

# Wear a mask? Yes, always wear a mask.



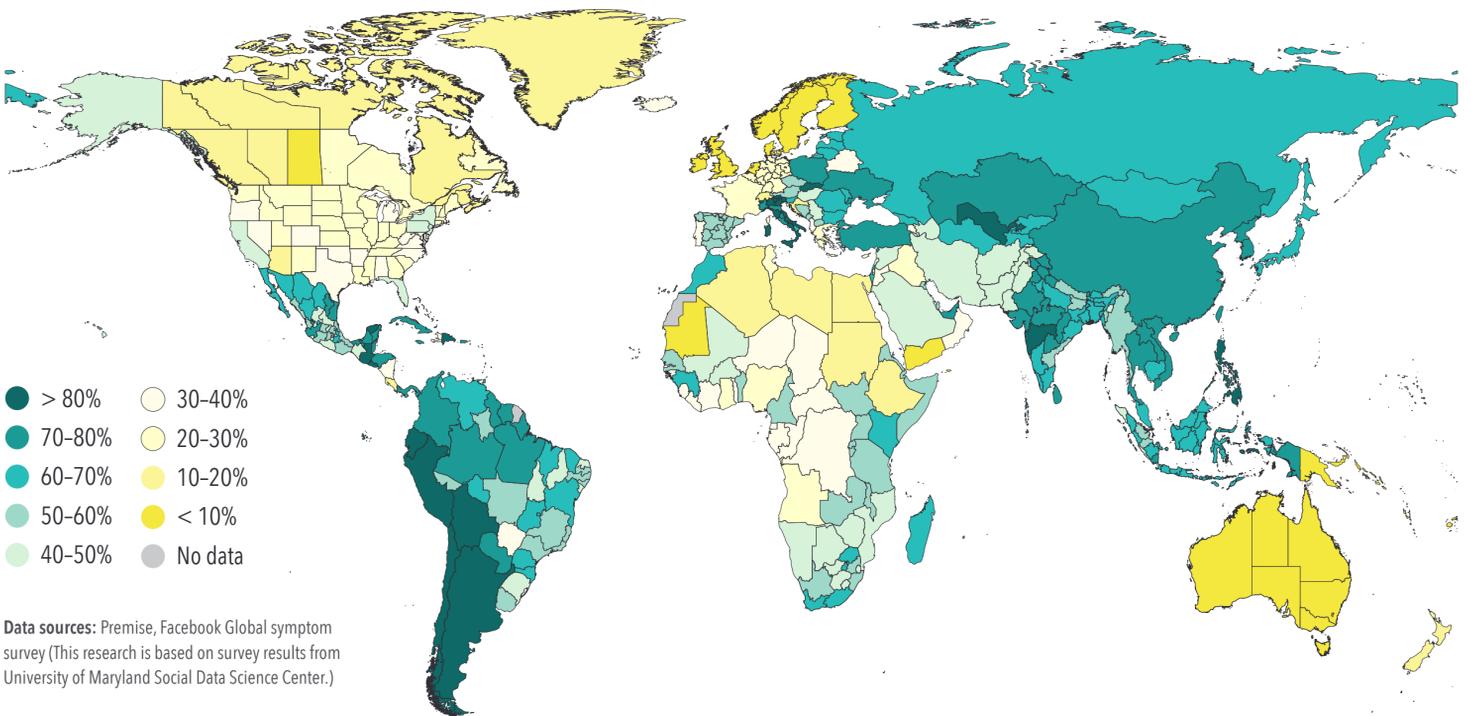
Wear a mask whenever you are in public to help curb the spread of COVID-19, and encourage others to do the same. Widespread mask use may temper or even help prevent a second wave of the pandemic.

Whether cloth or medical-grade, masks can **reduce the risk** of respiratory illnesses like COVID-19 by **1/3 or more**

