



# Current Situation: COVID-19

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March 26th,  
2020 Update

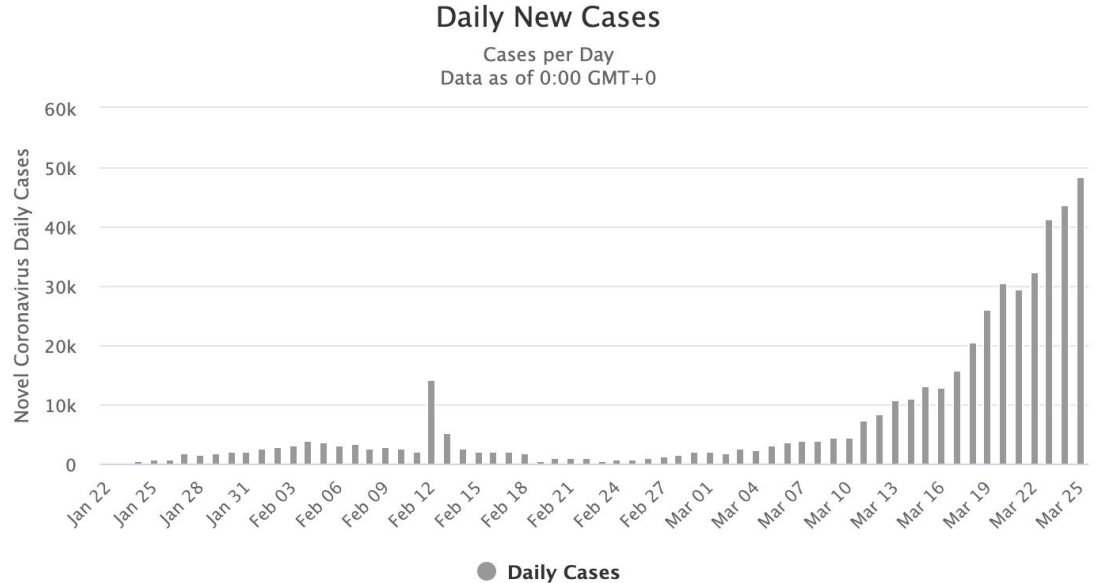
# The Global Spread Continues

## Record Numbers

The total number of [confirmed COV-19 cases](#) globally has surpassed **500,000 people**.

## Virus Spreading Quickly through U.S.

WHO says U.S. could become next coronavirus [epicenter](#) due to a “very large acceleration” in infection as it has become third in the world for highest number of confirmed cases.



This graph represents the number of new cases daily, which continues to rise exponentially.

[Source](#)

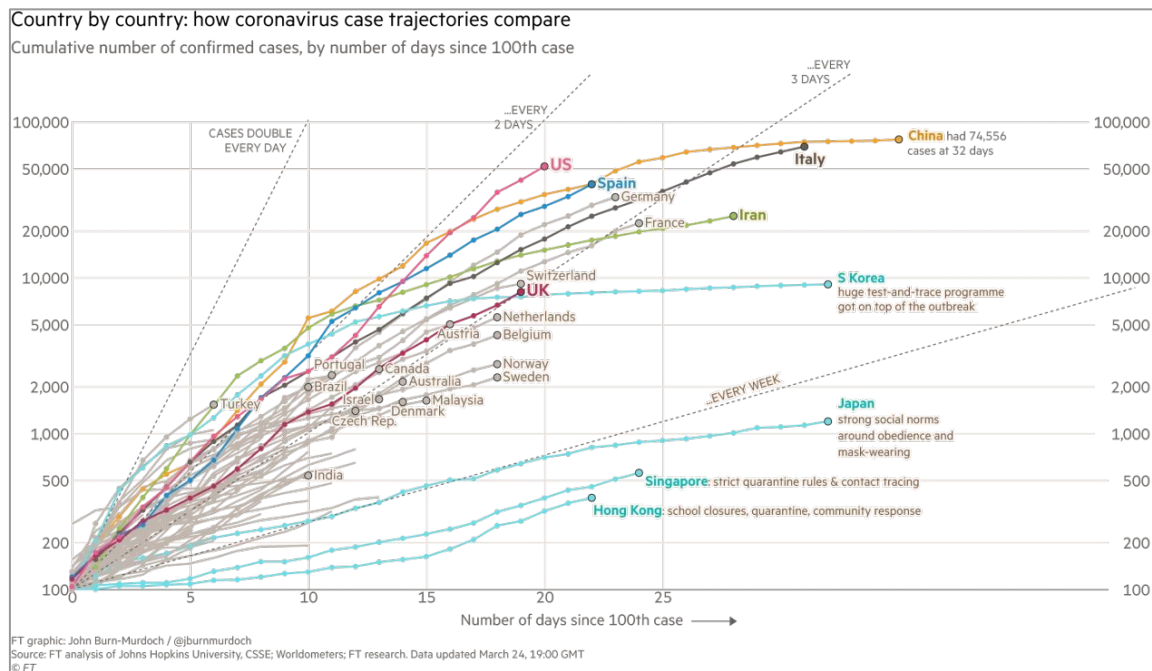
# Monitoring the Virus

## Situation Worsens in Europe

There have been more than [438,000 confirmed cases](#) of coronavirus around the world in at least 168 countries, with more than **19,600 deaths** to date with Europe as the current epicenter.

