

COVID-19 Lockdown Exit Analysis

7th Oct 2020

News Highlights

Spain may extend furlough programme beyond January 2021

A week after the Spanish government made a last minute decision to extend the furlough scheme in the country till the end of January 2021, [Social Security Minister, Jose Luis Escriva said that the government may consider extending the scheme beyond January](#). Spain has borne the brunt of the pandemic in Europe with countless jobs lost, and the extension of the furlough scheme will protect hundreds of thousands of jobs that are at risk

Covid-19 discipline wavering in several countries, survey says

A YouGov survey of several European countries has indicated that while most people respect government mandates on mask-wearing and personal hygiene, support for quarantine and self-isolation has decreased markedly. [In France, only 48% of people support quarantining those who have had contact with infected patients](#), down from 78% in March, with Spain and the UK also showing similar trends, although to a lesser degree

WHO official says a tenth of the world may have been infected by Covid-19

Dr Mike Ryan, director of the WHO Health Emergencies Programme, [said at a WHO executive board meeting that a tenth of the world's population may have been infected with Covid-19 so far](#), meaning that the remaining 90% still remain susceptible to the virus. Ryan's estimate would mean that close to 770 million people in the world have already been infected by the coronavirus, a number far higher than the John Hopkins University dashboard figure of 35.5 million global virus cases, which experts at WHO say is most likely to be an undercount

Sports centre in Wuhan resumes with spectators after stint as Covid-19 hospital

Over 7,500 basketball fans swarmed to watch a game organised by retired NBA star Yao Ming at the Wuhan Sport Centre, [which had served for months as a 1,100- bed makeshift coronavirus hospital at the peak of the Covid-19 outbreak in China](#). Chinese officials put the city under full lockdown on January 23 and built dozens of makeshift hospitals by revamping sports halls, exhibition centres and university buildings.

Lockdown Exit

Half a billion travelers show China's economy moving past COVID-19

With the COVID-19 pandemic largely under control in China, the Golden Week holiday is putting on display the country's confidence in its economic rebound and its public health measures. Through the first four days of the weeklong holiday that started Oct. 1, some 425 million people traveled domestically, according to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, nearly 80 percent of last year's throngs. The surge of activity stands in stark contrast to the rest of the world — the global tourism industry is expected to lose at least \$1.2 trillion in 2020 — and underscores the relative strength of China's economic recovery.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/10/06/business/economy-business/travelers-china-economy-coronavirus/>

Wuhan sports centre that was a makeshift coronavirus hospital reopens

A Wuhan sports centre which was converted into a 1,100-bed makeshift coronavirus hospital at the height of China's COVID-19 outbreak has held its first game since life in the city returned to normal. As many as 7,500 spectators swarmed into the Wuhan Sports Centre last night to watch a basketball game organised by retired NBA star Yao Ming, according to Chinese state media.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8805869/Wuhan-COVID-19-update-Sports-centre-coronavirus-makeshift-hospital-holds-game.html>

Coronavirus vaccine may be ready by end of 2020, WHO says: 'There is hope'

A vaccine against Covid-19 may be ready by the end of 2020, the head of the World Health Organisation (WHO) has said. "There is hope," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a meeting of WHO executives gathered to examine the global response to the pandemic. "We will need vaccines and there is hope that by the end of this year we may have a vaccine." There are currently nine experimental vaccines in the pipeline of the WHO-led Covax global vaccine facility, which aims to distribute two billion doses by the end of 2021.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/coronavirus-vaccine-who-update-covid-19-b837372.html>

Coronavirus cases in Arizona declined by 75% during the summer after mask mandate, CDC report finds

In Arizona, coronavirus cases remained stable from early March to mid-May while stay-at-home orders were in effect and businesses were closed. After the stay-at-home order was lifted, cases rose by 151% from around 800 per day to more than 2,000 daily. On June 17, Gov Doug Ducey updated guidelines and allowed counties to implement mask policies. Cases briefly increased before declining by 75% from 3,506 cases per day on July 13 to 867 cases daily on August 7

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-8810759/amp/Coronavirus-cases-Arizona-declined-75-summer-mask-mandate-CDC-report-finds.html>

How do pandemics end?

We are in the grip of a pandemic like none other in living memory. While people are pinning their hopes on a vaccine to wipe it out, the fact is most of the infections faced by our ancestors are still with us.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idx-876f42ae-5e44-41c0-ba2d-d6fd537aadfe>

Exit Strategies

NHS in race to reach 50,000 Covid-19 contacts missed in data blunder

The race is on to trace contacts of almost half of the thousands of positive coronavirus cases initially not recorded in England due to a technical glitch. Some 49 per cent of the almost 16,000 cases had still not been reached for contact tracing purposes as of Monday following data issues over the weekend. The Times newspaper said contact tracers had reported conversations disconnecting mid-call, but a spokesman for the department said no such incidents had been reported either on Monday or over the weekend.

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/health/nhs-in-race-to-reach-50000-covid19-contacts-missed-in-data-blunder-a4564151.html>

Hundreds of musicians protest outside Parliament

In London, a 400-strong ensemble of freelance musicians played outside Parliament to highlight the plight of the music industry during the current pandemic. Violinists Nicola Benedetti and Tasmin Little were among the performers who played a short segment of Mars, from Holst's The Planets, in central London. They then held a two-minute silence, to put pressure on the government to give more support to self-employed artists. A concurrent protest took place outside Birmingham's Symphony Hall. The events were supported by the Musicians Union, which represents more than

32,000 performers in the UK.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-54437872>

UK government urged to classify leisure centres 'essential' or face mass closures

The UK government has been urged to reclassify swimming pools, gyms and leisure centres as essential services vital to public health or face the prospect of thousands of facilities being shut permanently if a second lockdown is introduced. As the Guardian revealed in June, nearly half of Britain's public leisure centres and 20% of the country's swimming pools risk being closed for good before Christmas – putting more than 58,000 jobs in peril – because of the coronavirus pandemic. Even though lockdown restrictions have been eased, a third of leisure centres have still not reopened because of their parlous financial state.

