



Current Situation: COVID-19

May 5th, 2020
Update

Monitoring the Virus

Cases Rise in Russia

Russia has reported a 10,000 person one day increase in the [number of COVID-19 cases](#). This marks the highest daily rise since the beginning of the pandemic.

UK Death Toll

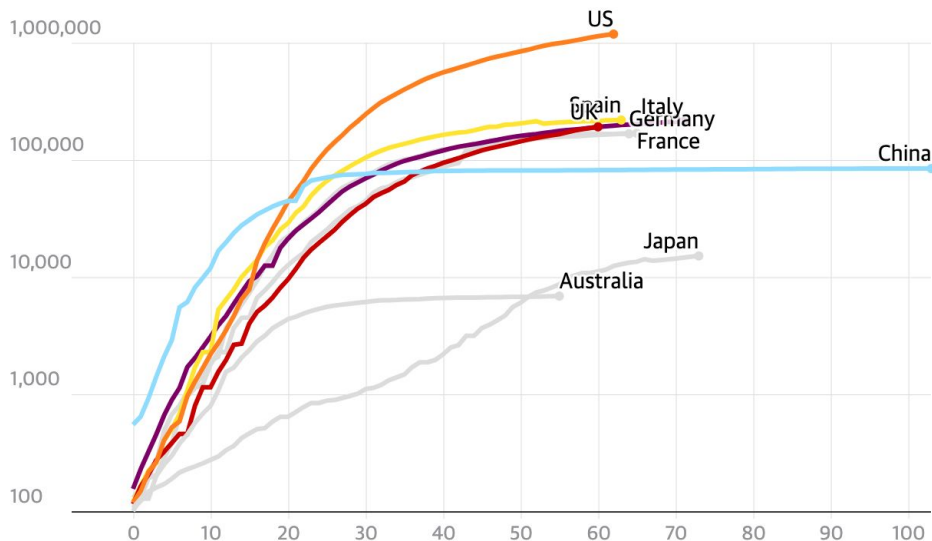
The [death toll in the UK](#) has reached nearly 30,000, surpassing Italy's death toll and becoming the highest for any country in Europe.

Italy's Record Low

Italy has reported its [lowest increase in the number of cases](#) in the past two months. The daily infection count stood at 1,075 compared to 1,221 the previous day.

Confirmed cases of Covid-19 for selected countries

Showing the number of cases since the day of the 100th case, using a log scale. Data correct at 23.59 UTC 4 May



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

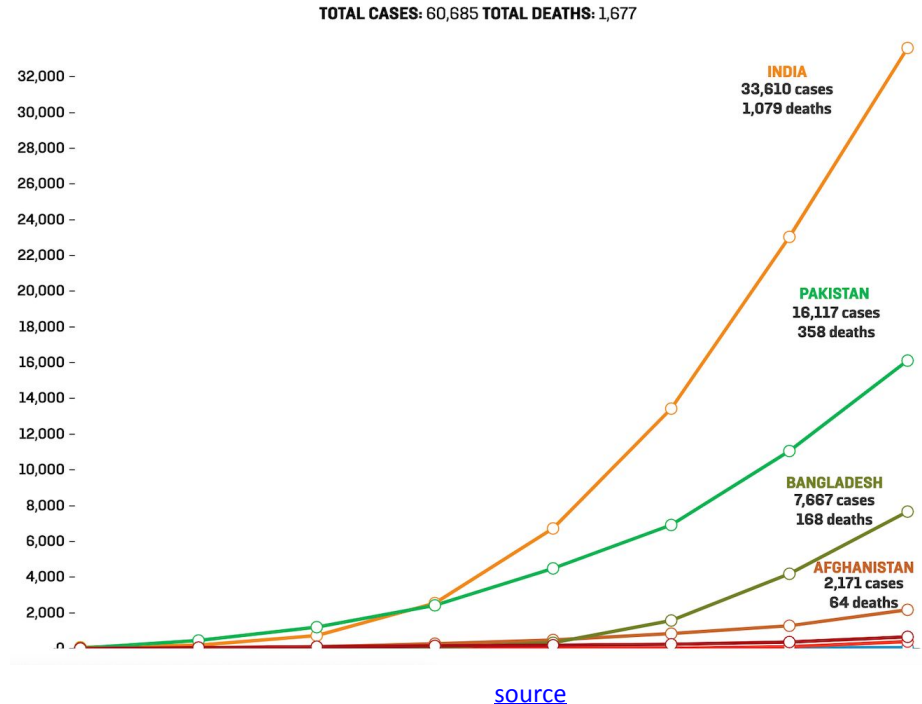
COVID-19 in South Asia

Despite South Asia's high population density, the [number of confirmed COVID-19 cases have been surprisingly low](#).

