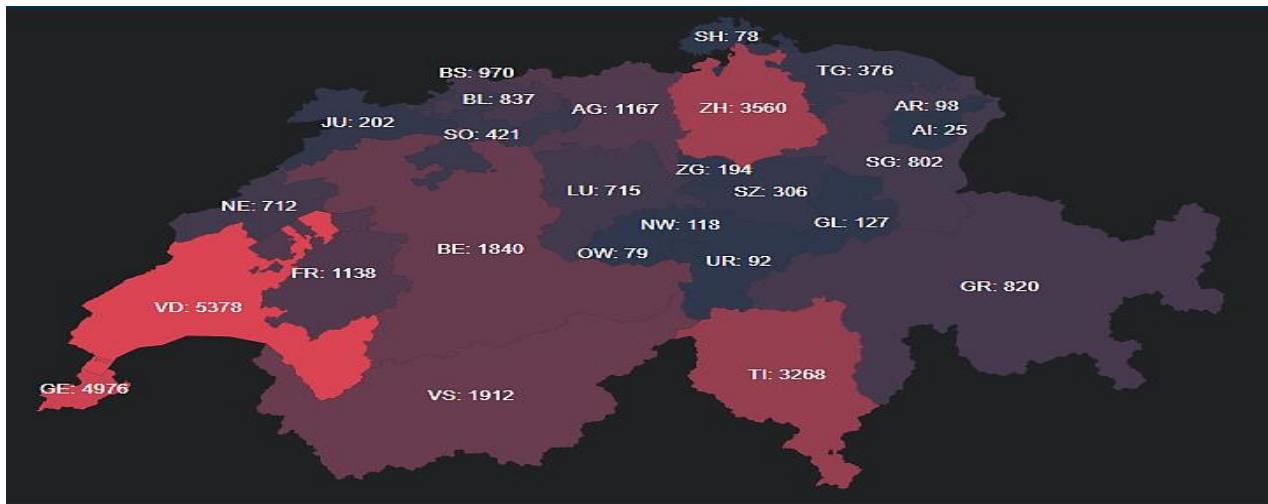# Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19
12.05.2020

- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 289,300 worldwide, with the highest number of deaths in USA (82,160) and UK (32,692). There have been more than 4,300,200 global cases in 210 countries and territories.

- The World Health Organization said on Tuesday that some treatments appear to be limiting the severity or length of the Covid-19 respiratory disease and that it was is focusing on learning more about four or five of the most promising ones. *"We do have some treatments that seem to be, in very early studies, limiting the severity or the length of the illness, but we do not have anything that can kill or stop the virus*," spokeswoman Margaret Harris told a virtual briefing, referring to the body's *"solidarity trial"* of drugs against the disease. *"We do have potentially positive data coming out but we need to see more data to be 100% confident that we can say this treatment over that one,"* she added.

- Countries are taking urgent steps to avoid a damaging second wave of Covid-19 infections, stepping up mass testing programmes and announcing strict quarantines on incoming travellers in a bid to keep the virus under control. China, Singapore and Denmark were among countries to announce substantial expansions of their testing regimes, with the Chinese city of Wuhan, says it planned to test all 11 million residents. Officials were ordered to submit urgent plans to test all Wuhan's inhabitants after authorities reported six new cases in a residential compound, the first cluster of new Covid-19 infections since the city reopened on 8 April after 76 days of strict lockdown. Singapore also said it aimed to test all 323,000 migrant workers living in cramped, often unsanitary dormitories that have become a hotbed of infections in recent weeks, accounting for the vast majority of the city-state's total of 24,671 cases.

- The Swiss hospitality industry has developed a smartphone application that allows the secure transfer of contact details from customers to restaurant owners via a QR code to assist with contact tracing efforts. The government wants eating establishments to request the contact details of their clients to help with virus contact tracing. Customers, meanwhile, are not obliged to share their telephone numbers due to data protection laws and can only be encouraged to do so voluntarily. In order to assuage privacy concerns, two companies specialising in hospitality software - Hotelpro4u and SwissHelios Sàrl – have developed smartphone applications to facilitate the secure transfer of client information.

- For the first time since the beginning of the coronavirus crisis, there have been no new deaths of cases of infection in Ticino the (FOPH) said today. Ticino was where the first coronavirus case was reported on February 25, and which introduced the first emergency restrictions to curb the spread of the disease. It has been one of the worst-affected Swiss regions, alongside Geneva, Vaud and Zurich.

- Countries including Germany and South Korea have reported spikes in infections following an easing of coronavirus restrictions.

- South Korea investigators comb digital data to trace club coronavirus cluster. Authorities have been looking through mobile phone data, credit card statements and CCTV footage to identify people who visited nightclubs at the centre of one of the capital's biggest coronavirus clusters. More than 100 new cases linked to the nightclubs have brought fears of a second wave of infections in a country held up as a coronavirus mitigation success story.

