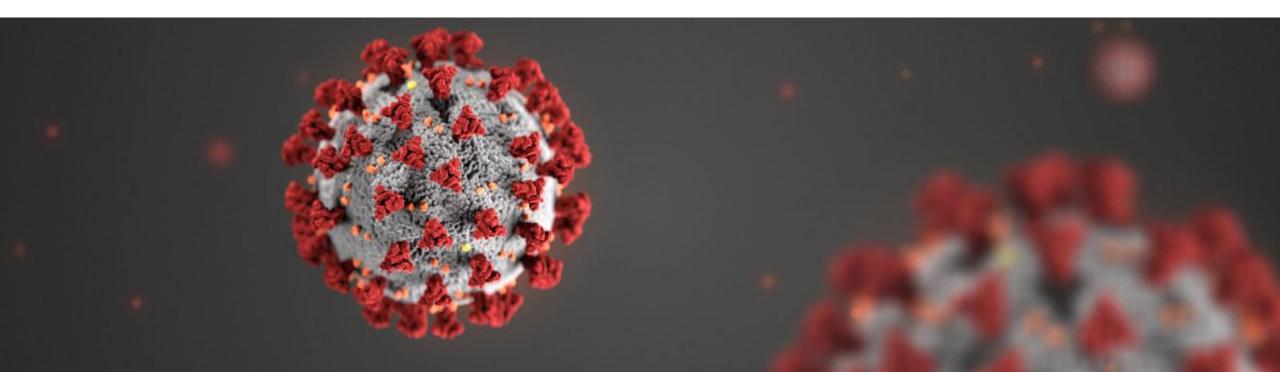


In it for life

# **SARS-CoV-2** Report

# José Luis Pires



## Contents

### SARS-Cov-2

- Vaccines and Products to treat COVID-19 with EUA in the United States
- Confirmed cases by Country
- Deaths by Country
- > Total confirmed Covid-19 cases and deaths per million people
- > Daily new confirmed Covid-19 cases and deaths per million people
- Number of COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO region
- Portugal
  - <u>Cases, Deaths and Projections</u> per week
- Ireland
  - <u>Cases, Deaths and Projections</u> per week
- New Jersey/US
  - <u>Cases, Deaths and Projections</u> per week
- Recent News



# Where each vaccine is being used

#### Portugal

- Doses administered per 100 people: 80 (67)
- Total doses administered: 8,203,905 (6,840,510)
- Population Vaccinated: 52% (44%)
- Population Fully vaccinated : 31% (23%)

### Ireland

- Doses administered per 100 people: 74 (63)
- Total doses administered: 3,679,531 (3,100,000)
- Population Vaccinated: 48% (36%)
- Population Fully vaccinated : 20% (11%)

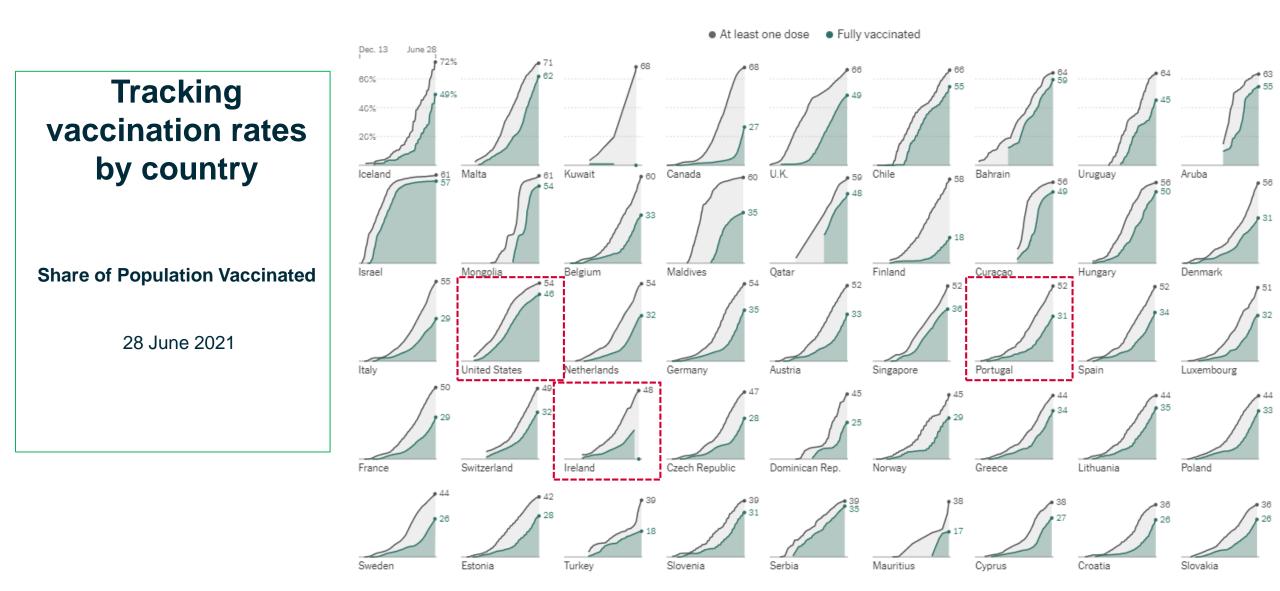
### USA

- Doses administered per 100 people: 98 (94)
- Total doses administered: 324,414,371 (310,645,827)
- Population Vaccinated: 54% (53%)
- Population Fully vaccinated : 46% (44%)

28 June 2021 (14 June 2021)

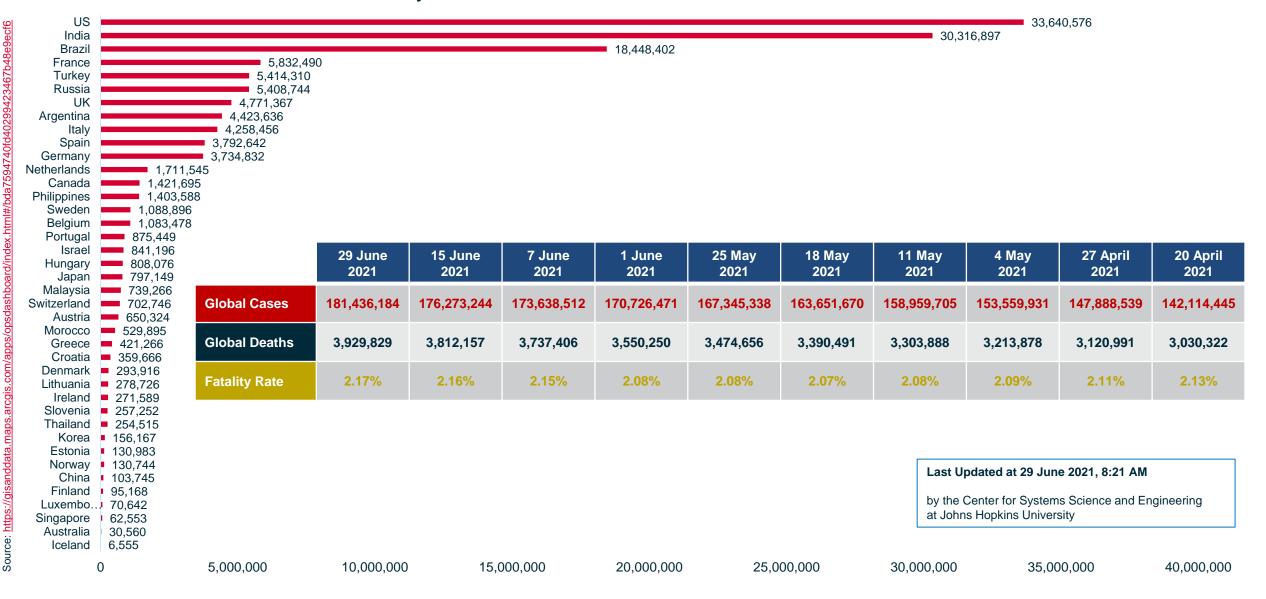


Source: The New York Times



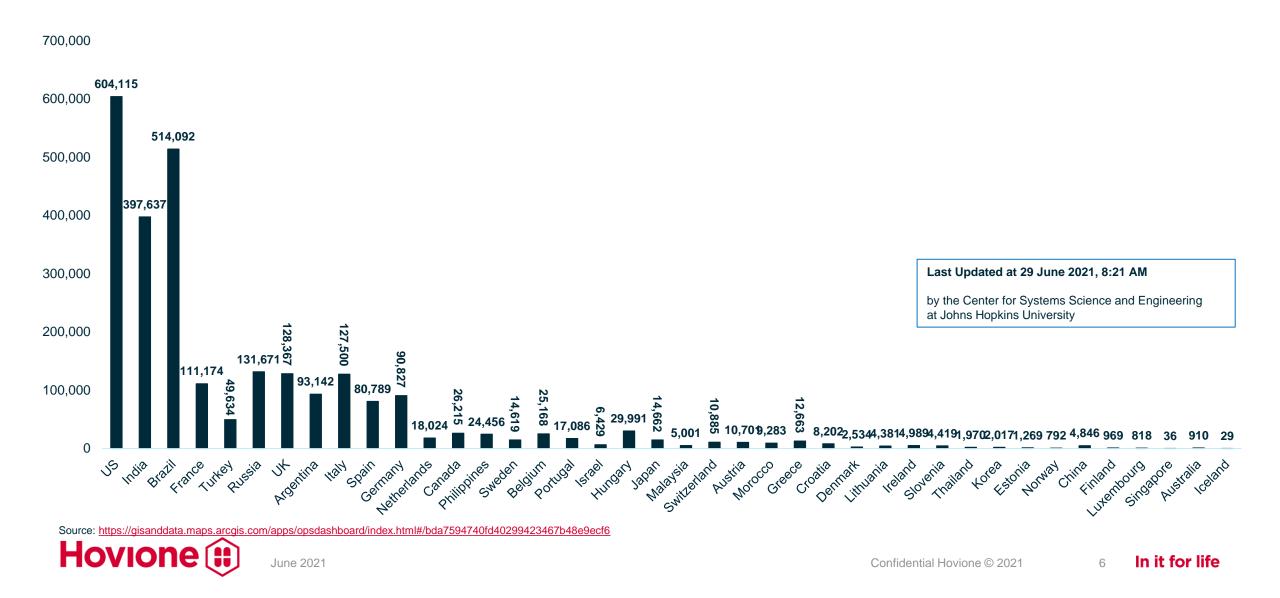
# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / Covid-19) – Confirmed cases by country

