



Current Situation: COVID-19

April 21st, 2020
Update

Monitoring the Virus

The total number of confirmed cases has passed [2.5 million](#).

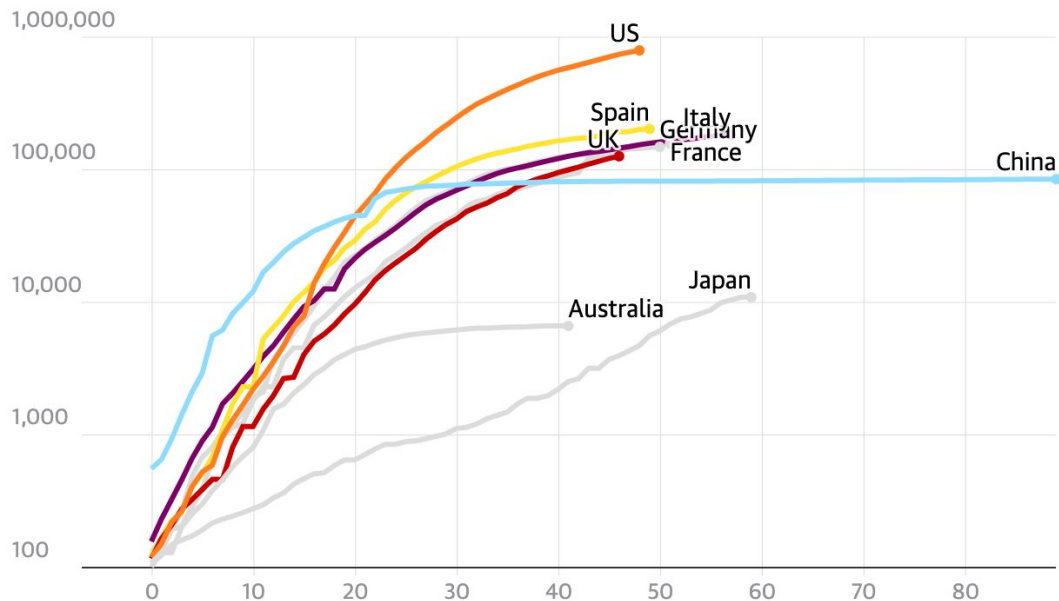
In Europe the [number of deaths](#) has risen past 100,000.

However, the total number of cases have begun falling in Italy and the [daily death rate has dropped](#) in Spain and the Netherlands.

Meanwhile Turkey has had a [surge in the number of cases](#).

In Singapore, there has been a [re-emergence of the virus](#) after it seemed to have the spread under control.

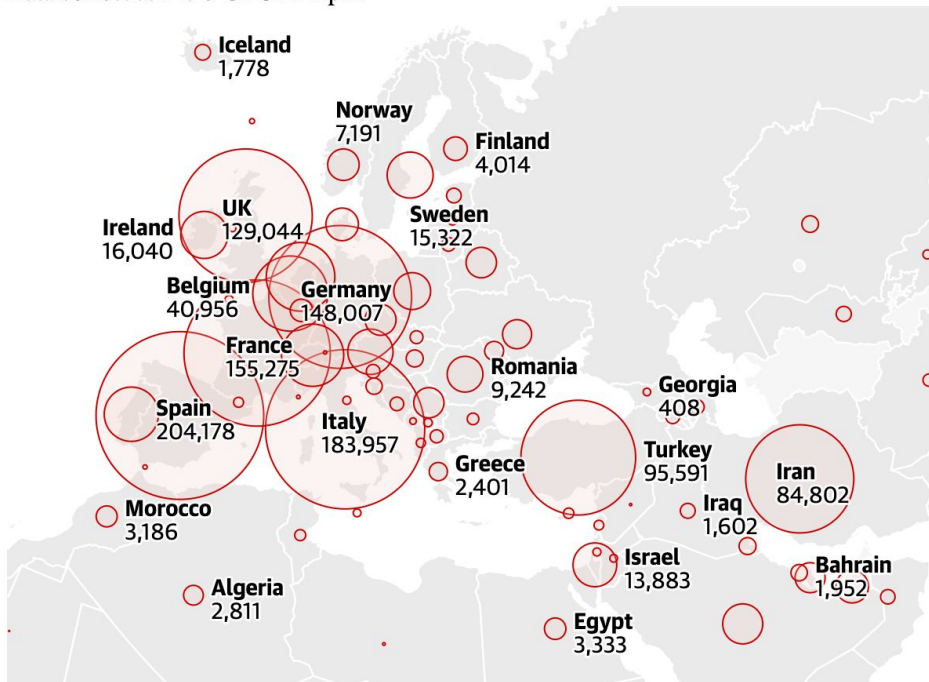
Confirmed Cases by Country



[Source:](#) Johns Hopkins CSSE Note: The CSSE states that its numbers rely upon publicly available data from multiple sources, which do not always agree

