

## COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic, also known as the coronavirus pandemic, is an ongoing pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). It was first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, China. The World Health Organization declared the outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in January 2020 and a pandemic in March 2020. It is one of the deadliest pandemics in history.

Symptoms of COVID-19 are highly variable, ranging from none to life-threatening illness. The virus spreads mainly through the air when people are near each other. It leaves an infected person as they breathe, cough, sneeze, or speak and enters another person via their mouth, nose, or eyes. It may also spread via contaminated surfaces. People remain infectious for up to two weeks, and can spread the virus even if they do not show symptoms.

Recommended preventive measures include social distancing, wearing face masks in public, ventilation and air-filtering, hand washing, covering one's mouth when sneezing or coughing, disinfecting surfaces, and monitoring and self-isolation for people exposed or symptomatic. Several vaccines are being developed and distributed. Current treatments focus on addressing symptoms while work is underway to develop therapeutic drugs that inhibit the virus. Authorities worldwide have responded by implementing travel restrictions, lockdowns, workplace hazard controls, and facility closures. Many places have also worked to increase testing capacity and trace contacts of the infected.

The responses to the pandemic have resulted in significant global social and economic disruption, including the largest global recession since the Great Depression. It has led to the postponement or cancellation of events, widespread supply shortages exacerbated by panic buying, agricultural disruption and food shortages, and decreased emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases. Many educational institutions and public areas have been partially or fully closed. Misinformation has circulated through social media and mass media. The pandemic has raised issues of racial and geographic discrimination, health equity, and the balance between public health imperatives and individual rights.

(edited from Wikipedia)

### USEFUL VOCABULARY

Primary symptoms include: fever, dry cough (*toux sèche*), shortness of breath (*difficultés respiratoires*), fatigue (*épuisement ≠ lassitude*).

An ongoing pandemic ( <i>une pandémie en cours</i> )	Workplace hazard controls ( <i>contrôle des risques/dangers liés au lieu de travail</i> )
Severe acute respiratory syndrome ( <i>syndrome respiratoire aigu sévère - SRAS</i> )	Facility closures ( <i>fermeture d'établissements (proposant un service)</i> )
Outbreak ( <i>épidémie</i> )	Postponement ( <i>report/renvoi à une date ultérieure/ajournement</i> )
Sneeze ( <i>éternuer</i> )	Supply shortages ( <i>manque/pénurie de ressources/provisions</i> )
Spread the virus ( <i>propager le virus</i> )	Panic buying ( <i>achats dictés par la panique ≠ fièvre acheteuse/oniomanie</i> )
Social distancing ( <i>distanciation sociale</i> )	Agricultural disruption ( <i>crise dans le monde agricole</i> )
Monitoring ( <i>surveillance</i> )	Public health imperatives ( <i>des mesures/enjeux qui relèvent de la santé publique</i> )
Self-isolation ( <i>confinement d'une personne/mise en quarantaine</i> )	
Implementing travel restrictions ( <i>Mise en place d'une limitation des déplacements</i> )	
Lockdown ( <i>confinement au niveau d'un pays</i> )	

### USEFUL DATA (06th March 2021)



#### United Kingdom

Total cases

4.21M

Deaths

124K



### United States

Total cases

28.9M

Deaths

523K



### Worldwide

Total cases

116M

Recovered

65.6M

Deaths

2.58M

**WORST PANDEMIC OUTBREAKS IN THE USA:** <https://www.healthline.com/health/worst-disease-outbreaks-history>

1633-1634: Smallpox from European settlers 1793: Yellow fever from the Caribbean 1832-1866: Cholera (in three waves) 1858: Scarlet fever also came in waves 1906-1907: "Typhoid Mary"	1918: H1N1 flu 1921-1925: Diphtheria epidemic 1916-1955: The peak of polio 1957: H2N2 flu 1981-1991: Second measles outbreak	1993: Contaminated water in Milwaukee 2009: H1N1 flu 2010, 2014: Whooping cough 1980s to present: HIV and AIDS 2020: COVID-19
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### TIMELINES:

<https://www.ajmc.com/view/a-timeline-of-covid19-developments-in-2020> (US)

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/ng-interactive/2020/dec/16/covid-chaos-a-timeline-of-the-uks-handling-of-the-coronavirus-crisis> (UK)

<https://www.nytimes.com/article/coronavirus-timeline.html> (Global assessment)

### MEDIA (INTERESTING READS):



Reviewing 2020: <https://www.pewresearch.org/2021/03/05/a-year-of-u-s-public-opinion-on-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

What's coming up in 2021? <https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/12/pandemic-year-two/617528/>

Dire situation for US citizens: <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/jan/12/health-insurance-food-americans-face-difficult-choices-amid-pandemic>

Health insurance (Trump's failure against COVID 19): <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/13/us/politics/coronavirus-health-insurance-trump.html>

Obamacare redux? <https://theconversation.com/public-option-in-biden-plan-could-change-the-face-of-us-health-care-153816>



Will the UK's love for the NHS survive the pandemic? <https://www.ft.com/content/48c19480-dca5-4423-bb97-cec97c6e0349>

New variant, new crisis: <https://time.com/5929246/uk-coronavirus-third-wave/>

Boris Johnson's plan to end restrictions: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-56158405>

A global treaty? <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-britain-johnson-ch-idUSKBN2AF10X>