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/oct/06/government-urged-to-classify-leisure-centres-swimming-pools-gyms-essential-or-face-mass-closures-covid>

Spain's Emergency Wage Support May Be Extended Yet Again in 2021

Spain is prepared to extend its furlough program beyond January, Social Security Minister Jose Luis Escriva said, in the clearest statement yet on the future of the wage-support policy. "We stand ready to reevaluate the situation," Escriva said in an interview, one week after the government agreed to prolong its previous aid measure through Jan. 31. "A lot will depend on a vaccine." A further extension could protect hundreds of thousands of at-risk jobs in a country that already has one of the region's highest rates of unemployment and which is also suffering one of its most dramatic coronavirus outbreaks.

<https://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/spain-emergency-wage-support-may-181228563.html>

Coronavirus Victoria: Possibility 'third step' won't happen when planned

It was always going to be a tall order, but there are now real doubts creeping in as to whether Victoria will get its case numbers down by enough to move to "step three" of its path out of lockdown when expected. Just a single word from chief health officer Brett Sutton today highlighted that doubt. That's the word "may". When asked if Victoria would reach its target of a rolling 14-day average of five daily cases or fewer of COVID-19 by the goal of October 19, he replied, "That's a point that we'll absolutely get to, and it may still well be mid-October." Of course, that means that Victoria "may" also not meet that goal by mid-October. The numbers just aren't coming down fast enough.

<https://www.news.com.au/national/victoria/news/coronavirus-victoria-possibility-third-step-wont-happen-when-planned/news-story/f4570f9877cc2b5b619516332e8d81c7>

Australia to pay businesses to employ young people after COVID-19 shutdowns

Australia will spend A\$4 billion over the next year to pay businesses that hire those under the age of 35, Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said, as part of an ambitious plan to boost jobs and growth. Australia has been widely lauded for limiting the spread of COVID-19, but strict lockdown measures forced shut entire sectors of the economy, sending unemployment to a 22-year high of 7.5% in July. The impact on younger Australians is even worse, with recent data showing the unemployment rate for 15- to 24-year olds was hovering near 20%. As part of the government's hiring credit scheme, Canberra will pay businesses A\$200 a week for the next a year if they employ a person under 29.

<https://uk.news.yahoo.com/australia-pay-businesses-employ-young-083656036.html>

Australia to run record budget deficit as government cuts tax, boosts job support

Australia pledged billions in tax cuts and measures to boost jobs on Tuesday to help pull the economy out of its historic COVID-19 slump in a budget that tips the country into its deepest deficit on record. While the number of deaths and infections in Australia from COVID-19 has been low compared with many other countries, the hit to GDP has been severe. Underlying the budget forecasts was an assumption that a vaccine would be developed in 2021.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-australia-budget/australia-to-run-record-budget-deficit-as-government-cuts-tax-boosts-job-support-idUKKBN26R0EO>

Partisan Exits

Trump Covid: President downplays virus on leaving hospital

US President Donald Trump has made a theatrical return to the White House to continue his treatment for coronavirus after a three-night hospital stay. Mr Trump, who is still contagious, removed his mask on the balcony of the White House, while posing for pictures. Mr Trump also recorded a video message, urging Americans to get back to work. "You're going to beat it [coronavirus]," he told them, adding: "We're going to be out front. As your leader, I had to do that. I knew there's danger to it, but I had to do it. I stood out front, and led."

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-us-2020-54427390>

Trump could face a relapse, Dr. Fauci warns, as president opts to downplay nation's coronavirus threat despite massive death toll

President Donald Trump rolled out of Walter Reed hospital confidently urging the nation not to fear the coronavirus despite experts warning the U.S. death toll, at more than 210,000, could almost double by year's end. Experts also warn that the commander-in-chief himself may not have seen the worst of the virus just yet. "I am very worried that people will take this to mean that 'If he can beat COVID I can beat COVID,'" said Narasimhan, senior vice president for critical care services at Northwell Health. "I don't think that we can take any real lessons (from Trump's illness) except that he did get sick. Pretending this is not real disease will not help."

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2020/10/06/fauci-warns-trump-relapse-president-downplays-coronaviruss-death-toll/3634631001/>

Trump's anti-lockdown coronavirus adviser, Dr. Scott Atlas, says the president's COVID-19 diagnosis will not change how the White House tackles the pandemic

President Donald Trump's newest coronavirus adviser, Dr. Scott Atlas, says the president's COVID-19 diagnosis will not change the White House's current strategy on pandemic control. "He is not afraid, he's not going to hide in the basement, endorse another lockdown ... frozen in fear behind a map," Atlas said. Throughout the pandemic Trump and the White House have downplayed the coronavirus, pressured states to reopen their businesses, and eschewed health experts' calls for transparency. The US currently has the highest number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the world.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/trump-s-anti-lockdown-coronavirus-adviser-dr-scott-atlas-says-the-presidents-covid-19-diagnosis-will-not-change-how-the-white-house-tackles-the-pandemic/ar-BB19KrEN?li=BBnbcA1>

A Second National Lockdown Seems Inevitable. Here's What Stands In The Way

In England, what is stopping the PM from a full lockdown – and could a two-week “circuit-breaker” compromise be on the cards? Covid-19 has already ravaged the UK economy and the Bank of England warned last month that the resurgence of the virus will hit the country hard. Chancellor Rishi Sunak is thought to oppose a second lockdown “for any long period of time” amid fears job losses could soar and unemployment in 2021 could spiral out of control. One thorn in Johnson’s side should he move for a second shutdown is a grouping of backbench Tory MPs known informally as “the Brady bunch”. Notionally led by the chair of the powerful 1922 committee, Graham Brady, they oppose new restrictions by the state, both due to the limits on individual freedoms and the strain on business.

https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/will-boris-johnson-impose-a-second-national-lockdown_uk_5f74a3c2c5b6d698bb26f4ec

Trump now needs to balance science with his libertarian instincts - he should look to Japan for inspiration

Vince Cable writes about the Japanese approach to the coronavirus pandemic, as compared to Trump's: "The Japanese experience might also prove helpful to Trump. Assuming that he recovers quickly and gets back to the campaign trail, he has to find a way of acknowledging that his cavalier disregard for scientific advice wasn't smart; but, at the same time, he has to keep faith with his libertarian supporters who will not accept formal restrictions. A version of the Japanese approach might play well, especially since Tokyo has gone to extraordinary lengths to keep onside with Trump."

