



North China Border City Reports 5 Locally Transmitted COVID-19 Cases

Author/ Xiao Zeping

A medical worker takes a swab sample from a man for nucleic acid test at a residential area in the border city of Manzhouli in North China's Inner Mongolia autonomous region, Dec 4, 2021.

HOHHOT -- The border city of Manzhouli in North China's Inner Mongolia autonomous region reported five confirmed locally transmitted COVID-19 cases from 12 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, local authorities said.

So far, the city has reported 332 locally transmitted confirmed COVID-19 cases in the latest outbreak. All cases are receiving treatment at a designated local hospital, according to a press briefing.

An epidemiological investigation is underway. As of 2 p.m. on Sunday, a total of 9,229 close contacts and 3,405 secondary close contacts had been placed under medical observation at designated locations.

Health authorities in Manzhouli have completed the seventh round of citywide nucleic acid testing, detecting 47 positive cases among 183,831 samples. The city launched its eighth mass testing at 8 a.m. on Sunday.

- 1.north China 华北地区
- 2.swap sample 拭子样品
- 3.nucleic acid test 核酸检测
- 4.positive cases 阳性病例

- 5.Inner Mongolia autonomous region 内蒙古自治区
- 6.press briefing 新闻发布会
- 7.designated 指定的, 确定的

- 8.epidemiological 流行病学的
- 9.under observation at 在观察中
- 10.launch 发起活动 The university launched a freshman football game on last Sunday, how exciting it was! 我们大学上周日举办了一场新生足球赛, 实在是太精彩了!

Idaho, Mississippi and Wyoming have ranked at the bottom of the U.S. in terms of COVID-19 vaccination rates, with data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showing only about half of residents in these states have received at least one vaccine dose. That compares with a rate of about 70% for the U.S. overall.

Yet there are still success stories hidden within the data - individual counties that have vaccination rates well above the state mark, indicating that communities can still pull ahead even in states that lag behind.

A recent U.S. News review shows that among these outliers is Teton County, Wyoming, where 98% of the population had received at least one dose compared with about 54% of the state - the largest such disparity within the CDC's data. Notably, Teton County came in at No.1 in U.S. News' 2021 Healthiest Communities rankings and boasts a median household income approaching \$85,000.

But it's not just rich counties that stand out: In Jefferson county, Mississippi - a small, majority-Black county where the median household income is approximately \$25,000 - 73% of the population had gotten at least one shot, far above the state's 54% mark. As reported by the Mississippi free press, a local community health center used a mobile vaccination clinic to bring shots directly to residents.

And in Blaine county, Idaho - considered a Democratic stronghold in a largely conservative state, and No.136 in the Healthiest Communities rankings - 78% of the population had received at least one

Vaccine Outliers in Poor-Performing States

By Sharon Lurye
Dec. 6, 2021, From
New York Times

Author/ Wang Suwan

vaccine dose, compared with 51% of the state on the whole.

You can find additional county-level vaccine data from the CDC and U.S. News here, as well as data on COVID-19 cases and deaths in your area.



- Teton county, Wyoming 怀俄明州, 提顿县
- disparity 差距
- notably 值得注意的是
- median household income 家庭收入中位数
- Jefferson county, Mississippi 密西西比州杰斐逊县
- majority-black 黑人占多数
- Blaine county, Idaho 爱德华州布莱茵县
- Democratic 民主党
- stronghold 要塞, 根据地, 据点

- 语言点
- vaccine 疫苗
- outlier 极端值
- Idaho Mississippi and Wyoming 美州名, 爱德华州, 密西西比州, 怀俄明州
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 美国疾病预防控制中心
- dose 一剂
- pull ahead 奋力前进
- lag behind 落后

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Birds don't just fly they fall down and get up.

