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CURRENT NEWS ON ECOLOGICAL WELLNESS AND GLOBAL HEALTH

Volume 7, Number 14<https://planetaryhealthweekly.com>**April 8, 2021**

Hi,

Yesterday I heard what I feel is something very wise. We live and love in troubled times of a viral pandemic, with subsequent pain and loss, and with so much division, disagreement and misunderstanding - not only of what's actually happening but also among people within their relationships. On the radio was Dr. Derek Benjamin, Chief of Medicine at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie, Ontario, about an hour south from where I am bunkered. He talked about how there are many pandemics, one for you and one for me and one for everyone, depending on your experience of it. His words really made me think.

If you have had a loved one die or get sick, or you yourself have gotten Covid-19, you'll have a certain type of experience. Perhaps that grim experience is akin to that of first line responders and hospital and long-term care facility staff. If, on the other hand, you're a small business owner and haven't been touched by the virus, or a person working at home isolated and glued to the computer becoming an armchair epidemiologist, or a sports fan missing the live thrill of the stadium, or a musician seeing the organization of your art crumble, or a scientist trying to make sense of it all, or a student or teacher trying to keep our system going and hoping for the best, or a child just doing what he or she is told, you'll have a different experience. Each one of us, in our own way, has been experiencing the pandemic differently, some light, some heavy, some somewhere in between. As Bruce Cockburn sang many years ago in his song [Making Contact](#), "There are many ways to understand, one for every woman and man."

What we need, in all this confusion and huge suffering around the world is respect for each person's perception, each other's understanding, and a mutual understanding of how to move forward. We surely need more unity, more coming together, more respect and more commitment to doing our best to bring our societies back to fear free living, as we had before. It's hard, though, to see how this can happen when the

divisions are so great, with still many denying even the danger. This despite Covid-19 currently being the #1 killer in Belgium, Brazil, France, Iran, Spain and the USA; and #2 in Argentina, Canada, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Poland and Sweden, etc.

In today's ***Planetary Health Weekly*** (14th of the year) you'll read more of the need to come together on issues of health and the environment, moving forward and respecting the diversity of opinions, all in the following stories:

- The sea ice in northern Labrador, Canada is thinning fast and here's why the Inuit are worried and The Arctic is now locked into devastating temperature rise,
- CORONAVIRUS UPDATES:
 - Digital campaign aims to counter Covid-19 conspiracies and misinformation,
 - Vaccine FOMO is real and here's how to deal with it,
 - A rare clotting disorder may cloud the world's hopes for AstraZeneca's Covid-19 vaccine,
 - Police in Germany clash with protesters against virus measures,
 - Vaccine safety in Canada – what you should know,
 - What's the best Covid vaccine and why it's not so simple,
 - Comparing the Covid-19 vaccines – how are they different?
 - Covid-19 vaccines vs variants – determining how much immunity is enough?
 - Is the low incidence of Covid-19 in Africa due to prior infections with *Plasmodium falciparum*?
 - Vaccinated over-65s are a shot in the arm for supermarket in-store sales, and
 - Canada must make Covid-19 vaccines mandatory, THEN
- Jay's Blog #7: "Global Health Student and Professional Preparation Guide For Overseas Electives,"
- UN body seeks \$8m for Ebola response in Guinea,
- Green Climate Fund whistleblowers urge U.S. to take its money elsewhere until the 'toxic' workplace is fixed,
- What makes global healthcare partnerships successful?
- California senators push Biden to phase out gasoline vehicle sales,
- Electric car rebates and charging stations: what's in the \$2 trillion Biden infrastructure plan?
- New electric car news,
- Alberta inquiry into government anti-fossil fuel campaigns steps into a past era's dark denial,
- There's a global plan to conserve nature – Indigenous people could lead the way,

- Returning vegetation to Yukon mines with Indigenous knowledge and data,
- a Quote on teaching conspiracy theories,
- Newly added conferences on: 'Covid-19 emerging ethical issues in higher education' from East Africa; and CoPEH-Canada's course and webinar series on 'ecosystem approaches to health,'
- An extensive database of individuals and organizations connected to Charles Koch or the Koch network,
- 15 common data fallacies to avoid (infographic),
- I travel therefore I am: the philosophy of travel,
- Physiotherapists for global health,
- New book:" The Premonition – A Pandemic Story,"
- Carlton University and the Bruyère Research Institute partner on health technology education, and finally
- ENDSHOTS of Early Signs of Spring among Covid-19 stats and charts.

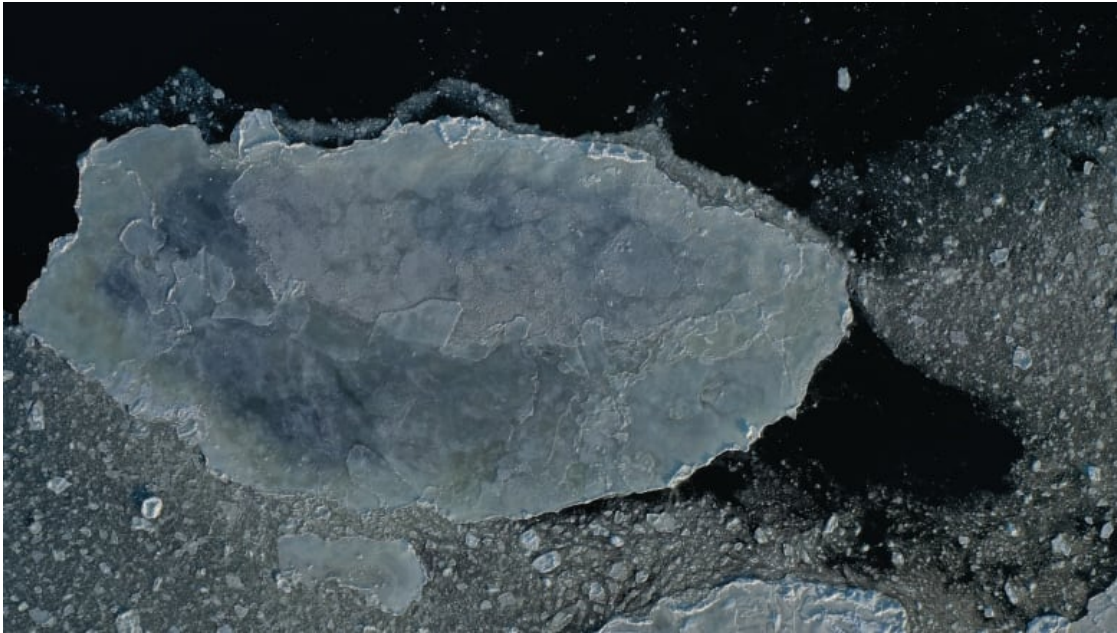
Lots to read, as always. Best, david

David Zakus, Editor and Publisher



The Sea Ice In Northern Labrador is

Thinning — Fast. Here's Why the Inuit are Worried



Sea ice breaks apart near Rigolet, Labrador, a region that saw it move in about five weeks later than normal this year. Credit: Eldred Allen/Bird's Eye Inc.

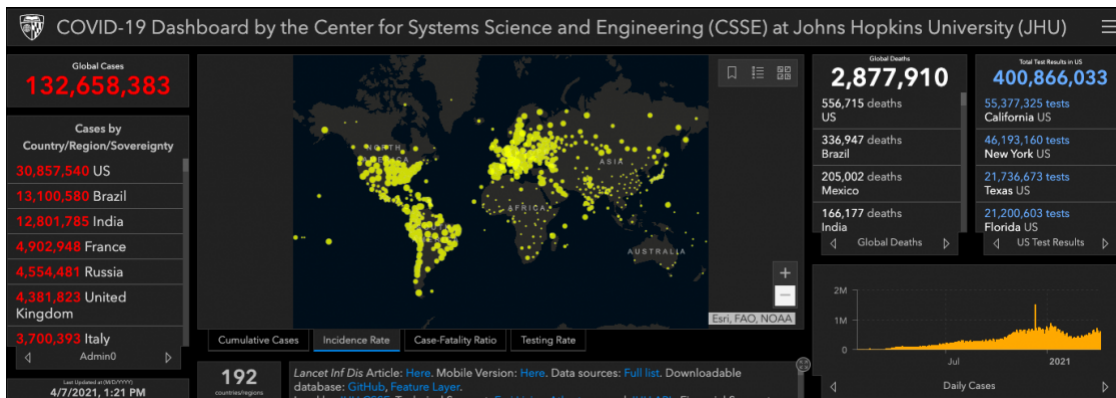
As raindrops pelted down the night of March 3, it felt a bit like fall in Barry Andersen's home of Makkovik. "You wouldn't know it [wasn't] October with the rain storms we had on the go," Andersen said. The unusual wet spell was the latest climate curveball in a winter full of them along Labrador's north coast, which is warming at a quicker pace than most places in the world — and forcing changes in life as people in its communities know it.

During one standout storm at the end of January, tides and sea swells combined to batter and break the fragile ice about 100 metres from the town's harbour. "It was all open water, and it was quite a sight to see that late in the winter," said Andersen, the town's AngajukKak — the head of its Inuit community government. "Just pure, pure open water right from nearly to the dock on out to the Makkovik Bay."

After its second warmest December on record, Makkovik had its warmest January ever this year, with an average temperature of -8.2°C , more than 10 degrees above normal for the month. Then, February experienced another record. And Makkovik, which is about 200 kilometres northeast of Happy Valley-Goose Bay, isn't alone. Across Labrador, weather stations racked up records, or came close, this winter. Read more at [CBC](#).

See Also: [Arctic now locked into devastating temperature rise, UN report says](#)

SARS-CoV-2 & COVID-19 UPDATES



Globally, it continues getting worse. In the last week there were about the same number of new cases at 4.1 million and deaths also stayed about the same at 71,000. What's worse, is that while some countries are improving others are not.

Despite what some people think about the danger of Covid-19 it is currently the #1 killer in Belgium, Brazil, France, Iran, Spain and USA; and #2 in Argentina, Canada, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Poland and Sweden, etc. (See: <https://www.worldlifeexpectanc...> and enter in any country.)

(See also ENDSHOTS at the end of this newsletter for more COVID-19 charts and stats.)

"It is the plague in seemingly all sincerity." Bob Woodward

Digital Campaign Aims to Counter COVID-19 Conspiracies, Misinformation



University of Alberta professor Timothy Caulfield is one of founders of a new online campaign called #ScienceUpFirst, combating misinformation about COVID-19. (Credit: Sam Martin/CBC)

A new digital campaign is looking to flood social media sites with accurate, science-informed content about COVID-19. Misinformation and conspiracy theories have plagued the online discussion around COVID-19 since the pandemic began. But that misinformation has shifted in the past 10 months, says Timothy Caulfield, Canada research chair in health law and policy at the University of Alberta. Canadians are becoming more polarized, and ideology and personal identity have become bigger factors in COVID-19 misinformation.