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/trump-coronavirus-covid-japan-libertarian-b832041.html>

COVID-19 disobedience goes deeper than we think

While respect for mask-wearing and personal hygiene is broadly high, according to YouGov surveys of European countries, support for quarantine and self-isolation is wavering. In France, only 48 percent of people currently support quarantining those who've had contact with infected patients, down from 78 percent in March. It has also fallen in the U.K. and Spain, though to a lesser degree. There's mounting evidence that people who are asked to stay at home aren't doing so. On top of carrots and sticks, transparency and education can help compliance. New rules such as closing restaurants and bars at 10 p.m. rather than 11 p.m. haven't been justified with any scientifically backed explanations, the kind of thing that can chip away at public trust.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2020/10/06/commentary/world-commentary/coronavirus-disobedience/>

Trump Covid post deleted by Facebook and hidden by Twitter

Facebook has deleted a post in which President Trump had claimed Covid-19 was "less lethal" than the flu. Mr Trump is at the White House after three days of hospital treatment having tested positive for the virus. He wrote the US had "learned to live with" flu season, "just like we are learning to live with Covid, in most populations far less lethal!!!" Twitter hid the same message behind a warning about "spreading misleading and potentially harmful information". Users have to click past the alert to read the tweet. "We remove incorrect information about the severity of Covid-19, and have now removed this post," said Andy Stone, policy communications manager at Facebook.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-54440662>

Continued Lockdown

COVID aid could bring years of austerity, charities warn IMF

Five hundred of the world's leading charities and social groups have sent a letter to the International Monetary Fund warning that its support programmes, which have had to be ramped up to cope with COVID-19, were condemning many countries to years of austerity. The IMF has responded to an unprecedented number of calls for emergency financing as a result of this year's pandemic and lockdown measures driving the global economy into a severe recession.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-imf-austerity/covid-aid-could-bring-years-of-austerity-charities-warn-imf-idUKKBN26R1KK>

Lockdown hit food security of children, says rights body

The Covid-19 pandemic has likely exacerbated hunger and malnutrition among communities most vulnerable to food insecurity, especially children, an experts' committee set up by the National Human Rights Commission has said. In an advisory, the rights watchdog has asked the Union ministries of food and public distribution, women and child development and education to urgently restore and expand coverage under various food handout programmes.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/lockdown-hit-food-security-of-children-rights-body-tells-ministries/story-pzQYgrpgwX39WRPOO3jxbL.html>

Pros and cons of lockdown

Millions of people across the north of England are currently under newly implemented lockdown

measures following a surge of cases across the country in recent weeks. Greater Manchester has been under a local lockdown since the end of July. In the northeast, Northumberland, Newcastle, Tyneside, Gateshead, Sunderland and County Durham have been under stricter measures since 30 September, and this weekend new restrictions were introduced in Liverpool, Warrington, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough

<https://www.theweek.co.uk/coronavirus/106317/pros-and-cons-of-lockdown>

Coronavirus UK: 400 fines in Manchester for breaking lockdown rules

In Manchester, a number of lockdown parties over the weekend means 400 fines for flouting coronavirus restrictions have now been handed out. Police say they had a 'busy weekend' in the city after issuing 85 fines between Friday and Sunday. Greater Manchester has been under a local lockdown since the end of July, with household mixing banned in homes and gardens

<https://metro.co.uk/2020/10/06/wedding-and-birthday-parties-among-400-fines-handed-to-people-breaking-lockdown-in-manchester-13378347/>

Scientific Viewpoint

Fluvoxamine Data Unveiled as Promising Early Treatment in Patients with Mild COVID-19

The COVID-19 Early Treatment Fund (CETF) announced the results of a recently funded outpatient clinical trial at Washington University in St. Louis that examined the viability of fluvoxamine in patients with mild COVID-19. The trial results indicated that fluvoxamine, if given early in the course of COVID-19, significantly reduced the likelihood of hospitalization.

<https://news.yahoo.com/fluvoxamine-data-unveiled-promising-early-163000170.html>

EU fast-tracks process for Pfizer and BioNTech's Covid-19 vaccine

The European Medicines Agency has accelerated the approval process for a Covid-19 vaccine developed by Germany's BioNTech and US pharma group Pfizer, to allow for the rapid authorisation of the shot as soon as safety data from its trial allows. The decision by the EU regulator was based on preliminary results from the companies' early clinical trials, which showed the vaccine triggers an immune response in adults, the regulator and the companies said

<https://www.ft.com/content/e9ebc6b0-9fa8-4725-a673-b7b14931c391>

White House overruled FDA to shorten testing period for Covid-19 vaccine

The White House blocked new Food and Drug Administration guidelines for the release of a coronavirus vaccine that would almost certainly have ensured the vaccine would not be approved before the presidential election on 3 November. The FDA planned to instruct that vaccine developers follow patients in trials for at least two months, to rule out safety issues before seeking emergency approval. A senior administration official confirmed the move to block the guidelines to the Associated Press on Monday evening, saying the White House believed there was "no clinical or medical reason" for the additional requirement

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/06/coronavirus-vaccine-trump-administration-fda>

Covid-19 treatment hopes as GlaxoSmithKline's antibody drug moves onto phase 3 trial

A potential new coronavirus antibody treatment made by GSK has moved into late stage trials. GlaxoSmithKline said its treatment - known as Vir-7831 - could be rolled out by 2021 if its proven to be effective and safe. The drug uses antibodies - proteins found in people who have survived Covid-19 - that have been genetically modified in a lab. These substances are then injected into patients in the earliest stages of their illness.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8810505/Covid-19-treatment-hopes-GlaxoSmithKlines-antibody-drug-moves-phase-3-trial.html>

10% of the world may have been infected by Covid-19, WHO official says

The novel coronavirus may have infected about one in 10 people globally, meaning the majority of

the world remains vulnerable to Covid-19, a World Health Organization official has said. "Our current best estimates tell us that about 10% of the global population may have been infected by this virus," Dr. Mike Ryan, director of the WHO's Health Emergencies Programme, said at a WHO executive board meeting. "This varies depending on country, it varies from urban to rural, it varies between different groups. But what it does mean is that the vast majority of the world remains at risk," Ryan added.

