



CURRENT NEWS ON ECOLOGICAL WELLNESS AND GLOBAL HEALTH

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Hi,

As Spring comes to an end, together with the year's longest day, on June 21<sup>st</sup> we are experiencing both societal tragedy and hope, rather than the usual sweet renewal that comes with the season. With all the racist murders and abuse of Black, Indigenous and other minority and vulnerable peoples in Canada, the USA and so many other places, we should take pause to renew our commitment to social and environmental justice and make Spring renewal happen, before it's too late. It's so hard, though, to digest all that's going on, including COVID-19 now spreading even faster than ever around the world. We here in Ontario are trying to 'open' up, trying to get back to a place we once considered normal, only four short months ago. Fortunately, cases in Canada are now reaching lows we haven't seen since early March; that's a good sign. But yesterday Brazil registered about 35,000 new cases and the world 176,000 (a new record). We know that counting both cases and deaths is imperfect, but we do with what we've got and make the best of them (including those from Johns Hopkins University, as below and also see Endshots for a COVID-19 data infused bicycle ride).

The blatant racism we are witnessing is what we've known all along but now we watch it happen; and combining that with COVID-19 induced feelings of confinement, despair, sadness, sympathy, helplessness.....leaves me feeling less than optimal, though with hope deep inside for better days. We live in new times, seriously changed times, times without any particular assurance yet in sight.

But what is in sight is today's **Planetary Health Weekly** (#25 of 2020) full of interesting stories:

- Coronavirus updates, including:
  - What would Ivan Illich have thought?
  - The need to plan for a less corrupt and more equitable world,
  - Mapping innovation and a ranking cities for COVID-19 innovation,
  - How hard is contact tracing?
  - What the WHO meant to say about those asymptomatic,
  - Top U.S. hot spots are in Indian lands,
  - What smallpox eradication can teach us,
  - Amazon workers describing their risks, and
  - Science making a strong case for universal adoption of face masks, then
- Two-thirds of tropical forests under threat,
- Laos accepts Singaporean coal power generation,
- Putin announces state of emergency after massive fuel leak,
- Forest elephants fewer than previously thought,
- How electric power in health facilities is needed to fight pandemics and Electrifying West Africa with a renewable grid,
- New Nevada solar array will be biggest ever in USA and Electric barges,
- New research on armyworm in SE Asia,
- On pandemic prophecy, unsustainable lockdowns and the magic of numbers with Carlo Caduff,
- Japan races to build new coal burning power plants,
- Building immunity in Indigenous communities and a Traditional approach to treating addictions in Alberta,
- The French artist, Neïl Beloufa, who saw the pandemic coming,
- Covid-19's impact on Pacific island states, where Type 2 diabetes is highest in the world,
- Radical economic policies are working and showing a future path,
- Swabs trashed after Trump visits factory,
- New book: *The Undefeated*, by Newbery Award-winning poet and author [Kwame Alexander](#) (*The Crossover*) and illustrated by [Kadir Nelson](#),
- Disconnections between medical education and medical practice, and
- Endshots: a Covid-19 data infused bicycle ride.

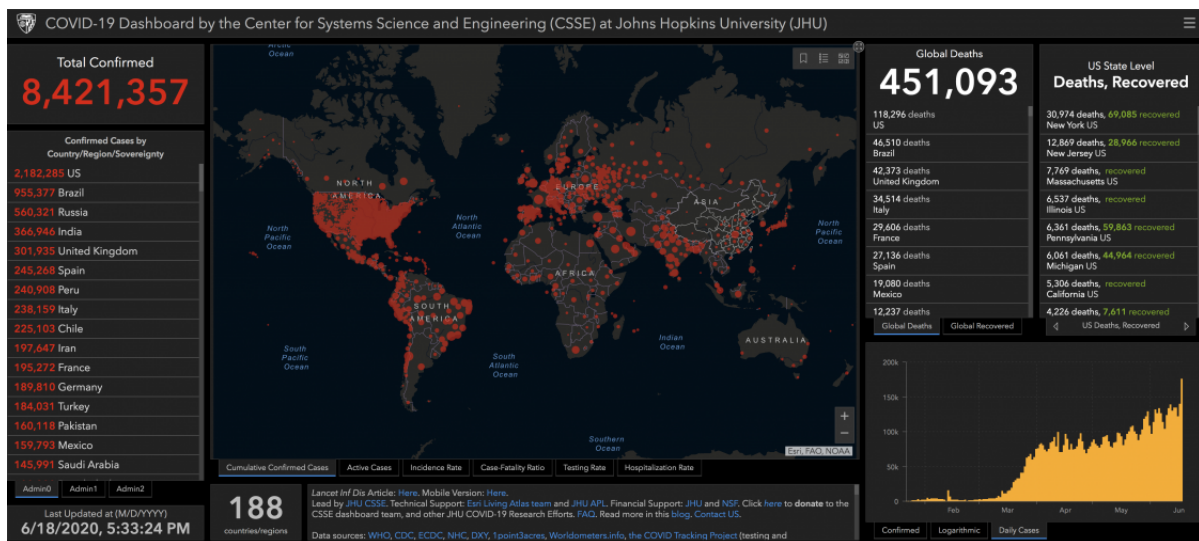
I hope you'll take a look as follows.

Best, david



## FIRST SPRING LILLIES

# SARS-CoV-2 & COVID-19 UPDATES



**Globally ~1,000,000 New Cases & 32,500 Deaths in the Last 7 Days (and a record 176,000 new confirmed cases in the last 24 hours)**



# Questions About The Current Pandemic From The Point Of View Of Ivan Illich



Credits: Wild Culture

In 1987, the first issue of *The Journal of Wild Culture*, published the transcript of David Caley's radio series 'New Ideas in Ecology and Economics' — which became an early beacon guiding our navigations. He has interviewed many serious characters over the years, but it was the seminal interview with Ivan Illich in 1969 that resulted in a life-long and fruitful friendship with a subject. In considering the current crisis, it seems as if he noticed himself looking through his friend's eyes — but with particular reference to *Medical Nemesis*, Illich's book about "the goods and the harms that medicine does."

