

CORONAVIRUS GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TRACKER

Governments are taking a wide range of measures in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. This tool aims to track and compare policy responses around the world, rigorously and consistently.

The Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT) systematically collects information on several different common policy responses that governments have taken to respond to the pandemic on 18 indicators such as school closures and travel restrictions. It now has data from more than 180 countries.

The data is also used to inform a Risk of Openness Index which aims to help countries understand if it is safe to 'open up' or whether they should 'close down' in their fight to tackle the coronavirus.



[View data API](#)



[View the latest press release](#)

PROJECT INFO

March 2020 - December 2020
Ongoing

LATEST INSIGHTS

- **New** England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales data is now included in the government response tracker. Read the [UK nations working paper \(/research/publications/variation-response-covid-19-across-four-nations-](#)

united-kingdom) about how the nations have used their autonomy to implement and ease different restrictions.

- **New** The latest working paper (<https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/research/publications/variation-government-responses-covid-19>) (October 2020) includes a new indicator, facial coverings (H6) which aims to track these policies implemented at different levels of stringency.
- **New** Updated Risk of Openness Index (previously 'Lockdown Rollback Checklist') now published: see the research note (</research/publications/risk-openness-index-when-do-government-responses-need-be-increased-or>). The index aims to help countries understand if it is safe to 'open up' or whether they should 'close down' in their fight to tackle the coronavirus. See the full dataset on GitHub (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/tree/master/risk_of_openness_index).
- Report on US school closures is now available 'https://github.com/OxCGRT/USA-covid-policy/blob/master/research%20notes/USA_school_closure_policy-09Sep2020.pdf) Where and how are schools reopening in the United States? (https://github.com/OxCGRT/USA-covid-policy/blob/master/research%20notes/Latest_USA_school_closure_policy.pdf)' (https://github.com/OxCGRT/USA-covid-policy/blob/master/research%20notes/USA_school_closure_policy-09Sep2020.pdf) (12 October update)
- Data now available for every US state, allowing inter-state comparisons. See the press release (<https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2020-08/2020-08-06%20Oxford%20COVID-19%20Government%20Response%20Tracker%20expanded%20to%20US%20states%20PRESS%20RELEASE.pdf>), read the new working paper on US states' responses to COVID-19 (<https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/research/publications/variation-us-states-responses-covid-19>) and see the secondary US state-level dataset on GitHub (<https://github.com/OxCGRT/USA-covid-policy>).
- Read our regional reports summarising recent changes in government responses. These summaries are available for East Asia and Pacific

(https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestEastAsiaPacificRegionalSummary.pdf), [Europe and Central Asia](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestEuropeCentralAsiaRegionalSummary.pdf) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestEuropeCentralAsiaRegionalSummary.pdf), [Latin America and the Caribbean](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestLatinAmericaCaribbeanRegionalSummary.pdf) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestLatinAmericaCaribbeanRegionalSummary.pdf), [Middle East and North Africa](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestMiddleEastNorthAfricaRegionalSummary.pdf) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestMiddleEastNorthAfricaRegionalSummary.pdf), [North America](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestNorthAmericaRegionalSummary.pdf) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestNorthAmericaRegionalSummary.pdf), [South Asia](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestSouthAsiaRegionalSummary.pdf) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestSouthAsiaRegionalSummary.pdf), and [sub-Saharan Africa](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestSubSaharanAfricaRegionalSummary.pdf) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/raw/master/regional_reports/LatestSubSaharanAfricaRegionalSummary.pdf).

- See also our related project on [Brazil's COVID-19 policy response](/research/research-projects/brazils-covid-19-policy-response) (</research/research-projects/brazils-covid-19-policy-response>).

LATEST DATA

- [Download the latest datasets.](#)

STRINGENCY AND POLICY INDICES

OxCGRT collects publicly available information on 18 indicators of government responses. Eight of the policy indicators (C1-C8) record information on containment and closure policies, such as school closures and restrictions in movement. Four of the indicators (E1-E4) record economic policies, such as income support to citizens or provision of foreign aid. Six of the indicators (H1-H6) record health system policies such as the COVID-19 testing regime or emergency investments into healthcare.

The data from the 18 indicators is aggregated into a set of four common indices, reporting a number between 1 and 100 to reflect the level of government action on the topics in question:

1. an overall government response index (which records how the response of governments has varied over all indicators in the database, becoming stronger or weaker over the course of the outbreak);
2. a containment and health index (which combines 'lockdown' restrictions and closures with measures such as testing policy and contact tracing, short term investment in healthcare, as well investments in vaccine)
3. an economic support index (which records measures such as income support and debt relief)
4. as well as the original stringency index (which records the strictness of 'lockdown style' policies that primarily restrict people's behaviour).

