



Short Update 24a COVID-19 Coronavirus Disease 19th of JUNE 2020



GLOBALLY

8 433 273

Confirmed cases
4 146 135
recovered
453 352 deaths

USA

(new cases/day 23 480)

2 182 498 →

confirmed cases
598 862 recovered
118 257 deaths

Brazil

(new cases/day 26 137)

978 142 →

confirmed cases
534 580 recovered
47 748 deaths

Russia

(new cases/day 8 360)

560 321 ↘

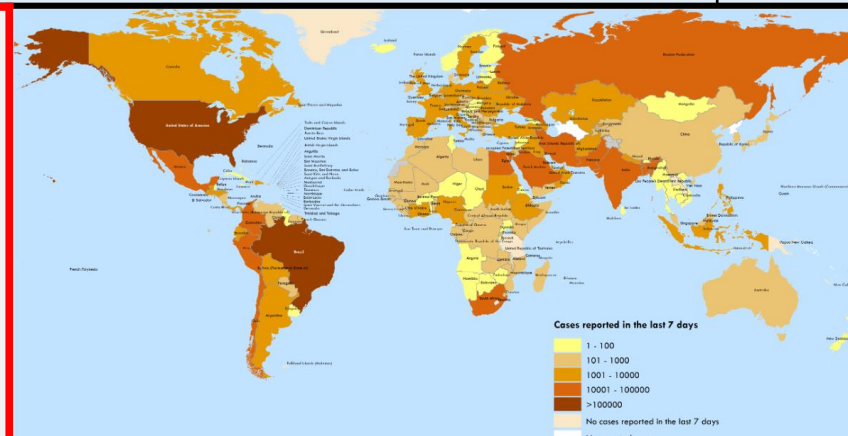
confirmed cases
313 409 recovered
7 650 deaths

News:

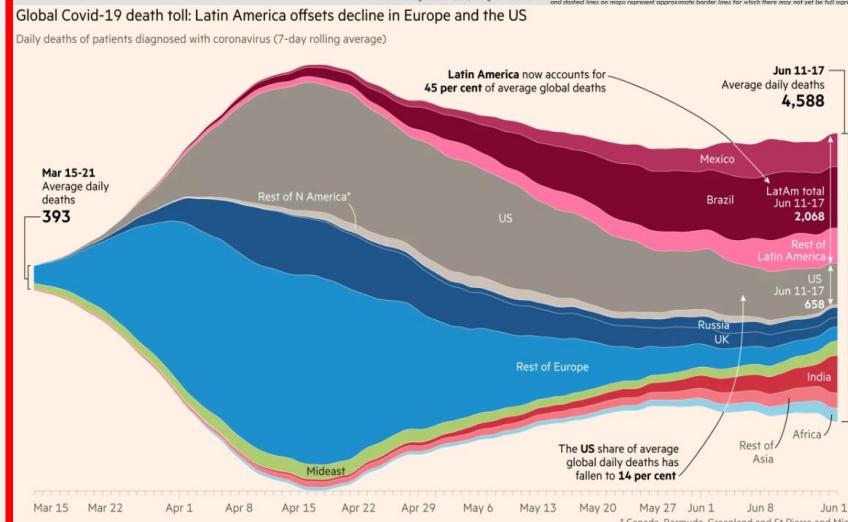
- After three weeks without new infections, New Zealand has confirmed a third case of corona. The patient is a male who first traveled to Australia from Pakistan via Qatar. From there he traveled to New Zealand and was in mandatory quarantine when he developed symptoms of COVID-19. Two days after arrival he was tested positive for the virus. The new Corona cases emphasizing the importance of strict border control measures.
- NATO** Defence Ministers met on Thursday, to [prepare for a possible second wave](#) of the Coronavirus pandemic. They decided on a plan to provide support to Allies and partners, agreed to establish a stockpile of medical equipment and supplies, as well as a new fund to enable Allies to quickly acquire medical supplies and services. They also decided to update NATO's guidelines for national resilience to take greater account of cyber threats, the security of supply chains, and consequences of foreign ownership and control.
- WHO**: urges countries to address the sharp decline in influenza surveillance and testing during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially as the southern hemisphere enters the flu season.
- ECDC**: published a [monitoring and evaluation framework for COVID-19 response activities](#) to support countries in their efforts to monitor the implementation and effects of COVID-19 response activities.
- Find Articles and other materials about COVID-19 on our website [here](#)
- Please use our online observation form to report your lessons learned observations as soon as possible [here](#)

