

COVID-19 Country Timelines

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During the drastic times of COVID-19, it's important to keep track of important events that have occurred. This report briefly summarizes various government responses and other happenings, up until August 15, in ten of the most affected countries in the world. These summaries and timelines of major events and policy changes will allow readers to have a broader understanding of the pandemic and government reactions.

Canada is a country that responded to the coronavirus crisis relatively quickly. With various government policies ranging from response plans to government funding, cases have not shot up as quickly as its downstairs neighbour, the United States. However, although the number of active cases per day has decreased steadily, the fight is not over yet.



Dec 31, 2019 (0 cases) - Cluster of cases of pneumonia in Wuhan reported by the Wuhan Health Commission. No response from Canada.

Jan 15, 2020 (0 cases) - The Public Health Agency of Canada activated its Health Portfolio Operations Centre (HPOC) and triggered health response plans after monitoring the situation in China. The HPOC is a plan that helps coordinate government response while facilitating communication regarding health. It works in collaboration with international, federal, provincial, and territorial partners. The health response plans activated are targeted towards public health events that are biological and are severe enough to require a response from the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial health sector. It focuses on implementing responses that range from incident management to outbreak prevention.

January 17, 2020 (0 cases) - Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) indicates that they will be taking measures at major airports to screen for potential illness as well as broadcasting messages to raise awareness of the virus. These measures include adding health screening questions to electronic kiosks and posting messages that remind passengers to inform officials if they are experiencing flu-like symptoms. They note that the risk to Canadians is low overall, due to the low traffic between Wuhan and Canada.

Jan 25, 2020 (1 case) - The first case of COVID-19 in Canada is a man in his 50s who arrived in Toronto from Wuhan, China.

Feb 06, 2020 (8 cases) - Dr. David Williams, Ontario's public health chief, announces that they will begin testing travellers from other regions in China outside of Hubei province that may be experiencing symptoms, and reacting accordingly.

March 04, 2020 (34 cases) - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau forms the Cabinet Committee on the Federal Response to the Coronavirus Disease, chaired by deputy prime minister Chrystia Freeland. The purpose of the committee is to ensure coordination in the government's response to the virus. It will meet regularly to monitor impacts of the virus and to coordinate a response.

March 06, 2020 (54 cases) - Patty Hajdu, the federal Minister of Health, announced that \$27 million will be allocated towards 47 research groups at 19 universities towards finding solutions for the pandemic, such as ways to diagnose the virus more effectively. Finance Minister Bill Morneau also says that the government plans to implement support measures to support Canadians in the next federal budget.

March 11, 2020 (110 cases) - Prime Minister Trudeau announces a \$1 billion COVID-19 response plan, which includes funding for provinces and territories, research and international aid.

March 13, 2020 (198 cases) - Parliament unanimously decides to suspend for five weeks due to COVID-19. On the same day, the Bank of Canada lowers its overnight rate target by 50 basis points, to 0.75 percent.

March 16, 2020 (441 cases)- Canada announces that it is closing its border to all foreign nationals. Exceptions include Americans that are family members, essential employees and those who are transferring goods.

March 18, 2020 (727 cases) - An interim order that allows quicker access to COVID-19 related medical devices for healthcare providers (such as test kits and masks) is issued. On the same day, regulations maintaining the safety of people in ports and the seaway are implemented, limiting the amount of people arriving in ports and travelling in the seaway to slow the spread of the virus.

March 20, 2020 (1,087 cases) - The Federal government announces a plan to “mobilize” the industry to produce medical supplies needed to handle the pandemic. This plan will help companies who are already distributing medical goods scale up their production, and provide support to future businesses.

March 21, 2020 (1,328 cases) - The US-Canada border is officially closed to non-essential travel.

March 22, 2020 (1,470 cases) - All provinces and territories in Canada have declared either a state of emergency or a public health emergency. This gives the governments of each area special power.

March 23, 2020 (2,091 cases) - Prime Minister Trudeau announces a \$5 billion program for producers, food processors and agribusinesses, as well as to Farm Credit Canada, stating that "it is more important than ever" to make sure farmers and food businesses are supported during this difficult time.

March 24, 2020 (2,792 cases) - Chief Public Health Officer of Canada Theresa Tam is quoted as saying "most people haven't learned how to use masks" and "there is no need to use a mask for well people." On the same day, a small number of MPs meet to discuss an \$82 billion emergency spending legislation, titled Bill C-13. The discussion is delayed due to clause 2, written in by the federal government, which enables the Finance Minister to spend money and raise taxes without Parliament's approval until December 31, 2021. After criticism towards the minority government's "power grab", a revised bill is approved the next day (without clause 2) which would give the government six months of special spending powers until September 30, 2020, with a Parliamentary committee overseeing everything.

March 25, 2020 (3,409 cases) - The COVID-19 Emergency Response Act is passed. The table of contents includes amendments to several acts like the Food and Drugs Act and Canada Labour Code. It's also announced that the government will be fining returning travellers that break the 14 day quarantine.

March 27, 2020 (4,757 cases) - The Bank of Canada lowers rates once again, this time to 0.25 percent - crisis level low.

March 30, 2020 (7,448 cases) - Individuals exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will no longer be allowed to travel domestically through planes or trains. Railway officials must screen passengers by asking them health questions, and must deny boarding to those who show symptoms.

March 31, 2020 (8,612 cases) - Interim order amending the Employment Insurance Act is issued. Due to the overwhelming amount of applicants, this order simplifies the program and also provides for a new Emergency Response Benefit. As well, income support payment amount regulations are put in place. These fix the income support payment amount at \$500 weekly, and allow individuals that are unemployed due to COVID-19 to be supported.

April 09, 2020 (20,765 cases) - Premiers unanimously reject the need to invoke the Emergencies Act, which would authorize special temporary measures to ensure safety during national emergencies (it has never been implemented). Prime Minister Trudeau emphasizes that it is a last resort.

April 11, 2020 (23,318 cases) - COVID-19 Emergency Response Act, No. 2 is passed. Its main purpose is to amend the Income Tax Act and Financial Administration Act. By doing so, it introduces an emergency wage subsidy in response to the pandemic. On the same day, regulations amending the Contraventions Regulation and the Application of Provincial Laws are made.

April 12, 2020 (24,383 cases) - Health Canada approves new rapid test kits for COVID-19 which can produce results within an hour. These are from the Ottawa based company Spartan Bioscience, and the company has contracts to produce tests for several levels of government.

April 15, 2020 (28,379 cases) - Two interim orders are passed - one to expand eligibility for Emergency Response Benefits to EI claimants and one that clarifies eligibility rules for EI. As well, the Income Support Payment regulation is issued. This gives workers who are not able to work due to COVID-19 up to \$1000 over four weeks, while allowing them to be potentially eligible for other benefits as well.

April 20, 2020 (36,829 cases) - Parliament's five week suspension expires, and it votes 22-15 (over the objections of the Conservative party) in favour of meeting once a week for as long as COVID-19 poses a big risk. On the same day, it is officially mandatory to wear non-medical face masks while arriving or departing at a Canadian airport. Those who fail to comply "not be allowed to continue on their journey."

April 21, 2020 (38,422 cases) - Prime Minister Trudeau announces a \$350 million emergency community support fund. These funds are meant to go towards national charities and community groups that are struggling due to the pandemic.

May 01, 2020 (55,061 cases) - The Canada Emergency Student Benefit Act, or Bill C-15, is granted royal assent. This authorizes emergency payment to be given out to students who have lost work or job opportunities due to the pandemic.

May 07, 2020 (64,922 cases) - Canada passes the 1 million test mark.

May 13, 2020 (72,278 cases) - A \$962 million Regional Relief and Recovery Fund is announced by Prime Minister Trudeau. This will assist businesses that did not qualify for previous subsidies and help keep smaller businesses afloat.

May 15, 2020 (74,613 cases) - The government extends the Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy by an extra 12 weeks, to August 29. This helps workers and businesses get the support that they need and position Canada for economic recovery.

May 20, 2020 (80,142 cases) - Theresa Tam reverses her stance on masks from late March and recommends that people wear non-medical face masks in public when they aren't sure if they can keep sufficient distance from others.

May 23, 2020 (83,621 cases) - Karina Gould, Minister of International Development, announces that the government is contributing \$600 million to GAVI, "a vaccine alliance that improves vaccine access for vulnerable children around the world." On the same day, Health Canada authorizes the first serological test for use in the country - the LIAISON test. Its purpose is to analyze antibodies in the blood and look for ones specific to the virus.

June 01, 2020 (91,705 cases) - A Ministerial Order is issued which requires railways to implement mandatory COVID-19 checking and tests, and to refuse to board passengers with symptoms.

June 12, 2020 (97,943 cases) - Transport Canada states that temperature checks and screening for fever will be mandatory for all air travel, starting at the end of June.

June 16, 2020 (99,467 cases)- Prime Minister Trudeau announces that the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, designed to help citizens whose jobs had been lost due to the pandemic, will be extended another eight weeks. If you are eligible, you can receive up to \$2,000 over the period of four weeks.

June 18, 2020 (100,220, cases) - Canada officially surpasses 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 30, 2020 (104,204 cases) - An interim order is issued to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. It applies to passenger vessels and ferry vessels, and prevents ships with a capacity of over 100 people from operating in Canadian waters. Other vessels must either

carry no more than 50% of their total capacity, or implement measures to reduce transmission of COVID-19.

July 14, 2020 (108,486 cases) - Medicago, a Quebec based company, has begun human trials for a plant-based potential COVID-19 vaccine, where it administers small doses of the vaccine to 180 male and female subjects aged 18-55.

Italy was one of the countries hit the hardest at the beginning of the pandemic. However, with nationwide lockdowns, the government was able to turn things around, and daily new cases are at a new low. Despite not being as high on the list of most affected countries, its overall death total is steep compared to almost every country.



January 31, 2020 (2 cases) - Italy declares a state of emergency after two cases are confirmed in Rome (a Chinese couple originally from Wuhan, and the first two cases in Italy). As well, flights to and from China are halted. On the same day, Angelo Borrelli (head of the Civil Protection which deals with emergency events in Italy) is appointed as Special Commissioner for the COVID-19 emergency

February 22, 2020 (79 cases) - A new decree was announced, restricting movement and imposing quarantine on more than 50,000 people in Northern Italy municipalities. Penalties can be given out if these quarantines are violated. These rules focused on the most affected regions in Italy - Lombardy and Veneto.

March 01, 2020 (1,702 cases) - A system to organize the outbreak into sections is developed. There are three zones - a red zone (where everyone is in quarantine), a yellow zone (where events and schools are suspended), and the rest of the nation.

March 04, 2020 (3,092 cases) - Schools and universities are temporarily closed to deal with the outbreak.

March 09, 2020 (9,179 cases) - Lockdowns are effective nationwide. Restrictions include limits on travel, closing schools until at least April 3, halting jail visits and sports events and setting curfews. With Italy being one of the most affected countries worldwide, the lockdown's purpose was to attempt to slow the spread of the virus.

