



COVID-19 6/1 UPDATE

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Global

Total cases – 6,229,408

Total deaths – 373,973

United States

Total cases – 1,799,747

Total deaths – 104,702

Total # tests – 16,936,891

Administration

- Discussing the "off-label" use of hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine for Covid-19, the **commissioner of the US Food and Drug Administration** this weekend said his agency does not "regulate the practice of medicine."
 - FDA Commissioner Dr. Stephen Hahn made the comments in an open letter published on the FDA's website Friday and [tweeted out by Hahn](#) Sunday.
 - The letter was titled "Bringing a Cancer Doctor's Perspective to FDA's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic," but it focused heavily on unproven drugs touted by President Trump for coronavirus.
- The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** will resume its regular briefings as the administration continues its coronavirus response, CNN has learned.
 - The CDC held a briefing Friday in which director Robert Redfield said the agency was "never blind" to the early spread of the coronavirus in the United States.
 - That session was the [first](#) of the resumption of the regular press briefings, a senior Health and Human Services official told CNN.
- Combinations of antivirals, anti-inflammatories and other drugs will likely be needed to treat people with coronavirus, a team of **US Food and Drug Administration** scientists said Friday.
 - It might even be necessary to customize treatment patient by patient, the FDA team said in a review of the treatments being tested against Covid-19.
 - "As the results of clinical trials become available, it may become increasingly clear that there is likely no single magic bullet to resolve the disease but a combination of several interventions that target different key factors of COVID-19 may well be required," FDA

- drug researcher Montserrat Puig and colleagues wrote in a report published in *Frontiers of Immunology*.
- “Until vaccines and targeted drugs for COVID-19 are available, there may be a need to intervene with personalized therapeutic approaches. We are learning day after day, that patients may be affected by SARS-CoV-2 differently and that many factors influence the outcome of the disease.”
 - **President Trump** said the US has now conducted more than 15 million Covid-19 tests.
 - “We’re gonna give you a big report on testing tomorrow. We have new tests coming out that are above and beyond anything that anybody would have thought even possible just a couple of months ago,” Trump said.
 - **Brett Giroir**, who is head of federal Covid-19 testing policy, says he expects to return to his typical duties at the HHS in mid-June.
 - Giroir commented at a virtual meeting of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS
 - NOTE: Giroir had been detailed to FEMA to work on testing for the coronavirus pandemic
 - **President Donald Trump** plans to visit Maine on Friday to tour a nasal swab manufacturing plant, a White House official said, even as the state’s governor directly warned that his trip prompted security concerns amid protests that have gripped the nation.
 - “I’m very concerned that your presence may cause security problems for our state,” Maine Governor Janet Mills, a Democrat, told the president on a conference call with state leaders Monday. Bloomberg News obtained audio of the call.
 - Targeted expenditures under Title III of Defense Production Act will use these funds to offset financial distress and invest in “regions most severely impacted to sustain essential domestic industrial base capabilities and spur local job creation,” **Pentagon** says in 54-page CARES Act spending plan sent on Friday to a congressionally mandated oversight panel.
 - Report outlines Defense Dept’s overall plan for spending \$10.5b in CARES Act funds approved for the U.S. military; planned Industrial Base investments include:
 - **Anthony Fauci**, the top U.S. infectious disease expert, says he used to meet with President Trump four times a week about a month ago, and now those meetings “have been dramatically decreased,” according to an interview with [Stat](#).
 - Covid-19 vaccine by the end of the year is “aspirational, but it’s certainly doable”
 - “But there’s no guarantee that it’s going to be effective,” he also says
 - A watchdog warned the **Labor Department** that lax requirements for claiming expanded unemployment benefits make such programs “highly vulnerable” to fraud. Those making claims have to self-certify that they have lost income because of a coronavirus-related reason, which could include being infected or having their workplace shut down to slow the spread. With such a certification they are immediately eligible for a weekly \$600 benefit that Congress passed in March, the department’s Inspector General’s office said in a memorandum.
 - The **U.S.** is sending **Brazil** 2 million doses of hydroxychloroquine, a malaria drug touted by President Donald Trump, and 1,000 ventilators, the White House said.
 - The drug will be used by Brazil’s nurses, doctors, and health-care professionals to fight Covid-19 and to treat Brazilians who become infected. The Food and Drug Administration said the drug should be used in a hospital setting.