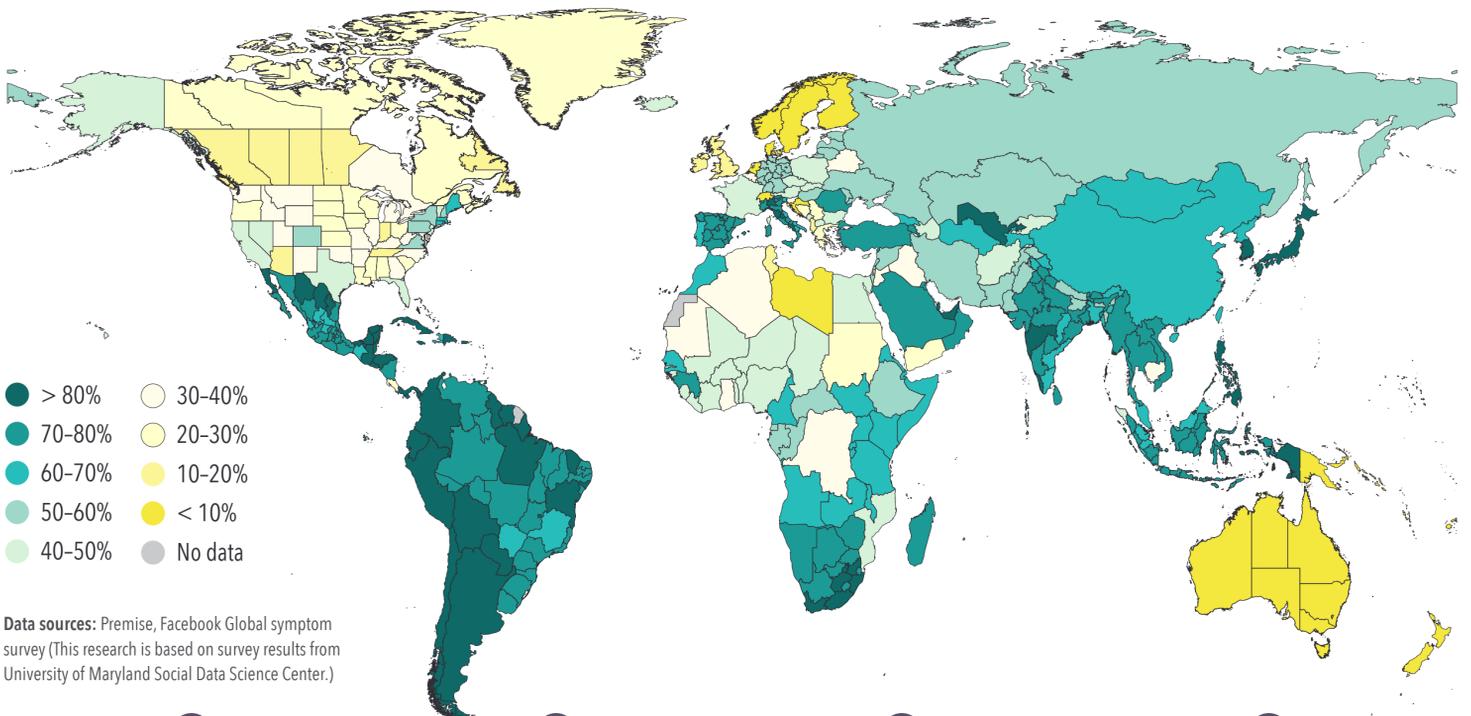
- We considered more than 20 studies and ran a meta-analysis. The results show that masks work, but survey data reveal that mask use varies.
- Globally, mask use has increased since April 26, 2020, but some countries still lag.
- Mask use in the US has increased since April 26, 2020, but rates vary by state and region.

## Mask use around the world, April 26 and June 13

Percent of people who say they always wear a mask when going out, April 26



Percent of people who say they always wear a mask when going out, June 13



Despite having been hit hard by COVID-19, the **UK and Sweden** have markedly low reported mask usage compared to other European countries.

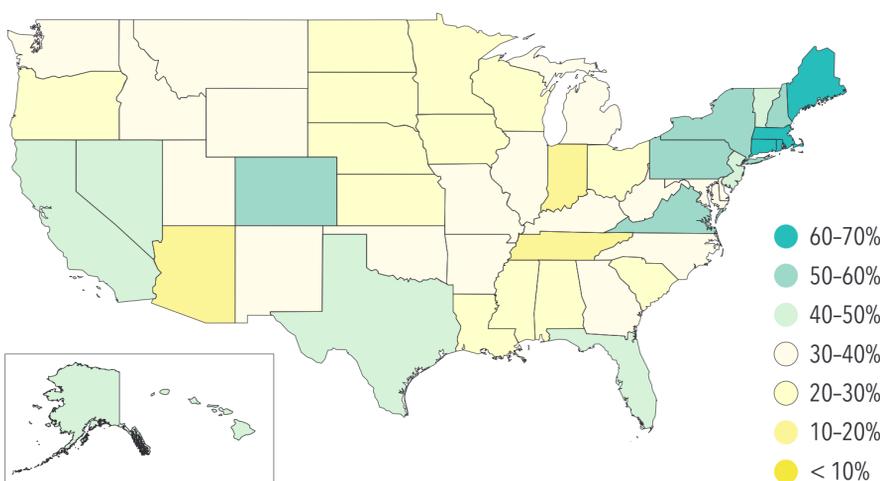
**US states and Canada** stand out for their low levels of mask usage compared to many countries in **Asia and South America**.

Mask use has increased in **Mexico, Brazil, and African countries**, while in **Scandinavia**, rates are low and flat.

The COVID-19 pandemic is waning in **Spain and South Korea**, yet mask use is on the rise. However, in recent days, mask use has **decreased** in several countries. **This is a worrisome trend.**

## Mask use in the US, June 13

Percent of people who say they always wear a mask when going out, June 13



**79%** report **sometimes or always** wearing a mask

**21%** say they **never** wear a mask

- The **Northeast region** has high rates of reported mask use.
- Blocks of states in the **Southeast** (South Carolina, Louisiana, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi), **Midwest** (Wisconsin, Indiana, and Ohio), and **West** (Oregon, Arizona) have low rates of mask use.
- Mask use increased in **Nevada, Texas, Colorado, and Virginia**.