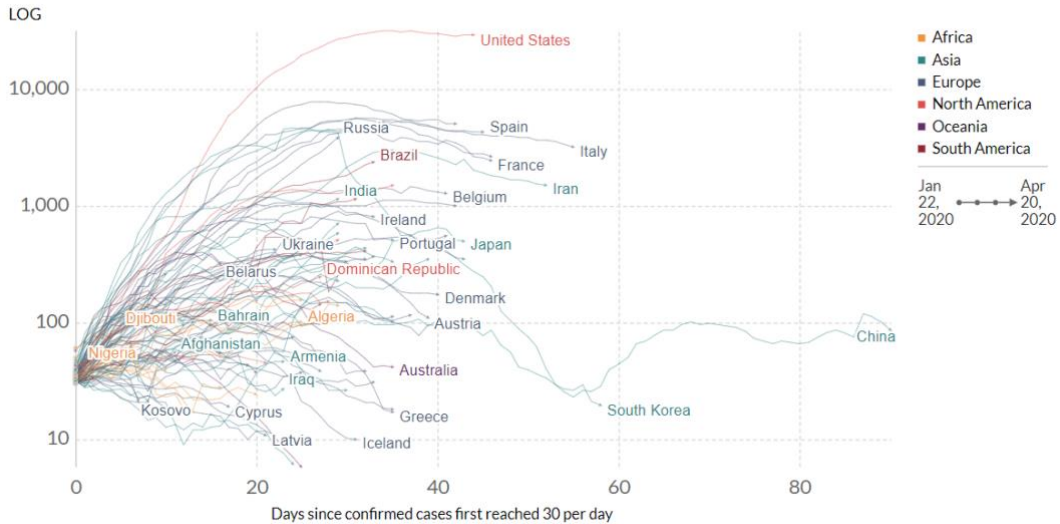


19-25 April 2020 Weekly COVID-19 Update

Daily confirmed COVID-19 cases: are we bending the curve?

Because not everyone is tested the total number of cases is not known. Shown is the 7-day rolling average of confirmed cases.



Source: European CDC - Situation Update Worldwide - Last updated 20th April, 11:30 (London time)

CC BY

Chart from [Our World in Data](https://ourworldindata.org)

Weekly update (official) based on locations with highest case increases – last updated: [WHO SitRep #96](https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronavirus/situation-reports/20200420-sitrep-20200419-covid-19.pdf)

Americas Region Country	Daily change in new reported cases (decreasing shown in blue, increasing in red)						
	Sunday 19-Apr	Monday 20-Apr	Tuesday 21-Apr	Wednesday 22-Apr	Thursday 23-Apr	Friday 24-Apr	Saturday 25-Apr
United States	30023	28252	27668	25634	24019	29127	30719
Brazil	3257	2917	2055	1927	2498	2678	3735
Canada	1741	1509	1474	1991	1549	1890	1926
Peru	0	931	1208	697	1512	1413	1664
Chile	478	1158	0	325	464	516	494
Ecuador	572	446	660	270	452	333	11536

European Region Country	Daily change in new reported cases (decreasing shown in blue, increasing in red)						
	Sunday 19-Apr	Monday 20-Apr	Tuesday 21-Apr	Wednesday 22-Apr	Thursday 23-Apr	Friday 24-Apr	Saturday 25-Apr
Spain	3658	4218	4266	3968	4211	4635	6740
Italy	3491	3047	2256	2729	3370	2646	3021
Germany	2458	1775	1785	2237	2352	2337	2055
UK	5525	5850	4676	4301	4451	4583	5386
France	2558	742	2050	2638	1810	1622	1755
Turkey	3783	3977	4674	4611	3083	3116	3122
Russia	6060	0	9910	5236	4774	5849	0

MENA Region Country	Daily change in new reported cases (decreasing shown in blue, increasing in red)						
	Sunday 19-Apr	Monday 20-Apr	Tuesday 21-Apr	Wednesday 22-Apr	Thursday 23-Apr	Friday 24-Apr	Saturday 25-Apr
Iran	1374	1343	1294	1297	1194	1030	1168
Saudi Arabia	1132	1088	1122	1147	1141	1158	1172

UAE	0	479	484	490	483	518	525
Qatar	345	440	567	518	608	623	761
Egypt	188	112	189	157	169	232	201
Morocco	121	170	191	163	237	122	190
Algeria	116	95	89	93	99	97	120

Asia Pacific Region Country	Daily change in new reported cases (decreasing shown in blue, increasing in red)						
	Sunday 19-Apr	Monday 20-Apr	Tuesday 21-Apr	Wednesday 22-Apr	Thursday 23-Apr	Friday 24-Apr	Saturday 25-Apr
Japan	566	390	367	378	423	469	441
India	1334	1553	1336	1383	1409	1684	1429
Indonesia	325	327	185	375	283	357	436
Philippines	209	172	200	140	111	271	211
Bangladesh	306	312	492	434	390	414	503
Singapore	942	596	1426	1111	1016	1037	897
Pakistan	512	425	798	533	764	642	785

Africa Region Country	Daily change in new reported cases (decreasing shown in blue, increasing in red)						
	Sunday 19-Apr	Monday 20-Apr	Tuesday 21-Apr	Wednesday 22-Apr	Thursday 23-Apr	Friday 24-Apr	Saturday 25-Apr
South Africa	251	124	142	165	170	318	267
Cameroon	0	0	147	0	0	238	2
Ghana	193	208	0	0	112	0	125
Côte d'Ivoire	0	105	32	37	36	52	73
Niger	12	9	7	2	5	9	114
Burkina Faso	0	18	11	5	19	0	16
Nigeria		168	0	2	0	440	114
Guinea	39	0	145	66	73	101	92
DRC	40	5	18	9	0	35	22