- The two countries will cooperate on controlled clinical trials to help evaluate the safety and efficacy of the drug for both prophylaxis and the early treatment of the coronavirus, the White House said.
- **President Donald Trump** said he's planning to host an expanded Group of Seven leaders meeting in the autumn, postponing efforts to hold the event in June at Camp David.
 - Trump, speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One, said he would extend an invitation to leaders from Russia, Australia, India and South Korea as well the current participants. The coronavirus and relations with China are likely to be major topics.
 - The move to invite Russia will be controversial. Russia was suspended from what was then the Group of Eight major economies in 2014 after its annexation of Crimea. Trump has mused before about bringing Moscow back into the fold.
 - **German Chancellor Angela Merkel** indicated this weekend that she was hesitant to travel to the U.S. in June for a physical G-7 meeting, one that Trump saw as a sign of normalization after the coronavirus pandemic shut down major economies.
- As of last Friday evening, **SBA** reported that almost 4.5 million loans had been approved worth \$510.2 billion – which was almost \$300 million less than the net amount the day before and more than \$3 billion less than through May 16, despite the number of loan approvals increasing during that time.
 - The SBA and Treasury Department, which oversee the program, haven't provided a comprehensive accounting of cancellations, which include duplicate loans. Some returns are from larger publicly traded companies that sent back hundreds of millions of dollars following outrage over their getting aid at the expense of mom-and-pop stores, prompting an SBA vow to audit all loans of more than \$2 million.
- **Acting Comptroller of the Currency Brian Brooks** is urging mayors and governors to consider "the adverse impact" of economic shutdowns in response to the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's banks, according to a [statement](#) from his office.
 - Certain aspects of local orders "potentially threaten the stability and orderly functioning of the financial system the OCC is charged by law to protect," Brooks says in letters to the National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors and National Association of Governors
 - "Essentially indefinite" business closures in certain cities and states decreases businesses' ability to service their debt, "thus increasing default risk in the banking system," Brooks says
 - Shutdowns may also prolong an economic downturn and reduce availability of credit for recovery
- **President Trump** again claimed without evidence that coronavirus is "going away" and said that there may even be a cure on the horizon.
 - In response to Geoff Ballotti of Wyndham Hotels speaking about consumers feeling comfortable traveling again, the President repeated one of his favorite refrains throughout the coronavirus pandemic, saying that the virus is "going away."
 - On the possibility of a cure, Trump said "it won't be in the long distance."
- **President Trump** announced his intent to extend the Title 32 orders through mid-August. The President's current authority provides governors continued command of their National Guard forces, while being 100% federally funded under Title 32, enabling these states to use the

additional resources to meet the missions necessary in the whole-of-America COVID-19 response. ([HERE](#))

- Today the **U.S. Food and Drug Administration** took steps to further support the development of COVID-19 tests for at-home self-collection by including a voluntary EUA template for at-home sample collection kits to its website. As explained in FDA's guidance, Policy for COVID-19 Tests during the Public Health Emergency (Revised), this template reflects FDA's current thinking on the data and information that developers should submit to facilitate the EUA process. ([HERE](#))
 - FDA Daily Roundup – May 28 ([HERE](#))
- As part of the national response to COVID-19, the **Department of Defense** has signed a \$12.45 million contract award with 5N Plus Semiconductor to improve semiconductor production processes to support long term business viability and maintain the sole domestic source of critical semiconductor technologies for space programs. ([HERE](#))

