



Current Situation: COVID-19

April 27th,
2020 Update

Monitoring the Virus

Globally, the total number of [confirmed cases](#) has exceeded 3 million people with over [200,000 deaths](#).

Virus Spreading in Russia

Russia has now [reported more confirmed cases than China, having reached a total of 87,147](#) infections nationwide.

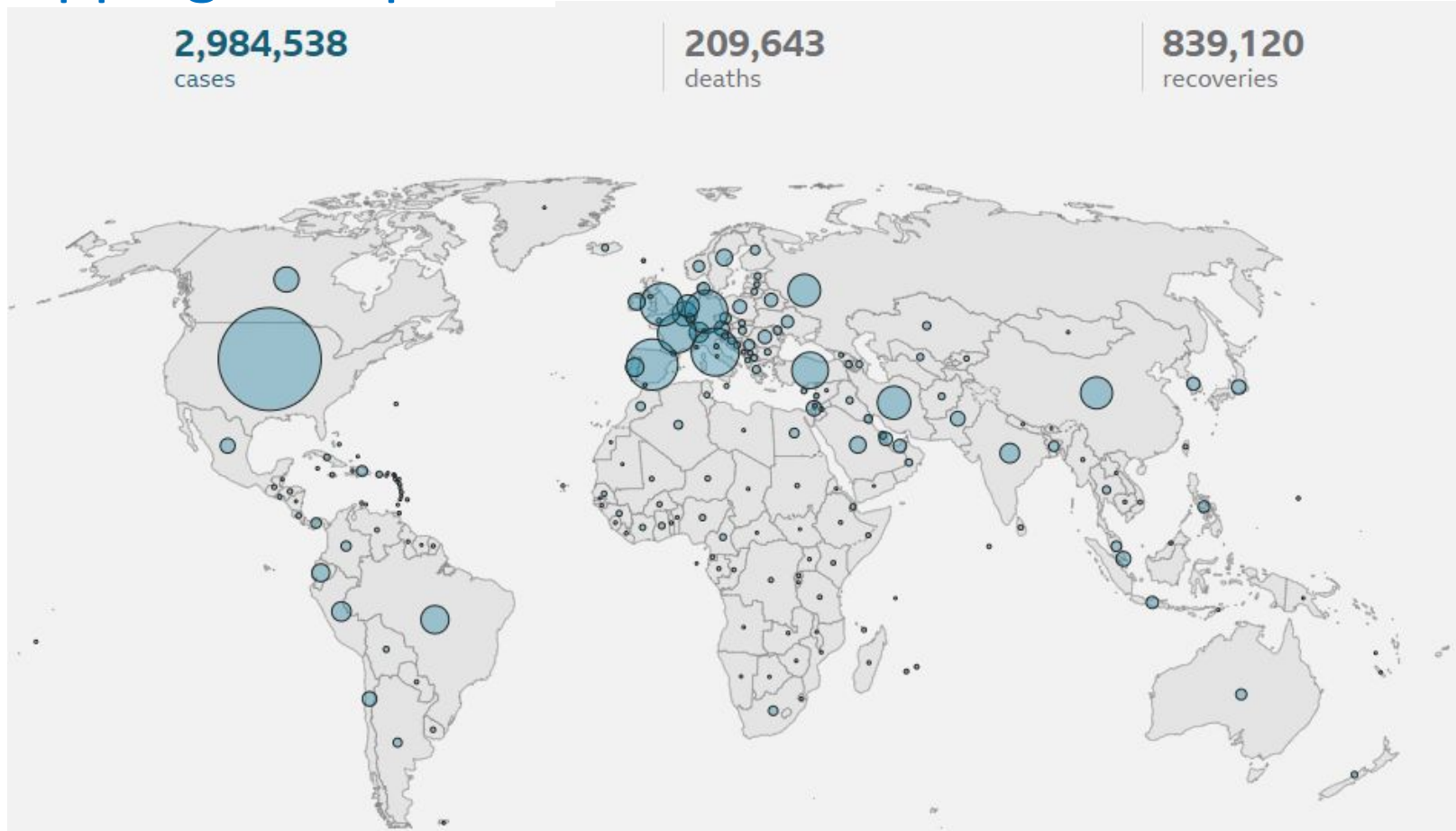
Potentially Updated Figures

Some researchers find that the number of coronavirus cases in China could actually have been [around four times higher](#) than officially reported.



Mapping the Spread

*Updated April 27, 2020



[Source](#)

Global Updates

Mask Producers in China

[Chinese government to take control over medical mask production](#) as demand soars and products are reported as faulty.

Some Desperate to Work Despite Danger

[Garment workers in Bangladesh return to work](#) despite spread of virus.

Iran Slowly Opening Up Again

Iran rolls out [plan to reopen mosques](#) in areas that are free of the virus.



