

Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19

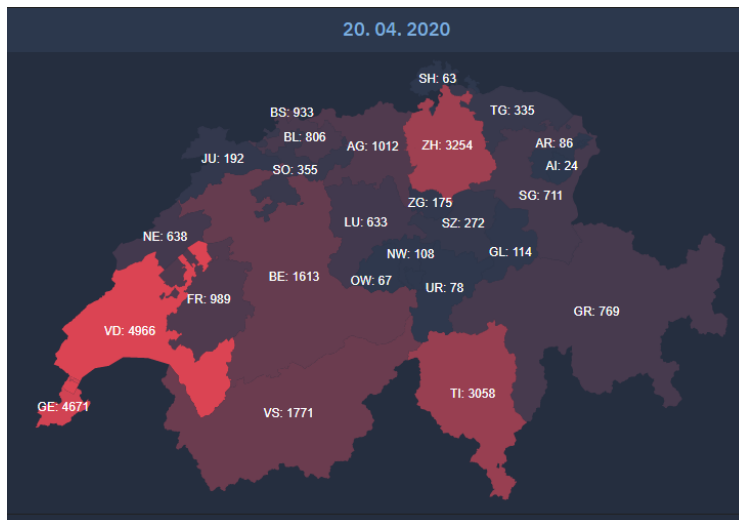
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- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 167,893 worldwide, with the highest number of deaths in USA (41,316) and Italy (24,114). There have been more than 2,442,264 global cases in 210 countries and territories.
- Covid-19 survivors in England are being asked to donate blood plasma for a potential trial that, if approved, may help those currently ill with the virus. NHS Blood and Transplant hopes to test how effective antibodies in the "convalescent" plasma of recently recovered patients might be in treating those fighting the infection. In order to give plasma for this trial, donors must have recovered from coronavirus at least 28 days ago, and meet a series of criteria.
- Switzerland: Health Minister Alain Berset is in Graubünden today and met with parts of the government there. He also visited a company for respiratory equipment. At the media conference, the city council asserted that Switzerland was not yet over the mountain with regard to coronavirus. Berset also announced the opening of restaurants and bars on June 8. "If everything goes well by then, we can be generous on June 8th."
- Hong Kong reported no new confirmed cases of novel coronavirus on Monday for the first time in more than six weeks, according to a statement by the city's Centre for Health Protection.
- Angela Merkel addressed her concerns over Germany's next steps in confronting the coronavirus at a press conference in Berlin today. *"We must not become careless and lull ourselves into a false sense of security,"* Merkel said. *"We must remain disciplined ... My fear is that we must not lose our focus at the inception of this pandemic. Preventing a relapse is not only in the interest of ourselves but also for our economy and social and public life",* she said. *"What we don't want is another shutdown,"* she added.
- America's acting Department of Homeland Security secretary, Chad Wolf, has announced that the US, Mexico and Canada are extending restrictions on non-essential travel across their shared borders for another 30 days.
- As the curve of new coronavirus cases begins to flatten in Italy, talks between the regions and the national government on the so-called "Phase 2" of restrictions are intensifying. Phase 2 is the next stage of Italy's attempts to contain its devastating coronavirus epidemic; it is expected to see the government gradually reopen the country's economy following the advice of its scientific committee. "The data indicates that the number of people with symptoms are decreasing and that the curve is in a decreasing phase. It shows a country with different zones, with a different circulation intensity," Silvio Brusaferrò, head of the National Institute of Health said during a press conference on Friday.
- Russia has quarantined thousands of soldiers who took part in rehearsals for a Victory Day parade that appeared to flout physical distancing guidelines brought in to stem the country's coronavirus outbreak.
- infectious.
- Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) does not help clear the SARS-CoV-2 virus or relieve symptoms for COVID-19 patients more than standard care alone and has more side effects, a randomized controlled trial of 150 hospitalized adults in China suggests. However, two experts caution that because of confounding, the trial is unable to answer convincingly the question of whether HCQ can benefit COVID-19 patients.

