

Corona Merkel and ministers have decided January 5th, 2021

Worldwide 85.7 million infections Germany reached 1,800,000 with 35,755 deaths

Infection rates: USA 20.8 million, India 10.3 million, Brazil 7.7 million, Russia 3.2 million EU: France 2.7 million, Spain 1.9 million, Italy 2.1 million England 2.7 million 1.8 million deaths worldwide. Turkey over 2 million Argentina Colombia Mexico Poland Iran Ukraine South Africa Peru over 1 million.

Numbers copyright: Johns Hopkins University & Medicine Coronavirus Resource Center

Germany - Numbers on January 5th, 2021 0.00 a.m.

Total infections: 1,787,410 / + 11,897 on the previous day, deaths 35,518 / + 944 on the previous day

7 days incidence for Germany 134.7

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Attention: The RKI still does not manage to present the current figures, the same message every day since December 24th, 2020. The numbers are therefore not very informative. That is why there are suddenly no more super hotspots in Germany.

Vaccination numbers as of January 4th, 2021 USA:

Total doses distributed 15,418,500

Vaccinations of persons 4,563,260

Long term care facility doses 2,533,925

Vaccinations long-term care facilities 365,294

Today at 6.44 p.m. until just now, Ms. Merkel, Mr. Söder and Mr. Müller presented the decisions at a press conference in the Federal Chancellery, which are now to apply until January 31, 2021 and are to be re-examined on January 25, 2021 when they meet again. The basis of the decisions was also the hearing of expert opinions yesterday on the situation in Germany by Prof. Wieler RKI President and Prof. Krömer Head of Charite Berlin. While Prof. Wieler only pointed out comprehensible current new figures from around January 17, 2021, Prof. Krömer reports on the extreme stresses in the health sector. Furthermore, the federal government has taken note of the new changes and recognized them as an additional challenge. The goal of not getting more than 50 infections per 100,000 inhabitants nationwide in 7 days is maintained.

All resolutions of December 13, 2020 will be extended to January 31, 2021. Since the contact restrictions did not work as planned, on the other hand still here and there (see gatherings in snow areas) the rules are not adhered to, the contact is limited to one household and only 1 person from another household. Company canteens are closed where this is possible (where is this not possible?). No talk of pick-up sales from stores that must have closed. But she talks about the fact that companies should further strengthen the home office, e.g. to relieve local transport and contacts there. In all districts where there is at least an indictment of 200 / 100,000 inhabitants, the radius of movement is limited to 15 km. Upon request, she explains that it is not the residential address that is decisive here, but the place of residence as such. Berliners therefore have a much larger action area, since in principle the 15 km rule only applies from the outermost edge of Berlin, and Berlin is large. In one village, the regulation may be sufficient to not even get to the next larger town. Except for the usual reasons of importance.

The mandatory test is not yet sufficiently carried out in the nursing homes; further personal training will take place here in order to overcome the bottleneck here. There is a generous reimbursement of tests and staff. The federal government and the federal states expressly welcome the EU's joint vaccination order in order to ensure the vaccine for the individual 27 federal states. This is particularly in the German interest, nobody would be helped if Germany had a high vaccination rate but all countries around the borders had a low vaccination rate. (Why, I think the vaccination protects and immunizes, that would still make sense, because infected people from other countries cannot infect, or is something wrong here?). Germany does not want to go it alone at national level. (Oh, why then did Mr Spahn Germany single-handedly order further vaccination doses nationally?). In any case, Ms. Merkel makes it clear what a great guy Mr. Spahn is as Minister of Health, how he deals with the pandemic and how he acts, he enjoys complete confidence. We're pleased.

In terms of vaccine, there has been 1 approval so far, when more will be added is currently not known. (Well, Spahn already claimed in the federal press conference on December 30th, 2020, when the 3rd approval will come is still unclear, but the second is just around the corner and could happen in a few days, the date was given as January 6th, 2021) .

In terms of daycare centers, schools, etc., the closings remain as decided on December 13th, 2020. Parents who have problems with childcare due to their work can get 10 more days of leave per parent.

A double vaccination strategy is used when entering from risk areas. Means: A valid test must be presented upon entry, but you still have to be in quarantine for 5 days and then carry out another test.

In his remarks, Mr Müller emphasized that it was a constructive but difficult conference of prime ministers. You are torn back and forth and also consider how you can get back to normal. A lot has been achieved (what? Highest numbers, most dead?). The countries are well positioned when it comes to vaccination centers and mobile emergency services and are now waiting to get enough vaccines. The second population group, all between 70 and 79 years of age, are invited to Berlin. After a difficult day and a difficult Prime Minister's Conference, we have had many successes. Everyone has to grit their teeth now, because we have to go through it, so that in the summer, when the vaccinations have become a high priority, we can return to normality in terms of attending events and sports.

Mr Söder, on the other hand, does not see a difficult day, rather a difficult situation in terms of Corona. It would have been good to have heard the experts yesterday. Today's decisions are based solely on the assessment of the Expert Council. The currently low numbers are due to fewer tests and reporting deficits by health authorities. The number of unreported cases is very high. Citizens who had practically no infections in acquaintances and friends in March are now even burdened with deaths in these circles. Then there are the new mutations from Great Britain. You shouldn't underestimate that in any case. You don't do any experiments, the less lockdown, the longer it takes. Therefore, mobility and contacts must be further reduced in order to achieve sustainable success. Mr Söder fears that he will have to deal wisely and live with the virus for months. He expressly thanks the citizens who participate well and says: Some are not participating, and for them there are now the additional rules. (Wrongly said, BECAUSE of these citizens there are these and the additional rules). He criticizes the vaccination readiness rate in nursing homes, both among residents and staff. Both were below expectations.

At the end, Ms. Merkel once again explained the EU vaccine allocation procedure: Actually, other manufacturers were in the focus of some EU countries. Germany relied on Biontech early on and had large amounts of vaccines. Then Biontech convinced the others with the availability and quality, other countries had switched to Biontech and as a result Germany did not get the actually promised quantities but only the quantities due to the population were allocated, ie the actually available quantities were by the EU drastically reduced. What should be good about shopping and distributing the vaccination doses together remains your secret.