

COVID-19 media surveillance

22 June 2020; 12:30

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is dominating the news, with over 60 thousand articles per day on Sunday (in 70 languages, as detected by [MEDISYS](#)).

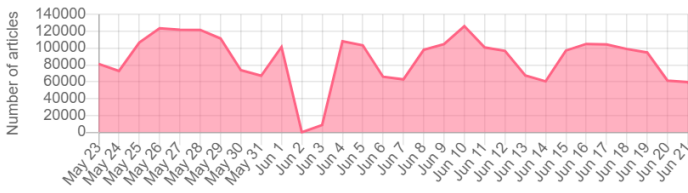


Figure 1 Media reports on Covid-19 (source: EMM/MEDISYS; missing data on 2-3 June)

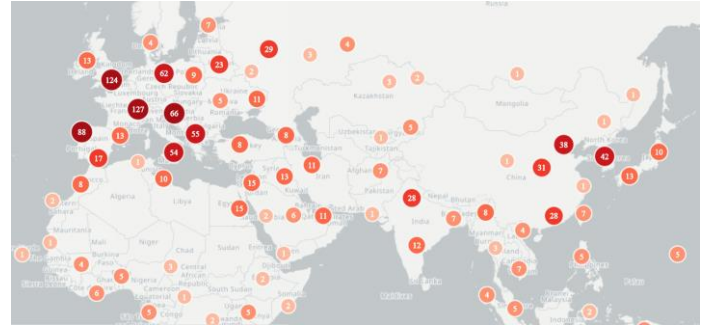


Figure 2 Geolocations mentioned in coronavirus media reports showing clusters of media reports on Italy, France, Spain, Germany, the UK, Russia, Egypt, India, China, South Korea and Japan (source: EMM/MEDISYS)



Headlines

- USA: [12 states have set record highs in new COVID-19 cases since Friday](#): Florida, Texas, Utah, South Carolina, Nevada, Georgia, Missouri, Montana, Arizona, California, Tennessee and Oklahoma
- Brazil [surpassed 50,000 deaths and 1 million cases](#)
- UK: [Lockdown changes to be announced later this week according to health secretary as UK death toll rises by 43](#)
- Spain: [infection rates rise in Spain due to outbreaks in Aragón, Madrid, Canaries and Catalonia](#)
- Germany: [R-value rose to 2.88 due to several outbreaks including a major outbreak at a meat processing plant](#)
- France drops distance rule and [orders children back to school](#)
- Italy: [ongoing debate on Italian waste water study carried out by ISS](#)
- Belgium: [first municipal Covid-19 testing centre has been set up in Brussels by a group of voluntary doctors](#)
- Luxembourg [reports 15 new cases](#)
- Russia confirms [7,600 new cases in the past day with a daily growth in cases of 1.3%](#)
- India reported a [record spike of 15,372 cases and 423 deaths](#)
- South Korea: [Seoul could re-impose strict social distancing](#) if the average daily number of confirmed infections exceeds 30 over the next three days
- Japan's [contact-tracing app gets 2.7 million downloads in 3 days](#)
- China reports [18 new coronavirus cases, nine in Beijing](#)



Twitter

The following news were found among the most mentioned/retweeted items:

- "Coronavirus: Germany's R number rockets again - from 1.79 to 2.88" ([sky](#))
- "How the US and Italy traded places on coronavirus" ([politico](#))
- "Sick staff and empty seats: How Trump's triumphant return to the campaign trail went from bad to worse" ([cnn](#))
- "Federal support to end for coronavirus testing sites" ([cnn](#))
- "236 people got the coronavirus after an Oregon church held services during lockdown — more evidence that religious gatherings are superspreading hot spots" ([businessinsider](#))

The hashtags #kungflu and #trumpallyfail trended following Trump's rally in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The most mentioned English sources were the New York Times, CNN, the Washington Post, the Guardian and the Independent.

El Mundo, ABC, El Pais and CNN (Spanish Version), and Le Monde and Le Parisien were among the most mentioned Spanish and French sources, respectively.



Extracted Quotes

Park Won-soon (South Korea, Mayor of Seoul):

"We will have no choice but to return to the previous high-level of physical distancing if the average daily number of new coronavirus cases in Seoul for the next three days exceeds 30, or the occupation rate of hospital beds reaches 70 percent".

Jens Spahn (Germany, Federal Minister of Health):

"The spread across Germany can only be prevented with decisive action on site in East Westphalia"



Fact Check

Fact checked: health-related claims

- Fact checkers debunk claims that dexamethasone is a new "life-saving" drug against COVID-19, specifying that the drug has proven to be "life-saving" only for some severe cases ([verafiles](#)).

Fact checked: conspiracy theories

- Brazilian fact checkers debunk a video claiming that COVID-19 has existed since 2003 and showing as proof an article dated 2003 mentioning the word "coronavirus", reporting that the article in question was about SARS, a disease caused by a virus in the coronavirus family ([estadaoverifica](#)).
- Fact checkers debunk claims that a pandemic plagues humanity every 100 years, reporting that there are mistakes regarding both the pandemics and the dates listed ([boatos](#)).
- Fact checkers debunk claims that Bill Gates was in New Zealand in May, New Zealand is a "perfect" nation "to test and trial" a vaccine for coronavirus and Gates' purported "goal" of microchipping the vaccine is to be able to track people who receive it. Fact checkers report that, among other things, it is not true that Bill Gates visited New Zealand in May ([aapfactcheck](#)).
- Fact checkers debunk claims that a new study proves that there is a connection between COVID-19 and 5G networks ([faktograf](#)).