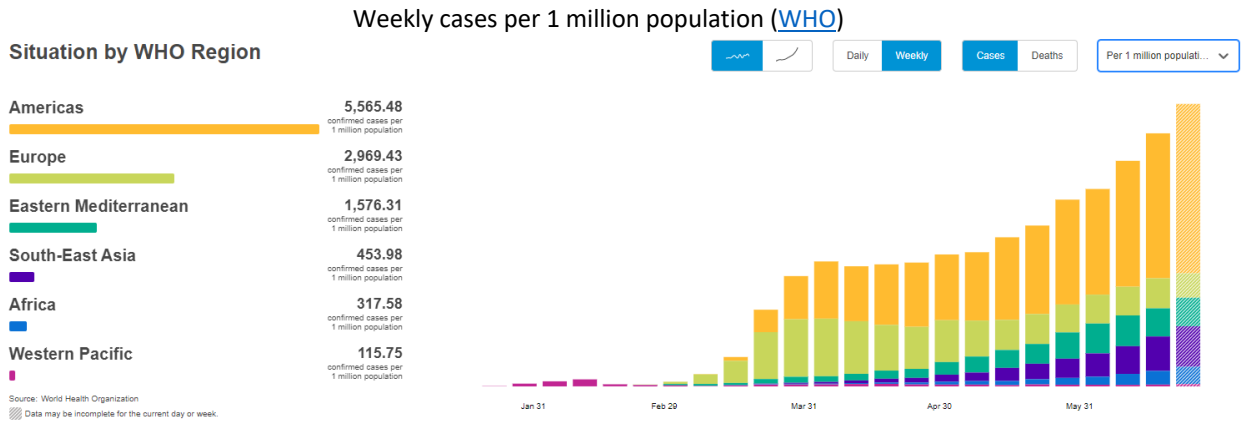


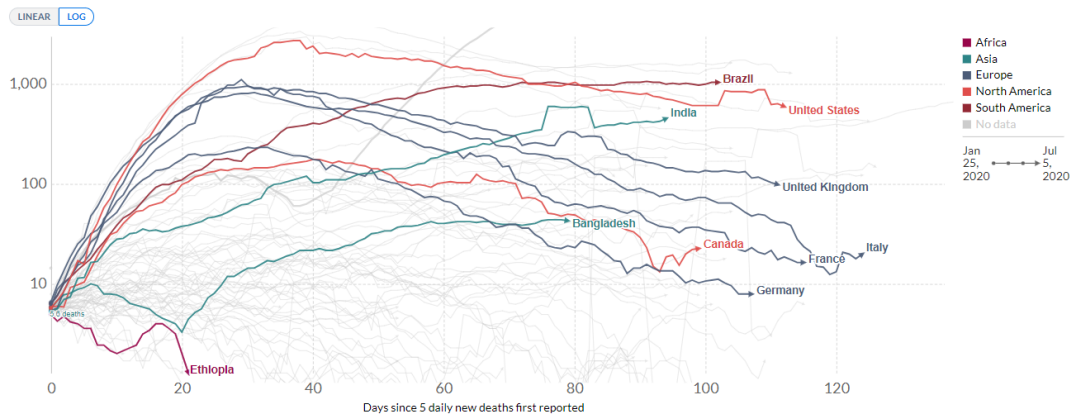
COVID-19 Update: Epi Week 28 June – 3 July 2020

Over 11.1 million cases confirmed and reported, with over 528,000 deaths reported to date (unofficially over 11.5 million cases and over 535,000 deaths, over 4.4 million active cases and over 6.5 million recovered). Brazil, Mexico and India are reporting the highest daily increases in deaths, the US Brazil, and India are reporting the highest daily increases in new cases.¹



