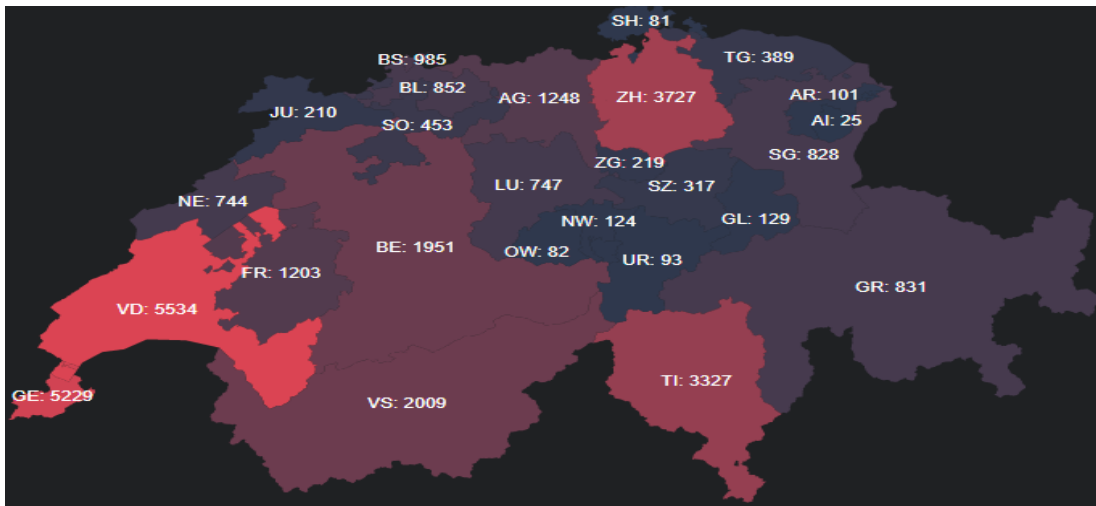# Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19
25.06.2020

- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 486,260 worldwide, with the highest number of deaths in USA (124,422) and Brazil (53,895). There have been more than 9,591 ,300 global cases in 210 countries and territories.

- Coronavirus is resurgent across Europe after restrictions were eased in many countries, the WHO said. There was an increase in weekly cases, last week for the "first time in months," WHO Europe chief Henri Kluge said at a press conference in Copenhagen. Kluge said he had warned of the "risk of resurgence" as countries eased lockdown measures. Thirty countries in Europe have recorded increases in cumulative cases in the past fortnight, he said. Kluge added that accelerated transmission in 11 countries "has led to very significant resurgence that if left unchecked will push health systems to the brink once again in Europe." Kluge cited Poland, Germany and Spain as examples of countries which responded quickly to new outbreaks of Covid-19 in schools, coal mines and food production facilities. "Rapid and targeted interventions," by those countries helped to control the transmission. Kluge also emphasized the role that digital technology can play in the suppression of outbreaks. "We need to get smarter in using the evidence and information we have from our Covid-19 surveillance systems," he said.

- The Swiss government announced that a tracing programme is available to the public across Switzerland today. Interior Minister Alain Berset called for a widespread use of a smartphone application, known as SwissCovid, to complement the conventional tracking of infections by the cantonal authorities. "It is key that a maximum of people downloads the app but its use remains voluntary," Berset explained. Parliament earlier this month agreed the legal basis for the use of the app amid concerns about data protection. It follows a technical trial phase of several weeks. The app uses Bluetooth waves to allow smartphones to communicate with each other anonymously, allowing app stores users to be notified if they came into contact with infected people.

- The WHO has warned that hospitals are facing a shortage in oxygen concentrators, which are needed to support the breathing of Covid-19 patients suffering from respiratory distress, as 1 million new cases of coronavirus are confirmed worldwide per week.

