

Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19

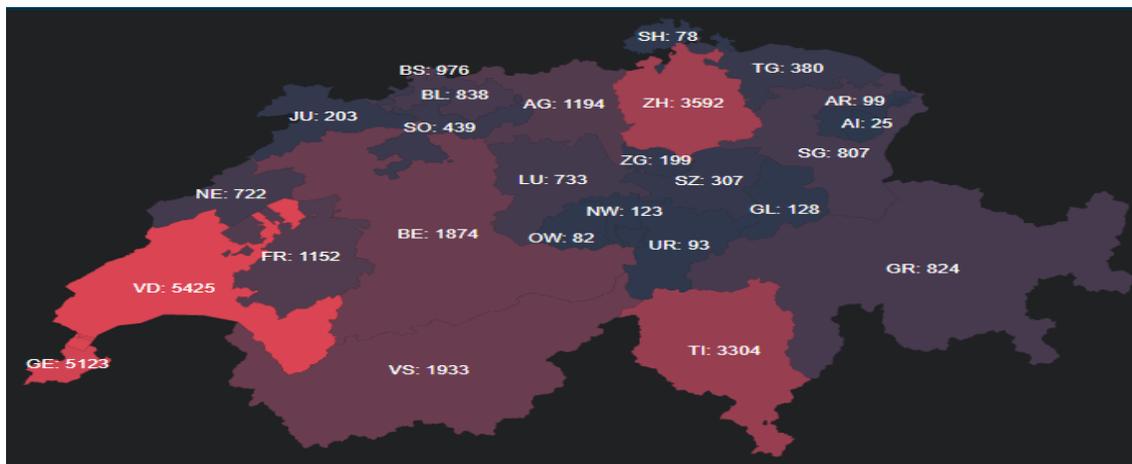
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- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 336,000 worldwide, with the highest number of deaths in USA (96,868) and UK (36,393). There have been more than 5,246,000 global cases in 210 countries and territories.
- *“One of the most essential services that has been disrupted is routine childhood immunization. Today, WHO is publishing new guidance on implementing mass vaccination campaigns in the context of COVID-19. WHO, Unicef and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and other partners are working to ensure that the pandemic does not reverse decades of progress against vaccine preventable childhood diseases. Today, I am pleased to be joined by UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore and Seth Berkley, CEO of GAVI. Since the turn of the century, child mortality has been halved, in large part because of the power of safe and effective vaccination. However, we’re here today to collectively reinforce the warning that COVID-19 threatens to undermine life-saving immunization services around the world”, said WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros during a media briefing. “As the world comes together to develop a safe and effective vaccine for COVID-19, we must not forget the dozens of lifesaving vaccines that already exist and must continue to reach children everywhere. WHO is working with governments to ensure supply chains remain open and lifesaving health services are reaching all communities. The epidemic of misinformation has also harmed vaccination in recent years and we call on everyone to do more to prevent rumors and pseudo-science from undermining public health efforts that save millions of lives”, he added.*
- Patients with chronic liver disease or cirrhosis have high mortality rates from the Covid-19 virus, according to a new study conducted by Oxford University Hospitals in the UK and the University of North Carolina in the US. The researchers found that patients with cirrhosis -- scarring of the liver caused by long-term damage -- had an overall death rate of 40%. Cirrhosis is often caused by excessive alcohol consumption over many years, prolonged hepatitis infections, or excess fat build-up around the liver, according to the UK's National Health Service (NHS). Researchers studied clinical records from 21 countries encompassing 152 patients with chronic liver disease and cirrhosis who developed Covid-19. The study, published in the Journal of Hepatology, said: "Those with advanced disease called 'decompensated cirrhosis' had the highest rate of death (between 43 and 63%), compared with 12% for patients with liver disease but without cirrhosis."
- A little over a month ago, health experts were saying Japan risked becoming one of the world’s coronavirus “disaster zones”. Its government was already facing criticism over its decision to quarantine passengers and crew onboard the cruise liner, and had been accused of underplaying the Covid-19 threat while it clung to the increasingly faint hope of this summer. Japan was testing too few people, critics said, opting instead to focus on clusters of cases rather than overburden its healthcare system with patients displaying no or only mild symptoms who, by law, had to be admitted to hospital. One of the world’s richest countries was bungling its response, critics said. But today, Japan can make a strong case for being another coronavirus success story, albeit one that has failed to resonate globally in the same way as those in South Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Countries	Deaths	Cases	Recovered
USA	96'686	1'627'621	383'480
UK	36'393	254'195	N/A
Italy	32'616	228'658	136'720
France	28'215	181'826	63'858
Spain	27'940	280'117	196'958
Brazil	20'112	312'074	125'960
Belgium	9'212	56'511	15'123
Germany	8'325	179'381	159'000
Iran	7'300	131'652	102'276
Mexico	6'510	59'567	40'657
Canada	6'152	81'324	41'715
Netherlands	5'788	44'888	N/A
China	4'634	82'971	78'255
Turkey	4'249	153'548	114'990
Sweden	3'925	32'809	4'971
India	3'707	124'073	50'857
Russia	3'249	326'448	99'825
Peru	3'148	108'769	43'587
Ecuador	2'939	35'306	3'557
Switzerland	1'903	30'707	27'900
Ireland	1'583	24'391	21'060
Indonesia	1'326	20'796	5'057
Portugal	1'289	30'200	7'590
Romania	1'166	17'712	10'777
Pakistan	1'067	50'694	15'201
Poland	982	20'619	8'731
Philippines	857	13'597	3'092
Japan	777	16'424	12'672
Egypt	696	15'003	4'217
Colombia	652	18'330	4'431
Austria	635	16'436	15'005
Chile	630	61'857	25'342
Ukraine	588	20'148	6'585
Algeria	582	7'918	4'256
Denmark	561	11'230	9'764
Hungary	476	3'678	1'587
Dominican Republic	456	13'989	7'572
Bangladesh	432	30'205	6'190
Argentina	419	9'931	3'062
South Africa	369	19'137	8'950
Saudi Arabia	364	67'719	39'003
Czechia	306	8'757	5'932
Finland	306	6'537	4'800
Panama	291	10'116	6'245
Israel	279	16'690	13'915
S. Korea	264	11'142	10'162
UAE	237	26'898	12'755
Serbia	237	11'024	5'541
Norway	235	8'322	7'727
Moldova	233	6'704	2'953
Bolivia	215	5'187	561
Nigeria	211	7'016	1'907
Afghanistan	205	9'216	996
Morocco	197	7'300	4'347
Belarus	190	34'303	12'833
Greece	169	2'874	1'374
Cameroon	156	4'288	1'808
Honduras	156	3'204	397
Iraq	147	3'964	2'532
Bosnia and Herzegovina	141	2'372	1'614
Kuwait	138	19'564	5'515
Bulgaria	125	2'372	769
Sudan	121	3'138	309
Malaysia	115	7'137	5'859
North Macedonia	112	1'921	1'387
Luxembourg	109	3'981	3'748
Slovenia	106	1'468	1'340
Australia	101	7'095	6'479
Croatia	99	2'243	2'011