Countries	Deaths	Cases	Recovered
USA	82'160	1'391'316	262'880
UK	32'692	226'463	N/A
Italy	30'739	219'814	106'587
Spain	26'920	269'520	180'470
France	26'643	177'423	56'724
Brazil	11'772	170'582	67'384
Belgium	8'761	53'779	13'732
Germany	7'667	172'812	147'200
Iran	6'733	110'767	88'357
Netherlands	5'510	42'984	N/A
Canada	4'993	69'981	32'994
China	4'633	82'919	78'171
Turkey	3'841	139'771	95'780
Mexico	3'573	36'327	23'100
Sweden	3'313	27'272	4'971
India	2'408	73'981	23'203
Ecuador	2'145	29'509	3'433
Russia	2'116	232'243	43'512
Peru	1'961	68'822	22'406
Switzerland	1'857	30'380	26'800
Ireland	1'467	23'135	17'110
Portugal	1'163	27'913	3'013
Indonesia	1'007	14'749	3'063
Romania	1'002	15'778	7'685
Poland	839	16'921	6'131
Philippines	751	11'350	2'106
Pakistan	724	32'674	8'555
Japan	633	15'847	8'293
Austria	623	15'961	14'148
Denmark	533	10'591	8'328
Egypt	533	9'746	2'172
Algeria	515	6'067	2'998
Colombia	479	11'613	2'825
Ukraine	425	16'023	3'373
Hungary	425	3'313	1'007
Dominican Republic	402	10'900	3'221
Chile	335	31'721	14'125
Argentina	317	6'278	1'862
Czechia	283	8'177	4'738
Finland	275	6'003	4'300
Saudi Arabia	264	42'925	15'257
Israel	258	16'526	11'956
S. Korea	258	10'936	9'670
Bangladesh	250	16'660	3'147
Panama	249	8'616	4'687
Norway	224	8'132	32
Serbia	220	10'243	3'600
South Africa	206	11'350	4'357
UAE	203	19'661	6'012
Morocco	188	6'380	2'930
Moldova	175	4'995	1'980
Greece	152	2'744	1'374
Nigeria	150	4'641	902
Belarus	142	24'873	6'974
Afghanistan	127	4'963	610
Cameroon	125	2'689	1'524
Bolivia	122	2'831	299
Bosnia and Herzegovina	117	2'158	1'168
Honduras	116	2'100	206
Iraq	112	2'913	1'903
Malaysia	109	6'742	5'223
Luxembourg	102	3'894	3'610
Slovenia	102	1'461	259
Australia	97	6'964	6'229
Bulgaria	95	2'023	476
North Macedonia	92	1'674	1'205
Croatia	91	2'207	1'808
Cuba	77	1'783	1'229
Kuwait	75	10'277	3'101
Sudan	74	1'526	161
Estonia	61	1'746	777
Thailand	56	3'017	2'798
Somalia	52	1'089	121

Lithuania	50	1'491	850
Burkina Faso	50	760	584
Andorra	48	755	550
Armenia	47	3'538	1'430
Niger	46	832	637
Tunisia	45	1'032	727
DRC	44	1'102	146
San Marino	41	638	161
Channel Islands	41	546	452
Mali	39	712	377
Kenya	36	715	259
Kazakhstan	32	5'279	2'108
Azerbaijan	32	2'589	1'680
Albania	31	876	682
Chad	31	322	53
Slovakia	27	1'465	983
Guatemala	26	1'114	111
Lebanon	26	870	234
Isle of Man	23	330	271
Ghana	22	5'127	494
Singapore	21	24'671	3'851
Ivory Coast	21	1'730	818
New Zealand	21	1'497	1'398
Tajikistan	21	661	0
Tanzania	21	509	183
Liberia	20	211	85
Senegal	19	1'995	742
Uruguay	19	711	523
Sierra Leone	19	338	72
El Salvador	18	998	349
Latvia	18	950	627
Oman	17	3'721	1'250
Cyprus	16	903	401
Haiti	16	209	17
Sint Maarten	15	76	46
Qatar	14	25'149	3'019
Martinique	14	187	91
Diamond Princess	13	712	651
Guadeloupe	13	154	104
Kyrgyzstan	12	1'037	709
Guinea	11	2'213	771
Mayotte	11	1'023	492
Georgia	11	639	349
Congo	11	333	53
Togo	11	181	89
Bahamas	11	93	39
Uzbekistan	10	2'519	2'010
Iceland	10	1'801	1'776
Paraguay	10	724	170
Venezuela	10	422	205
Mauritius	10	332	322
Guyana	10	109	36
Yemen	10	65	1
Bahrain	9	5'409	2'182
Sri Lanka	9	879	366
Gabon	9	802	127
Jordan	9	576	390
Jamaica	9	505	90
Montenegro	9	324	294
Bermuda	8	119	66
Trinidad and Tobago	8	116	107
Costa Rica	7	801	517
Zambia	7	441	117
Taiwan	7	440	372
Barbados	7	84	57
Myanmar	6	180	74
Malta	5	506	434
Ethiopia	5	261	106
Sao Tome and Principe	5	208	4
Nicaragua	5	16	7

- European countries will be advised to open borders to countries with similar coronavirus risk profiles under a plan to bolster the ailing tourist industry being discussed in Brussels. Tomorrow the European commission is expected to recommend a three-phase approach to reopening borders that suggests EU countries with "similar overall risk profiles" on the pandemic open to tourists from each other's countries, according to a leaked version of the draft seen by the website Euractiv.
- Bars, restaurants, hairdressing and beauty salons will reopen across Italy from 18 May. Regional authorities have been given the power to lift restrictions on the businesses, which had originally been due to reopen from 1 June.
- Russia has reported 10,899 new Covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours, the second highest total worldwide. Russia puts the continued daily rise in cases down to widespread testing. It has carried out 5.8m tests.
- The number of newly diagnosed cases of coronavirus in Spain in one day fell on Tuesday to its lowest in more than two months, the health ministry reported. The Spanish government has ordered a quarantine of all overseas travelers coming to the country from 15 May in a bid to curb the spreading of coronavirus in the country.

- **Funding opportunity for researcher**

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

    The US Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program - a call for proposals on COVID-19
    - https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/ProgramFY.htm?programFYId=256400

    A new COVID-19 calls
    - https://intern.unibe.ch/dienstleistungen/forschung/covid/open/

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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