Note: Selected Countries, sorted by # of cases



# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / Covid-19) – Deaths by Country

Note: Selected Countries, sorted by # of cases



# Latest Cases and Deaths by TOP 10 Countries – 27 June 2021

|         | Total Cases    | Cas     | es in last 7 days |
|---------|----------------|---------|-------------------|
| 1       | USA            | 1       | Brazil            |
| 2       | India          | 2       | India             |
| 3       | Brazil         | 3       | Colombia          |
| 4       | France         | 4       | Argentina         |
| 5       | Turkey         | 5       | Russia            |
| 6       | Russia         | 6       | Indonesia         |
| 7       | United Kingdom | 7       | South Africa      |
| 8       | Argentina      | 8       | United Kingdom    |
| 9       | Italy          | 9       | USA               |
| 10      | Colombia       | 10      | Iran              |
| 31 (30) | Portugal       | 38 (45) | Portugal          |

| Total Cases<br>per million people |           | Cases in last 7 days<br>per million people |              |  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|--------------|--|
| 1                                 | Bahrain   | 1  | Mongolia     |  |
| 2                                 | Czechia   | 2  | Colombia     |  |
| 3                                 | Slovenia  | 3  | Namibia      |  |
| 4                                 | Sweden    | 4  | Argentina    |  |
| 5                                 | Uruguay   | 5  | Uruguay      |  |
| 6                                 | Serbia    | 6  | Kuwait       |  |
| 7                                 | USA       | 7  | Oman         |  |
| 8                                 | Lithuania | 8  | Brazil       |  |
| 9                                 | Estonia   | 9  | Tunisia      |  |
| 10                                | Argentina | 10   | South Africa |  |
| 19 (19)                           | Portugal  | 25 (28)                                    | Portugal     |  |

| -       | Fotal Deaths   |
|---------|----------------|
| 1       | USA            |
| 2       | Brazil         |
| 3       | India          |
| 4       | Mexico         |
| 5       | Peru           |
| 6       | Russia         |
| 7       | United Kingdom |
| 8       | Italy          |
| 9       | France         |
| 10      | Colombia       |
| 32 (31) | Portugal       |

|         | Total Deaths<br><sup>·</sup> million people |
|---------|---|
| 1       | Peru  |
| 2       | Hungary                                     |
| 3       | Bosnia and Herzegovina                      |
| 4       | Czechia                                     |
| 5       | North Macedonia                             |
| 6       | Bulgaria                                    |
|         | Brazil                                      |
| 8       | Moldova                                     |
|         | Slovakia                                    |
| 10      | Belgium                                     |
| 24 (23) | Portugal                                    |

| Deat    | ths in last 7 days |
|---------|--------------------|
| 1       | Brazil             |
| 2       | India              |
| 3       | Colombia           |
| 4       | Russia             |
| 5       | Argentina          |
| 6       | Indonesia          |
| 7       | USA                |
| 8       | Mexico             |
| 9       | South Africa       |
| 10      | Peru               |
| 86 (82) | Portugal           |

| Deaths in last 7 days |
|-----------------------|
| per million people    |

| 7  | Trinidad and Tobago |
|----|---------------------|
|    |                     |
| 9  | Oman                |
| 10 |                     |
| 10 | Romania             |
|    | Portugal            |

# **Coronavirus Riskiest Activities**

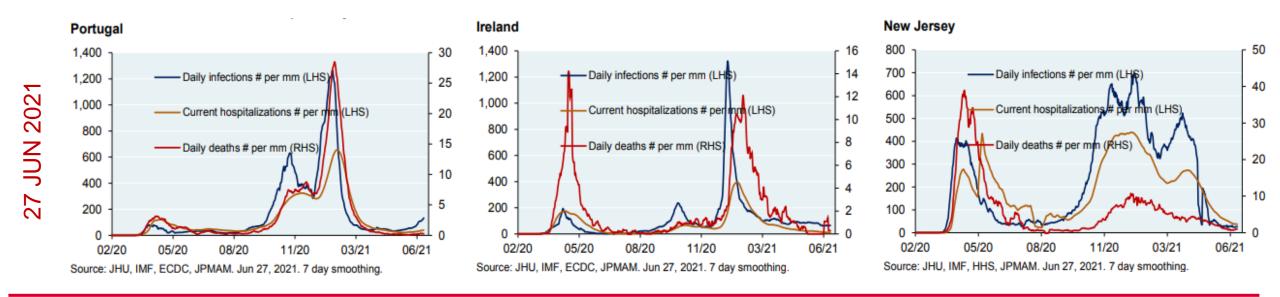


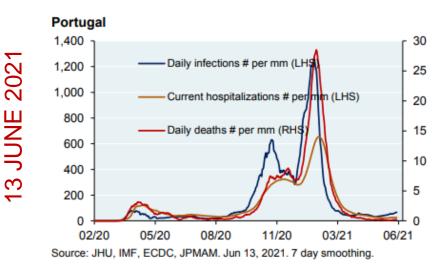
Risk reduced by wearing a mask, social distancing & washing hands

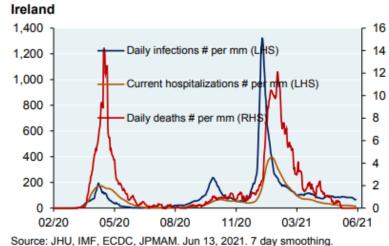
informationisbeautiful

sources: New York Times, Reuters, NPR, SF Gate & others

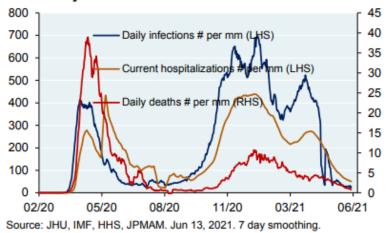
# Daily infections vs mortality per million



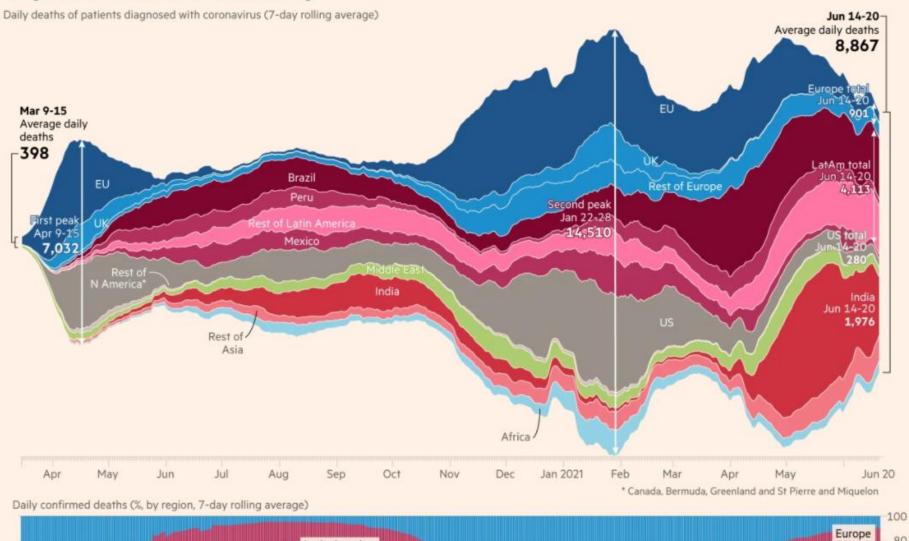


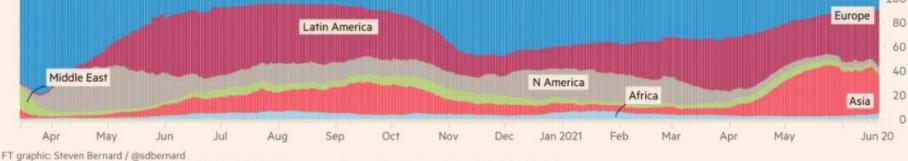


#### New Jersey



# Daily deaths of patients diagnosed with coronavirus (7-day average)





Hovione (#)

