

Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19

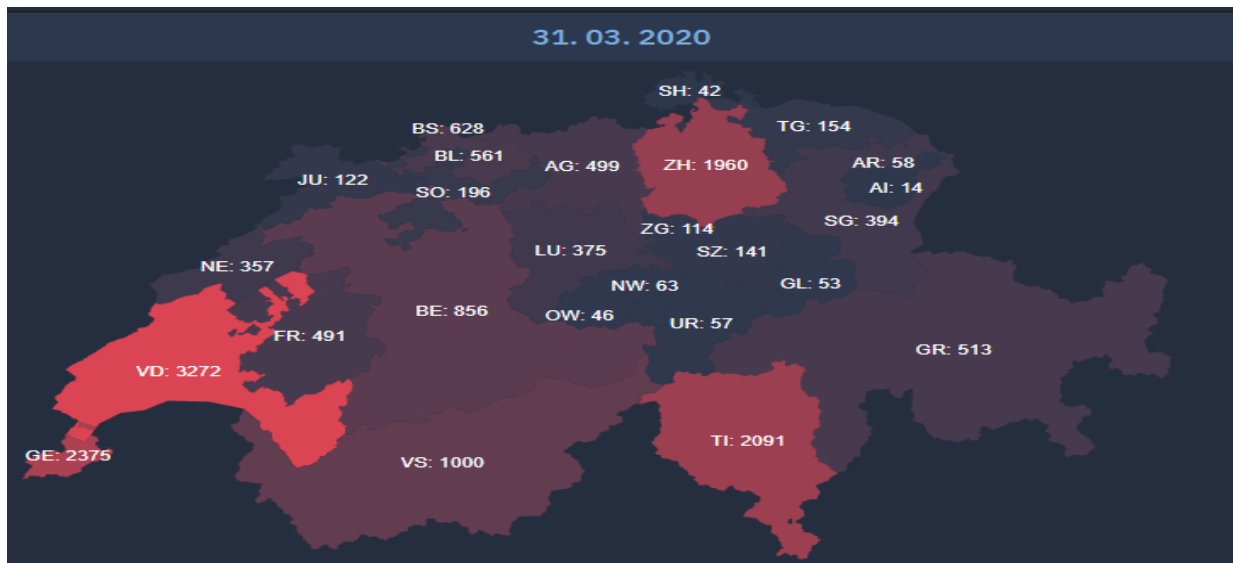
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- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 39,000 worldwide, with the vast majority in Italy (12,428) and Spain (8,269). There have been more than 824,500 global cases in 203 countries.
- The rapidly increasing demand on health facilities and health care workers threatens to leave some health systems overstretched and unable to operate effectively. To help countries navigate through these challenges, the WHO has updated operational planning guidelines in balancing the demands of responding directly to COVID-19 while maintaining essential health service delivery, and mitigating the risk of system collapse. This includes a set of targeted immediate actions that countries should consider at national, regional, and local level to reorganize and maintain access to high-quality essential health services for all.
- The Department of Immunology at the University Hospital in Bern has been working on a vaccine since January. Initial sequences of the virus were quickly isolated. The vaccine has already been tested on animals. Meanwhile, Peter Burkhard, an immunologist with a private laboratory in canton Basel City, has also developed a precursor of the Covid-19 vaccine, which has been tested on animals and he is now testing on himself. "The scientific community has responded much more effectively to the Covid-19 outbreak than to the SARS outbreak," Francesco Stellacci, professor at Lausanne's Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL) said.
- The Swiss government has appointed a scientific advisory body to assist the authorities in overcoming the crisis. The task force is headed by Matthias Egger, epidemiologist and president of the National Research Council of the SNSF.
- The Zurich University Hospital (USZ) takes a test with "tests". From Wednesday, all patients entering the hospital should be tested for the coronavirus, even if they do not have any symptoms. This was announced by the USZ at a media conference today. *"We simply want the highest possible level of safety for our patients and our employees,"* said CEO Gregor Zünd.
- Scientists in Germany have announced what they described as a first-of-its-kind study into how coronavirus spreads and how it can be contained using the country's worst-hit district as a real-life laboratory, reports Kate Connolly from Berlin. The virus has spread more widely among the 250,000 residents of Heinsberg – a district in North Rhine-Westphalia bordering the Netherlands – than anywhere else in Germany, with 1,281 confirmed infections and 34 deaths.
- As China started systematically testing, tracing and isolating patients, new cases there declined dramatically, showing that it was possible to slow the virus. Similar measures slowed the spread in Singapore, Hong Kong and South Korea.
- The European Commission president, Ursula von der Leyen, has urged countries to respect Europe's "fundamental principles and values" as they impose emergency restrictions to slow the spread of the coronavirus.
- Spain has recorded a record new single-day coronavirus death toll after 849 people died from the virus between Monday and Tuesday.