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The Rise of Japan's "Super Solo" Culture

崛起的“超-solo”文化，“单身”热潮席卷日本

Author/Li Min

A decade ago, many Japanese were so embarrassed to be seen eating alone in the school or office cafeteria that they'd opt to eat in a bathroom stall. Appearing friendless was a no-no, leading to what became known as "banjo meshi" — taking a toilet lunch. But many think Japan is changing in a big way. From dining to nightlife to travel, new options catering specifically to individuals have popped up in recent years. It's known as the "ohitorisama" movement: people boldly choosing to do things alone, the opinions of others be damned.

What's driving the change and why exactly is it considered so significant? "Japan is a small country, and everybody needs to coexist," says Motoko Matsushita, a senior consultant at Nomura Research Institute. She says that along with the rise of social media — the way friend numbers or likes can dictate your value — this led to stifling peer pressure that stigmatized being seen alone. She says the blowback from this and the 24/7 communication culture then fueled the rise of ohitorisama.

Part of the equation is that Japanese society is undergoing a seismic demographic shift. The number of single-person households is rising up

from 25% in 1995 to over 35% in 2015, according to census data.

"A 'super solo society', characterized by young people who never get married and the elderly who become single again after being widowed, will be the future of all countries, not only Japan," says Kazuhisa Arakawa, a researcher at Hakuho.

And it's the combination of demographic shifts coupled with the emergence of more flexible attitudes towards how lives can be lived that has helped ohitorisama to flourish.

语言点

1. Ohitorisama 单身情歌

2. damn 英 [dæm]

vt. 谴责; 指责; 咒骂; 诅咒

3. coexist 英 [kəʊɪg'zɪst] 美 [kooɪg'zɪst]

v. 同时存在, 共存; 和平共处

短语

coexist peacefully 和平共处; 平共处

Mentor is to coexist 亦师亦友才是相处之道

coexist coexist 编辑成书; 共同生存

4. dictate v. 口授, 口述; 命令, 支配 disable vt.

丧失能力(Ability), 伤残

5. stifling 英 [stɪflɪŋ] 美 [stɪflɪŋ]

adj. 令人窒息的; 沉闷的 v. 使窒息; 粉碎 (stifle 的现在分词)

6. stigmatised 英 [stɪgmə'taɪz]

v. (使) 感到羞耻; (使) 受圣伤痕

blowback 英 [bləʊ bæk]

n. (枪炮射击后的) 后焰, 后泄气体; (锅炉、内燃机) 向后吹的风(或气流); 枪栓回弹; 后座力

7. seismic 英 ['saɪzmɪk]

adj. 地震的; 地震引起的; 巨大的; 重大的; 重要的

1. a high level of seismic activity within the earth's plates
地球板块内部地震活动的高度活跃

2. Childbirth is a seismic event in every mother's life.
生孩子是每个母亲生命中的大事。

8. demographic 英 [demə'græfɪk]

n. (具有共同特征的) 人群 adj. 人口的; 人口统计学的; 人口统计的

1. a demographic study 人口统计研究

2. Demographic variables have been shown to contribute the most variance in student delinquency.

经证实, 人口统计变量是构成学生犯罪差异的最大变量。

9. flourish 英 ['flʌrɪʃ]

vi. 处于巅峰状态; 处于健康状态 n 茂盛; 繁荣; 开花;

attitudes.

这一发现引起了公众态度的巨大转变。

5. balance of power 力量均衡(一般指政治上的两国或两个群体之间)

6. rip up the established order 打破既定秩序

2021年度表情排名出炉, “比心”只排第二?

篇章

According to data from the Unicode Consortium, the organization that maintains the standards for digital text, nine of the 10 most used emojis from 2019 also ranked among the top 10 this year. The red heart emoji held the No.2 spot, and the tears of joy emoji ranked No.1, despite members of Gen Z deeming it uncool.

The fact that most of the top 10 in Unicode's data set stayed fairly consistent signifies just how flexible the current set of emojis are.

语言点

1. the Unicode Consortium 统一码联盟

2. emoji /i'məʊdʒi/ n. 表情符号

sticker/meme n. 表情包

3. rank among sth. 跻身某个行列或位置

China ranks among the safest countries in the world.