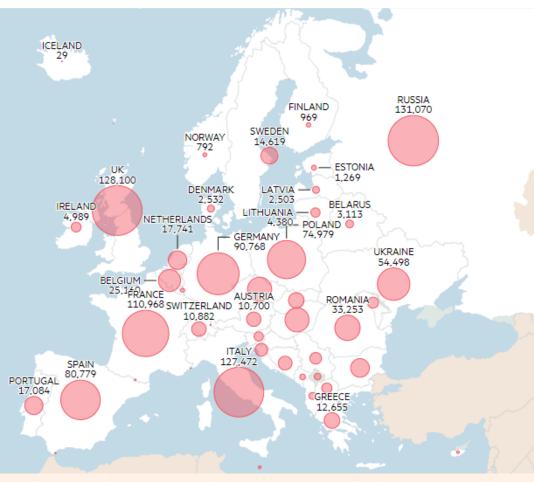
June 2021

The global third wave of Covid deaths is easing

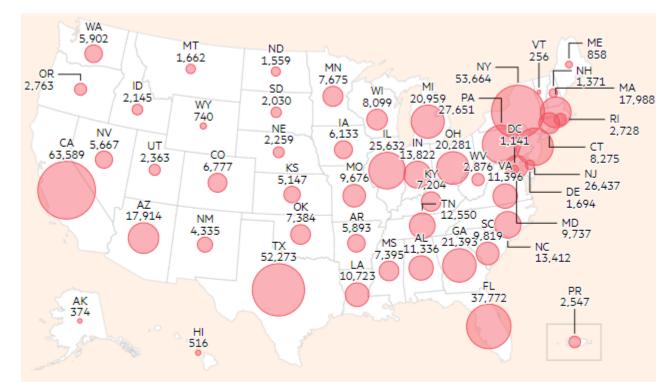
Sources: FT analysis of data from Johns Hopkins CSSE, WHO, UK government coronavirus dashboard, Swedish Public Health Agency OFT

## Total deaths as of 1.17pm June 28 GMT

### Europe

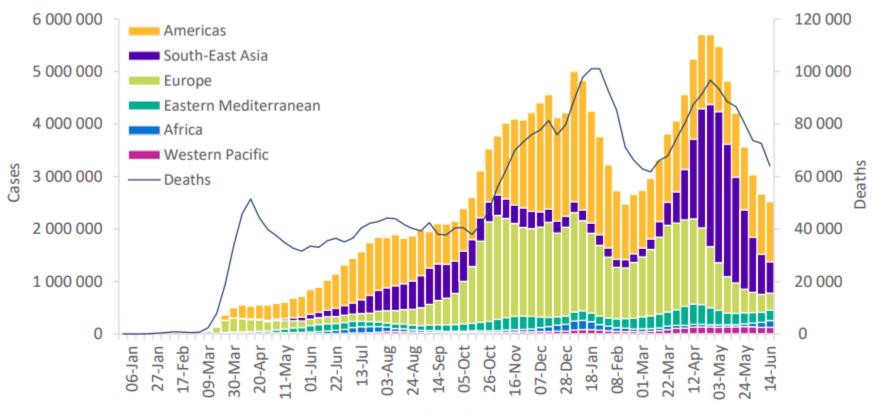


Graphic: Steven Bernard and Cale Tilford. Sources: WHO, JHU CSSE, UK gov Covid-19 dashboard, Swedish Public Health Agency; FT research © FT Crimea is annexed by Russia but this is not recognised by the international community US



Graphic: Steven Bernard and Cale Tilford Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE © FT

# Number of COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, as of 20 June 2021

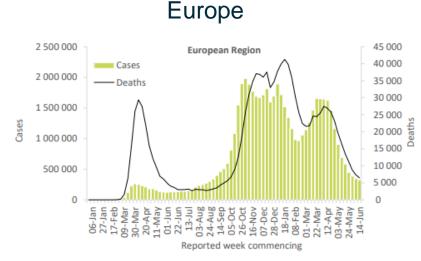


Reported week commencing

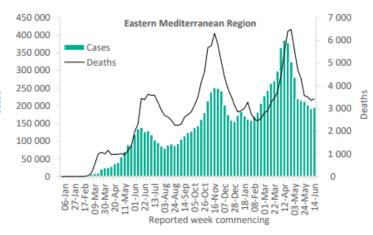


# Number of COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, as of 20 June 2021

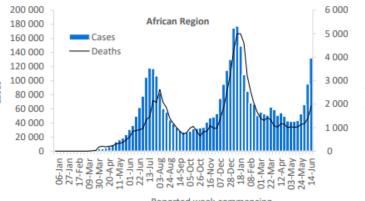
Americas 3 000 000 60 000 **Region of The Americas** 2 500 000 50 000 Cases Deaths 2 000 000 40 000 Cases 1 500 000 30 000 20 000 1 000 000 õ 500 000 10 000 2422 Reported week commencing



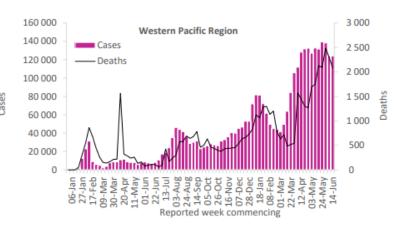
### Eastern Mediterranean



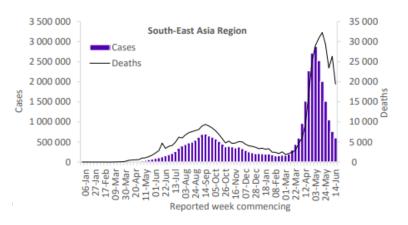
Africa



Western Pacific



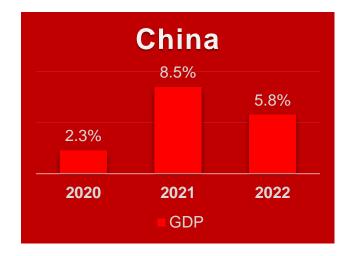
### South-East Asia



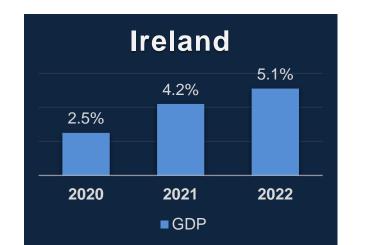
Reported week commencing

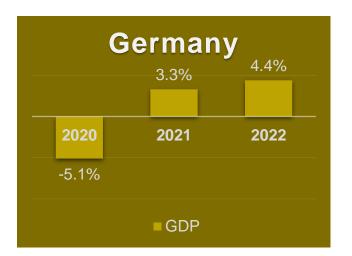
# The pandemic had a diverse impact on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) across countries







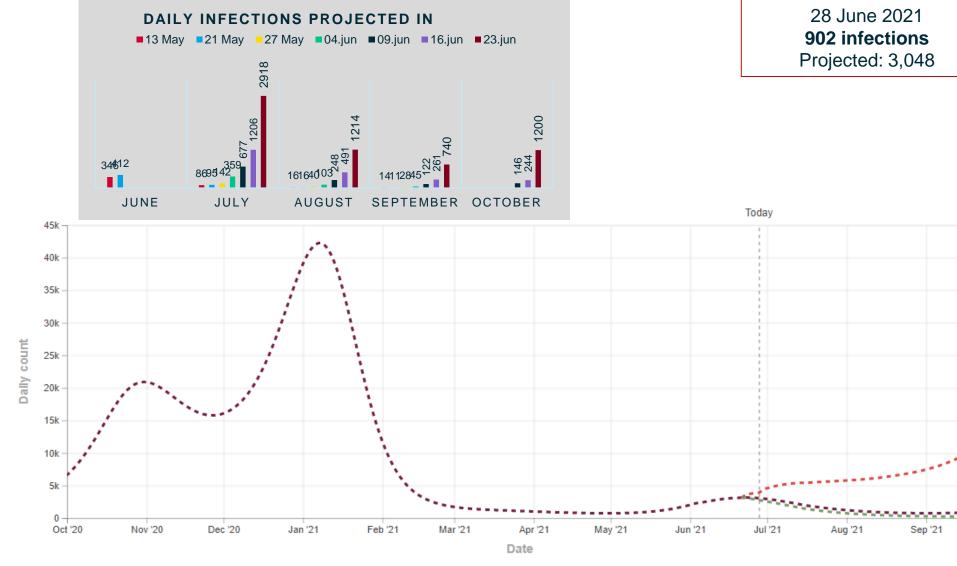








# **Covid-19 Daily Infection Projections in Portugal**



---- Current projection ---- Worse ---- Universal masks

Current projection : Vaccine distribution is scaled up over 90 days. Variant B.1.1.7 continues to spread in certain locations.

Worse: In those who are vaccinated, mobility moves toward pre-COVID-19 levels.

Universal masks : 95% mask usage is adopted in public.