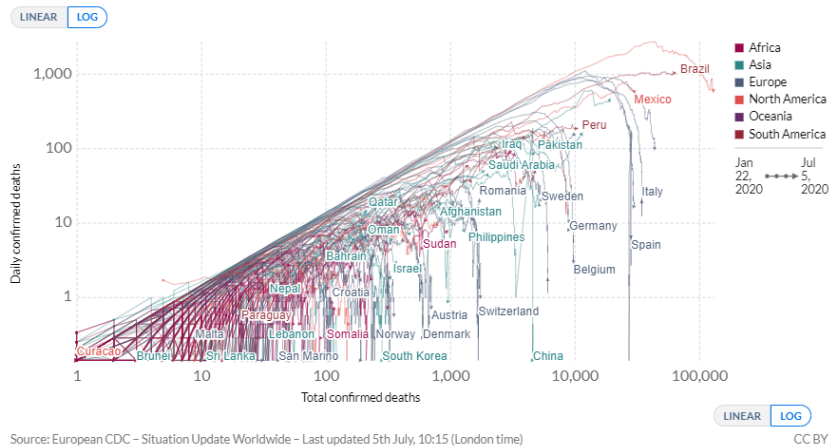
Daily new confirmed COVID-19 deaths

Shown is the rolling 7-day average. Limited testing and challenges in the attribution of the cause of death means that the number of confirmed deaths may not be an accurate count of the true number of deaths from COVID-19.



Daily vs. total confirmed deaths due to COVID-19

Shown is the 7-day rolling average of confirmed COVID-19 deaths. Limited testing and challenges in the attribution of the cause of death means that the number of confirmed deaths may not be an accurate count of the true number of deaths from COVID-19.



Weekly update (official) based on locations with highest case increases – last updated: [WHO SitRep #167](#)

¹ Official numbers and WHO visualizations available [here](#)

News/ Political Context

- Reached **10 million cases and 500,000 deaths** from COVID-19 on June 29th, 2020²
- Daily confirmed deaths increasing most rapidly in **Palestine, Kyrgyzstan, Cape Verde, Qatar, Zambia, Libya, Eswazi, Angola, Iran.**³
- Cases doubling rapidly in **Western Sahara** (5 days), **Kazakhstan** (5 days), **Botswana** (6 days), **Namibia** (6 days), **Turks and Caicos Islands** (7 days), **Palestine** (7 days), **Lesotho** (10 days), **Antigua and Barbuda** (11 days).⁴
- **India** reporting second highest daily incidence to date
- **Bangladesh** reporting its highest incidence to date.
- **South Africa** Incidence has nearly doubled since June 19th⁵
- US incidence continues to increase, with a **shift in age distribution to a younger group (20s & 30s)**, likely as a result of loosening restrictions. This is a similar trend that has been observed both in South Korea and Japan.
- “1st WHO **Infodemiology** Conference” to take place on June 29th
- **Mumbai** has started reporting symptoms similar to Kawasaki disease among young patients with coronavirus [SARS-CoV-2].
- US purchased majority of global supply of **remdesivir** leaving global supply extremely low for the next 3 months, and showing poor faith when it comes to vaccine purchasing intentions⁶
- Some success in slum in Mumbai: Government attempt to set up a “fever camp” daily in various locations throughout Dharavi, containment methods for hotspots of over 125,000 with volunteers distributing groceries, a 200-bed field hospital, and screening and testing covering half the residents. Thus far the area has reported 82 deaths whereas Mumbai as a whole has had over 4,500 deaths.⁷
- Response ongoing to the dual epidemic of measles and COVID-19 in **Cambodia**⁸
- WHO recently provided 300 additional **oxygen** concentrators to **Iraq**
- Significant increases in South Africa, the US, Brazil and India. MENA region still seeing an increase

