

Update on COVID-19 pandemic in Europe

Talking about second wave?

In the previous issue of EDI Journal we gave a glimpse on the measures during the crisis in Europe. Two months later some countries have issued travel warnings due to summer tourism and increased infection rates. As of 20 August 2020, almost 2 million cases of COVID-19 infection in people have been reported. The following data is based on the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), agency by the European Union. We also compare in this issue the infection data based on 12 June with data from 20 August 2020. Whereas in the European countries death rate is dropping, the United States of America show still increasing death rates as well as the highest number of infection cases in the world with a total of 5.5 million cumulative. In the summer issue of the EDI Journal (2/2020), we reported a step-by-step back to “normal” for Europe. In August situation has changed.

Country	Cases/deaths 12 June	Cases/deaths new to date 20 August	New Cases 20 August	Situation	Source
 Spain	242,280 / 27,136	370,867 / 28,797	6,671 (++)	Over the past two weeks, Spain has detected more COVID-19 cases per capita than any other European country.	WHO, Euronews, ECDC
 United Kingdom	268,220 / 39,101	321,102 / 41,397 /	812 (-)	Daily infections had risen consistently since the start of July following 'Super Saturday' — the first major easing of lockdown.	Daily Mail, WHO, ECDC
 Italy	236,142 / 34,301	255,278 / 35,412	642 (+)	Despite the rise in infections, daily death tallies remain low and are often in single figures.	The Irish Times, WHO, ECDC
 Germany	185,674 / 8,867	228,621 / 9,253	1,707 (++)	Germany sees uptick of infections as school reopens	Euronews, ECDC, WHO
 France	155,561 / 29,398	225,043 / 30,468	3,680 (++)	The sharp rise is partly being explained by an increase in testing.	Euronews, ECDC, WHO
 Sweden	48,288 / 4,874	85,411 / 5,802	192 (--)	Death rate remains lower than some European countries which had imposed much harsher measures, including Italy, Britain and Spain.	ABC News, ECDC, WHO
 Belgium	60,299 / 9,657	79,386 / 9,969	--	Belgium's Security Council: Return to normal not yet possible	The Brussels, Times, WHO
 Netherlands	48,251 / 6,059	64,463 / 6,172	552	Number of cases has been rising steadily – new measures by government	Dutch News, ECDC, WHO
 Poland	28,201 / 1,247	58,611 / 1,913	735 (+)	Poland tightens measures amid record infections	The First News, ECDC, WHO
 Portugal	35,910 / 1,512	54,701 / 1,786	253 (+)	UK takes Portugal off travel restriction list	Euronews, ECDC, WHO
 Austria	16,964 / 677	24,300 / 729	425 (++)	Austria has been removed from UK travel corridor (safe travel list)	Euronews, ECDC, WHO
 Greece	3,088 / 183	7,684 / 235	212 (-)	Greece makes testing mandatory for citizens from 10 countries	Schengenvisa-info news
 Croatia	2,249 / 107	7,074 / 168	215 (++)	Croatia off safe travel list	BBC News, ECDC, WHO
 Serbia	12,102 / 253	30,048 / 648	158 (+)	The number of the newly infected has continued to rise since June 21	Balkans Insight WHO
 Turkey	174,023 / 4,792	253,108 / 6,039	1,505	Doctors fear coronavirus number higher than the government admits	The World, WHO
 Switzerland	30,961 / 1,938	38,662 / 1,718	310 (++)	Government disputes claims of second coronavirus wave	The Local Switzerland, WHO