March 11, 2020 (12,469 cases) - All shops, bars and restaurants nationwide are ordered to close barring those that sell basic necessities such as pharmacies.

March 16, 2020 (27,997 cases) - An emergency decree (nicknamed the "Cure Italy Decree" by Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte) worth 25 billion euros (roughly 39 billion CAD) is put in place. The purpose of it is to help restore the economy, and it contains measures like temporarily suspending loan and mortgage payments and deferring tax payments and filings.

March 19, 2020 (41,054 cases) - The Army is sent to the city of Bergamo, one of the locations hit the hardest by the virus, due to the fact that there were too many deaths for local authorities to process. Their purpose is to transport the dead to crematoriums (as cemeteries were full) and to enforce the lockdown.

March 22, 2020 (59,153 cases) - Italy closes all non-essential factories and production that is not strictly necessary.

March 30, 2020 (101,710 cases) - Italy officially surpasses 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 08, 2020 (139,389 cases) - The "Liquidity Decree" is released. It introduces measures that are intended to help businesses during the pandemic, including loan guarantees and tax relief. On the same day, all Italian ports are closed until July 31.

April 26, 2020 (197,640 cases) - Prime Minister Conte outlines "Phase Two", which would start lifting lockdown measures across the country. Measures the plan plans to implement include partially reopening bars and restaurants, reopening most retail shops and allowing movement within people's own regions.

April 28, 2020 (201,470 cases) - Italy officially surpasses 200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 18, 2020 (225,859 cases) - Shops, tourist attractions, and venues are allowed to reopen.

May 19, 2020 (226,672 cases) - The "Relaunch Decree" is released. Its intended purposes range from supporting healthcare, boosting the economy and aiding social policies.

June 01, 2020 (233,179 cases) - Restaurants, bars and shops reopen.

June 15, 2020 (237,297 cases) - Cinemas and theatres reopen.

July 14, 2020 (243,365 cases) - Italy renews its coronavirus travel restrictions until July 31. These include suspensions of flights to countries like Brazil and Chile, as well as the closure of clubs and fairs. It also mandates the wearing of protective masks, and encourages citizens to keep a distance of 1 meter away from each other at all times.

Russia has a large amount of cases, as is evident by its ranking of fourth among the most affected countries. However, there is speculation on whether or not some of the numbers or dates (as well as information in general) listed here are accurate or not, due to the secrecy of the Russian government.



January 24, 2020 (0 cases) - The first testing systems are developed and sent to laboratories nationwide for usage.

January 31, 2020 (2 cases) - The first cases of COVID-19 in Russia are Chinese nationals - one in one in Tyumen, Tyumen Oblast, and another one in Chita, Zabaykalsky Krai. On the same day, Deputy Prime Minister Tatyana Golikova announces plans to restrict entry of foreigners arriving from China.

March 17, 2020 (114 cases) - Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin and his cabinet unveil plans to reduce the coronavirus' economic and social impact. Some measures include compensating quarantined citizens and creating an anti-crisis fund.

March 18, 2020 (147 cases) - Russian schools will take three weeks of vacation, from March 23 until April 12, Education Minister Sergei Kravtsov says.

March 19, 2020 (199 cases) - Russia's Chief Sanitary Doctor, Anna Popova, officially requires all travellers entering Russia to undergo a mandatory 14 day quarantine.

March 25, 2020 (658 cases) - President Vladimir Putin postpones the 2020 Russian constitutional referendum due to the outbreak.

March 27, 2020 (1,036 cases) - Russia halts all international flights both in and out of the country. As well, Moscow authorities urge citizens to refrain from travelling.

March 30, 2020 (1,836 cases) - Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin announces a citywide quarantine which will be enacted immediately. It will forbid residents from leaving their homes for any purposes other than medical care, work, walking pets, taking out garbage or necessities. Afterwards, Russia's second-largest city St. Petersburg also announces a quarantine.

March 31, 2020 (2,337 cases) - Fines for "fake news" on COVID-19 are introduced. Prison terms of up to five years and fines can be given to anyone who spreads what is deemed to be false information about the virus, which includes sharing opinions and rumours as well.

April 02, 2020 (3,548 cases) - Authorities in Moscow authorize a mandatory app which will monitor Moscow residents' movements. Also, residents are obligated to register for a QR

code issued by the government, which will need to be presented when requested by government officials.

April 06, 2020 (6,343 cases) - Russia will contribute \$1 million (1.3 million CAD) to the World Health Organization to help fight coronavirus, according to a government decree signed by Prime Minister Mishustin.

April 09, 2020 (10,131 cases) - Russia passes the 1 million test mark.

April 11, 2020 (13,584 cases) - Moscow Mayor Sobyanin signs a decree which mandates a digital pass system to enforce the lockdown. These passes are mandatory for residents to drive or travel around the city of Moscow, and over 1 million are issued on the first day.

April 15, 2020 (24,490 cases) - President Putin announces a package of measures to support Russia economically. Some of these include monthly payments to small businesses, funding towards airlines, and support for regional budgets.

April 24, 2020 (68,622 cases) - The Bank of Russia cuts the key rate by 50 bp to 5.50% per year.

April 27, 2020 (87,817 cases) - Russia passes the 3 million test mark.

April 29, 2020 (99,399 cases) - Prime Minister Mishustin announces that Russia has extended an entry ban for foreigners indefinitely. It was originally set to end May 1.

April 30, 2020 (106,498 cases) - Russia officially surpasses 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, Prime Minister Mishustin announces that he has tested positive for COVID-19.

May 01, 2020 (114,431 cases) - Moscow Mayor Sobyanin announces that Moscow is setting up temporary hospitals for treating coronavirus patients with a capacity of 10,000 beds.

May 10, 2020 (209,688 cases) - Russia officially surpasses 200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, Moscow extends its lockdown until May 31.

May 11, 2020 (221,344 cases) - President Putin announces a gradual easing of lockdown measures, despite the fact that COVID-19 cases are continuing to rise. These include

support measures for businesses and families and lifting restrictions that had barred people from working. On the same day, St. Petersburg extends its lockdown until May 31.

May 12, 2020 (232,243 cases) - Starting today, Moscow and St. Petersburg residents will be required to wear face masks and gloves in all public spaces.

May 14, 2020 (252,245 cases) Moscow clinics will begin randomly testing thousands of residents for coronavirus antibodies. Moscow Mayor Sobyanin states that this will help "show the real picture" of the outbreak and identify carriers that may have not had symptoms beforehand.

May 20, 2020 (308,705 cases) - Russia officially surpasses 300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 23, 2020 (335,882 cases) - A law permitting citizens of Russia to vote through mail or online is signed by President Putin.

May 31, 2020 (405,843 cases) - Russia officially surpasses 400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 02, 2020 (423,741 cases) - Prime Minister Mishustin announces the government's plan to launch a 5 trillion ruble (95 billion CAD) recovery plan next month to counteract economic damage caused by the pandemic.

June 08, 2020 (476,658 cases) - Russia will begin partially reopening its borders - allowing citizens to leave the country and also allowing foreign nationals to enter for medical or familial reasons. On the same day, Moscow lifts the majority of its lockdown restrictions.

June 11, 2020 (502,436 cases) - Russia officially surpasses 500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 15, 2020 (537,210 cases) - President Putin extends the period in which foreign nationals whose visas expired after March 15 can stay in the country. Now, they can remain in Russia until September 15.

June 24, 2020 (606,881 cases) - Russia officially surpasses 600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 29, 2020 (641,156 cases) - Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Chernyshenko announces that movie theaters will begin to reopen around the country on July 15.

July 08, 2020 (700,762 cases) - Russia officially surpasses 700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 10, 2020 (713,936 cases) - Moscow Mayor Sobyanin announces that wearing masks outdoors will no longer be mandatory in Moscow, starting from July 13. Authorities also announce that starting from July 15, restrictions on flights will slowly be lifted and negotiations to restart international flights will begin.

July 15, 2020 (746,369 cases) - The 14-day mandatory for people entering the country is abolished. Now, new arrivals must have medical documents in either English or Russian that show a negative result for a COVID-19 test. If they don't have these documents, they will be placed into observation until a negative result is obtained.

July 24, 2020 (800,849 cases) - Authorities announce plans to resume international plans to select countries in August. These countries include Turkey and the United Kingdom. The list of countries will continue to be worked on and expand in the future.

August 01, 2020 (845,443 cases) - Health Minister Mikhail Murashko announces that mass vaccinations plan to begin in October, and will be administered to health workers and teachers first.

August 11, 2020 (897,599 cases) - Russia is the first country in the world to grant regulatory approval to a coronavirus vaccine, despite final clinical trials not being completed. It will be marketed under the name "Sputnik V." Developed by the Gamalei Center, it has already been administered to one of President Putin's daughters.

The United Kingdom has taken some unique approaches to the COVID-19 pandemic, and has faced some backlash for some decisions made. Luckily, the number of daily new cases has been steadily decreasing, but they may be on the rise again.



January 22, 2020 (0 cases) - All direct flights from Wuhan will be screened by a health team. "Enhanced monitoring" is put into place to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

January 28, 2020 (0 cases) - Foreign Office warns against 'all but essential travel' to mainland China, saying that anyone there who can leave should do so.

January 29, 2020 (2 cases) - The first two cases of COVID-19 in the United Kingdom are two Chinese nationals from the same family who were staying in a hotel in York.

February 10, 2020 (8 cases) - Health secretary Matt Hancock introduces new measures allowing doctors to forcibly quarantine patients for their own safety. On the same day, the government publishes "The Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020" which goes deeper into the government's strategies and reaction to the outbreak.

February 25, 2020 (13 cases) - Government guidance states that travellers returning to the UK from high risk areas like Iran and Hubei should self-isolate, regardless of whether or not they have symptoms.

March 02, 2020 (38 cases) - The government holds a COBRA meeting (commonly used to coordinate actions of government bodies during times of crisis) to discuss response to the virus.

March 06, 2020 (151 cases) - Boris Johnson announces that the government is pledging £46m in funding to tackle coronavirus and look for a vaccine or quicker ways to test.

March 11, 2020 (419 cases) - Chancellor Rishi Sunak announces a £12 billion (20.5 billion CAD) stimulus to help the UK cope with the impacts of the coronavirus on the economy. On the same day, the Bank of England reduces interest rates from 0.75% to 0.25%.

March 14, 2020 (1,035 cases) - The World Health Organization, along with others, criticises the UK government's "herd immunity" approach (originally said by UK's chief scientific adviser Sir Patrick Vallance, who was defending the government's handling of the virus), stating that the current situation requires action and that there was not enough information about the virus to confirm theories around immunity.

March 16, 2020 (1,400 cases) - Prime Minister Boris Johnson urges the UK public to avoid non-essential contact and unnecessary travel, which includes working from home and avoiding restaurants and gyms. On the same day, the UK government begins to hold daily press conferences.

March 17, 2020 (1,769 cases) - Chancellor Sunak announces a financial package of more than £330 billion (566 billion CAD) which includes loans, grants, and other aid. He says that "we must do whatever it takes to support the economy".