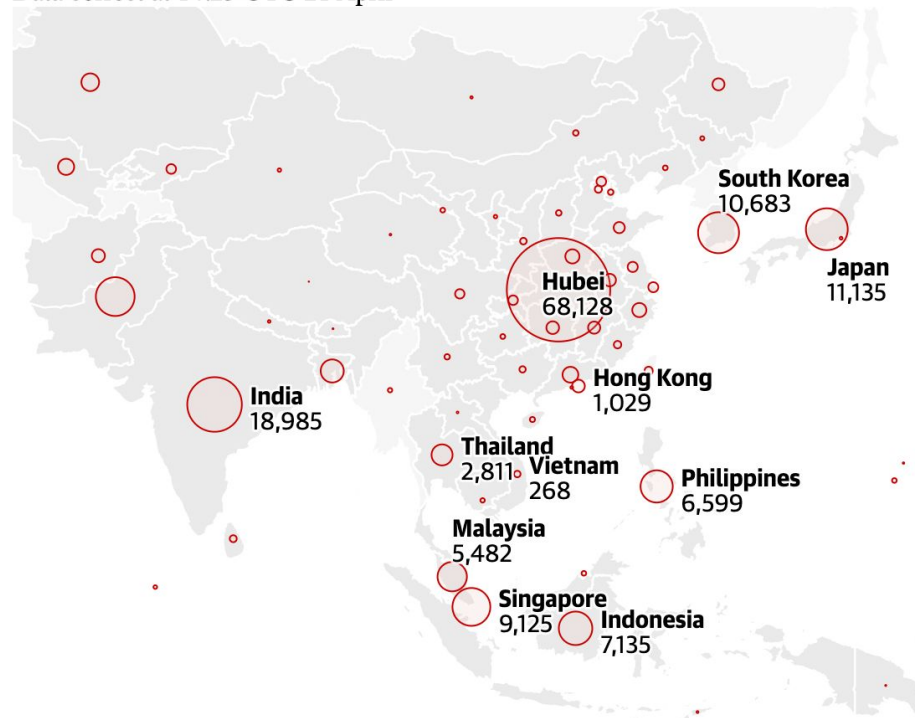
Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Europe, Middle East, and North Africa

Data correct at 14.25 UTC 21 April



Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Asia

Data correct at 14.25 UTC 21 April



COVID-19 in the U.S.

More Testing Needed

Experts say that the [amount of testing available needs to triple](#) before the U.S. can safely open. This would be about half a million tests per day.

Immigration Suspended

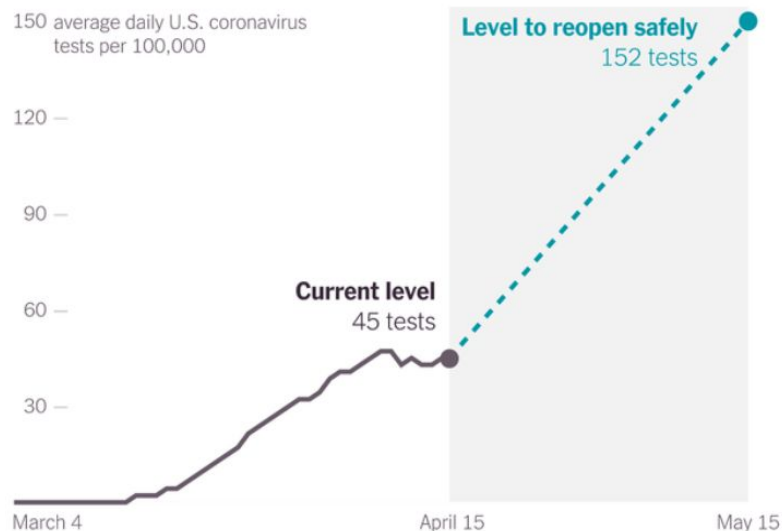
President Trump has [suspended immigration](#) in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Relief Package Deal

