

# Several Countries Considering New Restrictions as Widespread COVID-19 Transmission Continues



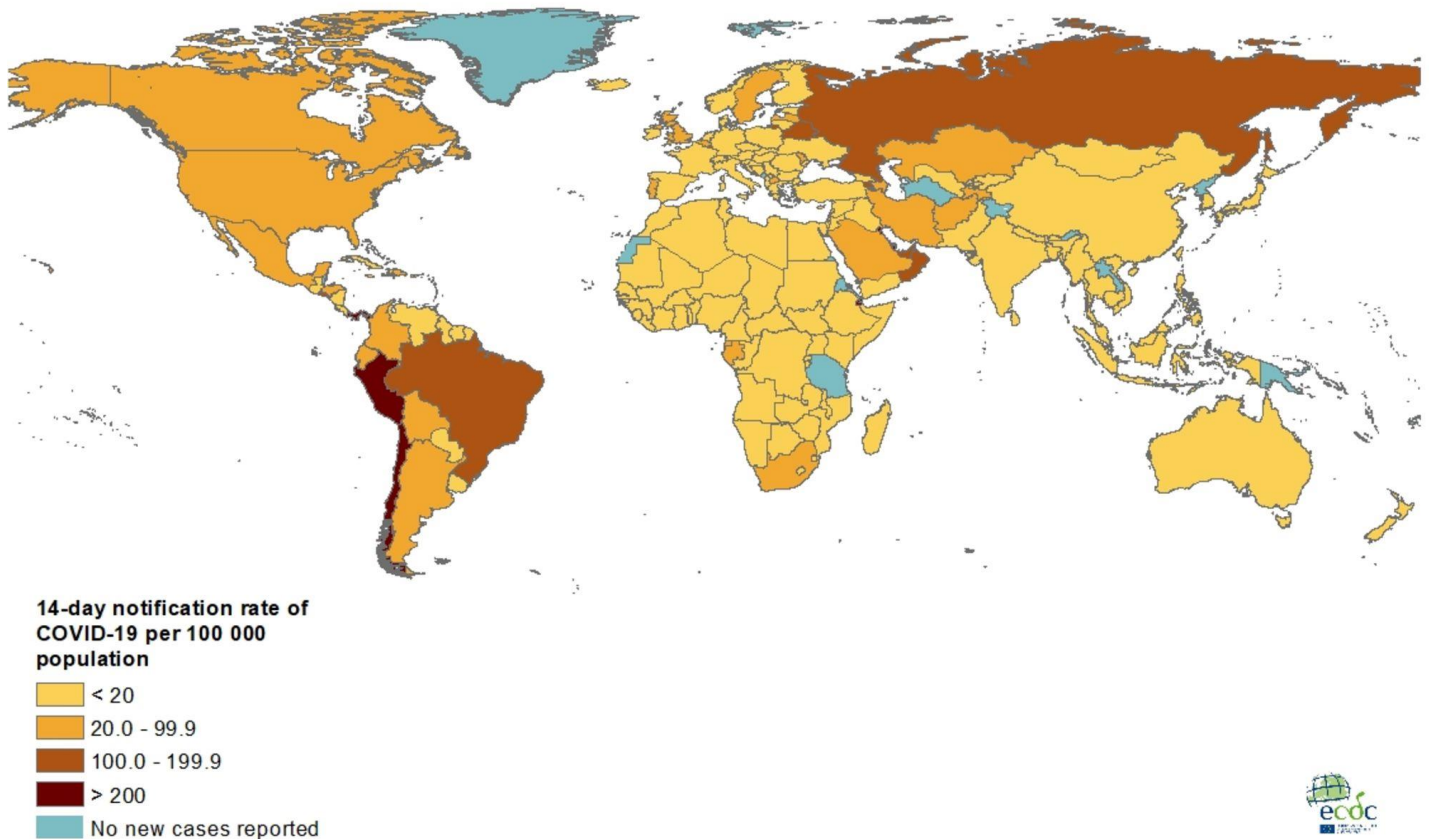
**Authors:** *Stephanie Kiefer, Senior Regional Analyst – Europe, the Caucasus, & Central Asia*  
*Kimberly Doyle, Senior Regional Analyst – Sub-Saharan Africa*  
*Zachary Nelson, Senior Regional Analyst – Latin America & the Caribbean*  
*Josh Strongin, Lead Intelligence Analyst – North America*  
*Zachary Huffman, Regional Analyst – Asia/Pacific*  
*Carolyn Pucillo, Intelligence Analyst – Middle East and North Africa*

**Contact:** [Stephanie.Kiefer@everbridge.com](mailto:Stephanie.Kiefer@everbridge.com)

## OVERVIEW

The global number of confirmed cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is nearing 6.4 million people and more than 380,000 associated deaths have been reported, according to Johns Hopkins University. This week, the World Health Organization (WHO) cautioned that the Americas are seeing rapid growth in new COVID-19 cases. The WHO cautioned this week that the increased use of antibiotics to treat COVID-19 could raise the danger of resistance to antibiotics being fueled around the world for an array of possible infections. The WHO also warned that there was no evidence supporting some claims that COVID-19 was losing potency. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights said on June 2 that the pandemic is “exposing endemic inequalities” and called for those inequalities to be addressed. With protest activity in regions across the globe, concerns persist that demonstrations could cause spikes in the transmission of COVID-19. There have also been increasing numbers of countries reintroducing or considering reinstating lockdown measures due to resurgent outbreaks.

## Cumulative COVID-19 Cases per 100,000, as of Tuesday, June 2



Date of production: 02/06/2020

The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union.

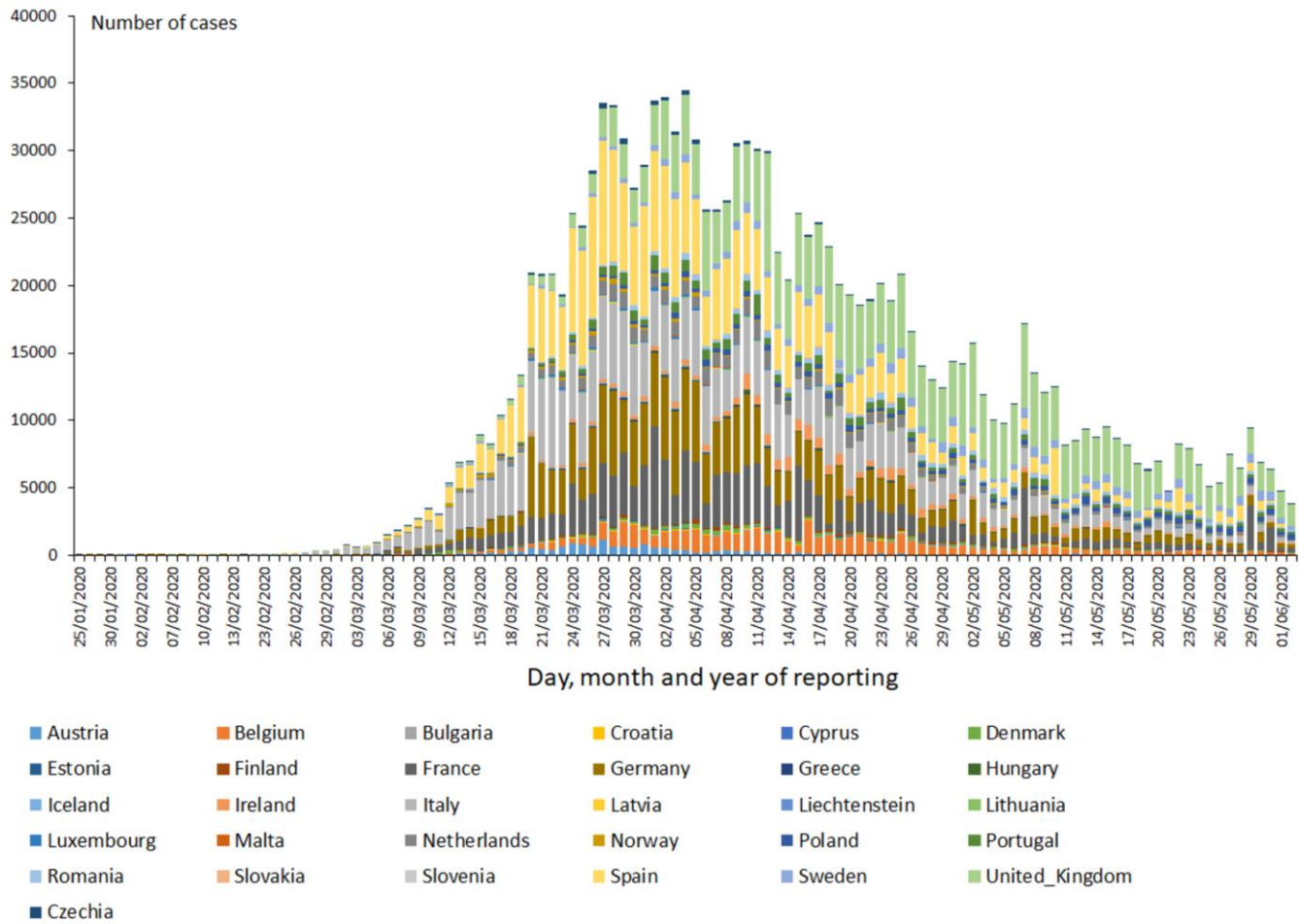
Source: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