March 18, 2020 (2,382 cases) - Schools across the UK are to begin to shut down indefinitely. Exams like the GCSE and A-level exams are also cancelled.

March 19, 2020 (2,965 cases) - The Coronavirus Act 2020 is introduced, which grants the government emergency powers in areas such as schools, police, and social care. On the same day, the Bank of England cuts interest rates again, this time from 0.25% to 0.1%. This is the lowest rate in the Bank's 325 year history.

March 20, 2020 (3,612 cases) - Prime Minister Johnson orders all UK restaurants, gyms, pubs, and other venues to shut down indefinitely. However, shops and public transport are not included. On the same day, Rishi Sunak announces a plan for the government to pay up to 80% of wages for those unable to work due to COVID-19 - otherwise known as the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme(CJRS). These benefits ensure that the government will cover part of workers' salaries as long as they are kept on payroll instead of being laid off.

March 21, 2020 (4,550 cases) - The NHS (National Health Service - England's publicly funded healthcare system) strikes a deal with private hospitals to acquire staff, beds, and ventilators to help fight the crisis.

March 23, 2020 (6,030 cases) - A three week lockdown is announced by Prime Minister Johnson, who emphasizes that these restrictions on movement are rules and that they will be enforced with fines. People are ordered to stay at home unless it is for basic necessities, medical purposes, exercise, or essential work travel. Non-essential activities will be halted, with an exception made for funerals, and shops that aren't essential will be closed. Despite the announcement being made on this day, the regulations which made these rules legally enforceable were not implemented until three days later, on the 26th.

March 24, 2020 (7,323 cases) - All major mobile UK mobile networks send out a government message to their customers with details and information about the shutdown. On the same day, Health Secretary Hancock launches a scheme to recruit 250,000 new volunteers to support the NHS against the pandemic.

March 25, 2020 (8,639 cases) - Parliament shuts down for a month to combat the spread of coronavirus.

March 26, 2020 (10,568 cases) - The Clap For Our Carers campaign begins. Every Thursday, people across the UK clap and cheer together at 8 PM to thank health workers.

March 27, 2020 (13,182 cases) - Prime Minister Johnson and Health Secretary Hancock both test positive for coronavirus and begin self-isolating.

March 29, 2020 (17,693 cases) - The government announces plans to send a letter to 30 million households at an anticipated cost of £5.8 million (10 million CAD). The letter will set out lockdown rules, contain health information and a message from the PM personally.

April 01, 2020 (26,709 cases) - The limit for contactless payment in stores is increased, from £30 to £45 (51 CAD to 77 CAD).

April 02, 2020 (30,554 cases) - At the end of Health Secretary Hancock's seven day self isolation period, he announces a "five pillar" testing plan that aims to conduct 100,000 tests a day by the end of April. At this time, there are around 10,000 tests conducted daily.

April 05, 2020 (43,318 cases) - Queen Elizabeth II makes a rare speech to the entirety of the UK, thanking citizens for following government regulations and telling them that "we will succeed in the fight." She has only made such broadcasts on four previous occasions.

April 10, 2020 (66,284 cases) - Health Secretary Hancock tells the daily coronavirus briefing that a "Herculean effort" is being made to ensure daily deliveries of PPE (personal protective equipment) to healthcare workers, after receiving criticism that not enough was being done to protect workers.

April 11, 2020 (71,565 cases) - Queen Elizabeth II makes her first ever Easter message to the nation. She states that "coronavirus will not overcome us" and that "we need Easter as much as ever."

April 16, 2020 (93,400 cases) - Coronavirus testing will be rolled out to more public service staff like firefighters and police officers. Health Secretary Hancock says he hopes anyone with symptoms will be able to be tested "relatively soon". He also announces that new guidelines will be implemented, allowing close family members to visit dying relatives in order to say their farewells.

April 17, 2020 (98,473 cases) - Dominic Raab, deputising for Boris Johnson while the Prime Minister is recovering, extends the lockdown for “at least” three weeks, stating that relaxing measures now would risk harming public health and the economy.

April 18, 2020 (103,479 cases) - The United Kingdom officially surpasses 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 21, 2020 (116,911 cases) - Health Secretary Hancock says that the government is "throwing everything" at developing a coronavirus vaccine, and announces that the government is contributing £42.5 million (73 million CAD) for clinical trials being conducted by Imperial College London and the University of Oxford.

April 27, 2020 (142,373 cases) - Families of NHS and other care workers who die because of the virus are entitled to a payment of £60,000 (100,000 CAD).

May 01, 2020 (160,769 cases) - Health Secretary Hancock confirms that the government had met its target to carry out (but not necessarily complete) 100,000 coronavirus tests a day by the end of April, by revealing that 122,347 had been provided over the last 24 hours.

May 06, 2020 (182,192 cases) - A goal of 200,000 tests per day daily is announced. The government's goal is to hit this by the end of May.

May 10, 2020 (198,573 cases) - Prime Minister Johnson addresses the public, introducing a COVID-19 warning system and changing the UK's slogan from “Stay at Home” to “Stay Alert.”

May 11, 2020 (202,805 cases) - The United Kingdom officially surpasses 200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, Prime Minister Johnson publishes a 60 page document entitled “Our Plan to rebuild: the UK Government's COVID-19 recovery strategy.” It details the UK's strategy for responding to the coronavirus, and illustrates what exiting lockdown would potentially look like.

May 18, 2020 (223,236 cases) - Testing is extended to anyone over the age of five, as long as they have symptoms. Previously, tests were limited to key workers and their families.

May 21, 2020 (229,162 cases) - NHS staff and health workers from overseas will no longer have to pay the immigration health fee that usually applies to non-EU immigrants.

May 28, 2020 (243,820 cases) - The NHS Trace and Test service officially begins operating. It ensures those who have symptoms of COVID-19 can be quickly tested, and helps trace recent contacts of anyone who tests positive for the virus.

May 31, 2020 (248,925 cases) - The government hits its 200,000 tests per day goal, a day early, with 205,634 tests available on May 30.

June 05, 2020 (256,670 cases) - Health Secretary Hancock urges citizens not to go to mass demonstrations following the death of George Floyd, stating that they were unlawful and asking for lockdown rules to not be breached. He says he remains "appalled" at Floyd's death, but that COVID-19 remains "a real threat".

June 09, 2020 (261,951 cases) - Plans for primary school students to go back to school before the end of the summer term are dropped.

June 15, 2020 (268,943 cases) - Non-essential shops officially reopen in the UK. In England, new regulations mandate the wearing of face coverings on public transport. If these rules are not obeyed, police have the rights to forcibly remove passengers or fine them £100 (171 CAD).

June 18, 2020 (272,214 cases) - The Bank of England announces plans to pump an extra £100 billion (171 billion CAD) into the UK economy to stimulate it.

June 19, 2020 (273,434 cases) - Education Secretary Gavin Williamson confirms that all children will return to school full-time in September. Prime Minister Johnson also announces a £1 billion (1.7 billion CAD) tutoring fund to help students catch up with what they missed.

June 25, 2020 (279,019 cases) - The Corporate Insolvency Act 2020 is enacted. Its purpose is to provide additional financial assistance to businesses affected by the pandemic.

July 1, 2020 (284,004 cases) - The Flexible Furlough scheme begins, allowing businesses to bring furloughed employees back to work part time. The hours and shifts of each employee are determined by each business, and the government will continue to pay up to 80% of salaries for the hours employees do not work.

July 04, 2020 (285,729 cases) - Previous lockdown regulations are relaxed, and pubs, restaurants, hotels and hairdressers may open. Two households may also meet up indoors, and weddings with up to 30 guests are allowed. Social distancing of at least one meter (but two if possible) must be maintained at all times.

July 10, 2020 (288,972 cases) - Quarantine rules for travellers going into the UK are relaxed for 75 countries and overseas territories.

July 11, 2020 (289,794 cases) - Outdoor pools are allowed to reopen. Indoor pools, gyms, and leisure facilities will be allowed to reopen on July 25.

July 14, 2020 (291,373 cases) - Health Secretary Hancock announces that face coverings will be mandatory in all shops and supermarkets, starting from July 24.

July 17, 2020 (293,239 cases) - Prime Minister Johnson outlines a plan for "significant normality" by Christmas and eases lockdown restrictions. Under the new rules, people may use public transit for non essential purposes, and employers will have more discretion over their work places starting August 1. He says he is "hoping for the best but planning for the worst."

July 27, 2020 - The United Kingdom officially surpasses 300,000 confirmed cases. On the same day, the first confirmed case of an animal infected with COVID-19 in the UK was reported, having been detected in a pet cat. However, there is no evidence pets can transmit the disease to humans.

July 30, 2020 (302,301 cases) - Further restrictions are announced in certain areas including Greater Manchester and East Lancashire. These restrictions ban people from separate households from meeting each other in homes or private gardens. They come after a sudden spike in COVID-19 cases.

July 31, 2020 (303,181 cases) - Due to the recent increase in cases, the government announces that it will be delaying the ease of certain lockdown restrictions until at least August 15. Originally, this would've allowed "higher risk settings" like bowling alleys and skating rinks to reopen on August 01.

Chile has overall case and death totals that are smaller than other countries, but considering its small population it has had one of the worst outbreaks in the world. Although cases have reached their peak already, the pandemic is far from over.



March 03, 2020 (1 case) - The first case of COVID-19 in Chile is a 33 year old man who contracted the virus during his honeymoon in Southeast Asia.

March 09, 2020 (13 cases) - Upon reaching 13 cases, the government announces that it will begin to report new cases daily rather than one by one as they get confirmed.

March 13, 2020 (51 cases) - Saint George's College is the first educational institution to begin a quarantine period, after a teacher that works there tests positive for the virus. On the same day, President Sebastián Piñera announces a ban on any public events with more than 500 attendees, even as massive protests are being planned for the following weeks.

March 16, 2020 (183 cases) - President Piñera announces a closure of the Chilean borders for 14 days. Exceptions include cargo and carriers, Chilean nationals and permanent Chilean residents.

March 18, 2020 (279 cases) - A 90 day state of catastrophe (a state of exception written into the Constitution of Chile) is declared by President Piñera.

March 22, 2020 (632 cases) - A nationwide nighttime curfew from 10 pm to 5 am is announced.

March 26, 2020 (1,529 cases) - A complete lockdown is established in seven communes of Greater Santiago. In the following days, more cities begin to undergo a complete lockdown.

April 13, 2020 (8,809 cases) - Health Minister Jaime Mañalich introduces the government's plan of a "dynamic quarantine" where quarantine is applied to and lifted from specific districts according to their circumstances (such as fragility and number of new cases).

April 19, 2020 (11,809 cases) - President Piñera announces a plan to adapt to a "new normal" which includes reopening schools in May 2020 and allowing workers to return to their businesses eventually.

April 26, 2020 (15,604 cases) - The government announces that it will introduce "immunity passes" as a certificate to people who have recovered from the virus, which will allow them to go back to work. Health Minister Mañalich also backs this idea. However, at this time WHO says that there is "no evidence" people who contract coronavirus are immune from getting it again.