"Last week I began an essay on the current pandemic in which I tried to address what I take to be the central question that it raises: Is the massive and costly effort to contain and limit the harm that the virus will do the only choice we have? Is it no more than an obvious and unavoidable exercise of prudence undertaken to protect the most vulnerable? Or is it a disastrous effort to maintain control of what is obviously out of control, an effort which will compound the damage being done by the disease with new troubles that will reverberate far into the future? I hadn't been writing for long before I began to realize that many of the assumptions I was making were quite remote from those being expressed all around me. These assumptions had mainly come, I reflected, from my prolonged conversation with the work of Ivan Illich, one of the 20th Century's greatest philosophers. What this suggested was that, before I could speak intelligibly about our present circumstances, I would first have to sketch the attitude towards health, medicine and well-being that Illich developed over a lifetime of reflection on these themes. Accordingly, in what follows, I will start with a brief account of the evolution of Illich's critique of bio-medicine and then try to answer the questions I just posed in this light." [Read more at Wild Culture.](#)

**SEE ALSO:**



**At Transparency:** [If We Want A Less Corrupt And More Equitable World After The Covid-19 Pandemic, We Must Plan For It](#)

**At Startup Blink:** [Startup Blink: Coronavirus Innovation Map and Global Rankings of Cities on Coronavirus Innovation](#)

**At NY Times:** [Contact Tracing Is Harder Than It Sounds](#)

**At New Yorker:** [What The W.H.O. Meant to Say About Asymptomatic People Spreading the Coronavirus](#)

**At NY Times:** [The Top U.S. Coronavirus Hot Spots Are All Indian Lands](#)

The United States allocates just \$3,943 per person for health care for Native Americans through the Indian Health Service, less than half the [\\$8,602](#) spent by the Bureau of Prisons for health care per prisoner.

**At The Telegraph:** [What the eradication of smallpox \(40 years after its eradication\) can teach us about Covid-19](#)

**At Wired:** [9 Amazon Workers Describe the Daily Risks They Face in the Pandemic](#)

**At Times Of India:** [Let's All Do It: Science Makes A Strong Case For Universal Adoption Of Facemasks](#)

**See ENDSHOTS for more current stats.**

## Two-Thirds Of Tropical Forests Under Threat in Next Decade



Credits: Dr. Lindsay F. Banin

**SÃO PAULO, Brazil, Jun 1 2020 (IPS)** - Tropical forests can develop resistance to a warmer climate, but 71% will come under threat in the next decade if global average temperatures reach two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, a new study warns. Forest-dependent communities and the global climate will be affected if tropical forests are further degraded.

Led by scientists at the University of Leeds and [published in Science](#), the study involved 226 researchers from around the world. The cohort analysed carbon stock data in 590 permanent forest plots in South America, Africa, Asia and Australia, with most in the Amazon region. The Amazon rainforest acts as a huge carbon sink, absorbing and storing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and helping to cool global temperatures. Even under high temperatures, trees remove CO<sub>2</sub> — a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming — from the atmosphere. However, the ability to store high levels of carbon drops dramatically if the forest is exposed to average temperatures above 32.2 degrees Celsius. [Read More at IPS News](#)

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## Lao Government Approves Singaporean Clean Thermal Project



*Credit: Laotian Times*

A Singaporean-Lao joint venture has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Lao government for the development of a 'clean' thermal fired power plant in Sekong Province. Under the MOU, EPIC it will be permitted to conduct a feasibility study on the economic, social, and environmental viability of a 1000MW thermal technology power plant project. The goal of the estimated USD 1.7 billion power project, expected to commission by 2027, is to produce reliable year-round



electricity for export to neighbouring countries like Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia. Domestic offtake (use within Laos) is also expected, and the project intends to use domestically-extracted coal to generate power for export. [Read More at Laotian Times](#)

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## Putin Announces State Of Emergency After Massive Fuel Leak Contaminates Arctic River



Credit: The Independent

At least 21,000 tonnes of diesel is understood to have leaked from a local power plant. Initial reports suggested a car had crashed into one of the plant's storage towers, but it transpired the tower first decompressed and then ruptured, resulting in a fire and further spillage. Remarkably, news of the accident took several days to reach the authorities. Over two increasingly desperate days, officials in the power plant tried to deal with the problem themselves. By the time things were eventually referred higher up the chain, and Mr Putin was informed, over 100,000 sq metres of land had been affected.

Russia's longtime leader made his displeasure known in a video audience with Aleksandr Uss, the local governor. In a short dispatch, Mr Uss insisted he too had only



found out about the disaster from social media, but promised to resolve the situation within two weeks. "Report over," the official concluded. "What do you mean, report over?" said Mr Putin, cutting off his governor as he attempted to respond. "What are you going to do about it? You're the governor aren't you?". [Read More at The Independent](#)

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## Forest Elephant Populations Smaller Than Previously Thought



Credit: Lynn Gindoff

A new study conducted by an international research team suggests that the population of forest elephants is between 40-80% smaller than previously believed. Forest elephants (*Loxodonta cyclotis*) are found only in the rainforests of Central and West Africa and in 2010 were declared to be a distinct species separate from the more widespread African savannah elephant (*Loxodonta africana*). Forest elephants tend to be shy and cryptic, and often inhabit relatively inaccessible areas and, as a result, their demographics and social behaviours are not as well-researched or understood as those of the other elephant species. Unlike savannah elephants that live in large herds of related females and their offspring, forest elephants are less social, occurring in groups of two or three related females.

The decline of forest elephants has been well-documented by several previous

studies, including one which reported a loss of over 80% of the forest elephant population over a decade in north-eastern Gabon due mainly to habitat loss and poaching. [Read More at Africa Geographic](#)

**See the published paper at PLOS:** [Abundance, density, and social structure of African forest elephants \(\*Loxodonta cyclotis\*\) in a human-modified landscape in southwestern Gabon](#)

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## You Can't Fight Pandemics Without Power—Electric Power In Health Care Facilities Worldwide



Credit: Damian Bakarcic - The Outskirts

Last week's U.N.-sponsored report on tracking Sustainable Development Goal 7 brought some good news. The number of people without access to electricity has fallen from 1.2 billion in 2010 to 789 million in 2018. But the report also noted that many public facilities still lack access. The most recent cross-country data on electricity access in health facilities suggests that 25% of health clinics in six surveyed countries (Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal, Kenya, Ethiopia and Niger) lack any electricity access at all—virtually the same ratio reported in a similarly comprehensive cross-country survey nearly 10 years ago. Furthermore, only 28% of clinics and hospitals report having reliable electricity.

Reliable power is critical for effective responses to COVID-19 and other diseases. [Virtually all diagnostic tests](#) for active COVID-19 infection currently [require electricity](#).