## SPREAD OF COVID-19: EUROPE

The easing of restrictions continues across the region. Increased lifting of controls on cross-border movements within the European Union is under way or planned in the coming weeks as prospects for summer travel within the bloc continue to improve. With the easing of restrictions, protests continue to develop around the region in relation to the pandemic and lockdown measures, as well as other grievances. While hotspots have been appearing as countries are easing restrictions, the vast majority of countries have not seen a notable resurgence of cases. However, Armenia has cautioned that restrictions could be introduced, and questions have been raised over the easing of lockdowns in Russia and the United Kingdom while both continue to report highly daily case counts.

- The WHO recently said that there had been 159,000 excess deaths across 24 European nations since early March as a result of COVID-19.

## Distribution of New Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Per Day in EU/EEA and UK



Source: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

- More than one-third of European foreign direct investment projects announced last year have been canceled or delayed due to the pandemic, according to EY.
- Poland is considering closing at least three coal mines as the pandemic pushes the government to reassess financing of the coal sector, according to media reports, though an announcement is not anticipated before the election planned on June 28.
- Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania are broadening their Baltic “travel bubble” this week to allow arrivals from most European countries without a requirement for self-isolation upon arrival.
- Although automotive showrooms in Italy were allowed to reopen, vehicle sales were still down 50 percent for the month of May.
- Amid the COVID-19 crisis, post-Brexit negotiators are meeting again this week, though no major progress is expected and concerns persist over the risk of no agreement being reached by the end of the year while the region continues COVID-19 recovery efforts.
- From June 15, Denmark will allow visitors from Germany, Iceland, and Norway, with a required minimum visit of six nights.

- While Norway and Denmark are lifting most travel restrictions between the two countries from mid-June, they plan to maintain restrictions for travelers from Sweden over concerns of higher infection rates, as Swedish authorities decided against earlier lockdown measures.
- Ukraine has resumed intercity and suburban train routes this week while authorities remain wary of easing restrictions too swiftly due to the country's fragile health system.
- Public transport in the Netherlands resumed normal operations on Monday as the country continues to reopen, including restaurants and bars now allowed to operate.
- Despite the restart of manufacturing in the UK last month, the sector has continued to report decreased orders, production levels, and staffing, highlighting a gradual rather than swift resumption of operations.
- The European Commission is planning to establish a permanent stockpile of medical equipment and essential medicines.
- Last week, Finnish authorities reported that it had not seen any indication of a rise in COVID-19 transmission as a result of reopening schools from May 14.

## Updates Around the Region

### Armenia

On June 2, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan warned of a possible return to lockdown measures, remarking that there are 1-3 days to modify behavior and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. New cases began rising in late April and total cases have exceeded 10,000, with a record 517 new cases on June 2. The government has rolled back restrictions on public transport, allowed shopping centers to reopen, some educational/childcare facilities have resumed operations, and even gyms have reopened. Despite increasing cases, authorities remain wary of another broad lockdown that could inflict further economic hardship.

### France

France has maintained declining hospitalization numbers for COVID-19 since mid-April, despite the daily death toll exceeding 100 on June 2 for the first time in nearly two weeks. The government has advanced with easing restrictions, and Paris recently progressed from a "red" to "orange" level of restrictions, with cafes and restaurants able to open for outdoor service on June 1. The French government's contact tracing mobile application, StopCovid, was released to the public on June 2, with more information and download links available [here](#).

### Germany

State-by-state easing of restrictions continues to progress in Germany, and while some hotspots (such as Göttingen) continue to appear, there has been no indication of sustained rise that could prompt the return of broader restrictions. In Berlin on June 2, bars could reopen, fitness centers could resume operations, and indoor sport with up to 12 participants is allowed. On June 3, the German cabinet plans to pass a decree easing travel warnings for European Union member states, as well as some non-EU countries, to lower-level guidelines.

### Italy

Active COVID-19 cases in Italy continue to decline while the number of new daily cases on June 2 at 318, more than half of which were in Lombardy. Travel restrictions within the country will be lifted from June 3, though some officials remain concerned that the cessation of interregional movement



### Map of France by Lockdown Phase



Source: [French Government](#)

restrictions may facilitate increased transmission in less affected areas of the country. Required temperature checks have been introduced for travelers on intercity and high-speed trains, and anyone with a temperature above 37.5C (99.5F) will be denied boarding. Hundreds of protesters joined a demonstration in central Rome on June 2 against the COVID-19 restrictions, including some participants violating the requirements to wear a mask when unable to physically distance. From June 3, visitors from around the EU as well as the UK will be able to travel to Italy without being required to quarantine on arrival. Italy's tracing app, Immuni, has been presented to the public this week and more information with download links can be found [here](#).

### Russia

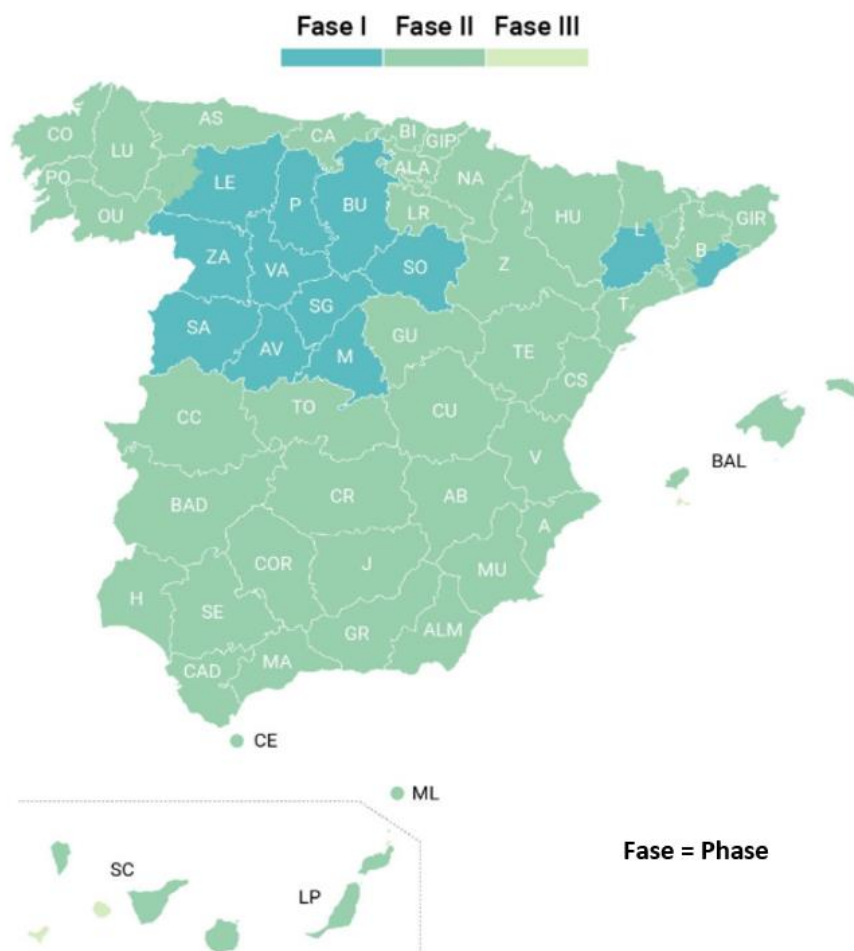
Daily case counts in Russia continue to be high, despite the recent easing of restrictions in the hotspot of Moscow as well as in other regions around the country. On June 2, Russia reported more than 8,800 new cases, with more than 9,000 new cases reported on June 1, while total deaths have exceeded 5,000. The Russian government has been criticized for purportedly failing to provide sufficient economic assistance during the pandemic and associated restrictions, though a recovery plan of about US \$72 billion was announced by the prime minister on June 2. The spending over two years is reportedly intended to spur economic growth, reduce unemployment, and raise wages. According to the labor ministry, there are more than two million people nationwide currently registered as unemployed. The referendum on constitutional reforms that was postponed due to the pandemic is

now scheduled for July 1, and with the easing of COVID-19 measures, protest activity is possible despite ongoing restrictions on demonstrations.