The number of [deaths in Spain](#) — more than 3,400 — surpassed the toll in China making it the country with second highest number of deaths.

In Italy, [7,500 people have died](#) from COVID-19 in just one month, making it the country with the highest number of deaths.



[Source](#)

# Reported Cases and Deaths

	Cases	Deaths
Mainland China	81,298	3,287
Italy	80,539	8,165
United States	75,233	1,070
Spain	56,197	4,145
Germany	43,646	239
Iran	29,406	2,234
France	25,233	1,331
Switzerland	11,712	191
United Kingdom	9,849	477
South Korea	9,241	131
Netherlands	7,431	434
Austria	6,703	49
Belgium	6,235	220

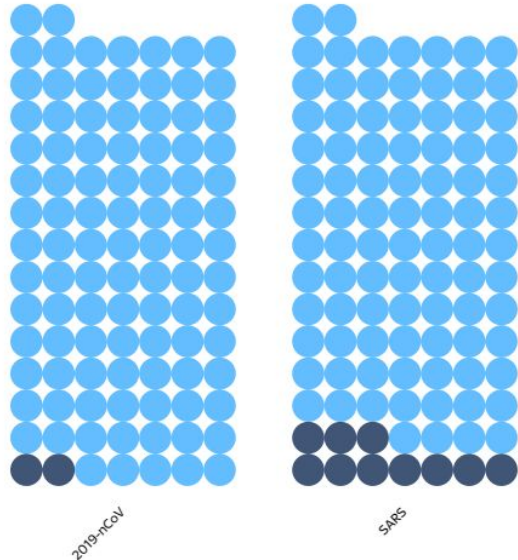
The figures above are based on data from the the [Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering](#). These numbers are updated daily but may differ from other sources due to differences in reporting times. For up-to-the-minute updates, [follow our live coverage](#).

# COVID-19 Compared to SARS

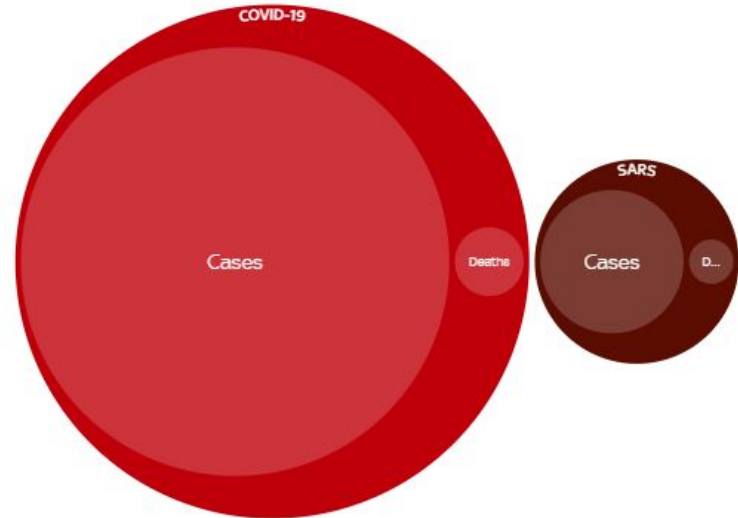
COVID-19 is less deadly than SARS, but has resulted in more fatalities due to a higher rate of confirmed cases. The fatality ratio for SARS was 9.6%, while the rate for COVID-19 so far is 2%.

Nearly 10 in 100 people infected with SARS died, versus 2 in 100 with coronavirus

● Death ● Infected



COVID-19 has been responsible for more than 1,800 deaths and more than 72,000 infections (as of 18 February), while SARS killed 774 people and infected 8,096 between November 2002 and July 2003.