April 30, 2020 (18,755 cases) - Joaquín Lavín, mayor of Las Condes, reopens a shopping mall in Santiago province (and is the first to reopen a mall) but closes it the next day. On the

same day, the “immunity passes” idea is rejected due to the fact that it could cause potential discrimination.

May 15, 2020 (46,280 cases) - The entire Santiago area, one of the hotspots of the virus, is put under total quarantine. Dynamic quarantine is abandoned. Residents can only leave their houses twice a week, including shopping for necessities.

May 28, 2020 (101,755 cases) - Chile officially surpasses 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 02, 2020 (127,202 cases) - The Ministry of Health changes the definition of active cases, which ends up reducing the total number. The number of recovered cases is no longer reported in the Ministry's daily reports.

June 03, 2020 (132,986 cases) - New criteria implemented by the Ministry of Health changes whether or not a death is classified as related to or because of COVID-19. The patient must be officially diagnosed with the disease, rather than only show symptoms.

June 10, 2020 (173,795 cases) - A complete report containing all the changes made to the methodology of identifying deaths is released.

June 13, 2020 (195,687 cases) - Jaime Mañalich resigns as Health Minister and is immediately replaced by Enrique Paris, the former head of the Medical College.

June 14, 2020 (203,987 cases) - Chile officially surpasses 200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 16, 2020 (215,871 cases) - The 90 day state of emergency originally announced on March 18 is renewed for an additional 90 days.

June 17, 2020 (220,628 cases) - Current restrictions in place are tightened. Under these new rules, those leaving their households must have a permit. The country's borders remain closed until further notice. On the same day, Health Minister Paris announces that Chile will begin testing its COVID-19 vaccine in “the first days of August”.

July 07, 2020 (301,019 cases) - Chile officially surpasses 300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 22, 2020 (336,402 cases) - Police dogs in Chile are being trained to sniff out Covid-19 in humans. The so-called “bio-detector” dogs are expected to complete their training by mid September, and will be sent to areas with high concentrations of people like malls, sports

centers, and airports. There is currently no evidence dogs can sniff out a coronavirus infection, or differentiate COVID-19 from other diseases. Researchers hope the dogs can identify and recognize something in infected peoples' sweat.

July 28, 2020 (349,800 cases) - Health Minister Enrique Paris announces that restrictions will gradually begin to be lifted across the country. Residents in areas that are less populated will be allowed to gather in small groups and leave their houses without police permission.

August 05, 2020 (364,723 cases) - The first national clinic trial of a COVID-19 vaccine begins. It is conducted by Catholic University, together with other universities and the Sinovac Biotech laboratory.

Brazil has the third most cases in the world, and its handling of the pandemic has been wildly controversial. President Jair Bolsonaro's views on COVID-19 differ from a lot of the general public's views, and looking at the number of daily cases and deaths, the outbreak shows no signs of ending anytime soon.



February 03, 2020 (0 cases) - The Brazilian Government announces that it will assist with helping citizens in Wuhan return to the country.

February 25, 2020 (1 case) - The first case of COVID-19 in Brazil is a 61-year-old man who had returned from Lombardy, Italy.

March 06, 2020 (13 cases) - President Jair Bolsonaro advises citizens to "strictly follow the experts" recommendations as the best protective measure", but says that "there is no reason to panic."

March 11, 2020 (52 cases) - At least three Latin American countries order short term closures of all educational institutes. These include El Salvador, Peru, Panama, and more. While this happens, Brazil's government makes no move to cancel school throughout the country. Because of this, lower levels of government have made their own decisions on whether or not to continue school, and it varies from location to location.

March 12, 2020 (77 cases) - It is reported that Bolsonaro's press secretary Fábio Wajngarten had tested positive for COVID-19, prompting increased monitoring of the cabinet. On the same day, the Ministry of Health requests an additional R\$10 billion (\$2.8 billion CAD) as part of its efforts to manage the effects of the coronavirus.

March 13, 2020 (151 cases) - Health officials recommend that those travelling to Brazil self isolate for at least seven days.

March 16, 2020 (234 cases) - The Ministry of Economy announces a stimulus package of R\$147 billion (\$39 billion CAD) to help the economy recover during the pandemic.

March 17, 2020 (346 cases) - Brazilian authorities partially close their border with Venezuela, due to Venezuela's collapsing health system. The state of Santa Catarina declares a lockdown and shuts down businesses, public transit, and more.

March 18, 2020 (529 cases) - Rio de Janeiro and five other municipalities in the state of Rio de Janeiro declare a state of emergency.

March 20, 2020 (970 cases) - President Bolsonaro opposes proposals to suspend interstate travel and closing businesses, arguing that they were "extreme measures" that would hurt the economy.

March 21, 2020 (1,178 cases) - Economy Minister Paulo Guedes announces a series of financial aid measures that include scholarships for self-employed workers, payment guarantees for workers who have reduced their hours due to the pandemic, and more.

March 23, 2020 (1,924 cases) - While participating in a televised conference, President Bolsonaro addresses criticism and protests against him. He says, "the people will soon see that they were tricked by these governors and by the large part of the media when it comes to coronavirus." The next day, he continues to question the necessity of lockdown measures and argues that the lives of Brazilians needed to return to normality. He faces a lot of backlash from fellow Brazilian politicians, and public protests intensify.

March 24, 2020 (2,274 cases) - A financial package of R\$85.8 billion for states and municipalities is announced. It includes transfers that go directly to health services and suspends some types of debts.

March 30, 2020 (4,630 cases) - Twitter removes tweets by President Bolsonaro, saying that they contributed to misinformation that could cause physical harm.

April 06, 2020 (912,183 cases) - After an argument, President Bolsonaro threatens to fire the Minister of Health, Luiz Henrique Mandetta. After criticism, he backs down.

April 09, 2020 (18,145 cases) - The first financial aid package, worth around R\$1.5 billion (386 million CAD) is distributed to the public. Over 2.5 million citizens receive money.

April 11, 2020 (20,962 cases) - During a press conference, President Bolsonaro dismisses the virus as "a little flu" and advocates for Brazilians to go back to work. "That's life," he says. "We're all going to die someday."

April 16, 2020 (30,683 cases) - President Bolsonaro fires the Minister of Health after clashing over coronavirus and social distancing guidelines. He calls for stay-at-home orders to end, and continues to say that jobs and the economy must prevail and that Brazil "cannot stop". He appoints Nelson Teich as the new minister the next day.

April 20, 2020 (40,743 cases) - Multiple cities begin to ease social isolation guidelines and start to move more towards contact tracing. Some stores are allowed to open as long as store capacities are reduced, customers wear masks at all times, and customer personal information is tracked.

April 28, 2020 (72,899 cases) - During a conference, a reporter points out that Brazil's total number of deaths have officially passed China's. President Bolsonaro replies, "So what? I'm sorry, but what do you want me to do?"

May 03, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 05, 2020 (114,715 cases) - Major cities like São Luis and Fortaleza begin to issue lockdown measures as local health services struggle to deal with the pandemic.

May 14, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 15, 2020 (218,223 cases) - Brazilian Health Minister Nelson Teich abruptly resigns, less than a month after he was appointed. He states that he did not agree with the President's opinions on hydroxychloroquine (an unproven drug that the President was endorsing to treat COVID-19) as well as social distancing guidelines. He also says he was repeatedly being overruled on legislature he was supposed to define. General Eduardo Pazuello is temporarily appointed as Acting Health Minister.

May 21, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 27, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 31, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 04, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 05, 2020 (646,006 cases) - The official website that posts daily COVID-19 reports, run by the Brazilian government, is shut down. It will no longer be posting COVID-19 case numbers and deaths.

June 07, 2020 (691,962 cases) - The government announces that it will stop posting cumulative numbers, claiming that they might be misleading. Instead, it will post the numbers of new cases and deaths in the past 24 hours.

June 08, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 10, 2020 (775,184 cases) - After facing backlash from the public and a ruling by a Supreme Court Justice, the Brazilian government restores all of the data on COVID-19 to its website. It reverts to showing cumulative totals of infections and deaths.

June 11, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 16, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 19, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 1,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 22, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 1,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 23, 2020 (1,151,479 cases) - A Brazilian judge orders President Bolsonaro to wear a mask on public or face fines of 2,000 reais (490 CAD) a day if he continues to disobey these orders.

June 25, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 1,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 27, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 1,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 30, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 1,400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 02, 2020 (1,501,353 cases) - Brazil officially surpasses 1,500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Bolsonaro vetoes clauses of a new legislation that would have required citizens to wear masks at schools, shops, and private gatherings. However, he approves obligatory use of masks on the street and public transport.

July 04, 2020 (1,578,375 cases) - Rio de Janeiro's bars and restaurants reopen, despite criticism from health experts who argue that it's not nearly safe enough to do so.

July 05, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 1,600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 07, 2020 (1,674,655 cases) - President Bolsonaro tests positive for COVID-19 for the first time. As he announces this, he continues to criticize lockdown measures, saying that "the majority of Brazilians contract this virus and don't notice a thing."

July 08, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 1,700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 10, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 1,800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 14, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 1,900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 15, 2020 (1,970,909 cases) - President Bolsonaro tests positive for COVID-19 for the second time.

July 16, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 2,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 18, 2020 (2,075,246 cases) - President Bolsonaro states that he believes restrictions have “suffocated” the country’s economy, and that “lockdown kills”. “Without salaries and jobs, people die,” he says referring to rules imposed by some states.

July 20, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 2,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 22, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 2,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Bolsonaro tests positive for COVID-19 for the third time.

July 24, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 2,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 25, 2020 (2,396,343 cases) - On his fourth test , President Bolsonaro tests negative for COVID-19. Afterwards, he goes on a motorcycle ride to talk to supporters and take pictures, as he has done multiple times since the start of the pandemic.

July 26, 2020 (2,443,480 cases) - Brazil officially surpasses 2,400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 27, 2020 - Sixty-five unions and organizations that represent millions of Brazillians file a lawsuit at the International Criminal Court against President Bolsonaro. They claim that President Bolsonaro has had an “attitude of contempt, neglect, and denial” toward the coronavirus; this attitude “has brought disastrous consequences.”

July 29, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 2,500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 30, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 2,600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 31, 2020 (2,666,298 cases) - President Bolsonaro says he may have 'mold' in his lungs as his wife tests positive for Covid-19. He has been semi-isolating for weeks

August 01, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 2,700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 04, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 2,800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 06, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 2,900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 08, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 3,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, as Brazil passes 100,000 deaths, President Bolsonaro says that he "regrets all the deaths."

August 11, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 3,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 13, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 3,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 14, 2020 (278,865 cases) - President Bolsonaro receives the best approval rating of his term, most likely due to recent coronavirus stimulus payments.

August 15, 2020 - Brazil officially surpasses 3,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 16, 2020 (3,340,197 cases) - First Lady Michelle Bolsonaro tests negative for COVID-19, around two weeks after she first tested positive.

The United States is by far the country with the most cases in the world, and may be the best example of how *not* to handle a pandemic. With no sign of cases decreasing, and government regulations allowing reopening of various places, there's no telling how long the outbreak will last or how many lives will be lost. A note - near the end of the timeline, total case number grows so quickly that it may outnumber the amount of data and information released about the coronavirus in the United States itself.



