



Facts about Covid-19

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Fully referenced facts about covid-19, provided by experts in the field, to help our readers make a realistic risk assessment. (Regular updates below).

“The only means to fight the plague is honesty.” (Albert Camus, 1947)

Overview

1. **Lethality:** According to the latest immunological studies, the overall infection fatality rate (IFR) of covid-19 in the general population is [about 0.1% to 0.5%](#) in most countries, which is most closely comparable to the medium influenza pandemics of 1957 and 1968.
2. **Treatment:** For people at high risk or high exposure, [early or prophylactic treatment](#) is essential to prevent progression of the disease. According to numerous international studies, early outpatient treatment of covid may reduce hospitalizations and deaths [by about 75%](#).

3. **Age profile:** The median age of covid deaths is **over 80 years** in most Western countries (but 78 in the US) and **about 5%** of the deceased had no serious preconditions. The age and risk profile of covid mortality is therefore **comparable to normal mortality**, but increases it proportionally.
4. **Nursing homes:** In many Western countries, **up to two thirds** of all covid deaths have occurred in nursing homes, which require targeted and humane protection. In some cases, care home residents died **not from the coronavirus**, but from weeks of **stress and isolation**.
5. **Excess mortality:** In most Western countries, the pandemic increased mortality by **5% to 15%** in 2020. Up to 30% of the additional deaths were caused **not by covid**, but by indirect effects of the pandemic and lockdowns (e.g. **fewer treatments** of cancer and heart attack patients).
6. **Antibodies:** By the end of 2020, antibody seroprevalence was **between 10% and 30%** of the population in most Western countries. At seroprevalence levels above 30%, a **significant decrease** in the infection rate was observed in many regions.
7. **Symptoms:** Up to 40% of all infected persons **show no symptoms**. Overall, **about 95%** of all people develop at most mild or moderate symptoms and do not require hospitalization. Early outpatient treatment may **significantly reduce** hospitalizations.
8. **Long covid:** About 10% of symptomatic people experience **post-acute or long covid**, i.e. symptoms or exhaustion that may last for several weeks or months. Long covid also affects younger and previously healthy people whose initial coronavirus disease was rather mild.
9. **Transmission:** According to current knowledge, the main routes of transmission of the virus are **indoor aerosols** and droplets produced when speaking or coughing, while outdoor aerosols as well as most object surfaces appear to play **a minor role**. The coronavirus season in the northern hemisphere lasts from about **November to April**.
10. **Masks:** There is still **little to no scientific evidence** for the effectiveness of cloth face masks in the general population, and the introduction of mandatory masks **couldn't contain** or slow the epidemic in most countries. If used improperly, masks **may increase** the risk of infection.
11. **Children and schools:** In contrast to influenza, the risk of disease and transmission in children is **rather low** in the case of covid. There was and is therefore **no medical**

reason for the closure of elementary schools or other measures specifically aimed at children.

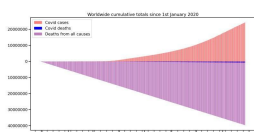
12. **Contact tracing:** A WHO study of 2019 on measures against influenza pandemics concluded that from a medical perspective, contact tracing is “**not recommended in any circumstances**”. Contact tracing apps on cell phones have also **proven ineffective** in most countries.
13. **PCR tests:** The virus test kits used internationally may in some cases **produce false positive** or false negative results or react to **non-infectious virus fragments** from a previous infection. In this regard, the so-called **cycle threshold or ct value** is an important parameter.
14. **Virus mutations:** Similar to influenza viruses, mutations occur frequently in coronaviruses. Most of these mutations are insignificant, but some of them **may increase** the transmissibility, virulence or immune evasion of the virus to some extent.
15. **Lockdowns:** In contrast to **early border controls**, lockdowns have had **no significant effect** on the pandemic. According to the UN, lockdowns may put the livelihood of **1.6 billion people** at acute risk and may push an additional **150 million children** into poverty.
16. **Sweden:** In Sweden, covid mortality in 2020, without a lockdown, was comparable to a **strong influenza season** and close to the **EU average**. About 60% of Swedish deaths **occurred in** nursing facilities and the **median age** of Swedish covid deaths was about 84 years.
17. **Vaccines:** Clinical trials showed that covid vaccines offer **good protection** against covid. However, little is yet known about their long-term **safety and effectiveness**. In some rare cases, sudden deaths or serious adverse events **have been reported** after covid vaccinations.
18. **Media:** The reporting of many media **has been unprofessional**, has increased fear and panic in the population and has led to a **hundredfold overestimation** of the lethality of covid. Some media even used **manipulative pictures** and videos to dramatize the situation.
19. **Virus origin:** The origin of the new coronavirus remains unknown, but the best evidence currently points to a covid-like **pneumonia incident in a Chinese mine** in 2012, whose virus samples were collected, stored and researched by the Virology Institute in Wuhan (WIV).

20. **Surveillance:** NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden warned that the coronavirus pandemic may be used to **expand global surveillance**. Many governments restricted fundamental rights, used **drone monitoring**, and announced plans to introduce digital **biometric vaccine passports**.