Topics:

- Subject in Focus - Animals & COVID-19/SARS-CoV-2
- Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation
- In the press



Global Covid-19 death toll: Latin America offsets decline in Europe and the US
Daily deaths of patients diagnosed with coronavirus (7-day rolling average)



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EUROPE

2 406 343
confirmed cases

1 320 664 recovered
190 023 deaths

UK

(new cases/day 1 294)

300 469 →
confirmed cases

-not reported- recovered
42 288 deaths

SPAIN

(new cases/day 366)

245 268 ↗
confirmed cases

150 376 recovered
27 136 deaths

ITALY

(new cases/day 288)

238 159 ↘
confirmed cases

180 544 recovered
34 514 deaths

Global Situation

Preliminary results about dexamethasone use in treating critically ill COVID-19 patients

Initial clinical trial results from the United Kingdom (UK) show that dexamethasone, a corticosteroid, can be lifesaving for patients who are critically ill with COVID-19. The benefit was only seen in patients seriously ill with COVID-19, and was not observed in patients with milder disease.

For patients on ventilators, the treatment was shown to reduce mortality by about one third, and for patients requiring only oxygen, mortality was cut by about one fifth, according to preliminary findings shared with WHO.

WHO will coordinate a meta-analysis to increase the overall understanding of the intervention. WHO clinical guidance will be updated to reflect how and when the drug should be used in COVID-19.

COVID-19 in reception and detention centres for migrants and refugees

1. There is no evidence to suggest that transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 is higher amongst migrants and refugees. However, environmental factors such as overcrowding in reception and detention centres may increase their exposure to the disease.
2. All principles of physical distancing applied in the community should be applied in migrant reception and detention settings. If physical distancing and risk-containment measures cannot be safely implemented, measures to de-congest and evacuate residents should be considered.
3. There is no evidence that quarantining people in reception and detention settings effectively limits transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 or, provides any additional protective effects for the general population outside those that could be achieved by conventional containment and protection measures.
4. Providing free and equitable prevention, testing, treatment and care to migrants and refugees in settings of reception and detention is critical at all times.

ecdc.europa.eu #COVID19

ECDC published a [Guidance on infection prevention and control of COVID-19 in migrant and refugee reception and detention centres](#) to provide scientific advice on public health principles and considerations for infection and prevention control of COVID-19.

The guidance shows that there is no evidence to suggest that SARS-CoV-2 transmission is higher amongst migrants and refugees, but environmental factors such as overcrowding may increase their exposure to the disease. Outbreaks in reception and detention centres can also spread quickly in the absence of adequate prevention measures.

Equitable prevention, testing, treatment and care needs to be freely provided to migrants and refugees in settings of reception and detention. This is critical at all times, but particularly in the context of COVID-19.

Communicating about the risks and prevention of COVID-19 with migrant and refugees currently housed in reception and detention centres requires community engagement and health communication strategies that are adapted to meet the different language, cultural and literacy needs of the different populations.

COVID-19 China

- From June 11th to June 18th a total of 172 new cases were reported in Beijing
- 500,000 tests within the past week
- Most of the cases were connected to Beijing's Xinfadi market, and further cases were identified at a second market in northwest Beijing (Yuquandong Seafood Market in Haidian District). According to official information, the Yuquandong market cases are related to the Xinfadi market.

