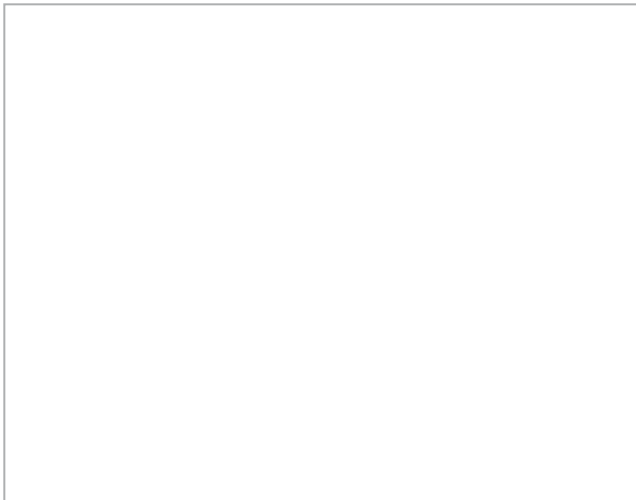


[Sign in](#)[UK Edition](#)[Search](#)[EIDRE](#) [TECH](#) [TRAVEL](#) [MOTORS](#) [PUZZLES](#) [SUN BINGO](#) [SUN VOUCHERS](#) [SUN](#)

## country claims

[Alahna Kindred](#)

24 Aug 2020, 8:23 Updated: 24 Aug 2020, 9:30

[125 Comments](#)

**SWEDEN'S health experts have claimed they are beating coronavirus because of immunity after refusing to go into lockdown.**

Sweden, which controversially never went into lockdown and has rejected the use of masks, currently has a 14-day case rate of 36.6 per 100,000, according to data from the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

**⚠ Read our [coronavirus live blog](#) for the latest news & updates**





**One man wears a mask next to travellers who are waiting to board a boat in Stockholm** Credit: AFP or licensors

---



**Sweden controversially refused to go into lockdown** Credit: AFP or licensors

---





**The country has not implemented mandatory mask measures** Credit: AFP - Getty

In France, that rate is 59.8 per 100,000 - despite implementing a strict lockdown and stringent mask measures.

Spain's 14-day case rate is 152.7 and the UK is 22.3.

Arne Elofsson, a professor in biometrics at Stockholm University, said: "Sweden is doing fine. Strict rules do not work as people seem to break them."

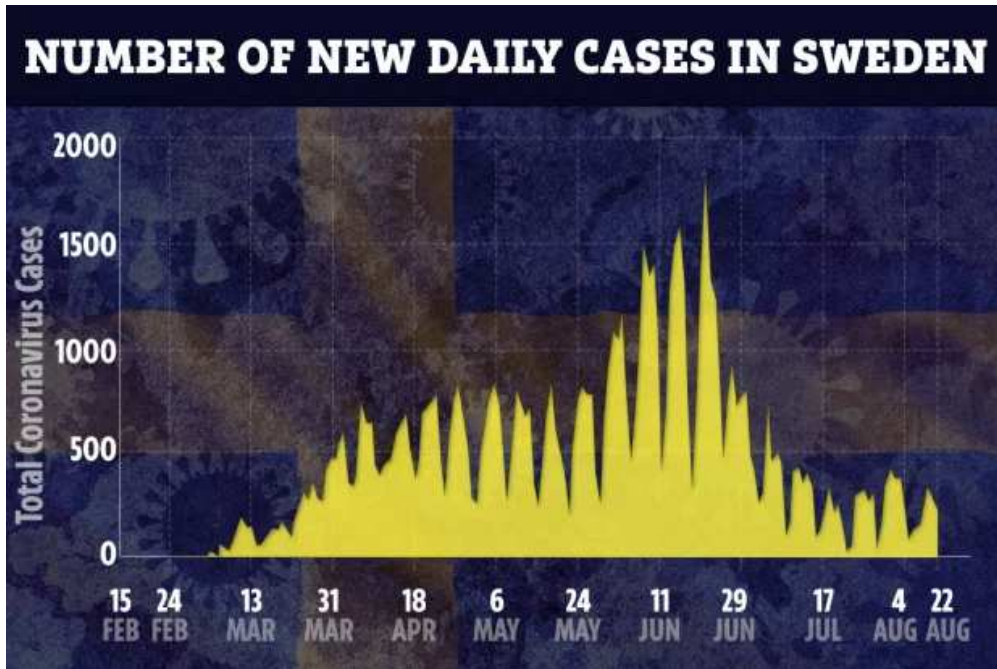
The Scandinavian country recorded 399 new cases on Friday and 258 on Saturday.