Recent Research/ Evidence

- Evidence compiled by Johns Hopkins (monthly) on evidence related to **Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition** in relation to COVID-19. Resources can be found [here](#).
- Evidence shows that **smoking leads to increased risk** of COVID-19⁹
- Retrospective cohort study in China shows children, old people, females, and family members are susceptible to be infected with COVID19, while index cases in the incubation period had lower contagiousness.¹⁰
- Study of excess deaths in the US during the first few weeks of the pandemic show reported COVID-19 deaths were missing an estimated 1/3rd deaths, potentially due to delayed reporting, large **increases in mortality from heart disease, diabetes, and other diseases were observed.**¹¹
- Need to approach the second wave of infections in an inclusive way with transparent data sharing as highlighted by current hotspots.¹²
- Renewed calls for a one health approach to zoonosis¹³

² WHO Sit Rep #161

³ <https://ourworldindata.org/coronavirus>

⁴ Reference to ECDC data using <https://ourworldindata.org/coronavirus>

⁵ [Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security](#)

⁶ [The Guardian](#)

⁷ [Aljazeera](#)

⁸ [WHO](#)

⁹ [WHO 30 June 2020](#)

¹⁰ [Journal of Emerging Microbes and Infectious disease](#) 1 July 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1080/22221751.2020.1787799>

¹¹ [JAMA 1 July 2020](#)

¹² Early lessons from a second COVID-19 lockdown in Leicester, UK. [Lancet 2 July 2020](#)

¹³ [Lancet 4 July 2020](#); [Post COVID-19: a solution scan of options for preventing future zoonotic epidemics](#)

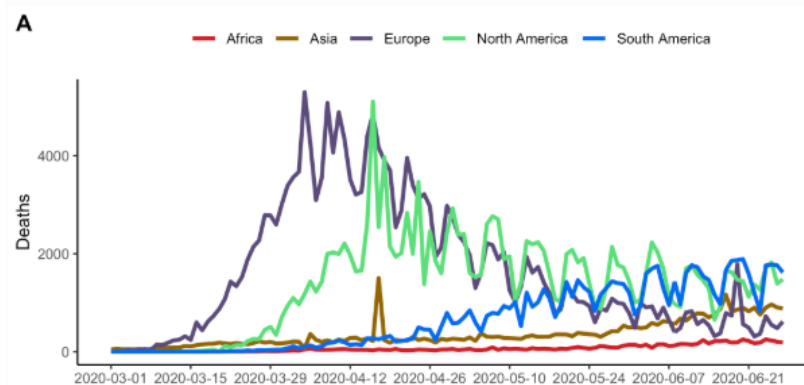
- Recent research and evidence shows that public health messaging should have been stronger in comparison to medical response messaging for COVID-19 to have a larger impact on total mortality and morbidity.¹⁴
- Additional surveillance in the US shows evidence that **Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children associated with SARS-CoV-2 led to serious and life-threatening illness** in previously healthy children and adolescents.¹⁵
- Evidence questioning the role fomites play in viral transmission of SARS-CoV-2 outside of the lab.¹⁶
- Evidence from Hong Kong shows that a **demographic approach to COVID-19 should be taken**. The concentration of COVID-19 among younger populations despite the age demographics show prevalence of imported case clusters in HK, as well as the low number of severe cases and deaths.¹⁷

Clinical Trails

- Chinese authorities administered SARS-CoV-2 vaccine candidate to service members using an adenovirus-based delivery mechanism
 - Humoral responses against SARS-CoV-2 peaked at day 28 post-vaccination in healthy adults, and rapid specific T-cell responses were noted from day 14 post-vaccination.¹⁸
- The European Medicines Agency (EMA) Human Medicines Committee (CHMP) recommended that the EMA give conditional approval for remdesivir as a COVID-19 treatment.
- WHO has accepted the recommendation from the Solidarity Trial's International Steering Committee to discontinue the trial's hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir treatment arms for COVID-19.¹⁹

Modeling

- **Projections for the reproductive number and deaths** ([ICL weekly projections](#)) Assuming the underlying CFR 1.38% forecasting for the upcoming week (from 28th June) are below:



Total number of deaths reported (above). Number of countries with active transmissions with at least 100 deaths and at least 10 deaths reported in the last two weeks (below)