### Projection Daily Infections

≢

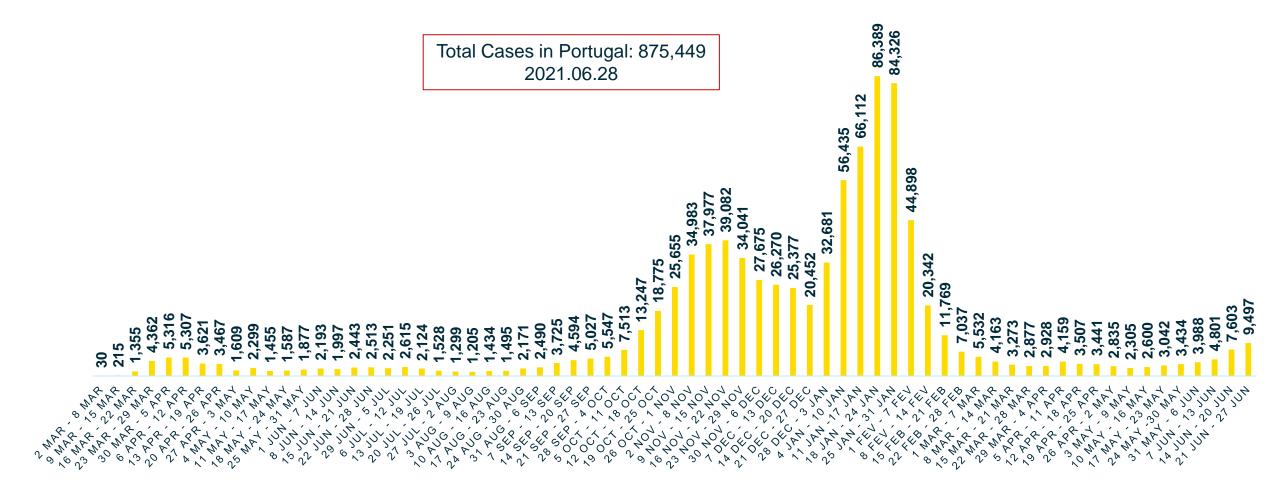
Oct '21

For 1 October 2021

23 June Projection: 1,200

Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation / University of Washington - https://covid19.healthdata.org/portugal?view=daily-deaths&tab=trend

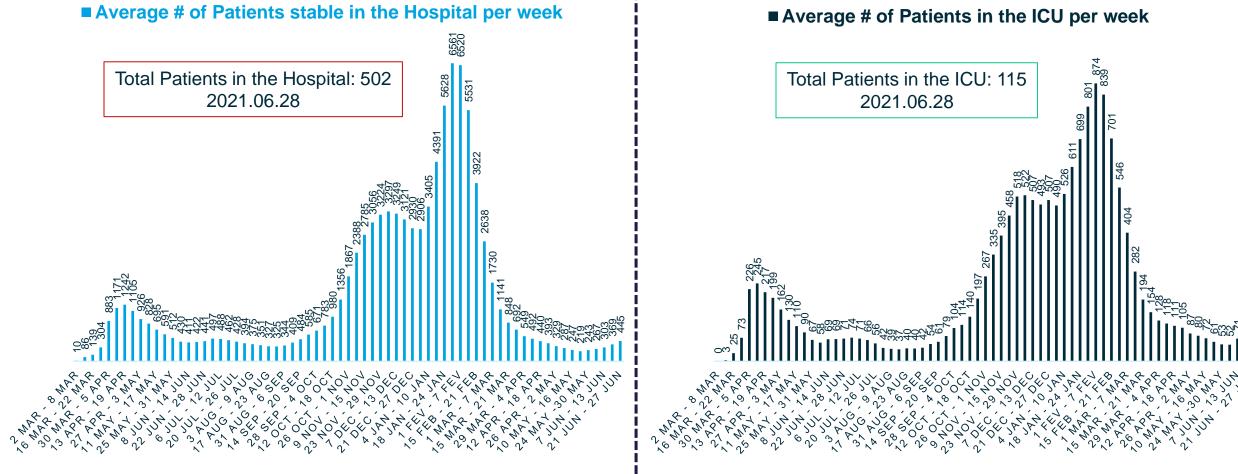
# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19) – Portugal – New cases per week



Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal/



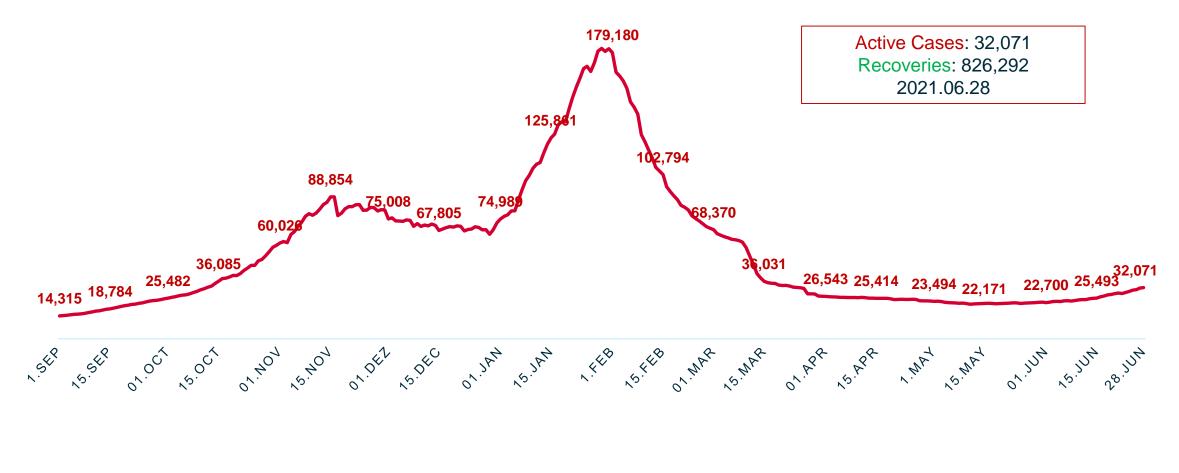
# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19) – Portugal – Hospital stable/ICU per keek



Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal



# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19) – Portugal – Active cases

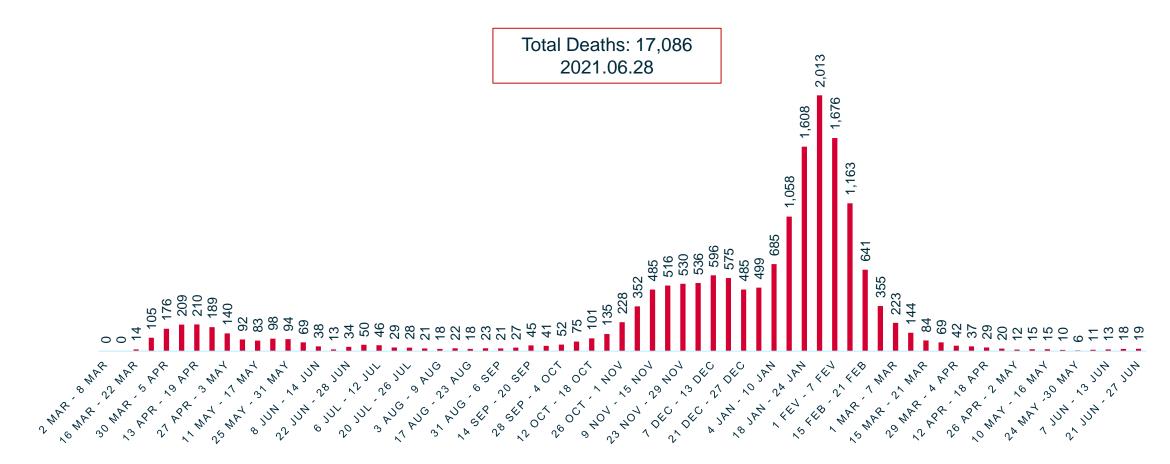


#### Active Cases

Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal



## Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19) – Portugal – New deaths per week



Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal/



## **Portugal – Fatality Rate**

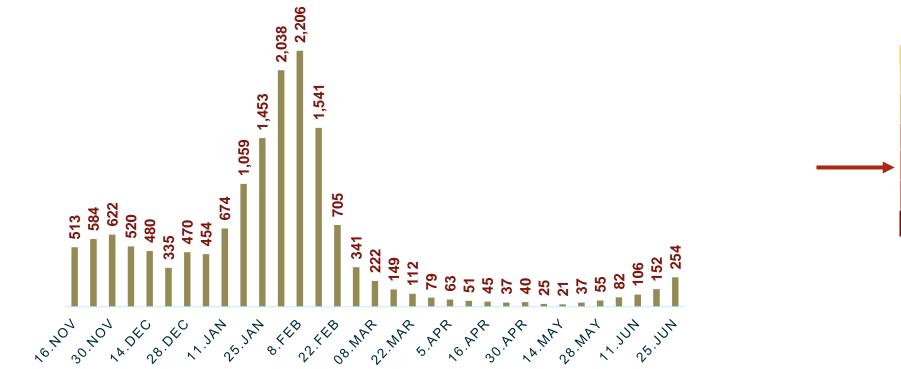


Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal/



# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19) ) – Loures

New Cases per 100,000 population



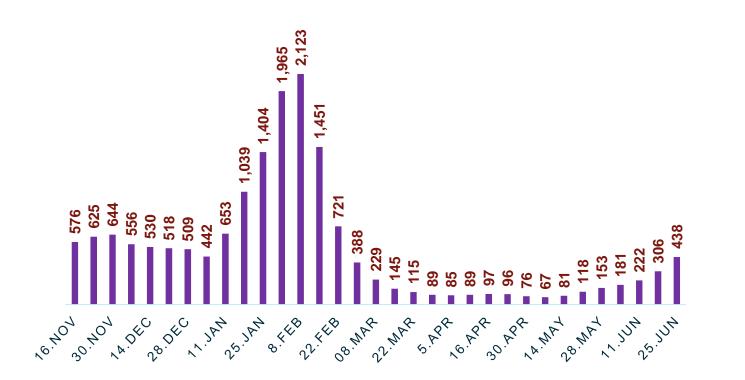


Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal/

Hovione (#)

# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19) ) – Lisbon

### New Cases per 100,000 population

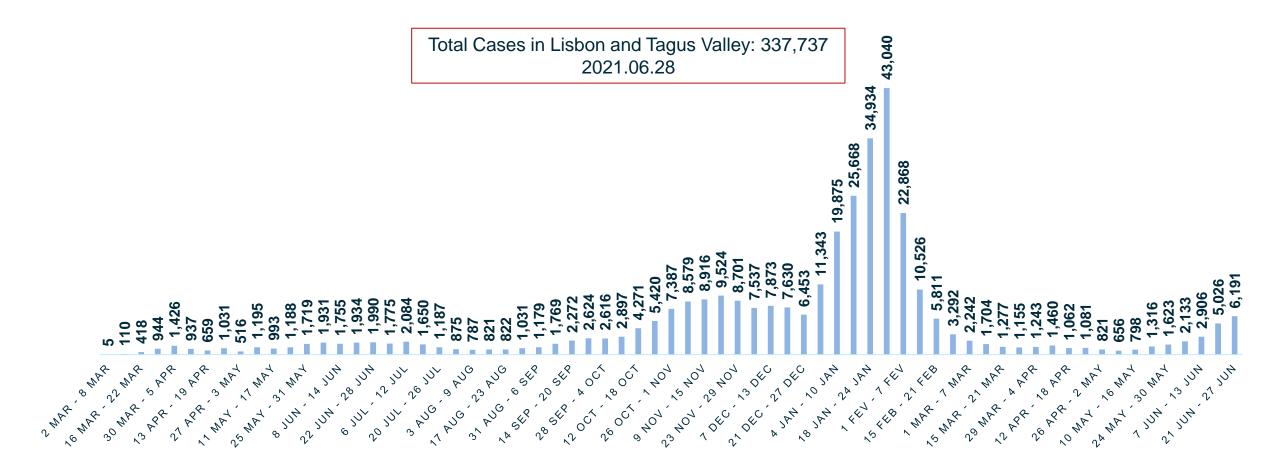




Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal/



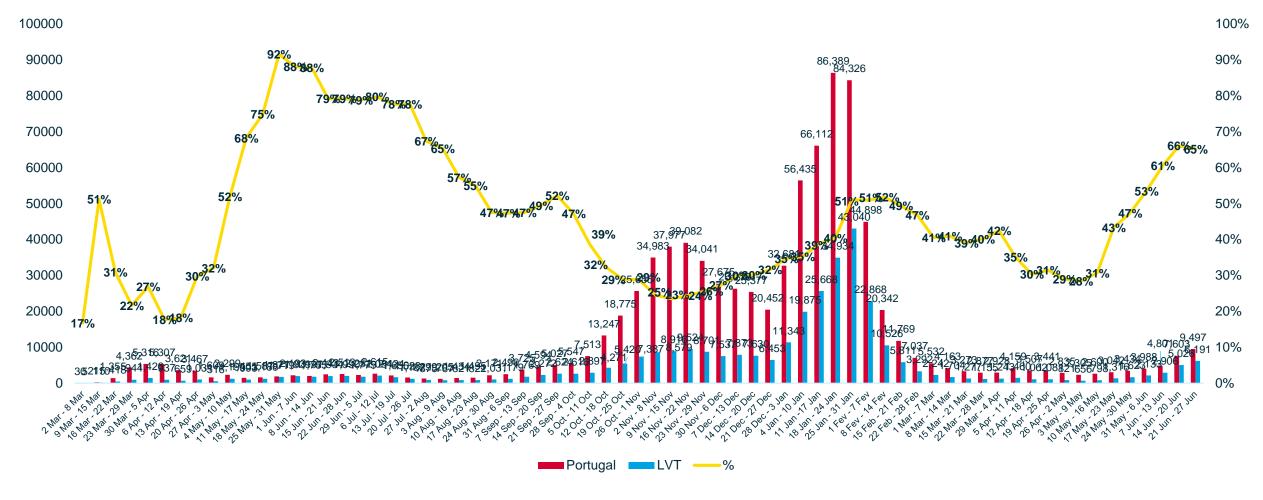
# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19) ) – Lisbon and Tagus Valley - New cases per week



Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal/

Hovione 🗰

# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19) – % of new cases in Lisbon and Tagus Valley - New cases per week



Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal



| RELATÓRIO DE VACINAÇÃO   PORTUGAL   SEMANA 24           | PLANO DE VACINAÇÃO | RELATÓRIO DE VACINAÇÃO   PORTUGAL   SEMANA 24           |
|---|--------------------|---|
| VERSÃO NACIONAL   Dados desde 27/12/2020 até 20/06/2021 | 7                  | VERSÃO NACIONAL   Dados desde 27/12/2020 até 20/06/2021 |
|   | Número             | o de doses administradas e                              |

PLANO DE VACINAÇÃO

Grupo Etário

**0 – 17**<sup>2</sup>

18 - 24

≥ 80

Pessoas vacinadas com 1ª dose1

Proteja-se e proteja os outros.

# **Portugal Vaccination** Plan

| ssoas vacinadas com 1ª dose <sup>1</sup> | Pessoas com vacinação completa  |
|--|---|
| <b>4 688 551</b> (46%)                   | <b>2 947 718</b> (29%)  |
| +338 623                                 | +381 498  |
|  | Existem 300 pessoas vacinadas com dose em fase de registo (+31 na semana em análise |
|  | 1 1   |

### From: 27 Dec 2020 To: 20 June 2021

|                                |                       |                                  | %)              | <b>718</b> (299                   | 2 94             |                      | (46%)                | 588 551     |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| NA SEMANA                      | 126   +253 05         | 2 649 4                          |                 | 1 498<br>A EN ANÁLISE             |                  |                      |                      | +338 6      |
| NORTE<br>VACINAÇÃO<br>COMPLETA | 1 VACINAÇÃ            | 1º DOSE                          | ana em análise) | ie em fase de registo (+31 na sem | pessoas vacinada | Existem 30           |                      |             |
| 31%                            | 31%                   | 43%                              |                 | ăo completa                       | com vaci         | 1ª dose¹ e           | cinadas com          | Pessoas va  |
| CENTRO                         |                       |                                  |                 | ação completa                     | ١                |                      | 1ª Dose <sup>1</sup> | tário       |
| 902                            | +264 902              | 2 552 100                        | 0%              | 807                               | 0%               | 2 288                |                      |             |
|                                | VACINAÇÃO<br>COMPLETA | 1 <sup>°</sup> DOSE <sup>1</sup> | 4%              | 32 669                            | 6%               | 45 925               |                      |             |
|                                | 24%                   | 45%                              | 13%             | 420 176                           | 26%              | 861 058              |                      |             |
| VALE DO TEJO                   |                       |                                  | 43%             | 918 951                           | 73%              | 1 575 758            |                      |             |
|                                |                       |                                  | 59%<br>93%      | 945 894                           | 96%<br>98%       | 1 543 716<br>659 804 |                      |             |
|                                |                       | AÇORES <sup>4</sup>              |                 | 2 pessoas com grupo etário p      |                  | 033 804              |                      |             |
| ALENTEJO                       | VACINAÇÃO<br>COMPLETA | 1* DOSE 1                        |                 | z pessoas com gropo ecano p       | existent per     |                      |                      |             |
|                                | 27%                   | 44%                              |                 | Distribuídas <sup>3</sup>         | Do               |                      | bidas                | Doses Recei |
|                                |                       |                                  |                 |                                   |                  |                      |                      |             |
| ALGARVE                        |                       | MADEIRA                          |                 |                                   |                  |                      |                      |             |
| 96                             |                       | 193 648                          |                 |                                   |                  |                      |                      | FL          |
|                                | VACINAÇÃO<br>COMPLETA | 1º DOSE 1                        |                 | 66 600                            | ,                |                      | 06                   | 8 604 6     |
|                                |                       | 43%                              |                 |                                   |                  |                      |                      | X 611/1 6   |



1 362 741 | +116 978

401 239 +29 114

298 448 | +28 590

1" DOSE

51%

1° DOSE 1 52%

1<sup>®</sup> DOSE <sup>1</sup>

42%

PORTUGUESA

VACINAÇÃO COMPLETA

33%

VACINAÇÃO COMPLETA

34%

VACINAÇÃO

COMPLETA

27%

cobertura vacinal na população residente (%) por região de Saúde

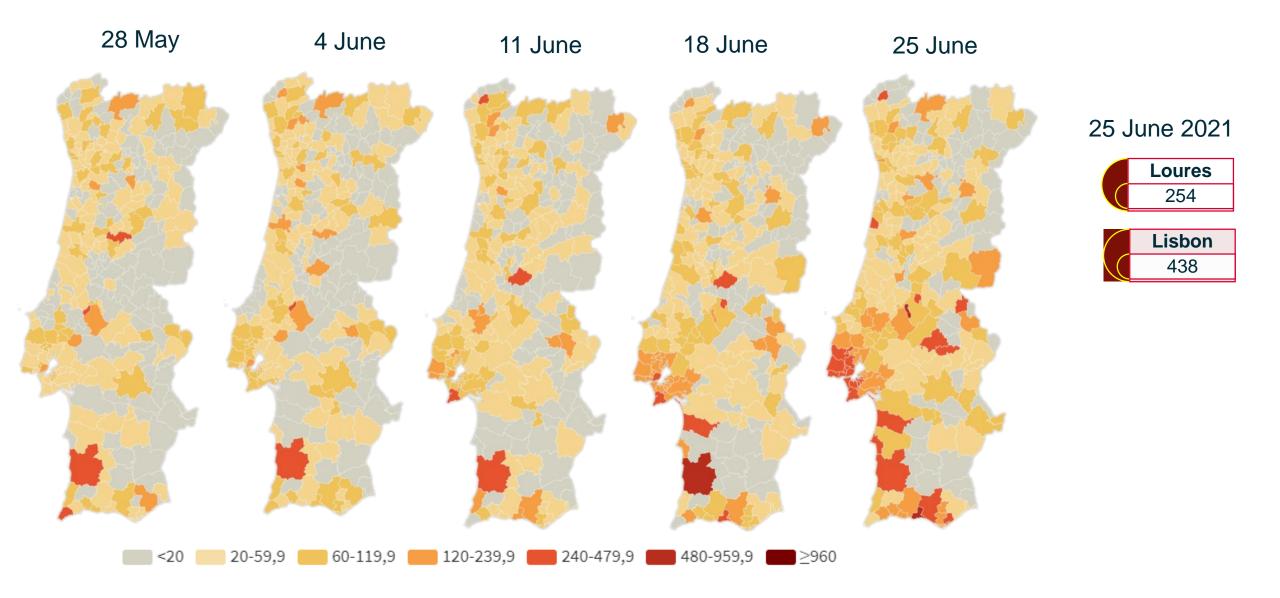
PORTUGUESA

SNS

😂 DGS 🔤

Proteja-se e proteja os outros.

### SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19 Portugal - cases per 100.000



### COVID-19 | RELATÓRIO DE SITUAÇÃO | 21-06-2021

#### MATRIZ DE RISCO

Realização da análise: 21-06-2021

240 ttes 200 2 100 000 160 bo Incidência timaos 14 días p 120 nos 80 SO 8 de novos 40 o'N 0 0.5 0,6 0,7 0,8 0,9 1,1 1,2 1,3 1,4 1,5 1 Transmissibilidade R(t)

#### INCIDÊNCIA

Nacional: 119,3 casos de infeção por SARS-CoV-2/ COVID-19 por 100 000 hab. Continente: 120,1 casos de infeção por SARS-CoV-2/ COVID-19 por 100 000 hab.

#### R(t)

Nacional: 1,18 Continente: 1,19

### COVID-19 | RELATÓRIO DE SITUAÇÃO | 28-06-2021

Continente 
 Acional
 Acional

#### MATRIZ DE RISCO

Realização da análise: 28-06-2021

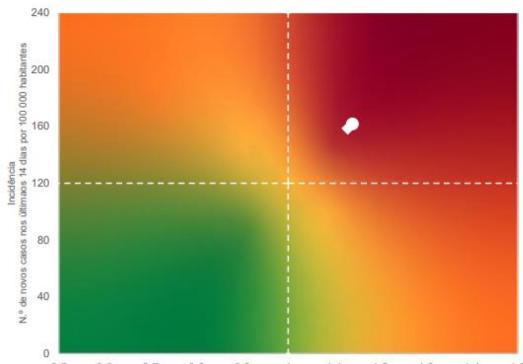
240 160 120 80 40 0 0.7 0,8 0,9 1,2 1,3 1.5 0.5 0,6 1.1 1,4 Transmissibilidade R(t)

#### INCIDÊNCIA

Nacional: 158,5 casos de infeção por SARS-CoV-2/ COVID-19 por 100 000 hab. Continente: 161,7 casos de infeção por SARS-CoV-2/ COVID-19 por 100 000 hab.

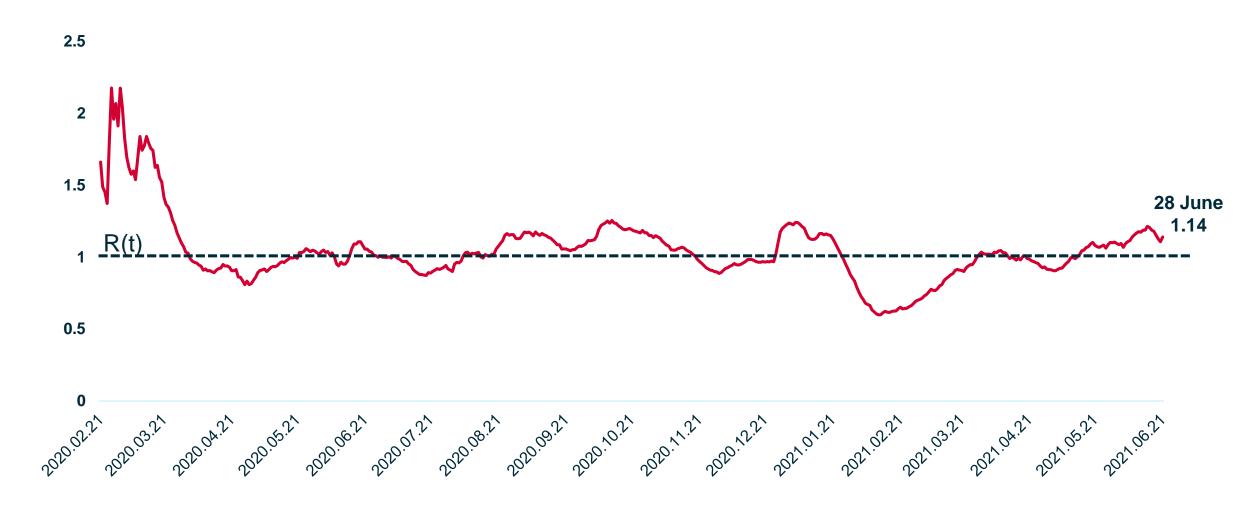
#### R(t)

