

## Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19

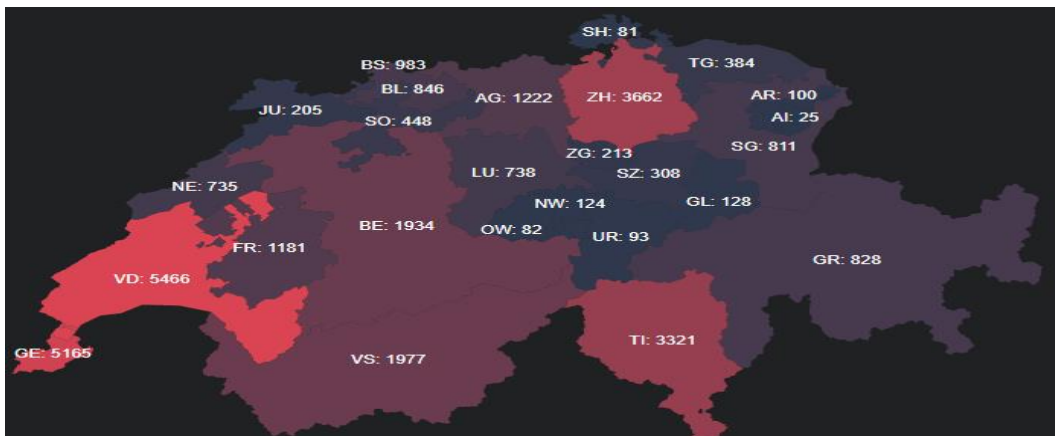
15.06.2020

- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 436,000 worldwide, with the highest number of deaths in USA (117,884) and Brazil (43,389). There have been more than 8,035,600 global cases in 210 countries and territories.
- Since midnight on Sunday, the Swiss government has allowed travel between Switzerland and all European Schengen states as well as Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and the United Kingdom. One exception is Spain, which won't re-open borders before early July. For the moment, Switzerland has said it is not yet possible to allow travel from outside the Schengen zone. For example, a visitor from the US or China will not be able to enter Switzerland. Last week European Home Affairs Commissioner Ylva Johansson urged Schengen members to lift internal border controls by Monday and to allow a gradual reopening to other countries from July.
- Health officials in Beijing are working to trace around 200,000 people who visited a wholesale seafood market which is at the center of a major coronavirus outbreak in the Chinese capital. The city has reported more than 79 new coronavirus cases since last Thursday, most of which are linked to the Xinfadi food market. Authorities are trying to trace all those who have visited the site since May 30. The market is a key source of food supplies in the city, and has been shut down in the aftermath of the outbreak. At least 11 neighborhoods surrounding the area have also been sealed off. *"We have organized door-knocking activities, that means we will visit people [who have visited the market] at their doorstep, call them or contact them on WeChat and other apps," Xu Ying, a Beijing city government official- Now ... we are organizing the nucleic acid tests and at-home quarantine for them"* said today.
- Hong Kong's Center for Food Safety (CFS) has taken salmon samples from import and wholesale levels for testing as a precaution following a coronavirus outbreak at a wholesale market in China, according to a Hong Kong government press release.
- Norway's public health body (FHI) has suspended the use of its coronavirus contact-tracing app following an order by the country's data protection authority over the collection and use of users' location data. The FHI has also deleted all information collected so far by the app. The Norwegian privacy regulator Datainsynet expressed concerns with the way the app, called Smittestopp, collected both GPS location data and Bluetooth data from users. Its assessment said the app "can no longer be regarded as a proportionate intervention on users' basic privacy rights."
- Confirmed cases of Covid-19 are accelerating in Africa, doubling over the last three weeks. In west Africa, what was the continent's worst affected region, confirmed cases are rising at a slower rate, doubling in just under a month. Nigeria remains one the region's most affected countries. Test availability is gradually increasing in part due to the PACT initiative launched by the Africa CDC, which aims to help administer 10m tests in the continent by November. Yet just 93,000 tests have been administered in the country of 200 million people, while community transmission of the virus is widespread.
- A Chinese company says its experimental coronavirus vaccine caused the body to produce antibodies against the virus. Sinovac Biotech is testing it in more than 700 volunteers in an accelerated trial.

Countries	Deaths	Cases	Recovered
USA	117,884	2,166,531	870,080
Brazil	43,389	867,882	453,568
UK	41,698	295,889	N/A
Italy	34,345	236,989	176,370
France	29,407	157,220	72,859
Spain	27,136	291,008	N/A
Mexico	17,141	146,837	108,110
Belgium	9,661	60,100	16,610
India	9,590	336,185	172,313
Iran	8,950	189,876	150,590
Germany	8,875	187,843	172,600
Canada	8,174	99,070	60,524
Russia	7,091	537,210	284,539
Peru	6,688	229,736	115,579
Netherlands	6,065	48,948	N/A
Sweden	4,891	52,383	N/A
Turkey	4,807	178,239	151,417
China	4,634	83,181	78,370
Ecuador	3,896	46,751	23,064
Chile	3,323	174,293	143,704
Pakistan	2,729	144,478	53,721
Indonesia	2,198	39,294	15,123
Switzerland	1,938	31,131	28,800
Ireland	1,706	25,303	22,698
Colombia	1,667	50,939	19,822
Egypt	1,575	44,598	11,931
Portugal	1,520	37,036	22,852
South Africa	1,480	70,038	38,531
Romania	1,427	22,165	15,817
Poland	1,256	29,788	14,383
Bangladesh	1,209	90,619	18,731
Philippines	1,098	26,420	6,252
Saudi Arabia	1,011	132,048	87,890
Japan	925	17,429	15,643
Ukraine	901	31,810	14,253
Argentina	842	31,577	9,891
Algeria	767	10,919	7,606
Austria	678	17,135	16,066
Iraq	652	21,315	9,271
Bolivia	611	18,459	3,113
Dominican Republic	605	23,271	14,025
Denmark	598	12,217	11,090
Hungary	563	4,076	2,485
Afghanistan	476	25,527	5,164
Sudan	459	7,220	2,610
Panama	437	20,686	13,766
Nigeria	420	16,085	5,220
Moldova	411	11,879	6,794
Guatemala	384	9,845	1,886
Czechia	330	10,027	7,245
Finland	326	7,108	6,200
Belarus	312	54,680	30,420
Honduras	312	8,858	967
Israel	302	19,121	15,389
Kuwait	298	36,431	27,531
UAE	289	42,294	27,462
Armenia	285	17,064	6,276
S. Korea	277	12,121	10,730
Cameroon	276	9,864	5,570
Serbia	255	12,367	11,511
Norway	242	8,639	8,138
Morocco	212	8,838	7,779
North Macedonia	193	4,157	1,723
Greece	184	3,134	1,374
Bulgaria	174	3,290	1,730
Bosnia and Herzegovina	165	3,040	2,162
Yemen	164	728	53
Malaysia	121	8,494	7,400
Azerbaijan	119	9,957	5,583
DRC	112	4,837	613
Luxembourg	110	4,070	3,929
Slovenia	109	1,496	1,359
Oman	108	24,524	9,533
Croatia	107	2,254	2,140
Kenya	104	3,727	1,286