According to Chinese authorities, the [first sequence analyzes](#) of the virus indicated a source in Europe. The WHO asked China to publish the virus sequences as soon as possible. Experts are not yet expecting a second wave, so the number of new infections every day in Berlin is about 6 times higher than it is currently in Beijing. The government never tires of emphasizing that the supposedly genomic aberrant virus was first detected in Beijing in connection with imported salmon.

Public health measures

- 21 districts with about 90,000 inhabitants cordoned off
- both markets closed
- Schools and day care centers in these districts are closed
- Installation of the Corona warning app is mandatory, without "green light" from it no entry into restaurants, shops or public institutions

After the new Corona outbreak in Beijing, the situation remains tense. As the local health commission reported on Wednesday, the city reported 31 more people infected. This means that there have been 137 confirmed infections in the 20 million metropolis since last Thursday.

In response to the new outbreak that started at the city's Xinfadi wholesale market last week and continued at a second market in northwest Beijing (Yuquandong Seafood Market in Haidian District), the authorities announced the second highest security level on Tuesday.

According to official information, the Yuquandong market cases are related to the Xinfadi market. According to Chinese authorities, the first sequence analyzes of the virus indicated a source in Europe. The WHO asked China to publish the virus sequences as soon as possible.

Flights from and to the capital have been drastically reduced. As the state broadcaster CGTN reported, airlines canceled at least 850 flights. People should no longer leave the city. If travel is necessary, a negative corona test must be available. Kindergartens and schools were also closed again.

According to the authorities, more than 76,000 people were tested for the corona virus in the capital on Sunday alone. In large parts of the city, members of the neighborhood committees also went door-to-door to ask residents whether they had been to the wholesale market in the past few days. In many places in the city, controls such as temperature tests before entering restaurants and shops were tightened again.

According to experts, the Beijing virus outbreak will be easier to localize and keep under control. However, some provinces have already reported new infections in connection with the Beijing wholesale market and quarantine rules for travelers from the capital.

Subject in Focus

Animals & COVID-19/SARS-CoV-2

Risk of animals spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to people

Some coronaviruses that infect animals can sometimes be spread to humans and then spread between people, but this is rare. This is what happened with the virus that caused the current outbreak of COVID-19. However, we do not know the exact source of this virus yet. Public health officials and partners are working hard to identify the source of COVID-19. The first reported infections were linked to a live animal market, but the virus is now spreading from person to person.

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets from coughing, sneezing, and talking. Recent studies show that people who are infected but do not have symptoms likely also play a role in the spread of COVID-19. At this time, there is no evidence that animals play a significant role in spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low.

Animals that can be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19

We know that animals can be infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, but we don't yet know all of the animals that can get infected. Until now there have been only a few reports of animal infections worldwide:

- A small number of pet cats and dogs have been reported to be infected with the virus in several countries. Most of these pets became sick after contact with people with COVID-19.
- Several lions and tigers external icon at a New York zoo tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 after showing signs of respiratory illness. Public health officials believe these large cats became sick after being exposed to a zoo employee who was infected with SARS-CoV-2. All of these large cats have fully recovered.
- SARS-CoV-2 was recently discovered in mink (which are closely related to ferrets) on multiple farms in the Netherlands. The mink showed respiratory and gastrointestinal signs; the farms also experienced an increase in mink deaths. Because some workers on these farms had symptoms of COVID-19, it is likely that infected farm workers were the source of the mink infections. Some farm cats on several mink farms also developed antibodies to this virus, suggesting they had been exposed to the virus at some point.
- Some countries, like Germany, made it mandatory for Vets to report infection in animals for research reasons.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/animals.html>



Current Data situation

The first scientific results on the topic were made available as a pre-print at the end of March and finally published at the end of May. In the paper cats, dogs and ferrets (*Mustela putorius*) were actively inoculated with high virus doses and later examined for virus excretions and various tissues after killing.

It was shown that cats and ferrets are susceptible to SARS-CoV-2 (viral loads see diagrams 1 and 2), whereas dogs were only slightly susceptible (table 1). The also examined pigs, chickens and ducks were not susceptible.