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/06/health/who-coronavirus-world-population-intl/index.html>

COVID-19 vaccines: how to ensure Africa has access

Last month, a grand experiment was launched to speed up the development of COVID-19 vaccines and make sure they are distributed equitably among higher- and lower-income countries. The COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) initiative is co-led by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. As of 1 October, 167 countries have signed up, covering nearly two-thirds of the global population. Under this scheme, even poor nations should have enough vaccines to protect health-care workers and the most vulnerable 20% of their populations. Still, Africa has reasons to worry. Already, several high-income countries have signed their own contracts with individual companies to buy selected vaccines.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-02774-8>

Coronavirus: How lockdown has affected mental health

Covid-19 may be a physical illness but it has also hit mental health hard. In August, a group of NHS leaders said they were seeing a rise in people reporting severe mental health difficulties while charities including Mind, Samaritans and Calm have all said they have seen an increase in people coming to them for help. The BBC's Unusual Times podcast spoke to people around the country about the impact the pandemic and lockdown has had on them.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-54418913>

Coronavirus: How to tell which countries are coping best with Covid

As the Covid crisis has unfolded, infection rates have fluctuated and restrictions have proliferated. But it has always felt that there was one idea to cling to: that by working out which countries were doing well - and which were not - there was something to be learned. After all, historians will surely puzzle over how the countries of Western Europe, with broadly similar economies, produced such drastically different outcomes. So far, at least. We use international comparisons all the time, of course - they're a way of measuring how our own governments are doing. But even comparing the simplest data can be complex. There can be differences in how and when death is reported, how co-morbidities are reflected on death certificates, and for how long after a positive test a death is considered to be Covid-related. All will influence how a country's performance at any given moment is measured.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-54391482>

Coronavirus: Lockdown in Scotland 'profoundly disruptive' to NHS care

The Covid pandemic has had a "profoundly disruptive" impact on hospital-based care across NHS Scotland, researchers have warned. They said the response to the crisis has "likely led to an adverse effect on non-Covid-19-related illnesses" and that the long-term impact on avoidable deaths and disease should be monitored. A detailed analysis of the impact of the virus on patient numbers reveals that A&E attendance fell to 41 per cent below average between the World Health Organisation declaring a pandemic on March 11 and the announcement of a UK-wide lockdown on March 23.

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18769538.coronavirus-lockdown-scotland-profoundly-disruptive-nhs-care/>

High coronavirus COVID-19 rates found amongst people living in hardship in Paris | MSF

A survey has found infection rates of the new coronavirus to be as high as 94 per cent among some people living in precarious situations in Paris. The findings confirm that COVID-19 is more easily spread among people living in crowded conditions, such as hostels for disadvantaged people and shelters for the homeless. With winter coming, measures to provide homeless people with appropriate accommodation, such as hotels, must be urgently implemented.

<https://www.msf.org/high-coronavirus-covid-19-rates-found-amongst-people-living-hardship-paris>

India saw spike in mental health cases due to lockdown: AIIMS doctor

In India, the ratio between psychiatrists and patients still remains poor and amidst the pandemic, issues pertaining to mental health and depression have witnessed a rise across all age groups. In order to bridge this gap and make mental health care accessible to all, the MHFI (Mental Health Foundation India) launched a web portal MiHOPE that will have medical experts across the country, directly communicate with those who need counselling via telepsychiatry, tele-counseling and holistic individual wellness (emphasising on yoga, physical activities, and nutrition among others).

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/delhi/2020/oct/06/india-saw-spike-in-mental-health-cases-due-to-lockdown-aiims-doctor-2206446.html>

What Should the U.S. Learn From South Korea's Covid-19 Success?

South Korea's response to Covid-19 has been widely praised. Will Americans ever be willing to adopt a similar approach?

<https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/938627>

China has responded best to the Covid-19 pandemic, study claims

US and Spanish researchers surveyed nearly 13,500 people from 19 countries. People asked to grade their leaders' handling of number of issues during crisis. Chinese people were most satisfied with how their Governments had responded.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8806987/China-responded-best-Covid-19-pandemic-study-claims.html>

World Coronavirus Dispatch: China seeks to have its vaccine assessed by WHO

China is in talks to have its locally-produced Covid-19 vaccines assessed by the World Health Organization, as a step toward making them available for international use, a WHO official said on Tuesday. Hundreds of thousands of essential workers and other groups considered at high risk in China have been given locally-developed vaccines even as clinical trials had not been fully completed, raising safety concerns among experts.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/world-coronavirus-dispatch-china-seeks-to-have-its-vaccine-assessed-by-who-120100600833_1.html

'Raging epidemic is not inevitable' — Dr. Scott Gottlieb believes China case count and rips U.S. response

Dr. Scott Gottlieb expressed disappointment with the state of the U.S. coronavirus epidemic. "The entire Pacific Rim has less than 1,000 infections a day. Having a raging epidemic is not inevitable," the former FDA chief told CNBC. Gottlieb doesn't believe China is lying about its much fewer case counts. "The entire Pacific Rim isn't in on the conspiracy."

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/10/05/dr-scott-gottlieb-a-raging-epidemic-is-not-inevitable-dr-scott-gottlieb-says-.html>

Pandemic tops 35 million cases, disrupts mental health services

Over the weekend, the pandemic total topped 35 million infections, as European countries experiencing second waves of activity dialed up their COVID-19 measures and the World Health Organization (WHO) said that the virus has disrupted services for mental health, neurologic conditions, and substance abuse. The global total today reached 35,333,085 cases, and 1,039,000 people have died from their infections, according to the Johns Hopkins online dashboard.