"You see anti-vaxxers using language like choice and liberty and freedom in order to get people into their community. And then all of a sudden, this misinformation becomes an ideological flag," Caulfield said on CBC's [Radio Active](#) on Monday. Read more at [CBC](#).

SEE MORE COVID-19 STORIES:

At Wired: [Vaccine FOMO Is Real. Here's How to Deal With It](#)

At Science Mag: [A Rare Clotting Disorder May Cloud the World's Hopes for AstraZeneca's COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

At Globe and Mail: [Police in Germany Clash With Protesters Against Virus Measures](#)

At Canada: [Vaccine Safety in Canada: What You Should Know](#)

At Bloomberg: [What's the Best Covid Vaccine? Why It's Not So Simple](#)

At Yale Medicine: [Comparing the COVID-19 Vaccines: How Are They Different?](#)

At Jama Network: [COVID-19 Vaccines vs Variants—Determining How Much Immunity Is Enough](#)

At BioMedCentral: [Is the Low Incidence of COVID-19 in Africa Due to Prior Infections with Plasmodium falciparum?](#)

At FPC Fresh Talk Daily: [Vaccinated Over-65s are a Shot in the Arm for Supermarket in-store Sales](#)

At The Star: [Canada Must Make COVID-19 Vaccinations Mandatory](#)

Jay's Blog #7

Global Health Student and Professional Preparation Guide For Overseas Electives



Credit: Jay Kravitz

When planning an overseas experience, important criteria and questions should be considered prior to departure. Proper preparation will make one's educational and personal engagement more valuable and enjoyable and, perhaps, pave the way for others to follow. The data points listed below were integral to the preparatory process I helped organize at my former university. The motive was to guide both academic supervisors and students to determine if a chosen destination was sufficiently substantive, safe and worthy of consideration. Provided information in this commentary can guide *all* health profession scholars, including medical, nursing, physiotherapy, policy and management, public health, pharmacy, laboratory and dental students – and residents, clinicians and researchers. [Read the rest at PHW Blogs - Jay's Blogs](#)

UN Body Seeks \$8M for Ebola Response Plan in Guinea



Credit: AA

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has launched an appeal to raise \$8 million for efforts to stop the resurgence of the Ebola virus in Guinea. The funds will be used to support essential outbreak preparedness and response activities, as well as critical coordination efforts at the national and prefectural levels and key border crossings, the UN body said in a statement. "We have witnessed the devastation that delayed action on public health emergencies can do to a community and societies at large," Maximilian Diaz, head of IOM Guinea. "We must stand by the people of Guinea, and we must act fast."

Authorities in the West African country declared an Ebola outbreak in Gouecke, an area in the southeastern N'Zerekore region, on Feb. 14, the first since the 2014-2016 crisis that claimed over 11,300 of lives in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia. As of March 1, four probable and 13 confirmed cases have been identified, eight of whom have died, according to the IOM.

In early February, authorities in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) also announced the reappearance of the Ebola virus more than two months after the end of the last outbreak. Read more at [AnadoluAgency](https://www.aa.com/en/news/ebola-outbreak-in-guinea/2020/03/01).

Green Climate Fund Whistleblowers Urge U.S. to Take its Money Elsewhere – Until ‘Toxic’ Workplace is Fixed



Lightning over the city of Songdo, South Korea, where the Green Climate Fund is headquartered (Credit: [Soonye](#)

[Yoon/World Meteorological Organisation/Flickr](#))

John Kerry is promising the US will “make good” on its contribution to the Green Climate Fund. The presidential climate envoy is seeking to rebuild bridges with the rest of the world after Donald Trump reneged on US climate commitments. Delivering a \$2 billion outstanding pledge to the UN-backed climate fund, for distribution to projects in developing countries, is widely seen as a good place to start.

Campaigners are [calling on the Biden administration](#) to commit a further \$6bn to the fund. Yannick Glemarec, executive director of the fund, says US reengagement “will send an extraordinarily positive signal” and allow it to accelerate support for the green recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. But the latest staff survey results, presented internally last month and seen by Climate Home News, show faith in the fund’s leadership is at rock bottom. Views of the senior management team were 24% favourable, 40% unfavourable. Read more at [Climate Change News](#)

What Makes Global Healthcare Partnerships Successful? A Systematic Review



Credit

Academic communities are increasingly involved in efforts to address the overwhelming burden of disease in low-middle income countries. There is, however, little research dedicated to understanding the best approach to creating a successful and sustainable global healthcare project. Our objective was to review the shared characteristics of successful healthcare partnerships between high- and low-middle income countries. Two independent reviewers conducted a systematic review. Articles, describing collaborative, healthcare partnerships between a high- and low-middle income countries between 1910 and September 2018, were included. Twenty-six articles were included. The majority of collaborations were initiated by either the host institution or as a joint decision between institutions. The primary goal of these collaborations revolved around medical education/training and curriculum development. Two partnerships, after more than a decade of collaboration, had achieved a self-sustaining programme. Read more at [Tandf Online](#).

GOOD NEWS

California Senators Push Biden To Start Phasing Out Gasoline Vehicle Sales



Credit: Green Car Reports

Could the Biden Administration set a date for the retirement of internal combustion passenger vehicles? Although that's an unlikely move, as the new administration grapples with how to restore tighter standards for gas mileage and emissions, two senators are reportedly rooting for that deadline.

In a letter from seen by [Reuters](#), Senators Alex Padilla and Dianne Feinstein urged President Biden to restore California's authority to set its clean car standards—a move it hasn't yet made—and “to follow California's lead and set a date by which all new cars and passenger trucks sold be zero-emission vehicles.” Read more at [Green Car Reports](#).

SEE ALSO: [Turning Trash to Natural Gas: Utilities in Washington State Fight for Their Future Amid Climate Change](#)

MORE GOOD NEWS

Electric Car Rebates, Charging Stations: What's in the 2 Trillion Biden Infrastructure Plan



Credit: Green Car Reports

President Biden has detailed a cohesive infrastructure plan, and it targets policies spurring electric car adoption, funding for 500,000 charging stations, and work on an upgraded electrical grid among its many key points. They're a small part of a jaw-dropping list of heavy-lift infrastructure items the administration will need to sell Congress on. The official White House [fact sheet](#) released earlier on Wednesday pegs the plan as seeing climate change, technology leadership, and jobs as closely interconnected.

Biden's plan includes a \$174 billion "investment to win the EV market," including [supply chains and raw materials](#), the retooling of factories, and support of workers to make batteries and electric vehicles. Read more at [Green Car Reports](#).

OPINION

Alberta Inquiry Steps Into a Past Era's Dark Denial (by David Suzuki)



Credit: Desmo

That anyone today could deny the overwhelming and incontrovertible evidence for human-caused climate disruption is shocking. You don't even need a science background to see its worsening effects occurring worldwide, from record-high temperatures to increasing extreme weather events and wildfires. For a government — especially one in Canada — to spend taxpayer money on reports that deny climate science is deplorable.

But that's what the Alberta government has done. Its \$3.5-million public inquiry into what it calls "foreign-funded anti-energy campaigns" ("energy" only meaning fossil fuels and not renewable sources) commissioned and posted reports that University of Calgary law professor [Martin Olszynski called](#) "textbook examples of climate-change denialism." Read more at [Desmog Blog](#).

SPOTLIGHT ON POLICY

There's a Global Plan to Conserve Nature - Indigenous People Could Lead the Way



Awapu Uru Eu Wau Wau, right, led an expedition in the Brazilian Amazon to chase out illegal loggers in 2019.

Credit: Victor Moriyama for The New York Times

With a million species at risk of extinction, dozens of countries are pushing to protect at least 30% of the planet's land and water by 2030. Their goal is to hammer out a global agreement at negotiations to be held in China later this year, designed to keep intact natural areas like old growth forests and wetlands that nurture biodiversity, store carbon and filter water.

But many people who have been protecting nature successfully for generations won't be deciding on the deal: Indigenous communities and others who have kept room for animals, plants and their habitats, not by fencing off nature, but by making a small living from it. The key to their success, research shows, is not extracting too much. Read more at [NY Times](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/08/climate/indigenous-forest-protection.html).

SPOTLIGHT ON INDIGENOUS WELLNESS

Returning Vegetation to Yukon Mines with Indigenous Knowledge and Data



Photo album generated by [album tool](#) a script by [David Ljung](#)

Did you know that Canadian mining companies need to plan for a mine closure even before the production starts? This process — called mine reclamation — involves outlining how land, water and even cultural resources will be restored, and is the focus of the work of Mitacs Accelerate intern Krystal Isbister, a PhD candidate in the Department of Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta.

Prior to starting her doctoral studies this year, this Whitehorse, Yukon, native ran her own independent consulting company specializing in vegetation services. She worked with several clients on mine revegetation and felt there was not enough knowledge or examples of successful techniques for the companies to make informed decisions. Thus, her path led from consultant to graduate student. Read more at [Mitacs](#).

Quote Of The Week

While Canadian health authorities fight back against what Chief Public Health Officer Theresa Tam has called "an infodemic" — the spread of false information about the COVID-19 pandemic — others are working just as hard to target the public with conspiracy theories.

CBC's *Marketplace* journalists took part in a U.S. COVID-19 conspiracy "boot camp," where aspiring activists learn tactics of persuasion to sow seeds of doubt about information coming from public health authorities. The communication tactics are taught primarily by Matthew Hunt, who gives advice on how to ensure students connect with people on a personal level as a persuasion tactic.

"Understanding the subjective human experience and how each individual stores their VERSION of information is key to unlocking their mind and building trust ... and successfully affecting change with them," his course material reads.