Countries	Cases	Deaths	Recovered
USA	175'669	3'424	6'241
Italy	105'792	12'428	15'729
Spain	94'417	8'269	19'259
China	81'518	3'305	76'052
Germany	68'180	682	15'824
Iran	44'605	2'898	14'656
France	44'550	3'024	7'927
UK	25'150	1'789	135
Switzerland	16'186	395	1'823
Belgium	12'775	705	1'696
Netherlands	12'595	1'039	250
Turkey	10'827	168	162
Austria	10'088	128	1'095
S. Korea	9'786	162	5'408
Canada	7'474	92	1'114
Portugal	7'443	160	43
Israel	4'831	17	163
Brazil	4'715	168	127
Norway	4'605	39	13
Australia	4'561	19	337
Sweden	4'435	180	16
Czechia	3'138	25	25
Ireland	2'910	54	5
Denmark	2'860	90	1
Malaysia	2'766	43	537
Chile	2'738	12	156
Russia	2'337	17	121
Romania	2'245	79	220
Ecuador	2'240	75	54
Poland	2'215	32	7
Luxembourg	2'178	23	80
Philippines	2'084	88	49
Japan	1'953	56	424
Pakistan	1'914	26	76
Thailand	1'651	10	342
Saudi Arabia	1'563	10	165
Indonesia	1'528	136	81
Finland	1'418	17	10
South Africa	1'353	3	31
Greece	1'314	49	52
India	1'251	32	102
Iceland	1'135	2	198
Dominican Republic	1'109	51	5
Mexico	1'094	28	35
Panama	1'075	27	9
Argentina	966	26	240
Peru	950	24	53
Singapore	926	3	240
Serbia	900	23	42
Croatia	867	6	67
Slovenia	802	15	10
Colombia	798	14	15
Estonia	745	4	26
Algeria	716	44	46
Hong Kong	714	4	128
Diamond Princess	712	10	603
Qatar	693	1	51
UAE	664	6	61
Egypt	656	41	150
New Zealand	647	1	74
Iraq	630	46	152
Morocco	574	33	15
Bahrain	567	4	295
Ukraine	549	13	8
Lithuania	537	8	7
Armenia	532	3	30
Hungary	492	16	37
Lebanon	463	12	37
Bosnia and Herzegovina	411	12	17
Bulgaria	399	8	17
Latvia	398	0	1
Andorra	370	8	10
Slovakia	363	0	3
Tunisia	362	10	3
Moldova	353	4	18
Kazakhstan	340	2	22
Costa Rica	330	2	4
North Macedonia	329	9	12
Taiwan	322	5	39
Uruguay	320	1	25
Azerbaijan	298	5	26
Kuwait	289	0	73
Jordan	268	5	26
Cyprus	262	8	23
Réunion	247	0	1
Burkina Faso	246	12	31
Albania	243	13	52
San Marino	230	25	13
Vietnam	207	0	58
Cameroon	193	6	5
Oman	192	0	34
Cuba	186	6	8
Senegal	175	0	40
Afghanistan	174	4	5
Faeroe Islands	169	0	74
Malta	169	0	2
Ivory Coast	168	1	6