<https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/10/pandemic-tops-35-million-cases-disrupts-mental-health-servic>

[es](#)

CHMP starts rolling review of Pfizer/BioNTech COVID vaccine

A second candidate vaccine against COVID-19 is undergoing rolling review by the European Medicines Agency (EMA), as the agency begins with evaluation of pre-clinical data to support approval of a coronavirus vaccine during the pandemic. The human medicines committee of the agency, known as CHMP, announced on 6 October that it was initiating a rolling review of the messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) vaccine under development by Pfizer in collaboration with the German pharmaceutical company BioNTech. "The rolling review of these vaccines started with CHMP evaluating the first batches of data. It continues until enough evidence is available to support a formal marketing authorization application," according to EMA's web page that lists the vaccine candidates undergoing rolling review.

<https://www.raps.org/news-and-articles/news-articles/2020/10/chmp-starts-rolling-review-of-pfizerbiontech-covid>

Moderna coronavirus vaccine trial contractors did not enroll enough minority volunteers

Private contractors hired by Moderna Inc did not hire enough black, Hispanic and Native America volunteers for the company's coronavirus vaccine trial. This has slowed down the late-stage trial and research centers have been told to focus on increasing participation among minorities. As of September 17, black Americans made up only about 7% of participants, but a reflection of the US population should put that figure closer to 13%. It is important to test a jab among communities of color because they are at higher risk of being infected with, and dying from, COVID-19. Moderna says it could seek emergency approval for inoculating high-risk groups such as healthcare workers as early as November

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-8810241/Moderna-vaccine-trial-contractors-fail-enroll-minorities-prompting-slowdown-sources.html>

University of Bristol joins major £4m study in race for coronavirus vaccine

Bristol experts are taking part in a major study to unpick the mysteries of coronavirus, investigating how antiviral drugs could be used to fight it. The University of Bristol is among six institutions contributing to the £4m international project, which is funded by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the United States. They will specifically research severe cases of Covid-19, and their findings will help to develop the treatments and vaccines that are urgently needed to slow the spread of the infection.

<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/university-bristol-joins-major-4m-4580126>

AstraZeneca's Coronavirus Vaccine Is Already Being Reviewed for Approval in Canada and Europe. Why Not in the U.S.?

It wasn't all that long ago that many people saw AstraZeneca as the leader in the race to develop a coronavirus vaccine. The U.K.-based drugmaker partnered with the University of Oxford and got off to a fast start. AstraZeneca has fallen behind over the last four weeks -- at least in the U.S. Early last month, the company announced that it was temporarily pausing its late-stage clinical studies evaluating COVID-19 vaccine candidate AZD1222. AstraZeneca has since resumed its trials in multiple countries; indeed, AZD1222 is already being reviewed for potential regulatory approvals in Canada and Europe. But the chances of a regulatory review in the U.S. for AstraZeneca's coronavirus vaccine this year appear to be dwindling. Why is this one-time Operation Warp Speed favorite progressing so slowly in the U.S.?

<https://www.fool.com/investing/2020/10/06/astrazenecas-coronavirus-vaccine-is-already-being/>

U.S. FDA asks COVID-19 vaccine developers for two months follow-up data

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration told coronavirus vaccine developers on Tuesday it wants at least two months of safety data before authorizing emergency use, a requirement that would likely push any U.S. vaccine availability past the Nov. 3 presidential election. A senior administration

official confirmed the White House had approved the plan, which undercuts President Donald Trump's hopes of getting a vaccine before voters go to polls. Trump voiced his displeasure in a Twitter post late on Tuesday: "New FDA Rules make it more difficult for them to speed up vaccines for approval before Election Day. Just another political hit job!"

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-fda-vaccine/u-s-fda-asks-covid-19-vaccine-developers-for-two-months-follow-up-data-idINKBN26R2IB>

U.S. FDA safety guidelines likely to push COVID-19 vaccine authorization past election

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration told coronavirus vaccine developers on Tuesday it wants at least two months of safety data before authorizing emergency use, a requirement that would likely push any U.S. vaccine availability past the Nov. 3 presidential election. A senior administration official confirmed the White House had approved the plan, which undercuts President Donald Trump's hopes of getting a vaccine before voters go to polls. The FDA released the guidance laying out more stringent recommendations for drugmakers hoping to apply for an emergency use authorization (EUA) for their experimental vaccines.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-fda-vaccine/update-4-us-fda-safety-guidelines-likely-to-push-covid-19-vaccine-authorization-past-election-idUKL4N2GX2R8>

Europe starts real-time review of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine

The European health regulator is reviewing a COVID-19 vaccine being developed by Pfizer and BioNTech in real time, days after launching a similar assessment process for AstraZeneca's vaccine. The European Medicines Agency (EMA) said on Tuesday its human medicines committee was evaluating the first batch of data on the vaccine, and would continue to do so until enough data is available for a final decision.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKKBN26R1GM>

Covid-19: NHS tests threatened by Roche supply chain failing

Coronavirus swabs and other key NHS tests for conditions including cancer are under threat, after a supply chain failure at a major diagnostics company. Swiss pharmaceutical firm Roche said problems with a move to a new warehouse had led to a "very significant" drop in its processing capacity. A spokesperson said Covid-19 tests would be prioritised, but it could take two weeks to fix the issue. One NHS trust has already advised its GPs to stop all non-urgent blood tests. In a statement, Roche said: "We deeply regret that there has been a delay in the dispatch of some products. "We are prioritising the dispatch of Covid-19 PCR [diagnostic] and antibody tests and doing everything we can to ensure there is no impact on the supply of these to the NHS."