Patients who need further diagnosis (e.g., pulse oximetry) or treatment with ventilators or oxygen masks have to be placed in clinics with reliable power; outages for even a few minutes can be life-threatening. Besides, electricity powers sanitization and cleaning equipment like autoclaves and air filtration and, in some places, pumped clean water. These are necessary for preventing the spread of infection among patients and [medical workers](#). [Read More at Brookings](#)

**See also at Artstechnica:** [Electrifying West Africa With A Renewable Grid](#)

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## GOOD NEWS

# Vast Nevada Solar Array On Federal Land Will Be Biggest Ever



Credit: Green Car Reports

Nevada is set to host the largest solar array in the United States. Last month, the U.S. Department of the Interior approved a proposal for the Gemini Solar Project, a \$1 billion solar-generating facility to be located about 30 miles northeast of Las



Vegas. The facility, which will be built on federally-controlled land and operated by Solar Partners XI, will be the eighth largest in the world, and will generate enough electricity for 260,000 homes in the Las Vegas area. Construction is scheduled to start later this year, with completion targeted for the end of 2023. Local utility NV Energy signed a 25-year power-purchase agreement for the solar array in June 2019.

The completed facility will consist of 690 megawatts of photovoltaic solar panels, plus 380 MW of battery energy storage. The batteries will absorb excess energy generated by the solar panels during periods of low electricity demand. [Read More at Green Car Reports](#)

**See More:** [Electric Barge Carries Its Batteries In A Shipping Container \(and other electric ship news\)](#)

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## MORE GOOD NEWS

# Fall Armyworm Survey Marks CIMMYT's First Research Project in Laos



Credits: Cimmyt

A major farmer survey is gathering data to understand how smallholders in Laos are responding to fall armyworm invasion and develop agroecological management options to control its spread. The study, led by the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) in partnership with the Lao Farmer Network (LFN) and the National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI), is CIMMYT's first

official research initiative in the country.

Farmer surveys are being conducted in some of the country's key maize farming areas, recording attempts to manage the pest and laying the groundwork to raise awareness on sustainable best-bet agroecological strategies that promote a healthy system approach to maize farming. In June 2019, CIMMYT and national research scientists confirmed that fall armyworm, a global pest that affects the food security of millions of maize farmers, was present in the country.. [Read More at CIMMYT](#)

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## OPINION

# On Pandemic Prophecy, Unsustainable Lockdowns and the Magic of Numbers: A Conversation with Carlo Caduff





As vast parts of the world went into Covid-19 lockdown over the past months critics of this approach have emerged from a broad spectrum: amongst others, libertarians who abhor the intruding state, business owners who see their profits at stake and activists who observe dramatic consequences for the poor. However, comparatively few voices have come forward to criticize the global spread of the lockdown approach from a grounded public health and social science perspective, and based on the history of pandemic preparedness. Taking such a stance, Carlo Caduff, medical anthropologist and associate professor at King's College London, has been vocal on Twitter and his paper "What Went Wrong: Corona and the World after the Full Stop (forthcoming in *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*). Carduff's critical perspective on the present ties in with his earlier work on a decade of global pandemic preparedness which he published in his 2015 book *The Pandemic Perhaps: Dramatic Events in a Public Culture of Danger*. [Read More and this interview at Academia](#)

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## SPOTLIGHT ON POLICY

# Japan Races To Build New Coal-Burning Power Plants, Despite The Climate Risks





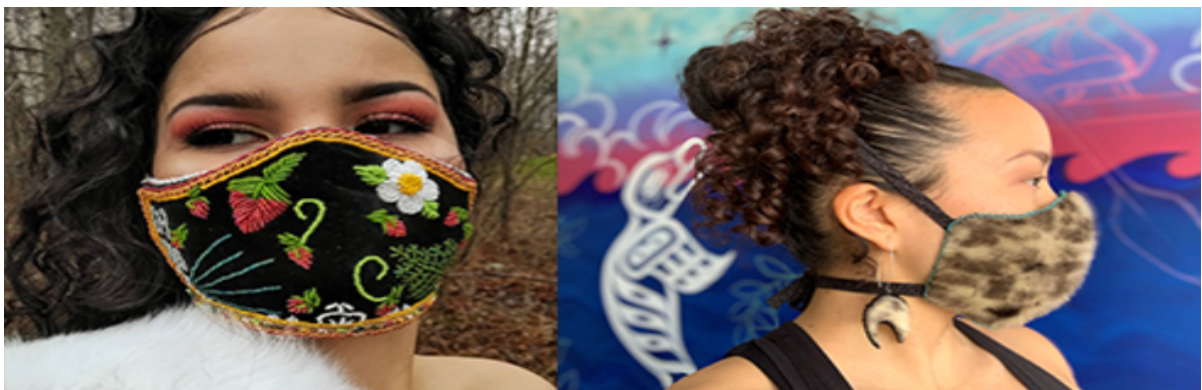
Just beyond the windows of Satsuki Kanno's apartment overlooking Tokyo Bay, a behemoth from a bygone era will soon rise: a coal-burning power plant, part of a buildup of coal power that is unheard-of for an advanced economy. It is one unintended consequence of the [Fukushima](#) nuclear disaster almost a decade ago, which forced Japan to all but close its nuclear power program. Japan now plans to build as many as 22 new coal-burning power plants — one of the dirtiest sources of electricity — at 17 different sites in the next five years, just at a time when the world needs to slash carbon dioxide emissions to fight global warming.

Together the 22 power plants would emit almost as much carbon dioxide annually as all the passenger cars sold each year in the United States. The construction stands in contrast with Japan's effort to portray this summer's Olympic Games in Tokyo as one of the greenest ever. Carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere is the major driver of global warming, because it traps the sun's heat. Coal burning is one of the biggest single sources of carbon dioxide emissions. [Read More at NY Times](#)

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## SPOTLIGHT ON INDIGENOUS WELLNESS

### Building Immunity In Community



Credit: Amnesty International

Indigenous communities are working to ensure the safety of their members in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Different communities face different threats and challenges and they are developing effective solutions based on the needs of the people and the resources at hand. Many are in need of better healthcare equipment and services, many have concerns about over-crowded housing, while people are checking-in with elders, sharing food and traditional medicines, and creating emergency plans. Amnesty International is featuring different communities, their worries, and the solutions they have developed in the face of COVID-19. It is also connecting activists with opportunities to advocate for Indigenous rights to ensure that everyone gets the help they need during the pandemic. [Read More at Amnesty](#)

[International](#)

See Also: [Traditional Healing Approach To Addiction Called For By Stoney Nakoda \(Alberta\) Residents](#)

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Credit:

## Quote Of The Week

South America is a key area of concern due to the rapid clearance of the Amazon and other forests. Scientists in [Brazil](#) have found viral prevalence was 9.3% among bats near deforested sites, compared to 3.7% in pristine woodland. **“With deforestation and land-use change, you open a door,”** said [Alessandra Nava](#), of the Manaus-based Biobank research centre.

She said diseases were naturally diluted in the wild, but this broke down when humans rapidly disrupted the ecological balance. As a local example, she pointed to Lyme disease, which has spread to humans through capybaras. Some municipalities

are culling the giant rodents to prevent contagion, but Nava said this was not necessary in pristine forests that still had jaguars as they keep the capybara numbers in check.