Capitol Hill

- **Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell** will attempt to expedite approval of changes to the popular Paycheck Protection Program aimed at giving small businesses more flexibility in using the money from the fund, according to Senate aides.
 - McConnell is seeking to move the bill, passed by the House last week, by unanimous consent in the Senate if no senators raise objections to a notice to lawmakers, according to the aides.
 - The bill would extend the eight-week period when proceeds must be spent for loans to be forgiven to 24 weeks or until the end of the year, whichever comes first. Businesses would also have as long as five years, instead of two years, to repay any money owed on a loan and could use a greater percentage of proceeds on rent and other approved non-payroll expenses.
 - "I hope and anticipate the Senate will soon take up and pass legislation that just passed the House by an overwhelming vote of 417-1 to further strengthen the Paycheck Protection Program so it continues working for small businesses that need our help," McConnell said on the Senate floor Monday.
 - It is not yet clear if all senators will agree to the bill without changes.
- The House has left Washington with the next scheduled vote on June 30. Agreeing to the House bill without changes would be the fastest way for the PPP bill to become law.
 - The House bill, [H.R. 7010](#), would lower to 60% the current requirement that 75% of a loan be used on payroll. Restaurants and other small businesses have said they want flexibility to spend more on overhead expenses, especially in high-rent areas.
 - Rubio said the House language creates a problem for companies that use less than 60% of a loan on payroll. The current PPP program allows partial loan forgiveness if a company uses less than 75% of a loan for payroll, but the House bill appears to state that none of the loan would be forgiven if the 60% threshold isn't met.
- **Democratic Sen. Maria Cantwell** and **Republican Sen. Bill Cassidy** are among senators proposing a bill aimed at protecting consumer privacy on contact-tracing apps, according to a Senate aide.
 - The so-called Exposure Notification Privacy Act would aim to create privacy protections for commercial automated exposure notification services such as those provided under Apple and Google's Covid-19 contact-tracing tools that would partner with public health authorities, according to the aide

- Bill would prohibit any automated exposure notification service that is not operated by or used in collaboration with a public health authority
 - Bill would require consumers to give consent, request for data deletion at any time
- The coronavirus is projected to reduce the U.S.'s cumulative nominal GDP by \$15.7t from 2020 to 2030, the [Congressional Budget Office told lawmakers in a letter](#) Monday.
 - Difference constitutes a 5.3% reduction in cumulative nominal GDP over the decade compared with economic projections in January, before the virus spread to the U.S.
 - The virus's economic effects will continue to drag on productivity at least slightly into 2030, the office projects
- A bill requiring states to certify that they have a process to distribute pandemic-related federal aid to local governments was introduced Monday by **Rep. Kevin Brady** (R-Texas).
 - If they don't certify such plans by June 12, the bill would enable Treasury to take back 25% of the funds provided.
 - "If we are going to reopen our economy safely while continuing to apply maximum pressure on the virus, these communities need these funds now," Brady said in a statement.
 - The National League of Cities found that 32 states have been withholding funds from local governments.
- The **Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee** plans a hearing tomorrow on implementation of [Title IV of the CARES Act](#). The section provides \$500 billion in emergency Covid-19-related relief for businesses, states, municipalities, and tribes.
- **U.S. Senate Health Cmte Chairman Lamar Alexander** says President Trump's decision to terminate U.S. membership in the World Health Organization could hurt development of vaccines.
 - "I disagree with the president's decision," the Tennessee Republican says in statement
 - "Certainly there needs to be a good, hard look at mistakes the World Health Organization might have made in connection with coronavirus, but the time to do that is after the crisis has been dealt with, not in the middle of it"

State/Local

- A 5-4 **Supreme Court** ruling has rejected a request from a **California** church to block limitations on the number of people who could attend religious services during the coronavirus pandemic.
 - Chief Justice John Roberts sided with the liberals on the bench, and wrote separately to explain his vote.
 - "Although California's guidelines place restrictions on places of worship, those restrictions appear consistent with the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment," Roberts wrote.
 - "Similar or more severe restrictions apply to comparable secular gatherings, including lectures, concerts, movie showings, spectator sports, and theatrical performances, where large groups of people gather in close proximity for extended periods of time."
 - The thrust to reopen churches has become one of the latest debates in the coronavirus culture wars. As states across the country have been gradually reopening their cities, some churches have argued that they are being treated differently than other businesses or groups.
- **Gov. Andrew Cuomo** (D) urged protesters Saturday to "wear a mask" as the coronavirus crisis collided with violent demonstrations in New York. Both Cuomo and New York City Mayor Bill de

de Blasio called on protesters to refrain from violence and said they're concerned about the risks of the virus combining in the close quarters of protests, which de Blasio called "inherently dangerous."