Stefan Lofven, the prime minister, insisted on Friday their response to the pandemic was right.

He told the newspaper Dagens Nyheter: "The strategy that we adopted, I believe is right - to protect individuals, limit the spread of the infection.

"What has been discussed most, and what we did differently in Sweden, was that we did not close





From the beginning in the global outbreak, Sweden introduced voluntary social-distancing rules, home-working and recommendations for people to avoid public transport.

The compulsory measures that were brought in included a ban on gatherings of more than 50 people, restrictions on visiting care homes, and table-only service in bars and restaurants.

However, the decision to not lockdown has come with consequences.

A total of 5,810 Swedes have died of Covid-19 - significantly higher than its neighbours Norway, Denmark and Finland.

Anders Tegnell, the top epidemiologist leading the response to Sweden's pandemic, claimed the infection rates of Spain, Belgium and France have increased after mask mandates in public spaces came in.

He said last week: "The belief that masks can solve our problem is very dangerous."



---

**QUICK POLL** Do you think Sweden got the strategy right?

Yes, it looks like it

No, I don't think so

Still too early to tell

This info may be used to enhance your experience & will be used in accordance with our [Privacy Policy](#).

---

When looking at the total number of people infected since the pandemic began, Sweden has one of the highest figures in Europe with 843 cases per 100,000.

That is more than double of France - recording 349 cases per 100,000.

However, Dr Tegnell claims the higher level of cases indicates a form of immunity among the population by people carrying antibodies for Covid-19.

Dr Tegnell told the Unherd website last month: "What we are seeing now in Sweden is a rapid decline in the number of cases, and of course some sort of immunity must be responsible for that since nothing else has changed."

A study published last week by the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm people who test negative for antibodies may still have a high level of immunity

---

immunity among the population."

Professor Marcus Buggert, an immunologist at the institute, said: "T-cells are a type of white blood cells that are specialised in recognising virus-infected cells.

"Our results indicate that roughly twice as many people have developed T-cell immunity compared with those who we can detect antibodies in."

Earlier this month, the [BBC](#) pointed out that Sweden's antibody rate is fairly similar to the UK's.

## **MOST READ IN WORLD NEWS**

### **'NIGHTMARE'**

Terrified BA crew detained in 'prison camp' Covid quarantine in Hong Kong

### **JOHNNY ROTTEN**

Cops seize 324,000 used condoms being washed & sold as NEW in Vietnam...

### **CREEPY**

**CRAWLERS**  
Dozens of horrifying 3ft-long robber crabs invade family's...

The broadcaster said it compared with 17 per cent of Londoners found with coronavirus antibodies when tested in April and May, and five-to-ten per cent of people living in Geneva.

Sweden has faced sharp criticism for the government's decision to not lockdown.

In April when the country's death toll surpassed 1,000, the country's scientists accused "officials without talent" of having "no well-thought-out, well-functioning strategy".



