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Russia Reports Over 21K Coronavirus Infections in Latest Record

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Russian authorities continue to rule out a nationwide lockdown to slow the spread of the pandemic.
Alexander Shcherbak / TASS

Russia has broken its daily coronavirus record, confirming more than 21,000 new infections Monday as the second wave of the outbreak shows no signs of slowing down.

The 21,798 new coronavirus cases shattered Friday's record by over 1,200 and pushed the total caseload to 1,796,132, the world's fourth-highest count after a brief lead taken by France.

In the past day, 256 people have died, bringing the national death toll to 30,793. Russia's official statistics agency said late Friday that 55,671 people with Covid-19 died from April through September, the latest available month, alone.

Moscow and St. Petersburg confirmed records of 6,897 and 1,403 new Covid-19 cases, respectively.

Russia's new cases continue to rise as regions outside Moscow report severe shortages of

hospital beds, staff and medicine.

At least six Russian regions are reporting caseloads more than 10 times higher than those of the spring peak during the first wave of the pandemic.

Authorities continue to rule out a nationwide lockdown to slow the spread of the pandemic, opting instead for targeted measures like mandating masks in public and requiring some schoolchildren and employees to study or work from home.

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