Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19 19.05.2020

- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 322,000 worldwide, with the highest number of deaths in USA (92,478) and UK (34,796). There have been more than 4,940,000 global cases in 210 countries and territories.
- World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus affirmed his commitment to "transparency, accountability and continuous improvement," as he addressed the 73rd World Health Assembly (WHA). Speaking on Tuesday at the virtual summit, Tedros said, "WHO's focus now is fighting the pandemic, with every tool at our disposal." On Monday, Tedros said he would "initiate an independent evaluation" of WHO's response to the global pandemic. "As always, WHO remains fully committed to transparency, accountability and continuous improvement. We want accountability, more than anyone," he said. "Checking and learning our lessons is in WHO's DNA," Tedros said Tuesday. "I hope the recommendations of the independent committee will be taken seriously by all member states. "At the end of the day what matters is life that should be at the center of everything we do and everything we say," Tedros added.
- The little particles of mucus and saliva that people eject when they cough or sneeze could travel further than six feet in theory at least, researchers reported Tuesday. A computer model not a real-life experiment shows that a light breeze could carry some droplets as far as 18 feet. It's something to consider when setting up social distancing recommendations, said Dimitris Drikakis, an engineering professor at the University of Nicosia in Cyprus, and Talib Dbouk, his colleague. "The work is based on modeling. We have not done experiments with people," Drikakis said. Writing in the journal Physics of Fluids, Drikakis and Dbouk said their computer models suggested that current recommendations that people keep six feet apart might not provide safety under certain outdoor conditions.
- An international study of global carbon emissions found that daily emissions declined 17% between
 January and early April, compared to average levels in 2019, and could decline anywhere between 4.4%
 to 8% by the year's end. Emissions haven't been this low since 2006. The study, which appeared today in
 the journal Nature Climate Change, centered on 69 countries, all 50 US states and 30 Chinese provinces,
 which account for 85% of the world population and 97% of all global carbon dioxide emissions.
- More than 20,400 health care workers in Germany have contracted coronavirus since the beginning of the outbreak, the country's center for disease control said Tuesday. Out of the infected workers, 61 have died and an estimated 19,100 have recovered from it, according to the Robert Koch Institute. Around 11% of the total coronavirus infections in Germany have been among the group, official data shows. Bavaria, Germany's largest federal state, remains the worst hit area, with 26% of Covid-19 infections in the country and 29% of the overall death tally.
- The central Chinese City of Wuhan conducted more than 467,000 coronavirus tests on Monday, authorities said today. Wuhan started conducting city-wide coronavirus testing on its citizens last week after health officials detected several new locally transmitted cases despite a strict 76-day lockdown that was intended to eliminate Covid-19 from the city where the virus is thought to have first emerged. Wuhan has now conducted over 1.3 million coronavirus tests since May 12, the city's Municipal Health Commission said.

Countries	- Deaths -	Cases	Recovered
countries	92'478		360'058
USA UK	34'796		N/A
taly	32′169		129'401
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	28′239		61′728
France	27′709		196′958
Spain	17′381		100'459
Brazil	9′108	261′717 55′791	14′687
Belgium			
Germany	8′161		155′700
Iran	7′119		97′173
Netherlands	5′715		N/A
Canada	5′858		39′488
China	4′634		78'241
Mexico	5′332		35′388
Turkey	4'199		112'895
Sweden	3′743	30′799	4'971
India	3′216		40'865
Ecuador	2′799	33′582	3′433
Russia	2′837	299'941	76′130
Peru	2′789	94′933	30′306
Switzerland	1′891	30′618	27′600
reland	1′547	24′200	19′470
Portugal	1′247	29'432	6′431
Romania	1′137	17'191	10′166
ndonesia	1′221	18'496	4′467
Poland	948	19'268	7′903
Philippines	837	12′942	2′843
Pakistan	939	43′966	12′489
lapan	749	16′305	11′564
Austria	632	16′321	14'678
Egypt	645	12′764	3′440
Denmark	551	11'044	9'416
Algeria	561	7'377	3′746
Colombia	592	16'295	3′903
Ukraine	548	18'876	5′632
Hungary	467	3′556	1'412
Dominican Republic	441	13′223	6'613
Chile	509	49′579	21′507
Argentina	382		2′625
Czechia	302		5′725
Finland	301		5′000
Saudi Arabia	329	59'854	31'634
Bangladesh	370	25′121	4′993
Israel	277	16'650	13′299
S. Korea	263	11'078	9′938
Panama	279	9′726	6′081
Norway	233		32
Serbia	234		4′904
South Africa	286		7′298
UAE	227	25'063	10′791
Moldova	221	6′340	2′508
Morocco	193	7′023	3′901
Nigeria	191	6′175	1'644
Greece	165	2′840	1′374
Belarus	175	31′508	10'620
Bolivia	174	4′263	503
Afghanistan	178	7′653	850
Cameroon	140	3′529	1′567
Honduras	146	2′798	340
Bosnia and Herzegovina	134		1′522
raq	131		2′366
Malaysia	114		5′646
Luxembourg	107		3′715
Slovenia	104	1′467	1′335
Bulgaria	112	2′259	646
Australia	100	7′068	6′413
North Macedonia	106	1′839	1′351
Croatia	96		1′967
Sudan	105	2′591	247
Kuwait	121		4′681
Cuba	79	1′881	1′505
stonia	64	1′791	938
Thailand	56	3′033	2′857
_ithuania	60		1′025
Somalia	57		163
Burkina Faso	51	796	652
DRC	61	1′538	272
Armenia	64	5′041	2′164
Niger	55		714
Andorra	51		628
Tunisia	46		819
	53		529