- The city's reopening, the last in the state, is due to begin June 8. De Blasio said the violence wouldn't delay the city's plan to restart its construction, manufacturing, wholesale and curbside retail businesses. But the costs of policing the city during days of protests must be added to a budget already under stress from the lockdown's economic costs
- **DC Mayor Muriel Bowser** said yesterday [she was concerned](#) the protests could spark another increase in coronavirus cases in a city that started the first phase of its reopening on May 29. "We saw a mass gathering, basically -- we've been working hard for the last eight, 10 weeks on not having any mass gatherings," Bowser said.
- Chicago [may postpone its partial easing](#) of the Covid-19 shutdowns this week after violent protests over the death of Floyd left devastating wreckage, Mayor Lori Lightfoot said yesterday. The city was set to start reopening on Wednesday, then add more city services and some parks on June 8, but Lightfoot said she's consulting with the commissioner of public health, police superintendent and others to make a determination on the plan.
- The **New York** subway system will be prepared when the city reopens on June 8, Governor Andrew Cuomo said, although transit officials have yet to [provide detailed](#) plans to reduce risks to public health.
 - "They're disinfecting trains like never before but they have another week of work to do and they will be ready," he told reporters Saturday. Mayor Bill de Blasio was less sure on Friday, saying the Metropolitan Transportation Authority that oversees subways and buses hasn't provided enough information.
 - City officials expect 200,000 to 400,000 workers back in construction, manufacturing, wholesale and curbside retail jobs when reopening begins. Subway service will increase from reduced runs forced by a 90% drop in ridership and the quarantine of 9,000 workers. City and transit officials, and some employers, say they expect and want workers to avoid the subway.
- **New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo** has signed a bill that gives death benefits to families of frontline workers who died battling the coronavirus pandemic.
 - "It is the least we can do to say thank you, and we honor you, and we remember you. You gave your lives for us. We will be there to support your families going forward," Cuomo said at a news conference on Saturday.
 - "We grieve for your loss, and we will always be there for you the way you were there for us. Thank you," the governor added.
- At least five regions in upstate New York have entered phase two as of Friday, **Gov. Andrew Cuomo** said during his Covid-19 news briefing Saturday.
 - Next week, the capital region and western New York will end 14 days of being in phase one and will have to make a decision if they will move to phase two of the reopening, the governor said.
- **California** plans to have 10,000 workers trained by July 1 to contact trace coronavirus cases, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced in a news conference on Friday.
 - The first phase commitment of 10,000 workers will be able to track 3,600 new cases per day, Newsom said.

- Newsom noted the importance of contact tracing as the state reopens because it will meet the substantial needs of the counties that are reopening.
 - The state's testing capacity has substantially increased from 2,000 to 50,000 tests every day. There has been an increase in the number of positive cases due to the increase in testing capacity, Newsom explained.
- **Los Angeles** will reopen further after attesting to the stability in the county's coronavirus rates and hospital capacity.
 - This approval to reopen grants Los Angeles County residents to begin dining in restaurants and shopping in retail stores.
 - It also requires some modifications including face coverings, physical distancing and increased sanitization.
- **New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy** announced that state is on track to move to stage two in the reopening process June 15.
 - Outdoor dining and nonessential retail will be permitted to open with limited capacity on June 15.
 - Personal care businesses like salons will be allowed to open June 22 and Murphy said he hopes fitness centers will be permitted to open in some capacity shortly after that.
 - The governor stressed citizens should continue social distancing and face covering practices as the reopening stages continue.
- **Louisiana** can move to phase two of its reopening on Friday, Gov. John Bel Edwards said Monday.
 - However, New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell said that Orleans Parish will continue to stay in phase one.
- **Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms** issued an executive order to extend the hazard pay for the city's Covid-19 frontline employees, her office said Monday.
 - The nearly 5,400 eligible employees will receive an additional \$500 a month through Sept. 30, according to the order.
- **New Jersey** is creating a short-term rental assistance program for low and moderate income families, Gov. Murphy announced on Friday.
 - The state will be applying at least \$100 million to the program, which is aimed at helping families financially impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic keep their homes.
- **New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo** said he expects the region of Western New York to move to Phase 2 of reopening tomorrow.
 - "Looks very good," Cuomo said about the region's data.
 - The governor said a group of "global experts" will go through the data to confirm.
 - A final announcement is expected later this afternoon.
 - Cuomo said the Capital region is on track to enter phase 2 on Wednesday.
 - In Phase 2, businesses considered "more essential" with lower risks of infection to workers and customers will be a priority, Cuomo previously said.
- **Washington Gov. Jay Inslee** said the state's stay-at-home order will be allowed to expire on Sunday.
 - "Under this approach, counties will have more flexibility to demonstrate that they have the capability to stay on top of the virus," Inslee said at a news conference Friday.
 - The earliest coronavirus hotspots in the United States were in Washington, but Inslee said enough progress has been made to allow more activities.