For More See: [Marketplace attended a COVID-19 conspiracy boot camp to see how instructors are targeting vaccine skeptic](#)

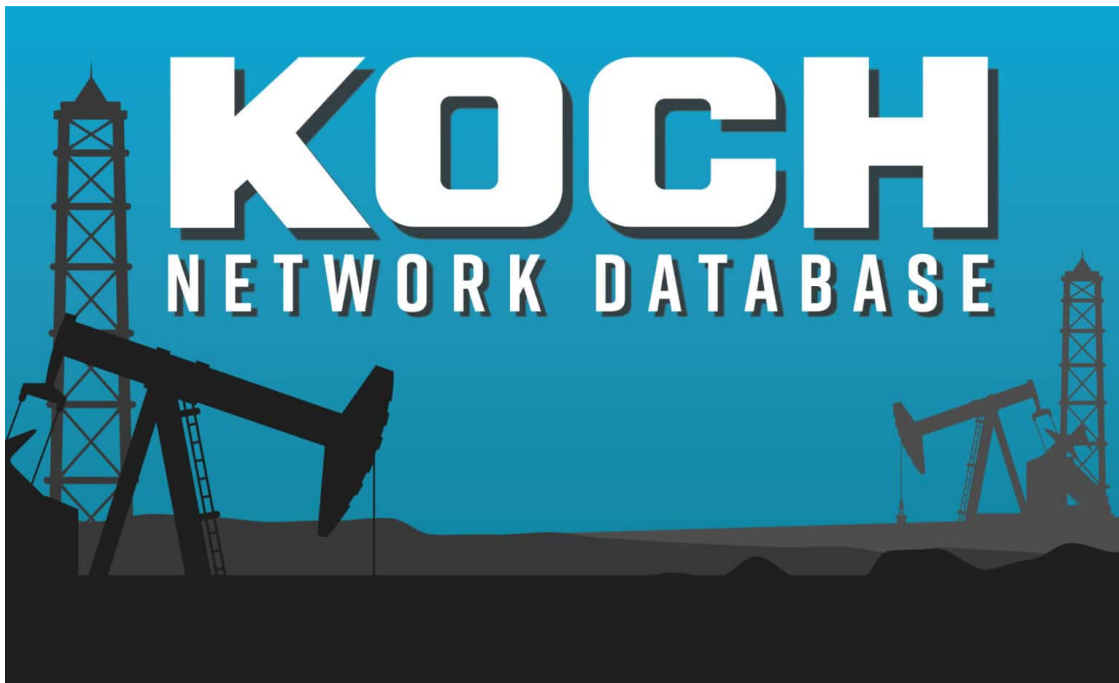
Upcoming Events

- April 8-11, 2021: [Global Health & Innovation Conference](#) (Virtual Event)
- April 25-30, 2021: [Planetary Health Week](#) (A Free Virtual Conference-Festival)
- May 11-13, 2021: [Conference on Covid-19 Emerging Ethical Issues in Higher Education: Experiences, Challenges, Solutions](#) Virtually from [Globethics.net East Africa](#) in collaboration with [The Catholic University of Eastern Africa: Centre for Social Justice and Ethics](#).
- May 12 - June 8, 2021: [CoPEH-Canada Multisite Course and Webinar Series on Ecosystem Approaches to Health](#) (8 sessions virtually)
- May 31 - June 18, 2021: [The McGill Summer Institute of Infectious Diseases and Global Health](#) (100% online from McGill University, Montreal, Canada)
- June 7-9, 2021: [Executive Course: Global Health Diplomacy](#) (Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, Canada)

- June 29-30, 2021: [Telemedicine International Summit on Innovation & Technology](#)
- September 16-18, 2021: [North American Refugee Health Conference \(NARHC\)](#) (Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto). This year's conference will be offered completely online.
- September 27 - October 1, 2021: [12th European Congress On Tropical Medicine And International Health: Global Challenges In Health, Migration And Equity](#)
- October 6-8, 2021: [Public Health 2021: Annual conference of the CPHA](#)
- November 1-12, 2021: [2020/2021 UN Climate Change Conference](#) UNFCCC COP26 - Postponed in 2020 and now to be held November, 2021 (Glasgow, Scotland).
- November 11, 2021: [Evidenced Based Research Being Carried Out in Low and Middle Income Countries](#) ADAPT will host their second online conference by Physios in Global Health. If you would like to contribute to this event, please contact ADAPT research officer: fiona@developingphysio.com

FYI#1 SPOTLIGHT ON MEDIA

An Extensive Database of Individuals and Organizations Connected to Charles Koch or the Koch Network



Welcome to DeSmog's Koch Network Database, where you can browse our extensive research on the individuals and organizations linked to Charles Koch or other members of the Koch family, Koch Industries, and related entities (all well known for their stance and funding against the climate crisis).

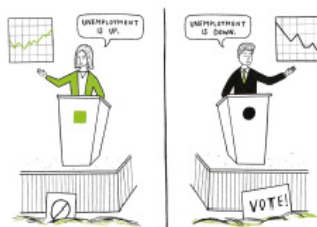
Also click here for info about Patrick Moore:

<https://www.desmogblog.com/patrick-moore>

Read and See More at Desmog Blog

FYI #2

Here are 15 Common Data Fallacies to Avoid



CHERRY PICKING

Selecting results that fit your claim and excluding those that don't.



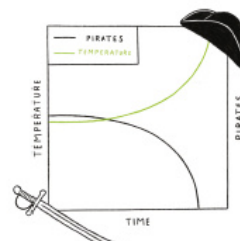
DATA DREDGING

Repeatedly testing new hypotheses against the same set of data, failing to acknowledge that most correlations will be the result of chance.



COBRA EFFECT

Setting an incentive that accidentally produces the opposite result to the one intended. Also known as a Perverse Incentive.



FALSE CAUSALITY

Falsely assuming when two events appear related that one must have caused the other.



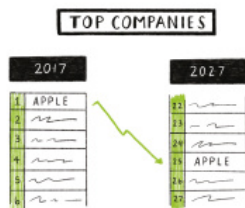
SAMPLING BIAS

Drawing conclusions from a set of data that isn't representative of the population you're trying to understand.



GAMBLER'S FALLACY

Mistakenly believing that because something has happened more frequently than usual, it's now less likely to happen in future (and vice versa).



REGRESSION TOWARDS THE MEAN

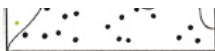
When something happens that's unusually good or bad, it will revert back towards the average over time.

APPLICATION SUCCESS RATE		
	MALE	FEMALE
SUBJECT 1	14 % (148 of 1049)	15 % (179 of 1189)
SUBJECT 2	50 % (400 of 800)	51 % (102 of 200)
TOTAL	28 % (548 of 2000)	19 % (372 of 2000) ??

SIMPSON'S PARADOX

When a trend appears in different subsets of data but disappears or reverses when the groups are combined.





OVERFITTING

Creating a model that's overly tailored to the data you have and not representative of the general trend.



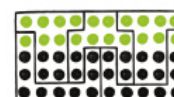
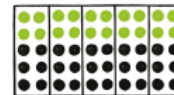
PUBLICATION BIAS

Interesting research findings are more likely to be published, distorting our impression of reality.



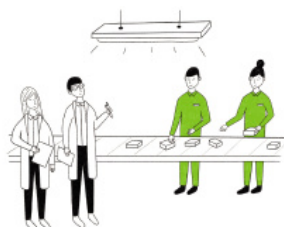
SURVIVORSHIP BIAS

Drawing conclusions from an incomplete set of data, because that data has 'survived' some selection criteria.



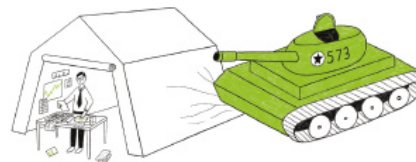
GERRYMANDERING

Manipulating the geographical boundaries used to group data in order to change the result.



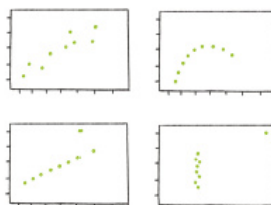
HAWTHORNE EFFECT

The act of monitoring someone can affect their behaviour, leading to spurious findings. Also known as the Observer Effect.



MCNAMARA FALLACY

Relying solely on metrics in complex situations and losing sight of the bigger picture.



DANGER OF SUMMARY METRICS

Only looking at summary metrics and missing big differences in the raw data.



GECKOBOARD.COM

Read more at data-literacy.geckoboard.com

Credit: ODI Bites

In today's tech-driven economy, data is essential for gaining new insights, making decisions, and building products. In fact, there is so much data out there, that the quantity of it is doubling every two years – and by 2020, there will be 45,000 exabytes of data in existence. This is an unprecedented figure, and it's hard to put into

perspective. To give you some sense, a single exabyte is equal to 1,000,000,000 GB of data, and five exabytes has been said to be roughly equal to “all of the words ever spoken by mankind”.

Common Fallacies With Data

As you can imagine, digging through all of this data can be quite the challenge. Data comes in many different forms and not all of them are easy to analyze. As a result, it is tempting to take shortcuts with data, or to try and fit data into our pre-conceived notions of how things ought to be. Today's infographic (above) comes to us from [Geckoboard](#) and it shows the common mistakes that people make in analyzing data. We've reformatted their [PDF](#) to fit here.

[Read More Visual Capitalist](#)

FYI #3

I Travel Therefore I Am: The Philosophy of Travel



Credit: Cris Bouroncle/AFP via Getty Images

In March 2020, global tourism came to a screeching halt. Flights were cancelled, borders were closed, and soon millions of people across the world found themselves under lockdown in their homes. A year later, the travel industry has lost nearly [a trillion dollars](#). And frequent flyers have been given ample chance to reflect on the essence and impact of their trips around the planet.

Philosopher [Emily Thomas](#) tells us that travel is essentially an encounter with the unknown. Travel, she says, "shows us otherness" by offering us an "immediate sense of things we have never experienced." And through these new experiences, Thomas believes "we are forced to expand and rethink what we know."

How travel transforms thinking

As an encounter with the unknown, the value of travel is like the benefit of a good book: it improves our mind by introducing us to new customs and cultures and truths about the world. In fact, Thomas claims travel is similar to philosophy and science to the extent that each of these activities "map out new territory." The connection Thomas sees between travel and education, generally, is borne out by what we now dub 'The Age of Discovery.' Philosophy of travel isn't a recognized field, but philosopher Emily Thomas says it should be. She argues 'travel is a vein that has been running through Western philosophy for centuries.'

Read More at CBC

FYI #4

Physiotherapists for Global Health



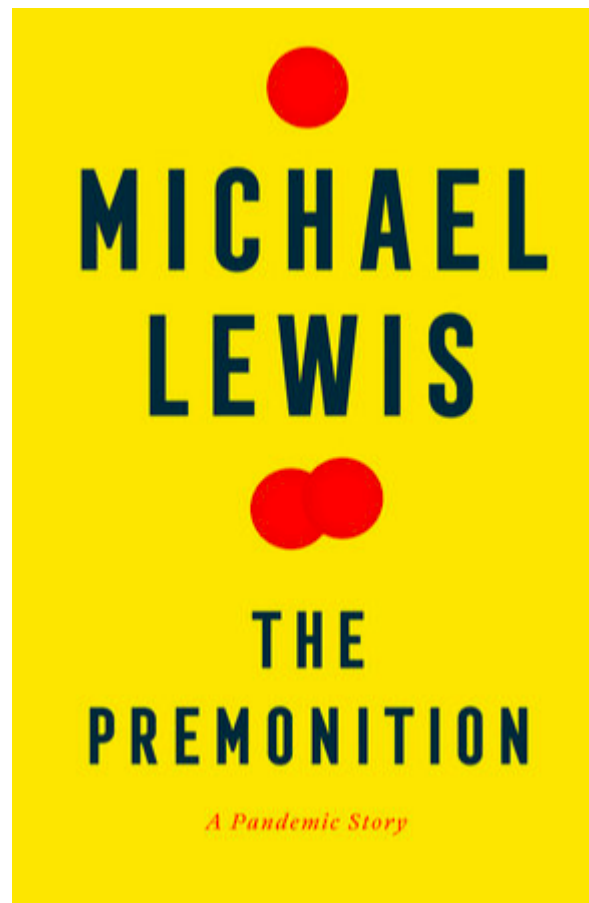
Credit: Global Health Division of Canadian Physiotherapy Association

ADAPT is a recognised Professional Network of the [*Chartered Society of Physiotherapy*](#) (CSP). The CSP is the professional, educational and trade union body for the UK's 59,000 chartered physiotherapists, physiotherapy students and support workers. Visit their excellent global health oriented website.