## Spain

From June 1, about 70 percent of Spain's population will be in phase two of restrictions, though the region of Madrid remains in phase one. Phase two allows the opening of more stores with capacity limits and distancing provisions, as well as gatherings of up to 15 people and partial indoor restaurant service. Four smaller islands are advancing to phase three, the last of the phases in the reopening scheme. The guide for each phase can be found [here](#). On June 2, Spain had its second consecutive day with no COVID-19 deaths reported in a 24-hour period. The labor ministry reported this week that there was a tenfold drop in the number of new jobseekers in May compared with the prior two months, highlighting the declining rate of growth in unemployment as the country began to emerge from lockdown. However, unemployment numbers could see another substantial rise when the current furlough scheme stops at the end of this month. Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez appears to have parliamentary support to extend the country's restrictions by two weeks to June 21, though as with previous instances, the extension (planned to be the final one) is likely to be met with protest activity. Free movement across regions of Spain is expected to return from July 1.

**Map of Spanish Regions by Lockdown Phase**



Source: [Spanish Government](#)

## United Kingdom

Each of the four nations is in varying degrees of easing restrictions, including England continuing on its roadmap with the broadest reopening progression at this time. While the United Kingdom's official death toll climbed to 39,369 as of June 2, the Office for National Statistics reported on the same day that there have been an estimated 62,000 excess deaths during the pandemic. The British government rejected allegations this week that it had delayed the release of a report on the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on black and minority ethnic groups because of protests in the United States related to racial justice and inequalities. On June 3, the UK government is planning to announce rules related to the planned quarantine on arrivals from abroad, which is to take effect from June 8. Media sources have also reported that the government was considering "air bridges" with other countries that could have reduced, or be exempt from, quarantine requirements.

## SPREAD OF COVID-19: ASIA/PACIFIC

The continuing emergence of new virus clusters in countries where outbreaks have been brought mostly under control shows the difficulty that will persist even as COVID-19 situations begin to take on a level of normality. Japan and South Korea are dealing with pockets of new infections, while new cases of local transmission have also been discovered in Hong Kong. At least some secondary outbreaks are likely to occur eventually in any country that moves to lift restrictions, which much of the Asia-Pacific region is continuing to do. There are fears that Indonesia and the Philippines may be moving too quickly in relaxing some lockdown regulations. Confirmed cases continue to rise rapidly in India and Bangladesh, where reopenings are proceeding. The situation is still under control in Australia and New Zealand, with the latter possibly planning to further reduce restrictions within the next week.

### East Asia

#### Japan

- Japan's overall daily new cases remain low; however, on June 2, more than 30 new cases were confirmed in Tokyo, which is the highest number in nearly three weeks.
  - The government of Tokyo has advised people to stay at home except for essential trips out.
- Around 120 schools, libraries, museums, and other destinations have closed again in Kitakyushu following an ongoing cluster of new cases in the city. At least 97 new cases have been confirmed in the city in nine days, with around one-third of the new cases not yet being traced by health authorities.
- Japanese media report that the government is considering allowing business travel to resume with Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, and Vietnam by an unspecified date in June.

#### China

- China's overall outbreak situation remains under control, and most cases reported in the country in recent days have been imported. Additional schools are reopening this week.

## Confirmed Cases Worldwide as of Tuesday Morning, June 2

Country/Region	June 2	May 27
<b>United States</b>	1,811,277	1,681,212
<b>Brazil</b>	526,447	391,222
<b>Russia</b>	423,741	362,342
<b>United Kingdom</b>	276,332	265,227
<b>Spain</b>	239,638	236,259
<b>Italy</b>	233,197	230,555
<b>India</b>	198,706	151,767
<b>Germany</b>	182,028	179,364
<b>Peru</b>	170,039	129,751
<b>Turkey</b>	164,769	158,762
<b>Iran</b>	154,445	139,511
<b>France</b>	152,091	145,555
<b>Chile</b>	105,159	77,961
<b>Mexico</b>	93,435	74,560
<b>Canada</b>	91,694	86,636
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	87,142	76,726
<b>Mainland China</b>	83,022	82,992
<b>Pakistan</b>	76,398	59,151
<b>Belgium</b>	58,517	57,455
<b>Qatar</b>	58,433	47,207
<b>Bangladesh</b>	49,534	36,751
<b>Netherlands</b>	46,545	45,578
<b>Belarus</b>	43,403	38,059
<b>Ecuador</b>	39,994	37,355
<b>Sweden</b>	37,814	34,440
<b>Singapore</b>	35,292	32,343
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	35,192	31,086
<b>South Africa</b>	34,357	24,264
<b>Portugal</b>	32,700	31,007
<b>Switzerland</b>	30,788	30,678
<b>Colombia</b>	30,493	23,003
<b>Kuwait</b>	27,762	22,575
<b>Indonesia</b>	26,940	23,165
<b>Egypt</b>	26,384	18,756
<b>Ireland</b>	25,062	24,735
<b>Ukraine</b>	24,340	21,584

Country/Region	June 2	May 27
<b>Poland</b>	24,165	22,074
<b>Romania</b>	19,398	18,429
<b>Philippines</b>	18,638	14,669
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	17,572	15,264
<b>Argentina</b>	17,402	13,215
<b>Israel</b>	17,219	16,757
<b>Japan</b>	16,930	16,651
<b>Austria</b>	16,663	16,497
<b>Afghanistan</b>	15,750	11,831
<b>Panama</b>	13,837	11,447
<b>Oman</b>	12,223	8,118
<b>Bahrain</b>	11,804	9,366
<b>Denmark</b>	11,699	11,428
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	11,571	9,304
<b>South Korea</b>	11,541	11,265
<b>Serbia</b>	11,430	11,227
<b>Nigeria</b>	10,578	8,344
<b>Bolivia</b>	10,531	7,136
<b>Algeria</b>	9,513	8,697
<b>Armenia</b>	9,492	7,402
<b>Czech Republic</b>	9,302	9,050
<b>Norway</b>	8,411	8,364
<b>Moldova</b>	8,360	7,305
<b>Ghana</b>	8,070	7,117
<b>Malaysia</b>	7,857	7,604
<b>Morocco</b>	7,833	7,577
<b>Australia</b>	7,204	7,133
<b>Finland</b>	6,885	6,628
<b>Iraq</b>	6,868	4,848
<b>Cameroon</b>	6,397	5,362
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	5,662	4,403
<b>Honduras</b>	5,362	4,401
<b>Guatemala</b>	5,336	3,954
<b>Sudan</b>	5,173	3,976
<b>Luxembourg</b>	4,019	3,995
<b>Tajikistan</b>	3,930	3,100

Source: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and various media outlets