Mali	104	1,860	1,125
Australia	102	7,335	6,851
Somalia	88	2,618	577
Mauritania	87	1,783	332
Cuba	84	2,262	1,965
Kazakhstan	77	14,809	9,241
Qatar	76	80,876	58,681
Lithuania	76	1,773	1,429
El Salvador	74	3,826	1,912
Haiti	73	4,309	24
Chad	73	850	720
Estonia	69	1,974	1,717
Niger	66	980	885
Senegal	64	5,173	3,424
Ethiopia	60	3,521	620
Thailand	58	3,135	2,987
Nicaragua	55	1,464	953
Ghana	54	11,964	4,258
Burkina Faso	53	894	804
Sierra Leone	51	1,176	683
Andorra	51	853	789
Tajikistan	50	5,097	3,503
Tunisia	49	1,110	999
Channel Islands	48	565	512
Bahrain	46	18,544	13,197
Ivory Coast	45	5,084	2,505
Djibouti	43	4,465	2,950
San Marino	42	694	575
Albania	36	1,590	1,055
Liberia	33	498	221
Lebanon	32	1,464	875
Mayotte	29	2,298	1,790
Slovakia	28	1,552	1,410
Latvia	28	1,097	845
Kyrgyzstan	27	2,372	1,813
South Sudan	27	1,693	49
Singapore	26	40,818	30,366
Guinea	25	4,532	3,234
Venezuela	25	2,978	835
Congo	24	728	221
Isle of Man	24	336	312
Gabon	23	3,463	1,024
Uruguay	23	848	788
New Zealand	22	1,504	1,482
Tanzania	21	509	183
Nepal	19	6,211	1,041
Uzbekistan	19	5,154	3,996
Cyprus	18	985	807
Guinea-Bissau	15	1,460	153
Sint Maarten	15	77	61
Georgia	14	879	704
Martinique	14	202	98
Guadeloupe	14	171	157
Diamond Princess	13	712	651
Togo	13	531	299
Costa Rica	12	1,715	752
Equatorial Guinea	12	1,306	200
Sao Tome and Principe	12	661	177
Guyana	12	159	99
Sri Lanka	11	1,902	1,342
Zambia	11	1,382	1,142
Paraguay	11	1,289	650
Bahamas	11	103	68
Iceland	10	1,810	1,796
Madagascar	10	1,290	384
Jamaica	10	617	420
Libya	10	454	63
Mauritius	10	337	325
Jordan	9	979	692

- England’s coronavirus lockdown should not be further lifted until the government’s contact-tracing system has proven to be “robust and effective”, the WHO has said after widespread criticism of the first results of the new tracking operation. As shops across England reopen, and people were encouraged by the government to come out of their homes and on to the high street, Dr Hans Kluge, the WHO’s director for Europe, cautioned that the UK remained in a “very active phase of the pandemic”.
- UN agencies have warned the coronavirus pandemic could lead to the deaths of an additional 51,000 under-fives in the Middle East and North Africa by the end of the year. WHO and United Nations children’s agency Unicef said the disruption of essential health and nutrition services risked “reversing progress (on) child survival in the region by nearly two decades”. The agencies warned: “*While we do not have many cases of Covid-19 among children in the region, it is evident that the pandemic is affecting children’s health firsthand. An additional 51,000 children under the age of five might die in the region by the end of 2020*” in the case of rising malnutrition and a protracted lack of access to vaccinations and treatment for childhood diseases.
- New research from Japan suggests that many coronavirus clusters outside of hospitals may have been started by people who are younger than 40 or don’t feel sick. The findings offer insight into who might be driving transmission of the virus.



- **Funding opportunity for researchers**

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](mailto:grantsoffice@research.unibe.ch). The Grants Advisors responsible for the ISPM are Aline Schögler

([aline.schoegler@research.unibe.ch](mailto:aline.schoegler@research.unibe.ch)) and Leah Witton ([leah.witton@research.unibe.ch](mailto:leah.witton@research.unibe.ch)).

### Sources

<https://twitter.com/WHO>

<https://www.swissinfo.ch/>

<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

<https://www.corona-data.ch/>

<https://edition.cnn.com/world/live-news/coronavirus-pandemic-06-15-20-intl/index.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2020/jun/15/coronavirus-live-news>