[Read More on ADAPTCSP](#)

FYI #5: EARLY APRIL READING

New Book by Michael Lewis, "The Premonition: A Pandemic Story"



Credit: Book Cover

For those who could read between the lines, the censored news out of China was terrifying. But the U.S. president insisted there was nothing to worry about. Fortunately, we are still a nation of skeptics. Fortunately, there are those among us who study pandemics and are willing to look unflinchingly at worst-case scenarios. Michael Lewis's taut and brilliant nonfiction thriller pits a band of medical visionaries against the wall of ignorance that was the official response of the Trump administration to the outbreak of COVID-19.

The characters you will meet in these pages are as fascinating as they are unexpected. A thirteen-year-old girl's science project on transmission of an airborne pathogen develops into a very grown-up model of disease control. A local public-health officer uses her worm's-eye view to see what the CDC misses, and reveals great truths about American society. A secret team of dissenting doctors, nicknamed the Wolverines, has everything necessary to fight the pandemic: brilliant backgrounds, world-class labs, prior experience with the pandemic scares of bird flu and swine flu...everything, that is, except official permission to implement their work.

Michael Lewis is not shy about calling these people heroes for their refusal to follow directives that they know to be based on misinformation and bad science. Even the internet, as crucial as it is to their exchange of ideas, poses a risk to them. They never know for sure who else might be listening in.

Also See Review at NY Times: [From Michael Lewis, "The Premonition" a 'Superhero Story' About the Pandemic](#)

Read More at PenguinRandomHouse

FYI#6: SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION

Carleton University and Bruyère Research Institute Partner on Health Tech



Credit: Bruyère Research Institute

Carleton University in Ottawa and the Bruyère Research Institute have established a multi-year strategic health tech partnership that will see a research focus on remote and virtual care, as well as new applications in biomedical engineering, software, sensors and simulators. The three-year initiative expands ongoing collaborations between the institutions' researchers combining Carleton's expertise in engineering, design, IT, social work and policy with the Bruyère Research Institute's focus on

finding new ways to maximize quality of life for aging Canadians through clinical and residential care, cross-disciplinary innovations and technology.

"Together we can make a real impact on the health and wellness of Canadians," said Rafik Goubran, vice-president (Research and International) at Carleton University.

"Our goal is to accelerate promising research, generate new opportunities for collaboration, provide experiential learning opportunities for students, and engage industry, government and community partners. In this way, we can co-create novel solutions to improve the quality of health-care delivery."

[Read more at Carleton](#)

ENDSHOTS

EARLY SIGNS OF SPRING & HOT WEATHER Amid COVID-19 Stats and Charts

WHITEFISH LAKE, HUMPHREY, ONTARIO

April 2-8, 2021



COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Last updated: April 08, 2021, 17:40 GMT

[Graphs](#) - [Countries](#) - [News](#)

Coronavirus Cases:

134,104,371

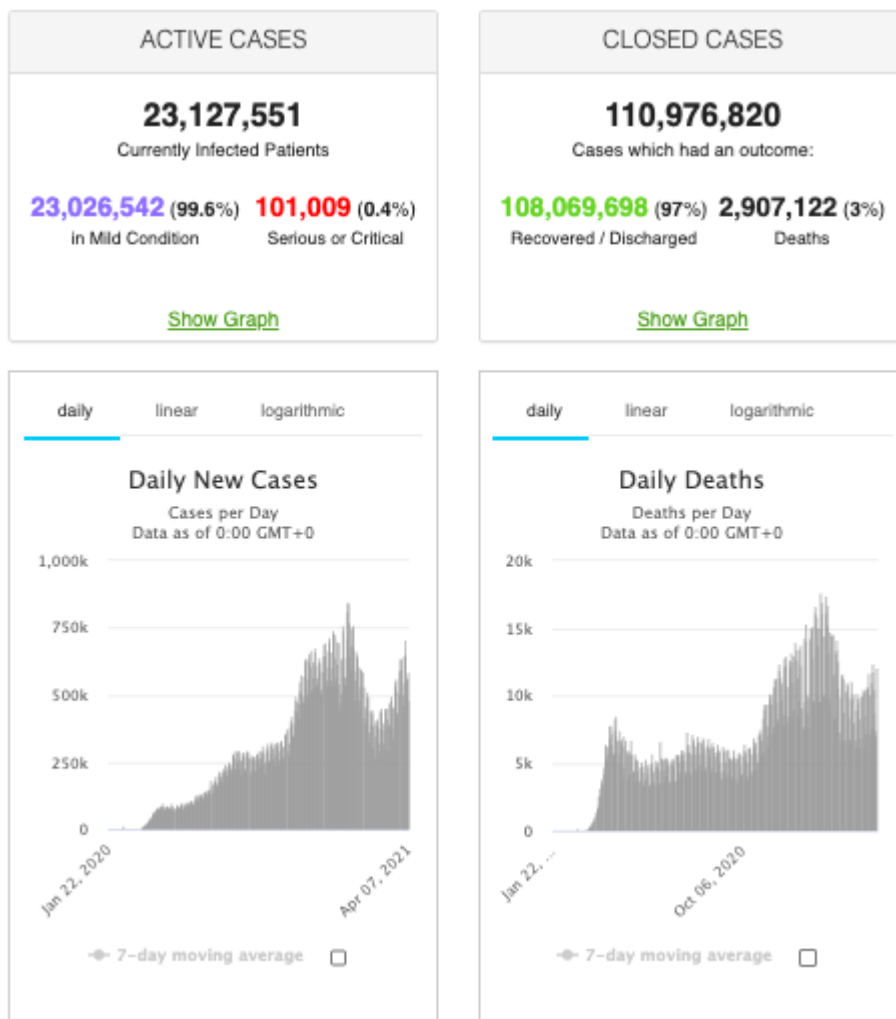
[view by country](#)

Deaths:

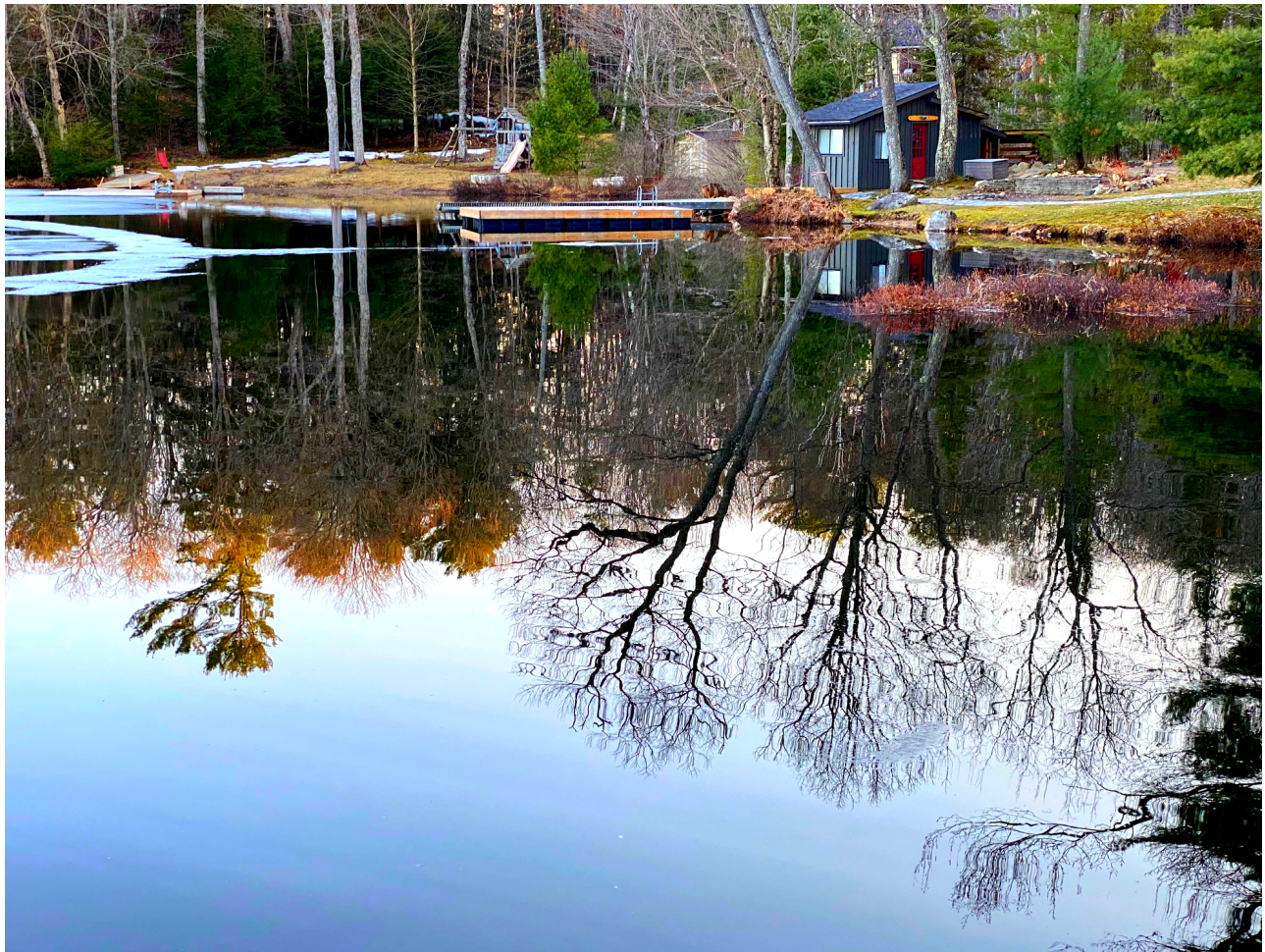
2,907,122

Recovered:

108,069,698



Source: <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>



COVID-19 CASES & DEATHS (April 2-8, 2021) Source:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/mapping-spread-new-coronavirus/?itid=sf_coronavirus