## Confirmed Cases Worldwide as of Tuesday Morning, June 2

Country/Region	June 2	May 27
Hungary	3,921	3,793
Puerto Rico	3,873	3,324
Guinea	3,844	3,358
Senegal	3,739	3,161
Uzbekistan	3,718	3,333
Djibouti	3,569	2,468
Democratic Republic of the Congo	3,194	2,545
Thailand	3,082	3,045
Cote d'Ivoire	2,951	2,477
Greece	2,917	2,892
Gabon	2,655	2,238
El Salvador	2,582	2,042
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2,523	2,416
Bulgaria	2,513	2,460
North Macedonia	2,315	2,015
Croatia	2,246	2,244
Haiti	2,226	1,174
Cuba	2,083	1,963
Somalia	2,023	1,711
Kenya	2,021	1,348
Estonia	1,870	1,834
Kyrgyzstan	1,845	1,520
Maldives	1,829	1,438
Iceland	1,806	1,804
Nepal	1,798	772
Lithuania	1,678	1,639
Venezuela	1,662	1,211
Sri Lanka	1,643	1,319
Slovakia	1,522	1,513
Slovenia	1,483	1,469
Guinea Bissau	1,339	1,173
Mali	1,315	1,077
Equatorial Guinea	1,306	1,043
Ethiopia	1,257	701
Lebanon	1,233	1,140
New Zealand	1,154	1,154

Country/Region	June 2	May 27
Albania	1,143	1,029
Zambia	1,089	920
Hong Kong	1,087	1,065
Tunisia	1,084	1,051
Costa Rica	1,084	956
Latvia	1,071	1,053
Central African Republic	1,069	671
Kosovo	1,064	1,038
Paraguay	995	877
South Sudan	994	806
Niger	958	952
Cyprus	949	939
Burkina Faso	881	845
Sierra Leone	861	754
Madagascar	826	586
Uruguay	825	789
Georgia	796	732
Chad	790	700
Andorra	765	763
Nicaragua	759	759
Jordan	746	718
Diamond Princess Cruise Ship	696	696
San Marino	687	666
Palestine	628	605
Malta	619	611
Congo	611	569
Jamaica	588	564
Mauritania	530	262
United Republic of Tanzania	509	509
Sao Tome and Principe	484	441
Cape Verde	458	390
Uganda	457	341
Taiwan	443	441
Togo	443	391
Rwanda	377	339
Yemen	354	249

Source: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and various media outlets

## Confirmed Cases Worldwide as of Tuesday Morning, June 2

Country/Region	June 2	May 27
Isle of Man	336	336
Malawi	336	101
Mauritius	335	334
Vietnam	328	327
Montenegro	324	324
Jersey	308	307
Liberia	296	266
Eswatini	293	261
Mozambique	254	213
Guernsey	252	252
Benin	243	208
Myanmar	228	206
Zimbabwe	203	56
Faroe Islands	187	187
Mongolia	185	148
Guam	175	169
Gibraltar	170	155
Libya	168	77
Guyana	153	139
Cayman Islands	150	137
Brunei Darussalam	141	141
Bermuda	141	139
Cambodia	125	124
Syria	123	121
Trinidad and Tobago	117	116
Comoros	106	87
Bahamas	102	100
Aruba	101	101
Monaco	99	98
Barbados	92	92
Angola	86	71
Liechtenstein	83	83
Sint Maarten	77	77
United States Virgin Islands	70	69

Country/Region	June 2	May 27
Burundi	63	42
French Polynesia	60	60
Bhutan	47	27
Macau	45	45
Suriname	44	11
Eritrea	39	39
Botswana	38	35
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	26	18
Antigua and Barbuda	25	25
Gambia	25	25
Namibia	25	21
Timor Leste	24	24
Grenada	23	23
Western Sahara	23	6
Northern Mariana Islands	22	22
New Caledonia	20	18
Curaçao	20	18
Laos	19	19
Belize	18	18
Fiji	18	18
Saint Lucia	18	18
Dominica	18	16
Saint Kitts and Nevis	15	15
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	13	13
Greenland	13	12
Turks and Caicos islands	12	12
Holy See	12	12
Montserrat	11	11
Seychelles	11	11
Papua New Guinea	8	8
British Virgin Islands	8	8
Bonaire, Saint Eustatius and Saba	7	7
Anguilla	3	3
Lesotho	2	2

Source: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and various media outlets

## Hong Kong

- Since May 31, authorities have discovered at least nine new COVID-19 cases that are believed to be locally transmitted.
  - As a result, the government has extended a ban on gatherings of more than eight people and restrictions on restaurant operations until at least June 18.
  - The government has also stated that mandatory 14-day quarantines for arriving foreign travelers will be in effect until at least September 18, except for travelers from mainland China, Macao, and Taiwan who must undergo quarantines until at least July 7.

## South Korea

- Additional restrictions have been put in place in parts of South Korea as the country continues to deal with clusters of new infections, mostly in the Seoul metro area. In addition to the cluster that developed at a warehouse in Bucheon, new clusters have also been reported at call centers and churches. Some churches and businesses have been closed.
- Beginning on June 10, bars, clubs, gyms, and other entertainment locations will be required to record customer information via the use of QR codes. The step is being taken after difficulties in tracing people using paper customer logs during last month's outbreak in a series of Seoul nightclubs.

## Southeast Asia

### Singapore

- As the overwhelming majority of Singapore's new COVID-19 cases continue to be reported in its migrant worker population (with all 408 new cases on June 1 being among this group), the government now plans to build several additional worker dormitories over the next several years. New regulations pertaining to the amount of space required for each person in residential facilities are also planned.
- The first phase of the government's reopening plan came into effect on June 2, with auto service centers, hair salons, air conditioning services, and other businesses among those allowed to reopen.
  - The economy will remain at this stage of reopening for at least two weeks while the government evaluates the situation.

### Indonesia

- Indonesia continues to report hundreds of new COVID-19 cases per day. June 2's new cases included 60 in Jakarta and 213 in East Java, which is becoming the new epicenter in the country.
- On June 2, Indonesia's religious affairs ministry announced that the country's expected 221,000 pilgrims would not be traveling to Saudi Arabia for this year's hajj due to concerns about COVID-19.
- Over the weekend, officials stated that schools may not reopen until December or early 2021. Additional retail businesses are expected to reopen in some areas, including Jakarta, on June 4.

## Philippines

- The Philippines confirmed a record number of around 1,000 new cases on May 29, and daily numbers have stayed high since. The government previously stated that daily cases would grow because of new processes allowing speedier categorization of confirmed cases.
- Lockdown restrictions were eased on June 1 in Manila and other locations, but fears remain that this is premature given that there has been no decrease in the number of new cases being reported.
  - Government officials have previously indicated that additional public transportation services may resume by June 22.

## South Asia

### India

- Since May 29, India's new daily cases have been at record highs of around 8,000 or more.
- Beginning on June 1, the national government lifted most restrictions outside areas that have been designated as containment zones, which will remain under lockdown until at least June 30. A 9:00 PM to 5:00 AM local time curfew will remain in place nationwide for those not out for essential reasons, and state and union territory governments may choose to implement additional restrictions outside containment zones. Some activities remain prohibited nationwide and will only be allowed under a three-phase reopening plan:
  - The first phase will allow religious sites, hotels, restaurants, shopping malls, and other locations to reopen with distancing protocols in place beginning on June 8.
  - The second phase will allow the reopening of schools, although this decision is not expected to be made until July.
  - The third phase, which will not take place until an unspecified future date on which the lifting of restrictions will have been deemed safe, will allow for the resumption of international air travel, the resumption of metro rail travel, the reopening of movie theaters, gyms, swimming pools, bars, and other such locations, and the gathering of larger numbers of people for various functions.
- Additional rail services also started on June 1. Although distancing measures are supposed to be in place, media sources reported large numbers of passengers attempting to travel, with little social distancing maintained.

### Bangladesh

- Bangladesh's new COVID-19 cases have remained high, with more nearly 2,000 or more cases confirmed every day since May 28.
- More than 5,000 police officers have been infected with the virus, representing nearly ten percent of the country's more than 52,000 cases. Testing rates remain low, however, and the total number of cases in the country is likely much higher.
- At least 35 Rohingya refugees have now tested positive in camps near Cox's Bazar, along with 791 local residents. There continues to be a concern that the virus will spread quickly among the refugee population.
  - Less than 350 tests have been conducted on refugees so far, indicating that the number of infections in the camps is probably already much greater than has been confirmed.