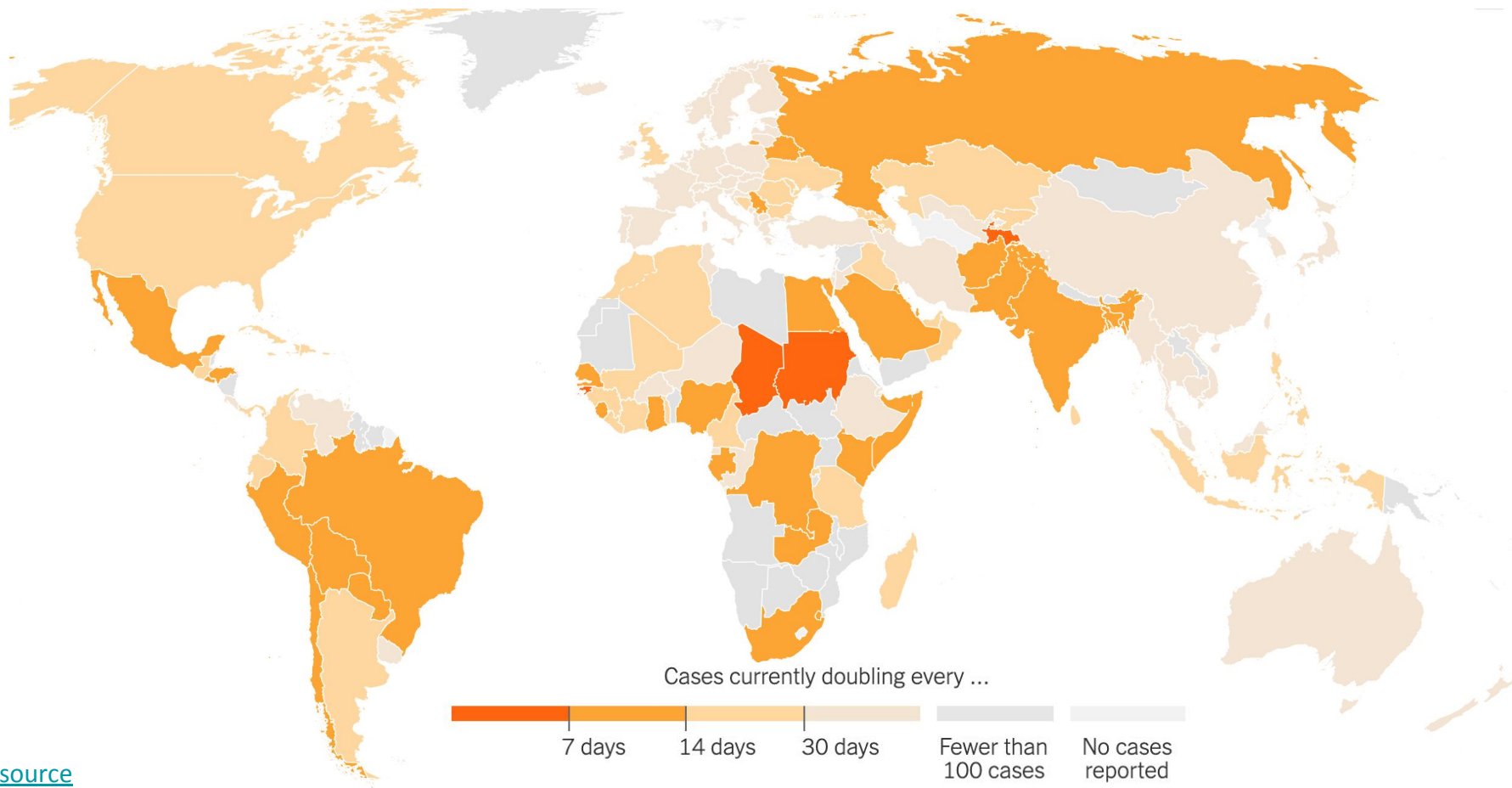
Health experts have looked at the possibility of low testing capacity, but this does not account for the low amount of hospital admissions or the lack of deaths.

The [WHO says there is no evidence](#) that warmer weather could account for the lack of infections. They have also said [there is no evidence](#) that a tuberculosis vaccine, which is widespread in South Asia, has any effect in fighting the coronavirus.

