

Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19

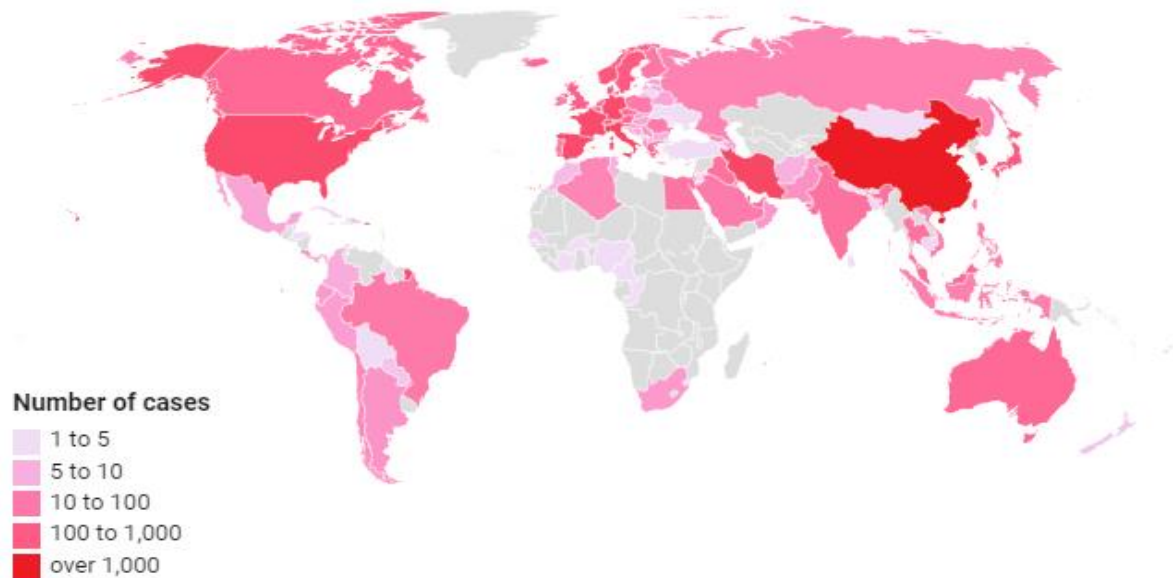
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- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 5,100 worldwide, with the vast majority in mainland China. There have been more than 139,000 global cases.
- Mainland China reported only eight new infections yesterday, with five in Wuhan, ground zero for the pandemic. South Korea reported its lowest daily increase since February 22.
- All schools in Switzerland will be closed until April 4th. The Federal Council is banning events with more than 100 people from now until the end of April. This measure also applies to leisure businesses such as museums, sports centers, swimming pools or ski areas. A maximum of 50 people may be in restaurants, bars and discotheques. This makes it easier to maintain mutual distance. The canton of Freiburg brings all hospital employees back to work. Only Swiss citizens, people with a residence permit in Switzerland and people who have to travel to Switzerland for professional reasons are allowed to enter Switzerland from Italy. The Federal Council is also providing up to CHF 10 billion in emergency aid to cushion the economic effects of the pandemic quickly and without bureaucracy.
- Ethiopia has confirmed its first case of coronavirus, Agence-France Presse reports, shortly after Kenya became the first east African country to report a case of the disease. A 48-year-old Japanese man who had arrived in the country on 4 March from Burkina Faso was confirmed to have contracted the virus, the French news agency reported the Ethiopian health ministry as saying.
- The European Union has unveiled a series of measures to try to limit the economic impact of coronavirus. The EU says it will direct around \$40 billion of funds to fight against the coronavirus crisis.
- In the fight against the spread of the corona virus, the Austrian government is closing many shops for a week and is also quarantining areas in Tirol. Foreign guests are still allowed to leave. Flight bans now also apply to and from France, Spain and Switzerland.
- Authorities in France are tightening controls on mass gatherings, limiting numbers to no more than 100. *“The idea is that we can slow the progression and the circulation of the virus 100 people - that means that there will inevitably be significant consequences for the theatres and the cinemas”*, said PM Eduard Philippe.
- The Spanish government is to declare a state of emergency in response to the coronavirus epidemic, paving the way for drastic containment measures after the number of confirmed cases in the country passed 4,200 and the death toll rose to 120, Sam Jones reports from Madrid.
- Turkey has announced its second confirmed case of Covid-19, two days after the virus finally reached the tourism and travel hub. The new patient is a relative of the first, who contracted the novel coronavirus after a visit to Europe.
- Canadian PM Justin Trudeau is working from home after his wife tested positive for coronavirus, as are top officials around the world.
- The president of Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro, has tested positive for coronavirus, according to local media.
- UEFA has postponed all Champions League and Europa League fixtures next week because of coronavirus.

