



# Current Situation: COVID-19

---

April 7th,  
2020 Update

---

# Monitoring the Virus

## Hopeful Signs in Iran and China

[According to a WHO worker](#), Iran's COVID-19 cases have begun to flatten off.

China finally [ends the lockdown on Wuhan](#) after it reported its first day with no COVID-19 related deaths since January.

## Challenges Arising in Europe

[Spain's COVID-19 cases and death rate](#) has begun to increase again after it declined for a week. In the past 24 hours there has been a 5.7% increase in deaths.

[In France](#), which has still not reached the apex of virus cases, the death toll has reached 10,000.

[UK's Prime Minister](#) Boris Johnson has been moved to the ICU after his COVID-19 symptoms worsened, further heightening virus anxieties in the country as they face the deadliest day so far.



# Global Responses

## Nations Continue to Impose Quarantine Restrictions and Closures

Egypt has decided to [keep mosques closed](#) during Ramadan.

[El Salvador](#) has extended a quarantine over the entire nation, warning citizens of tougher actions upon those who break quarantine.

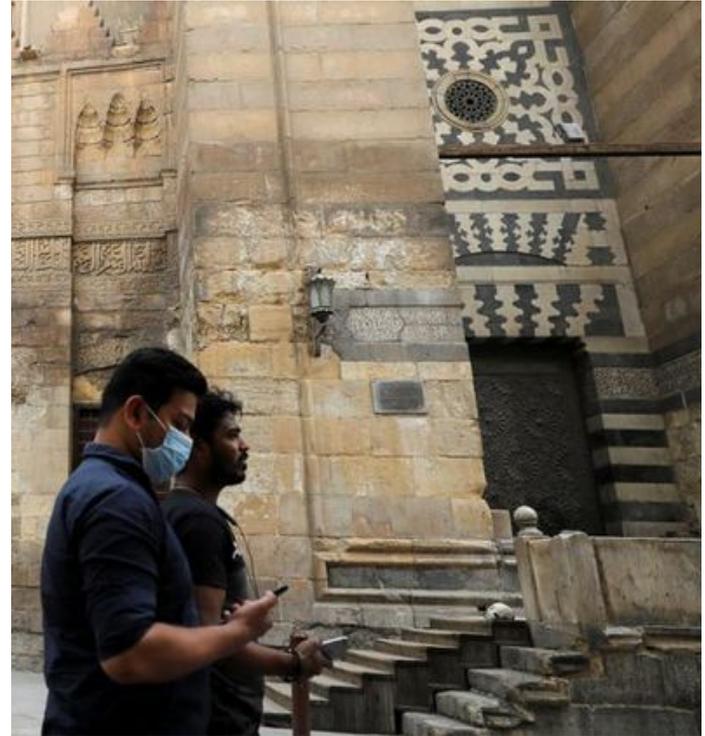
Paris has announced a [ban on outdoor exercise](#) during the daytime.

[Czech Republic](#) has extended its quarantine to the end of April.

[Singapore](#) has moved to banning social gatherings of any kind.

## Economic Aid

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced a massive [\\$1 trillion COVID-19 aid package](#).