Europe Largely Remains Cautious

[Boris Johnson returns to work](#) and warns lockdown to continue in U.K. before being able to announce plans to reopen.

Some of the hardest hit [hospitals in Europe fear resurgence](#) of virus as nations ease lockdown restrictions.

COVID-19 in the U.S.

Cases in the U.S. reach nearly 1 million and deaths surpass 50,000 across the nation.

States Begin Easing Restrictions

Each state begins rolling out their own timelines for reopening businesses and lifting stay at home orders.

People Getting Antsy

Researchers are seeing a slight increase in activity suggesting "quarantine fatigue" is causing people to loosen up on their own.

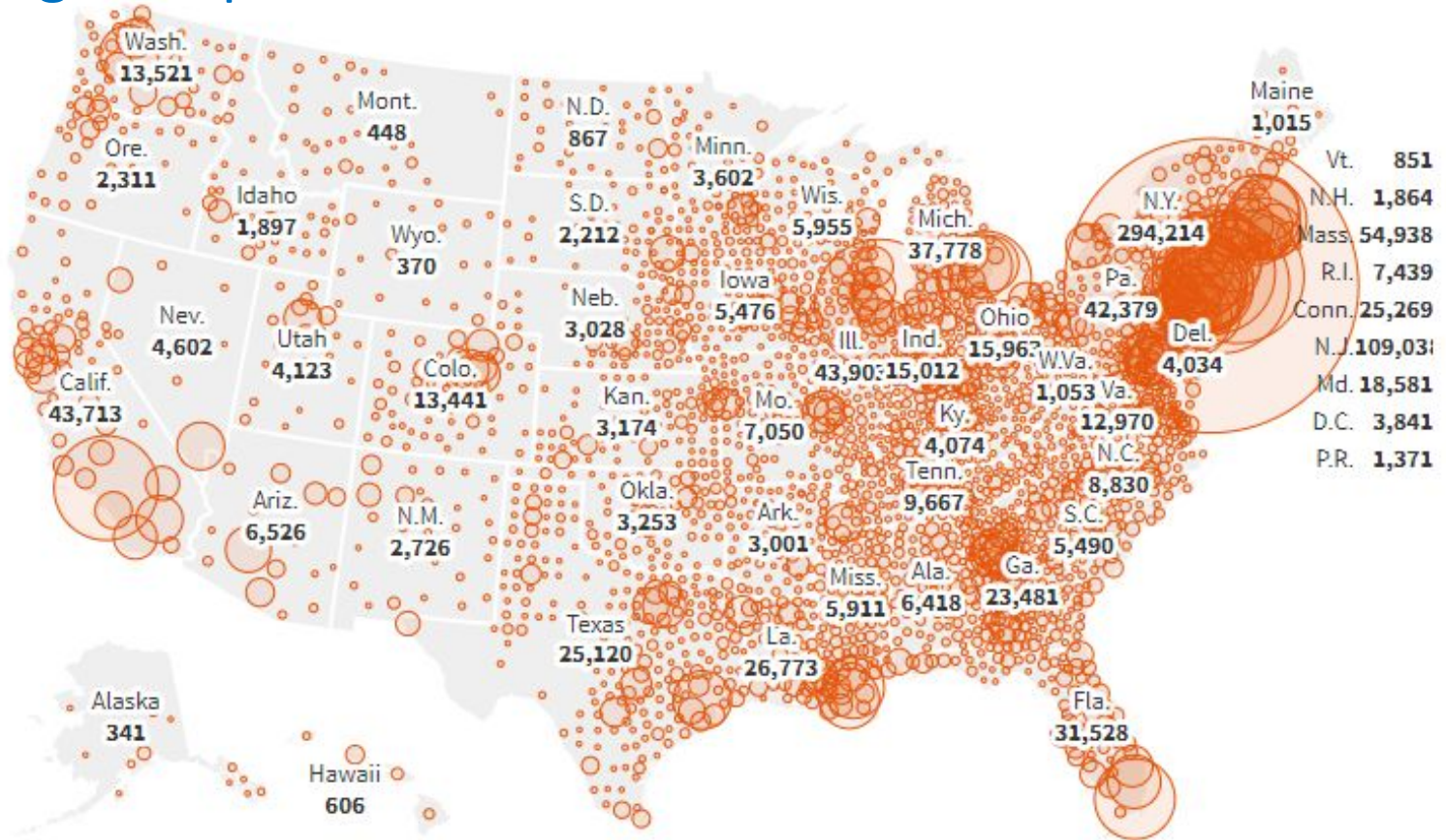
Looking Ahead

White House coronavirus coordinator Deborah Birx says some form of social distancing likely to remain in place throughout the summer.



Mapping the Spread in U.S.