**“The problem is when you put different species that aren’t naturally close to one another in the same environment. That allows virus mutations to jump to other species,” says Nava. “We have to think about how we treat wild animals and nature. Right now we deal with them far too promiscuously.”**

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Her conclusions were echoed by [Tierra Smiley Evans, an epidemiologist at the University of California](#) who studies virus distributions in the rapidly degrading forests of Myanmar. She has found that endangered or threatened species are more likely to have viruses than animals at lower risk of habitat loss and hunting. She said the connection between environmental stress and human health had been made more apparent by Covid-19 pandemic.

**“I’m hopeful that one of the most positive things to come out of horrible tragedy will be the realization that there is a link between how we treat the forest and our wellbeing,”** says Evans. **“It really impacts our health. It is not just a wildlife issue or an environmental issue.”**

[Read More at Washington Post](#)

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## Upcoming Events

- June 16th - 18th: [Cities In A Changing World: Questions Of Culture, Climate And Design](#) (Virtual/ New York City, USA)
- September 22nd - 23rd: U.N. [Summit on Biodiversity](#) (New York City, USA)
- November 9th-19th: [2020 UN Climate Change Conference](#) (UNFCCC COP26) (Glasgow, Scotland) - **Postponed until later 2021**
- June 7th-9th 2021: [Executive Course: Global Health](#)



Diplomacy (University of Toronto, Canada)

AND SEE BELOW FOR:

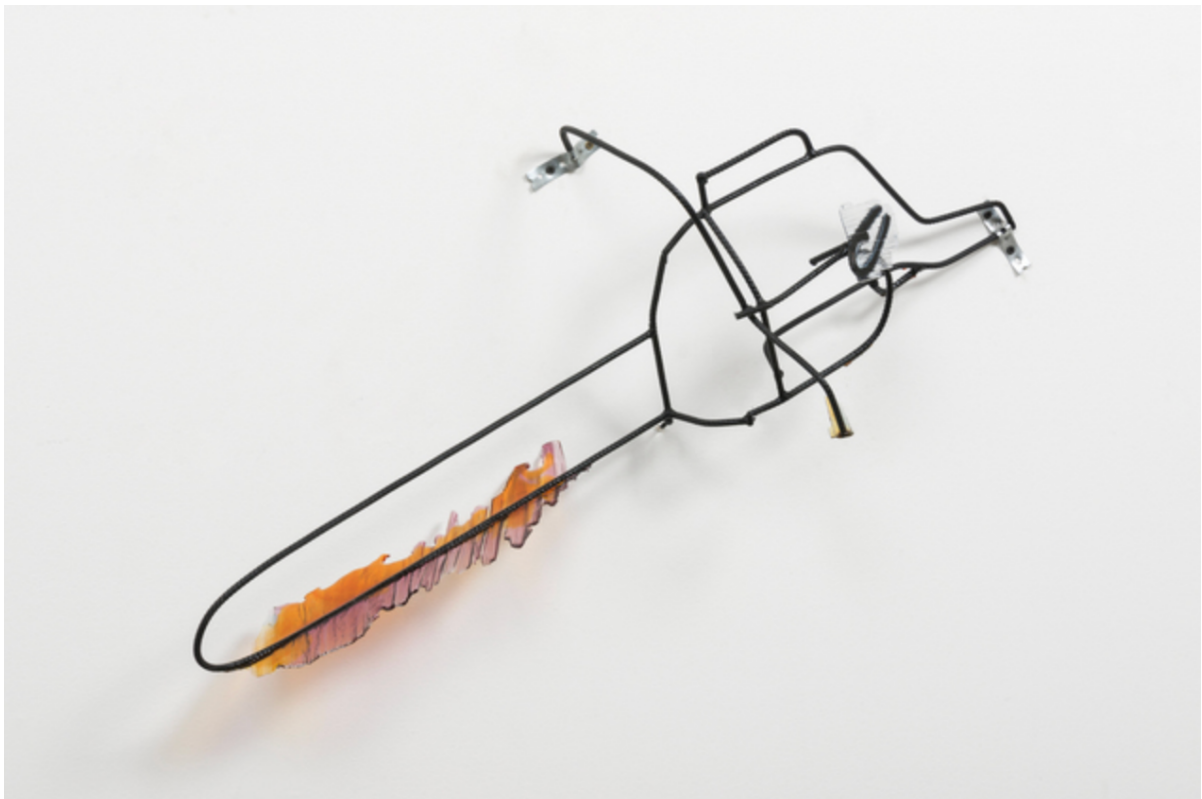
REFLECTIONS on the 2020 Unite For Sight Virtual  
Global Health & Innovation Conference (April 11-13,  
2020)

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## FYI#1 SPOTLIGHT ON MEDIA:

# The French Artist Who Saw The Pandemic Coming



Credit: Artsy; Chainsaw by Neil Beloufa

Six years before the coronavirus, Neil Beloufa imagined a global outbreak of disease and digital bewilderment. "Screen Talk," his new project, erases the line between fiction and real life. The accomplished young French-Algerian artist Neil Beloufa has a

knack for seeing the shape of the future earlier than most. His proudly disjointed videos and sculptures, seen in the USA in solo shows [at the Museum of Modern Art in New York](#) and the [Hammer Museum in Los Angeles](#), take the chaos of our information stream as both their subject and their medium: furniture can sprout phone chats or Google Maps indicators, and lovers and criminals talk like they learned English from reality TV. He turns a gimlet eye, too, to the workings of fake news and real bigotry, as in his powerful project "[Occidental](#)" (2017), a film about racist policing and urban unrest that feels dismayingly relevant again this week.

Protests and prejudices, elections and ecosystems, cable news chatter and Facebook-fueled freakouts: these are the wellsprings of art for Mr. Beloufa, who was born in Paris in 1985. And also pandemics. For his new online project "[Screen Talk](#)," a pressing, kooky, brilliantly uncomfortable new hybrid of mini-series and video game, Mr. Beloufa has choreographed a soap opera set against a global virus outbreak, narrated through the front-facing cameras of smartphones and laptop screens. "Screen Talk" is a new work. But its component scenes, of Purell-slathered scientists and maniacs in quarantine, were shot all the way back in 2014.