Note that these indices simply record the number and strictness of government policies, and should not be interpreted as 'scoring' the appropriateness or effectiveness of a country's response. A higher position in an index does not necessarily mean that a country's response is 'better' than others lower on the index.

FOR DATA JOURNALISTS AND RESEARCHERS

For media enquiries or interview requests, please contact [Giulia Biasibetti](mailto:giulia.biasibetti@bsg.ox.ac.uk) (<mailto:giulia.biasibetti@bsg.ox.ac.uk>).

Full national-level country data:

- See the latest [press release about the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker](https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2020-08/2020-08-06%20Oxford%20COVID-19%20Government%20Response%20Tracker%20expanded%20to%20US%20states%20PRESS%20RELEASE.pdf) (<https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2020-08/2020-08-06%20Oxford%20COVID-19%20Government%20Response%20Tracker%20expanded%20to%20US%20states%20PRESS%20RELEASE.pdf>).
- The most recent full dataset is [available using our API](https://covidtracker.bsg.ox.ac.uk/about-api) (<https://covidtracker.bsg.ox.ac.uk/about-api>) or as a [CSV of the data](#)

(https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/raw/master/data/OxCGRT_latest.csv) on GitHub.

- Our [codebook on Github](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/documentation/codebook.md) (<https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/documentation/codebook.md>) explains the definitions for each variable.
- The data is also [available in timeseries form](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/raw/master/data/timeseries/OxCGRT_timeseries_all.xlsx) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/raw/master/data/timeseries/OxCGRT_timeseries_all.xlsx) and you can [read how we calculate the different indices](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/documentation/index_methodology.md) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/documentation/index_methodology.md). These CSVs are also [posted to GitHub](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker) (<https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker>), where we have [additional notes and guidance](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker#data-quality) (<https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker#data-quality>) on data quality for people exploring the underlying dataset.
- For a full description of the data and how it is collected, [read the working paper 'Variation in government response to COVID-19'](https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/research/publications/variation-government-responses-covid-19) (<https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/research/publications/variation-government-responses-covid-19>).
- For the most up-to-date description of indicators, see our [codebook on GitHub](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/documentation/codebook.md) (<https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/documentation/codebook.md>).
- Download the [latest regional reports](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/tree/master/regional_reports) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-scratchpad/tree/master/regional_reports).

Recommended citation: Hale, Thomas, Noam Angrist, Emily Cameron-Blake, Laura Hallas, Beatriz Kira, Saptarshi Majumdar, Anna Petherick, Toby Phillips, Helen Tatlow, Samuel Webster (2020). Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker, Blavatnik School of Government.

New Secondary US state-level data:

This is a secondary dataset that cannot be interpreted alongside our primary country data. The differences are [outlined on the GitHub page](https://github.com/OxCGRT/USA-covid-policy) (<https://github.com/OxCGRT/USA-covid-policy>).

- See the [press release](https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2020-08/2020-08-06%20Oxford%20COVID-19%20Government%20Response%20Tracker%20expanded%20to%20US%20states%20PRESS%20RELEASE.pdf) (<https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2020-08/2020-08-06%20Oxford%20COVID-19%20Government%20Response%20Tracker%20expanded%20to%20US%20states%20PRESS%20RELEASE.pdf>) about the new US state-level data.
- Download a [CSV of the new US state-level secondary dataset](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/raw/master/data/OxCGRT_US_states_temp.csv) (https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/raw/master/data/OxCGRT_US_states_temp.csv).
- For a full description of the data and how it is collected, read the [working paper](https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/research/publications/variation-us-states-responses-covid-19) 'Variation in US states' responses to COVID-19' (<https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/research/publications/variation-us-states-responses-covid-19>).

Recommended citation: Thomas Hale, Tilbe Atav, Laura Hallas, Beatriz Kira, Toby Phillips, Anna Petherick, Annalena Pott. Variation in US states' responses to COVID-19. Blavatnik School of Government.

Data use policy: Creative Commons Attribution CC BY standard. This data is provided free of charge. However, please consider contributing to the [COVID-19 Fund for the World Health Organisation](https://www.covid19responsefund.org/) (<https://www.covid19responsefund.org/>). You can also find out more about [supporting the work of the Blavatnik School of Government](https://www.development.ox.ac.uk/bsg) (<https://www.development.ox.ac.uk/bsg>).