中国可以算得上是世界上安全的国家之一。

4. hold the No.XX spot or rank No.XX 表示“排名第几”

近义表达: take the first/second etc. place

5. Gen Z 表示“Z世代”(90年代中期到2000年左右出生的一代人, 受到数字信息技术影响比较大, 也叫“互联网世代”或者“网络世代”)

6. consistent /kən'sɪst(ə)nt/ adj. (行为/态度/标准等)一致的, 一贯的

She's the team's most consistent player.

她是队里表现最稳定的选手。

stay/remain consistent 保持一致, 连贯

A Set of More Than 5,000 Calendars, Chanel "Cut the Wrong Lecks"

一套日历5000多块, 香奈儿“割错韭菜”

A luxury advent calendar released by Chanel has received significant backlash from customers who say it is not worth its \$825 price tag.

In a video posted to TikTok, influencer Elise Harmon filmed herself unboxing the pricey calendar and revealed the rather underwhelming contents.

The Chanel website purports that each day of the calendar either "contains a full-size fragrance or makeup product, miniature, or other surprise marked with Gabrielle Chanel's lucky number."

语言点

1. advent /'ædvənt/ n. (重要事件、人物、发明等的)出现, 到来(the coming of an important event, person, invention, etc.); 基督降临时

advent calendar 倒数日历

2. release /rɪ'li:z/ v. 推出(产品); 上映(电影); 开播(电视剧)

The film is recently released.

这部电影最近上映了。

3. backlash /'bækləʃ/ n. 强烈抵制(a strong negative reaction by a large number of people)

The company is facing an angry backlash from employees over the extra working hours.

公司高管正面临员工对加班的强烈反对。

receive a backlash from sb. 遭到某人的强烈抵制

4. price tag 价格标签

5. influencer /ɪnfluənsər/ n. 网红, 达人

6. underwhelming /'ʌndər welmɪŋ/ adj. 平平无奇的, 乏善可陈的

overwhelming adj. 令人难以抗拒的, 应接不暇的

The reaction from the market is underwhelming.

市场反应平平。

第二个丁俊晖? 中国90后问鼎斯诺克英锦赛

Zhao Xintong completed a 10-5 win over Luca Brecel to claim the UK Championship crown in York. The manner of his win over Brecel suggested many more major titles could flow his way.

Zhao's victory means China currently holds two of the three 'triple crown' titles, after Yan Bingtao's Masters triumph earlier this year - and hinted at a seismic shift in the sport's balance of power.

News in Brief

简讯三则

Author/Zhu Hongyi

Zhao and Brecel had ripped up the established order in their respective semi-finals, Brecel beating Kyren Wilson, while Zhao defeated Barry Hawkins.

语言点

1. claim /kleɪm/ v. (体育赛事中)赢得(win); 声称

2. manner /'mænər/ n. 方式, 方法

3. hint /hɪnt/ v. 暗示(suggest)

4. seismic /'saɪzmɪk/ adj. 造成严重破坏的; 地震的, 地震引起的

seismic shift 巨大的转变

The discovery caused a seismic shift in public

Never too old to learn, never too late to turn.



Be a sailor of the world and go to all the piers

做一个全世界的水手，奔赴所有的码头

Author/ ZhuHongyi

Learn Today:

- 词汇
prejudice n. 偏见
bigotry n. 固执
narrow-mindedness n. 心胸狭隘
broad adj. 开阔的
wholesome adj. 健康的
charitable adj. 宽容的

- 短语
be fatal to 对……是致命的

- 拓展
做一个全世界的水手，奔赴所有的码头。
——惠特曼《草叶集》

我们眼前的景观和我们脑子里可能产生的想法之间存在着某种奇妙的关联，宏阔的思考常常需要壮阔的景观，而新的观点往往也产生于陌生的所在。

——阿兰·德波顿《旅行的艺术》

Today's feelings:

Day after day at three o'clock and one line of life and fixed locations, the days are long, and people always feel constrained. I need some hopes and memories of travel in other places to refresh my sensitivity to life and re-see the monotonous days. Fresh bits and pieces. Which trip did you remember the most?

