# Article information:

Back to basics: measuring the impact of interventions to limit the spread of COVID-19 in Europe | Archives of Public Health | Full Text
<https://archpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13690-022-00830-5>

# Article summary:

1. This study analyzed the impact of six non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) on the rate by which cumulative cases and deaths were growing in Europe during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. The most effective interventions at lowering the rate by which cumulative cases were increasing were travel restrictions, school closures, and partial lockdowns, while the most effective against cumulative deaths were partial lockdowns, travel restrictions, and full lockdowns.

3. All interventions reduced the rate by which cumulative cases and deaths were increasing, with partial lockdowns being the most effective among them during the first wave of the pandemic in Europe.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article "Back to basics: measuring the impact of interventions to limit the spread of COVID-19 in Europe" provides a detailed analysis of the non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) implemented by European countries during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. The study analyzes six NPIs, including school closures, travel restrictions, cancellation of events, restrictions on gatherings, partial and full lockdowns. The authors collected data on the implementation date of these interventions and the number of daily cases and deaths during the first wave for every country and territory geographically located in Europe.

The article presents a comprehensive analysis of the impact of each NPI on cumulative cases and deaths. The results show that all interventions reduced the rate by which cumulative cases and deaths were increasing, with partial lockdowns being the most effective among other interventions during the first wave in Europe. The study also highlights that decisions to close schools, cancel events, and restrict travel were taken during the same time period, whereas decisions for other interventions were taken when growth rates were similar.

However, there are some potential biases in this study. Firstly, it only focuses on European countries during the first wave of COVID-19. Therefore, it may not be applicable to other regions or later waves of COVID-19. Secondly, while data was collected from various secondary sources, there may be discrepancies between different sources that could affect the accuracy of results. Thirdly, there is no discussion about potential negative consequences or unintended effects of these NPIs.

Moreover, some points are missing from this study. For instance, it does not consider differences in population density or demographic factors that could affect transmission rates. Additionally, it does not explore counterarguments against NPIs or alternative strategies for controlling COVID-19.

In conclusion, while this article provides valuable insights into the effectiveness of NPIs implemented during the first wave in Europe to control COVID-19 transmission rates; it is important to consider potential biases, missing points of consideration, and unexplored counterarguments. Further research is needed to fully understand the impact of NPIs on controlling COVID-19 transmission rates and their potential negative consequences.

# Topics for further research:

* Demographic factors affecting COVID-19 transmission rates
* Negative consequences of non-pharmaceutical interventions for COVID-19
* Alternative strategies for controlling COVID-19 transmission
* Effectiveness of NPIs in later waves of COVID-19
* Differences in population density and COVID-19 transmission rates
* Counterarguments against non-pharmaceutical interventions for COVID-19

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/f53e5535c1a187ad7bf9583f762ac4ed>