[Read More NY Times](#)

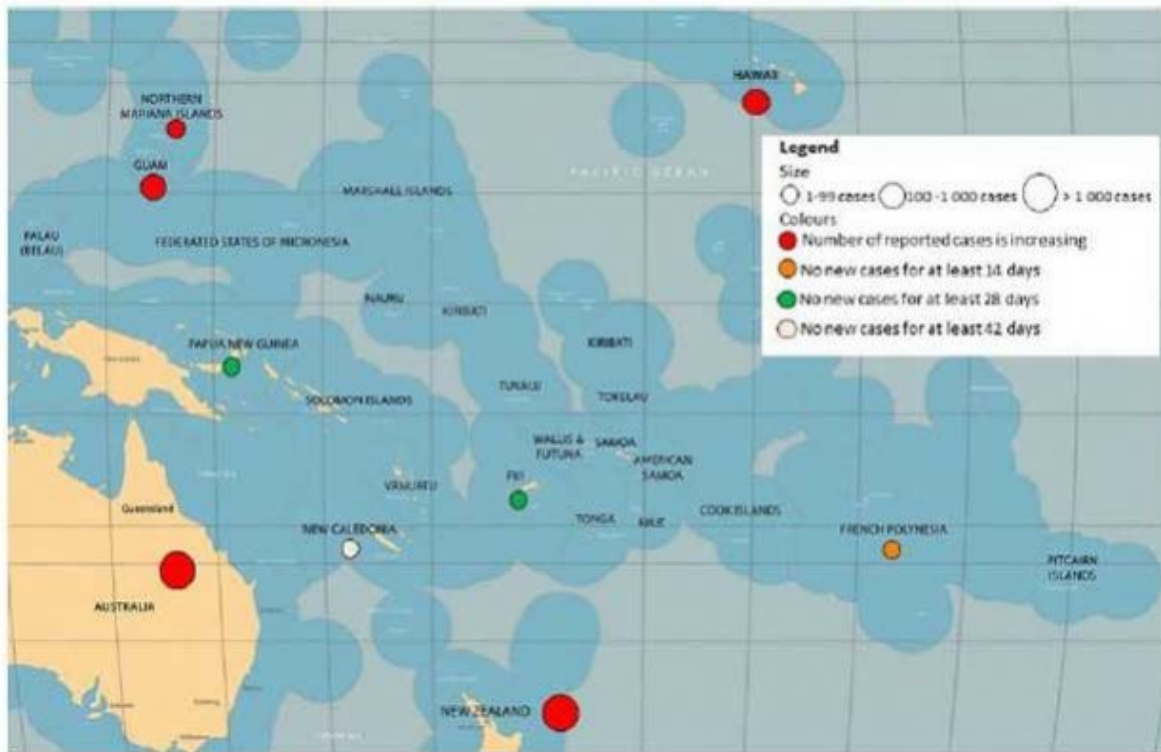
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## FYI #2

# COVID19 And Its Impact On Pacific Island States, Where Type 2 Diabetes Is The Highest In The World



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases in the Pacific as of 22 May 2020



Credit: .ILLUSTRATION by WIRED STAFF

By now, the impact of COVID19 on our daily lives has been well documented, especially in advanced economies. Anxiety about the future continues to grow everywhere. Much of the corporate news coverage we consume has focused on the toll this pandemic will take on mainland countries. Often neglected, however, is the unique position Pacific Island States find themselves in. Globally, there are close to 8.5 [million confirmed cases of COVID19](#). According to the [Pacific Community \(SPC\)](#), there are 292 cases of the virus across its membership – a truly small number, considering Papua New Guinea’s population of 8.6 million people. Indeed, many of the SPC’s members are seemingly untouched by the global pandemic – as of May 6th, for example, [American Samoa had no cases of the virus at all](#).

Despite the current picture, the Pacific Islands share unique challenges. Small in size, geographically remote, vulnerable to extreme environmental shock, and limited in economies of scale, these islands could be devastated by COVID19. Over 80% of Papua New Guinea’s population, for example, reside in rural regions where health care infrastructure is limited. Clinics frequently run out of supplies and [4,000 nurses recently went on strike](#) due to a lack of personal protective equipment (PPE). In the outer islands and in rural villages across the Pacific, basic services and access to intensive care or fully equipped hospitals is impossible. As reported in The Guardian, [Vanuatu only has two ventilators for a population of 300,000 people](#). Only a few Pacific nations can test effectively for COVID19 and processing samples through Australia, New Zealand or the United States may delay results.

Infectious diseases and non-communicable diseases are also a worrisome factor – [the Pacific has the world's highest levels of Type 2 diabetes and suffer from exceptionally high levels of obesity](#). These chronic conditions tend to place people in death's path when exposed to the virus.

[Read More at IPS News](#)

### FYI #3

## Radical Economic Policies Are Working And Show A Future Path



Credit: IPBES

"Nobody told us we could do that!" exclaimed a startled British commentator when Britain suddenly abandoned the gold standard in the depths of the 1930s



Depression. The move came as a shock because everyone had assumed the gold standard — an international agreement linking currency rates to gold — was an immutable law of nature, along with much else about the economy. And then, just like that, it was gone.

That sense of shock is probably not unlike what many people are feeling today as all our long-held assumptions about how the economy works — and what is and isn't possible — suddenly seem no more certain than when we'll be able to get our next tattoo. For years, we've submitted to the economic orthodoxy dictated by Bay (or Wall) Street: that governments must deliver balanced budgets and low spending or economic disaster will follow — as surely as gravity will bring a heavy object plunging to the ground.

Then along came the pandemic. Suddenly the Bank of Canada is creating vast amounts of money, which the federal government is distributing to Canadians across the country. Nobody told us we could do that! In fact, it's just what's needed. To prevent an economic collapse, our central bank is buying \$5 billion a week in government bonds, which is effectively creating money out of thin air.

[Read more at The Star](#)

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## **FYI #4**

**Coronavirus Swabs Made During  
Trump Visit To Maine factory Will Be  
Tossed in the trash**



**Credit: Nicholas Kamm, AFP Via Getty Images**

GUILFORD, Maine – President Donald Trump traveled to Maine to tour a facility that makes medical swabs used for coronavirus testing, but the swabs manufactured in the background during his visit will ultimately be thrown in the trash, the company said. Puritan Medical Products said it will have to discard the swabs, a company spokeswoman told USA TODAY in response to questions about the visit. It is not clear why the swabs will be scrapped, or how many. The company described its manufacturing plans for Friday as "limited" – but the disruption comes as public health officials in Maine and other states have complained that a shortage of swabs has hampered their ability to massively scale up coronavirus testing.

Trump has traveled extensively in recent weeks to call attention to his administration's effort to ramp up the production of the tools needed to combat the virus. He toured a Ford Motor Co. factory in Michigan, a company that makes personal protective equipment in Pennsylvania and a Honeywell plant in Arizona that manufactures respirators. Those trips have drawn attention to the president's decision not to wear a face mask in view of news cameras, even as the employees and company officials staged behind him at those events do so.