## Nepal

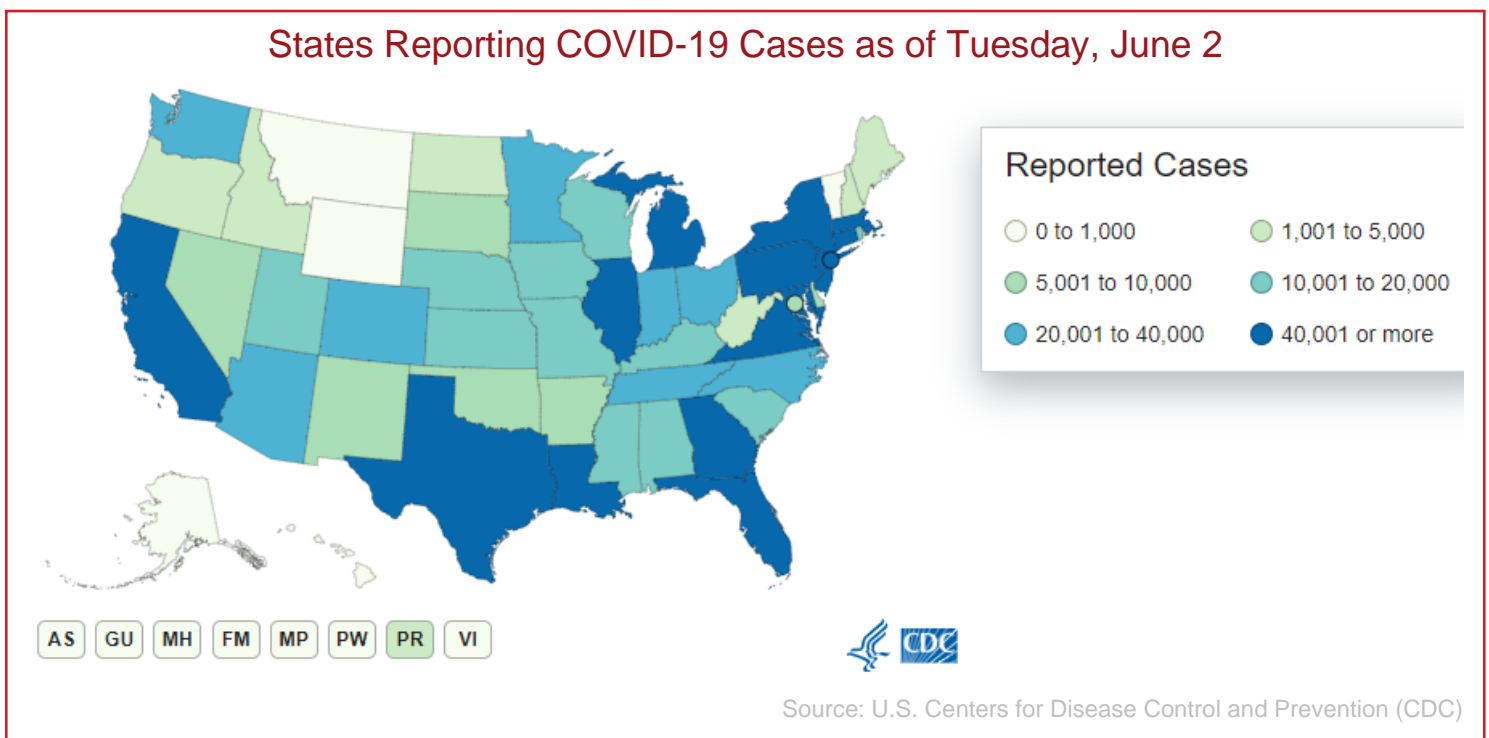
- Nepal's COVID-19 case numbers continue to rise, with a record of 239 cases being confirmed on June 1.
- The country's medical system has been under strain from the increasing number of cases, and quarantine centers in the south are now becoming overcrowded with an increasing number of workers returning from India.

## Oceania

### Australia & New Zealand

- Australia's outbreak remains controlled and the country has reported fewer than 20 new cases per day since mid-May.
- As of June 2, New Zealand has gone 11 days with no new cases.
- The New Zealand government will decide on June 8 whether to lower restrictions to Alert Level 1, the lowest level. Under Level 1, border restrictions will remain in place but most activities will return to normal with additional social distancing. Widespread COVID-19 testing will continue, and people will be strongly encouraged to remain at home when sick.
- There were largescale violations of gathering restrictions in New Zealand over the weekend as people protested the death of George Floyd in police custody in the United States. Thousands of people are also expected to attend such protests in Australia over the upcoming weekend, which poses a risk for spreading COVID-19.

## SPREAD OF COVID-19: NORTH AMERICA





## United States

The United States continues to report a national stabilization of the COVID-19 outbreak while multiple states report new daily highs in cases and seven-day increases in daily cases. As of Monday, the seven-day national average dropped below 20,000. On Sunday, the U.S. reported less than 500 daily deaths, the lowest number since the beginning of April. However, even as daily national numbers continue to decrease, individual states are reporting new increases in the daily number of cases. This includes several states in the south, such as Florida Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Even so, U.S. states have continued lifting additional restrictions on public life. Just four states (California, Michigan, New Jersey, and Vermont) have stay-at-home orders still in effect; however, all four states have lifted a number of other restrictions. Three states (New Mexico, New Jersey, and Connecticut) currently meet all White House reopening criteria. As of Tuesday, at least 1,812,100 cases and 105,192 deaths have been reported across the United States.

## Canada

Canada is continuing to report a downward trend in daily cases of COVID-19; however, last week did see a slight increase in daily deaths. The majority of these occurred in Quebec, which included deaths from previous days that had not yet been counted and are largely the cause of the increase in death numbers. Outside of that increase, Quebec has seen a steady decrease in cases and posted its lowest daily number since the end of March. Meanwhile, the seven-day average of daily cases has dropped below 1,000 for the first time since late March. In response to the ongoing decrease in numbers, Canadian provinces and territories continue to lift various restrictions on citizens. As of Tuesday, at least 92,151 cases and 7,344 deaths have been reported within Canada.

## Recent Developments

- The state of Alaska has announced that all travelers arriving in the state will be required to be tested for COVID-19 before entering or submit to a 14-day quarantine upon arrival. Travelers will be required to show proof of testing within 72 hours of entering the state.
- Canada announced that it has extended its ban on large cruise ships docking at Canadian ports through at least October 31.
- The majority of casinos in Las Vegas, NV, have announced they will begin reopening with social distancing restrictions on June 4.
- Last week it was announced that U.S. consumer spending dropped by 13.6 percent in April. Meanwhile, an additional 2 million people in the U.S. filed for unemployment, bringing the total number since the COVID-19 outbreak began to over 40 million.
- The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) continues to report a backlog of packages due to the ongoing outbreak. This is due to both significantly increased demand, as well as due to at least 2,830 employees contracting COVID-19. At least 60 workers have died. Over the last month, USPS has delivered approximately 89.5 percent of priority mail packages on time and 92.8 percent of first-class packages on time.
- On Monday, the U.S. government announced that an estimated 26,000 residents of nursing homes have died from COVID-19. Upwards of 60,000 people in nursing homes have been estimated to have contracted the virus.
- Public health officials continue to express significant concern that the ongoing, widespread protest activity across the U.S. could lead to new COVID-19 outbreaks and further exacerbate

the public health situation. Many local officials have asked those people who attended protests in recent days to either get tested for COVID-19 or self-quarantine for 14 days as a precaution.

## **SPREAD OF COVID-19: MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA**

As of this writing, 725,978 cases of COVID-19 have been reported across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) since the virus first appeared in the United Arab Emirates on January 29. Deaths attributed to the virus currently total 18,117. The number of infections continues on an upward trajectory; however, the rate of infections only showed a 14.82 percent increase across the region over the past six days, compared to a 19.85 percent increase in the period from May 19-27, suggesting an overall slowing of the spread of COVID-19 across the MENA. Many governments are taking this as an opportunity to more aggressively reopen economic activities, public spaces, and resume domestic and, in some cases, international travel, though this raises the prospect of renewed coronavirus outbreaks and the subsequent reinstatement of anti-virus measures in the coming weeks. The general trend of phased reopenings also comes amid a handful of countries re-imposing restrictions following a surge in new cases after the conclusion of the holy month of Ramadan. A reinstatement of lockdown measures threatens to exacerbate socio-economic tensions and negatively affect security conditions across the region. Indeed, some countries have witnessed anti-government protests in response to worsening economic situations due to the pandemic, and new curbs on economic activities could trigger wider social unrest.

