**Overview**  
This living map ('the map') comprises bibliographic records of systematic reviews of social sciences research evidence on COVID-19.

**Suggested citation for the map**  
Shemilt I, Gough D, Thomas J, Stansfield C, Bangpan M, Brunton J, Dickson K, Graziosi S, Hull P, Kneale D, Larsson C, Mendizabal-Espinosa R, Muraki S, Ramadani F, Vigurs C (2022). Living map of systematic reviews of social sciences research evidence on COVID-19. London: EPPI Centre, UCL Social Research Institute, University College London.

**Identifying the evidence**  
Each record included in the map is an article that reports a systematic review of social sciences research on COVID-19.

**Eligibility criteria for the map**  
To be eligible for publication in the map a record must be judged to meet all three of the following criteria:

1. COVID-19. COVID-19 = coronavirus 2019 = SARS-Cov-2 = nCov-2019. COVID-19 needs to be a key focus of study rather than simply mentioned.

2. Systematic Review. Defined in a broad way that can include systematic maps, scoping reviews, and syntheses, whether new reviews or updates, or reviews of reviews. Required features are: 1. Eligibility criteria (defining the types of studies eligible for consideration), which may be implicit in the text or in a PRISMA-type flow diagram (rather than specifically listed); and 2. An explicit search strategy (describing where and how such studies were sought and identified). Include any systematic review that aimed to include studies on COVID-19, whether or not any such studies were included in the review. Exclude protocols for systematic reviews. Exclude systematic reviews if these are: (a) simple lists of studies rather than mapping on different variables, or a synthesis; (b) reviews of guidelines, guidance, rules, or processes, and not of research studies. Exclude systematic reviews with a date of last search before December 2019 (when COVID-19 was first identified and reported). For bibliometric analyses meeting eligibility criteria (research on research use), the article must provide a date of search for searches of the specified source(s).

3. Social Sciences Research. All forms of social science are relevant, including (but not limited to) IPPO priority areas concerning COVID-19 ('Mental Health'; 'Education'; 'Housing'; 'Care'; 'Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic Communities'; 'Vulnerable Communities'; and 'Online Life') [https://covidandsociety.com]. Exclude if a main focus of the systematic review is not on a social sciences topic (even if there is some mention of social issues); for example, exclude on the following topics (if the focus is not social): (a) epidemiology on social issues such as race and class if focus is just on the numbers, without a main focus on the analysis of social causes or effects; (b) appraisal of a technical product or process, unless the main focus is on the social aspects of this; (c) rates of transmission of infection, where not examining social aspects; (d) health systems, without a social focus.

The map is limited to records of systematic reviews published since December 2019 (when COVID-19 was first identified and reported). Nature of publication is not an exclusion criterion, so any form of publication, including letters, conference presentations, pre-prints, working papers and innovative formats, are included. However, if a pre-print article or working paper is identified in our eligibility screening workflow after the corresponding, subsequently published journal article version has already been identified, then the (earlier) pre-print/ working paper version is not coded or added to the map.

N.B. This is a living map that is being continuously updated and published monthly. Its eligibility criteria are therefore subject to change as the map continues to evolve and as we encounter, discuss and resolve further 'borderline eligible' records.

***Version 1***  
To identify eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 1' of the map (published on 26 March 2021), we designed and implemented a bespoke, semi-automated, Microsoft Academic Graph [1, 2] (MAG)-enabled workflow hosted in EPPI Reviewer Web (ER-Web) [3]. This MAG-enabled workflow identified bibliographic (title-abstract) records of eligible systematic reviews from multiple sources, using multiple methods:

1.1. COVID-19 'Custom Searches' of MAG datasets up to 1 March 2021 (release date 16 March 2021). The entire MAG dataset comprises >250 million bibliographic records of research articles, and this dataset is updated with new records (i.e. an updated version of the MAG dataset is released) every 14 days (approx). Searches were conducted using the MAG 'Custom Search' feature in MAG Browser tools in ER-Web.

