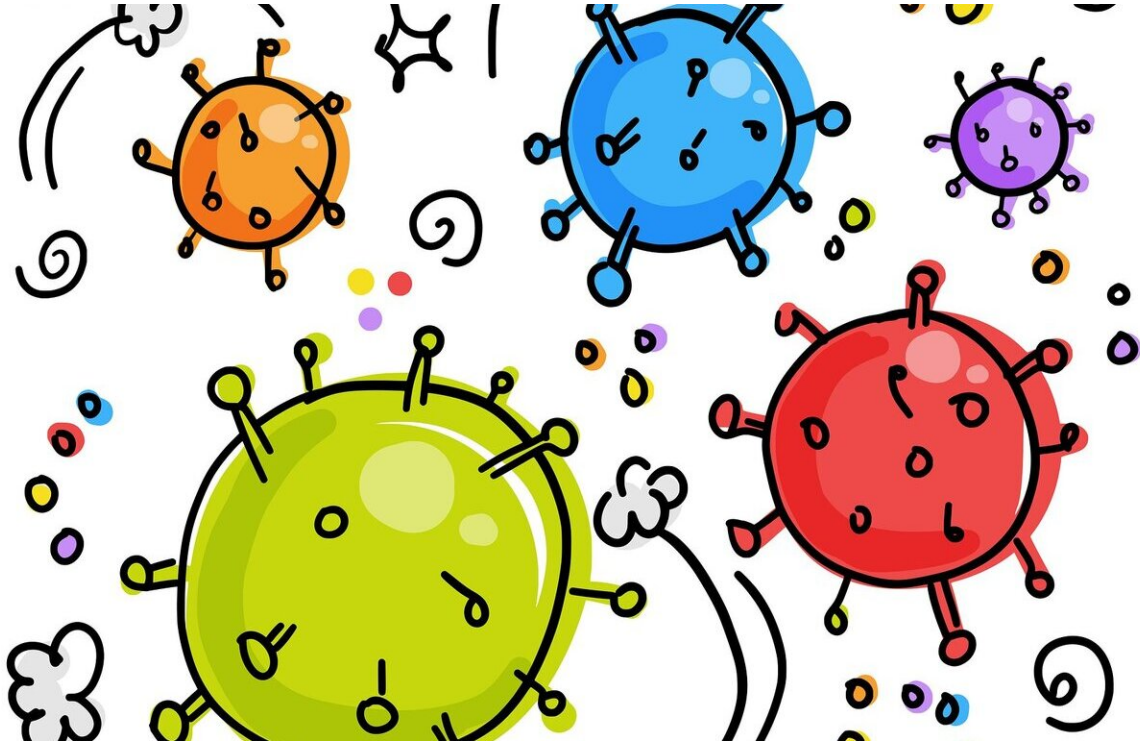


Peru's coronavirus deaths surge past 7,000

June 17 2020



Credit: Pixabay/CC0 Public Domain

Peru's health ministry said Tuesday that the hard-hit nation's coronavirus death toll had reached 7,056, the third-highest in Latin America after Brazil and Mexico.

Officials said the number of confirmed cases is now beyond 237,000 in Peru, which has been under a nationwide lockdown for three months.

With a population of 33 million, Peru has the second-highest number of confirmed cases in Latin America after Brazil.

Nevertheless, Health Minister Victor Zamora told reporters that the number of new cases has begun to decrease.

Peru's healthcare system is on the verge of collapse, with more than 10,000 COVID-19 patients in hospitals.

Seventy percent of Peru's cases have been reported in the Lima metropolitan area, home to a third of the country's population.

The death toll includes more than 200 inmates who caught the disease in Peru's overcrowded prisons, at least 170 [police officers](#) working to enforce curfews and border closures, and more than 50 medical personnel, according to official figures.

© 2020 AFP

Citation: Peru's coronavirus deaths surge past 7,000 (2020, June 17) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-06-peru-coronavirus-deaths-surge.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.