January 03, 2020 (0 cases)- The director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Preventions (CDC), Robert Redfield, is notified of a “mysterious respiratory disease spreading in Wuhan” by a counterpart in China. He notifies United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar, who shares the report with the National Security Council (NSC).

January 06, 2020 (0 cases)- Redfield offers Chinese officials a team of CDC officials, to assist China. This offer, sent in a letter, is not accepted for several weeks, which delays the US access to important information about the virus (to diagnose or develop vaccines) for several weeks.

January 08, 2020 (0 cases) - CDC issues an official health advisory regarding the cluster of pneumonia like cases in Wuhan, and establishes an Incident Management Structure to coordinate public health actions and decisions both without and outside of the country. This is its first public alert about the coronavirus.

January 17, 2020 (0 cases) - The CDC dispatches public health experts to screen incoming airport passengers at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. Later in January, officials are also sent to Atlanta and Chicago.

January 20, 2020 (1 case) - The first case of COVID-19 in the United States is a man who returned to his home in Snohomish County, Washington on January 15. He was visiting family in Wuhan.

January 22, 2020 (1 case) - During a question session, President Donald Trump receives his first public question from a reporter, who asked whether he was concerned about the coronavirus. Trump’s response was "No, not at all. And we have it totally under control. It's one person coming in from China ... It's going to be just fine."

January 24, 2020 (2 cases)- President Trump praises the Chinese government for its efforts to control the virus, in a tweet that says "China has been working very hard to contain the Coronavirus. The United States greatly appreciates their efforts and transparency. It will all work out well."

January 29, 2020 (5 cases) - The White House Coronavirus Task Force is formed. It contains senior officials like White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney and others at HHS, CDC, and the US State Department. On the same day, President Trump posts pictures of the meeting

and says that "We have the best experts anywhere in the world, and they are on top of it 24/7!" However, this committee did not initially focus on testing and supplies in the US, and instead concentrated on efforts to keep US citizens out of China and to evacuate them.

January 31, 2020 (7 cases) - The Trump Administration, through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, declares a public health emergency, and imposes a mandatory 14-day quarantine for any US citizens that went to Hubei Province in China within the past two weeks. Entry is also denied to foreigners who have traveled to China within the last two weeks as well. This is the first large scale travel restriction the US government has imposed for more than 50 years.

February 06, 2020 (11 cases) - The CDC begins sending 90 of its own viral detection tests to state-run labs, who only later on found out that the tests were inadequate and viral samples had to be shipped to CDC's lab to be tested instead. Researchers at Stanford and other laboratories have developed tests following the WHO protocol, but "relatively tight" rules at the Food and Drug Administration prevents them from using the tests. These rules are only relaxed on February 29.

February 07, 2020 (11 cases) - US Secretary of State Pompeo announces a \$100 million (132 million CAD) pledge to China, as well as other countries, to assist with issues caused by the coronavirus. On the same day, the State Department announces that over the last week, it has facilitated the transportation of nearly 17.8 tons of donated medical supplies to China, such as masks, gowns, gauze, respirators, and other vital equipment.

February 10, 2020 (11 cases) - At a campaign rally in Manchester, New Hampshire, President Trump says: "Looks like by April, you know, in theory, when it gets a little warmer, it miraculously goes away. I hope that's true. But we're doing great in our country. China, I spoke with President Xi, and they're working very, very hard. And I think it's going to all work out fine."

February 13, 2020 (13 cases) - In an interview with Geraldo Rivera, President Trump responds to inquiries about threats to the US by saying "In our country, we only have, basically, 12 cases, and most of those people are recovering and some cases fully recovered. So it's actually less."

February 24, 2020 (53 cases) - On Twitter, President Trump writes, "The Coronavirus is very much under control in the USA. We are in contact with everyone and all relevant countries."

CDC & World Health have been working hard and very smart. Stock Market starting to look very good to me!"

February 26, 2020 (60 cases) - At a news conference, President Trump says "When you have 15 people, and the 15 within a couple of days is going to be down close to zero, that's a pretty good job we've done." On the same day, Vice-President Mike Pence is appointed to lead the Coronavirus Task Force, replacing HHS Secretary Azar as the group's leader. Vice-President Pence was the first official from Trump's White House to organize a response to the virus, nearly two months after the government first became aware.

March 03, 2020 (124 cases) - According to Vice President Mike Pence, the CDC lifts all federal restrictions on testing for the coronavirus. He says that "Any American can be tested, no restrictions, subject to doctor's orders."

March 09, 2020 (704 cases) - Ohio Governor Mike DeWine declares a state of emergency after Ohio reports its first cases of COVID-19.

March 10, 2020 (994 cases) - The first semi-containment zone is announced in New York. Universities and colleges across Washington, New York, and Massachusetts begin transitioning to online schooling.

March 11, 2020 (1,301 cases) - In an Oval Office address, President Trump states that "The vast majority of Americans, the risk is very, very low."

March 12, 2020 (1,631 cases) - HHS places its first order of N95 respirators for healthcare and frontline workers. It's worth \$4.8 million USD (6.4 million CAD). However, the contract the supplier provided said that delivery would only begin near the end of April. Later on, former HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius states: "We basically wasted two months." On the same day, many huge sports leagues like the NHL and MLS announce suspensions of seasons already in progress. Also on the same, all 50 states are able to perform tests, with a doctor's approval.

March 13, 2020 (2,185 cases) - A national emergency is officially declared by President Trump. He also announces that he is making \$50 billion in federal funds available to states to combat the coronavirus. He also says that he will give hospitals and doctors more flexibility to respond to the virus, including measures that will allow easier access to methods to allow them to treat others.

March 15, 2020 (3,622 cases) - The CDC advises against hosting events with 50 or more people for the next eight weeks. This includes weddings, concerts, festivals, sporting events, parades, and conferences.

March 16, 2020 (4,611 cases) - President Trump issues orders to contain the virus in the US by saying that his administration is recommending that "all Americans, including the young and healthy, work to engage in schooling from home when possible. Avoid gathering in groups of more than 10 people. Avoid discretionary travel. And avoid eating and drinking at bars, restaurants and public food courts. If everyone makes this change or these critical changes and sacrifices now, we will rally together as one nation and we will defeat the virus."

March 17, 2020 (6,366 cases) - President Trump tells reporters "This is a pandemic ... I felt it was a pandemic long before it was called a pandemic."

March 21, 2020 (24,498 cases) - President Trump tweets about potential coronavirus treatments: "HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE & AZITHROMYCIN, taken together, have a real chance to be one of the biggest game changers in the history of medicine. The FDA has moved mountains - Thank You!"

March 25, 2020 (69,136 cases) - The Senate approves via an unanimous 96-0 vote, a coronavirus stimulus package worth \$2 billion USD (2.6 billion CAD) targeting relief toward America's governments, workers, hospitals, and more. It includes measures like giving out \$1,200 to most adults (1,600 CAD), unemployment benefits that average \$600 a week (800 CAD) and other state benefits.

March 27, 2020 (105,584 cases) - The United States officially surpasses 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) is signed into law. It's a \$2.2 trillion dollar (2.9 trillion CAD) economic stimulus bill, which includes things like one time handouts to individual citizens (\$300 billion USD, 400 billion CAD), increased unemployment benefits (\$260 billion USD, 345 billion CAD), aid for small and large businesses, and funding for state and local governments (\$340 billion USD, 450 billion CAD). This is the largest economic stimulus package in the history of the country.

March 30, 2020 (168,822 cases) - The United States passes the 1 million test mark.

April 01, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 02, 2020 (251,802 cases) - At President Trump's direction, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and CDC set additional preventive guidelines to the long-term care facility industry. These measures include mandatory temperature checks for anyone in a nursing home, symptom screenings, and requiring all nursing home workers to wear protective face masks.

April 03, 2020 (284,775 cases) - Representatives of China say that the country has not received any financial support at all from the U.S. government for efforts to curb the coronavirus outbreak.

April 04, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 06, 2020 (377,129 cases) - The United States Army announces that basic training will be postponed for new recruits. Recruits already in training will continue "social-distanced-enabled training."

April 07, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump tweets a message criticizing the WHO for mishandling the pandemic. "The WHO really blew it. For some reason, funded largely by the United States, yet very China-centric. We will be giving that a good look. Fortunately, I rejected their advice on keeping our borders open to China early on. Why did they give us such a faulty recommendation?"

April 10, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 14, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump halts funding of the World Health Organization (WHO) and declares that an investigation will be made into "the World Health Organization's role in severely mismanaging and covering up the spread of the coronavirus."

April 17, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump encourages protests against some state restriction by tweeting multiple messages in all caps.

April 20, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 24, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 27, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 30, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump announces that a Coronavirus Commission for Safety and Quality in Nursing Homes is being established.

May 01, 2020 (1,136,474 cases) - As of today, there have been demonstrations in more than half of all the states. For the past few weeks, many protests have occurred, ranging from protests against government mandated quarantine to protests in support of the Black Live Matter movement. They continue to occur in the next months.

May 04, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 07, 2020 (1,298,691 cases) - An unauthorized copy of a 17-page report by a CDC team, titled "Guidance for Implementing the Opening Up America Again Framework," is published by the Associated Press. Originally supposed to be published on May 1, agency scientists were reportedly told the guidance "would never see the light of day," and was given to the AP by an anonymous federal official. It contains detailed guidelines for the reopening of businesses, restaurants, schools, and more public places.

May 08, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 12, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 15, 2020 (1,494,909 cases) - The CDC releases six flowcharts meant to help venues like schools and workplaces know when to open - similar to a checklist.

May 16, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 20, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, a 60-page set of guidelines is quietly released without comment from the CDC. This comes weeks after many states had already ended lockdown restrictions.

May 24, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

May 25, 2020 (1,721,795 cases) - The United States closes its borders to anyone who's been to Brazil in the last 14 days as the situation in Brazil worsens.

May 29, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump tweets condolences for the 100,000 Americans dead from the coronavirus.

June 03, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 1,900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 05, 2020 (1,969,155 cases) - The U.S Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) issues a "FDA COVID-19 Response At-A-Glance Summary" which outlines all the actions it has taken since the start of the pandemic. It also expands the availability and capability of non-invasive patient monitoring devices

June 07, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 12, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 13, 2020 (2,146,616 cases) - In an address to the 1,107 graduates of the West Point class of 2020, President Trump declares that the United States will "vanquish" and "extinguish" coronavirus pandemic.

June 16, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 19, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 22, 2020 (2,387,518 cases) - More than 20 public health officials in the United States have resigned or left their posts in recent weeks. On the same day, President Trump issues restrictions on immigration to the United States, suspending many types of visas.

June 23, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 25, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 26, 2020 (2,554,443 cases) - For the first time in two months, the White House holds a briefing to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic in the country. It focuses on the states with the most emerging numbers of cases, most notably the southern states. Vice President Mike Pence acknowledges the progress in states like New York and Connecticut, but also says

that the huge amount of cases in southern states is due to a larger amount of testing. He states that this is a good thing, meaning that testing is expanding across the country.