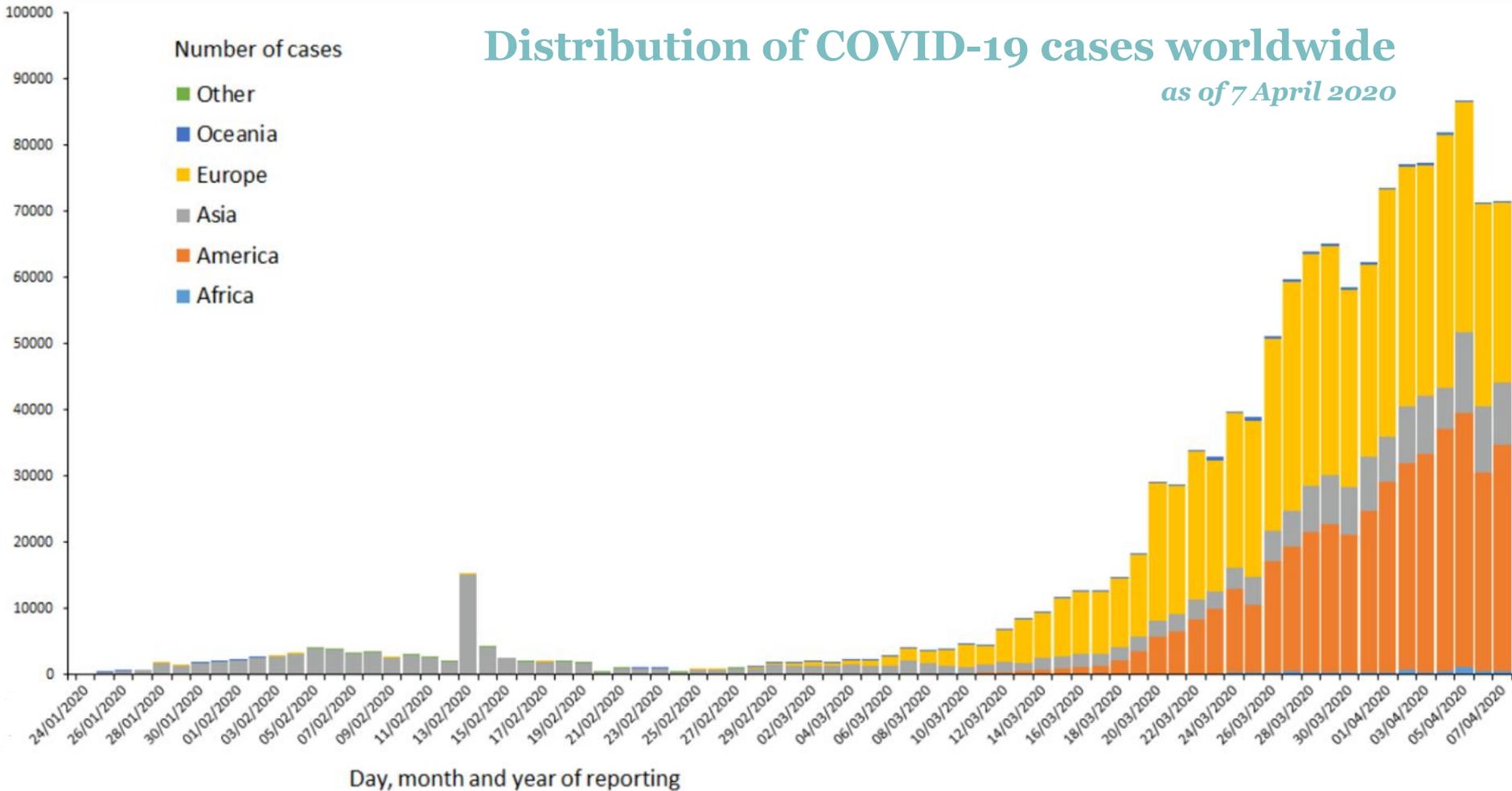


# Distribution of COVID-19 cases worldwide

*as of 7 April 2020*

Number of cases

- Other
- Oceania
- Europe
- Asia
- America
- Africa



\*Graph excludes data between 31/12/2019 and 23/1/2020 to better fit your screen. [source](#)



# COVID-19 in the U.S.

## Numbers Continue to Rise

Over [12,000 people](#) have died from COVID-19 in the U.S.

According to Governor Cuomo, although New York has recorded its [largest single day jump](#) in the number of COVID-19 related deaths, the downward trend in hospitalizations is an encouraging sign.

## Stimulus Package

President Trump has [removed the chairman](#) of the federal panel from overseeing the \$2 trillion stimulus package.

## U.S. Health Disparity

Numbers in Louisiana and Illinois report a [disproportionate number](#) of black Americans dying due to COVID-19.

[In Chicago](#), 72% of all deaths are black patients even though they make up about 30% of the population.