More than
2,891,000
people have died from
the coronavirus worldwide

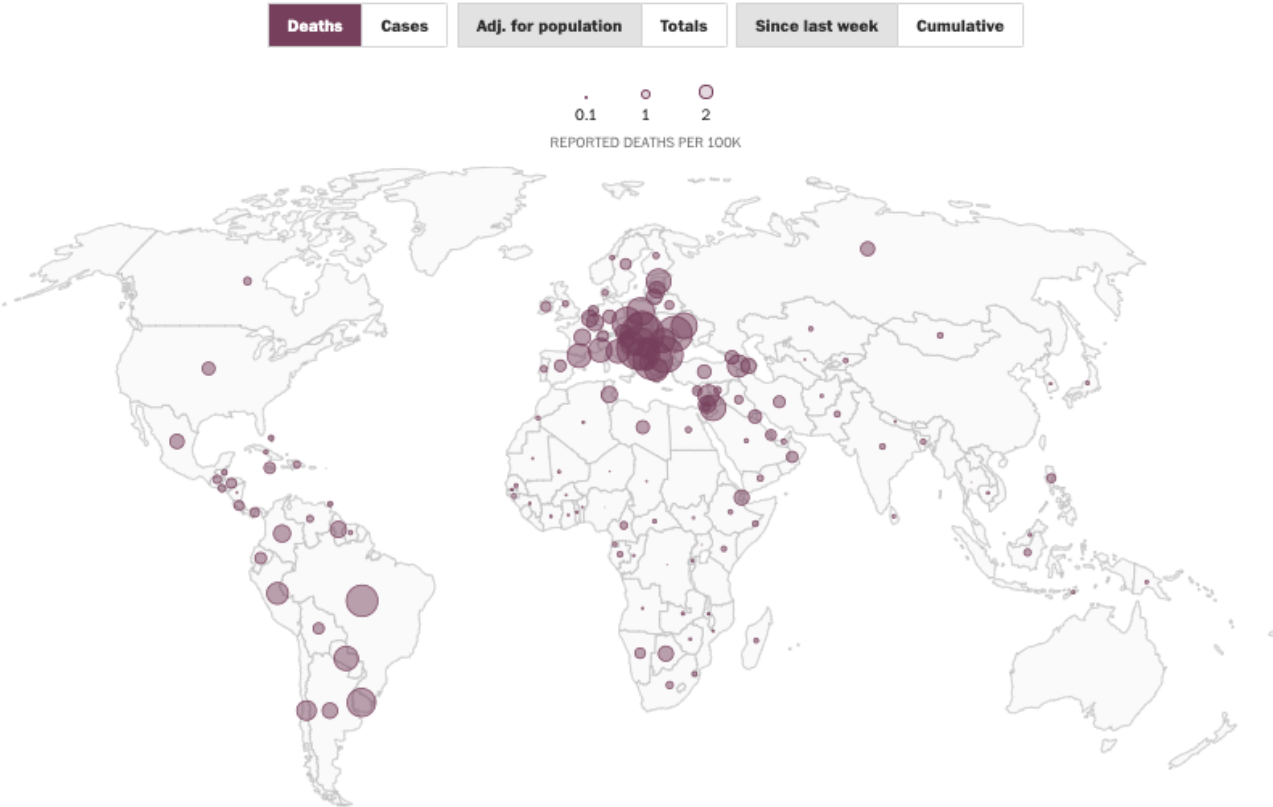
More than **133 million** cases have been reported.

Data as of April 8 at 2:00 p.m.

Where the virus is surging



Where the virus is surging





New daily reported cases across the world

Deaths Cases

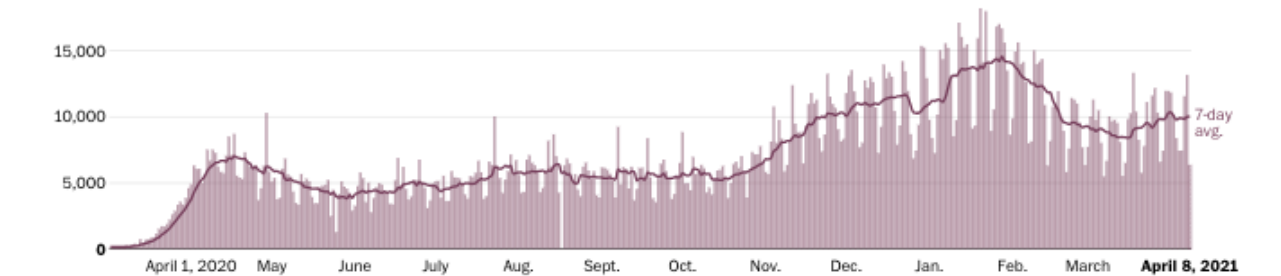
At least 133,359,865 have been reported since Feb. 29.



New daily deaths reported across the world

Deaths Cases

At least 2,891,629 have been reported since Feb. 29.



Global hot spots for reported cases per capita

— 7-day rolling average of daily new reported cases per 100,000 residents



Global hot spots for reported deaths per capita

— 7-day rolling average of daily new deaths per 100,000 residents



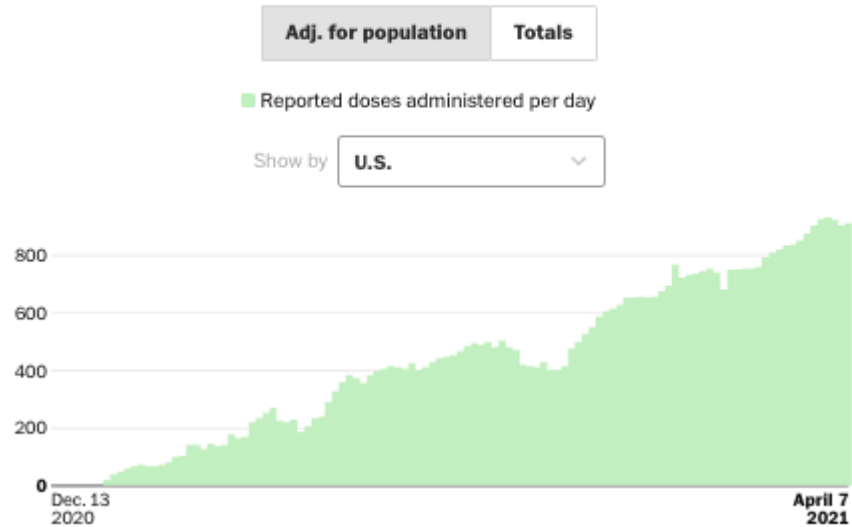
Note: Only countries with a population of more than 1 million are shown.



Doses of covid-19 vaccines administered per 100,000 residents



Doses of covid-19 vaccines administered per 100,000 residents



Country	Total doses given per 100k	Pct. of pop. partially vaccinated	Pct. of pop. completed vaccination
Israel	112,547	58.5%	54.1%
Seychelles	103,803	65.2%	38.6%
UAE	89,116	-	-
Bhutan	61,719	61.7%	-
Chile	60,131	37.7%	22.4%
Britain	55,946	47.4%	8.5%
Monaco	52,638	30.1%	22.6%
Bahrain	51,706	32.1%	19.6%
U.S.	51,650	33.1%	19.4%
Malta	50,510	36.7%	13.8%
Maldives	50,108	48.2%	2.0%
Serbia	38,694	22.4%	16.3%
Hungary	37,728	26.7%	11.0%
Qatar	34,875	-	-
Singapore	28,503	19.3%	9.2%
Antigua and Barbuda	26,983	27.0%	-
Uruguay	26,356	22.3%	4.1%
Dominica	25,159	24.7%	0.5%
Morocco	23,163	12.1%	11.1%
Estonia	22,812	17.5%	5.3%
Barbados	22,180	22.2%	-
Lithuania	21,404	14.9%	6.5%
Turkey	21,221	12.4%	8.8%
Austria	21,094	15.2%	5.9%
Denmark	20,978	13.8%	7.1%
Iceland	20,648	13.9%	6.7%
Spain	19,878	13.6%	6.2%
Slovenia	19,771	14.1%	5.7%
Finland	19,629	18.0%	1.6%
Slovakia	19,532	14.6%	4.9%
Italy	19,468	13.5%	6.0%
Portugal	19,336	13.6%	5.7%

Belgium	19,146	14.0%	5.1%
France	19,072	14.3%	4.8%
Ireland	19,041	13.5%	5.5%
Norway	18,887	13.5%	5.4%
Greece	18,697	12.3%	6.4%
Switzerland	18,640	11.6%	7.0%
Canada	18,596	16.6%	2.0%
Germany	18,558	13.0%	5.6%
Poland	18,434	12.9%	5.5%
Luxembourg	18,191	13.9%	4.3%
Czechia	17,896	11.9%	5.9%
Sweden	17,649	12.4%	5.3%
Romania	17,637	11.1%	6.5%
Liechtenstein	17,105	-	-
Saudi Arabia	16,246	-	-
Andorra	16,126	-	-
Saint Kitts and Nevis	16,117	16.1%	-
Mongolia	14,478	-	-
Kuwait	14,377	-	-
Netherlands	13,723	9.7%	4.0%
Cyprus	13,477	9.6%	3.9%
Croatia	13,114	10.6%	2.5%
Brazil	11,466	8.9%	2.5%
China	10,665	-	-
Panama	10,380	-	-
Dominican Republic	10,257	9.3%	0.9%
Azerbaijan	10,234	6.4%	3.9%
Argentina	10,173	8.6%	1.6%
Costa Rica	10,003	5.8%	4.2%
Greenland	9,124	7.0%	2.1%
Russia	9,038	5.5%	3.6%
Latvia	8,566	7.2%	1.3%
Albania	8,142	-	-

Canada is in 39th place globally for vaccines given per capita (45th last week)



Compare countries by new daily reported cases per 100k

Deaths

Cases

Adj. for population

Totals

Select a country:

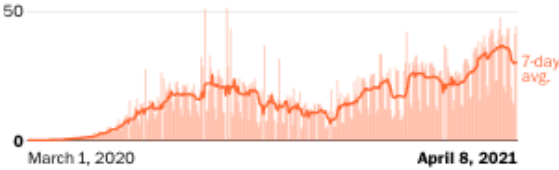
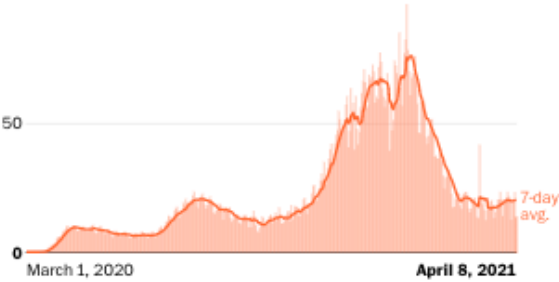
U.S.

At least 30,924,593 have been reported since Feb. 29.

Select a country:

Brazil

At least 13,193,205 have been reported since Feb. 29.