Nacional: 1,13 Continente: 1,14

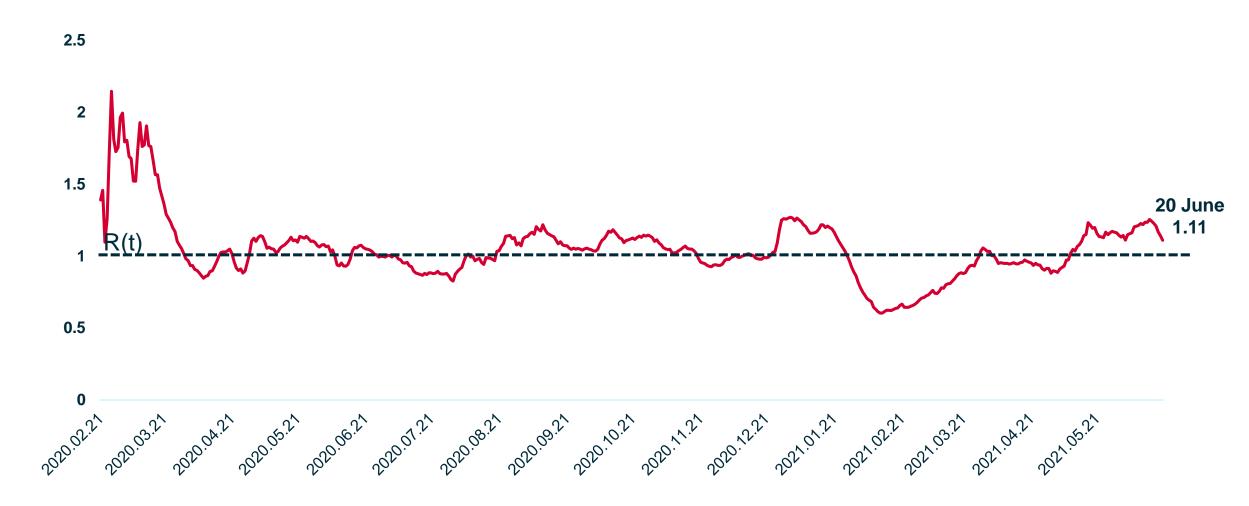


Continente
 Nacional

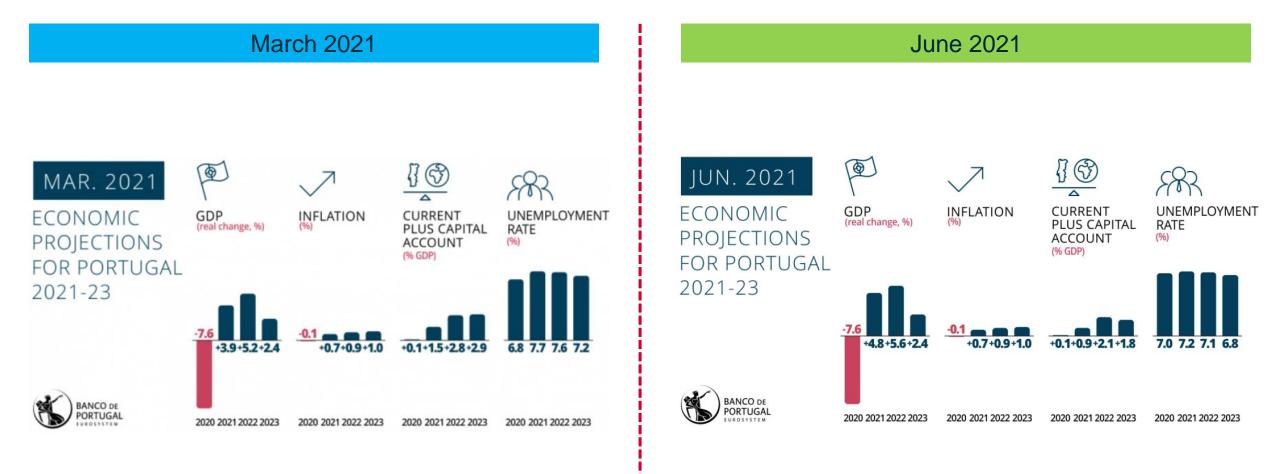
## Transmission Rate - R(t) in Portugal



## **Transmission Rate - R(t) in Lisbon and Tagus Valley**



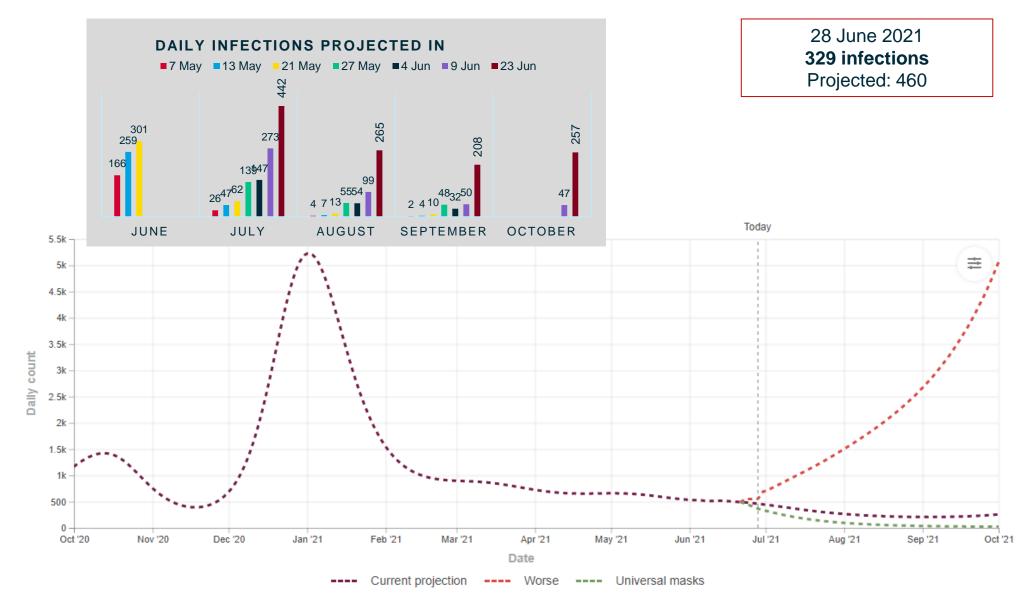
# **Economic Projections for Portugal**



Source: Banco de Portugal

# Ireland

### **Covid-19 Daily Infection Projections in Ireland**



Current projection : Vaccine distribution is scaled up over 90 days. Variant B.1.1.7 continues to spread in certain locations.

Worse: In those who are vaccinated, mobility moves toward pre-COVID-19 levels.

Universal masks : 95% mask usage is adopted in public.

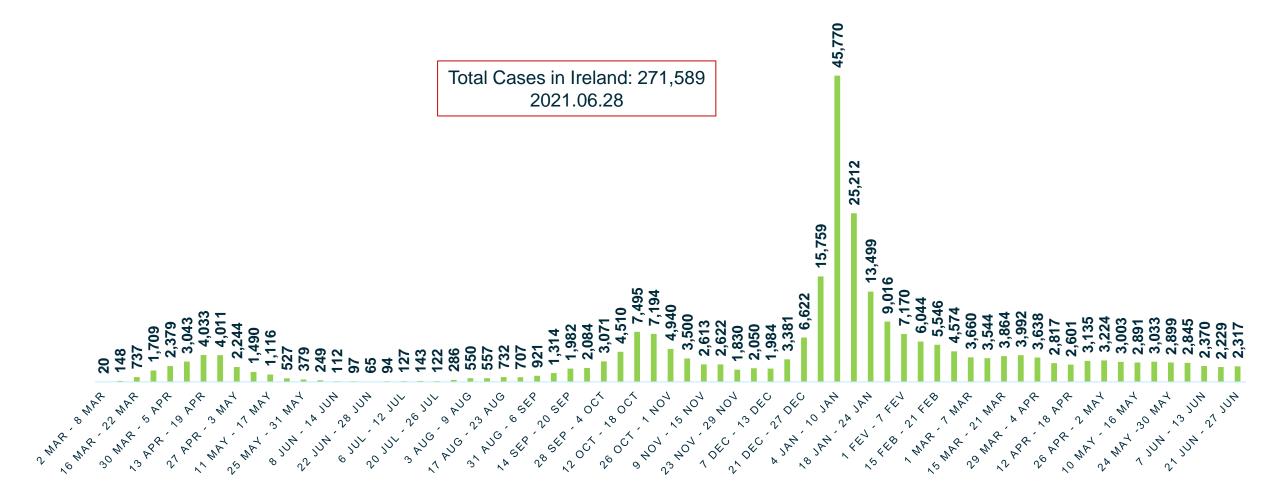
> Projection Daily Infections

For 1 October 2021

23 June Projection: 257

Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation / University of Washington - https://covid19.healthdata.org/portugal?view=daily-deaths&tab=trend

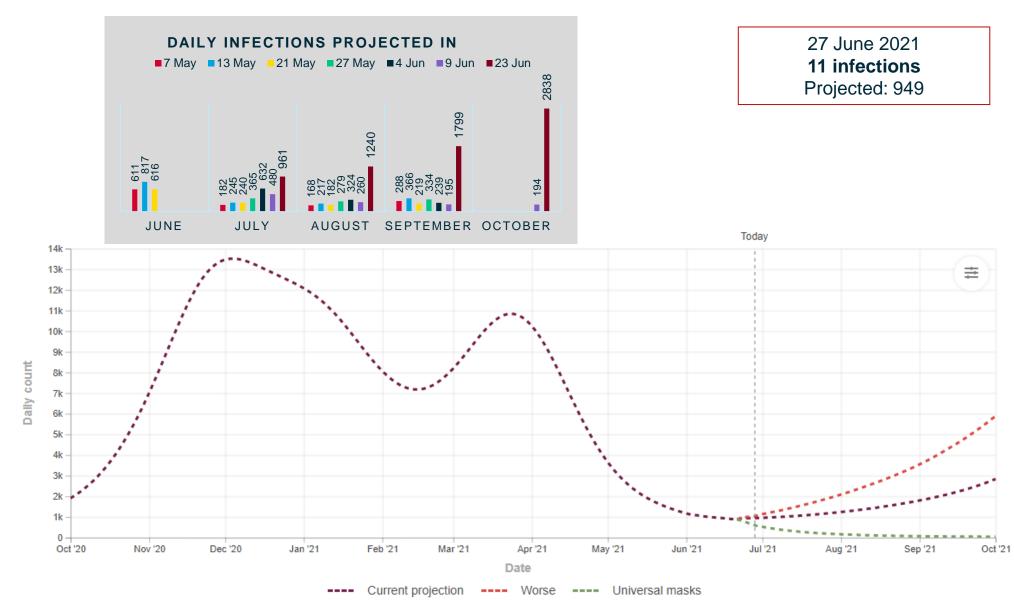
# Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 / COVID 19)) – Ireland - New cases per week





# New Jersey

## **Covid-19 Daily Infection Projections in New Jersey**



Current projection : Vaccine distribution is scaled up over 90 days. Variant B.1.1.7 continues to spread in certain locations.

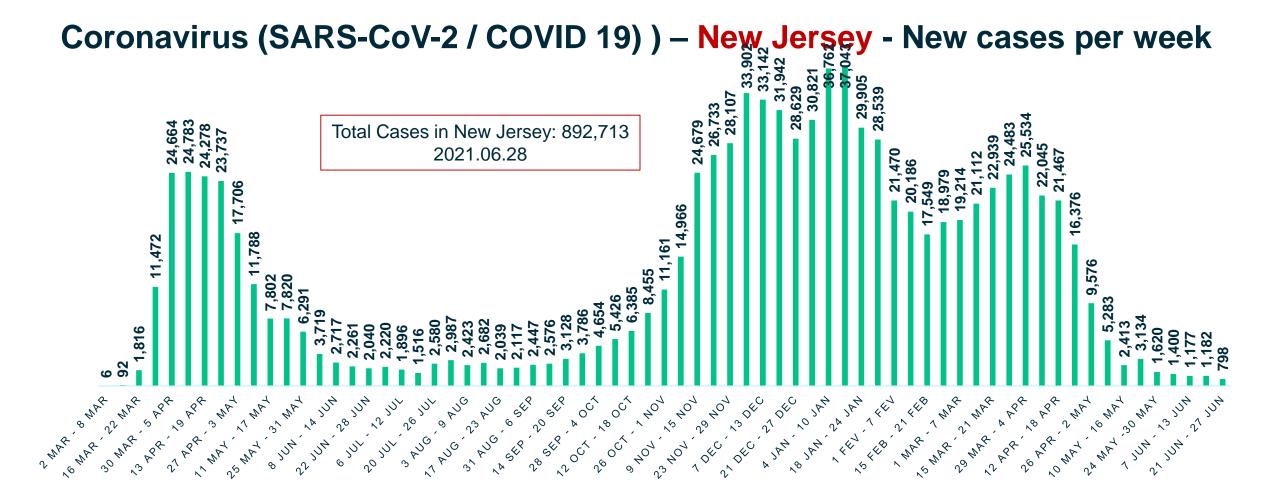
Worse: In those who are vaccinated, mobility moves toward pre-COVID-19 levels.

Universal masks : 95% mask usage is adopted in public.