Uzbekistan	167	2	7
Ghana	152	5	31
Belarus	152	1	47
Mauritius	143	4	0
Sri Lanka	142	2	17
Honduras	141	7	3
Channel Islands	141	3	0
Venezuela	135	3	39
Nigeria	135	2	8
Brunei	129	1	45
Martinique	119	2	27
Palestine	117	1	18
Georgia	110	0	21
Cambodia	109	0	23
Kyrgyzstan	107	0	3
Bolivia	107	6	0
Guadeloupe	106	4	17
Montenegro	105	2	0
DRC	98	8	2
Mayotte	94	1	10
Trinidad and Tobago	85	3	1
Rwanda	70	0	0
Gibraltar	69	0	34
Liechtenstein	68	0	0
Paraguay	65	3	1
Isle of Man	60	0	0
Kenya	59	1	1
Bangladesh	51	5	25
Aruba	50	0	1
Monaco	49	1	1
Madagascar	46	0	0
French Guiana	43	0	6
Macao	41	0	10
Guatemala	36	1	10
Jamaica	36	1	2
French Polynesia	36	0	0
Zambia	35	0	0
Togo	34	1	10
Barbados	34	0	0
Uganda	33	0	0
El Salvador	32	0	0
Djibouti	30	0	0
Mali	28	2	0
Niger	27	3	0
Bermuda	27	0	10
Ethiopia	25	0	2
Guinea	22	0	0
Congo	19	0	0
Tanzania	19	1	1
Maldives	18	0	13
Gabon	16	1	0
New Caledonia	16	0	0
Saint Martin	15	1	2
Eritrea	15	0	0
Haiti	15	0	1
Myanmar	15	1	0
Bahamas	14	0	1
Cayman Islands	12	1	0
Dominica	12	0	0
Equatorial Guinea	12	0	1
Mongolia	12	0	2
Curaçao	11	1	2
Namibia	11	0	2
Syria	10	2	0
Greenland	10	0	2
Seychelles	10	0	0
Benin	9	0	1
Grenada	9	0	0
Laos	9	0	0
Saint Lucia	9	0	1
Eswatini	9	0	0
Zimbabwe	8	1	0
Guinea-Bissau	8	0	0
Libya	8	0	0
Mozambique	8	0	0
Saint Kitts and Nevis	8	0	0
Suriname	8	0	0
Guyana	8	2	0
Angola	7	2	1
Sudan	7	2	1
Antigua and Barbuda	7	0	0
Chad	7	0	0
Cabo Verde	6	1	0
Mauritania	6	1	2
Vatican City	6	0	0
St. Barth	6	0	1
Sint Maarten	6	0	0
Nepal	5	0	1
Fiji	5	0	0
Montserrat	5	0	0
Turks and Caicos	5	0	0
Gambia	4	1	0
Nicaragua	4	1	0
Bhutan	4	0	0
Belize	3	0	0
Botswana	3	0	0
British Virgin Islands	3	0	0
CAR	3	0	0
Liberia	3	0	0
Somalia	3	0	1
MS Zaandam	2	0	0
Anguilla	2	0	0
Papua New Guinea	1	0	0
St. Vincent Grenadines	1	0	1
Sierra Leone	1	0	0
Timor-Leste	1	0	0

- The number of coronavirus cases in Russia jumped to 2,337 on Tuesday, an increase of 500, as the country recorded its biggest daily rise for the seventh day in a row.
- With many asking questions about existing vaccine and/or therapeutic clinical trials, the Doximity Editorial team has compiled a list of relevant and ongoing or planned studies found on clinicaltrials.gov.
- An additional 40 previously unreported coronavirus deaths occurred in England and Wales earlier this month, according to new official backdated figures. The figures, which are based on death certificates, show there were 210 deaths where Covid-19 was listed as a cause by 20 March, 40 more than the 170 announced by the NHS at that stage.
- A consortium of defence and electronics firms in Turkey said they will jointly produce and deliver 5,000 ventilators to the health ministry in two months. The group of companies have come together to ramp up production of an existing ventilator, to treat people with complications from Covid-19.
- France, Germany and Britain have exported medical goods to Iran.



Funding opportunities for researchers

The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) - Call Open on Therapeutics and Diagnostics Combatting Coronavirus Infection

- https://www.euresearch.ch/index.php?id=499&tx_ttnews%5btt_news%5d=1168&no_cache=1&user_id=51472&job_id=4718

Wellcome Trust:

- <https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/schemes/epidemic-preparedness-covid-19>

Sources

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