And(OR(And(W='severe',W='acute',W='respiratory',W='syndrome',W='coronavirus'),And(W='coronavirus',W='19'),And(W='coronavirus',W='2019'),And(W='covid',W='19'),And(W='covid',W='2019'),W='covid19',And(W='2019',W='ncov'),And(W='middle',W='east',W='respiratory',W='syndrome',W='coronavirus'),And(W='corona',W='virus',W='disease',W='2019'),AXnd(W='new',W='coronavirus'),And(W='novel',W='coronavirus'),And(W='sars',W='cov2'),And(W='sars',W='cov',W='2'),And(W='sars',W='coronavirus',W='2'),Composite(F.FId=3008058167),Composite(F.FId=3007834351),Composite(F.FId=3006700255)),And(W='review',OR(W='systematic',W='literature',W='scoping',W='narrative',W='qualitative',W='evidence',W='quantitative',W='meta',W='critical',And(W='mixed',W='studies'),W='mapping',W='cochrane',W='integrative',W='living',W='rapid')))

The 'COVID-19' component of this custom search strategy was originally developed to help identify eligible records for our health-focused living map of COVID-19 research articles [4] (see '1.2' immediately below). The 'systematic reviews' component was adapted from a search strategy used to create the PubMed 'systematic reviews filter' [https://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/pubmed\_subsets/sysreviews\_strategy.html] and is designed to retrieve a broad range of eligible types of reviews (see 'Eligibility criteria for the map').

1.2. MAG and MAG-linked records assigned to 'Mental Health Impacts', 'Social / Economic / Indirect Impacts', or 'Case Study (Organisation)' topic codes and published, up to 21 December 2020, in a health-focused living map of COVID-19 research articles [4] that we are continuously updating for the UK Department of Health and Social Care.

1.3. Selected records from the COVID-19 Evidence Reviews Database [5], up to 13 January 2021.

1.4. Selected records from the Epistemonikos database [6], 'systematic reviews and broad evidence syntheses on COVID-19', up to 28 January 2021.

1.5. Selected records from the PROSPERO database [7], 'completed and published systematic reviews on COVID-19', up to 11 February 2021.

1.6. Searches of Social Care Online and Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) databases, up to 17 February 2021 [Footnote B].

1.7. Selected records identified by manual searches of selected organisational websites or COVID-19 resource centres, up to 19 February 2021:

- [Alberta Health Services Scientific Advisory Group COVID-19 Recommendations](https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17074.aspx);  
- [Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) COVID-19: Indigenous Health Research](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52028.html);  
- [CIHR COVID-19 and Mental Health (CMH) Initiative: Research](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52079.html%5d)  
- [Cochrane COVID Review Bank](https://covidreviews.cochrane.org/);  
- [Institut National d Excellence en Sante et en Services Sociaux, Quebec](https://www.inesss.qc.ca/en/covid-19.html" \t "_blank);  
- [McMaster University National Collaborating Center for Methods and Tools COVID-19 Rapid Evidence Reviews](https://www.nccmt.ca/covid-19/covid-19-evidence-reviews);  
- [New South Wales Government COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit](https://aci.health.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/critical-intelligence-unit);  
- [Oxford COVID-19 Evidence Service](https://www.cebm.net/oxford-covid-19-evidence-service); and  
- [Public Health England (PHE) COVID-19 Rapid Reviews](https://phelibrary.koha-ptfs.co.uk/covid19rapidreviews).

1.8. Selected records from EPPI Centre quick searches for evidence ('evidence sweeps'), undertaken by the EPPI Centre, to inform 'Evidence Snapshots' prepared to date for the ESRC International Public Policy Observatory on COVID-19 [8-10].

1.9. From February 2021, we have also deployed an automated search of each sequential update of the MAG dataset (15 February 2021 onwards) using our novel machine learning-based recommender model for continuous evidence surveillance in systematic reviews ('Auto-update Search') [11], developed in collaboration with Microsoft(TM) and deployed via MAG Browser tools in ER-Web. The 'Auto-update Search' uses a machine learning model trained to infer the relevance of new MAG records to this living map (and/ or to other maps and systematic reviews), based on a supervised dataset that incorporates the growing corpus of MAG records of eligible systematic reviews already assembled for inclusion in the map (from sources described in 1 to 8 above) prior to the release date of each updated MAG dataset [Footnote C]. All new MAG records from each sequential update (up to 200K new records per update) were scored using the 'Auto-update Search' model and ranked in order of their likely relevance to this living map (highest to lowest); and we retained the top scoring (highest ranked) few hundred records (variable, depending on the size of the update).