- “This does not mean, obviously, that we’re returning to normal,” Inslee said. “It means that, three months to the day after we declared a state of emergency, we’re successfully moving forward.”
 - Inslee said counties with few cases may be able to move into phase three soon, but the earliest date would be June 3.
- **Florida** approved reopening plans for Walt Disney World and Sea World.
 - Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings submitted an endorsement to the state after both parks presented reopening plans to the Orange County Economic Recovery Task Force Wednesday.
 - Sea World will reopen on June 10 and Walt Disney World will begin the reopening process on July 11, according to correspondence from Florida's Department of Business and Professional Regulation.
- Hair salons and barber shops will reopen in **Los Angeles**, according to Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger.
 - Drive-in theaters, flea markets and swap meets can also reopen.

International

- The **European Union’s** budget commissioner wants member states to back [new taxes](#), including a levy on big companies for access to the single market, to help fund the recovery from the economic effects of the coronavirus, the Financial Times reported.
 - In an interview, Commissioner Johannes Hahn said the tax would be part of a package to cover the EU’s proposed 750 billion euro (\$675 billion) fund to help with rebuilding. Hahn said there was no alternative but to give the European Commission new measures of collecting revenue to service debt it would take on under the recovery plan.
 - Among the obstacles to be overcome is opposition among so-called frugal countries -- Austria, Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden, the newspaper said. Hahn is from Austria.
- **Mexico** has entered a new Covid-19 phase today, reopening certain sectors of the economy under its new plan deemed the “new normal.”
 - Mining, construction and the “fabrication of transport equipment” such as the auto parts industry are now considered essential as they slowly begin reopening with safety measures that factories and its employees must adhere to.
 - This comes as Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador begins a tour Monday in the state of Quintana Roo where Cancún is located, his first trip since late March.
 - The state is preparing to reopen the tourism sector among other activities.
- The **Americas**, especially **Latin America** and the **Caribbean**, are seeing a rapid increase in the number of new coronavirus cases, the World Health Organization said Monday.
 - “Five of the 10 countries worldwide reporting the highest new number of cases in the past 24 hours are in the Americas: Brazil, USA, Peru, Chile and Mexico,” said Dr. Mike Ryan, WHO executive director of Health Emergencies Program.
 - The countries reporting the biggest increases in new numbers: Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Haiti, Argentina and Bolivia.
- The **World Health Organization** on Monday said it hopes President Trump will not follow through with his decision to terminate the relationship between the United States and WHO.

- "The world has long benefitted from the strong collaborative engagement with the government and the people of the United States," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said during a briefing in Geneva on Monday.
 - "The US government's and its people's contribution and generosity toward global health over many decades has been immense, and it has made a great difference in public health all around the world," Tedros said. "It is WHO's wish for this collaboration to continue."
- The economic reopening of **São Paulo** state, the most populous in Brazil, starts today for sectors such as shopping malls, commerce, offices, real estate and car shops.
 - There are five phases for reopening, which will be adopted by the mayor of each city as they see fit based on the coronavirus situation in their jurisdictions.
 - However, the mayor for the capital city of São Paulo, Bruno Covas, extended the ban on nonessential activities there until June 15, contrary to the expectations of representatives of industry and commerce.
- The **Armenian Prime Minister** has contracted the coronavirus, his press officer told CNN.
 - Nikol Pashinyan is able to work from a distance and is isolating with his family members who have also contracted the virus, said his press officer Mané Gevorgyan.
- **Greece:** From Monday, a limited number of international flights will be allowed to land in Athens. This will be widened from June 15, when visitors from 29 countries will be allowed to fly into the country's two main airports in Athens and Thessaloniki. The list of countries will be extended again on July 1. Every arriving passenger must be tested for the virus and stay overnight at a designated hotel. Visitors who test negative must self-quarantine for 7 days, while those who test positive must spend 14 days under supervised quarantine. Restaurants and cafes across Greece resumed operations on May 25.
- **France:** Cafes, bars, restaurants, beaches and lakes will reopen Tuesday. Gatherings must be limited to 10 people and the capacity of outdoor spaces will be limited to 5,000 people, under the condition that social distancing rules are enforced. Parks reopened Saturday.
- **Italy:** From June 3, travel restrictions to and from foreign countries will be lifted. People will be allowed to travel between regions.
- **Spain:** From Monday, around 70% of the Spanish population will move to phase two of restriction easing, which allows meetings of up to 15 people from different households, some restaurant service indoors, and the opening of stores, cinemas and museums but with occupancy limits. Small islands in Spain's Balearic and Canary Islands will advance to phase three, which eases even more restrictions. The Madrid region, which includes Spain's capital and surrounding cities, will remain in phase one without any changes.
- **Denmark:** Tourists from Germany, Norway and Iceland will be able to enter Denmark starting June 15. Tourists must document that they have booked a stay of at least six overnights in Denmark.
- **England:** From Monday, groups of up to six people can meet outdoors, including in gardens and other private outdoor spaces, provided strict social distancing guidelines are followed. It's possible to send children to school or nursery if they are in early years, reception, year 1 or year 6. Elite athletes can train and compete using the specified gyms, pools and sports facilities. Outdoor markets and car showrooms can reopen.
- **Wales:** People from two different households will be able to meet each other outdoors.

