

# Wear a mask? Yes, always wear a mask.



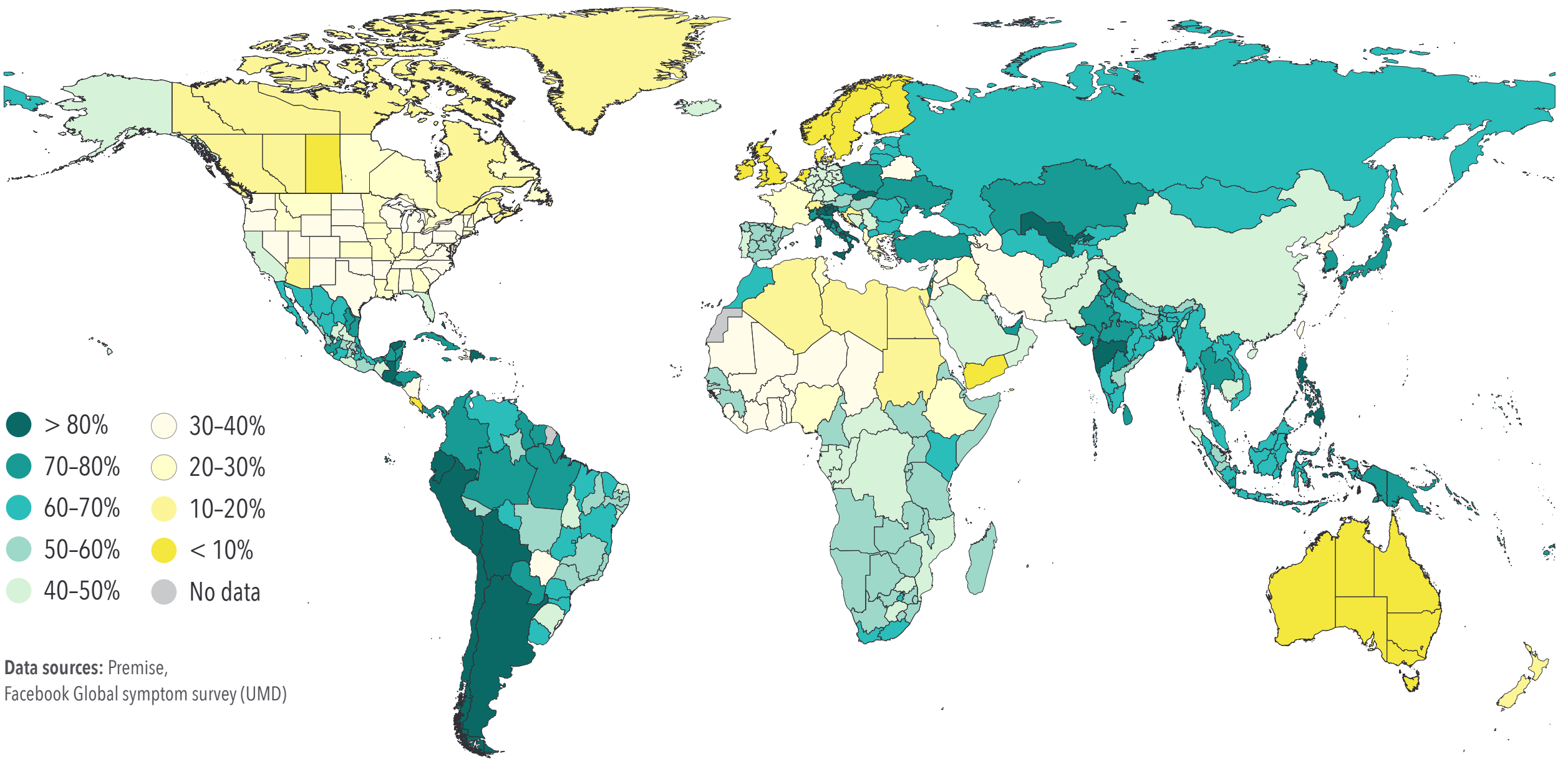
Wear a mask whenever you are in public to help curb the spread of COVID-19, and encourage others to do the same. Widespread mask use may temper or even help prevent a second wave of the pandemic.

- We considered more than 20 studies and ran a meta-analysis. The results show that masks work, but survey data reveal that mask use varies.
- Globally, mask use has increased since April 26, 2020, but some countries still lag.
- Mask use in the US has increased since April 26, 2020, but rates vary by state and region.

