## Coronavirus Update

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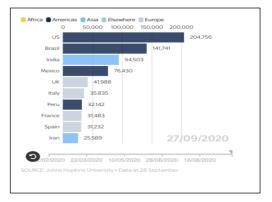
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# Bulletin

### Key points:

- Boris Johnson is launching a skills revolution to tackle coronavirus job losses. In a move aimed at creating a jobs recovery, the prime minister plans to expand post-18 education and training to help people made redundant retrain for a new job.
- The Chancellor has extended the 5% VAT for hospitality and tourism businesses until March 2021, instead of January.

#### Number of deaths worldwide



- More than a million people around the world have now died in the coronavirus pandemic. It comes after a significant rise in infections has triggered local lockdowns in countries such as France, Spain and the UK.
- Household mixing in any setting is to be made illegal in large parts of the north east of England as the number of coronavirus cases "continues to rise sharply". It was already illegal for two households to mix indoors or in the garden. But until now it was only guidance that they should not meet in public venues such as restaurants and pubs, this means people will be breaking the law if they meet up with friends in those premises. The coronavirus restrictions will take effect from midnight on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and will apply to Northumberland, Newcastle, North and South Tyneside, Gateshead, Sunderland and County Durham.
- People in England are now legally required to self-isolate if they test positive for COVID-19 or are told to do so by the test and trace service. Those who do not comply risk being fined £1,000, increasing up to £10,000 for repeat offenders or serious breaches
- Anyone who tests positive and then knowingly provides false information about their close contacts will also be fined.
- A "total social lockdown" across much of northern Britain and London is being considered by the government as COVID-19 cases rise. Much stricter measures across large parts of England would take place if the proposal, reported by the Times, goes ahead.
- What is a social lockdown?
- The plan is for all pubs and restaurants to be shut down for two weeks as part of a "circuit break" to stop rising coronavirus cases.
- Households would also be banned from meeting each other in any indoor location.
- But, schools and shops would remain open, as would offices for those who cannot work from home.

#### Please wash your HANDS and PPE as often as possible

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For the latest information in England please go to: <u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public</u>

For the latest information in Scotland please go to: <u>www.gov.scot/</u>

For the latest information in Wales please go to: https://gov.wales/coronavirus-regulations-guidance

For the latest information in Northern Ireland please go to: https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-advice

#### For more helpful information please see links below:

World Health Organisation : www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus UK government: www.gov.uk/coronavirus Fortel Group: www.fortel.co.uk/covid19 NHS: www.111.nhs/covid-19 Travel guidance: www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors Mental Health: www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/ www.lighthouseclub.org/construction-industry-helpline/ Finance: www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/employment-and-benefits-support/ Advice: www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/if-you-cant-pay-your-bills-because-of-coronavirus/

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