# COVID-19 U.S. Election Effects

## Wisconsin Primary Election

On April 7th, [Wisconsin held its primary election](#), even after courts attempted to delay it due to the COVID-19 pandemic; all other U.S. states with an April primary have postponed or shifted to vote-by-mail.

## 2020 Presidential Election Concerns

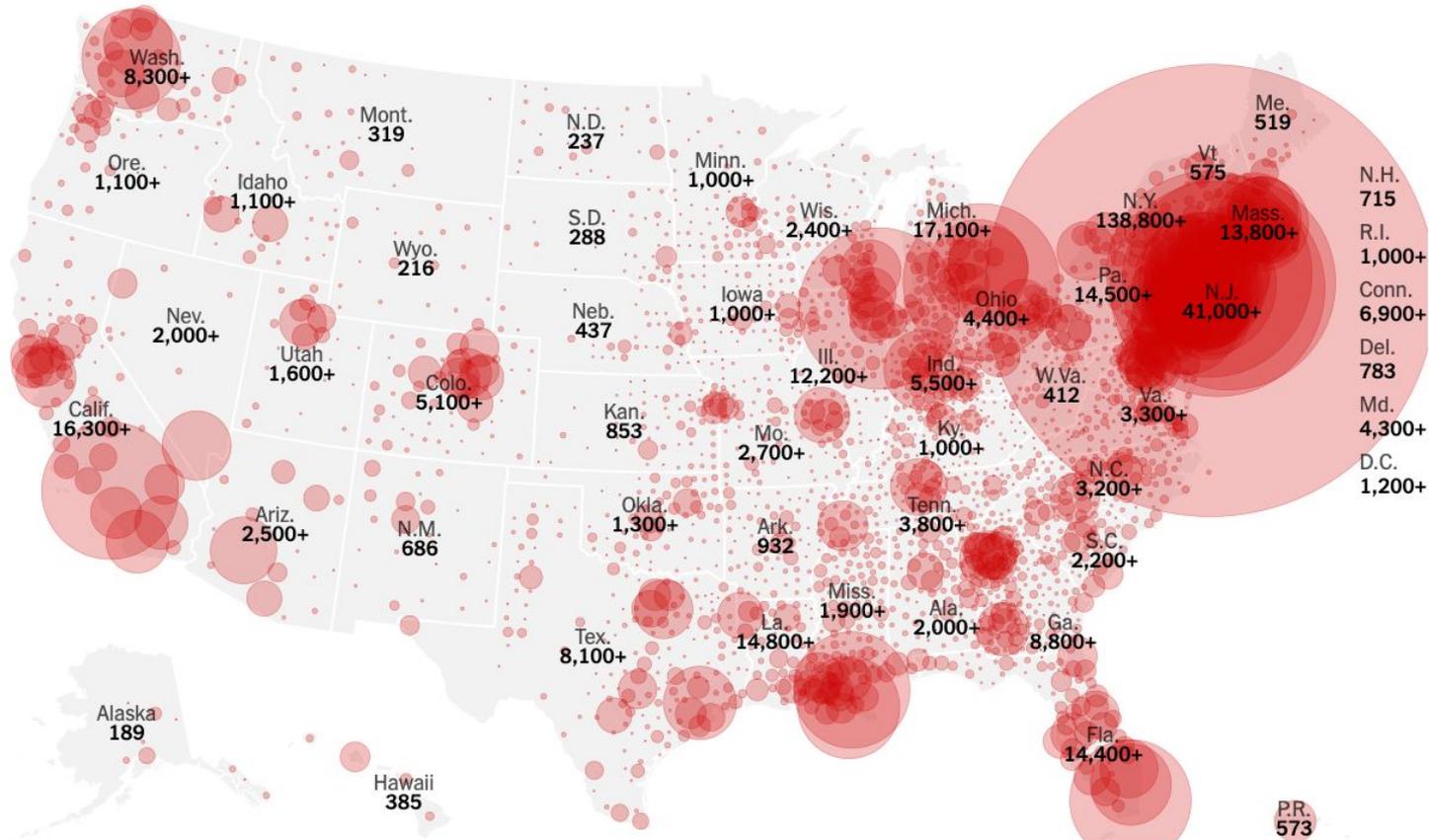
Some experts worry that shifting to vote-by-mail could potentially [increase voter fraud](#), while others worry that people will be forced to choose between their safety and voting.