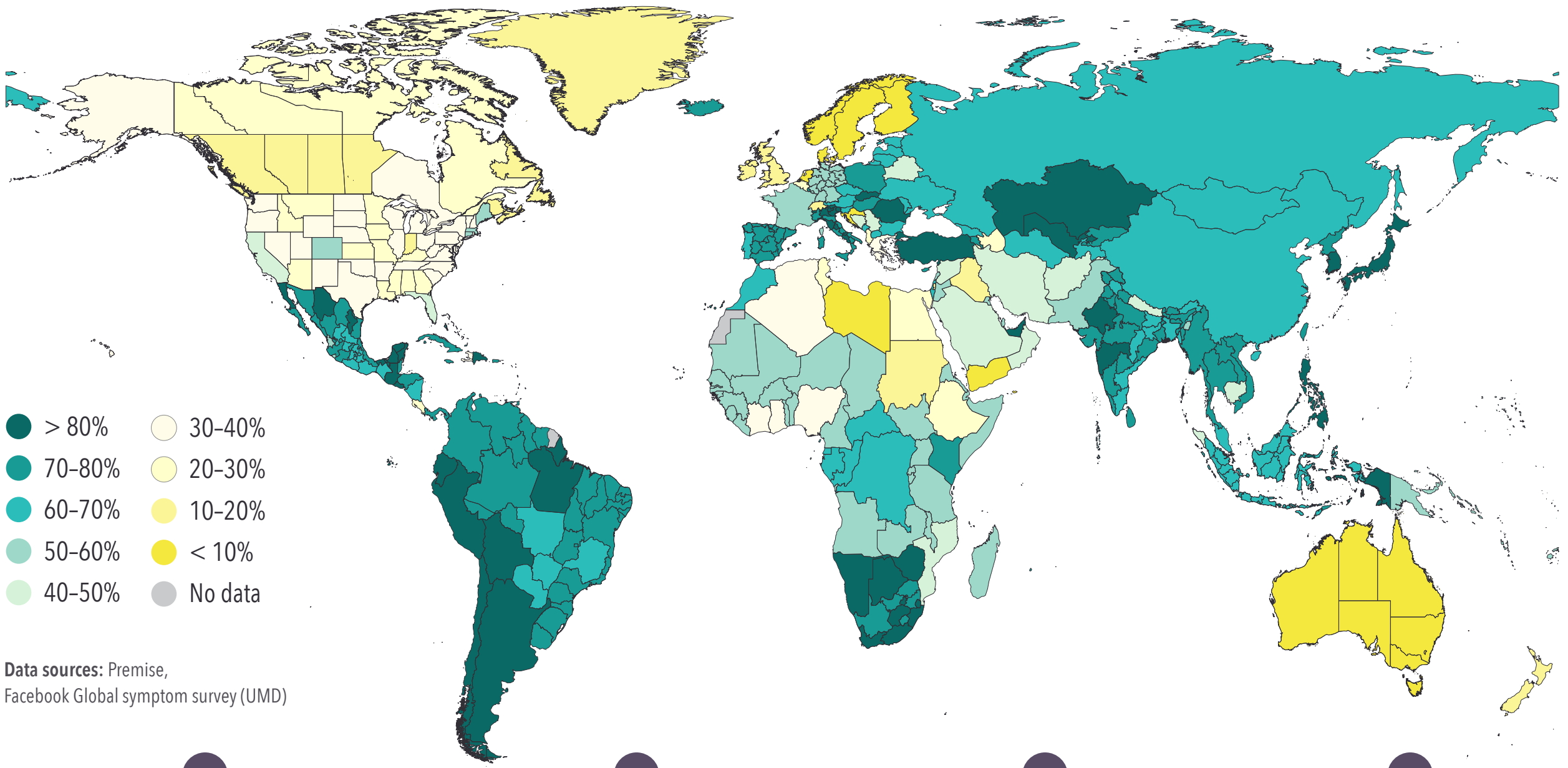
Whether cloth or medical-grade, masks can **reduce the risk** of respiratory illnesses like COVID-19 by **40-50%**

## Mask use around the world, April 26 and June 2

Percent of people who say they always wear a mask when going out, April 26



Percent of people who say they always wear a mask when going out, June 2



Despite having been hit hard by COVID-19, the **UK and Sweden** have markedly low reported mask usage compared to other European countries.