0:00

### Sweden's refusal to lockdown in the face of COVID-19 leads to higher death rate than the US

#### Topics

Coronavirus

Sweden

## PROMOTED STORIES



**[Photos] "Waltons" Actress Says Scandal Ended Her Career**

Past Factory



**Neuropathy & Nerve Damage? Do This Immediately (Watch)**

www.your-health-today.com



**3 Ways Your Cat Asks for Help**

ultimatecatwellness.com



**This Is Where the Majority of Singles Over 50 Are Findin...**

SilverSingles



**[Photos] After Her Weight Loss, Celine Dion Confirms Wha...**

History Chronicle



**Unsold Cars For Sale In Special Car Loan Program In Vernon**

Discount Drivers

## MORE FROM THE SUN



**“(UN)ACCEPTABLE”**



**“(BRANK)HORROR**



**“(D)GIC ORDERS**





**MASS EVACUATION**  
Thousands forced to leave mega caravan park as Covid lockdown rules...



**WOOD-BYE**  
EastEnders' Jake Wood breaks silence over Max Branning exit after...



**'I WANT TO DIE' Girl, 7, tired of abuse from parents asks doctors not to 'cure her'**

Comments are subject to our community guidelines, which can be viewed [here](#).



### LOADING COMMENTS

### PROMOTED STORIES



**Doctors Baffled: Simple Tip Relieves Years of Join...**

HEALTH REPORT 24



**[Photos] This Bride's Wedding Dress Surprised...**

HISTORY CHRONICLE



**[Photos] She Was A Legendary Actress - Now...**

COLLIDER



**See How Much the "Perfect" Female Body H...**

GREATIST







### DREAM SHATTERED Couple's move ruined after buyers stop £340k sale as 250...

The Sun



### RIBEYE-WATERING TGI Fridays mocked for 'ridiculous' £95 meat box...

The Sun



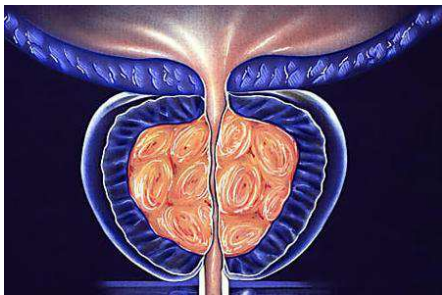
### 'MY HEART IS BROKEN' Mum found son, 14, hanged after 'he became isolated during...

The Sun



### COV-ER & OUT Lockdown-free Sweden 'on brink of BEATING Covid after...

The Sun



### If You Have An Enlarged Prostate Do This...

SPONSORED - WWW.YOUR-HEALT...



### [Photos] Have Any of These 41 Items? You Coul...

SPONSORED - HISTORY CHRONICLE



### If Your Dog Eats Grass (Do

### [Photos] Malia And Sasha





**FIT AND FIFTY** 'World's hottest gran' celebrates 50th as fans praise her youthful...

The Sun



**HOUNDS OF HELL** Boy, 2, critical after being 'torn apart' by family's pet dogs...

The Sun



**'A WONDERFUL SOUL'** Girl, 16, stepped in front of a train while pal watched helplessly

The Sun



**OUT OF THIS WORLD** Man transforms into 'alien' after having nose REMOVED &...

The Sun

## FOLLOW THE SUN

[Sign Up To The Sun](#)

[About Us](#)

[Editorial Complaints](#)

[Clarifications and Corrections](#)

[News Licensing](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Commissioning Terms](#)

[Help Hub](#)

[Topic A-Z](#)

[Cookie Settings](#)

[Contact Preferences](#)



[Conditions](#) in accordance with our [Privacy & Cookie Policy](#). To inquire about a licence to reproduce material, visit our [Syndication](#) site. View our online Press Pack. For other inquiries, [Contact Us](#). To see all content on The Sun, please use the Site Map. The Sun website is regulated by the [Independent Press Standards Organisation \(IPSO\)](#)

Our journalists strive for accuracy but on occasion we make mistakes. For further details of our complaints policy and to make a complaint please click [here](#)...



Get the Latest News First  
Click "Sign Up" then "Allow" for  
Notifications

Dismiss

Sign Up