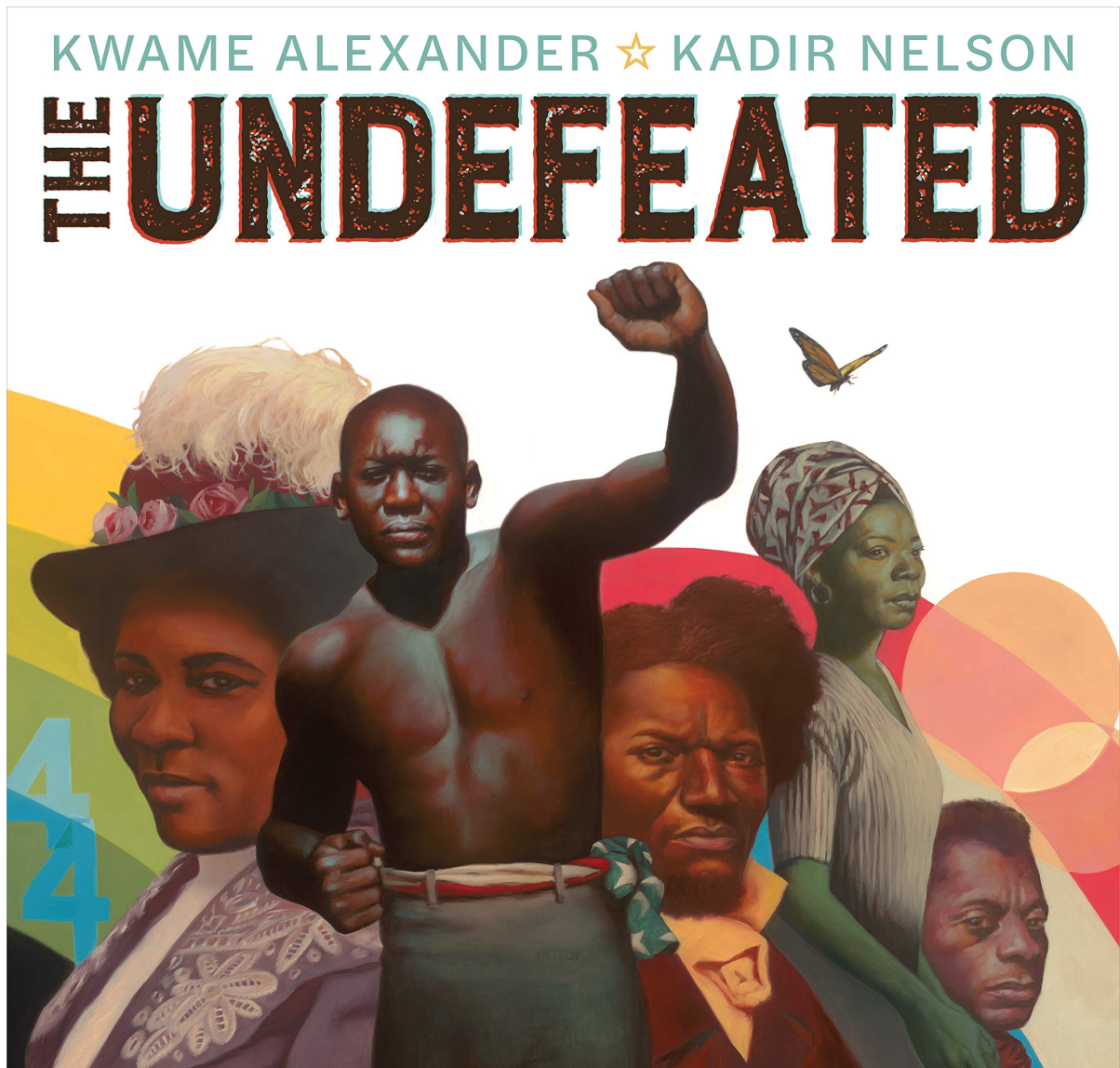
[Read more at USA Today](#)



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## FYI #5: LAST SPRING READING

### The Undeclared



Credit: Book Cover

*The Undeclared*, by Newbery Award-winning poet and author [Kwame Alexander](#) (*The Crossover*) and illustrated by [Kadir Nelson](#), has won the 2020 Caldecott Medal, the 2020 Coretta Scott King (Illustrator) Book Award, and a 2020 Newbery Honor. It's a tribute to African American heroes and regular folks who faced struggles, prejudice, and oppression and survived -- as well those who didn't. A list at the back of the book identifies the historical figures and events featured in the art, including Jesse Owens,

Zora Neale Hurston, [Langston Hughes](#), [John Lewis](#), the civil rights movement, black soldiers in the U.S. Civil War, [Duke Ellington](#), [Serena Williams](#), [LeBron James](#), [Trayvon Martin](#), and many more.

In an Afterword, Alexander explains why he wrote the poem that serves as the text for this book, and why he did not shy away from acknowledging the pain and suffering, because so much of American history "has been forgotten, left out of the textbooks, and to truly know who we are as a country, we have to accept and embrace all of our woes and wonders." There are no images or descriptions of graphic violence, but violence is alluded to in the image of enslaved people lined up as cargo in the hold of a ship, broken picture frames of children killed in a church bombing, a memorial of candles, flowers, teddy bears, and photos of young black kids apparently killed in police shootings.

[Read More at Common Sense Media](#)

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## FYI#6: SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION

# Disconnections Between Medical Education And Medical Practice: A Neglected Dilemma





Credit: Gebauer

Medical practice has changed profoundly over the past 60 years. Many changes have also been made in medical education, often with a view to countering adverse aspects of highly specialised, commercialised and bureaucratised modern medical practice. Regardless of the state of the world today and of the variety of changes that may occur in the years ahead, excellence in the application of bedside skills and technological advances, accompanied by excellence in humanistic aspects of caring for patients as people, will remain preeminent goals at the heart of medical practice. Powerful social forces that negatively influence practice cannot be counteracted through changes in medical education alone and need to be addressed directly within health systems. Shifting healthcare towards a valued social service is arguably essential for improving both public and individual health through more widespread universal access to high quality and effectively integrated health care.