Cuba	81	1'916	1'631
Armenia	74	5'928	2'874
Estonia	64	1'807	1'508
DRC	63	1'945	312
Lithuania	61	1'604	1'111
Somalia	61	1'594	204
Mali	60	947	558
Niger	60	924	753
Chad	58	588	186
Thailand	56	3'037	2'910
Burkina Faso	52	812	669
Andorra	51	762	639
Kenya	50	1'161	380
Guatemala	48	2'512	222
Tunisia	47	1'046	883
Azerbaijan	46	3'855	2'399
Channel Islands	45	558	508
Tajikistan	44	2'350	1'008
San Marino	41	661	254
Sierra Leone	38	606	230
Kazakhstan	35	7'597	4'096
Senegal	33	2'909	1'311
El Salvador	33	1'725	562
Yemen	33	197	5
Oman	32	6'794	1'821
Ghana	31	6'486	1'951
Albania	31	981	777
Ivory Coast	29	2'301	1'100
Slovakia	28	1'503	1'256
Lebanon	26	1'086	663
Haiti	25	734	21
Isle of Man	24	336	303
Liberia	24	249	136
Singapore	23	30'426	12'995
Latvia	22	1'030	712
New Zealand	21	1'504	1'455
Tanzania	21	509	183
Uruguay	20	749	594
Qatar	19	40'481	7'893
Mayotte	19	1'475	894
Guinea	18	3'067	1'575
Cyprus	17	927	561
Nicaragua	17	279	199
Congo	16	469	137
Sint Maarten	15	77	59
Kyrgyzstan	14	1'350	939
Martinique	14	192	91
Uzbekistan	13	3'006	2'407
Diamond Princess	13	712	651
Guadeloupe	13	155	109
Bahrain	12	8'369	4'004
Gabon	12	1'567	365
Georgia	12	723	495
Togo	12	354	118
Equatorial Guinea	11	960	165
Paraguay	11	836	256
Bahamas	11	97	44
Djibouti	10	2'047	1'055
Iceland	10	1'803	1'791
Costa Rica	10	903	592
Venezuela	10	882	262
Mauritius	10	332	322
Guyana	10	127	57
Sri Lanka	9	1'060	620
Jordan	9	700	461
Jamaica	9	534	181
Montenegro	9	324	314
Bermuda	9	125	80
Sao Tome and Principe	8	251	4
Trinidad and Tobago	8	116	108

- Researchers found the under-20s appeared to be 56% less likely of catching the virus. But the review of global test and tracing and population screening studies led University College London said evidence remained “weak” on how likely children were to transmit the virus to others. Researchers also concluded they did not have sufficient data to examine whether children under 12 differed to teenagers in terms of susceptibility to the virus. The research’s lead author, Prof Russell Viner of the UCL Great Ormond Street Ins, said it was the “first comprehensive study” to review what was and was not known about “susceptibility and transmission” among children. Susceptibility is a key part of the chain of infection, and this supports the view that children are likely to play a smaller role in transmitting the virus and proliferating the pandemic, although considerable uncertainty remains.
- The Madrid region and the Barcelona metropolitan area will be able to move into the next phase of lockdown de-escalation from Monday, the Spanish government has announced. The two regions have been the areas hardest hit by Covid-19, which has so far killed 27,940 people in the country and infected 233,037. India has reported 6,000 new cases in its biggest one-day rise since the outbreak started. The country has also reported over 118,000 confirmed cases – around a 5% increase from yesterday. Indonesia has reported 973 new infections – its highest number of daily coronavirus cases – bringing the country’s total cases to 20,162.



- **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

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Sources

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