- The Swiss government has agreed to foot the bill for medical tests for coronavirus infections to encourage the population to participate in prevention efforts. Interior Minister Alain Berset said the government would take over the costs for an average of 8,000 tests daily this year. *"Cost must not be hurdle for anybody,"* he told a news conference. Berset stressed the importance of testing as part of the policy to respect hygiene rules, including keeping a 1.5-metere distance from other people and tracking of cases of infections. He added that it is key to seek a test even in cases of light symptoms.

- The Covid-19 pandemic is subsiding in Europe, but getting worse globally with the number of infections expected to reach 10 million, the head of the WHO Dr. Tedros said. Speaking via video-conference with members of the European Parliament's health committee, he said that once the pandemic was over, the world should not return to its previous state, but build a "new normal" that would be fairer, greener and help prevent climate change.

Countries	Deaths	Cases	Recovered
USA	124,422	2,474,962	1,040,711
Brazil	53,895	1,193,609	649,908
UK	43,230	307,980	N/A
Italy	34,644	239,410	186,111
France	29,731	161,348	75,127
Spain	28,327	294,166	N/A
Mexico	24,324	196,847	149,318
India	15,042	481,179	277,765
Iran	10,130	215,096	175,103
Belgium	9,726	61,007	16,890
Germany	9,003	193,281	176,800
Canada	8,501	102,573	65,361
Russia	8,605	613,994	375,164
Peru	8,586	264,689	151,589
Netherlands	6,100	49,914	N/A
Sweden	5,230	63,890	N/A
Turkey	5,025	191,657	164,234
China	4,634	83,449	78,443
Chile	4,731	254,416	215,093
Ecuador	4,274	51,643	24,991
Pakistan	3,903	192,970	81,307
Indonesia	2,620	50,187	20,449
Switzerland	1,958	31,428	29,000
Colombia	2,491	77,113	31,671
Egypt	2,450	59,561	15,935
South Africa	2,205	111,796	56,874
Ireland	1,726	25,396	23,364
Portugal	1,549	40,415	26,382
Romania	1,565	25,286	17,906
Bangladesh	1,621	126,606	51,495
Poland	1,412	33,119	18,654
Saudi Arabia	1,428	170,639	117,882
Philippines	1,212	33,069	8,910
Ukraine	1,067	40,008	17,758
Argentina	1,124	49,851	14,788
Japan	963	18,024	16,263
Iraq	1,437	39,139	18,051
Algeria	878	12,445	8,920
Bolivia	876	27,487	6,795
Austria	698	17,477	16,320
Dominican Republic	698	29,141	16,223
Denmark	603	12,636	11,460
Hungary	577	4,123	2,640
Afghanistan	675	30,175	10,174
Sudan	548	8,889	3,699
Panama	547	28,030	14,794
Nigeria	542	22,020	7,613
Moldova	502	15,453	8,599
Guatemala	601	14,819	2,930
Honduras	417	14,571	1,546
Belarus	367	60,382	41,448
Czechia	345	10,830	7,649
Finland	327	7,172	6,600
Armenia	397	22,488	11,335
Kuwait	339	42,788	33,367
Israel	308	22,139	15,961
UAE	308	46,563	35,165
Cameroon	313	12,592	10,100
S. Korea	282	12,563	10,974
Serbia	264	13,372	12,154
Yemen	274	1,015	379
Norway	249	8,788	8,138
North Macedonia	265	5,595	2,166
Morocco	216	11,279	8,488
Bulgaria	209	4,242	2,263
Greece	191	3,321	1,374
Bosnia and Herzegovina	175	3,796	2,322
Azerbaijan	180	14,852	8,059
Oman	144	34,902	18,520
DRC	142	6,411	885
Malaysia	121	8,600	8,271
Kenya	132	5,384	1,857
Kazakhstan	140	19,285	12,220
Luxembourg	110	4,151	3,968
Slovenia	109	1,547	1,376