In an NBC interview, [Former Vice President Joe Biden](#) urged that “*We cannot delay or postpone a constitutionally required November election,*” even if that means changing the way voting is conducted.



# Confirmed cases in the United States

\*Updated April 7, 2020



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.

# COVID-19 Discoveries

## Tiger Reported Sick

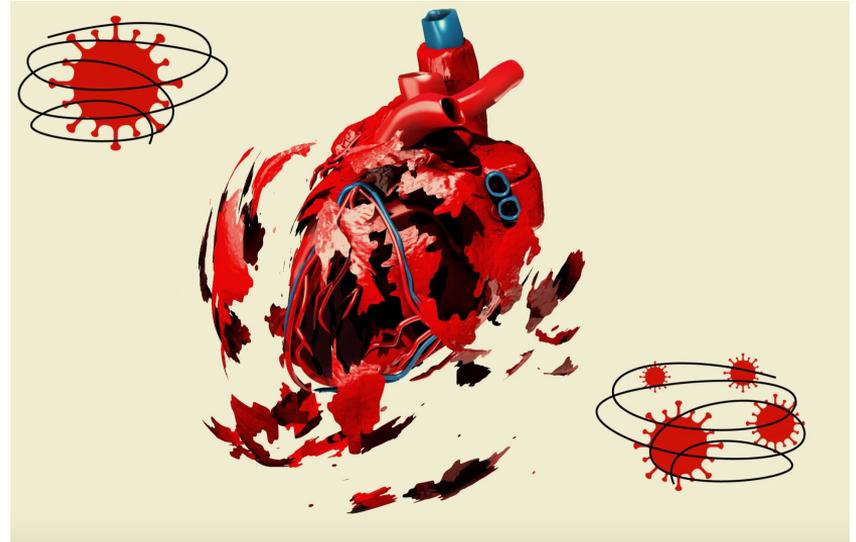
In the Bronx Zoo, a [4 year old Malaysian tiger has tested positive](#) for COVID-19. It is still unclear whether house cats are susceptible to the virus.

## Mysterious Heart Damage

So far, COVID-19 has been seen largely as a respiratory disease. However, as more data comes to light, cardiac experts are starting to think [the virus can infect the heart muscle](#). Many patients have been developing heart problems and dying of cardiac arrest.

## New Treatment Method

[Convalescent Plasma Therapy](#) has been approved by the U.S. FDA as an experimental treatment in clinical trials for critically ill COVID-19 patients. This is when antibodies from the blood of a recovered patient are transfused into the sick person in order to aid their immune system.



---

# People Uniting

---

Across the world, [people have come together to support each other](#) in the face of a global pandemic.

In **Wuhan, China**, after public transportation was suspended, volunteers created [community transportation](#) to help transport medical workers and equipment.

In **India**, Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA) has begun [providing aid packages](#) for marginalised families in need.

In **South Africa**, communities have created [survival packs](#) with hand sanitiser, toilet paper, water, and food for those living in vulnerable communities.

In **Norway**, recovered COVID-19 patients came together to [provide services](#) that were otherwise dangerous for others.

In **Czech Republic**, groups of students have [volunteered to babysit](#) the children of doctors and nurses.

In the **UK**, thousands of people created [mutual aid groups](#) to pick up groceries and prescriptions for elderly people.

This information is current as of April 7th, 2020.  
Further updates will be sent in future briefings.



New York | Brussels | Moscow | San Francisco  
[www.eastwest.ngo](http://www.eastwest.ngo) | t: @EWInstitute | f: EastWestInstitute