COVID-19 Cases in South Asia Since March 12th



Current COVID-19 Hotspots



COVID-19 in the U.S.

There have been over 1.1 million confirmed COVID-19 cases and over 70,000 related deaths in the United States.

COVID-19 Model Death Estimates

An influential model has changed its predicted death toll to 134,000 people. This is about double its last prediction.

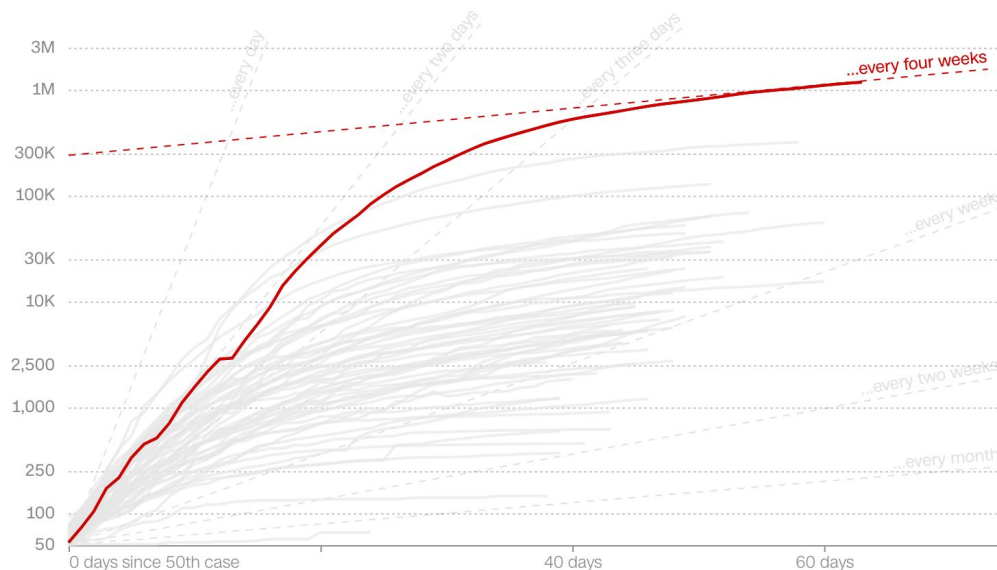
School Closures

46 states have either ordered or recommended school closures for the rest of the year.

NYC Antibody Tests

New York City is going to offer about 150,000 free antibody tests to healthcare workers and first responders.

COVID-19 Growth Rates in the U.S.