**Though the COVID-19 infection rate continues a general downward trend across the MENA region, a handful of countries have reported an increase in the rate of infection during the period between May 27 and June 2 following a gradual lifting of containment measures.**

- COVID-19 cases in the MENA region have increased by roughly 15 percent since May 27, a drop of approximately five percent versus the period of May 19-27, reflecting a continued flattening of the coronavirus curve across the region.
- Israel has seen a spike in coronavirus cases (2.67%), particularly in schools, since the government reopened education facilities and began lifting restrictions on restaurants, bars, tourist attractions, and other businesses.
- In Libya, the rate of infection more than doubled in the past week (118.18%); most new infections were reported in the southern city of Sabha.
- The rate of infection has also increased in Iraq (41.67%), Oman (52.86%), and Tunisia (3.33%) over the past week, highlighting the possibility of a resurgence in Muslim-majority countries following the Eid al Fitr holiday, which concluded in most areas on May 29.

**Many MENA governments are making a concerted effort to resume economic activities, including reopening houses of worship and resuming domestic flights and inter-city travel, likely to help revive tourism and other business sectors that have been badly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the move to resume travel invites the possibility of a resurgence of cases, as transportation hubs and the movement of people in general are considered vectors for transmission of the virus.**

- On May 31, Saudi Arabian Airlines resumed limited domestic flights, with service initially to entail 60 daily flights between airports in Abha, al Baha, Dammam, Hail, Jeddah, Jazan, Medina, Najran, Qassim, Riyadh, and Tabuk.

- Turkey resumed limited domestic flights and vehicle travel between provinces on June 1. International flights are expected to start next week as part of the gradual resumption of air travel, with airports required to obtain a health certification in order to reopen. Service is only currently offered between Istanbul (IST), Sabiha Gokcen (SAW), Ankara Esenboga (ESB), Izmir Adnan Menderes (ADB), Antalya (AYT), and Trabzon (TZX) airports, as these are the only facilities to have completed the process so far.
- Tunisia announced on June 1 that it would open its sea, land, and air borders on June 27, though specifics have not yet been announced.
- Emirates Airline announced that it would begin flights from Dubai to 12 Arab countries beginning in July. Additionally, the airline began operating flight services to nine destinations beginning May 21, including London, Frankfurt, Paris, Milan, Madrid, Chicago, Toronto, Sydney, and Melbourne.
- Saudi Arabia reopened mosques across the country on May 31, outlining strict social distancing and health guidelines for visitors, including maintaining a distance of six feet apart from one another, using face masks and personal prayer mats, and avoiding handshakes.
- On May 30, Iranian President Rouhani announced the reopening of mosques and other houses of worship for daily prayers, despite having reported 3,117 new cases on June 2, the highest figure in a 24-hour period since April 1.
- The Jordanian government announced that mosques are set to reopen in the country on June 5 and churches on June 7, with strict social distancing and hygiene procedures in place.
- Authorities in Egypt shortened a nightly curfew, which will now run from 8:00 PM to 5:00 AM local time, despite a recent acceleration in infections in the country.

**An increase in COVID-19 infections is likely as containment measures continue to be gradually lifted. However, a sustained rise in new cases would likely prompt MENA governments to extend and/or reinstate curbs on economic activities and social life, as some have already done.**

- Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu has warned that restrictions would be reimposed if the recent uptick in cases becomes a sustained trend in the coming weeks.
- Over the weekend, the Iraqi federal government extended a curfew adopted to combat the spread of the virus by one week. The curfew will now remain in effect until at least June 6. Under the curfew, all personal movement, except for procuring necessities and obtaining emergency care, is prohibited.
- The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) announced a six-day region-wide lockdown from June 1. All personal movement within and between provinces will be banned, except for healthcare workers and members of the media, until June 6.
- Pakistani authorities made the use of face masks mandatory in public places over the weekend, but also resumed departing international flights and lifted a ban on tourism on June 1.
- Abu Dhabi announced a one-week ban on travel to and within the emirate on May 31, as the country continues to register more than 600 new cases per day. The government could reinstate restrictions in response to localized outbreaks.
- Local authorities in Yemen's Hadhramaut Governorate placed the city of Tarim under a 24-hour lockdown for 14 days, starting on May 28.

- Libya's UN-backed government in Tripoli decided to ban the entry into and exit from Sabha and imposed a 24-hour curfew for seven days starting on May 28, to control the spread of the virus in the south.
- Morocco launched a COVID-19 tracking mobile phone app on June 1, joining Tunisia, Qatar, and the UAE, among others, that have already employed mobile contact-tracing apps to help curb the spread of the pandemic in their respective countries.

**Public frustration continues to mount as restrictions put in place to combat the COVID-19 pandemic continue to negatively affect MENA economies. Austerity measures have led to protests in multiple countries, as many populations are already suffering from high unemployment, furloughs, and reductions in salaries exacerbated by nationwide lockdowns.**

- On May 31, Jordanian Prime Minister Omar al Razzaz announced an amendment to Defense Order No. 6 that allow companies affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to cut employees' May and June salaries by 30 percent, while some sectors that are deemed most affected by the pandemic can reduce worker's monthly wages by up to 60 percent. The new amendment is likely to stir controversy among the population and may result in anti-government demonstrations in urban areas in the coming days.
- Protests have been reported by migrant workers in Qatar, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, and Lebanon, over non-payment of salaries, as the coronavirus has had a significant economic impact on the companies that employ them.
- Online criticism of remarks made by Prime Minister Imran Khan suggesting that Pakistanis must learn to co-exist with the coronavirus suggests anger and frustration over the government's handling of the coronavirus pandemic and may result in demonstrations in the coming weeks.
- Protests were reported in Tunisia on May 27-28 against the mounting unemployment and poverty, accumulation of economic and social hardships, exacerbated by the coronavirus outbreak. A major rally is planned for June 14, when the nationwide curfew is set to expire.
- Business owners in eastern Algeria protested on May 31 against the lockdown measures in the country, which were recently extended until June 13, and announced intentions to resume business despite the renewed lockdown.
- United Nations agencies have warned that the COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating and potentially creating new so-called "food crises" in the MENA region by negatively affecting food supply chains, and the availability, access, and affordability of better varieties of safe and nutritious foods.

## **SPREAD OF COVID-19: LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Latin America is widely considered to be the new epicenter of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Over the last week, the region has continued to report higher daily increases in case totals than both the United States and Europe. As of this writing, the overall caseload for Latin America and the Caribbean has surpassed one million, reaching 1,054,649. The region-wide death toll has climbed to 52,866. Brazil remains at the forefront, with at least 526,447 cases being confirmed in the country thus far. Peru has the second-highest caseload (170,039), followed by Chile (105,158), Mexico (93,435), and Ecuador (39,994). While infections continue to rise throughout most of the region, some

small island territories in the Caribbean (e.g. Anguilla, Saint Barthélemy) have not reported any new cases in several weeks.

Multiple factors have contributed to the continued rise in COVID-19 cases throughout the region. Some Latin American leaders, most notably President Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil, have consistently downplayed the threat posed by the disease, and have resisted efforts to enact meaningful quarantines. However, in many countries, high poverty rates have meant that sizeable portions of the population have effectively been unable to adhere to lockdown measures. In Peru, for example, where 44 percent of families do not own a refrigerator, staying at home for long periods of time has proven to be unworkable. Marketplaces, which had been designated as “essential” and allowed to remain open throughout the lockdown, quickly turned into major vectors for the transmission of COVID-19. Moreover, social distancing has proven to be virtually infeasible in many of the densely populated shantytowns that surround Latin America’s largest cities, where one or more families often occupy small dwellings in close quarters with their neighbors.

With the onset of Hurricane Season (which began on June 1st), governments throughout much of Latin America and the Caribbean will face an additional challenge in responding to COVID-19. The government of El Salvador reported on Monday that Tropical Storm Amanda, which passed through Central America over the weekend, had displaced some 7,000 residents. The victims are being temporarily housed at 154 shelters throughout the country. The cramped and crowded conditions of public evacuation shelters could prove to be ideal for the spread of COVID-19. It is possible that El Salvador, Guatemala, and other countries/territories that come to be affected by tropical storms and hurricanes in the coming weeks and months might consequently experience a resurgence in COVID-19 cases in the wake of major storms.