These data should be viewed with caution, since on the one hand the animals were artificially infected with high doses and the number of animals examined was very small. Nevertheless, this is useful as a first clue for later studies.

The preliminary results of another study support the previous findings. In this study as well only a very small number of animals was examined (two cohorts of cats with 3 or 4 animals and one cohort of dogs with 3 animals) this is statistically a problem.

However, there are also ethical aspects because the animals were killed for tissue tests.

The key message here is - essentially in agreement with the first study:

The cats examined were very susceptible to SARS-CoV-2, reproduce the virus well and can also infect other cats

The cats examined did not become clinically ill and built up reliable titers of neutralizing antibodies after infection

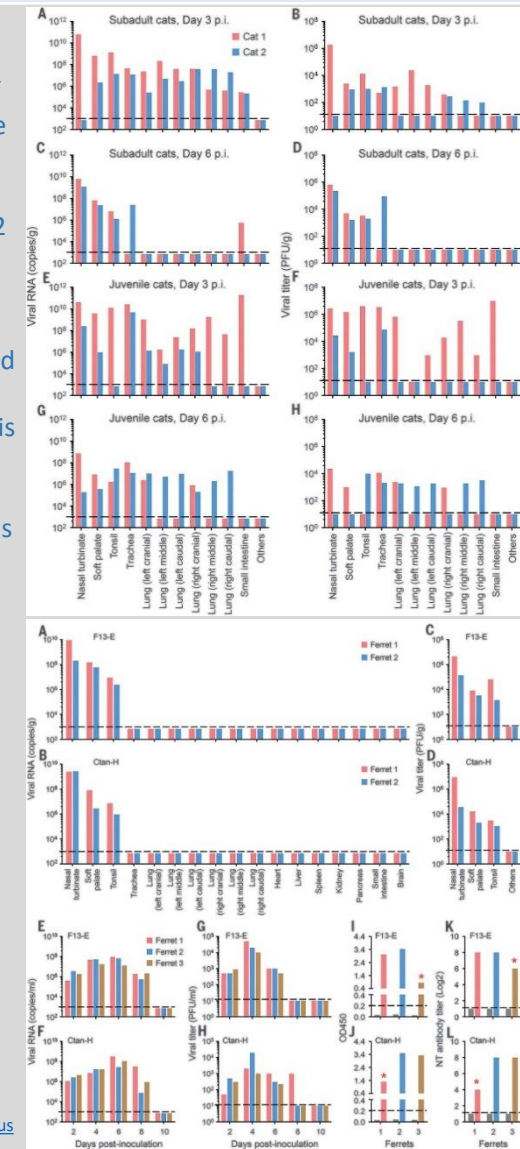
The dogs examined did not excrete a virus, but also built up neutralizing antibody titers.

There is still no evidence of a significant role for pets in the spread of SARS-CoV-2. However, reverse zoonosis is possible, in which infected pet owners can infect their animals.

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/SA_One_Health/sars-cov-2-animals-us