FEEDBACK

Please note: this is an ongoing collation project of live data. If you see any inaccuracies in the underlying data, or for specific feedback on the analysis or another aspect of the project [please contact us](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=G96VzPWXk0-0uv5ouFLPkVPwT6t5-mtCnZ6_s5yQ4ppUME9NOUtYRkxLVldLUVFERTRTMEJSRkZITC4u) (https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=G96VzPWXk0-0uv5ouFLPkVPwT6t5-mtCnZ6_s5yQ4ppUME9NOUtYRkxLVldLUVFERTRTMEJSRkZITC4u). The database was upgraded on 25 April and you can [read the full details of what's changed](#)

(<https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/OxCGRT.%20What%27s%20changed%2024%20April%202020.pdf>) as well as [view the archived version of this dataset \(https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/tree/master/legacy_data_20200425\)](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/tree/master/legacy_data_20200425) on GitHub.

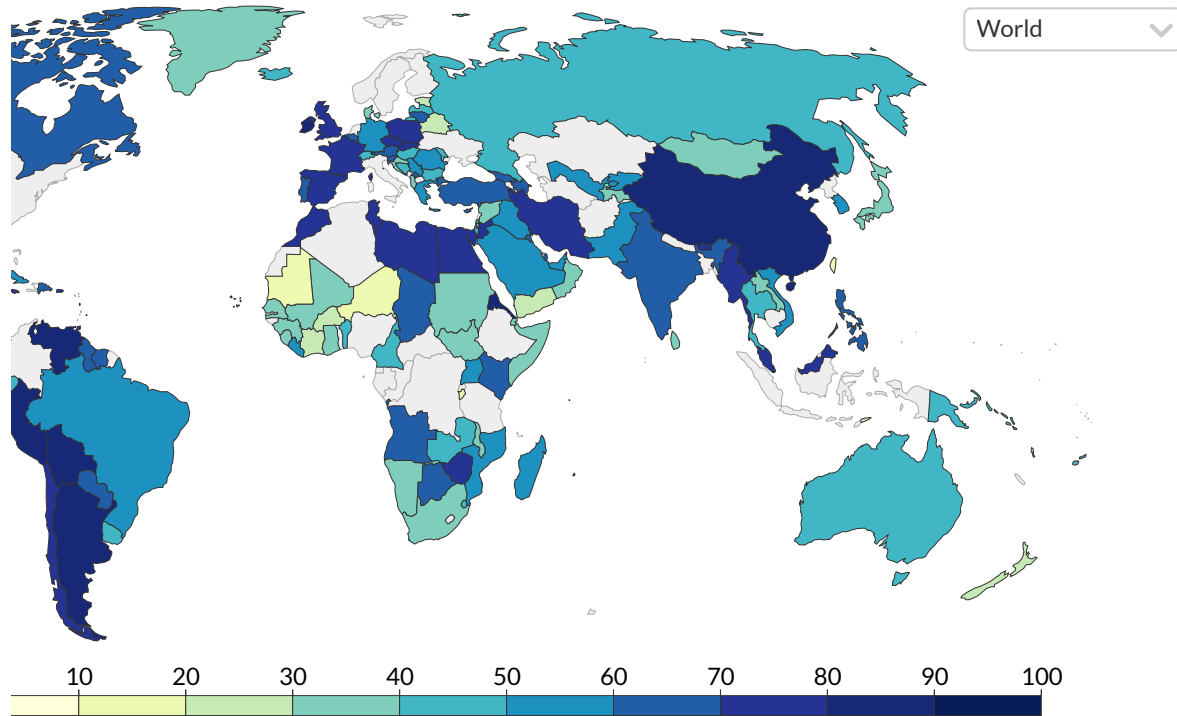
VISUALISATIONS

- You can view interactive data visualisations of [country data \(https://covidtracker.bsg.ox.ac.uk/stringency-scatter\)](https://covidtracker.bsg.ox.ac.uk/stringency-scatter) or [heat map \(https://covidtracker.bsg.ox.ac.uk/stringency-map\)](https://covidtracker.bsg.ox.ac.uk/stringency-map) over time.
- The most recent versions of [charts and maps are all available on Github \(https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/tree/master/images\)](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/tree/master/images).
- Interactive visualisations of each policy indicator are available at [Our World in Data \(https://ourworldindata.org/policy-responses-covid\)](https://ourworldindata.org/policy-responses-covid).

Government Response Stringency Index, Nov 7, 2020



Based on nine response indicators including school closures, workplace closures, and public places closures. The index is calculated from 0 to 100 (100 = strictest). If policies vary at the subnational level, the index is the average of the strictest sub-region.



Author: Jay Byrum, Thomas H. Doherty, and Kira (2020). Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker – Last updated 7 November, 21:30

The index is based on the number and strictness of government policies, and should not be interpreted as 'scoring' the appropriateness of the response. Attribution: Oxford University • CC BY

Nov 7, 2020

MAP TABLE SOURCES DOWNLOAD

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