[Read more at Reuters](#)

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## ENDSHOTS

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**A COVID-19 DATA BICYCLE RIDE**

**ETIENNE BRULÉ PARK**  
**HUMBER RIVER, TORONTO**  
**JUNE 15, 2020**



**COUNTRIES RANKED BY NUMBER OF DEATHS (JUNE 18, 2020)**

Source: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/mapping-spread-new-coronavirus/>

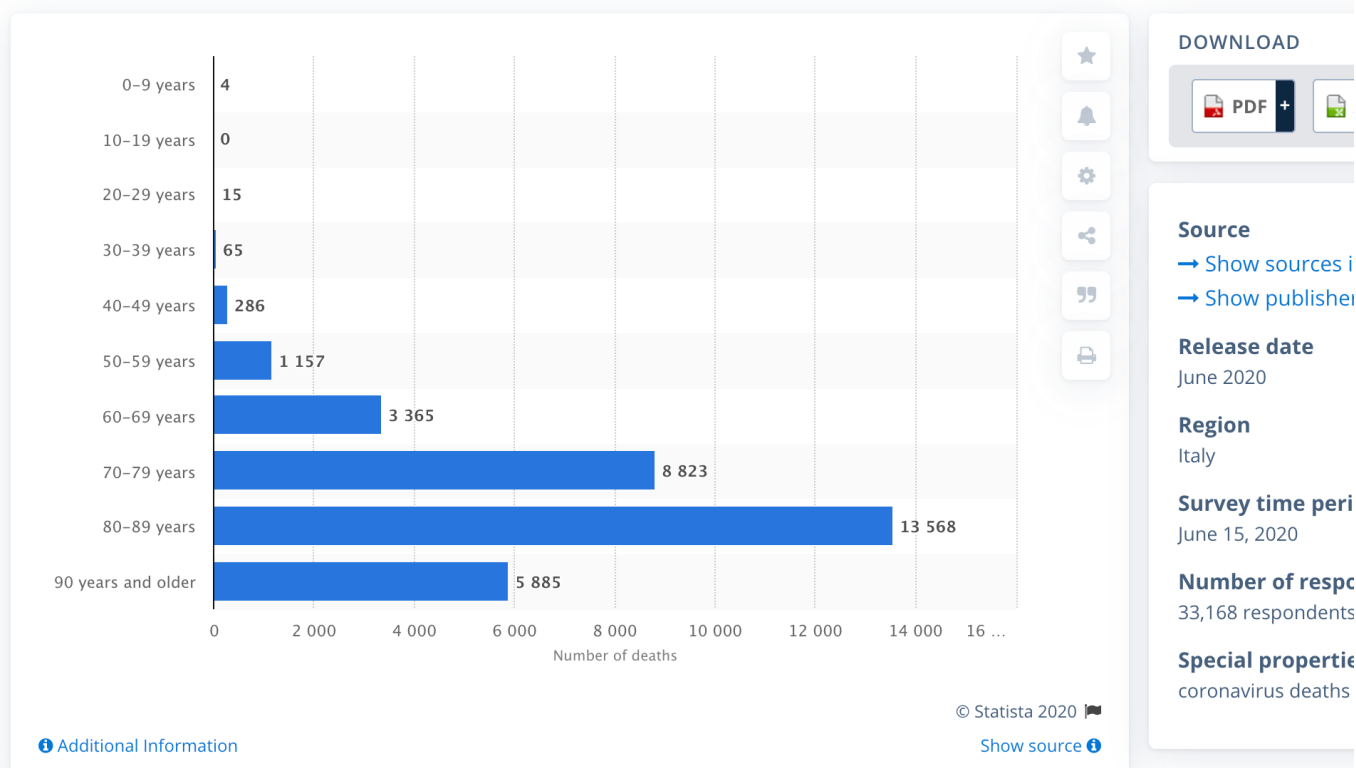
Country	Reported cases	Change from June 11		Deaths ▼
		Total	Pct.	
U.S.	2,176,477	▲ 163,977	+8%	116,551
Brazil	955,377	▲ 152,549	+19%	46,510
Britain	301,935	▲ 9,075	+3%	42,373
Italy	238,159	▲ 2,017	+1%	34,514
France	195,272	▲ 2,779	+1%	29,606
Spain	245,268	▲ 2,561	+1%	27,136
Mexico	159,793	▲ 25,819	+19%	19,080
India	366,946	▲ 80,341	+28%	12,237
Belgium	60,348	▲ 637	+1%	9,683
Iran	197,647	▲ 17,491	+10%	9,272
Germany	189,670	▲ 2,979	+2%	8,875
Canada	101,725	▲ 2,566	+3%	8,358
Russia	560,321	▲ 58,521	+12%	7,650
Peru	240,908	▲ 26,120	+12%	7,257
Sweden	56,043	▲ 7,755	+16%	5,053
Turkey	184,031	▲ 10,008	+6%	4,882
China	84,462	▲ 246	0%	4,638
Chile	225,103	▲ 71,011	+46%	3,841
Pakistan	160,118	▲ 34,185	+27%	3,093
Egypt	50,437	▲ 10,711	+27%	1,938
Colombia	55,083	▲ 11,273	+26%	1,887
South Africa	83,890	▲ 25,322	+43%	1,737
Bangladesh	102,292	▲ 24,240	+31%	1,343
Saudi Arabia	145,991	▲ 29,970	+26%	1,139
Belarus	56,657	▲ 4,841	+9%	331
Qatar	84,441	▲ 9,370	+12%	86





Health & Pharmaceuticals - State of Health

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) deaths in Italy as of June 15, 2020, by age group



Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1105061/coronavirus-deaths-by-region-in-italy/>





**TOP COUNTRIES: NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES (JUNE 18, 2020)**

Source: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/mapping-spread-new-coronavirus/>