Mali	112	2,005	1,354
Croatia	107	2,483	2,149
Australia	104	7,558	6,931
Mauritania	116	3,519	1,074
Qatar	106	91,838	74,544
Somalia	90	2,878	868
El Salvador	126	5,336	3,116
Cuba	85	2,321	2,171
Haiti	92	5,429	512
Senegal	94	6,233	4,162
Lithuania	78	1,806	1,494
Chad	74	860	770
Ethiopia	81	5,175	1,544
Ghana	95	15,473	11,431
Estonia	69	1,984	1,790
Niger	67	1,056	917
Nicaragua	74	2,170	1,238
Thailand	58	3,158	3,038
Bahrain	70	23,570	17,977
Burkina Faso	53	934	826
Andorra	52	855	797
Tajikistan	52	5,691	4,267
Sierra Leone	55	1,354	869
Tunisia	50	1,162	1,023
Ivory Coast	58	8,164	3,419
Channel Islands	47	571	512
Djibouti	52	4,635	4,269
Albania	49	2,192	1,250
San Marino	42	698	653
Liberia	34	681	278
Gabon	39	4,956	2,177
Kyrgyzstan	43	3,954	2,112
South Sudan	36	1,942	224
Equatorial Guinea	32	1,664	515
Lebanon	33	1,662	1,144
Latvia	30	1,111	903
Mayotte	32	2,508	2,218
Venezuela	38	4,366	1,327
Slovakia	28	1,630	1,452
Congo	37	1,087	456
Singapore	26	42,736	36,604
Guinea	29	5,174	3,861
Uruguay	26	902	815
Isle of Man	24	336	312
Nepal	26	11,162	2,650
New Zealand	22	1,519	1,484
Tanzania	21	509	183
Uzbekistan	20	7,087	4,724
CAR	38	3,099	572
Cyprus	19	991	824
Guinea-Bissau	19	1,556	191
Sint Maarten	15	77	62
Georgia	14	917	776
Martinique	14	236	98
Guadeloupe	14	174	157
Madagascar	16	1,829	823
Paraguay	13	1,528	944
Diamond Princess	13	712	651
Togo	14	583	392
Costa Rica	12	2,515	1,210
Sao Tome and Principe	13	710	211
Guyana	12	209	107
Sri Lanka	11	2,010	1,602
Zambia	18	1,497	1,223
Benin	14	1,017	288
Bahamas	11	104	83
Iceland	10	1,830	1,811
Jamaica	10	678	521
Libya	18	670	138

- Volunteers in the UK, Brazil and South Africa received their first doses of an experimental vaccine as part of a human trial run by Oxford University, as cases continue to rise and concerns grow over potential access to life-saving treatments.
- Israel is experiencing an alarming surge in new coronavirus cases, which has prompted the government to approve the reimposing of a controversial tracking system administered by the country's domestic security agency, the Shin Bet. Cases in the country have risen again after Israel eased restrictions at the end of May, a move that coincided with the Shavuot holiday and resulted in crowded beaches on both the Mediterranean and around the Sea of Galilee. Amid mounting concern over the resurgence of the virus – and criticism of the government's 'muddled' response – one senior health official warned: "We may have opened too quickly. The public is not disciplined or wearing masks," said Sigal Sadetzky, the head of public health services at Israel's health ministry.
- China reported 19 newly confirmed cases of coronavirus amid mass testing in Beijing, where a recent outbreak appears to have been brought under control. Of the new cases it reported on Thursday, 13 were in Beijing and one in the neighbouring province of Hebei. Officials say the other five were brought by Chinese travelers from outside the country. No new deaths were reported.

- **Funding opportunity for researchers**

  PRACE (Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe) Fast Track Call for Proposals
  - https://prace-ri.eu/prace-support-to-mitigate-impact-of-covid-19-pandemic/

  The US Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program - a call for proposals on COVID-19
  - https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/ProgramFY.htm?programFYId=256400

  Fast Funding for COVID-19 Science - Applications are paused
  - https://fastgrants.org/

  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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