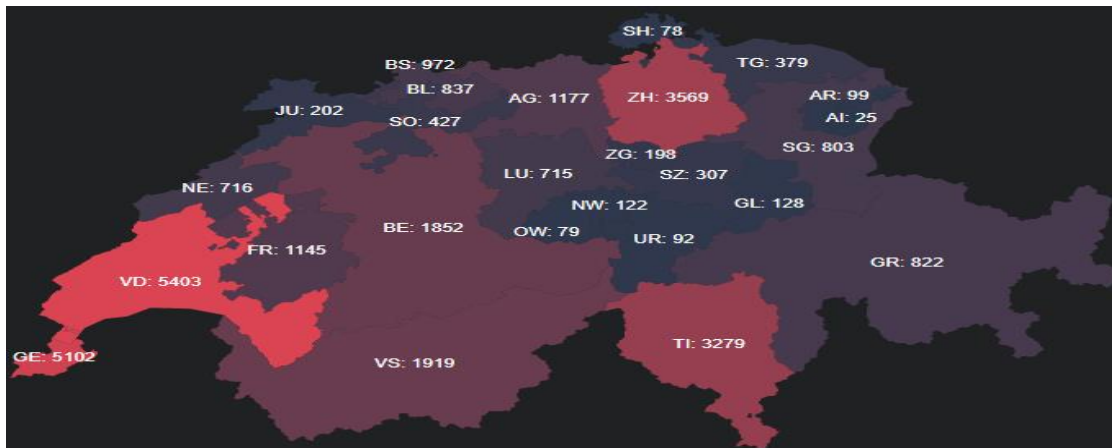# Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19
15.05.2020

- The death toll from the coronavirus outbreak is over 305,780 worldwide, with the highest number of deaths in USA (87,415) and UK (33,998). There have been more than 4,584,000 global cases in 210 countries and territories.

- European countries could face a deadly second wave of coronavirus infections in the winter, the WHO's top official in Europe has said. Dr Hans Kluge, director for the WHO European region, warned countries beginning to ease their lockdown restrictions that now is "time for preparation, not celebration". He said that countries should use the current period to build capacity in hospitals and strengthen public health systems.

- Today, during a media briefing, Dr. Tedros explained a policy brief on gender and CVOID-19. *"Yesterday, WHO released a policy brief on gender and COVID-19, which encourages countries to incorporate a gender focus into their responses. It includes six key asks for governments: First, when recording cases, collect both age and sex-disaggregated data; Second, prevent and respond effectively to issues of domestic violence, which have been exacerbated by the pandemic; Third, encourage availability and access to sexual and reproductive health services; Fourth, protect and support all health workers, approximately 70 percent of the whom are women; Fifth, ensure equitable access to testing and treatment for COVID-19; And finally; sixth, ensure responses are both inclusive and non-discriminatory. To maximize effectiveness and ensure that no one is left behind, tackling the pandemic requires a gender-responsive, equity-oriented and human rights-based approach."*

- A 9-year-old boy died from a rare condition possibly linked to coronavirus, a spokesperson for the Timone Marseille hospital in the south of France told today. The child had tested positive for coronavirus, but he did not develop symptoms, the spokesperson added. He was hospitalized for seven days after suffering cardiac arrest and subsequently died of a "neurological injury" as a result of the cardiac arrest on Saturday. A spokesperson for the national health agency told that "135 children have developed this disease since the beginning of the pandemic." This is the first known fatality in France. While this disease resembles Kawasaki disease, the French health agency is calling the disease "Kawasaki-like," according to a national health agency spokeswoman. "Kawasaki disease is usually found in children under 5 years-old, while the disease we are observing now targets children from 5 to 15 years-old," she said.

- Swiss technology firms and medical researchers are developing digital health passports that could be used to certify who is immune to Covid-19. But scientists don't yet know whether having the virus confers immunity, and treating people differently based on their immunity status raises serious ethical questions for Switzerland and other countries mulling this option. The document could be presented to access elder care homes, travel safely internationally, and attend large sporting or cultural events without putting oneself or others at risk. It could be used within medical teams so those lacking immunity don't come into unnecessary contact with Covid-19 patients. The creation of immunity passports is well underway in Switzerland, a country known for valuing privacy and developing quality security products. It is also home to numerous companies working with blockchain technologies, which can provide a secure ledger for the creation and transfer of information.

