

How many cases of COVID-19 have been reported?

As of Apr. 27, there were more than 148,018,784 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide and more than 3,123,782 deaths.

What is the status of COVID-19 vaccines?

The US CDC and FDA lifted their pause on the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine on Apr. 23, recommending that the vaccine resume administration after deeming it safe and effective for use. The vaccine was paused earlier this month after a rare blood clotting disorder—thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS)—was reported in six women aged 18-49 following vaccination. Though the CDC & FDA recommended that the vaccine carry an additional warning about possible TTS development, some clinicians have gone a step further, stating women under 50 should seek out other vaccines—such as Pfizer BioNTech and Moderna—first, while using J&J as an alternative. Both Chinese-produced vaccines, Sinopharm and Sinovac, are up for final review in the WHO’s vaccination approval process on Apr. 26 and May 3, respectively. If approved, the vaccines would become the first non-Western developed vaccines to receive the designation, joining J&J, Pfizer BioNTech, and AstraZeneca.

How have new virus variants changed the threat landscape?

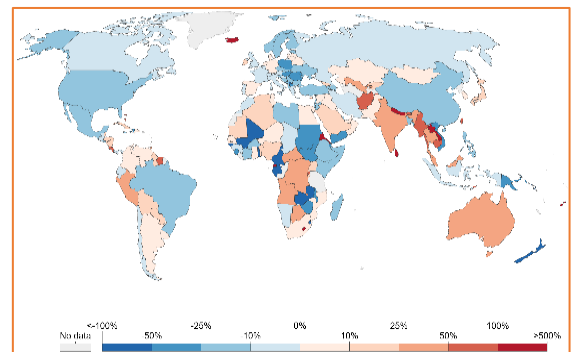
Experts are concerned as the double-mutated variant (B.1.617) continues to spread through India and is blamed for the surge of case numbers and deaths in the country. Currently, there is not enough data to suggest if the double mutation is more infectious or deadly than other strains of the virus; fortunately, current vaccines on the market appear to be effective against the strain. So far, the variant has been found in at least 20 other countries—including Australia, Germany, New Zealand, Singapore, the UK, and the US—and has been deemed a “variant of interest” by the WHO.

Significant Travel Developments

- **Countries ban flights from India** – Following a second surge in cases across India, several countries—including the UK, some European nations, Australia, and Canada—have begun restricting arrivals from India, reserving entry for limited exceptions only. More countries will likely follow suit in the near term as the country confronts a rapidly deteriorating COVID-19 crisis.
- **EU expected to reopen to vaccinated travelers this summer** – In an announcement, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen stated that she expects all 27 bloc nations will begin accepting vaccinated foreign travelers this summer. Though many details, including an exact reopening date and process for proving vaccination, remain unclear, travelers will need to have been inoculated with an [EMA-approved vaccine](#) to be eligible to enter once travel resumes. Despite a bloc-wide reopening, individual member nations will most likely continue to impose their own rules and restrictions on international travelers entering the country from outside the EU.

Country	Daily New Cases (7-day avg.)	Total Cases	Total Deaths
India	330,744	17,636,307	197,894
Brazil	56,532	14,369,423	391,936
US	55,272	32,126,653	572,715
Turkey	49,097	4,667,281	38,711
France	29,693	5,565,081	103,415
Argentina	23,600	2,879,677	62,087
Iran	22,256	2,438,193	70,532
Germany	20,788	3,316,939	82,039
Colombia	17,166	2,787,303	71,799
Italy	13,160	2,704,571	119,539
Ukraine	11,169	3,971,114	44,763
Poland	9,570	2,768,034	65,897
Philippines	8,669	1,013,618	16,916
Peru	8,587	1,768,186	60,013
Spain	8,587	3,488,469	77,738
Russia	8,544	4,725,252	107,167
Netherlands	8,119	1,497,774	17,326
Canada	8,033	1,195,827	24,011
Iraq	7,558	1,045,010	15,348

Countries Averaging >7,000 New COVID-19 Cases Daily
(Source: JHU & European CDC/Our World in Data)



Week-by-Week Change in Confirmed COVID-19 Cases
(Source: European CDC/Our World in Data)