<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/368/6494/1016>

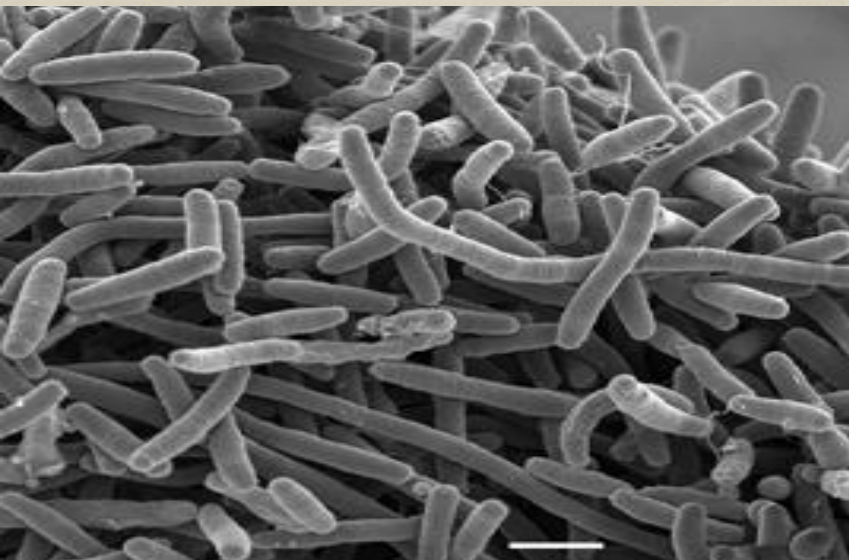
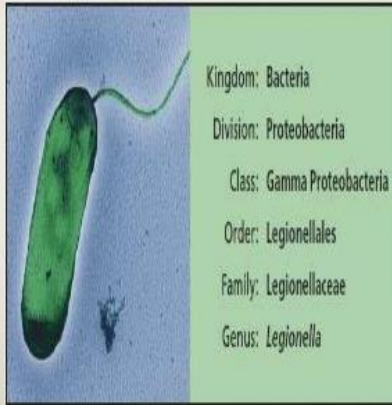
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jun/06/dutch-mink-farms-ordered-to-cull-10000-animals-over-coronavirus-risk>



Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation

Legionella pneumophila

* *Legionella pneumophila* is a thin, aerobic, pleomorphic, flagellated, non-spore forming, Gram-negative bacterium of the genus *Legionella*. *L. pneumophila* is the primary human pathogenic bacterium in this group and is the causative agent of legionellosis or Legionnaires' disease.



Many facilities have been unoccupied in recent months due to the COVID-19 crisis. As a result, the drinking water from the water pipes was also not used and stagnated in the pipes for a long time.

This can lead to increased Legionella growth. The infection can lead to pneumonia, infection routes can be showers or aerosols from taps. Large drinking water systems with extensive pipe systems, existing deposits (sediments in hot water tanks, limescale deposits) and the biofilm in the pipes (a slime-like matrix of microorganisms and organic substances) offer Legionella with their special nutritional requirements an optimal basis of life.

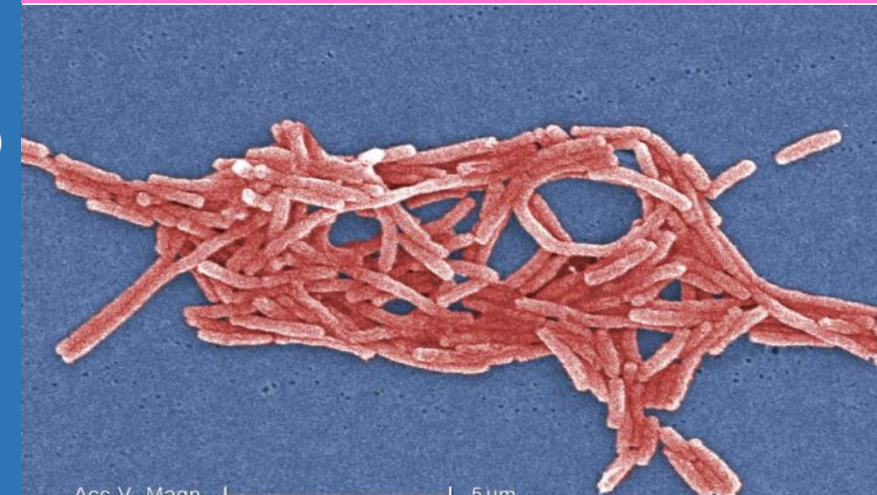
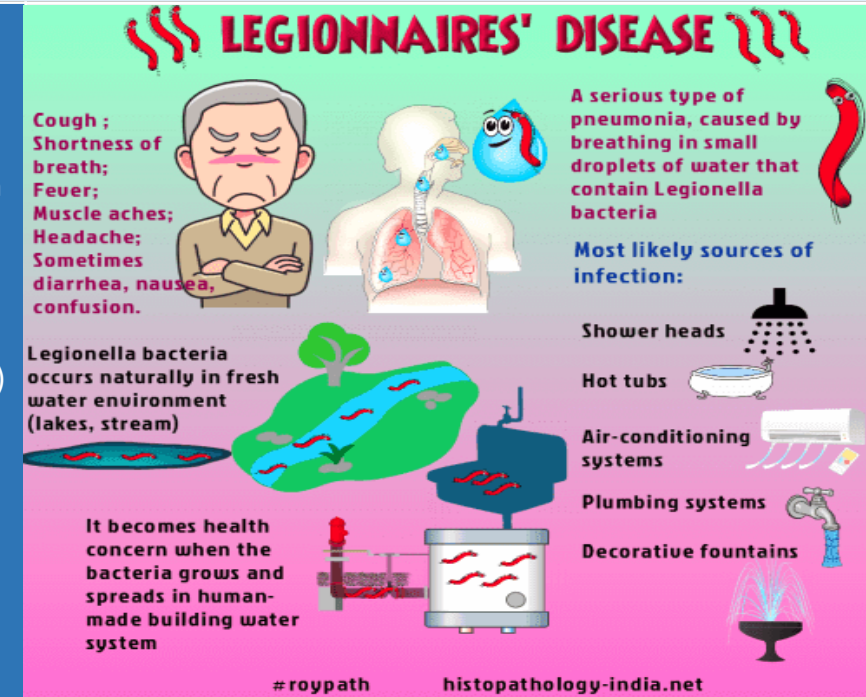
Please note:

In the current situation, services should therefore - in addition to the many other aspects - also ensure the flawless operation of the drinking water system in their buildings and consider the necessary technical measures to minimize the risk of infection before reopening. The measures before restarting a drinking water system are described in many national technical regulations.

Develop a comprehensive water management program (WMP) for your water system and all devices that use water. Guidance to help with this process is available from CDC and others.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html>

<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/legionellosis>



In the press

This new experimental section aims at summarizing trending headlines with regards to COVID-19. The collection does not aim at being comprehensive and we would like to point out that headlines and linked articles are no scientific material and for information purposes only. The headlines and linked articles do not reflect NATO's or NATO MilMed COE FHPB's view. Feedback is welcome!

18th June 2020

New York Times

A Tidal Wave of Bankruptcies Is Coming

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/18/business/corporate-bankruptcy-coronavirus.html>

18th June 2020

South China Morning Post

There may be no immunity against Covid-19, new Wuhan study suggests

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3089476/there-may-be-no-immunity-against-covid-19-new-wuhan-study>

16th June 2020

Deutsche Welle

Coronavirus: Lockdowns prevented the worst, researchers say

<https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-lockdowns-prevented-the-worst-researchers-say/a-53825169>

18th June 2020

The Guardian

Coronavirus mass surveillance could be here to stay, experts say

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jun/18/coronavirus-mass-surveillance-could-be-here-to-stay-tracking>

17th June 2020

Aljazeera

When bodies piled up: Inside Ecuador's first coronavirus hotspot

<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/bodies-piled-ecuador-covid-19-hotspot-200617142117507.html>

19th June 2020

Reuters

China publishes Beijing COVID-19 genome data, officials suggest a European strain

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-china-virus-data/china-publishes-beijing-covid-19-genome-data-officials-suggest-a-european-strain-idUSKBN23Q04L>

18th June 2020

The Guardian

Global report: Beijing Covid-19 cluster may have begun a month earlier – China health official

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jun/18/global-report-beijing-covid-19-cluster-may-have-begun-a-month-earlier-china-health-chief>

18th June 2020

South China Morning Post

Coronavirus: end Hong Kong quarantine exemptions for all Beijing travellers, say experts, as city records four imported cases

<https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/health-environment/article/3089597/coronavirus-end-hong-kong-quarantine-exemptions>

Current plans to re-open borders