June 28, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 30, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 01, 2020 (2,781,867 cases) - The FDA updates its advice and cautions against the use of hydroxychloroquine for COVID-19 due to risk of heart rhythm problems, but maintained its approved use for malaria, lupus, and rheumatoid arthritis.

July 02, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 04, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 2,900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Health officials warn people to take precautions or stay home for the Fourth of July.

July 06, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 07, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 09, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, at least 24 states have either paused or pushed back reopening plans while concerns of a second wave happening at this moment are voiced.

July 10, 2020 (3,298,084 cases) - On this day, the United States reaches 68,000 new cases, setting a single-day record for the seventh time in 11 days.

July 11, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump is seen publicly wearing a face mask for the first time during this outbreak, months after it was first recommended by public health officials.

July 12, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 14, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, the White House issues orders for hospitals to bypass the CDC when sending patient data, and to send it straight to a central database in Washington. This raises concerns about transparency.

July 15, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, the default data centralization point for COVID-19 data in the US switches from the CDC to the HHS.

July 17, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 18, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump vows not to order Americans to wear protective masks, saying that people should have a "certain freedom". His comments come after the CDC posts statements highly encouraging everyone to wear masks.

July 20, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 3,900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 21, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 22, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, the Trump Administration announces a deal with pharmaceutical company Pfizer to produce 100 million doses of a COVID-19 vaccine in the United States. It will need emergency authorization from health officials before it can be used.

July 24, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 25, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 27, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 28, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump's son's (Donald Trump Jr.) Twitter account is temporarily restricted after he posts a video full of inaccuracies about the coronavirus. It's taken down on Twitter, Facebook, and Youtube - all platforms that have policies strictly against spreading misinformation about the virus.

July 30, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 31, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 02, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 03, 2020 (4,865,450 cases) - President Trump says that the United States may have a coronavirus vaccine available as early as the end of the year. He says "We're balancing speed and safety and we're on pace to have a vaccine available this year, maybe far in advance of the end of the year."

August 04, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 4,900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 05, 2020 - The United States government agrees to pay Johnson and Johnson more than \$1 billion USD (1.3 billion CAD) to create 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine. If used in a COVID-19 vaccination campaign, they will be provided to citizens at no cost.

August 06, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 5,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump states that he believes coronavirus will "go away", saying that "It's going away, it will go away, things go away, absolutely. No question in my mind, sooner rather than later." This contradicts the statements of Anthony Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and a fellow member of the coronavirus taskforce. The day before, he had warned that the virus would take a while to eradicate and that there was a "long road ahead."

August 08, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 5,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump signs four executive actions on coronavirus relief. These actions include a memorandum providing up to \$400 USD (530 CAD) in extra unemployment benefits weekly (although states will have to cover 25%), a memorandum on a payroll tax deferral for citizens earning less than \$100,000 a year, an executive order on "assistance to renters and homeowners" and a memorandum on deferring student loan payments.

August 09, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 5,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump says that the government will consider paying all of citizens' additional unemployment benefits even if the states they live in won't pay some of the costs.

August 11, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 5,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 13, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 5,400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, President Trump rejects the Democrat's bid to include funding for the US Postal Service, as he vows against mail-in voting, saying without evidence that it could lead to widespread fraud.

August 15, 2020 - The United States officially surpasses 5,500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 16, 2020 (5,559,608 cases) - President Trump adds a new doctor to the White House Coronavirus Taskforce. Dr. Scott Atlas, a frequent guest on Fox News, has no formal experience in infectious diseases or public health, but shares many viewpoints with the President (such as ending lockdowns).

India has one of the largest total populations in the world, which may explain its overwhelmingly large case count. The pandemic has revealed a concerning wealth gap between Indian citizens, and this may prove to be even more harmful later on in the outbreak. A note - near the end of the timeline, the total case number grows so quickly that it may outnumber the amount of data and information released about the coronavirus in India itself.



January 21, 2020 (0 cases) - India begins selective thermal screening of passengers arriving directly from China.

January 30, 2020 (1 case) - The first case of COVID-19 in India is a student in Kerala's Thrissur district who had returned home for vacation from Wuhan University in China.

March 03, 2020 (7 cases) - Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweets that “ministries and states are working together” to screen people and provide medical attention, and that there is “no need to panic.” On the same day, the Indian Government halts the issuing of new visas, and suspends previously issued visas from high-risk countries like Italy and Japan.

March 06, 2020 (31 cases) - All international passengers will be screened for the virus from this day on. Previously, only passengers from high risk countries like China were screened.

March 12, 2020 (74 cases) - All existing visas (except diplomatic, International organisations, employment and project visas) are suspended until April 15, until further notice. Indians returning from foreign countries are also asked to quarantine for 14 days.

March 13, 2020 (82 cases) - Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik, declares COVID-19 a “disaster” and orders the immediate closure of educational institutions, public gyms and pools, and other social venues. Odisha is one of the first states to begin fighting back against the disease. Meanwhile, officials from the Government of India say that the coronavirus is not a health emergency and that there is no need to panic.

March 14, 2020 (100 cases) - The coronavirus is declared a notified disaster. This allows states to spend more of the State Disaster Response Fund towards the virus and its impacts.

March 17, 2020 (143 cases) - The Government of India issues an advisory urging states to take social distancing measures until March 31 to minimize the amount of cases. These measures include closing down educational, social, and cultural centres as well as minimizing non-essential travel. All historic buildings in the country will close as well.

March 22, 2020 (396 cases) - The Janata Curfew(people’s curfew), proposed by Prime Minister Modi, runs from 7 am to 9 pm. It is a voluntary curfew and calls for movement outside households to be at a minimum and for businesses to be temporarily shut down.

March 24, 2020 (536 cases) - A nationwide lockdown is imposed. It is anticipated to last 21 days. Prime Minister Modi also announces a ₹150 billion (2.7 billion CAD) fund dedicated towards improving healthcare infrastructure, training professionals and making necessary medical gear like ventilators and PPE more accessible.

March 26, 2020 - A ₹1.7 trillion (30.6 billion CAD) stimulus package is announced, which is directed towards the poor affected by the lockdown. It will be disbursed through direct cash transfers and food packages. Criticism from voters states that this is worth less than 1 percent of India's GDP, and that the support it actually provides is minimal.

April 09, 2020 (6,725 cases) - Face masks are now mandatory when leaving homes, in several large cities and states over India. These rules apply to over 300 million people all over the country, and breaking them could result in months in prison.

April 29, 2020 (33,062 cases) - The Ministry of Home Affairs allows stranded tourists, students, and others to move across different states, with certain limits. Each state will develop protocols in order to transport these people effectively, and buses will be used to move them.

May 01, 2020 (37,257 cases) - The nationwide lockdown is extended to May 17.

May 08, 2020 (59,695 cases) - The first aircraft part of the Vande Bharat Mission takes off. The mission's goal is to evacuate Indian nationals and return them to the country, and involves flights via Air India and Air India Express.

May 12, 2020 (74,292 cases) - Prime Minister Modi announces a ₹20 trillion (360 billion CAD) stimulus package to restart the economy. This money goes towards businesses and workers who have faced devastating losses due to the impacts of COVID-19, and focuses more on long term changes. It is worth almost 10% of India's GDP.

May 17, 2020 (95,698 cases) - The nationwide lockdown is extended yet again to May 31.

May 18, 2020 - India officially surpasses 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 01, 2020 (198,370 cases) - The first "unlock" phase begins. It is set to run from June 1-30. Most businesses and services are allowed to resume, albeit at a much lower capacity, and several restrictions on movement are lifted. People older than 65 or younger than 10 are recommended to stay home.

June 02, 2020 (207,191 cases) - India officially surpasses 200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 08, 2020 (265,928 cases) - All religious places are reopened.

June 12, 2020 - India officially surpasses 300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 20, 2020 - India officially surpasses 400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, the Delhi government releases caps for COVID-19 treatment in private hospitals, including ventilators, ICU beds, and more.

June 26, 2020 - India officially surpasses 500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

June 30, 2020 (585,792 cases) - Prime Minister Modi chairs a meeting in which topics like vaccination for COVID-19 and the preparations for creating a vaccine are discussed. He outlines four principles for vaccination - that vulnerable groups should be identified and tested first, that vaccination of “anyone, anywhere” should be completed (no factors should bar anyone from getting tested), that vaccination must be affordable and universal, and that the entire process from development to vaccination should be monitored.

July 01, 2020 (605,220 cases) - India officially surpasses 600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, the second “unlock” phase begins. It is set to run from July 1-31, and includes relaxations on curfews, allowing more people inside businesses, and allowing more domestic movement. However, educational institutions, gyms, auditoriums and other social venues remain closed until further notice.

July 06, 2020 - India officially surpasses 700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, all historical monuments are officially open to the public.

July 09, 2020 - (794,842 cases) The Health Ministry says India is doing “relatively well” managing COVID-19. It says that the 13 deaths per 1 million people is very low compared to the 400 in the United States and 320 in Brazil. However, it is virtually impossible to calculate the true amount of deaths in India due to there being no way to track any sort of deaths.

July 10, 2020 - India officially surpasses 800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 13, 2020 - India officially surpasses 900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 16, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 19, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 22, 2020 - (1,239,684 cases) A famed Hindu pilgrimage to a holy cave (which is run yearly) is cancelled for the first time in history.

July 23, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 24, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 26, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, Prime Minister Modi claims that the country's fight against Covid-19 has "proven the world wrong." He states that the coronavirus recovery rate is higher than other countries, but warns citizens that they have to stay safe.

July 28, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 30, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 31, 2020 (1,697,054 cases) -Prime Minister Modi holds a meeting with major financial regulators and banks to discuss the country's economic state. They consider several steps that regulators can take to push economic growth, such as easing monetary policies or providing stimulus packages.

August 01, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,700,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan announces that the first pan-Indian COVID-19 viral genome sequencing is complete. It will soon be shared with Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data (GISAID) so that researchers all around the world will have access, and is meant to improve understanding on how the virus spreads and reacts.

August 02, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,800,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 04, 2020 - India officially surpasses 1,900,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 06, 2020 - India officially surpasses 2,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 08, 2020 - India officially surpasses 2,100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, the government of the state Odisha begins allowing private hospitals to admit Covid-19 patients.

August 09, 2020 - India officially surpasses 2,200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 11, 2020 - India officially surpasses 2,300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, Prime Minister Modi is quoted as saying "If we can defeat corona in these 10 states, the country will win." He is referring to India's 10 most populous states.

August 13, 2020 - India officially surpasses 2,400,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases. On the same day, it's confirmed that 5 members of Prime Minister Modi's cabinet (including his key aide and minister for internal security, Amit Shah) have tested positive for coronavirus.