Channel Islands	43	555	475
Kenya	50	963	358
Chad	56	545	139
San Marino	41	655	211
Azerbaijan	41	3′518	2'198
Kazakhstan	35	6′751	3′598
Albania	31	949	742
Guatemala	38	2′001	139
Tajikistan	41	1′936	0
Slovakia	28	1′495	1'192
Lebanon	26	954	251
Sierra Leone	33	519	148
-	31	5′918	1′754
Ghana	28	2′119	1′040
Ivory Coast	30	2′617	1′133
Senegal			
Isle of Man	24	335	296
Singapore	22	28′794	10'365
New Zealand	21	1′503	1'442
Tanzania	21	509	183
El Salvador	30	1'498	502
Liberia	23	233	125
Latvia	21	1′012	694
Uruguay	20	737	569
Haiti	21	533	21
Oman	27	5′671	1'574
Cyprus	17	918	515
Sint Maarten	15	77	54
Qatar	15	35′606	5'634
Guinea	16	2′796	1'263
Mayotte	18	1′370	627
Martinique	14	192	91
Diamond Princess	13	712	651
Guadeloupe	13	155	109
Kyrgyzstan	14	1′243	898
Georgia	12	707	456
Yemen	20	130	1
	13	2′825	2′338
Uzbekistan	11	829	230
Paraguay	15	420	132
Congo	15	330	
Togo			106
Bahamas	11	96	43
Bahrain	12	7′374	2′952
Iceland	10	1′802	1′789
Venezuela	10	618	253
Mauritius	10	332	322
Guyana	10	124	45
Gabon	11	1′432	301
Sri Lanka	9	1′021	569
Jordan	9	629	413
Jamaica	9	520	131
Montenegro	9	324	312
Costa Rica	10	866	575
Bermuda	9	125	77
Trinidad and Tobago	8	116	107
Nicaragua	8	25	7
Zambia	7	772	192
Taiwan	7	440	401
Barbados	7	88	68
Equatorial Guinea	7	719	22
	6	569	460
Malta	7		
Sao Tome and Principe		246	4
Myanmar	6	191	101
Ethiopia	5	365	120
Hong Kong	4	1'056	1'025

- German chancellor Angela Merkel and the central European leaders on Tuesday agreed on gradually reopening border crossings and lifting controls as soon as the coronavirus pandemic allows. The announcement came after Merkel and the Prime Ministers of the Visegrad nations Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia spoke today, according to a statement by the German Chancellor's spokesperson Steffen Seibert. The leaders "had an intensive exchange of views on the respective measures for further containment of the Covid-19 pandemic'," the statement said, adding that "they agreed it was in their interest to gradually remove existing border restrictions and controls as soon as the pandemic situation allows."
- Seventy schools in France have closed after a spike in suspected coronavirus infections, the French
 Education Ministry told Tuesday, adding that there have not been any confirmed cases in schools since
 they re-opened.
- Experts have called for better national coordination to protect the elderly in care homes from future pandemics. A newspaper reports that more than half the Covid-19 deaths originated from infections within such establishments. A Tages Anzeiger survey found that 53% of all people who died as a result of coronavirus infection were care home residents. The results varied from canton to canton, with Zurich, Basel City and Vaud reporting a care home death rate of at least 60% with the figure dropping to 41% in Geneva.



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).

Sources

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