Guide:

Do you like travel?

Today's sentence:

Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime.

—The Innocents Abroad, Writer, Mark Twain

旅行是治愈偏见、固执和心胸狭窄的良药，很多人因此十分需要旅行。一个一生都躲在地球一隅的人对人和事物是不可能开阔的、健康的、和宽容的看法的。

——《傻子出国记》马克·吐温，作家



日复一日三点一线的生活和固定地点，日子长了总是感到人被拘得紧巴巴，需要一些他乡的期许和旅行的回忆，来刷新自己对于生活的敏感，重新看见单调日子里鲜活的点滴。你印象最深的一次旅行是哪次呢？

True love is hard, but I wish you no regrets

Author/ ZhuHongyi

真爱很难，但祝你不留遗憾

I wrote this sentence to my girlfriend on the Seventh day of the seventh lunar month, Chinese Valentine's Day. On that day, you might have seen young couples walking down the street with flowers in their hands, telling each other about their love. But reading this sentence, maybe you'll realize that true love is more than roses.

I finally understood what true love meant... Love meant that you care for another person's happiness more than your own, no matter how painful the choices you face might be.

I've learned that true love means that you care more about another person's happiness than your own, no matter how painful the choices you have to face.

—Dear John, Writer, Nicholas Sparks

This quote comes from the novel Dear John, translated in Chinese as "A Breakup Letter (分手信)". Dear John became a reference to the large number of American servicemen sent overseas to fight in World War II. Their wives and girlfriends, unable to accept the long wait, often decided to start a new relationship and then wrote a sweet but cruel letter beginning with "Dear". And the "John" here doesn't refer to any fixed person, it refers to the type of persons that was broken up with. Over time, "Dear John Letter" has become a slang for "A Breakup Letter".

The novel Dear John tells a story about pure love. The hero and heroine fell in love at first sight, but broke



up due to war. After twists and turns, the two people, baptized by war and separation, met again years later. In fact, the plot is quite cliché, but this sentence is not a silly sweet confession, but in the discussion of the definition of love.

In the hero's opinion, "You care for another person's happiness more than your own, No matter how painful the choices you face might be." Even if the person accompanying her was not himself, even if he had to face such a "painful choice".

We are all born with a selfish instinct. Who wouldn't want to be the happiest? Who wants to be the one to suffer? But there may always be someone in the world who is willing to fulfill his or her happiness in the face of "painful choices". He or she can care more about her or him than oneself in the face of any danger or difficulty. He or she is willing to protect him or her with his or her body when the building is about to collapse. Be willing to leave their only plank in the icy sea depths. This is a choice beyond instinct, and the reason behind this choice may be "true love", the kind of love that "you care for another person's happiness more than your own".

It is because of this "true love" that the hero of the novel chose to let it go after receiving a Dear John Letter. After being informed that the person that he loved so deeply had already been married to another man, the hero chose to secretly guard, guard her happiness.

If "true love" means a choice between my happiness and my painful decisions, then there is always regret, right? In movies, people fall in love and end in painful breakups, as Salinger wrote in Heart of Broken Stories, "Love is a hand that wants to be touched and then withdrawn."

We all long to meet the most beautiful, the most sincere love, but in reality, "love but not" is the norm. With regret and painful choices, those feelings and promises are even more profound and memorable.

But I think, the love witnessed by romantic candlelight dinner, or the deep unilateral love with pay and protection, both should be blessed. And "true love" is far more than the love between a man and a woman. The love between parents and children, the love between brothers and sisters, and the love between friends are all worth paying for, sacrificing for, and making choices for. True love means that you care for another person's happiness more than your own, no matter how painful the choices you face might be.

True love is hard, but I wish you no regrets.