Compare countries by new daily deaths reported per 100k**Deaths**

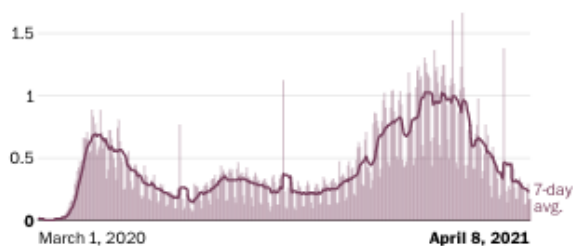
Cases

Adj. for population

Totals

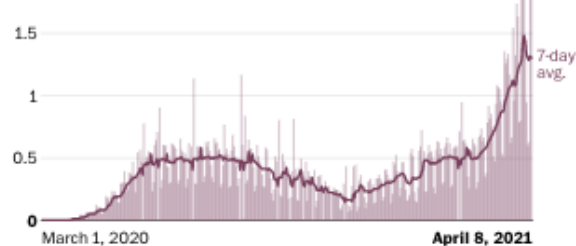
Select a country:

U.S.

At least 558,571 have been reported since Feb. 29.

Select a country:

Brazil

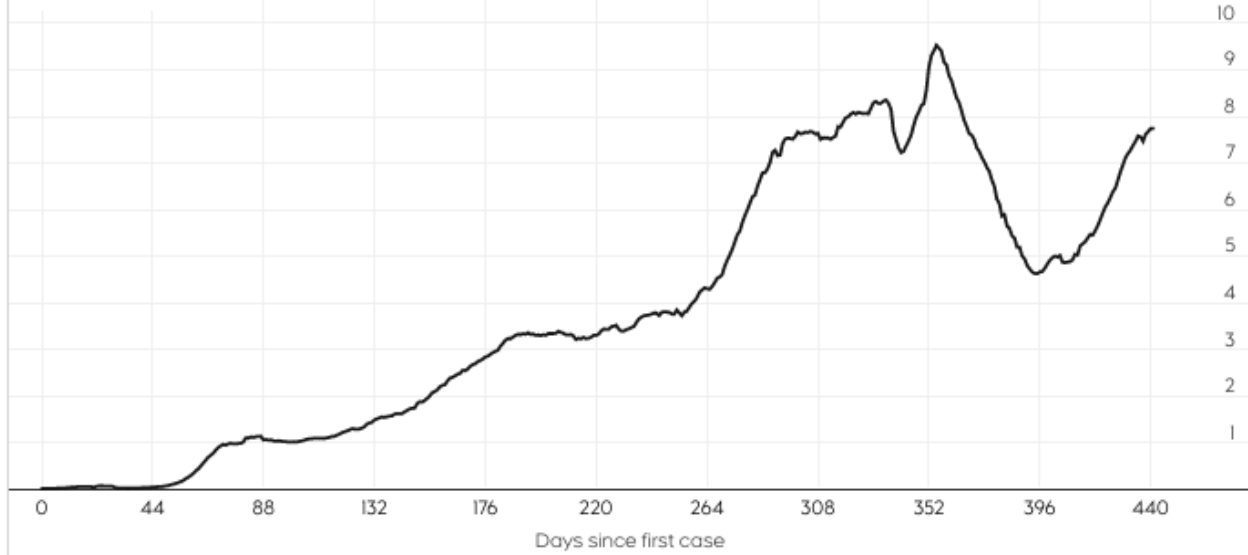
At least 340,776 have been reported since Feb. 29.

Source of World and Canadian Data Below (April 8, 2021):
<https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/covid-19-curves-compare-canada-and-other-key-nations-1.4881500#link-top>

COVID-19 Cases (7-day avg)

Cases Deaths Total Daily 7-Day Raw /100K

— World



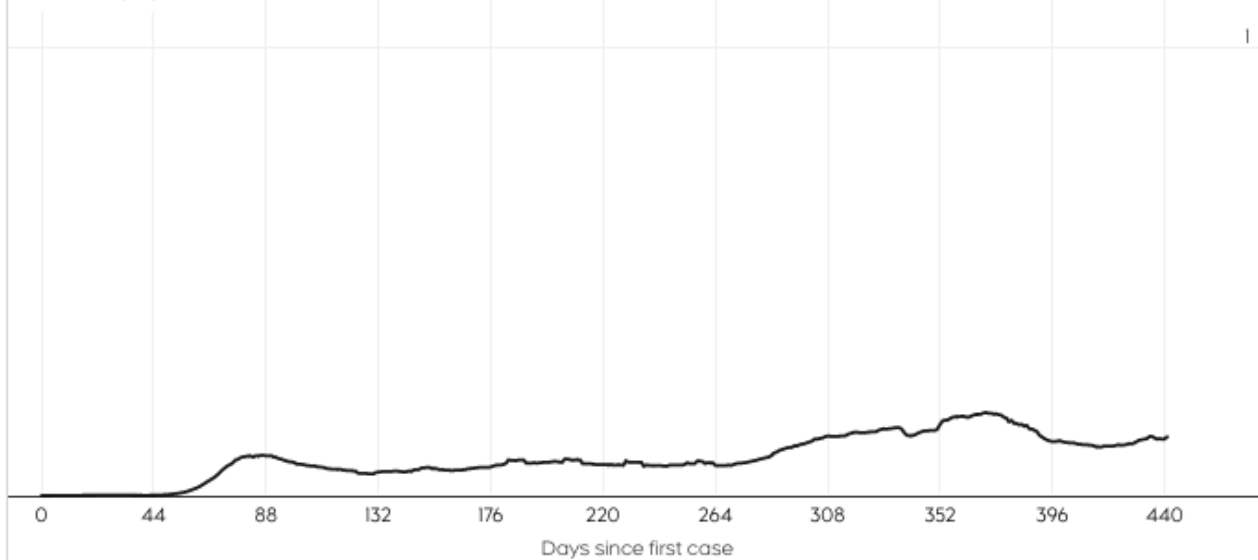
Source: [Johns Hopkins University \(JHU\)](#) via [Our World in Data](#)

CTV NEWS

COVID-19 Deaths (7-day avg, per 100K)

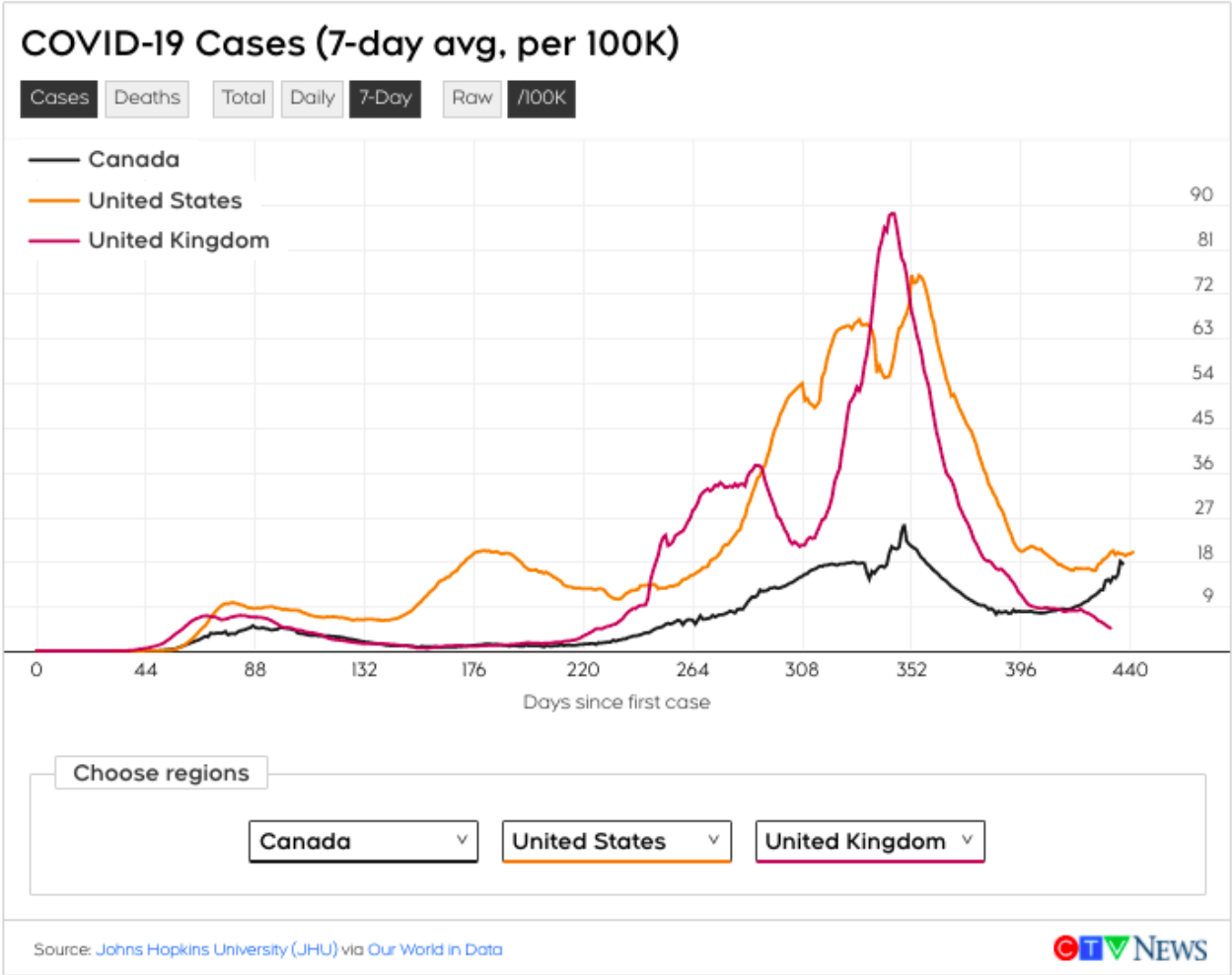
Cases Deaths Total Daily 7-Day Raw /100K