Countries	Deaths	Cases	Recovered
USA	87'415	1'467'702	318'964
UK	33'998	236'711	N/A
Italy	31'610	223'885	120'205
Spain	27'459	274'367	188'967
France	27'425	178'870	59'605
Brazil	14'267	208'031	79'479
Belgium	8'959	54'644	14'301
Germany	7'933	175'223	151'700
Iran	6'902	116'635	91'836
Netherlands	5'643	43'681	N/A
Canada	5'499	73'829	36'091
China	4'633	82'933	78'209
Mexico	4'477	42'595	28'475
Turkey	4'055	146'457	106'133
Sweden	3'646	29'207	4'971
India	2'746	85'546	30'089
Ecuador	2'338	30'502	3'433
Russia	2'418	262'843	58'226
Peru	2'267	80'604	25'151
Switzerland	1'878	30'514	27'100
Ireland	1'506	23'827	19'470
Portugal	1'190	28'583	3'328
Romania	1'070	16'437	9'370
Indonesia	1'076	16'496	3'803
Poland	907	18'016	6'918
Philippines	806	12'091	2'460
Pakistan	803	37'218	10'155
Japan	697	16'120	9'868
Austria	628	16'109	14'471
Egypt	571	10'829	2'626
Denmark	537	10'791	8'959
Algeria	536	6'629	3'271
Colombia	525	13'610	3'358
Ukraine	476	17'330	4'473
Hungary	442	3'417	1'287
Dominican Republic	424	11'739	3'557
Chile	394	39'542	16'614
Argentina	353	7'134	2'497
Czechia	295	8'374	5'379
Finland	293	6'228	5'000
Saudi Arabia	292	49'176	21'869
Bangladesh	298	20'065	3'882
Israel	266	16'589	12'587
S. Korea	260	11'018	9'821
Panama	260	9'118	6'080
Norway	232	8'206	32
Serbia	225	10'438	4'301
South Africa	238	12'739	5'676
UAE	210	21'831	7'328
Moldova	202	5'745	2'228
Morocco	190	6'652	3'400
Nigeria	167	5'162	1'180
Greece	160	2'810	1'374
Belarus	156	27'730	8'807
Bolivia	152	3'372	356
Afghanistan	153	6'053	745
Cameroon	139	2'954	1'553
Honduras	133	2'318	253
Bosnia and Herzegovina	128	2'236	1'336
Iraq	117	3'193	2'089
Malaysia	112	6'855	5'439
Luxembourg	104	3'923	3'682
Slovenia	103	1'465	270
Bulgaria	102	2'138	545
Australia	98	7'019	6'337
North Macedonia	97	1'740	1'251
Croatia	95	2'222	1'869
Sudan	91	1'964	205

Kuwait	96	12'860	3'640
Cuba	79	1'840	1'425
Estonia	63	1'766	923
Thailand	56	3'025	2'854
Lithuania	54	1'523	965
Somalia	53	1'284	135
Burkina Faso	51	773	592
DRC	50	1'298	212
Armenia	52	4'044	1'666
Niger	50	876	677
Andorra	49	761	596
Tunisia	45	1'032	770
Mali	46	779	436
Channel Islands	43	549	456
Kenya	45	781	284
Chad	46	399	83
San Marino	41	652	189
Azerbaijan	36	2'980	1'886
Kazakhstan	34	5'689	2'531
Albania	31	916	705
Guatemala	29	1'518	129
Tajikistan	33	1'118	0
Slovakia	27	1'480	1'131
Lebanon	26	891	246
Sierra Leone	26	408	97
Ghana	24	5'530	674
Ivory Coast	24	1'971	930
Senegal	25	2'310	890
Isle of Man	23	332	285
Singapore	21	26'891	7'248
New Zealand	21	1'498	1'421
Tanzania	21	509	183
El Salvador	23	1'210	416
Liberia	20	215	105
Latvia	19	970	662
Uruguay	19	724	547
Haiti	20	273	18
Oman	20	4'625	1'350
Cyprus	17	910	481
Sint Maarten	15	76	46
Qatar	14	29'425	3'546
Guinea	15	2'473	895
Mayotte	16	1'210	627
Martinique	14	189	91
Diamond Princess	13	712	651
Guadeloupe	13	155	109
Kyrgyzstan	14	1'111	745
Georgia	12	671	393
Yemen	15	106	1
Uzbekistan	11	2'652	2'136
Paraguay	11	754	184
Congo	15	391	87
Togo	11	238	96
Bahamas	11	96	41
Bahrain	10	6'418	2'637
Iceland	10	1'802	1'782
Venezuela	10	455	220
Mauritius	10	332	322
Guyana	10	113	42
Gabon	10	1'104	182
Sri Lanka	9	925	477
Jordan	9	596	401
Jamaica	9	509	118
Montenegro	9	324	311
Costa Rica	8	830	535
Bermuda	9	122	66
Trinidad and Tobago	8	116	107
Nicaragua	8	25	7
Zambia	7	654	124
Taiwan	7	440	387
Barbados	7	85	65
Equatorial Guinea	7	583	13
Malta	6	532	458
Sao Tome and Principe	7	235	4
Myanmar	6	181	84

- China has gone a month without announcing any new deaths from coronavirus. The National Health Commission reported four new cases of the virus on Friday, all local cross-infections in the north-eastern province of Jilin where a cluster of uncertain origin has been detected in recent days. The last time the commission reported a death was on 14 April.

- Only a small number of children have been kept at home by their parents after compulsory schools re-opened in Switzerland this week, education officials have said. The re-opening of schools for pupils up to the age of 16 on Monday came after eight weeks of pupils being at home due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, some parents had expressed uncertainty at the move, citing fears that it was too early or concerns about the unclear role of children in the spread of Covid-19.

- Good news for people with partners, relatives or a second home in neighbouring Germany or Austria: coronavirus border restrictions between Switzerland and these countries will be relaxed from Saturday.

- The first known coronavirus cases have been confirmed in Bangladesh camps home to nearly a million Rohingya refugees. Mexico's health ministry on Thursday confirmed 257 additional coronavirus deaths and 2,409 new infections, the biggest one-day rise in cases since the pandemic began.

- **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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