

# COVID-19 media surveillance

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Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is dominating the news, with nearly 90 thousand articles per day on Sunday (in 70 languages, as detected by [MEDISYS](#)).

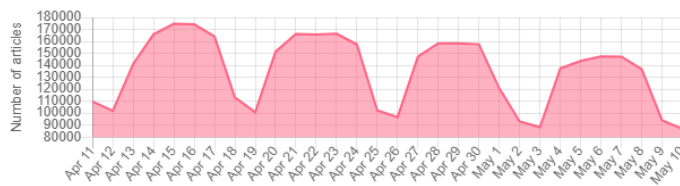


Figure 1 Media reports on coronavirus (source: EMM/MEDISYS)



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



## Headlines

- USA: [three top health officials, all members of the administration's coronavirus task force, are self-quarantining](#) as the USA are [close to reaching 80,000 deaths](#)
- UK: Prime Minister Johnson unveiled [conditional plan to reopen society](#)
- Spain: daily coronavirus-related [deaths in Spain fall to 143, the lowest figure since March 18](#); Spanish government on Friday [announced the areas of Spain that will move to the next phase of the government's deescalation plan](#)
- Italy's [daily coronavirus death toll and new cases fall](#) with fewest new cases since March
- France [reported lowest recent coronavirus toll as some of the lockdown restrictions are lifted today](#)
- Germany: [restrictions eased despite climbing infection rate](#); thousands of protesters gathered in Berlin, Munich, Stuttgart and other German cities to [decry isolation measures](#)
- Belgium: [over 1.7 million surgical masks distributed in Belgium](#)
- Luxembourg: [schools open in phases with half of students starting lessons today](#)
- Poland to [announce new election date within two weeks](#) as the number of [confirmed cases reaches 15,996](#)
- Russia: WHO sees [Russia pandemic stabilizing as total cases hit 200,000](#)
- Ghana: a [worker at a fish-processing factory in the Atlantic seafont city of Tema infected 533 other workers](#)
- Iran locks down [southwestern county after seeing sharp rise in cases](#)
- India [records biggest single-day rise in cases with 4,213 coronavirus cases in 24 hours](#)
- Brazil reached [11,123 deaths and 162,699 confirmed cases](#) rendering [Brazil the hardest-hit country in Latin America](#)
- Singapore has confirmed [876 new cases of which 860 were among foreign workers residing in dormitories](#)
- South Korea: [anonymous testing is offered after Itaewon, a popular nightlife spot in central Seoul, emerged as a hotbed of infections with 86 confirmed cases](#)
- Japan looks to [lift coronavirus emergency in some areas ahead of May 31 deadline](#)
- China: [at least six new cases in Wuhan and 11 new asymptomatic cases in Hubei province spark fear of second wave](#); more cases from [regions bordering Russia and North Korea](#)



## Twitter

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

- "Industrial animal farming has caused most new infectious diseases and risks more pandemics, experts warn" ([independent](#))
- "France mandates masks to control the coronavirus. Burqas remain banned." ([washingtonpost](#))
- "Germany infection rate rises after lockdown eased, as thousands protest restrictions" ([sky](#))
- "After four antibody tests, I'm still not sure I've had Covid-19" ([bloomberg](#))
- "Trump wants America to 'normalize' coronavirus deaths. It's the media's job not to play along." ([washingtonpost](#))
- "The World Is Taking Pity on Us. Will American prestige ever recover?" ([nytimes](#))
- "Trump Still Wants to Kill Obamacare, Pandemic Be Damned" ([vanityfair](#))
- "Obama says White House response to coronavirus has been 'absolute chaotic disaster'" ([cnn](#))
- "A nurse without an N95 mask raced in to treat a 'code blue' patient. She died 14 days later" ([latimes](#))
- "Fauci to begin 'modified quarantine'" ([cnn](#))
- "Mexico's president is as heedless as Trump in the coronavirus crisis" ([latimes](#))
- "Death Certificates Point to Much Higher Coronavirus Toll in Mexico" ([wsj](#))

Hashtags such as #borisjohnson and #borishasfailed trended on Sunday after the Prime Minister Johnson's address to the nation.

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

Infobae, El País, El Diario and CNN (Spanish version), and Le Monde and Le Parisien were among the most mentioned Spanish and French sources, respectively.

## ” *Extracted Quotes*

**Jacinda Ardern (New Zealand, Prime Minister):**

"There is still a chance of silent spread in the future... so today I am announcing that cabinet agrees we are ready to move to level 2, to open up the economy as safely as possible."

**Jung Eun-kyeong (South Korea, KCDC Director):**

"This mass infection has a high chance of turning into community transmission because it was young people who were mainly exposed to the virus this time. They don't exhibit symptoms or only light ones, but they take part in social activities robustly".

## *Fact Check*

**Fact checked: claims by public authorities**

- Fact checkers debunk claims that the WHO warned against using masks produced in China and India as they may be contaminated with coronavirus ([poligrafo](#)).

**Fact checked: prevention and treatment**

- Fact checkers debunk graphics shared thousands of times on social media claiming to show the exact probability of COVID-19 carriers spreading the disease if they or another person wears a mask, reporting that while experts say that masks do decrease the risk, there is no reliable information on the specific chance of transmission ([afp](#)).
- Fact checkers debunk claims that consuming turmeric, lemon and palm oil and drinking coffee cure COVID-19 ([thequint](#), [vishvasnews](#), [efe](#)).

**Fact checked: conspiracy theories**

- Fact checkers debunk misleading claims from the 26-minute video "Plandemic: The Hidden Agenda Behind Covid-19" spanning from conspiracies about the origin of the coronavirus to falsehoods about wearing a face mask ([factcheck.org](#), [politifact](#)).