August 14, 2020 - India officially surpasses 2,500,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

August 15, 2020 (2,689,208 cases) - On India's 74th Independence day, Prime Minister Modi announces that the government will be investing 1.46 trillion (25.8 billion CAD) into various infrastructure projects around the country to restart the economy. As of the announcement, the government has identified 7000 projects it will begin. He also announces that three vaccines are currently being tested in India, and that the country is ready to mass produce vaccines when scientists give the go-ahead. Finally, he launches India's new National Digital Health Mission, which plans to give every Indian a Health ID card that will contain all of their health-related information.

Spain is another country hit relatively hard by coronavirus. Although there was a brief period of lower case counts from May to July, it seems that a huge second wave is approaching (most likely due to the relaxation of restrictions), as the daily case count goes up increasingly faster.



January 31, 2020 (1 case) - The first case of COVID-19 in Spain is a tourist from Germany, who tested positive in the Canary Islands.

February 06, 2020 (10 cases) - The Health Ministry sets requirements for testing eligibility - people with fever and breathing difficulties who travelled to China's Hubei province within the past 15 days.

February 27, 2020 (25 cases) - Testing criteria expands to include those with obvious symptoms and a history of travel to other coronavirus hot spots, such as Italy.

March 08, 2020 (674 cases) - On International Women's Day, political conferences, sports events and huge demonstrations occur. 60,000 people gather in a football stadium while over 120,000 workers participate in a march. This causes a huge spread of the virus.

March 10, 2020 (1,695 cases) - Direct flights from Italy are banned. As well, gatherings of more than 1,000 people in venues are banned in areas where the outbreaks are the worst.

March 12, 2020 (3,146 cases) - Schools are shut down nationwide as certain municipalities begin to be put under lockdown.

March 14, 2020 (6,391 cases) - The government officially declares a state of emergency for 15 days and initiates a nation-wide lockdown. Citizens are required to stay home, and all non-essential shops will be shut down. People will be only allowed out on public streets if they are purchasing essential items, travelling to and from work, or taking care of children or the elderly.

March 16, 2020 (9,942 cases) - Minister of the Interior Grande-Marlaska announces the closure of all Spanish borders, with an exception to Spanish citizens and those who can prove a situation of need or force majeure.

March 17, 2020 (11,826 cases) - Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez announces a 200 billion euro (310 billion CAD) support package designed to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus on the economy, as well as the country as a whole. This represents about 20% of the Spanish GDP.

March 26, 2020 (57,786 cases) - The state of emergency is extended to April 12.

March 28, 2020 (73,235 cases) - All non-essential workers are ordered to stay at home as the government tightens the lockdown. They will be provided paid recoverable leave unless they are working at home, are on sick leave or have their contracts suspended.

April 01, 2020 (104,118 cases) - Spain officially surpasses 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 09, 2020 (153,222 cases) - The state of emergency is extended to April 26, and Prime Minister Sanchez says that it will most likely not be the last extension.

April 13, 2020 (170,099 cases) - Workers in some non-essential industries such as construction and industry return to work despite doubt from health experts. National Police officers begin the distribution of millions of face masks at public transportation stations.

April 20, 2020 (200,210 cases) - Spain officially surpasses 200,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

April 21, 2020 (204,178 cases) - Health Minister Salvador Illa announces that children 14 and under are allowed to go out on short walks with parents or other adults in the same household. Earlier in the day, it was decided that they'd only be allowed to leave the house (with an adult) to go to the supermarket, pharmacy or bank.

April 23, 2020 (213,024 cases) - The state of emergency is extended to May 09.

April 28, 2020 (232,128 cases) - Prime Minister Sanchez presents the official reopening plan for easing lockdown restrictions, known as the "Plan for the Transition towards a new normality". It consists of four phases which will each last roughly two weeks, and each phase will be implemented based on the situation in each province individually.

May 04, 2020 (248,301 cases) - Phase 0, the first one out of the four, begins. It allows people out of their homes for short walks and individual sports, and also restarts economic activity on a small scale. On the same day, face masks are made mandatory on public transport.

May 07, 2020 (246,855 cases) - The state of emergency is extended one more time to May 24.

May 11, 2020 (268,143 cases) - For many regions, Phase 1 begins. Terraces will be able to open at half of their capacity, places of worship will open at one third of capacity, and small shops can open fully. Strict safety restrictions must be followed at all times.

May 21, 2020 (280,117 cases) - It is now mandatory to wear a face mask in closed spaces and outside if a two meter distance cannot be maintained, unless you are under the age of six. Not doing so can result in fines.

May 24, 2020 (282,852 cases) - The state of emergency is extended for the final time to June 21(almost a month long, which is a contrast to the previous extensions which lasted 15 days), which is when the government plans to end its phased plan.

May 25, 2020 (282,480 cases) - Phase 2 starts. Restaurants will be open for diners as long as social distancing guidelines are observed. Places of worship can extend their capacity from one third to a half, and cultural events can resume with limits to the amount of people that can attend.

June 08, 2020 (288,797 cases)- For many regions, Phase 3 (the final phase) begins, which is the final transition to “a new normal.” All shops can reopen, as long as strict social distancing rules are observed and capacity remains under a half. Restrictions on movement are also loosened.

June 21, 2020 (293,352 cases) - Spain is no longer under a state of emergency, and enters a “new normality” phase where each region can determine rules independently. People are now allowed to freely travel around the country to visit others, and borders are reopened to overseas visitors. However, wearing face masks is still mandatory.

July 09, 2020 (300,136 cases) - Spain officially surpasses 300,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

July 17, 2020 (307,335 cases) - In response to an increase in the number of cases in certain metropolitan areas, multiple local governments issue orders forbidding gatherings of more than 10 people in both public or private spaces, and advise residents to stay at home unless absolutely necessary.

China, despite being the origin of the pandemic, has not had a huge amount of cases. This may be partially due to the Chinese Government's secrecy about statistics. China's response to the outbreak is unique and managed to crack down on the virus effectively, despite complaints of restricting freedom among citizens.



December 01, 2019 (0 confirmed cases) - The first confirmed COVID-19 patient begins experiencing symptoms. Later, the South China Morning Post reports that the first case may actually be able to be traced all the way back to November 17.

December 27, 2019 (0 confirmed cases) - A hospital in Wuhan notifies the local center for disease control and prevention (CDC) and other health commissions of a mysterious cluster of pneumonia cases in the area.

December 31, 2019 (0 confirmed cases) - The Wuhan CDC announces to the public that there is a cluster of pneumonia cases related to the Huanan Seafood Market after documents are leaked onto the internet.

January 01, 2020 (0 confirmed cases) - The Huanan Seafood Market is closed down by Jianghan District's Health Agency and Administration for Market Regulation for "rectification."

January 10, 2020 (60 cases) - Chunyun begins. Chunyun (春運), is a 40 day period when millions of people travel home to visit family during the Spring Festival. Wan Xiangdong, the Chief Pilot of the Civil Aviation Administration, says that the agency will keep a close eye on the pandemic during this time, and officials from China Railway and the Ministry of Transport state that disinfection monitoring, protection measures, and other safeguarding strategies will be implemented to ensure that the virus does not become out of control.

January 19, 2020 (198 cases) - Over 40,000 Wuhan families meet at a huge potluck banquet to celebrate the Kitchen God Festival, a community tradition observed for over 20 years. According to a community committee, a block of the community had at least 10 confirmed COVID-19 cases at the time of the event, as well as 30 highly suspicious ones.

January 20, 2020 (278 cases) - Starting today, the National Health Commission (NHC) will publish daily reports on case numbers and death tolls. It announces that human-to-human

transmission has already occurred. On the same day, China's Supreme Court delivers a rare rebuke against the country's police force, stating that the "unreasonably harsh crackdown on online rumours" causes distrust amongst the public.

January 21, 2020 (326 cases) - Government officials warn against hiding and delaying reporting of virus cases, and say that anyone who tries to hide the spread of the disease will be "nailed on the pillar of shame for eternity." On the same day, Foreign Minister Spokesperson Geng Shuang states that China will share relevant information about the pandemic "with the WHO, relevant nations and China's Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan regions in a timely manner."

January 22, 2020 (571 cases) - Hubei launches a Class 2 Response to Public Health Emergency. Guangdong and Hunan province also do the same, later in the day. On the same day, Taobao (China's largest e-commerce platform) releases a statement which clarifies that face masks sold on its platforms will not be allowed to increase in price.

January 23, 2020 (830 cases) - Hubei and 13 other mainland provinces launch a Class 1 Reponse. This is the highest response level, and allows the government to reallocate resources, organize treatment, issue compulsory orders, manage movement of residents, and other things to ensure the pandemic is under control. A total lockdown begins in Wuhan and various Hubei cities, and public transit and highways are shut down. After this is announced, the CSI 300 Index (a measure of the top 300 stocks in the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock exchanges) drops almost 3% - the biggest single day loss in nearly 9 months.

January 24, 2020 (1,287 cases) - #抄河南的作业 (copy Henan's homework) trends on Weibo (a popular Chinese social media platform) due to the fact that netizens believe Henan province has handled the situation well. In the last month, Henan has shut down buses to Wuhan, relentlessly broadcasted information about epidemic prevention, dug trenches to block roads to Wuhan and implemented complete disinfection measures. However, the Public Service Ministry points out that cutting off roads without authorization is illegal in mainland China, and urges Henan to follow the principle "一断三不断" - block one, not free. This means blocking the virus, but not traffic, internet access, or roads.

January 25, 2020 (1,975 cases) - President Xi Jinping says China is facing a 'grave situation' after holding a politburo meeting to address the coronavirus. Chinese New Year celebrations are cancelled all over the country. On the same day, the General Administration of Customs reactivates the health declaration system. This forces people entering or exiting mainland China to write a health declaration. Border control staff will also monitor passengers and check for things like body temperature.

January 26, 2020 (2,744 cases) - A newly formed policy making and leading group designated for epidemic control is unveiled. It is led by Premier Li Keqiang rather than Xi Jinping. The group urges local governments to enhance epidemic control and strictly quarantine any suspected or confirmed cases. On the same day, Hubei Government's press meeting is described as a "car crash" when all three main officials (Wuhan's Mayor, Governor, and Provincial Party Secretary) either don't wear masks or wear them incorrectly.

January 27, 2020 (4,515 cases) - The Provincial People's Congress Standing Committee (PPCSC) of Yunnan province announces that it will postpone local sessions that were originally scheduled for February. Local parliament sessions for several other cities are also postponed.

January 29, 2020 (7,711 cases) - COVID-19 has officially spread to all provinces within mainland China, and all parts of Mainland China have launched a Class 1 Response. On the same day, all Hubei cities are in quarantine mode.

January 30, 2020 (9,692 cases) - The Ministry of Finance and NHC announce that there will be a subsidy of 300 yuan (57 CAD) per person, daily, that will go to those in direct contact with confirmed cases or cases that need to be investigated, such as doctors and nurses. Other medical personnel will receive 200 yuan (38 CAD).

February 01, 2020 (14,380 cases) - The People's Bank of China and five other departments issue a statement where they declare that relevant financial services will be strengthened to provide support during the pandemic. For example, loan repayment arrangements will be adjusted, credit policies will be tilted appropriately, and repayment periods will be postponed.