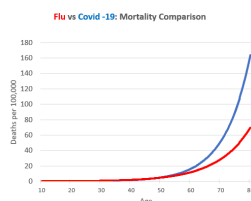
See also

1. On the treatment of Covid-19
2. Studies on Covid-19 lethality
3. The evidence on face masks
4. On post-acute (“long”) Covid
5. On the origin of SARS-CoV-2

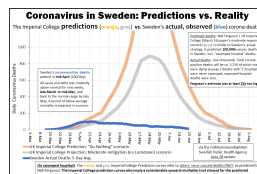
Overview diagrams



Global covid deaths and cases vs. global all-cause deaths



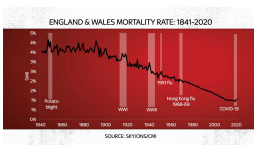
Flu vs. Covid mortality by age (CDC)



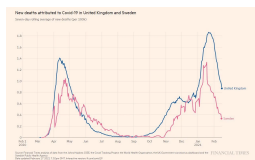
Sweden: Predicted vs. actual deaths



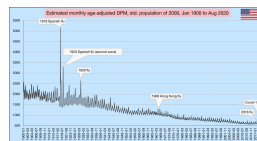
Sweden: Mortality since 1835



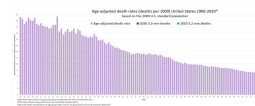
UK: Age-adjusted mortality since 1842



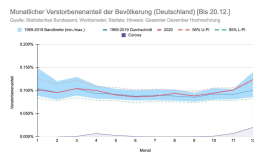
UK vs. Sweden



US: Monthly age-adjusted mortality



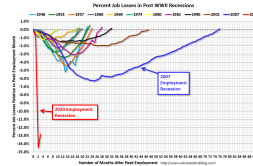
US: Yearly age-adjusted mortality



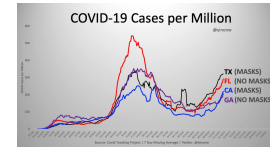
**German mortality
(1969-2020)**



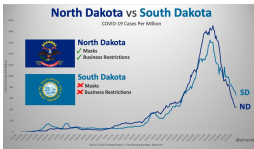
**Percentage of
care home deaths**



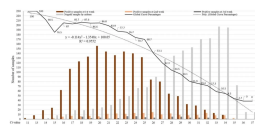
**US recessions in
comparison**



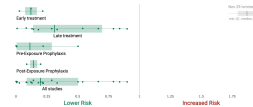
Masks and Cases



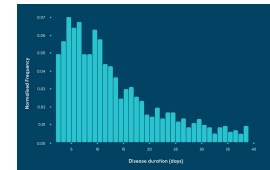
**North Dakota vs.
South Dakota**



**PCR tests:
Sensitivity vs.
Infectiousness**



**Ivermectin
against covid-19**



**Covid symptoms
duration**

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- [Why the flu has disappeared](#) (February 2021)
- [Lockdowns in China in 2021](#) (February 2021)
- [Coronavirus Mutations Update](#) (February 2021)
- [Covid and Kids: The Evidence](#) (February 2021)
- [The Zero Covid Countries](#) (December 2020)
- [Why Covid-19 is a “strange pandemic”](#) (September 2020)
- [Great Barrington Declaration vs John Snow Memorandum](#) (Dec.)
- [Covid: The Big Picture in 7 Charts](#) (October 2020)
- [Covid: The Illusion of Control](#) (January 2021)

Masks

- [Danish Mask Study: No Benefit](#) (November 2020)
- [On the Suppressed Danish Mask Study](#) (October 2020)
- [WHO Mask Study Seriously Flawed](#) (September 2020)

Vaccines

- [The ‘Vaccine Passport’ Agenda](#) (February 2021)
- [Covid RNA Vaccines: More than 1000 Deaths](#) (Feb. 2021)
- [Can Covid Vaccinations Drive Covid Deaths?](#) (Feb. 2021)
- [Vaccines: Successes and Controversies](#) (December 2020)

Early Treatment

- [The fight against Ivermectin has begun](#) (February 2021)
- [Ivermectin: WHO review indicates effectiveness](#) (Jan. 2021)
- [Why Ivermectin works, and where to buy it](#) (January 2021)
- [Remdesivir: An Epidemic Failure](#) (October 2020)
- [The fight against HCQ](#) (December 2020)

Country profiles

- [Singapore](#): Low case numbers due to early border controls
- [Switzerland](#): Still without lockdown, mortality comparable to very strong flu wave
- [Germany](#): No excess mortality in 2020, but low antibody seroprevalence
- [Belgium](#): Highest Covid mortality in the world and historic comparison
- [Sweden](#): No lockdown, no masks, mortality comparable to strong flu wave.
- [Japan](#): No lockdown, but by far lowest mortality among G8 countries.
- [Australia and New Zealand](#): Last Western countries following a zero-covid strategy
- [Africa and Latin America](#): Lowest and highest covid mortality in the world.
- [Belarus](#): Low covid mortality despite no lockdown, but unique demographics.
- [Italy](#): Significant differences between northern and southern Italy.
- [Nembro \(Italy\)](#): The hardest hit place in Europe. What happened?

Other

- [What about a third wave?](#) (February 2021)
- [New Antibody Data from the US and Sweden](#) (November 2020)
- [SARS-2 in Italy in August 2019? Very unlikely.](#) (November 2020)
- [The Irish Lockdown Illusion](#) (December 2020)

- [Covid-19: Some Good News](#) (December 2020)

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