N.B. From the end of December 2021, the MAG dataset has been discontinued and replaced by [the OpenAlex dataset](https://openalex.org/) (see 'Version 12', below). OpenAlex Browser tools have replaced MAG Browser tools in ER-Web.

Next, we de-duplicated imported bibliographic records; either automatically (when de-duplicating MAG (OpenAlex from January 2022) records against known MAG (OpenAlex from January 2022) Record IDs already in ER-Web), or semi-automatically using ER-Web's 'Manage Duplicates' features (automatically marked as duplicates to a lower threshold matching score of 0.80).

Records from searches and sources that exclusively comprise systematic reviews were then directly assigned to be manually screened for eligibility for this map using 'Priority Screening' mode in ER-Web (see below). Larger sets of records from any non-MAG (non-OpenAlex from January 2022) sources with scopes broader than systematic reviews were first scored using ER-Web's built-in machine learning classifier for systematic reviews [Footnote A], and then progressively fed into the 'Priority Screening' workflow by score (highest to lowest). 'Priority Screening' mode in ER-Web uses 'active learning' [12, 13], whereby a binary machine learning classifier progressively 'learns' to distinguish between eligible records ('positive class') and ineligible records ('negative class') based on the growing corpus of eligibility decisions ('eligible' or 'ineligible') made by members of our screening team; and then periodically reprioritises the rank-ordered list of records yet to be screened, placing those more likely to be judged eligible at the top of the list. We continuously monitored the precision of the workflow using a screening progress graph in ER-Web to inform decisions about when to import further records from sources 1 to 8 (above) for processing into the 'Priority Screening' workflow.

Manual screening of each record against eligibility criteria (see 'Eligibility criteria for the map') was undertaken by a single researcher. Our semi-automated MAG-enabled (OpenAlex from January 2022) workflow facilitates simultaneous screening of title-abstract records and (when needed to assess eligibility) their corresponding full texts. Each ER-Web record contains both a DOI hyperlink to the publisher's webpage and (when available, for those records sourced from, or linked to, the MAG (OpenAlex from January 2022) dataset) also contains hyperlinks to all available full text sources on the internet, facilitating easy access to and retrieval of full texts. When available, full text PDFs were uploaded to ER-Web for both eligible systematic reviews (for use by the coding team - see 'Coding the evidence') and for records requiring examination of full text to inform the decision about eligibility. Members of the screening team could refer those records about which they were uncertain for a 'second opinion'. The eligibility of these 'second opinion' records was then resolved by consensus and discussion among screening team members.

For 'Version 1' of the map, we focussed primarily on identifying systematic reviews of research evidence on COVID-19 and mental health and well-being. However, we also identified eligible systematic reviews on other social sciences topics (see also 'Coding the evidence'). Our key underlying objective was to assemble an initial corpus of MAG or MAG-linked records of eligible systematic reviews that could be used to: a) train and retrain our 'Auto-update Search' model; and (b) 'seed' further MAG-enabled 'back-filling' workflows, which we implemented when ready (see 'Version 4', below).

***Version 2***  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 2' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

2.1. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 13th April 2021 (released 27th April) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above);

2.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 13th April 2021 (released 27th April) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above);

2.3. Updated Boolean searches of Social Care Online and Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) databases [Footnote B], up to 20th April 2021 (see 'Version 1', '1.6', above); and

2.4. Selected records from quick searches for evidence ('evidence sweeps'), undertaken by the EPPI Centre, to inform two further 'Evidence Snapshots' prepared for the ESRC International Public Policy Observatory on COVID-19 [14, 15].

**Version 3**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 3' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

3.1. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 26th April 2021 (released 11th May) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above); or

3.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 26th April 2021 (released 11th May) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above).

**Version 4**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 4' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

4.1. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 24th May 2021 (released 8th June) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above);

4.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 24th May 2021 (released 8th June) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above);

4.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the MAG dataset up to 10th May 2021 (released 25th May). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' (i.e. previously unseen) MAG records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 3' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' MAG records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing MAG-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above); or

4.4. Updated Boolean searches of Social Care Online and Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) databases [Footnote B], up to 9th June 2021 (see 'Version 1', '1.6', above); with the updated Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) search limited to the latest version of the database.