News/ Political Context

- Thousands attend a funeral in Bangladesh as a protest to government containment efforts, mounting frustration and anxiety in India's over-crowded quarantine centers
- WHO staff killed in Myanmar while transporting COVID-19 samples
- In the US, large outbreaks among homeless populations have highlighted the challenges around preventing transmission and providing support to some at risk and vulnerable groups
- Current local transmission in Singapore disproportionately high among foreign workers, highlighting the need for further guidance on migrants in dormitory living arrangements elsewhere
- WHO & UNICEF make a joint statement for the importance for regular immunization schedules
- Recently countries who have initiated roll-backs of containment activities have seen significant new case increases during this time, emphasizing the need to have thoughtful scale-down measures in place to prevent large "second wave" of infections
- Recently, Chinese EMTs were deployed to Ethiopia and Burkina Faso, and UK EMT to Zambia. Additional deployments of Chinese EMTs are under discussion to Algeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zimbabwe. Requests from Botswana, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Yemen are also being processed.¹
- Several countries changed method of reporting deaths which is contributing to the increased numbers. China also has identified/ recategorized deaths from COVID-19 leading to a higher CFR in Wuhan than previously thought

¹ WHO SitRep 91

- First home kit becomes available this month in the US to test for COVID-19 but requires a doctor prescription to be sent the kit

Recent Research/ Evidence

- Contrary to some governments' request for a "immunity passport" there is currently no evidence that people who have recovered from COVID-19 and have antibodies are protected from a second infection.²
- Suggestion that relaxing social distancing measures significantly in mid-March (within China) may lead to a second wave of infections in the Northern hemisphere by mid-summer if not paired with other interventions.³
- Antibody serosurvey data from NYC estimate only 21.2% of the population have contracted COVID-19 making the estimated CFR in NYC 0.9%
- Additional study on antibodies find not all of those who recover from COVID-19 have high enough antibody count to be recognized⁴⁵
- Recent study (not yet peer reviewed) indicates men more likely to suffer from severe illness due to delayed viral clearance and a higher presence of ACE-2 receptors in testes⁶
- Recent study highlights the potential of using viral shedding in waste as a way to provide cheap testing and early detection for areas likely to experience an outbreak of COVID-19⁷

Clinical Trails

- Recent study found no evidence that hydroxychloroquine used with or without azithromycin reduce the risk of mechanical incubation for COVID-19 patients, and was associated with overall increased mortality highlighting the need for additional randomized trials – from retrospective analysis of patients registered in Veteran health system in the US (article saved in "trials" folder under evidence)⁸
- Over 100 countries have signed as part of a solidarity trial to evaluate different therapies against COVID-19
- In recent cohort study clinical improvement was observed in 36 of 53 patients (68%) of patients treated with compassionate-use remdesivir. Additional placebo-control studies needed.⁹

Modeling

- **Johns Hopkins University** study estimates with current inadequate PPE coverage in low and middle income countries 70-100 HCWs will get infected. Maintaining HCW infection rates below 10% and mortality below 1% requires inclusion of a PPE scale-up strategy as part of the pandemic response¹⁰.
- **Imperial College of London** provide bi-weekly adjustments to their global COVID-19 modeling strategy. Updates available [here](#).
 - Need for critical care beds in low income countries likely outnumbers capacity at an estimated ratio of 25 compared to high income country at a factor of 7.
- **LSHTM** projection of expected early peaks in Africa this week include: Egypt, Algeria, Senegal, Morocco, South Africa, Tunisia, Nigeria, Cameroon.

² "immunity passports" in the context of COVID-19 (WHO)

³ [Lancet 8 April 2020](#)

⁴ [MedRxiv 20April2020](#)

⁵ [JAMA Medical news perspectives](#)

⁶ <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.16.20060566v1>

⁷ [Science 21 April 2020](#)

⁸ [NEJM 14 April 2020](#), [BMJ 10 April 2020](#), Pre-print: [Outcomes of hydroxychloroquine usage in United States veterans hospitalized with Covid-19](#). 21 April 2020

⁹ [Compassionate Use of Remdesivir for Patients with Severe Covid-19. NEJM 11 April 2020.](#)

¹⁰ SSRN 22 April https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3581455

- Recent **LSHTM** study looked at those who had increased risk of severe outcome of COVID-19 and found an estimated 22% of the global population was at increased risk of severe illness, but much more needs to be done to better understand co-morbidities and severe infection¹¹

Humanitarian Impacts

- Development of a [humanitarian platform for COVID-19](#) by Johns Hopkins, LSHTM & Geneva Center for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action – designed for collecting evidence and lessons learned from actors on the ground
- Global Health Cluster COVID-19 task force established to develop and promote minimum standards in humanitarian settings
- [Mapping of COVID in Humanitarian settings available here](#)

Guidance Launched This week

- [GOARN Knowledge Hub](#) with information and webinars publicly accessible
- [Addressing Human Rights as part of the COVID-19 response](#) (WHO)
- WHO released Safe [Ramadan practices in the context of the COVID-19](#): interim guidance
- WHO has revised it's [Public Health Strategy](#) to help guide the public health response to COVID-19 includes suggestions on lifting restrictions
- [Water, sanitation, hygiene, and waste management for the COVID-19 virus interim guidance](#) (WHO)
- [E-learning course: "Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak in aviation"](#) (WHO)
- [Interim guidance on food safety](#) (WHO)
- [Health interventions for COVID-19 mapping and data](#) launched by Johns Hopkins & BU
- Launch of the Access to COVID-19 tools (ACT) [Accelerator](#). Participants [here](#)

¹¹ [How many are at increased risk of severe COVID-19 disease? Rapid global, regional and national estimates for 2020](#)