February 02, 2020 (17,205 cases) - On the first trading day after the Spring Festival, the three major stock indexes reach a record low opening at 8%.

February 03, 2020 (20,440 cases) - After initially not allowing Taiwan citizens to evacuate Wuhan due to the One China policy, the first batch of over 200 Taiwanese citizens is allowed to evacuate. On the same day, Xi Jinping issues statements declaring the need for prioritizing media reports and propaganda about front-line workers fighting the virus and prevention measures in general.

February 04, 2020 (24,324 cases) - Zhang Qin, the vice president of the Hubei Red Cross, is removed from his post. Gao Qin and Chen Bo of the Hubei Red Cross are given a warning. The deputy director of the Wuhan Municipal Bureau of Statistics, Xia Guohua, is also removed from his post.

February 07, 2020 (34,546 cases) - Chinese doctor Li Wenliang dies. He is commonly known as one of the whistleblowers who tried to alert other doctors of an unknown disease related to SARS but was ignored. Following his death, government officials delete posts calling for freedom of speech and one of the largest waves of online criticism of the government in years began.

February 09, 2020 (40,171 cases) - The Chinese government issues new regulations to severely punish those who disrupt epidemic control work, like employers forcing employees to work before factories officially resume. Breaking the rules could mean arrests and immediate jail sentences. As well, travellers from China who break Hong Kong quarantine laws can face 6 months jail.

February 10, 2020 (42,628 cases) - Xi Jinping is seen out in the public for the first time since the outbreak started, wearing a mask. He is spotted at a residential centre, and said the aim of the visit was "to learn about the situation of epidemic prevention and control at the grassroots level."

February 13, 2020 (63,851 cases) - The Chinese Government issues orders to shut down all non-essential businesses and companies in Hubei province until at least February 20.

February 17, 2020 (72,436 cases) - China's annual parliamentary meeting, run by the National People's Congress (NPC) is delayed for the first time since 1995. It is a ten day session that consists of around 3,000 delegates from around the nation. The NPC states that postponing the event will allow officials to focus on controlling the outbreak, as well as ensure the virus will not be transmitted at the meeting.

February 20, 2020 (75,465 cases) - The Chinese Government issues orders to shut down all non-essential companies as well as schools in Hubei province until at least March 10.

February 23, 2020 (77,150 cases) - An official notice is released in Shandong province that forbids online preaching - "a vital way for churches to reach congregants amid both persecution and the spread of the virus." It also instructs officials to shut down any unregistered Christian meetings, and to "positively guide" Christians from these meetings to "other means." The pandemic has not stopped the Chinese Government, which upholds a policy of state atheism, from enforcing its antireligious campaigns.

February 25, 2020 (78,064 cases) - The number of newly confirmed cases outside mainland China exceed those from within for the first time. The WHO praises measures taken by the government and says that they were effective. On the same day, a health software program installed into Wechat and Alipay is now used in over 200 Chinese cities. It assigns citizens a health code (green, yellow, or red) after they fill out a survey, and officials at checkpoints around the nation are checking peoples' health apps to see where they can go.

March 01, 2020 (80,026 cases) - A law that effectively bans people from posting negative content about China or the coronavirus comes into effect. This includes "dissemination of rumors," "disrupting economic or social order," "sensationalizing headlines," and more. The Provisions on the Governance of the Online Information Content Ecosystem, which was first announced in December, is designed to "create a positive online ecosystem" and "preserve national security and the public interest." The China Law Translate project described conditions in the law as "distressingly vague and easily abused."

March 03, 2020 (80,270 cases) - A report published by Citizen Lab is published. It reveals that China has been censoring terms and keyword combinations related to the coronavirus on major social media platforms like Wechat and YY - as early as December 31. Combinations like “习近平+疫情蔓延” (Xi Jinping + Epidemic spread), “死亡病例+肺炎+死亡人数” (Death case + Pneumonia + Death toll) and “疫情+病毒+李文亮+中央” (Epidemic + Virus + Li Wenliang + Central government) have all been censored, as well as many more.

March 11, 2020 (80,793 cases) - Xiangbaishu Church in Yixing city is demolished by officials who cited lockdown as their reason.

March 13, 2020 (80,824 cases) - China sends medical supplies, which include masks and respirators, to Italy. A team of Chinese medical staff is also sent.

March 14, 2020 (80,844 cases) - Hubei Sanitation and Health Committee Vice-Chairperson Liu Dongru announces that only Wuhan remains a high risk area - the rest of the province is either low or medium risk. Any low risk areas may lift some blockades and mobility controls.

March 18, 2020 (80,928 cases) - The Hubei taskforce to control COVID-19 announces that the majority of COVID-19 traffic checkpoints in Hubei will be removed. The only ones remaining will be checkpoints at entry and exit points into Wuhan and the province as a whole.

March 20, 2020 (81,008 cases) - More than 20,000 people from poor, predominantly Uighur counties in southern Xinjiang are sent to work in various Chinese cities. According to Xinjiang Daily, the goal is to transfer 50,000 people by the end of March. Xinjiang's push to remodel minorities like Muslims and Uighurs into workers for factories, willing or not, has often been questioned by critics. They represent one part of the campaign (which also features internment camps) by Xi Jinping to control this region, where minorities make up over 50% of the population. Residents are to undergo military-style training to convert them into dedicated workers, and experts say the labour programs border on forced labour.

March 25, 2020 (81,285 cases) - Hubei lifts lockdown in all areas except for Wuhan. Citizens still need a "Green Code" to travel and move around.

March 29, 2020 (81,439 cases) - The Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) adopts the "Five One" policy which allows each major Chinese airline to fly one route once a week to any one country. At this time, travel into China is closed to virtually all foreigners, excluding those with diplomatic visas or visas approved after this announcement was made.

April 01, 2020 (81,589 cases) - Two United States officials, who remain anonymous, claim that China is deliberately concealing case numbers and deaths. They point to the absolute lack of cases in Xinjiang prisons and re-education camps, and note that lower level officials may repost falsified data to avoid losing their jobs. As well, it's been noticed that there are a

number of people in retirement homes who died with COVID-19 symptoms but were never tested, which excluded them from tallies.

April 03, 2020 (81,639 cases) - It's declared that April 04, the Qingming (tomb-sweeping) festival of 2020, will be a national day of mourning for victims of COVID-19 and the aftermath of the pandemic. Citizens are requested to take three minutes of silence at 10 AM, and flags are flown at half mast. All public entertainment is also halted for the day.

April 08, 2020 (81,865 cases) - Wuhan ends its 11 week lockdown. It will allow traffic to reenter and pass through the city, and will loosen restrictions for all of its 11 million citizens. Services like public transport and supermarkets will reopen as well, although citizens will require a "Green Code" to travel.

April 12, 2020 (82,160 cases) - The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues an official statement. It says that Chinese government attaches "great importance to the life and health of foreign nationals in China", has "zero tolerance for discrimination", and treats all foreigners equally. This was in response to media coverage and diplomatic pressure regarding the government's treatment of Africans.

April 13, 2020 (82,249 cases) - Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson Zhao Lijian says that a series of new measures are being adopted in Guangzhou to address "the concerns of some African citizens" and to avoid racial discrimination. He also blames the United States for "making unwarranted allegations in an attempt to sow discord and stoke troubles". China's state media later described the incidents as "small rifts", while officials made televised visits to quarantined Africans with food and gifts.

May 01, 2020 (82,874 cases) - China begins its five-day Labor Day holiday. The Forbidden City in Beijing is now open to visitors, although capacity has been reduced to 5,000 and social distancing must be observed. Visitors will need to wear masks, show their health codes, accept temperature checks, and maintain appropriate distance between each other.

May 06, 2020 (82,883 cases) - China's State Council unveils 46 new Cross-Border E-Commerce Zones. Their purpose is to further develop the cross-border e-commerce industry while stabilizing foreign trade and investment during the pandemic. With CBEC, international companies can sell to domestic consumers at better duty rates and without specific licenses.

May 08, 2020 (82,886 cases) - Hong Kong begins easing its social distancing rules, allowing citizens to go out in groups of eight and reopening the majority of social venues like bars, gyms, and beauty parlours. Strict health and safety precautions must be taken at all times, and capacities for all venues are reduced. A timetable for students to return to school is also revealed, which allows certain pupils to return starting May 27.

May 18, 2020 (82,954 cases) - Xi Jinping announces on behalf of the Chinese government that it will dedicate \$2 billion USD (2.7 billion CAD) over two years, to help other countries respond to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

May 21, 2020 (82,967 cases) - Wuhan, the epicenter of the outbreak, announces new rules that prohibit the consumption, hunting, and breeding of wild animals. These will be in effect for five years.

May 22, 2020 (82,971 cases) - Chinese Premier Li Keqiang announces that for the first time in history, China will not set an economic growth target this year. He cites the uncertainties in the economy and trade, but notes that the Chinese Government has set a target of creating 9 million new urban jobs by the end of 2020. Instead, he outlines plans to reduce corporate burden by significant amounts, eliminate rural poverty, and more.

June 05, 2020 (83,027 cases) - China's Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) declares that qualifying foreign air carriers that are currently banned from entering the country will be allowed to travel to one city of their choice weekly, starting from June 08.

June 06, 2020 (83,030 cases) - At a news conference, the Chinese Government strongly defends its response to the coronavirus outbreak. Representatives deny hiding any information about the early spread of the virus and state that China had set a strong example for how to fight it.

June 13, 2020 (83,075 cases) - A fresh cluster of cases is confirmed in Xinfadi Market, a wholesale food market located in a southern Beijing district. It makes up about 80% of the city's entire farm produce supply. In total, 11 cases have been confirmed.

June 17, 2020 (83,265 cases) - Over 1,000 flights are cancelled, markets and schools are shut down, and residents are urged not to leave the city as the cluster of cases in Beijing worsens. International flights are being redirected to other cities, and thousands of food and beverage businesses are disinfected. At least 106 people have been affected by this

cluster. On the same day, Premier Li Keqiang announces a series of fee reductions for businesses dedicated towards stabilizing their economic futures. These include reductions to electricity fees, highway tolls, telecommunication rates, and more. Combined with previous financial measures taken, companies are expected to save RMB 310 billion (60 billion CAD) throughout the course of 2020.

June 18, 2020 (83,293 cases) - Salmon imports have been halted after suggestions of possible links to the Beijing outbreak, despite there being no scientific proof that fish can carry the disease. Media reported that the virus was discovered on chopping boards used for imported salmon. Investigations at Xinfadi Market continue.

July 20, 2020 (83,352 cases) - Cinemas in China begin to reopen in “low-risk regions” as long as appropriate safety precautions are taken. However, concessions will be banned (no drinking or eating in cinemas), attendance for each movie will be capped at 30%, and films may not exceed two hours in length.

July 25, 2020 (83,784 cases) - It's announced that all passengers who come to China by flight must complete the new coronavirus nucleic acid test within 5 days before boarding, and show proof. Tests must be completed at locations recognized by Chinese embassies in foreign countries.

July 31, 2020 (84,292 cases) - The Hong Kong government postpones the September parliamentary elections for a year due to the outbreak.