- **Scotland:** Household waste and recycling centers will reopen to the public from Monday. Teachers will be allowed to reenter schools on June 1 to begin preparations for schools reopening on August 11. Childcare services and outdoor nurseries will reopen from Wednesday with limits placed on the number of children that can be cared for.
- The chief minister of **Delhi**, Arvind Kejriwal, said India's capital territory will seal its borders for the next week to stop the spread of novel coronavirus.
 - However, Kejriwal said the new restriction would not stop the movement of essential goods and services across the city's borders.
 - All shops across the city will be allowed to open every day, but a curfew will be in place from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. in accordance with guidelines issued by the Indian government. All industries will be allowed to operate, but with a staggered workforce.
- **Thailand** will ease some of its coronavirus-related restrictions from today, Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha's office has announced.
- Thermal imaging cameras are expected to play a big part as **Japan** begins to reopen following the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - Retailers in Tokyo are embracing the technology as a way to quickly scan multiple customers for fevers.
 - The iconic 109 department store in Tokyo's trendy Shibuya district reopened today equipped with thermal imaging cameras at its entrance, while Isetan Mitsukoshi's flagship department store opened over the weekend with thermal cameras at its entrances.
- Recreational venues in **South Korea**, including bars, nightclubs and indoor gyms, will be required to keep a QR code-based customer log from June 10, Health Minister Park Neung-hoo said Sunday.
 - This data will be automatically erased after four weeks to safeguard customer information.
 - The minister also outlined several other disease prevention guidelines required from June 2. Operators must regularly disinfect the premises, check customers for symptoms and ensure customers wear masks.
 - Those who violate the guidelines, including customers, could be subject to fines, and businesses could be forced to close.
 - As of 12 p.m. local time on Sunday, 111 cases were linked to the Coupang logistics center cluster and 270 cases were linked to the [Itaewon nightclub cluster](#) in Seoul, according to the Health Ministry.
- It is now mandatory to wear a mask in crowded public spaces across **Pakistan**, according to a statement released by the Ministry of Health on Sunday. Such spaces include mosques, bazaars, shopping malls and public transport.
 - The mandate comes as the country recorded its highest increase in cases to date, with 3,039 cases reported in the past 24 hours. Testing has not increased.
- **India** is introducing a phased re-opening of public spaces in some areas and a shortening of the night time curfew, according to India's Ministry of Homes Affairs.
 - The nationwide lockdown in containment zones, however, will be extended to June 30, but the three-phase easing of restrictions elsewhere -- called "Unlock 1" -- will begin on June 8.