### Projection Daily Infections

For 1 October 2021

23 June Projection: 2,838



Source: https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal/



# **Recent News**

## **Latest News**

- Biopharmaceutical company Ampio Pharmaceuticals has announced that patient randomisation and dosing of inhaled Ampion is underway in its multi-centre AP-019 Phase II clinical trial to treat respiratory distress due to Covid-19.
- The European Medicines Agency has approved the production of Johnson & amp; Johnson's single-dose Covid-19 vaccine at a new site in Italy, as it aims to accelerate the supply of the vaccine in the European Union (EU).
- Roche's Genentech has announced that its intravenous Actemra (tocilizumab) has received emergency use authorisation from the US Food and Drug Administration for treating hospitalised Covid-19 patients.
- The University of Oxford is testing the anti-parasitic drug ivermectin as a treatment for Covid-19. The study is part of UK government-backed research aiming to support
  recoveries outside hospital settings. Laboratory studies have shown the drug to reduce virus replication, with a small pilot showing that an early administration of the drug could
  reduce viral load, as well as the duration of the symptoms in some patients infected with mild Covid-19.
- Drug discovery company Anna Biosciences has introduced an immunotherapy platform called Syntem, which fights Covid-19 by deploying engineered molecules to produce artificial immunity.
- Histogen and its partner Amerimmune have announced top line results from a Phase I study of Emricasan in treating mild symptomatic Covid-19 patients.
- Tonix Pharmaceuticals, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company, is planning on developing TNX-102 SL (cyclobenzaprine HCI sublingual tablets) to treat long Covid or
  post-acute sequelae of Covid-19 (PASC1). Tonix is expected to meet with the US Food and Drug Administration in the third quarter of 2021 to agree on a potential Phase II
  pivotal study and the clinical development of TNX-102 SL for long Covid treatment.
- The European Medicines Agency has stated that 415 possible cases of rare blood clotting with low platelet count have been reported in the European Economic Area. This is
  among the 50 million people and more who have been vaccinated with the AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson Covid-19 vaccines. Known as thrombosis with
  thrombocytopenia, the rare blood clotting occurred among 10 individuals who received the J&J shot, and in 405 individuals who were inoculated with the AstraZeneca's
  Vaxzevria vaccine.

# Latest News (cont.)

- The US has administered over 309 million vaccines, with almost 87% of people 65 and older receiving at least one dose and 76% fully vaccinated.
- The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorised two batches of Emergent BioSolutions' Covid-19 vaccine developed at the company's Baltimore Bayview facility, as part of Johnson & Johnson's emergency use authorisation. Emergent plans to resume manufacturing of the Johnson & amp; Johnson Covid-19 vaccine drug substance after both the companies and the FDA confirm that relevant steps have been taken to resolve shortcomings.
- The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has identified a new rare blood condition associated with AstraZeneca's Covid-19 vaccine, and stated that it is looking into cases of heart inflammation following vaccination from all Covid-19 vaccines. The EMA said capillary leak syndrome (CLS) must be included as a new side effect to the labelling on AstraZeneca's Vaxzevria vaccine. It added that individuals having experienced CLS, where fluids leak from the smallest blood vessels causing inflammation and a blood pressure drop, should not receive the jab.
- Moderna has submitted an emergency use authorisation (EUA) request to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its Covid-19 vaccine in adolescents in the US. The company has already filed EUA requests with the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and Health Canada and is expected to do the same with other regulatory agencies worldwide to approve its vaccine for this age group.
- The US FDA has authorised the shelf life extension of the Johnson & Johnson single-shot Covid-19 vaccine from three months to four and a half months. The decision was made based on data received from ongoing stability assessment studies, which found the vaccine to be stable at four and a half months when refrigerated at 2-8°C.
- Merck has entered into a supply agreement with the US government for molnupiravir (MK-4482). Molnupiravir is currently being assessed in a Phase III clinical trial, the MOVe-OUT study, for treating non-hospitalised Covid-19 patients with at least one risk factor linked to poor disease outcomes. Merck has collaborated with biotechnology company Ridgeback Biotherapeutics to develop the oral antiviral candidate. Merck is expected to receive \$1.2bn to supply 1.7 million courses of the therapy if granted emergency use authorisation or approval from the US Food and Drug Administration.
- A Scottish study focused on examining the side effects of AstraZeneca's Covid-19 vaccine found only a link with generally harmless bleeding among almost 5.4 million people who took the jab. The study confirmed no association between the vaccine and brain clots in the study population, highlighting the rarity of serious blood disorders. The University of Edinburgh researchers found only one additional case of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP) per 100,000 people following the first shot of the AstraZeneca vaccine, while no link was established between the shot and more dangerous cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST).
- A preclinical study of Selva Therapeutics' antiviral drug SLV213 has demonstrated efficacy against three major Covid-19 variants of concern.

# Latest News (cont.)

- The UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has authorised the administration of Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine among 12 to 15year-olds, following clearances in the EU and US. This follows a review of the safety, efficacy and quality of the vaccine for the age group by the MHRA and the government's Commission on Human Medicines (CHM).
- The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has updated the emergency use authorisation (EUA) for Regeneron Pharmaceuticals' antibody cocktail REGEN-COV for treating Covid-19. As a result, the agency has lowered the dose to 1,200 mg (600 mg casirivimab and 600 mg imdevimab), half of what was previously authorised for use.
- Drug delivery platforms innovator Lexaria has announced that remdesivir and ebastine along with DehydraTECH were effective in preventing the SARS-CoV-2 virus, using an in vitro screening assay in infected cells in Lexaria's VIRAL-C21-3 study.
- Moderna has entered into a long-term agreement with the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to supply Covid-19 vaccines on behalf of the COVAX facility. Under the agreement, UNICEF and its partners, including the Pan American Health Organisation, will have access to approximately 34 million doses of Moderna's vaccine to be delivered at the end of 2021 and about 466 million doses in 2022.
- Biotechnology company Centivax has partnered with the US Naval Medical Research Centre for a Phase I clinical development of the company's Covid-19 broadspectrum injectable antibody therapeutic and prophylactic, the Centi-B9.
- Moderna has begun the rolling submission procedure with the US Food and Drug Administration for a Biologics License Application for the licensure of its mRNA vaccine to prevent Covid-19 among individuals aged 18 years and older. The company is expected to continue submitting data in the coming weeks, along with a request for a priority review.
- Indian pharmaceutical company Biological E. has signed a licensing agreement with Canada-based biotech Providence Therapeutics to manufacture the company's mRNA Covid-19 vaccine in India. The company is expected to run a clinical trial of Providence's vaccine in India, thereby seeking an emergency use approval for the jab. Biological E. has also signed a deal to produce about 600 million doses of the Johnson & amp; Johnson Covid-19 vaccine annually.
- South Korean biotech Samsung Biologics is looking to add an mRNA vaccine production line to its Songdo facility by the first half of 2022. The company said the expansion is part of a long-term strategy to move beyond its current focus on monoclonal antibodies and become a fully integrated global biopharmaceutical company.

# Latest News (cont.)

- University of Pennsylvania scientists have found a new drug, diABZI, to be highly effective in preventing severe Covid-19 in mice infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The study, published in the journal Science Immunology, found that diABZI activated an immune response the body's defence mechanism against infection in the mice. It is hoped that the drug can also help to treat other respiratory coronaviruses.
- South Korean biotech Samsung Biologics is looking to add an mRNA vaccine production line to its Songdo facility by the first half of 2022. The company said the
  expansion is part of a long-term strategy to move beyond its current focus on monoclonal antibodies and become a fully integrated global biopharmaceutical company.
  Samsung Biologics also entered into a fill-finish manufacturing agreement with Moderna last week, one of the four such contracts announced in the country.
- Swiss biotechnology company ACM Biosciences has received a grant from Innosuisse, the Swiss Innovation Agency, to collaborate and develop a novel delivery system for mRNA Covid-19 vaccines.
- The US Food and Drug Administration may refuse to grant new emergency use authorizations for vaccines for the remainder of the pandemic, particularly for developers that have not engaged with the agency during the past year, according to a guidance update. Vaccine makers that have already received early feedback from the agency are more likely to have the appropriate data and information needed for authorization, the agency said late Tuesday.
- Belgium has halted the administration of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen Covid-19 vaccine for individuals aged 41 years and below following Europe's first death from severe side-effects linked to the jab. A 37-year-old woman in Belgium died after suffering a blood clot with low platelets.
- Altimmune, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company, has released new data from a preclinical study showing that the company's Covid-19 vaccine, AdCOVID, can
  neutralise the rapidly emerging B.1.351 variant of concern from South Africa.
- The Phase II/III study of Moderna's Covid-19 vaccine, mRNA-1273, among adolesecents has met its primary immunogenicity endpoint. Using the primary definition, no Covid-19 cases were identified among the participants who had received two doses of the vaccine.
- Clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company Xencor has entered into a technology licensing agreement with Bristol Myers Squibb to provide the latter access to its Xtend Fc technology to extend the half-life of a novel antibody combination therapy that neutralises the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
- AstraZeneca's Covid-19 vaccine Vaxzevria, formerely AZD1222, has received emergency use approval in Japan for inoculating individuals aged 18 years and older. The approval was granted by the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare on the basis of positive Phase III efficacy and safety results from the Oxford University-led clinical trial programme in Brazil, South Africa and the UK, as well as a Phase I/II trial conducted in Japan.

# Sources

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