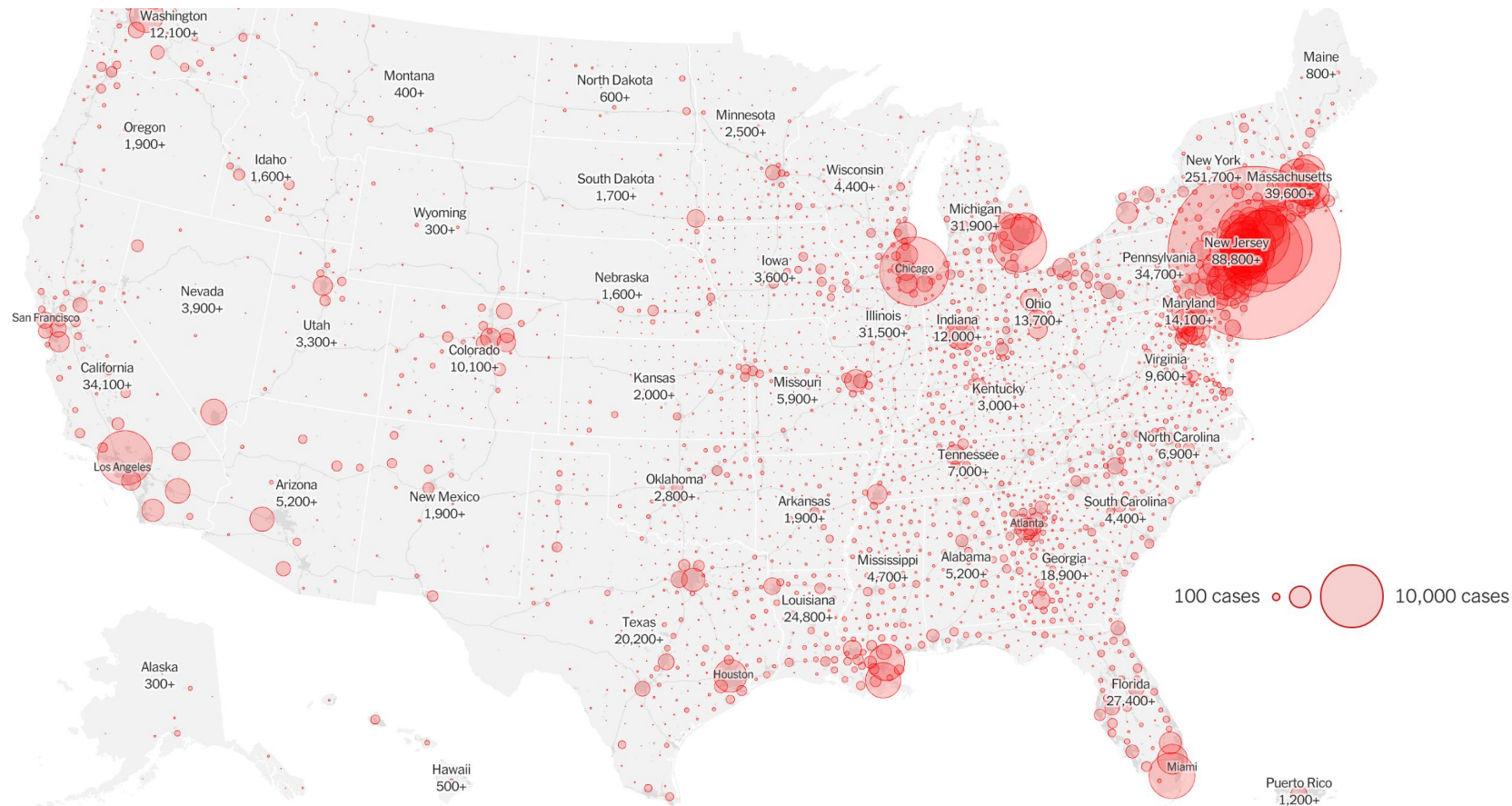
Congress and the White House have reached a deal on a [\\$484 billion relief package](#) to replenish the small business loan program.