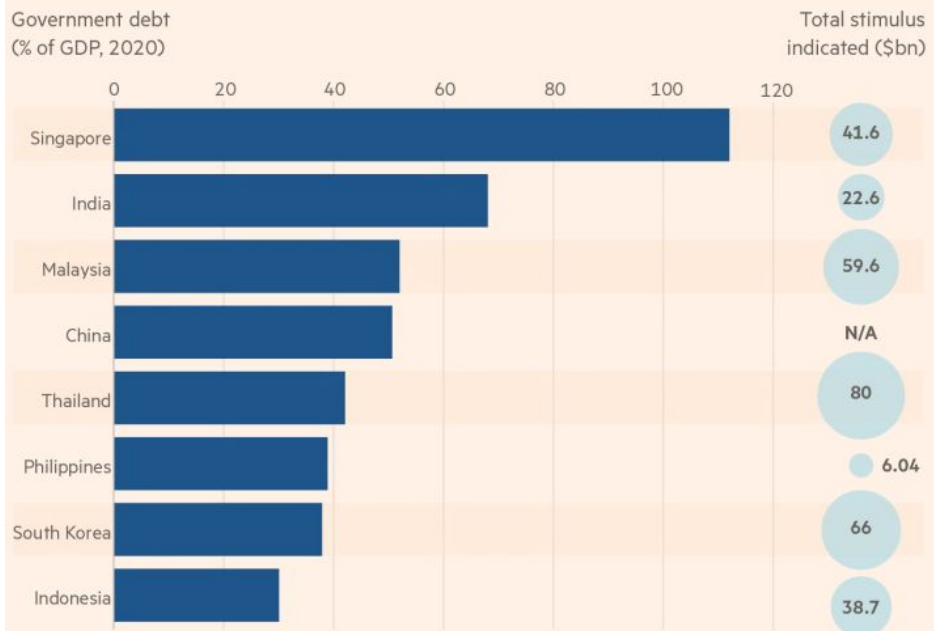
Updated April 27, 2020



Sources: State and local governments and health authorities; Cases in New York City are grouped together, cases in Detroit are included in Wayne County, Michigan and cases in Chicago are included in Cook County, Illinois. The case total for Jackson County, Missouri includes both the county cases and those reported by the Kansas City Health Department as the majority of the city lies within Jackson County. Total cases for Alameda County, California includes data from the city of Berkeley.

Economic Updates

Emerging Asian countries load up on debt to fund stimulus



[Source](#): Capital Economics

Asian Markets Feeling Impact

[Asia's emerging markets brace for economic fallout](#) from coronavirus.

Many U.S. Companies Continue to Struggle

[Bankruptcy expected in Corporate America](#) as lockdowns continue.

U.K. Sees Economic Slowdown

Roughly [25% of U.K. businesses are not trading](#) due to pandemic.

U.S. Stocks Look Up

[Stocks rose on Monday](#) in response to stimulus packages and the easing of lockdown measures.

More Attention on COVID-19

Shifting Focus

[Gates Foundation to focus on coronavirus](#) exclusively shifting all its other activities.

“You’re going to have economies with greatly reduced activity levels for years,” [Gates said](#). The pandemic could cost the global economy “tens of trillions of dollars.”

Unclear Death Figures

According to the [New York Times, at least 36,000 more people have died](#) during the pandemic than have been officially reported. The [Financial Times estimates](#) the death toll could be 60% higher than reported.



Security and Stability Concerns



Stability Concerns

Prison Riot in Argentina

Inmates at a jail in [Buenos Aires protested on Friday](#) after reports that a number of people in the facility were infected with the coronavirus.

Afghanistan Releases Prisoners

[Afghanistan to release 60 percent of prisoners](#) as coronavirus continues to spread.

Protest in Tel Aviv

Thousands gather in [Tel Aviv for Black Flag protest](#) against coalition government deal.

Tracking Quarantine Escapees

Kenyan President says the [government will find those who escaped quarantine](#).



Challenges in the Developing World

Ramping Up Efforts

The [UN is scaling up efforts](#) to protect migrants and refugees around the world.

Human Rights Violations

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [called on countries to refrain from violating fundamental rights](#) “under the guise of exceptional or emergency measures.”



[UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet](#), said that emergency powers “*should not be a weapon Governments can wield to quash dissent, control the population, and even perpetuate their time in power.*”

Immunity Controversy



[Source](#)

Controversial Claims

Sweden's Ambassador to the U.S. claimed that approximately [30% of people in Stockholm have reached a level of immunity](#) and could reach herd immunity in the next month.

This comes after the [WHO issued a report](#) on Friday warning of claims of immunity as there is not enough evidence to support this claim.

COVID-19 Research

Vaccine Progress

[Scientists at Oxford University](#) see promising signs in working to develop a vaccine.

If it proves to be effective, earliest doses could become available as soon as September.

Exploring Treatment Options

Scientists are testing the [use of hormones to treat coronavirus patients](#) as numbers show that men are more likely to die from the virus than women.



This information is current as of April 27, 2020. Further updates will be sent in future briefings.



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