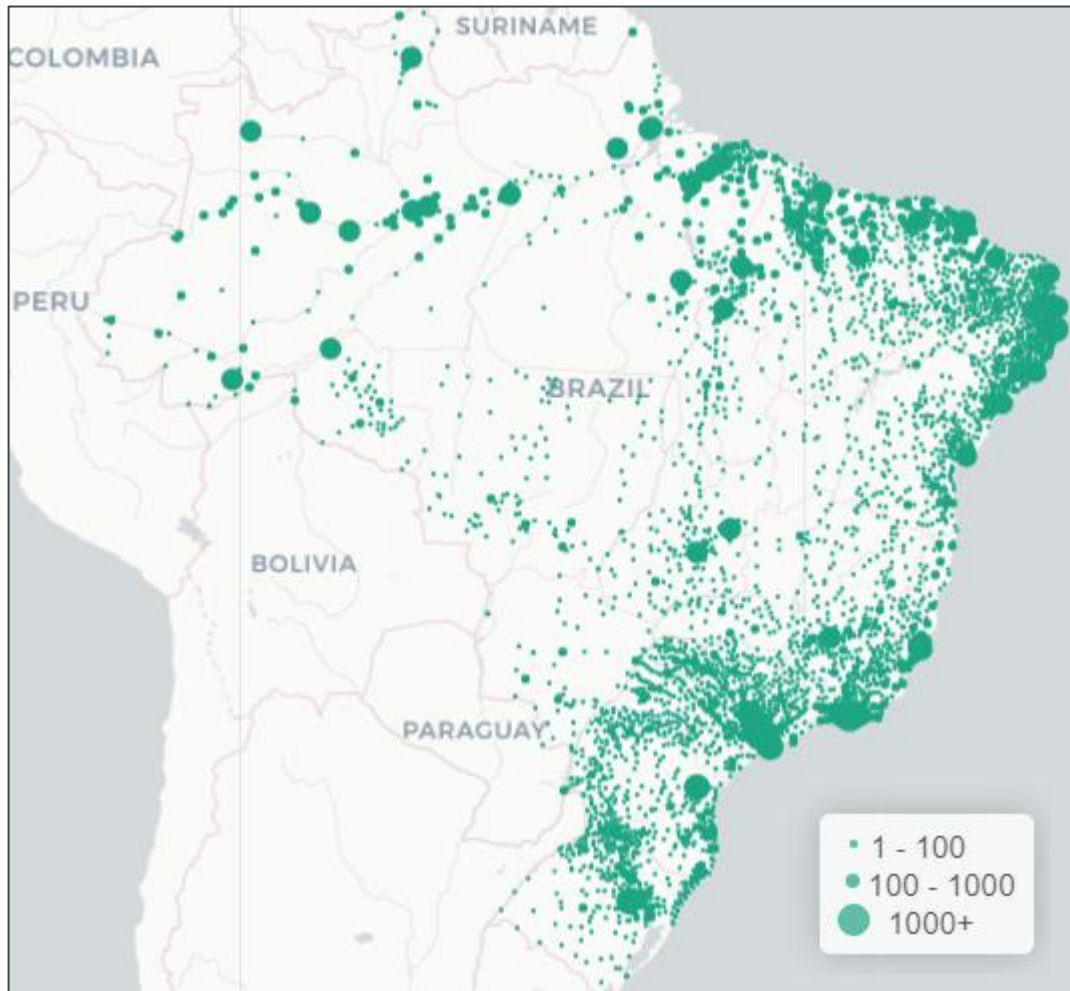
## Updates Around the Region

### Brazil

- On Sunday, May 31st, Brazil exceeded the milestone of 500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. The date also marks the highest number of new daily cases to be recorded thus far.
- Multiple states and municipalities that had enacted lockdowns have begun to ease such measures.
  - In São Paulo State, municipalities that have adequate ICU (intensive care unit) bed availability were permitted to begin easing restrictions on June 1st. São Paulo City will remain under quarantine at least through June 15th.
  - The state government of Rio de Janeiro plans to begin gradually scaling back anti-infection measures on June 8th. On June 2nd, Rio de Janeiro City authorized some non-essential businesses (e.g. furniture stores, car dealerships) to reopen, and allowed the resumption of exercise on boardwalks and swimming at beaches.
- The United States government announced on Sunday that it will send 1,000 ventilators and two million doses of the controversial hydroxychloroquine anti-malarial drug to Brazil in the near future. Although the WHO does not recommend the use of the drug for treating COVID-19, the White House has indicated that the U.S. and Brazil plan to embark upon a joint research effort to conduct clinical trials with it.



### Brazil: COVID-19 Infections by Municipality



Source: [Brazilian Ministry of Health](#)

- Brazil's health crisis has become largely intertwined with its political crisis.
  - Both pro- and anti-Bolsonaro protests have grown increasingly common in recent weeks. Demonstrations were held in multiple cities on Sunday.
  - In some cases, crowds of Bolsonaro supporters have chanted slogans suggesting that the pandemic is a "myth" or some sort of hoax. Some crowds of Bolsonaro supporters have also called for the legislature and judiciary to be "closed," for purportedly undermining the president. The president's critics continue to call for a more forceful and unified response to the pandemic, among other grievances.
  - Violent clashes broke out between supporters and opponents of the president on the streets of São Paulo on Sunday, leaving several people wounded.

### Peru

- Peru's nationwide COVID-19 caseload currently stands as the tenth highest in the world.

- The country has entered into the second phase of its reopening plan, even though the nationwide quarantine and state of emergency order have been extended until June 30th.
  - Information technology companies, veterinaries, fertility clinics, dentists, repair services, carpentry services, clothing stores, bookstores, shoe stores, and laundromats have been permitted to reopen.
- The pandemic has exposed major shortcomings in Peru's healthcare system. Many hospitals have reported shortages of beds, equipment, medicine, and personnel.
  - Prior to February of this year, there were only around 100 ICU beds in the entire country. The figure currently stands at around 1,000 beds, and the government claims it will reach 2,000 by the end of June.
  - Nationwide, roughly 85 percent of ICU beds with ventilators are currently occupied across the country.
- Media sources report that at least 20 journalists that were covering COVID-19 have died from the disease.
- The Cusco Region's infection rate remains more than 80 percent below the national average. Some scientists have conjectured that this might somehow be related to the region's altitude, as other high-elevation regions in the Andes Mountains and in Tibet have similarly recorded abnormally low infection rates.

## Chile

- On Monday, Chile set new records in terms of both new daily cases (5,471) and deaths over a 24-hour period (59).
- Unlike many countries throughout Latin America, Chile has achieved a relatively high level of testing, performing some 22,000 COVID-19 exams per day.
- Thirty-eight districts throughout the Santiago Metropolitan Region are slated to remain under lockdown at least until June 5th.
- In the northern city of Antofagasta, thousands of residents flocked to markets and other public locations after the quarantine in the municipality was lifted last Friday. Media sources report that many individuals did not wear face masks or heed social distancing guidance, raising concerns that a rebound in infections could be imminent.

## Mexico

- Mexico's total number of COVID-19 fatalities surpassed the milestone of 10,000 on Monday.
- Monday marked the second phase of Mexico's "new normality" plan.
  - Businesses in the construction, automotive, and tourism sectors were permitted to reopen.
  - Approximately 80 percent of the country's mining sector has resumed operations.
  - Frequent testing, social distancing, and other precautions are required at work sites.
- Newly released figures reveal the scope of the economic downturn the country is currently facing:
  - Mexico's National Statistics Institute reports that the country's labor force participation rate fell by 12.3 percent from March to April, reaching 47.5 percent. This signifies that an additional 12 million people lost their jobs.