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-54435226>

Coronavirus can survive for up to NINE HOURS on human skin, study finds

Researchers mixed samples of the coronavirus and influenza A virus with human skin samples obtained from autopsies 24 hours prior. The flu virus survived for less than two hours on skin while the coronavirus lived for up to nine hours. Both viruses were completely inactivated within 15 seconds by hand sanitizer containing 80% alcohol. The team says the findings show how the coronavirus has a higher risk of contact transmission than the flu and the importance of hand-washing

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-8808063/Coronavirus-survive-NINE-HOURS-human-skin-study-finds.html>

More than 80% of hospitalized coronavirus patients have neurological symptoms, study finds

Researchers looked at more than 500 patients with COVID-19 at 10 hospitals for neurological symptoms. About 42% had neurological symptoms when their symptoms began, 63% suffered them while in the hospital and 82% had them at some point while ill. The most common symptoms were muscle pain and headaches, with 45% and 38% having them, respectively. Nearly one-third of

patients experienced encephalopathy, which is an altered mental state leaving them confused. Patients with encephalopathy has an average hospital stay that was three times longer and a death risk seven times higher.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-8807729/More-80-hospitalized-coronavirus-patients-neurological-symptoms-study-finds.html>

Coronavirus Resurgence

Covid-19 hospital cases jump 25% in a day

The number of people admitted to hospital with Covid-19 on one day has jumped by nearly a quarter in England. There were 478 people admitted to hospital on Sunday - the largest daily figure since early June - up from 386. More than two-thirds of those were in the North West, North East and Yorkshire. It comes as a further 14,542 cases were confirmed across the whole of the UK on Tuesday. That daily figure has trebled in a fortnight.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-54441133>

UK reports 14,542 cases of COVID-19

Britain reported 14,542 new cases of COVID-19 on Tuesday, up from 12,594 on Monday, according to government data. There were 76 deaths within 28 days of a positive test.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-britain-cases/uk-reports-14542-cases-of-covid-19-idUKKBN26R2PE>

Matt Hancock warns cancer patients may not be treated if Covid-19 is 'out of control'

Cancer patients could face having their treatments withdrawn if the virus does not stay 'under control.' Matt Hancock's admission comes after an Excel Spreadsheet failure saw 16,000 positive cases overlooked. The oversight means thousands have been wandering the community after being exposed to the virus. Number 10 revealed this afternoon that only 63 per cent of these cases have now been contacted for tracing

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8810281/Labour-savages-Matt-Hancock-having-NO-idea-contacts-need-traced.html>

Isolating students offered food, toiletries but no financial support by UK universities

Students in lockdown must have access to food and basic toiletries, university leaders have said, as the government made deliveries of just one litre of hand sanitiser to campuses in England. Universities UK (UUK), which represents 139 higher education institutions, published a "checklist" of measures for universities supporting students who were self-isolating after Covid-19 exposure, several weeks after teaching restarted at some sites. But the checklist makes no mention of financial support or refunds for costs incurred during lockdowns ordered by university authorities. It was also criticised as too late to help thousands of students already self-isolating, including 824 confirmed Covid cases at Manchester University, more than 770 at Northumbria University, and 800 among students at Sheffield's two universities.

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2020/oct/06/isolating-students-offered-food-toiletries-but-no-financial-support-by-uk-universities>

Only 4 states are reporting a decline in Covid-19 cases

Almost nine months into the coronavirus pandemic, the crisis shows no signs of abating, even in states that were once not considered Covid-19 hotspots. Utah, where the vice presidential candidates will debate Wednesday, is averaging more than 1,000 new cases each day for the past week. That's the highest it's been since the first cases in the US were reported in late January.

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/06/health/us-coronavirus-tuesday/index.html>

Irish government rejects return to full coronavirus lockdown

The Irish government has rejected a recommendation to return the country to a full lockdown in the

first clash with health chiefs since the Covid outbreak began. The surprise recommendation by the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) late on Sunday to impose the highest of five levels of restrictions possible with immediate effect had led to sharp criticism from some of the country's most senior politicians, including the former taoiseach Leo Varadkar. While the rising spread of the virus is causing alarm and has led to partial lockdowns in several counties, most of the country is still on level 2 restrictions, involving fewer limits to social and economic activity.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/06/irish-government-rejects-return-to-full-coronavirus-lockdown>

UK's Covid-19 infection rate almost doubles in a week

The rate of Covid-19 infections across the UK has almost doubled in a week. The UK-wide seven-day rate currently stands at 125.7 cases per 100,000 people, up from 63.8 per 100,000 a week ago, analysis by the PA news agency shows. When it comes to daily figures, as of 9am on Tuesday, there were 14,542 lab-confirmed cases of coronavirus in the UK. These have trebled in a fortnight - on September 22, there were 4,926 cases recorded.

<https://uk.news.yahoo.com/uk-covid-19-infection-rate-162450689.html>

Why another 8.7 million people should now be under lockdown in the UK

On 30 July, after the weekly rate of Covid-19 cases in Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire and East Lancashire reached 66.6 per 100,000 people, local restrictions were imposed on the area with a few hours' notice from central government. The situation was clearly seen as urgent. "We're constantly vigilant and we've been looking at the data," the Health Secretary Matt Hancock explained at the time, concluding: "We need to take action."

<https://www.newstatesman.com/2020/10/why-another-87-million-people-should-now-be-under-lockdown-uk>

Coronavirus: Arlene Foster says new lockdown 'avoidable'

Another lockdown in Northern Ireland to tackle Covid-19 is "avoidable" if people adhere to the rules, First Minister Arlene Foster has said. She said the executive did not want to have to impose further restrictions. However, Mrs Foster said if that became necessary then Westminster would have to provide extra financial support. She and Deputy First Minister Michelle O'Neill spoke to Cabinet Office Minister Michael Gove about that prospect on Monday afternoon. Speaking on BBC Radio Ulster's Evening Extra programme, the first minister said she did not believe another lockdown was inevitable. "The important thing to do is work with us and comply with the guidance and regulations out there," she said.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-54422804>

Covid in Scotland: Nicola Sturgeon 'not proposing return to full lockdown'

New coronavirus restrictions for Scotland will be announced on Wednesday - but it will not be another full lockdown, Nicola Sturgeon has said. Options for a so-called "circuit-breaker" to slow the spread of the virus were discussed by the Scottish cabinet on Tuesday morning. But the first minister said people would not be told to stay at home, and there would be no national travel ban. And schools will only close for the October holidays. However, the first minister did not rule out local travel restrictions being introduced, or the possible closure of pubs and restaurants, in areas with higher rates of the virus. Ms Sturgeon was speaking as 800 new cases of Covid-19 were confirmed in Scotland.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-54434561>

Coronavirus UK: The cities facing lockdown because of 'missed' data

Cities and areas with universities - including Nottingham, Sheffield, Leeds and Oxford - have seen figures soar after a computer technical issue. There was reportedly an error with an Excel spreadsheet which meant 15,841 cases between September 25 and October 2 were left out of the Government's dashboard, MailOnline reports. The error saw the daily cases jump to a record high of 22,961 on Sunday.