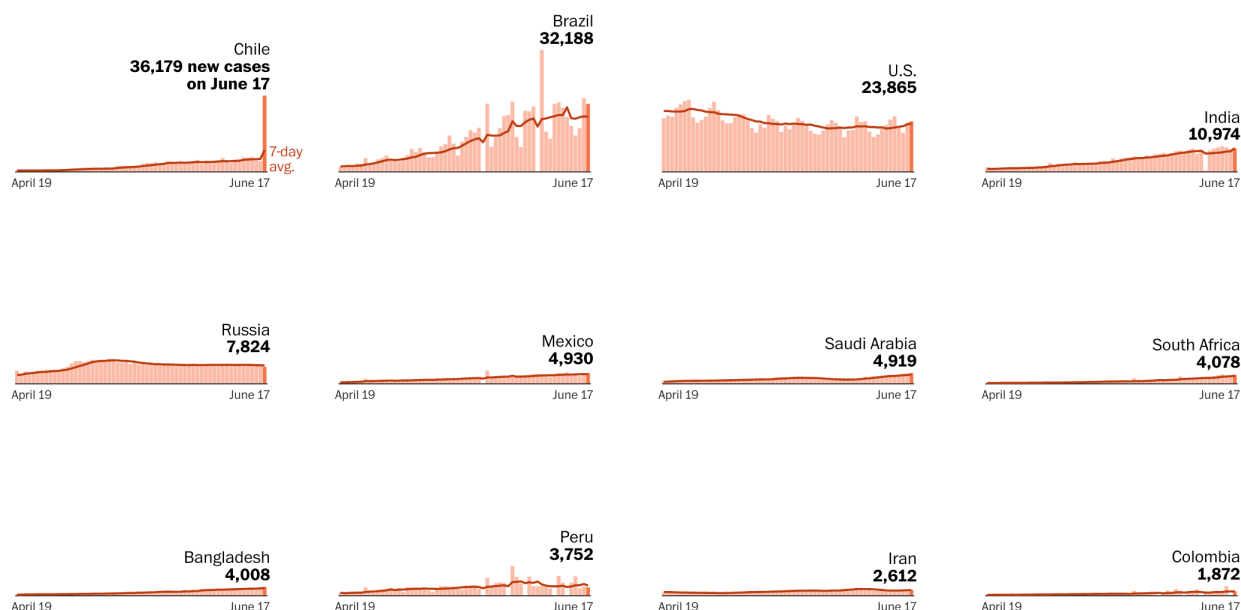
Country	Reported cases ▼	Change from June 11		Deaths
		Total	Pct.	
U.S.	2,176,477	▲ 163,977	+8%	116,551
Brazil	955,377	▲ 152,549	+19%	46,510
Russia	560,321	▲ 58,521	+12%	7,650
India	366,946	▲ 80,341	+28%	12,237
Britain	301,935	▲ 9,075	+3%	42,373
Spain	245,268	▲ 2,561	+1%	27,136
Peru	240,908	▲ 26,120	+12%	7,257
Italy	238,159	▲ 2,017	+1%	34,514
Chile	225,103	▲ 71,011	+46%	3,841
Iran	197,647	▲ 17,491	+10%	9,272
France	195,272	▲ 2,779	+1%	29,606
Germany	189,670	▲ 2,979	+2%	8,875
Turkey	184,031	▲ 10,008	+6%	4,882
Pakistan	160,118	▲ 34,185	+27%	3,093
Mexico	159,793	▲ 25,819	+19%	19,080
Saudi Arabia	145,991	▲ 29,970	+26%	1,139
Bangladesh	102,292	▲ 24,240	+31%	1,343
Canada	101,725	▲ 2,566	+3%	8,358
China	84,462	▲ 246	0%	4,638
Qatar	84,441	▲ 9,370	+12%	86
South Africa	83,890	▲ 25,322	+43%	1,737
Belgium	60,348	▲ 637	+1%	9,683
Belarus	56,657	▲ 4,841	+9%	331
Sweden	56,043	▲ 7,755	+16%	5,053
Colombia	55,083	▲ 11,273	+26%	1,887
Egypt	50,437	▲ 10,711	+27%	1,938





## TOP 12 COUNTRIES: NUMBER OF NEW CASES YESTERDAY (JUNE 17, 2020)

Source: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/mapping-spread-new-coronavirus/>

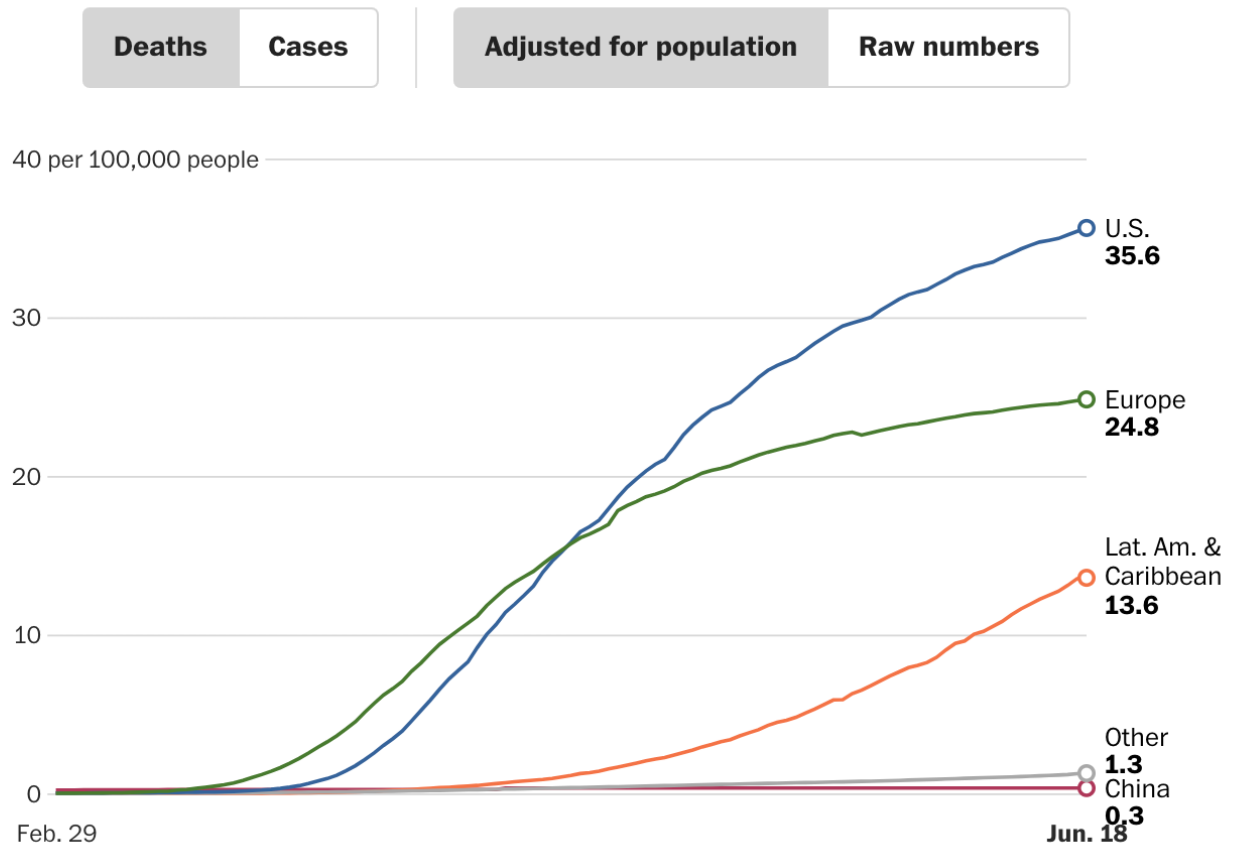






## REGIONAL COVID-19 DEATHS PER 100,000 POPULATION

Source: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/mapping-spread-new-coronavirus/>



Note: China total includes cases in Hong Kong and Macau. Europe total includes Russia but not Turkey.  
Last updated: June 18 at 5:35 p.m.





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