- In April, remittances fell 28.59 percent in comparison with March, reflecting the fact that migrant communities in the United States and other countries have similarly been hard hit.
- Discontent with President Andrés Manuel López Obrador and his administration's handling of the pandemic has continued to mount, and has increasingly manifested in protest activity.
  - On Saturday, demonstrators held marches and vehicular caravans in at least 40 cities across 20 states to call for the president's resignation.
  - In Oaxaca City, municipal police held a protest and established a roadblock outside of their own barracks, to call on authorities to conduct COVID-19 testing among the police force and provide officers with personal protective equipment (PPE).

## Ecuador

- Anti-infection measures across the country continue to be eased in accordance with the “traffic light” program. Municipalities exhibiting lower infection rates are granted greater relief from restrictions on mobility and commerce.
  - Quito is scheduled to be downgraded from a “red light” (the strictest quarantine) to a “yellow light” on June 3rd.
    - This will allow for a shorter nightly curfew and the resumption of public transit.
    - Restaurants will be permitted to reopen at 30 percent of their maximum capacity.
- On Monday, both Quito's Mariscal Sucre International Airport (IATA: UIO) and Guayaquil's José Joaquín de Olmedo International Airport (IATA: GYE) resumed operations at 30 percent of their normal levels. Both domestic and international flights are being conducted.
  - Last Friday, the Ecuadorian government announced that it will receive U.S. \$2.4 billion in credit from China. The funds, which will be made available between June and October, could potentially help to ease the simmering discontent surrounding the country's economic downturn and the unpopular cutbacks that President Lenín Moreno has made in public spending.

## SPREAD OF COVID-19: SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Over the past week, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in sub-Saharan Africa has risen to over 111,000, including more than 2,400 fatalities. This makes the region the least affected, accounting for just over 1.7% of all cases globally, and approximately 0.6% of all deaths. While the number of confirmed cases in the region is continuing to rise, the pace of new infections has slowed slightly over the past week. This could be due in part to low testing rates; however, it could also suggest that the outbreak is stabilizing, though it is not likely to peak for several months. A growing number of countries are continuing to lift or ease the anti-infection measures introduced in March and April; however, a few have since reversed their decisions or re-implemented lockdowns in the worst-affected areas, citing an uptick in cases. This has highlighted the high risk of a second wave of infections as anti-infections measures are relaxed, as well as the potential for continued disruptions to economic activity, travel, and supply chains.

**The numbers of confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths have continued to rise across sub-Saharan Africa, but the pace of new infections has slowed.**

- As of the morning of Tuesday, June 2, a total of 111,285 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been recorded across the region.
- The number of confirmed cases has risen by 29% compared to last Wednesday, May 27. This is lower than the percentage increases reported in recent weeks and could suggest that the pandemic is stabilizing; however, it could also be linked, in part, to low testing rates.
- The number of deaths amongst confirmed cases has increased by 25% to 2,432, giving the region a case fatality ratio of approximately 2%.
- Although few countries have released projections on when the outbreaks will peak, both Kenyan and South African health officials have predicted that the number of infections will likely not peak until August or September of 2020.
- Community transmission has become more widespread, with only seven countries reporting sporadic cases and 15 with clusters.
- Although most cases continue to occur in urban areas, the outbreak has spread to more rural areas in several countries, including Kenya and Ethiopia, increasing the threat of widespread community transmission.

**Significant increases in new cases continue to be reported in several countries, including some that recently lifted or eased their anti-infection measures. Conversely, a number of countries that have introduced strict lockdowns, confinements, and other measures continue to record few if any new cases.**

- Substantial increases in new infections have been recorded in Malawi (233%), Zimbabwe (218%), Mauritania (102%), Ethiopia (92%), and the Central African Republic (64%) over the past week. Zimbabwe and Mauritania began easing their lockdowns and restrictions on public gatherings and economic operations earlier this month.
- Djibouti, South Africa, Nigeria, and Rwanda have also noted upticks in new cases after lifting or relaxing their anti-infection measures.
- No new cases have been reported in Seychelles and Eritrea in 54 and 42 days, respectively. Both countries introduced strict lockdown measures beginning in March and April, though the former has begun to lift the measures.
- Tanzania, Lesotho, the Gambia, and Equatorial Guinea have not reported any confirmed cases over the past week. However, Tanzania has refused to release any new data since April and the U.S. Embassy has warned that the risk of transmission likely remains high.
- Benin's confirmed case count has decreased after the government changed its reporting approach to include only those cases that tested positive through polymerase chain reaction (PCR). This brings its reporting procedures in line with the World Health Organization.

**Several countries have reversed their decisions to ease their lockdowns and anti-infection measures or re-implemented them in some areas after experiencing a resurgence in new infections.**

- Rwanda has canceled its plan to lift restrictions on vehicular transportation between provinces on Sunday, May 31, after reporting its first death from the virus and 11 new cases. Authorities have also stated that they will unveil new restrictions over the coming days.

- While Namibia has continued to ease its COVID-19 response across most of the country (moving from Stage 2 to Stage 3 on June 2), the Walvis Bay Local Authority Area has been placed under Stage 1 restrictions – the most stringent – for at least seven days. The lockdown measures have been reintroduced in Walvis Bay after three people tested positive for the virus in the area.
- South Africa and Uganda have postponed plans to reopen schools, citing a lack of protective equipment and testing kits, respectively.
- Media sources indicate that Zimbabwean security forces have cracked down on travel in Harare over the last two days, blocking all but essential workers from accessing the central business district. This marks a slight escalation in anti-infection measures after they were previously eased on May 16.
- The mayor of Dakar, Senegal, has threatened to introduce stricter anti-infection measures after a record 84 new cases were confirmed in the capital on May 30. No further details have immediately been provided but health officials were expected to meet on June 2 to discuss the issue.

**While some countries have extended their anti-infection measures over the past week, many have continued to ease or lift them, which could lead to a surge in new infections over the coming weeks and months.**

- Sudan, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, and Liberia have extended their anti-infection measures.
- Niger and Mauritius have largely lifted their measures, while South Africa, Nigeria, Namibia, and Uganda have moved into the next phases of their COVID-19 responses.

**Protests and strikes over the COVID-19 response continue to present significant hurdles to combating the spread of the virus. Allegations of human rights abuses while enforcing anti-infection measures also remain common and could fuel anti-lockdown sentiment.**

- Protests against anti-infection measures have been reported in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso; Diourbel, Senegal; and Mathare, Nairobi, Kenya over the past week, suggesting that public discontent continues to run high. These protests could also lead to new clusters of cases, as social distancing guidelines are rarely following during these events.
- In Uganda, two lawmakers were arrested on June 1 during a protest in Gulu to demand a lockdown of the border town. This reflects growing discontent with how governments have managed COVID-19 response efforts.
- Frontline health workers in Sierra Leone embarked on a brief strike on June 1 over the government's alleged failure to pay allowances. The strike involved surveillance officers and contact tracers, and there are concerns that it could have interrupted efforts to combat the outbreak.
- Police in Eswatini and Kenya have been accused of using gunfire to enforce curfews and other public health measures, resulting in at least one injury and one death over the past week, respectively. These accusations could fuel anti-government and anti-lockdown sentiment and raise the risk of further protests and unrest.



## ASSESSMENT

Several countries around the world are facing the prospect of renewed lockdowns due to sustained or resurgent outbreaks following the easing of prior restrictions. In some places, the reintroduction of restrictions may be at a sub-national level to avoid the level of economic loss and increased tensions with nationwide measures. However, some countries around the world with concerning outbreaks are shunning the introduction or reinstatement of restrictions to combat the spread of COVID-19 while health systems are placed under increasing strain. Ongoing widespread transmission around the world will continue to challenge global supply chains and the normalization of economies in the weeks and months ahead.

Efforts to develop a vaccine continue in countries around the world, as does research on the virus that could facilitate more efficient restrictions and behaviors to mitigate transmission. A study recently published in *The Lancet*, a British-based medical journal, reviewed data from 172 studies across 16 countries and found that physical distancing of at least one meter (3.2 feet) and the use of face and eye coverings. The study authors suggested that a two-meter (6.5-foot) separation could be even more beneficial and also cautioned that wearing coverings should not be considered a sufficient alternative to distancing and hygiene measures such as handwashing. It is advised to continue monitoring the shifting pandemic and associated lockdown measures, to abide by national and sub-national restrictions, and to follow guidance from personal healthcare providers as well as national and international health organizations.