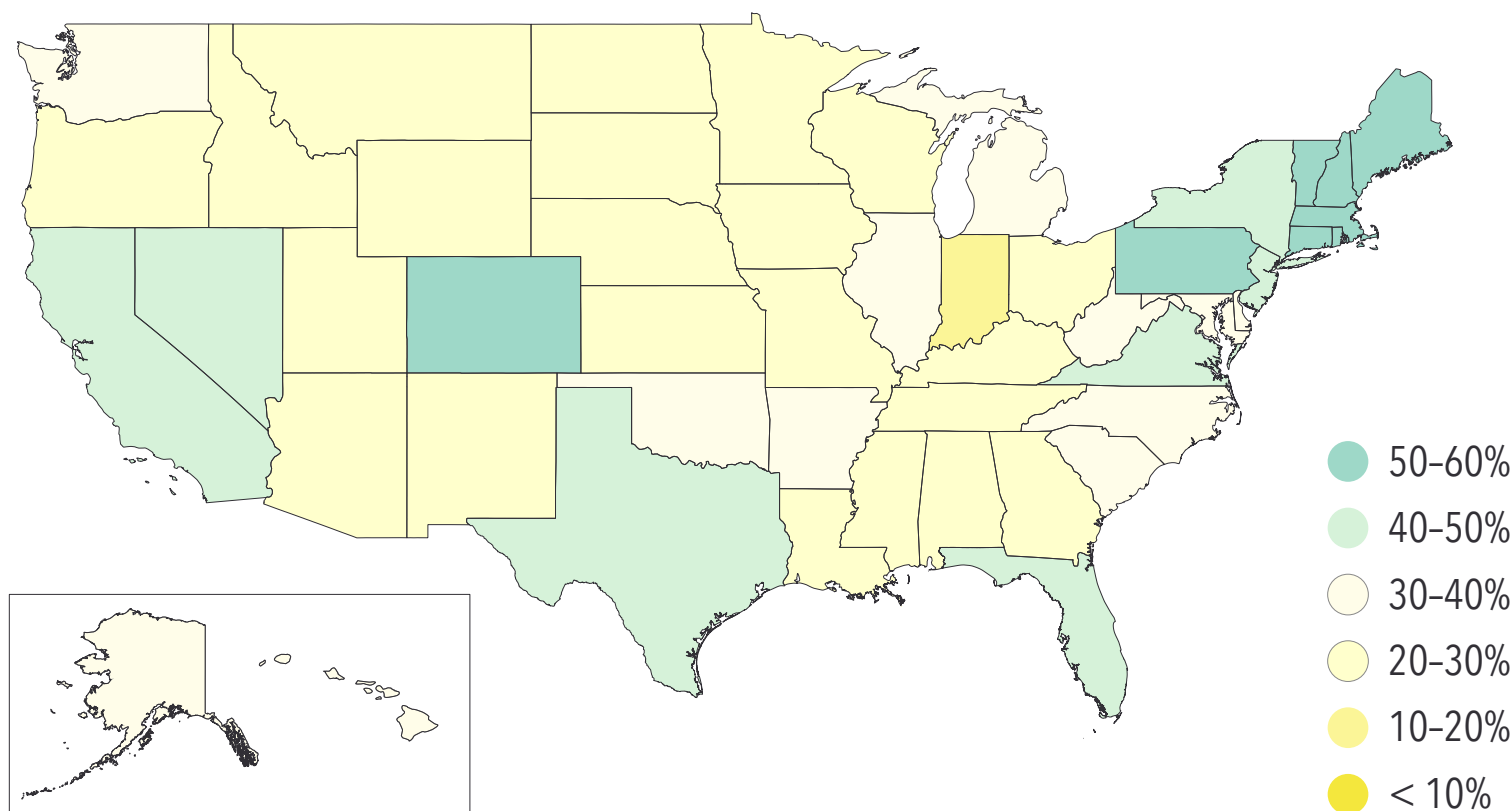
**US states and Canada** stand out for their low levels of mask usage compared to many countries in **Asia and South America**.

Mask use has increased in **Mexico, Brazil, and South Africa**, while across **Northern Europe**, rates are low and flat.

The COVID-19 pandemic is waning in **Spain and South Korea**, yet mask use is on the rise.

## Mask use in the US, June 2

Percent of people who say they always wear a mask when going out, June 2



**80%** report **sometimes or always** wearing a mask

**20%** say they **never** wear a mask

- The **northeast region** has high rates of reported mask use.
- Blocks of states in the **southeast** (North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Kentucky) and Midwest (Wisconsin and Indiana) have low rates of mask use.
- Even as mobility has increased and social distancing guidelines relaxed, mask use in **the Dakotas, Nebraska, Kansas, and Iowa** has dropped.