¹⁴ [JAMA: Cognitive Bias and Public Health Policy During the COVID-19 Pandemic. 29 June 2020](#)

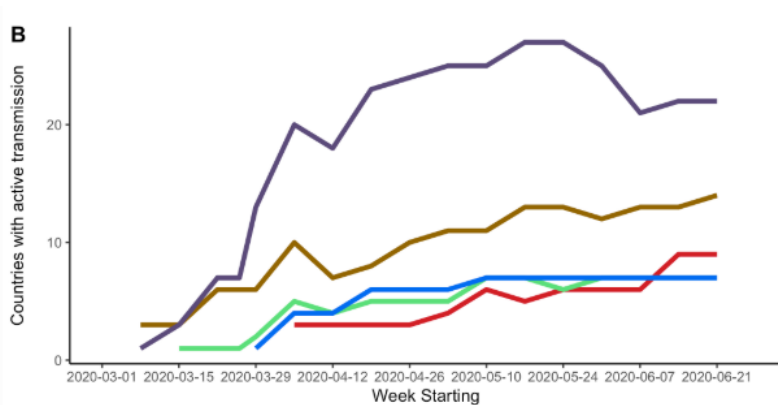
¹⁵ [NEJM 29 June 2020](#)

¹⁶ [Lancet Infectious Disease. 3 July 2020](#)

¹⁷ [PLOS ONE 26 June 2020](#)

¹⁸ [Lancet 22 May 2020](#)

¹⁹ WHO Sit Rep #167



- **Europe:** Increases expected in Ukraine, Sweden, Azerbaijan and Armenia. Stabilization expected in Turkey, the UK, Germany and France.
- **MENA:** Increases expected in Iraq, Oman and Iran. Stabilization expected in Bangladesh, Qatar, Kuwait and UAE.
- **Asia Pacific:** Stabilization expected in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Afghanistan, increases expected in India.
- **Africa:** Rapid increases still expected in South Africa with stabilization expected in Kenya, Senegal, Ghana, and Nigeria.
- **Americas:** Increases expected in Mexico, Panama, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Colombia, Argentina, Bolivia, and Dominican Republic. Stabilization expected in Haiti with a decrease in Canada.

Forecasted weekly deaths shown below

Country	Deaths Observed (last week)	Predicted Deaths (this week)	R _t
Kazakhstan	55	88 (63 - 126)	1.56 (1.22 - 2.39)
El Salvador	54	84 (59 - 119)	1.55 (1.21 - 2.23)
Honduras	121	183 (149 - 257)	1.53 (1.28 - 2.55)
Colombia	813	1,150 (1,000 - 1,340)	1.45 (1.35 - 1.62)
Iraq	647	953 (745 - 1,070)	1.41 (1.22 - 1.53)
Portugal	33	43 (27 - 81)	1.41 (0.94 - 3.03)
Austria	12	16 (6 - 49)	1.38 (0.61 - 4.51)
Argentina	242	337 (288 - 391)	1.37 (1.20 - 1.75)
Panama	99	128 (96 - 168)	1.35 (1.06 - 1.98)
Guatemala	192	254 (200 - 311)	1.29 (1.11 - 1.60)

- Commentary article suggests that if outbreaks begin to spike in localized contexts, Modelling suggests that **brief lockdowns** (eg, for 2 weeks) **followed by relaxations for between 2 and 6 weeks might be enough to cut lines of virus transmission-** however this is highly dependent on the **trust** within the community, government and epidemiological models. Emphasis needs to be made on a multi-public health methods approach (**not one solution will slow the effective reproductive number**).²⁰
- Modeling for US timelines and policy changes by state available [here](#).
- **HIME: Increasing mask use to rates of 95% could reduce the number of estimated deaths** due to COVID-19 substantially around the world. We estimate that increasing mask use could lead to **reductions in the number of deaths by greater than 50% in many locations around the world**, including countries in Africa (such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan, Kenya, and Ghana), Europe (Albania, Croatia, Poland, and Bulgaria) as well as in some US states.²¹
 - Projection visualization tools can be found [here](#) for multiple countries