Countries	Deaths	Cases	Recovered
USA	41'316	770'076	71'489
Italy	24'114	181'228	48'877
Spain	20'852	200'210	80'587
France	19'718	152'894	36'578
UK	16'509	124'743	N/A
Iran	5'209	83'505	59'273
Belgium	5'828	39'983	8'895
China	4'632	82'747	77'084
Germany	4'669	146'200	91'500
Netherlands	3'751	33'405	250
Brazil	2'504	39'384	22'130
Turkey	2'017	86'306	11'976
Switzerland	1'427	27'944	17'800
Sweden	1'580	14'777	550
Canada	1'618	35'708	12'197
Portugal	735	20'863	610
Indonesia	590	6'760	747
Austria	470	14'795	10'631
India	559	17'615	2'854
Ireland	610	15'251	77
Ecuador	474	9'468	1'061
Romania	469	8'936	2'017
Philippines	428	6'459	613
Mexico	686	8'261	2'627
Algeria	384	2'718	1'099
Denmark	364	7'515	4'312
Poland	380	9'593	1'133
S. Korea	236	10'674	8'114
Peru	400	15'628	6'811
Dominican Republic	235	4'964	416
Russia	405	47'121	3'446
Egypt	239	3'144	732
Czechia	194	6'838	1'559
Japan	236	10'797	1'159
Norway	171	7'122	32
Morocco	143	2'990	340
Hungary	199	1'984	267
Israel	173	13'654	3'872
Colombia	179	3'792	711
Argentina	136	2'941	737
Greece	116	2'245	269
Ukraine	151	5'710	359
Pakistan	176	8'418	1'970
Serbia	125	6'630	870
Panama	126	4'467	165
Chile	139	10'507	4'676
Malaysia	89	5'425	3'295
Iraq	82	1'539	1'009
Saudi Arabia	103	10'484	1'490
Luxembourg	75	3'558	637
Finland	98	3'868	1'700
Australia	71	6'619	4'258
Slovenia	77	1'335	193
Bangladesh	101	2'948	85
North Macedonia	54	1'225	200
Thailand	47	2'792	1'999
Bosnia and Herzegovina	49	1'309	381
Moldova	68	2'548	457
San Marino	39	462	61
Bulgaria	43	929	167
Tunisia	38	879	148
Belarus	51	6'264	514
Croatia	47	1'881	771
Estonia	40	1'535	165
Andorra	36	713	235
Bolivia	33	564	31
South Africa	54	3'158	903
Burkina Faso	36	576	338
Lithuania	37	1'326	242
Honduras	46	477	25
UAE	43	7'265	1'360
Albania	26	584	327
Afghanistan	36	1'026	135
Cuba	36	1'087	285
Lebanon	21	677	103
DRC	25	327	27
Armenia	22	1'339	580
Kazakhstan	19	1'775	428
Cameroon	42	1'017	305
Azerbaijan	19	1'436	791
Niger	20	648	117
Mali	14	224	42
Diamond Princess	13	712	644
Cyprus	12	772	81
Singapore	11	8'014	768
Nigeria	21	627	170

New Zealand	12	1'440	974
Channel Islands	21	488	73
Mauritius	9	328	224
Kenya	14	281	69
Venezuela	9	256	117
Sint Maarten	10	67	12
Iceland	10	1'773	1'362
Ghana	9	1'042	99
Uruguay	10	528	298
Guadeloupe	8	148	73
Trinidad and Tobago	8	114	21
Bahamas	9	60	11
Qatar	9	6'015	555
Bahrain	7	1'895	769
Jordan	7	417	276
Sri Lanka	7	304	98
Paraguay	8	208	46
Ivory Coast	9	847	260
Taiwan	6	422	203
Martinique	12	163	73
El Salvador	7	218	46
Liberia	8	99	7
Guyana	7	65	9
Latvia	5	739	88
Kyrgyzstan	7	568	201
Guatemala	7	289	21
Congo	6	160	16
Bermuda	5	86	35
Sudan	12	92	8
Uzbekistan	5	1'604	261
Hong Kong	4	1'026	630
Oman	7	1'410	238
Montenegro	5	312	88
Jamaica	5	196	27
Barbados	5	75	19
Myanmar	5	111	7
Kuwait	9	1'995	367
Costa Rica	6	660	112
Malta	3	431	126
Georgia	4	402	95
Mayotte	4	271	117
Ethiopia	3	111	16
Togo	5	84	52
Tanzania	7	170	11
Haiti	3	47	0
Zimbabwe	3	25	2
Slovakia	13	1'173	251
Djibouti	2	846	102
Palestine	3	449	71
Senegal	5	377	235
Isle of Man	9	300	200
Somalia	7	164	3
Zambia	3	65	35
Saint Martin	2	37	19
Syria	3	39	5
Antigua and Barbuda	3	23	3
Angola	2	24	6
Belize	2	18	2
Malawi	2	17	3
MS Zaandam	2	9	0
Brunei	1	138	116
Monaco	3	94	22
Liechtenstein	1	81	55
Gabon	1	109	7
Cayman Islands	1	61	7
Benin	1	54	27
Libya	1	51	11

- Sex, gender and COVID-19: Data collected from many countries around the world suggest that men and women are equally likely to acquire COVID-19, but men have a higher risk of severe illness and death. Looking at data for 18 different countries, the Global Health 50/50 project found similar numbers of COVID-19 cases in men and women, except in Pakistan where 72% of cases were male. In all countries that report death rates by sex, men diagnosed with COVID-19 are more likely to die. The male/female ratio of deaths among confirmed cases ranges from 1.1 in Iran to 2.1 in Denmark (see chart above) and Greece. The ratio of male/female death rates tends to be higher in older people: it is consistently above 2 in people aged 60 years and over, and more than 3 among men and women aged 70–79 years in Italy.
- What role do children play in the transmission dynamics of the COVID-19 epidemic? One of the analyses shows that young folks are much less susceptible than older people, and possibly slightly less
- The crisis has shifted people’s priorities, writes NZZ am Sonntag, whose source is a survey by the Postfinance bank. For example, since tough measures were introduced in mid-March they have spent 53% less on hygiene and cosmetics than a year ago. Why put on make-up if you never leave the house, asks the paper. Spending on clothes has fallen by more than half and spending on shoes by more than 80%. Basic services have become more important, with Swiss consumers spending significantly more (+18.6%) on food.



- **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://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/pa>

Sources

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