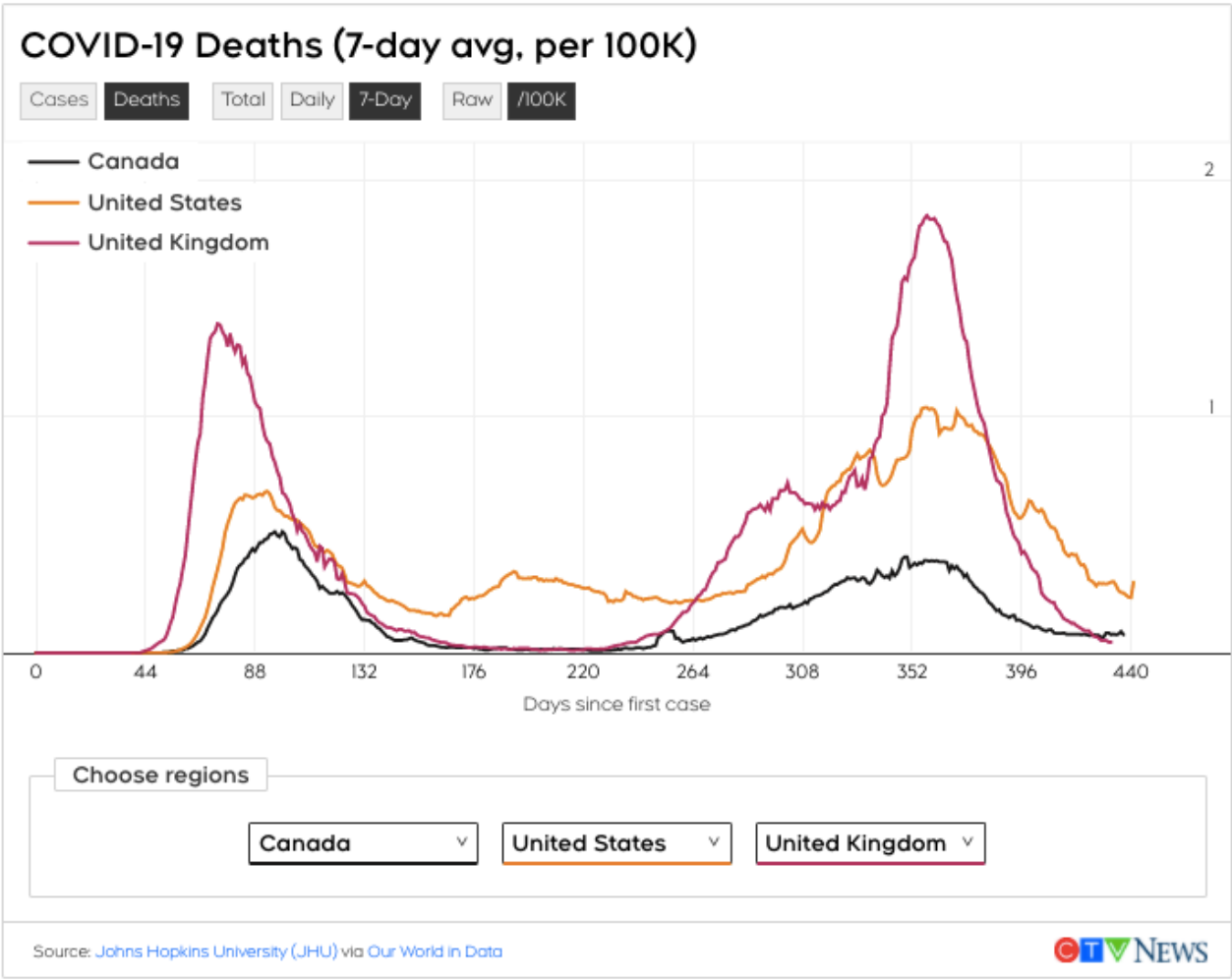
— World

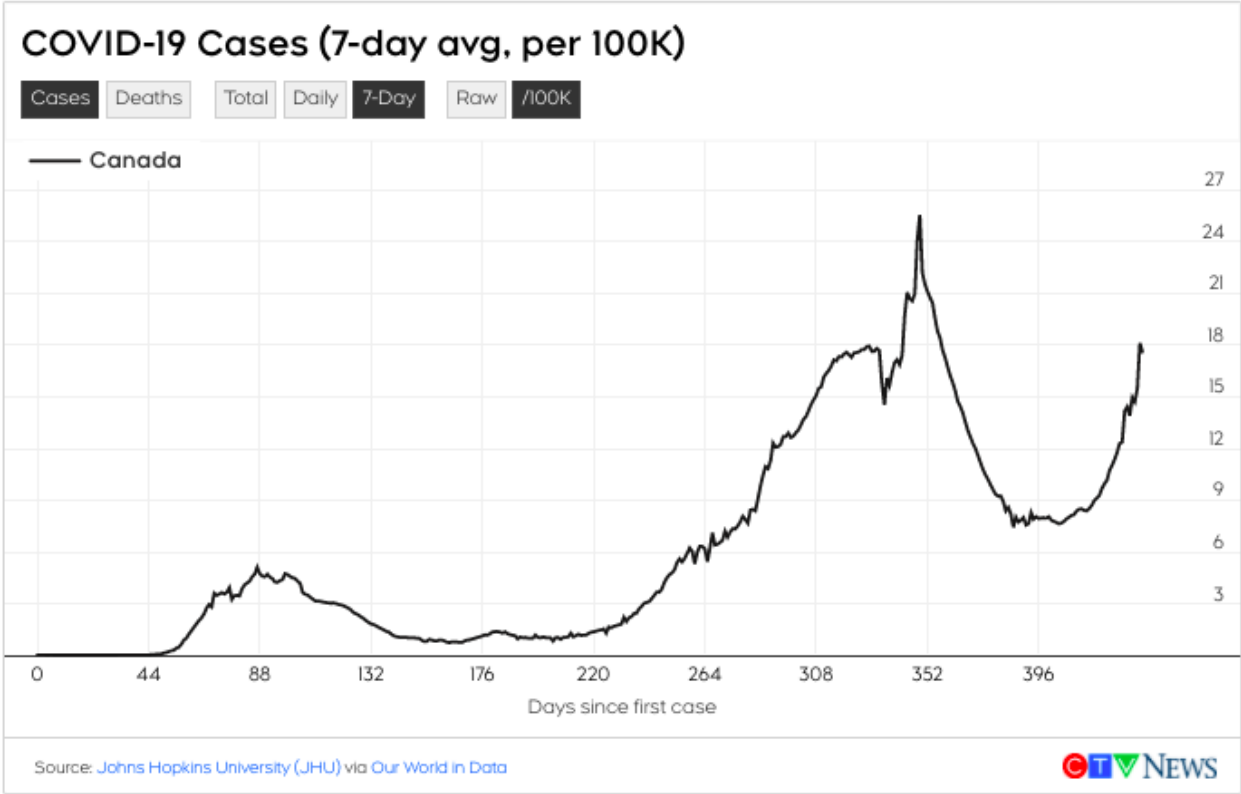


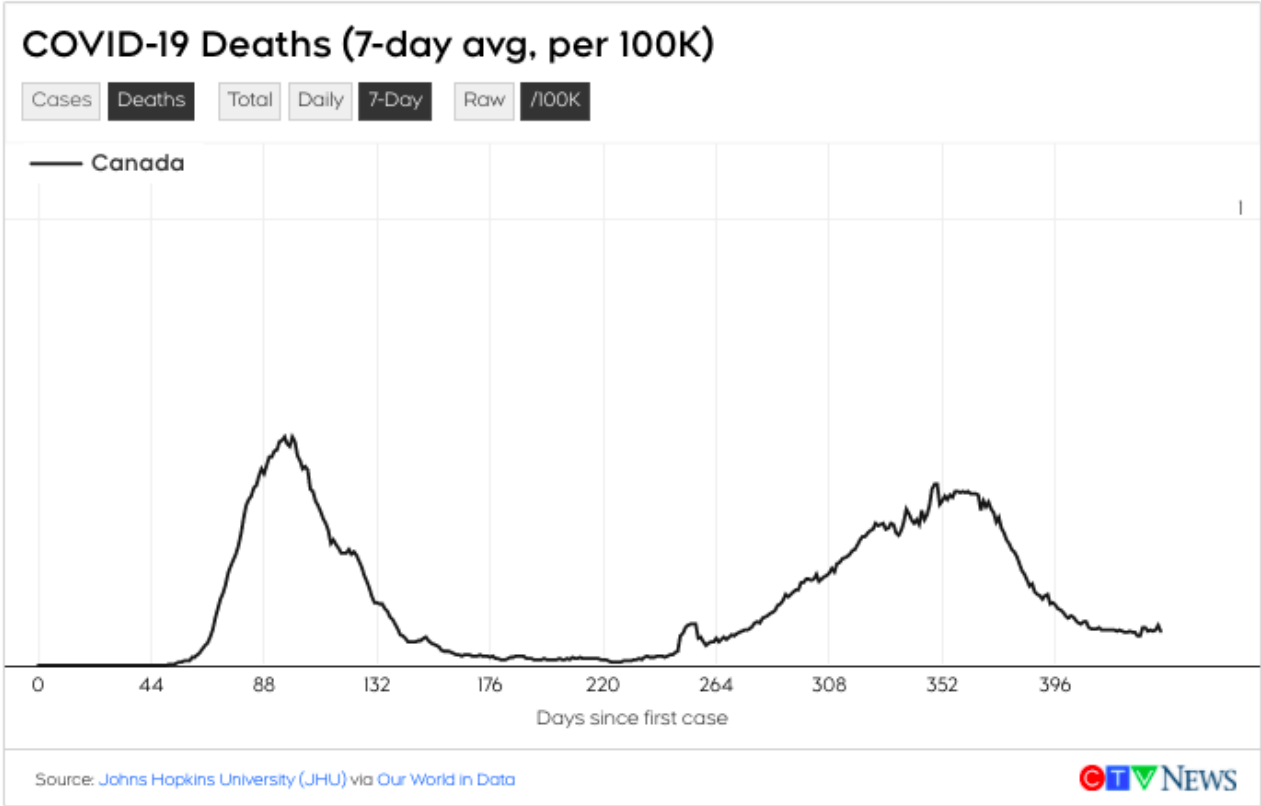
Source: [Johns Hopkins University \(JHU\)](#) via [Our World in Data](#)

