

THE UNITED STATES
Recorded cases
710,272
Deaths
37,175

Updates: New York State will direct all public and private laboratories to coordinate with the State Department of Health to ramp up coronavirus diagnostic testing, said governor Andrew Cuomo on Friday. He said he would sign an executive order to ensure the coordination of 301 labs and hospitals in the state that were licensed to perform virology as large-scale testing was a key prerequisite for reopening the state's economy.

SPAIN
Recorded cases
190,839
Deaths
20,002

Updates: Spain launched criminal investigations into 37 care homes after grieving relatives of thousands of elderly Covid-19 victims claimed "they were left to die". The public prosecutor is also looking into 124 private cases, whilst the country's Patient Ombudsman is investigating another 200 complaints. They claimed that the elderly in care and nursing homes were not tested for Covid-19, not provided with healthcare and their families were not allowed to take them home.

ITALY
Recorded cases
172,434
Deaths
22,745

Updates: Italian health officials declared a long-sought victory on Friday over the coronavirus in poorer southern regions that were less prepared for the pandemic than the richer north. Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte had warned six weeks ago that Italy's ability to conquer Covid-19 depended on whether cases can stay largely contained to its northern epicentre around Milan. The disease has now officially claimed 22,745 lives in the Mediterranean. Italy has still counted itself relatively lucky because the outbreak erupted in provinces with the best equipped medical staff.

GLOBAL COVID-19 CASES

FRANCE
Recorded cases
147,969
Deaths
18,681

Updates: The French navy is investigating how the coronavirus infected more than 1,000 sailors aboard the aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle. The ship, France's biggest carrier and the flagship of its navy, is undergoing a lengthy disinfection process since returning to its home base in Toulon last Monday. One person remains in intensive care and some 20 others hospitalised.

GERMANY
Recorded cases
141,397
Deaths
4,352

Updates: The coronavirus outbreak has become "manageable" again in Germany as the number of patients who have recovered has been higher than new infections every day this week, Health Minister Jens Spahn said. Imposing restrictions to keep people home from mid-March had been successful, he said, as the country prepared to ease measures and ramp up production of protective masks. Smaller shops would open from next week and schools reopen to some pupils from May 4, but other elements of the wide-ranging restrictions will remain in effect, including a ban on gatherings of more than two people in public and on large public events.

THE UNITED KINGDOM
Recorded cases
108,692
Deaths
14,576

Updates: The United Kingdom set up a task force to urgently find a coronavirus vaccine and prepare the industry to manufacture it at scale once it is developed, as 847 new Covid-19 deaths were reported, taking the death toll in the country to 14,576. UK Business Secretary Alok Sharma said on Friday the new vaccine task force was a collaboration between business and industry, and academia. It is aimed at coordinating efforts to discover a vaccine, funnel resources and support to industry and research institutions, as well as review regulations to remove any blocks in scaling it up.

CHINA
Recorded cases
82,719
Deaths
4,632

Updates: China's imported cases of coronavirus rose to 1,566 and the death toll jumped to 4,632 with a 50 per cent spike in fatality figures from the epicentre Wuhan. The country's National Health Commission announced the revised national figures of coronavirus, taking note of Wuhan's new data. As per the new figures, the overall confirmed cases on the mainland reached 82,719 by Friday, including 4,632 deaths, with 1,058 patients are still being treated and 77,029 discharged from hospitals. No death was reported on Friday.

IRAN
Recorded cases
79,494
Deaths
4,958

Updates: The World Bank will provide Iran with a US\$50 million loan to support the country in fighting Covid-19. Iran allowed some businesses in the capital and nearby towns to reopen yesterday after weeks of lockdown aimed at containing the worst coronavirus outbreak in the Middle East. Gyms, restaurants, shopping malls and Teheran's grand bazaar will remain closed. Shrines and mosques are also shuttered, and a ban on public gatherings remains in place. Government offices have reopened with a third of employees working from home, and schools and universities are still closed.

MALAYSIA
Recorded cases
5,305
Deaths
88

Updates: Work to install Internet connection at residential premises during the Movement Control Order (MCO) is allowed, said Senior Minister [Security Cluster] Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob yesterday. He said service provider technicians only had to inform the authorities at roadblocks while on their way to carry out the installation work at clients' houses.

INDONESIA
Recorded cases
6,248
Deaths
535

Updates: Indonesia extended stricter social distancing rules to millions of people living on the main island of Java and in West Sumatra in the bid to stem a spike in Covid-19 cases. Large-scale social restrictions will be put in place across five regions in West Java that collectively house almost nine million people, said Health Minister Terawan Agus Putranto. A similar order was given for Tegal, a city in Central Java, and for the West Sumatra province after a significant increase in Covid-19 cases in these areas.

THE PHILIPPINES
Recorded cases
6,087
Deaths
397

Updates: The Philippine government acquired new test kits that could detect coronavirus in 45 minutes, Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles said yesterday as the country boosted its testing capacity. Nograles said the GeneXpert test kit, a rapid, real-time RT-PCR test intended for the qualitative detection of SARS-CoV-2, would yield faster results compared with other test kits. The Philippine government had bought close to three million additional Covid-19 test kits as the country began targeted mass testing for the disease.

SINGAPORE
Recorded cases
5,992
Deaths
11

Updates: The Health Ministry preliminarily confirmed 942 new cases of Covid-19 up to yesterday, a new single-day high, tallying at 5,992. The majority of the new cases were work-permit holders residing in foreign worker dormitories, with only 14 Singaporeans or permanent residents among the cases.

THAILAND
Recorded cases
2,733
Deaths
47

Updates: Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan o Cha announced that he would write an open letter to Thailand's top 20 richest people to seek their assistance for the government and Thai citizens in the fight against Covid-19. He said the letter was to gather their input and ideas to ease the impact on the economy and seek their advice as the government wanted to finalise planning to relaunch as well as reboot the Thai economy next week.

IDEAS TO STAY HEALTHY AT HOME DURING COVID-19



Be active



Eat healthy



Don't smoke



Meditate



Read books

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES YOU CAN DO AT HOME



Try exercise classes online

Dance to music



Play active video games

Skipping rope



Do some muscle strength and balance training