<https://metro.co.uk/2020/10/06/revealed-cities-facing-lockdown-within-days-because-of-missed-data-13377553/>

COVID-19 here to stay? Italian govt wants to extend 'state of emergency' measures till January 2022

Italy's health minister says the government is examining a proposal to make masks mandatory outdoors as the country enters a difficult phase of living alongside COVID-19, with the number of infections growing steadily for the last nine weeks. Roberto Speranza told the lower house of parliament on Tuesday that as infections spread, it is necessary to return to restrictions that were gradually loosened over the spring and summer months after Italy's strict nearly three-month lockdown. "We must raise our guard with the awareness that our country is better off than others," Speranza said.

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/world/2020/oct/06/covid-19-here-to-stay-italian-govt-wants-to-extend-state-of-emergency-measures-till-january-2022-2206595.html>

Italy, Greece and Sweden could be added to UK quarantine list this week

Italy, Sweden and Greece are all above the Government's infection threshold. They are likely to be added to the growing 'red' list of high-risk countries. Quarantine could be slashed to eight days if travellers receive a negative test. New arrivals will have to go into self-isolation, but can end it with a test on day 8

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8808595/Italy-Greece-Sweden-added-UK-quarantine-list-week.html>

Coronavirus: Europe struggles to contain surge of cases

Bars in Paris have been ordered to close for two weeks, Madrid residents may no longer leave their city and Ireland is set to introduce tighter national restrictions as governments struggle to contain a Europe-wide surge in Covid-19 cases. As infections in the Paris area rose to 270 for every 100,000 people – and as high as 500 for every 100,000 among 20- to 30-year-olds – with 36% of intensive care beds occupied by Covid-19 patients, the city's police chief said bars must close from Tuesday. Outlining measures he described as a "balance between assuring the health of our fellow citizens and the reality and necessity of economic and social life", Didier Lallement said the French capital and its surrounding Île-de-France region were necessary because "the epidemic is moving too fast".

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/05/europe-struggles-to-contain-surge-of-coronavirus-cases>

France's daily COVID-19 cases slow, but hospitalisations spike

France reported a marked slowing in new daily COVID-19 cases on Monday but the number of people hospitalised for the disease shot up by more than 300 for the first time since Apr. 12, when the country was in the middle of a lockdown. Among the 7,294 patients hospitalised, more than 1,400 were treated in intensive care units (ICUs) – the highest number since May 28.

<https://in.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-france-casualties/frances-daily-covid-19-cases-slow-but-hospitalisations-spike-idINKBN26R067?il=0>

In Paris, we're resigned to new Covid restrictions – and baffled by Boris Johnson's U-turns

It was all going so well – until suddenly it wasn't. Following the super-strict lockdown in the spring, life in Paris had pretty much returned to normal. I mean, granted, face masks were now compulsory in public spaces – both indoors and out – and there was still little international tourism in the city. But, other than that, things felt reassuringly normal again. The brasseries were busy once more, the bars were positively bustling and business meetings had started to resume. People had even got used to abandoning 'la bise' – the famous kiss on both cheeks – for the awkward elbow shuffle. Some of us had secretly come to prefer that style of greeting. In short, there was no longer the feeling that we were living through an apocalypse.

<https://inews.co.uk/opinion/paris-covid-lockdown-restrictions-coronavirus-boris-johnson-uk-u-turns-678686>

Paris Bars Close, France New Covid Daily Record 17,000 Cases

After a Covid daily record of 16,972 new cases on Saturday, Paris bars were ordered to close for two weeks from Tuesday as the capital is declared a "maximum alert zone" due to the escalating pandemic. Health Minister Olivier Véran warned on Thursday, that Paris was heading that way, unless the escalating Covid-19 crisis improved. Instead the situation continued to worsen.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/tamarathiessen/2020/10/04/paris-bars-close-france-new-covid-daily-record-17000-cases/>

Nepal staring at possible lockdown as cases overtake Chinas Covid tally

The coronavirus barometer of the Himalayan Nation has surged high in recent days with the number of cases reaching 86,823 on October 4. Nepal on Sunday overtook China in the number of infections which has reported 85,450 cases amid speculation that the toll could be higher. Nepal on Sunday alone logged 2,253 new cases with 1,329 cases of recoveries and seven deaths. Out of new cases, Kathmandu Valley alone contributed 1,373 new cases while Lalitpur registered 187 and Bhaktapur 39 new cases of coronavirus.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/nepal-staring-at-possible-lockdown-as-cases-overtake-china-s-covid-tally-120100400882_1.html

Cases rise in Australia's COVID-19 hotspot, but most linked to known outbreaks

Australia's coronavirus hotspot of Victoria state on Tuesday (Oct 6) reported a slight rise in new cases, but authorities sought to allay fears by saying they could link most of those infections to known outbreaks. Victoria, Australia's second-most populous state, reported one death from the virus in the last 24 hours and 15 cases, its biggest daily rise in infections in five days. "They are, again, predominantly related to known cases, to outbreaks, and we have to get on top of these outbreaks to really drive these numbers down," state's Chief Health Officer Brett Sutton told reporters in Melbourne. "I don't like to see a number that's in double figures and not in single figures, and no one obsesses over the daily numbers more than me or my team."

