transmission models and existing research, which already indicated that asymptomatic infections account for 17.9% to 30.8% of all infections. Based on these existing figures, the team found that pre-symptomatic people would account for 47% to 48% of transmission, and asymptomatic people would account for 3.4% to 6.6% of transmission.

- South Africa's cases have passed 200,000, the highest total in Africa. In Kenya, the government has announced it would press on with plans to ease the country's lockdown despite a steep rise in cases.

Countries	Deaths	Cases	Recovered
USA	133,302	3,056,933	1,326,732
Brazil	66,093	1,643,539	1,072,229
UK	44,391	286,349	N/A
Italy	34,899	241,956	192,815
Mexico	31,119	261,750	159,657
France	29,920	168,335	77,308
Spain	28,388	298,869	N/A
India	20,618	739,646	454,858
Iran	11,931	245,688	207,000
Peru	10,772	305,703	197,619
Russia	10,494	694,230	463,880
Belgium	9,774	62,058	17,122
Germany	9,093	198,172	182,700
Canada	8,693	105,935	69,570
Chile	6,434	301,019	268,245
Netherlands	6,132	50,694	N/A
Sweden	5,447	73,344	N/A
Turkey	5,260	207,897	185,292
Ecuador	4,821	62,380	28,872
Pakistan	4,839	234,509	134,957
China	4,634	83,565	78,528
Colombia	4,210	120,281	50,370
Egypt	3,422	76,222	21,238
Indonesia	3,309	66,226	30,785
South Africa	3,310	205,721	97,848
Iraq	2,685	64,701	36,252
Bangladesh	2,151	168,645	78,102
Saudi Arabia	2,017	217,108	154,839
Switzerland	1,966	32,369	29,300
Romania	1,799	29,620	20,534
Ireland	1,741	25,531	23,364
Portugal	1,629	44,416	29,445
Argentina	1,602	80,447	30,095
Poland	1,528	36,412	24,238
Bolivia	1,476	40,509	11,929
Philippines	1,309	47,873	12,386
Ukraine	1,283	49,607	22,193
Japan	977	19,775	17,124
Algeria	968	16,879	11,884
Guatemala	981	23,972	3,429
Afghanistan	920	33,384	20,179
Dominican Republic	821	38,430	19,564
Panama	770	39,334	18,036
Austria	706	18,421	16,686
Nigeria	654	29,286	11,828
Honduras	656	24,665	2,585
Sudan	616	9,894	4,899
Denmark	609	12,888	11,983
Moldova	603	17,906	11,241
Hungary	589	4,205	2,874
Armenia	503	29,285	16,907
Belarus	436	64,003	51,902
Kuwait	377	51,245	41,515
Czechia	351	12,639	7,873
North Macedonia	351	7,244	3,324
Yemen	345	1,284	575
Israel	338	31,271	18,131
Finland	329	7,262	6,700
UAE	326	52,600	41,714
Serbia	330	16,719	13,366
Cameroon	359	14,916	11,525
S. Korea	285	13,181	11,914
Azerbaijan	265	21,374	12,635
Norway	251	8,941	8,138
Bulgaria	250	5,914	3,000
Morocco	239	14,565	10,281
El Salvador	229	8,307	4,929
Oman	224	48,997	31,000
Bosnia and Herzegovina	207	5,621	2,693
Greece	193	3,589	1,374
Kazakhstan	264	49,683	27,657
DRC	182	7,432	3,226
Kenya	167	8,250	2,504

Qatar	134	100,945	94,903
Senegal	137	7,547	5,023
Mauritania	133	4,948	1,896
Ghana	129	21,077	16,070
Malaysia	121	8,674	8,481
Mali	119	2,331	1,547
Haiti	113	6,371	1,824
Croatia	113	3,272	2,229
Slovenia	111	1,739	1,423
Luxembourg	110	4,603	4,056
Australia	106	8,755	7,455
Ethiopia	103	5,846	2,430
Bahrain	98	29,821	25,178
Kyrgyzstan	99	8,141	2,916
Somalia	92	3,006	1,051
Cuba	86	2,380	2,234
Nicaragua	83	2,519	1,238
Albania	81	3,038	1,744
Lithuania	79	1,844	1,547
Ivory Coast	75	10,966	5,384
Chad	74	872	787
Estonia	69	1,995	1,880
Niger	68	1,093	968
Venezuela	68	7,411	2,100
Sierra Leone	62	1,547	1,086
Thailand	58	3,195	3,072
Djibouti	55	4,878	4,621
Tajikistan	53	6,262	4,914
Burkina Faso	53	1,003	860
Andorra	52	855	800
Equatorial Guinea	51	3,071	842
Tunisia	50	1,205	1,049
CAR	52	4,033	970
Channel Islands	47	577	512
Gabon	46	5,743	2,574
Congo	44	1,557	501
San Marino	42	698	656
South Sudan	38	2,021	333
Liberia	39	891	377
Uzbekistan	39	10,587	6,690
Lebanon	36	1,907	1,348
Nepal	35	16,168	7,499
Guinea	34	5,610	4,522
Mayotte	34	2,688	2,446
Madagascar	33	3,472	1,187
Libya	34	1,117	269
Zambia	30	1,632	1,348
Latvia	30	1,134	1,008
Slovakia	28	1,767	1,473
Uruguay	29	960	858
Singapore	26	45,140	41,002
Guinea-Bissau	25	1,790	760
Isle of Man	24	336	312
New Zealand	22	1,536	1,492
Benin	21	1,199	333
Tanzania	21	509	183
Costa Rica	23	5,241	1,776
Paraguay	20	2,456	1,180
Malawi	19	1,818	317
Cyprus	19	1,004	839
Angola	19	346	108
Palestine	18	4,647	491
Cabo Verde	17	1,463	722
French Guiana	20	5,054	1,984
Georgia	15	958	838
Togo	15	680	450
Guyana	15	273	120
Sint Maarten	15	78	63
Montenegro	16	907	315
Suriname	15	614	315
Syria	14	372	126

- Hong Kong will require aircrew members to submit Covid-19 testing samples upon their arrival in the city, the government told a daily coronavirus press conference on Tuesday. This comes as Hong Kong reported 14 new infections, including nine local cases, on Tuesday, the highest number of local cases recorded since April 8. While flight crew members are currently exempted from 14-day mandatory quarantine, starting on Wednesday, they will be required to submit deep throat saliva samples when they arrive at the Hong Kong International Airport.
- Beijing reported zero new coronavirus cases on Monday for the first time since the Xinfadi wholesale food market cluster was discovered on June 11, China's National Health Commission announced Tuesday. Eight new imported cases were reported in China, across Shanghai, Liaoning, Sichuan, Inner Mongolia and Guangdong. No new deaths or local cases were recorded. The National Health Commission also reported 15 new asymptomatic cases across the country.
- Melbourne is to re-enter Stage 3 lockdown after a record increase in cases. Victorian state premier Daniel Andrews said there was "simply no alternative" to reimposing stay at home restrictions in Australia's second-biggest city.
- Iran has ordered the mandatory wearing of face masks in public after coronavirus cases continued to rise in recent weeks. Rouhani said during a meeting of Iran's coronavirus task force that people would only be able to receive services from the state and other organizations "*if they observe protective and health protocols and wear masks.*"

- **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

  Fast Funding for COVID-19 Science - Applications are paused
  - https://fastgrants.org/

  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).

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