Reopening States

Georgia has been [receiving widespread criticism](#) on its plan to reopen businesses including gyms, nail and hair salons, restaurants, movie theaters, and other entertainment facilities. South Carolina and Tennessee have also announced plans to ease restrictions.



Confirmed Cases in the United States



Note: The map shows the known locations of coronavirus cases by county. For total cases and deaths: Circles are sized by the number of people there who have tested positive, which may differ from where they contracted the illness. For per capita: Parts of a county with a population density of less than 10 people per square mile are not shaded. Sources: State and local health agencies and hospitals.

Global Consequences

World Hunger Rising

[According to the World Food Program](#), the number of people facing hunger is likely to double.

Migrants Vulnerable

There have been [outbreaks of the virus](#) in many migrant centers in Greece, raising fear about their safety.

Drug Cartels Facing Difficulties

Due to the COVID-19 lockdown in China, many of the chemicals that Mexican drug cartels rely on to produce drugs [have been more difficult to receive](#).

Cancelled Events

[Oktoberfest](#) in Munich and Pamplona's [annual running of the bulls](#) have both been cancelled.



Protests Worldwide

Mass Protest in Israel

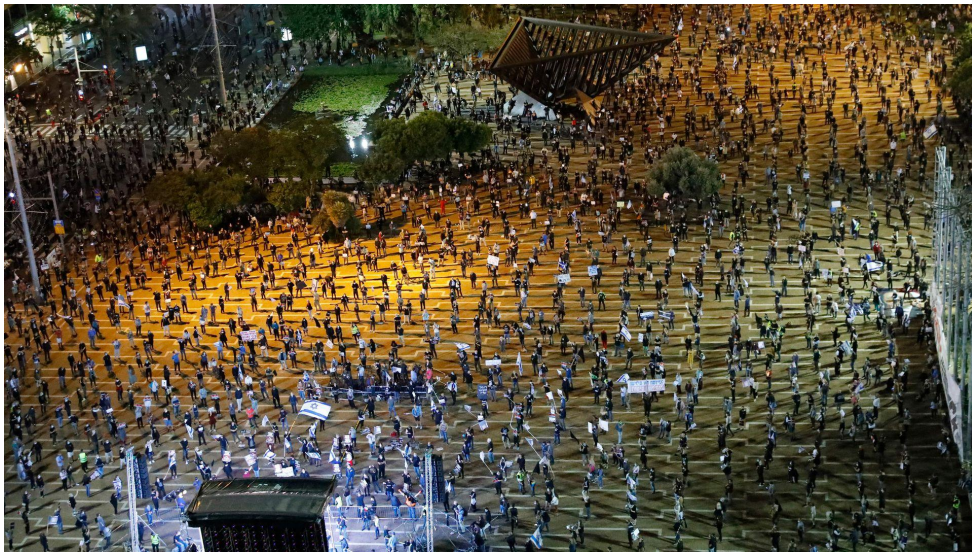
Thousands of Israelis gathered in a [social distancing protest](#) against COVID-19 policies they see as anti-democratic.

Anti-Government Protests in Lebanon

In the two cities Beirut and Tripoli, small demonstrations have begun to appear due to the lockdown's [magnification of poverty and unemployment](#).

Brazil's Anti-Lockdown Protests

During a mass [anti-lockdown protest](#) in Brazil, President Jair Bolsonaro joined on the back of a truck.



Restrictive Measures

Loosening Restrictions

Italy will likely begin [easing restrictions](#) starting May 4th.

France and the Netherlands are both looking to [reopen primary schools](#) in May.

[Germany](#) and [Austria](#) are beginning to open restaurants and cafes and well as bookshops, florists, clothing stores, and religious services.

Switzerland has a [3-step process](#) plan to end the lockdown and reopen the economy.

Restrictions Continuing

Even with no new infections, Hong Kong has [extended its social distancing measures](#) until May 7.

Pakistan has ordered mosques to [obey social distancing regulations](#) as the holy month of Ramadan nears.

Singapore has [extended its lockdown](#) until June 1st.

WHO Warns Against Lifting Restrictions



According to the WHO, easing restrictive measures may lead to a resurgence in the number of cases.

Dr. Takeshi Kasai, the WHO regional director for the Western Pacific, said governments must remain vigilant in the use of lockdowns and social distancing to stop the spread, and the lifting of restrictions must be a very gradual, slow process.

This information is current as of April 21, 2020. Further updates will be sent in future briefings.



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