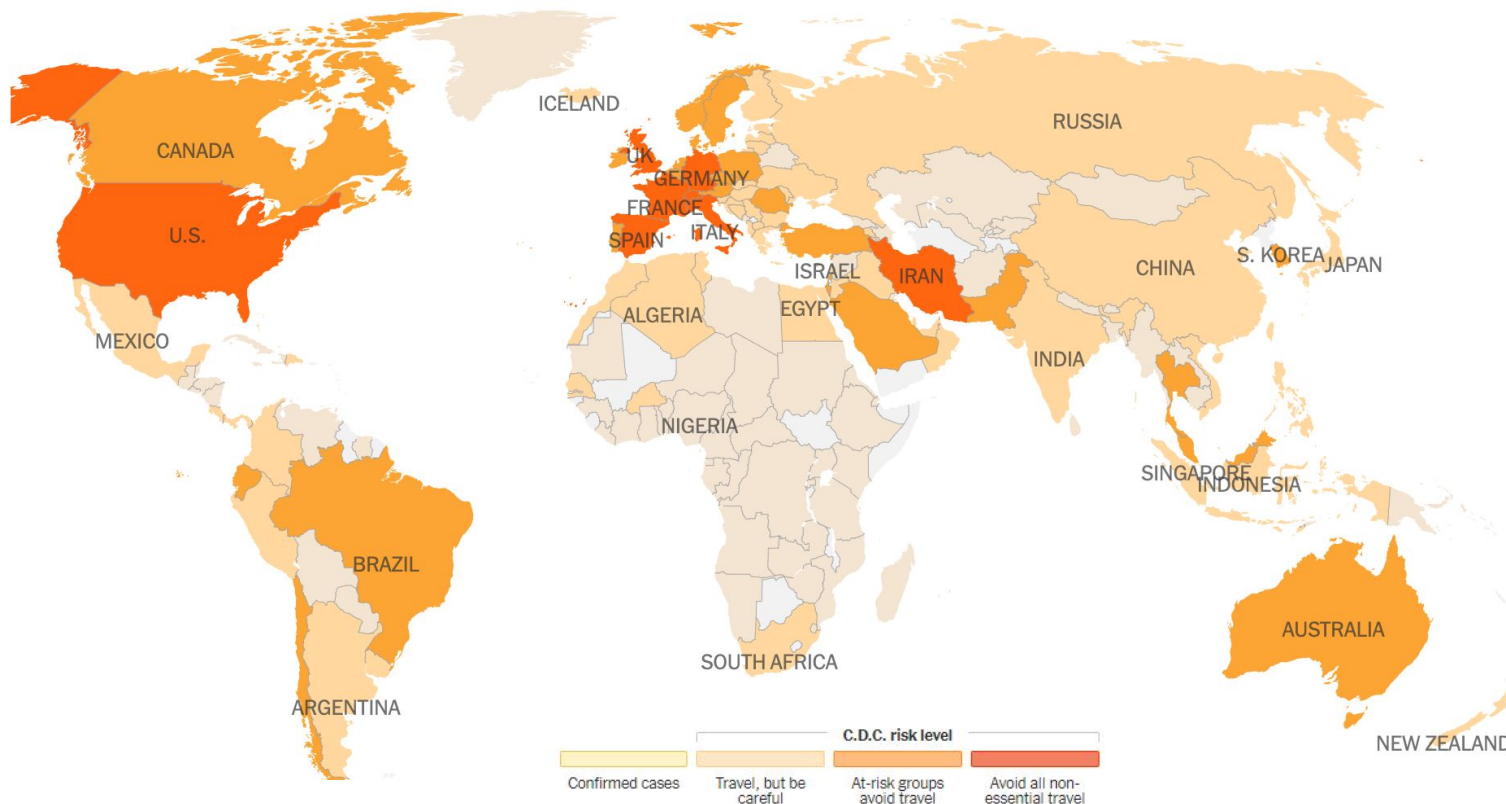


[Source](#)

[Source](#): WHO, Johns Hopkins CSSE • Deaths and cases for COVID-19 as of 18 February

# Mapping the Spread of COVID-19

\*Updated March 26, 2020



Note: Japan's count includes 696 cases from a cruise ship quarantined in Yokohama.

**Sources:** Local governments; The Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University; National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China; World Health Organization. Data as of 8:19 a.m. E.T., Mar. 11.