- Phase one will allow for the re-opening of places of worship to the public, along with hotels, restaurants, shopping malls and other hospitality services.
 - Prior to that, starting June 1, restrictions on the inter-state and intra-state movement of persons and goods will be lifted, unless the state or union territory decides otherwise. The curfew prohibiting the movement of individuals between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. will be shortened to 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. nationwide.
- The **World Health Organization** on Saturday released new guidance for mass gatherings amid the coronavirus pandemic, recommending a number of possible changes to large events -- once they're allowed to take place.
 - Holding gatherings outdoors, limiting attendance to healthy people and staggering arrivals could all help limit the spread of the virus, according to the guidance.
 - "In the context of Covid-19, mass gatherings are events that could amplify the transmission of the virus and potentially disrupt the host country's response capacity," the guidance said. But it said large events offered benefits, too, such as providing employment and boosting psychological well-being.
 - "Since mass gatherings have substantial political, cultural, social, and economic implications, authorities should assess the importance and necessity of an event and consider the option that it may take place, provided all associated public health risks are adequately addressed and mitigated," the guidance said.
- **Venezuela** will begin a partial reopening of nine economic sectors on June 1, which will see them open for five days and then observe quarantine for the next ten, the country's President Nicolas Maduro announced on Saturday.
 - Border towns will not be part of the measure and the Venezuelan border will remain shut for the foreseeable future, Maduro said.
 - During the ten days of quarantine, the food provision and health care sectors will be able to perform essential activities, according to the official Venezuelan News Agency.
- Extremely vulnerable people in **Great Britain** who have been "shielding" — staying at home at all times and avoiding any face-to-face contact — will be allowed outdoors from Monday, the UK government said in a statement ahead of the official announcement on Sunday.
 - Communities Secretary Robert Jenrick will announce that 2.2 million clinically extremely vulnerable people will be able to go outside with members of their household, while continuing to follow social distancing guidelines, according to the government statement. The updated guidance says those who live alone can meet outside with one other person from another household.
- Portugal will delay by three days reopening shopping malls in the Lisbon region, which reported new clusters of the coronavirus. The capital's malls will remain closed until June 4 as other centers open as planned on June 1, Prime Minister Antonio Costa said. Lisbon's situation is not "out of control" and new cases are quite focused, he said after the biggest daily jump in infections in three weeks

Other

- **Moderna**, one of the leading pharmaceutical companies developing a Covid-19 vaccine, said it's started a mid-stage trial and given doses to the first patients. The 600-person, phase 2 study will give healthy participants one of two doses of the candidate, or a placebo, Moderna said in a statement. They will be examined for potential side effects as well as whether it creates an immune-system response that could protect against the coronavirus.

- French drugmaker **Sanofi** opted to temporarily suspend the recruitment of new patients with Covid-19 for trials with hydroxychloroquine until it's provided reassurance on safety, the company said in a statement Friday. It also put on hold the release of hydroxychloroquine supplies for off-label use in Covid-19 until safety concerns are cleared up by the World Health Organization, according to the statement.
- **Dr. Tom Frieden, former director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**, told Axios Health he thinks another 20,000 people could die from Covid-19 within the next month.
 - The stark estimate is based on the current number of cases in the US, he told the website.
 - Frieden said the CDC has been relegated to the backseat during this pandemic.
- **Eli Lilly and Company** said it has started the first human trial of an antibody therapy to treat the novel coronavirus. If the trial is successful, the therapy could be available by the fall, the company said.
 - The first patients to receive the therapy are in hospitals at Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles, New York University's Grossman School of Medicine and Emory University in Atlanta, the company told CNN, and results are expected to be available by the end of June.
 - The antibody therapy was created through a partnership with AbCellera, a Canada-based biotech company and the Vaccine Research Center at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.
- **Japanese electronics giant Hitachi** announced last week that it will aim to make working-from-home the new normal from April 2021, surprising many in Japan -- a country famous for its demanding work culture, where "salarymen" clock in up to 80 hours a week.
 - Hitachi said it will give employees 3,000 yen (\$28) a month to buy masks and sanitizers, while it will also look to help employees pay for furniture, WiFi and monitors so they can improve their work-from-home environments.
 - The tech conglomerate's eventual goal is to have 70% of its workforce -- about 23,000 people -- work remotely for two or three days a week.
- **NBA Commissioner Adam Silver** and the league's Board of Governors are considering four possible scenarios to restart the suspended season.
 - ESPN's Adrian Wojnarowski and The Athletic's Shams Charania are reporting that Silver presented the options on Friday that owners will need to decide on before approaching the players union.
- **Canada's major banks and other businesses** will encourage Toronto office staff to keep working from home until at least September to help contain the spread of Covid-19, Mayor John Tory said.
 - Telecom companies, accounting firms, insurance companies and universities and colleges joined financial companies in agreeing to continue telework at the request of the city and Tory, who is concerned about a potential flare-up in the pandemic if too many people flood the downtown core as restrictions are lifted.
 - At least 24 companies agreed to ask staff to work remotely including Canada's six biggest banks, Manulife Financial Corp., Sun Life Financial Inc., Rogers Communications Inc., PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP and Ryerson University.