²⁰ [Lancet. 27 June 2020. Second Wave](#)

²¹ [IHME](#)

Humanitarian Impacts

- **African Migrants** face increasing danger and persecution in **Yemen** due to coronavirus²² While many borders have closed during the pandemic, migrants remain stuck in country, with thousands arrested and relocated to the southern part of the country.
- **LSHTM Health in Humanitarian and Crisis Settings** has released additional M&E protocol to go along with the guidance on **shielding** approaches in humanitarian and urban settings.
- Using an electronic registry system, researchers found the mean number of **daily immunization visits decreased by 52.8% during the lockdown** compared to baseline in **Karachi, Pakistan**. A **steady recovery was reported after the lock-down was lifted**, with the base number reduced by 27.2%. Additional findings found outreach services affected more than facility services, and supply in several centers was also affected (18% of all immunizations needed to close temporarily).²³
- [New report from the Global Fund estimates](#) deaths from HIV, TB and Malaria Could Almost Double in 12 Months²⁴
- [UN brief released on the three crises facing people on the move \(health, protection, and socio-economic\), emphasizing the advantages of safe and inclusive human mobility during and in the aftermath of COVID-19:](#)
 - Exclusion is costly in the long-run whereas inclusion pays off for everyone.
 - The response to COVID-19 and protecting the human rights of people on the move are not mutually exclusive.
 - No-one is safe until everyone is safe.
 - People on the move are part of the solution
- Work ongoing to improve humanitarian access to primary health services in Yemen²⁵
- 5% reduction in vaccination rates in Syria in the first half of 2020²⁶
- [Mapping of COVID in Humanitarian settings available here](#)

Guidance Launched or Highlighted This week

- Johns Hopkins: [At Home Diagnostic Testing for Infectious Diseases: A Tool for Accelerating COVID Diagnosis and Building Pandemic Preparedness for the Future](#)
- WHO Timeline to Pandemic response available [here](#)
- [Infection prevention and control during health care when coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) is suspected or confirmed](#)
- RCCE Support available through partnership for a global risk communication and community engagement collective service to beat COVID-19 supported by UNICEF, WHO, IFRC, GOARN, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.²⁷
- [Infection prevention and control during health care when coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) is suspected or confirmed](#)
 - Guidance for visitors in areas with high COVID-19 community transmission
 - Updated guidance for IPC control in operating procedures, including for non-confirmed cases
 - Upgraded guidance for dead body management in healthcare settings
- [Controlling the Spread of COVID-19 at Ground Crossings](#) online training

Useful Sources

Some additional sources – such as specific journal articles are shared as a foot note and saved to the “Evidence” folder in Teams.

²² [New York Times 28 June 2020](#)

²³ [Lancet 29 June 2020](#)

²⁴ [Global Fund 24 June 2020](#)

²⁵ [WHO](#)

²⁶ [WHO](#)

²⁷ WHO Sit Rep #162

[ALNAP launched COVID-19 response portal](#)

[BMJ COVID-19 resources](#)

[European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control](#)

[End Coronavirus Visualizations](#)

[Global Health 5050 Sex desegregated data](#)

[Health Map](#)

[Imperial College of London](#)

[ISARIC COVID-19 resources](#)

[Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and CSSE](#)

[Humanitarian platform for COVID-19](#)

[The Lancet](#)

[LSHTM COVID-19 mapping tool](#)

[New England Journal of Medicine](#)

[Next Strain \(Phylogeny of SARS-CoV-2\)](#)

[Our world in Data](#)

[PLOS COVID-19](#)

[ProMed](#)

[WHO](#)

[WHO Technical Guidance for COVID-19](#)

[MobLabs](#)

[MobLabs Domestic and international risk of importing a case](#)

[World Meters](#)