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/australia-victoria-covid-19-cases-linked-outbreaks-13210078>

Matt Hancock says changes to local and national lockdown rules coming

Health Secretary Matt Hancock has confirmed that he is set to announce changes to the local and national lockdown rules in England. His confirmation comes amid speculation that current rules are to be replaced with a simpler three-tier system. That 'traffic light' system would impose a level of rules on an area - or the whole country - based on the coronavirus risks on a three-tier scale. New lockdown measures could include everything from a ban on households mixing to a ban on visiting care homes and even pubs being closed at the most serious level.

<https://www.cambridge-news.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/matt-hancock-says-changes-local-19056137>

We need localised Covid-19 solutions - not lockdown

Between May and September 2020 we had an opportunity to prepare for the next wave of Covid-19. We have not done so. During this time, Ireland changed governments, changed ministers for health, the politicians took a six-week break, and community medical services have remained in a deep freeze, waiting for the next wave. We had an opportunity to safely open the country and to secure our borders, and develop workable "red" and "green" lists, similar to our EU neighbours and indeed those around the world. We were listening to the "experts of the day" and our politicians saying we should adopt a New Zealand model, knowing that would never work, as New Zealand does not have a border with Northern Ireland. We wasted time and our economy has suffered.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/we-need-localised-covid-19-solutions-not-lockdown-1.4372677>

Germany's Altmaier Vows to Avoid Another Shutdown of Industry

Germany must avoid another shutdown of industrial activity, Economy Minister Peter Altmaier said on Monday as rising COVID-19 infections cloud the growth outlook for Europe's largest economy. The German economy contracted by a record 9.7% in the second quarter as measures to contain the

spread of the pandemic brought public life and business activity to a near standstill from mid-March to late April.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2020-10-05/germany-will-avoid-lockdown-for-industry-altmaier>

Moscow schools start unplanned holidays as COVID-19 cases rise

Moscow schools began unplanned holidays on Monday and businesses were required to have at least 30% of their staff working remotely, as COVID-19 cases across Russia hit their highest level since May 12. Authorities were also weighing the possibility of re-introducing tough lockdown measures last seen in the capital in late spring, the Vedomosti newspaper reported, as the daily tally of new cases reached 10,888 nationwide, including 3,537 in Moscow. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said he was unaware of plans to impose a strict lockdown however, despite new restrictions aimed at limiting social interaction taking effect in the Russian capital on Monday.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-moscow-schools/moscow-schools-start-unplanned-holidays-as-covid-19-cases-rise-idUSKBN26Q1AV>

Kremlin says not aware of any plans to impose new lockdown as cases climb

The Kremlin said on Monday that it was not aware of any current government plans to impose a strict lockdown in Russia to curb the sharp rise in coronavirus cases. Russia's daily tally of new coronavirus cases rose to its highest since May 12 on Monday as authorities reported 10,888 new infections nationwide, including 3,537 in Moscow.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-russia-kremlin-idUKKBN26Q1HU>

Covid hospital cases jump nearly 25% in England

The number of people admitted to hospital with Covid-19 on one day has jumped by nearly a quarter in England. There were 478 people admitted to hospital on Sunday - the largest daily figure since early June - up from 386. More than two-thirds of those were in the North West, North East and Yorkshire. It comes as a further 14,542 cases were confirmed across the whole of the UK on Tuesday. That daily figure has trebled in a fortnight.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-54441133>

Ireland resists lockdown call, tighten COVID-19 curbs instead

Ireland must act now to prevent a damaging return to lockdown, Prime Minister Micheal Martin said on Monday after rejecting a surprise recommendation by his health chiefs to shut down the economy immediately and opting instead to tighten COVID-19 restrictions.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-ireland/ireland-resists-lockdown-call-tightens-covid-19-curbs-instead-idUKKBN26Q17A>

New Lockdown

Malaysia to Impose Targeted Lockdowns to Halt Infections Surge

Malaysia's Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin on Tuesday said targeted lockdowns would be imposed in areas with high rates of coronavirus infections, as the country grapples with a sharp spike in cases over the past two weeks. The health ministry reported 691 new COVID-19 cases and four deaths on Tuesday, another new record in the wake of last month's election in the state of Sabah, from where many infections have been traced. "For now we are not thinking of imposing a total lockdown nationwide. If we do that again, it could bring down the country's economic and social systems," Muhyiddin said in an address on Facebook Live from his home, where he is undergoing quarantine due to possible exposure to the virus.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2020-10-06/malaysia-to-impose-targeted-lockdowns-to-halt-infections-surge>

More than 5.2 million Spaniards are now under coronavirus mobility restrictions

The rising number of coronavirus cases in Spain is accelerating the introduction of new

confinements across the country. For now, the restrictions being introduced are not as severe as they were during the first wave, when the central government implemented a state of alarm that saw Spaniards confined to their homes for several months. But perimetral lockdowns are being established where the transmission rate of the virus is on the rise.

<https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-10-06/more-than-52-million-spaniards-are-now-under-coronavirus-mobility-restrictions.html>

Two more Spanish cities announce lockdown orders as a second wave of cases spreads beyond the capital.

Two midsize Spanish cities, León and Palencia, were ordered on Monday by the regional authorities to apply lockdown restrictions similar to those that came into force in Madrid last weekend, underlining the extent to which a second wave of coronavirus infections is spreading beyond Spain's capital region. The new restrictions mean that residents of León and Palencia, which are in the northwestern region of Castile and León, will not be able to leave their cities as of Tuesday. Both have reached an infection rate of more than 500 cases per 100,000 residents. Over the last seven days, Spain has reported 73,451 new cases, which works out to 157 cases per 100,000 residents, according to a Times database. As of Monday, almost 11,000 people were being treated in hospitals across the country for Covid-19, the disease caused by the virus, including 1,580 people in intensive care units

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/05/world/two-more-spanish-cities-announce-lockdown-orders-as-a-second-wave-of-cases-spreads-beyond-the-capital.html>