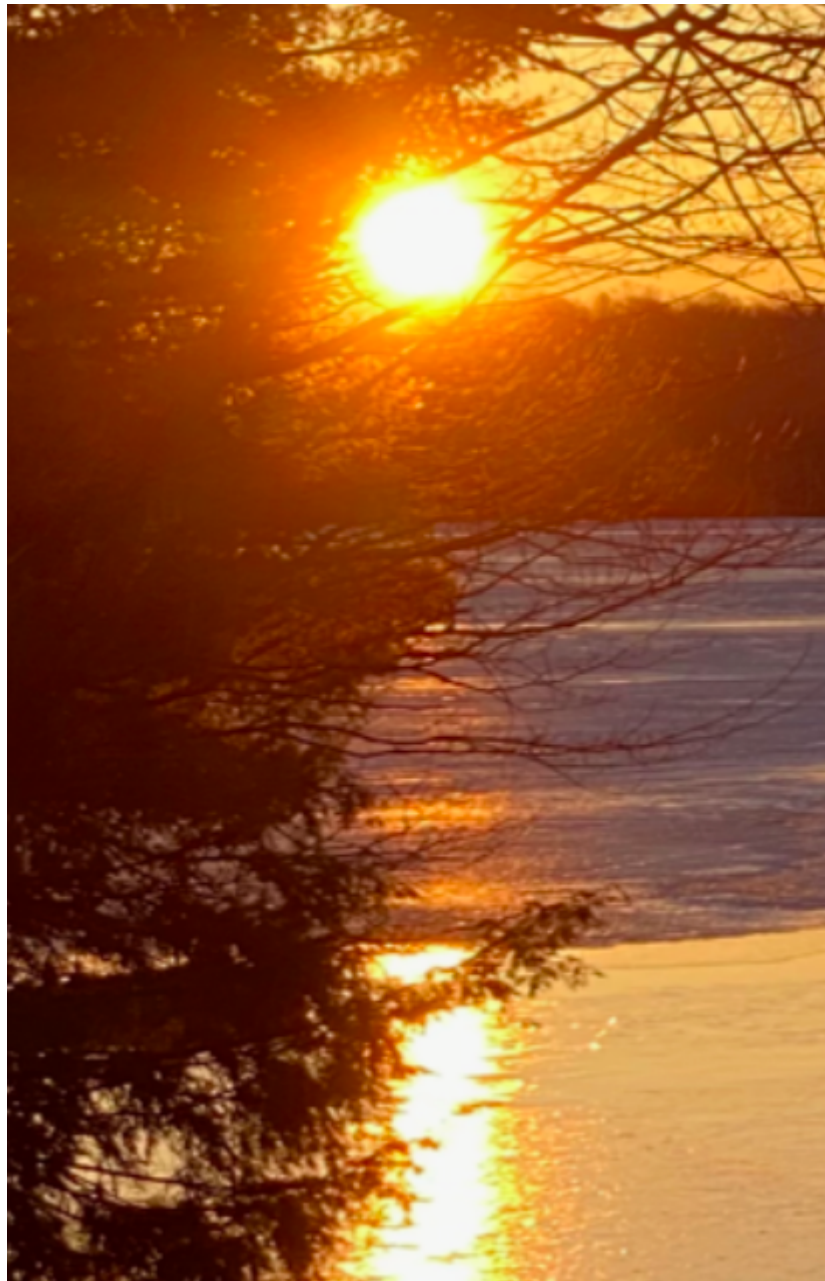
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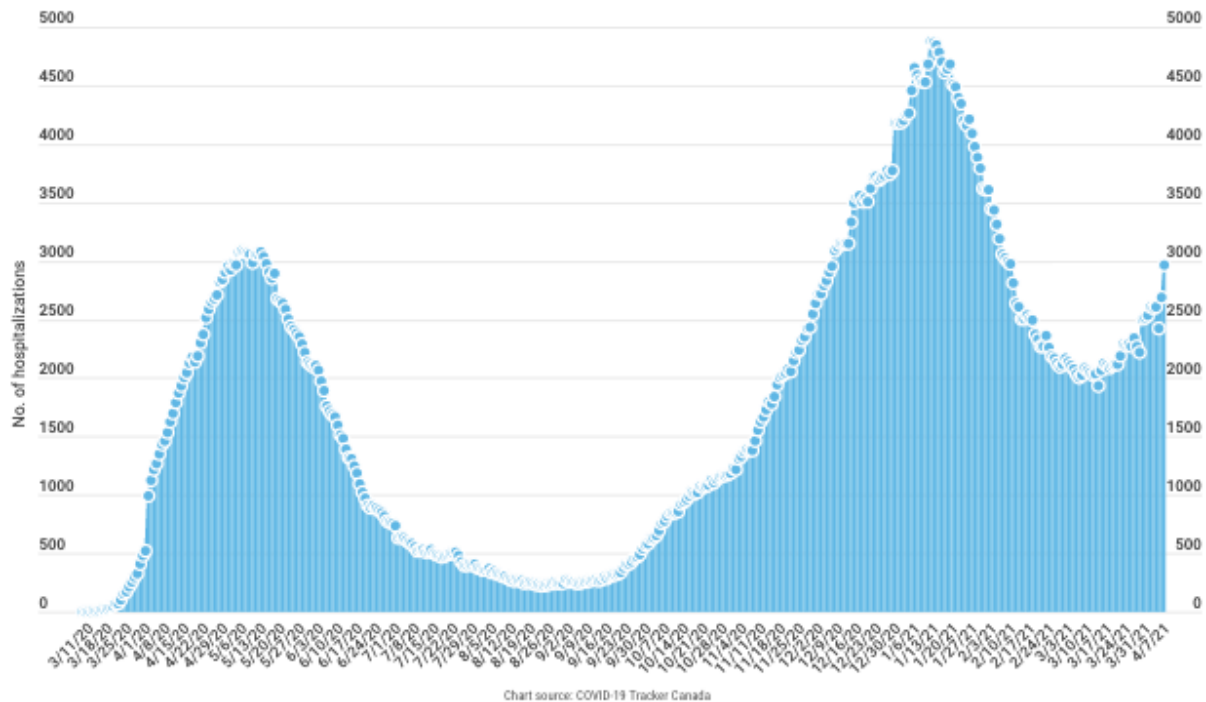






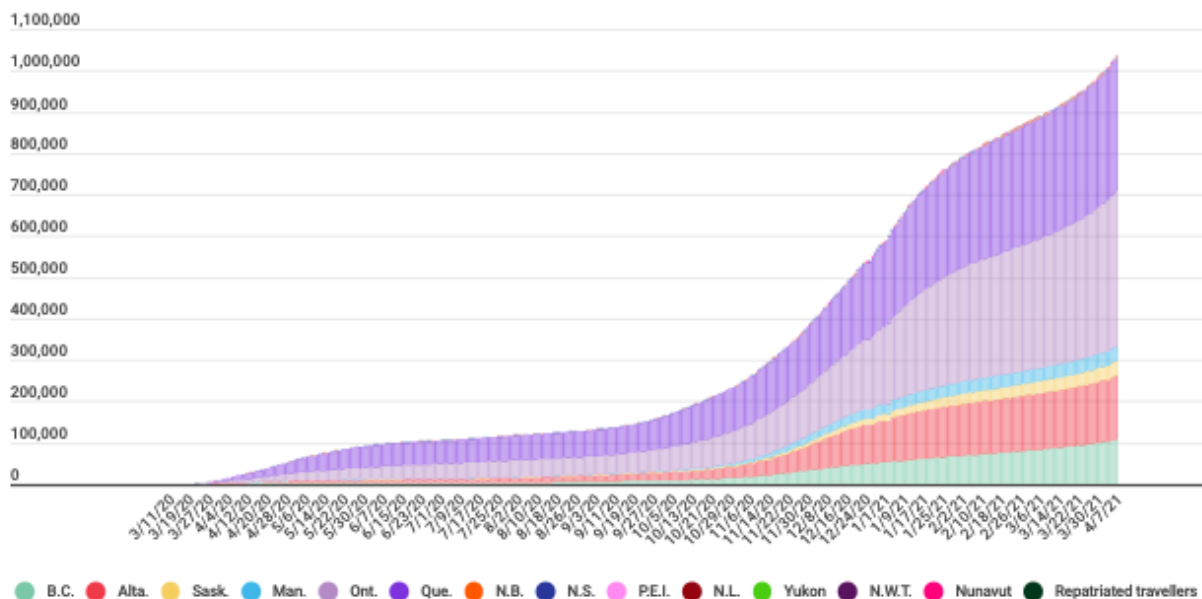
Source of Canadian Data Below (April 8, 2021):
<https://www.macleans.ca/society/health/covid-19-in-canada-how-our-battle-against-the-second-wave-is-going/>

COVID-19 hospitalizations in Canada



COVID-19 cases in Canada

Cumulative total, starting with day of 100th case



Note: Data in the charts last updated on April 8 at 7 a.m. EDT.

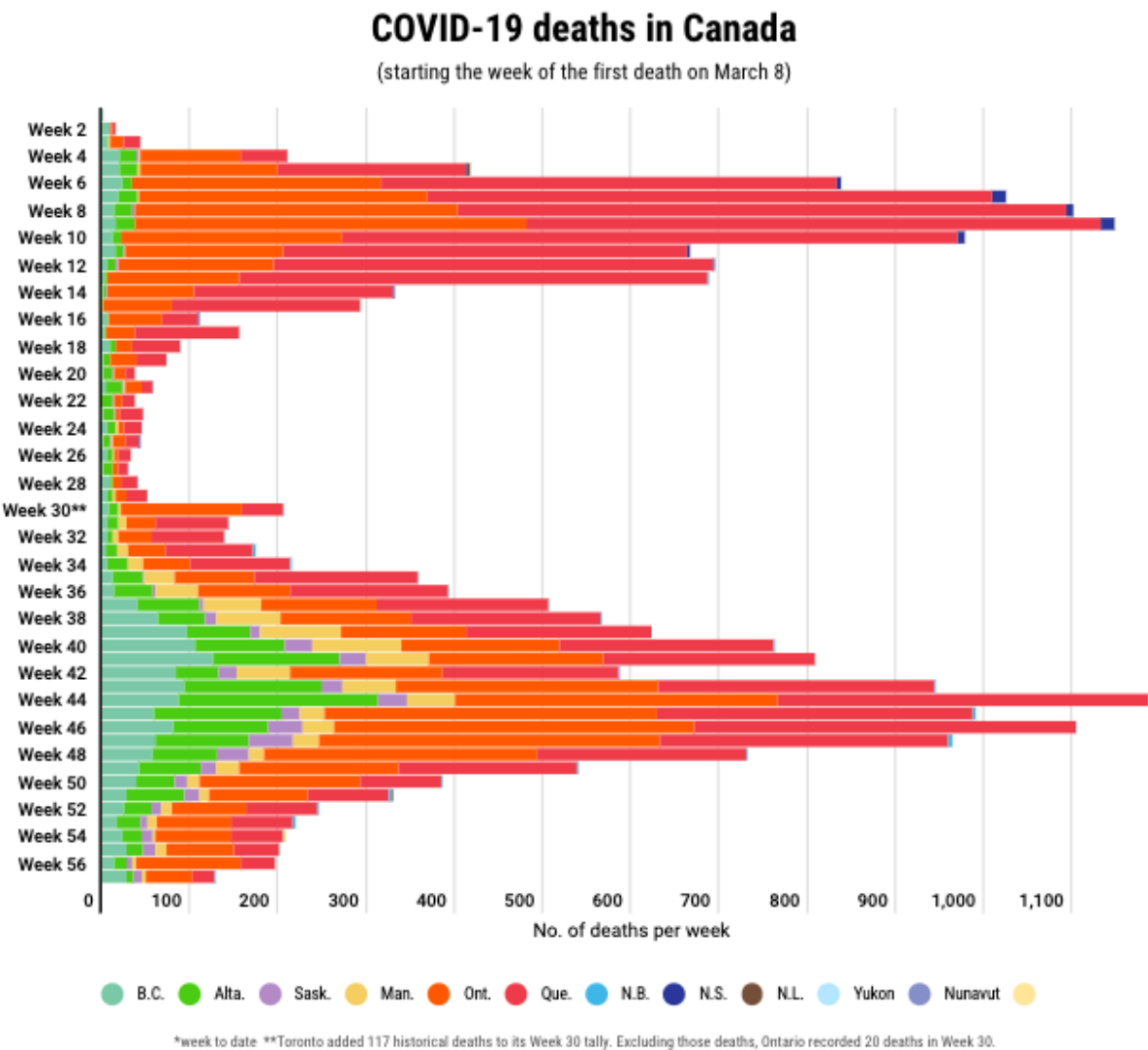




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