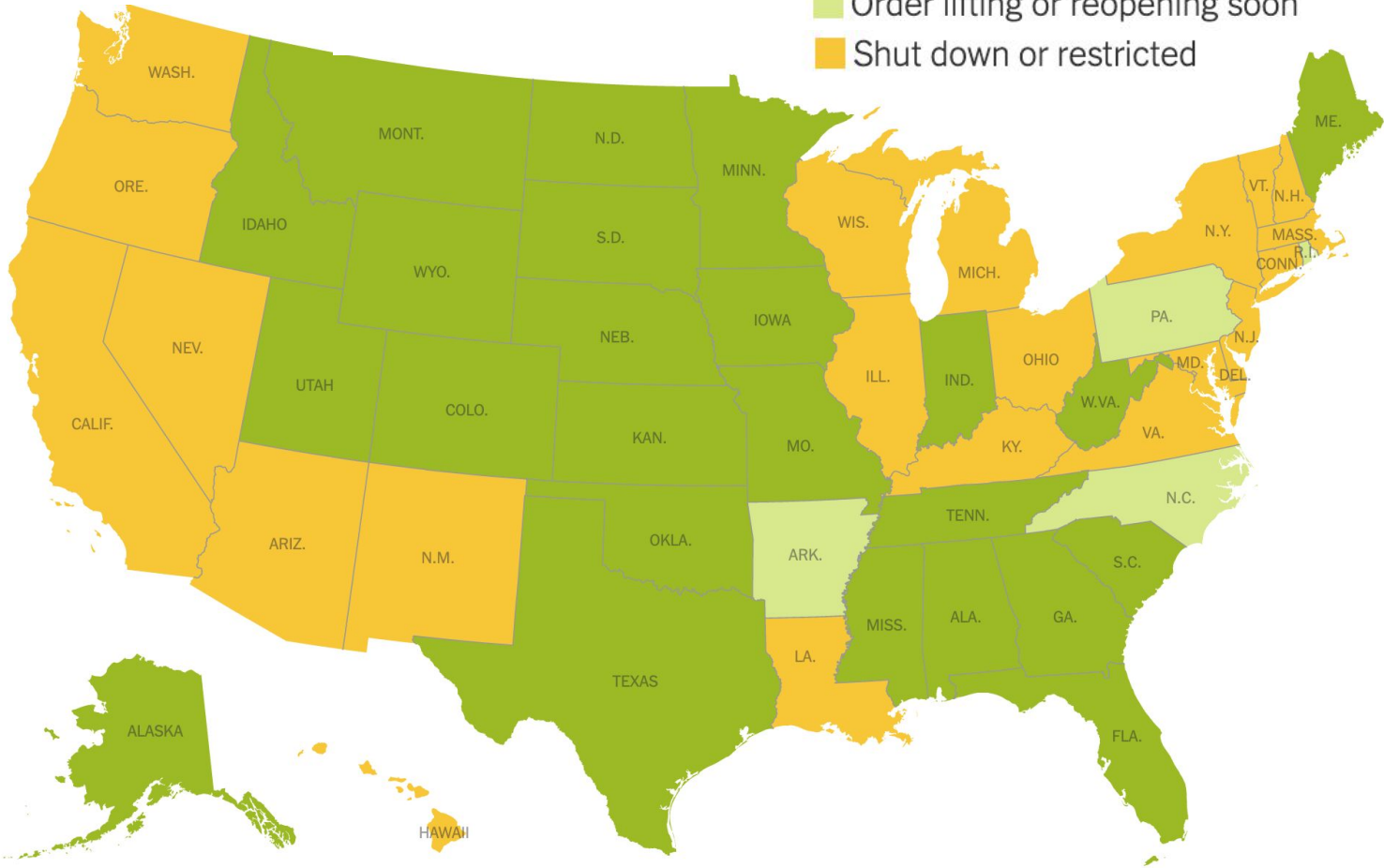


Note: Doubling times are based on the previous week. Last updated: May 4, 2020 at 10:55 p.m. ET.

Source: Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering

Which States Are Reopening

- Partial reopening
- Order lifting or reopening soon
- Shut down or restricted



Economic Updates

Global Fundraiser

World leaders have [pledged about \\$8 billion](#) towards developing a COVID-19 vaccine.

Spain Unemployment Rises

In April, the number of unemployed people in Spain [rose by over 280,000](#).

Travel Industry Facing Severe Cuts

United Airlines has reported [potential cuts in jobs](#) as demand for flights is expected to stay low.

Virgin Atlantic is [cutting more than 3,000 jobs](#), as well as shutting down operations at the London Gatwick Airport.

Norwegian Cruise Line has reported it may be forced to [go out of business](#).



Nations Continue Easing Restrictions

Israel Starts Schools

Israel is having students grades 1-3 and 11-12 [return to school](#) this week.

Iran Opens Mosques

Iran is [lifting restrictions](#) on mosques in 132 cities.

Jordan Resumes Public Transportation

Jordan has allowed [public transportation to resume](#) as normal, but schools and will remain closed and a curfew will stay in place.

Hong Kong Relaxes Restrictions

Hong Kong has [relaxed business and social distancing](#) restrictions and moved group limits up to eight people.



Future International Travel

Travel To Europe Uncertain

French President Emmanuel Macron has warned people to [put their summer vacation on hold](#), saying that France is prepared to limit international travel, even during the summer.

The president of the National Tourism Board in Italy has reported that [there are no plans to close Italy off](#) to tourism for the rest of the year. There are plans instead to discuss safety measures for potential tourism.

Airlines Add Flights

Meanwhile, [airlines around the world have been adding flights](#) to future itineraries. United Airlines is restarting seven routes in June, American Airlines is restarting flights to Europe and South America, and a number of smaller airlines have also planned to resume flights later this month and into June.



COVID-19 Treatment Progress

Vaccine By 2020 Possible

CEO of BioNTech Ugur Şahin has said that a coronavirus vaccine that is currently undergoing human trials [may be available in millions](#) of doses by the end of 2020.

Antibodies in Israel and the Netherlands

Both [Israel](#) and the [Netherlands](#) have reported breakthrough creations of antibodies that can block COVID-19 in the body.

Vaccines Undergoing Clinical Trial

Of the 108 current vaccines being developed around the world, eight have been [approved for clinical trials](#).



"The benefit of a vaccine in a pandemic situation is much greater and therefore an approval or an authorization of a vaccine in a pandemic situation has to follow other rules than we have seen in the past."

- Ugur Şahin, CEO of BioNTech

This information is current as of May 5th, 2020. Further updates will be sent in future briefings.



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