# COVID-19 in the U.S.

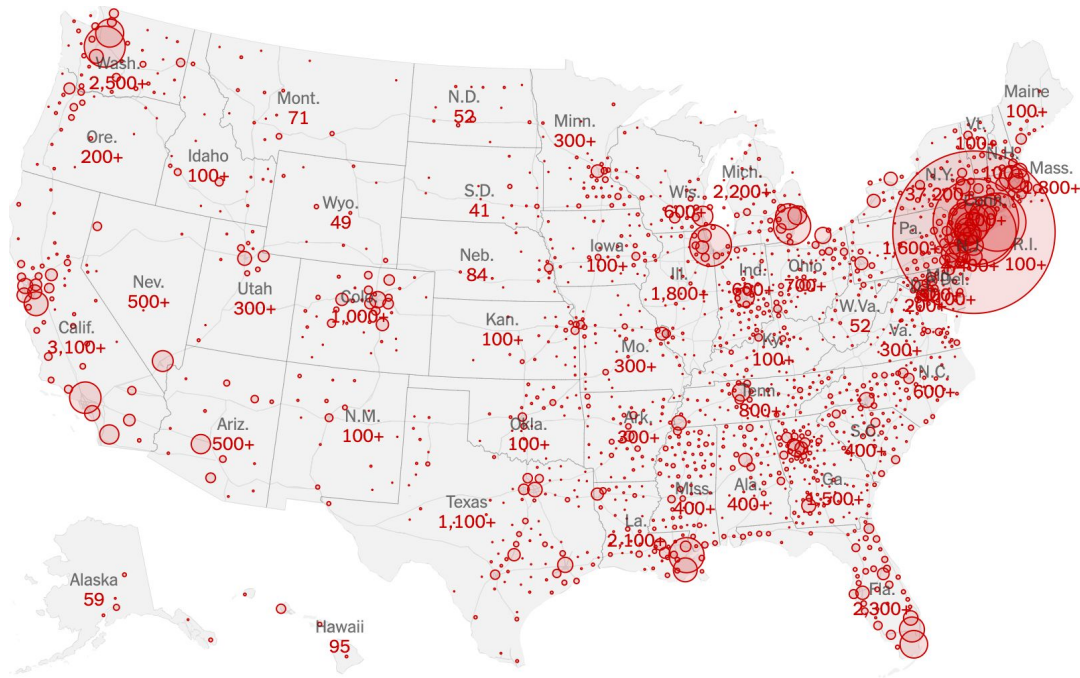
\*Updated March 26, 2020

[Trump told U.S. governors](#) the administration is working on new social distancing guidelines based on high-risk, medium-risk, and low-risk areas.

[U.S. Federal prison system](#) was ordered by the attorney general to increase home confinement for some inmates.

The U.S. is debating placing armed troops at the [US-Canada border](#), which Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau is strongly opposed to.

The [U.S. death toll](#) has passed 1,000.



Note: The map shows the known locations of coronavirus cases by county. Circles are sized by the number of people there who have tested positive, which may differ from where they contracted the illness. Some people who traveled overseas were taken for treatment in California, Nebraska and Texas. [Sources](#): State and local health agencies, hospitals, C.D.C.

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# Economic Updates

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## In the U.S.

[Claims for unemployment](#) benefits are higher than ever, reaching 3 million in one week.

The [U.S. House of Representatives](#) is scheduled to vote on the \$2 trillion stimulus package on Friday, following Senate approval.

## Globally

The group of 20 major economies, who met by video conferencing, agreed to [inject \\$5 trillion](#) into the world economy to help curb the economic blows caused by the pandemic.

UN officials say that [total global job losses](#) from the COVID-19 pandemic may far exceed the estimate of 25 million made a few days ago.

[Analysts](#) say the entire Chinese economy may have shrunk in the first months of 2020, in what would be the country's first economic contraction since 1976.



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# Global Reactions & Responses

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## Combating the Spread

[Ethiopia](#) has pardoned 4,000 prisoners in order to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

[China has closed](#) its borders to all foreign nationals.

[Doctors in Zimbabwe](#) have gone on strike over the lack of protective gear.

Israel has instructed citizens to stay within [100 meters of their homes](#).

## The Search for a Vaccine

The US, China, and Europe are all racing to find a vaccine with what a [New York Times articles calls](#), “an element of national competition”.

The UK will be investing about [\\$255 million](#) into the development of a vaccine.

# Concerns Over Some Global Responses

## Mexico Slow to Adopt Measures to Slow Spread

Critics argue [President Lopez Obrador downplays](#) threat to protect the economy. With densely populated cities and high rates of poverty, obesity and diabetes, experts warn Mexico could be particularly vulnerable.



## Concerns Over [Power Grabbing in Southeast Asia](#)

President Rodrigo Duterte of the Philippines has been granted sweeping emergency powers to combat the coronavirus, triggering fears in a nation that spent the 1970s and '80s under brutal martial law.

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha of Thailand declared a state of emergency, effective on Thursday, to combat the coronavirus, raising similar concerns about a potential abuse of power. Mr. Prayuth gave himself the authority to impose curfews, censor the media and prevent people from leaving their homes.

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## U.N. Calls for Global Ceasefire So Countries Can Unite in Fight Against Pandemic

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*“Our world faces a common enemy: COVID-19. The virus does not care about nationality or ethnicity, faction or faith. It attacks all, relentlessly. Meanwhile, armed conflict rages on around the world. The most vulnerable — women and children, people with disabilities, the marginalized and the displaced — pay the highest price. They are also at the highest risk of suffering devastating losses from COVID-19.”*

- Secretary-General António Guterres



This information is current as of March 26th, 2020.  
Further updates will be sent in future briefings.



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