Countries	Cases	Deaths	Recovered
China	80'815		3'177
Hong Kong	132		4
Macao	10		0
Australia	199		3
Cambodia	5		0
Canada	158		1
France	2'876		61
Germany	3'117		7
Japan	701		19
Malaysia	158		0
Nepal	1		0
Singapore	187		0
S. Korea	7'979		71
Sri Lanka	3		0
Thailand	75		1
Taiwan	50		1
UAE	85		0
USA	1'832		41
Vietnam	44		0
Finland	155		0
India	81		1
Philippines	52		5
Italy	15'113		1'016
UK	609		10
Russia	34		0
Spain	3'958		91
Sweden	733		1
Belgium	399		3
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	696		7
Egypt	80		2
Oman	19		0
Switzerland	1'135		7
Denmark	785		0
North Macedonia	9		0
Mexico	12		0
New Zealand	5		0
Nigeria	2		0
San Marino	77		5
Azerbaijan	15		1
Brazil	85		0
Netherlands	614		5
Iraq	83		8
Croatia	31		0
Greece	117		1
Israel	126		0
Norway	879		1
Estonia	41		0
Lithuania	6		0
Afghanistan	7		0
Algeria	26		2
Belarus	21		0
Lebanon	77		3
Romania	70		0
Georgia	25		0
Pakistan	22		0
Kuwait	80		0
Iran	11'364		514
Bahrain	210		0
Austria	428		1
Ireland	70		1
Armenia	6		0
Dominican Republic	5		0
Iceland	117		0
Belgium	399		3
Qatar	262		0
Luxembourg	26		0
Monaco	2		0

Czechia	117	0	0
Portugal	112	0	1
Slovenia	96	0	0
Indonesia	69	4	5
Saudi Arabia	62	0	1
Poland	61	1	0
Brunei	37	0	0
Palestine	35	0	0
Albania	33	1	0
Chile	33	0	0
Argentina	31	1	0
Serbia	31	0	0
Panama	27	1	0
Bulgaria	23	1	0
Costa Rica	23	0	0
Peru	22	0	0
Slovakia	21	0	0
Ecuador	19	0	0
Hungary	19	0	0
Latvia	17	0	1
South Africa	16	0	0
Cyprus	14	0	0
Tunisia	13	0	0
Malta	12	0	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	11	0	0
Senegal	10	0	2
Colombia	9	0	0
Jamaica	8	0	0
Maldives	8	0	0
Morocco	7	1	0
French Guiana	6	0	0
Moldova	6	0	0
Paraguay	6	0	0
Réunion	5	0	0
Liechtenstein	4	0	0
Ukraine	3	0	0
Bangladesh	3	0	0
Bolivia	3	0	0
Channel Islands	3	0	0
Cuba	3	0	0
Faeroe Islands	3	0	0
French Polynesia	3	0	0
Martinique	3	0	0
Burkina Faso	2	0	0
Cameroon	2	0	0
DRC	2	0	0
Ghana	2	0	0
Honduras	2	0	0
Kazakhstan	2	0	0
Saint Martin	2	0	0
Turkey	2	0	0
Guyana	1	1	0
Andorra	1	0	0
Jordan	1	0	0
Bhutan	1	0	0
Cayman Islands	1	0	0
Ivory Coast	1	0	0
Ethiopia	1	0	0
Gibraltar	1	0	1
Guadeloupe	1	0	0
Vatican City	1	0	0
Kenya	1	0	0
Mongolia	1	0	0
St. Barth	1	0	0
St. Vincent Grenadines	1	0	0
Togo	1	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago	1	0	0

- The climbing season on the world's tallest mountain has been axed and Nepal's government has suspended all mountaineering permits.
- The UK government's chief scientific adviser has explained the country's plan to "delay the peak" until summertime and attempt to create "herd immunity" to the novel coronavirus. "*We think this virus is likely to be one that comes back year on year and becomes like a seasonal virus and communities will become immune to it and that's going to be an important part of controlling this longer term,*" Patrick Vallance, Britain's chief scientific adviser, said, according to Reuters. "*60% is the sort of figure you need to get herd immunity.*"



Funding opportunities for researchers

The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) - Call Open on Therapeutics and Diagnostics Combatting Coronavirus Infection

- https://www.euresearch.ch/index.php?id=499&tx_ttnews%5btt_news%5d=1168&no_cache=1&user_id=51472&job_id=4718

SNF - Special call for research into coronaviruses

- <http://www.snf.ch/en/researchinFocus/newsroom/Pages/news-200306-call-special-call-on-coronaviruses.aspx>

Wellcome Trust:

- <https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/schemes/epidemic-preparedness-covid-19>

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