**Version 5**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 5' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

5.1.  Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 5th July 2021 (released 20th July) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above);

5.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 5th July 2021 (released 20th July) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above); or

5.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the MAG dataset up to 7th June 2021 (released 23rd June). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' MAG records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 4' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' MAG records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing MAG-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

**Version 6**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 6' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

6.1.  Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 2nd August 2021 (released 18th August) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above);

6.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 2nd August 2021 (released 18th August) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above);

6.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the MAG dataset up to 5th July 2021 (released 20th July). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' MAG records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 5' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' MAG records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing MAG-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

6.4. Selected records identified by manual searches of selected organisational websites or COVID-19 resource centres, up to 2nd August 2021:

- [Alberta Health Services Scientific Advisory Group COVID-19 Recommendations](https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17074.aspx);  
- [CIHR COVID-19 and Mental Health (CMH) Initiative: Research](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52079.html) or

6.5. Selected records identified by manual searches of selected organisational websites or COVID-19 resource centres, up to 3rd August 2021:

-[Cochrane COVID Review Bank](https://covidreviews.cochrane.org/);  
- [Institut National d Excellence en Sante et en Services Sociaux, Quebec](https://www.inesss.qc.ca/en/covid-19/services-sociaux.html" \t "_blank);  
- [McMaster University National Collaborating Center for Methods and Tools COVID-19 Rapid Evidence Reviews](https://www.nccmt.ca/covid-19/covid-19-evidence-reviews);  
- [New South Wales Government COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit](https://aci.health.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/critical-intelligence-unit/evidence-check);  
- [Oxford COVID-19 Evidence Service](https://www.cebm.net/oxford-covid-19-evidence-service).

**Version 7**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 7' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

7.1.  Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 30th August 2021 (released 14th September) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above);

7.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 30th August 2021 (released 14th September) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above);

7.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the MAG dataset up to 2nd August 2021 (released 18th August). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' MAG records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 6' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' MAG records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing MAG-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

7.4. Updated Boolean searches of Social Care Online and Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) databases [Footnote B], up to 9th September 2021 (see 'Version 1', '1.6', above); with the updated Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) search limited to the latest three versions of the database (052021, 062021, 072021).

7.5. A collection of rapid evidence reviews, commissioned by the UK Department for Education (DfE) and conducted and published by the EPPI-Centre, on mitigating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the effects of closure of educational facilities.

**Version 8**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 8' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

8.1. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 27th September 2021 (released 12th October) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above);

8.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 27th September 2021 (released 12th October) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above);

8.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the MAG dataset up to 16th September 2021 (released 28th September). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' MAG records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 7' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' MAG records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing MAG-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

**Version 9**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 9' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

9.1. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 25th October 2021 (released 16th November) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above);

9.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 25th October 2021 (released 16th November) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above);

9.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the MAG dataset up to 11th October 2021 (released 27th October). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' MAG records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 8' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' MAG records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing MAG-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

**Version 10**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 10' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

10.1. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 22nd November 2021 (released 9th December) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above);

10.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 22nd November 2021 (released 9th December) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above);

10.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the MAG dataset up to 8th November 2021 (released 24th November). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' MAG records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 9' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' MAG records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing MAG-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

**Version 11**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 11' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

11.1. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 6th December 2021 (released 5th January 2022) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above);

11.2. Automated searches of updated MAG datasets up to 6th December 2021 (released 5th January 2022) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above);

11.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the MAG dataset up to 6th December 2021 (released 5th January 2022). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' MAG records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 10' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' MAG records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing MAG-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

11.4. Updated Boolean searches of Social Care Online and Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) databases [Footnote B], up to 11th January 2022 (see 'Version 1', '1.6', above); with the updated Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) search limited to the latest three versions of the database (082021, 092021, 102021).

11.5. Selected records identified by manual searches of selected organisational websites or COVID-19 resource centres, up to 11th January 2022:

- [CIHR COVID-19 and Mental Health (CMH) Initiative: Research](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52079.html);  
- [Cochrane COVID Review Bank](https://covidreviews.cochrane.org/);  
- I[nstitut National d Excellence en Sante et en Services Sociaux, Quebec](https://www.inesss.qc.ca/en/covid-19/services-sociaux.html);  
- [McMaster University National Collaborating Center for Methods and Tools COVID-19 Rapid Evidence Reviews](https://www.nccmt.ca/covid-19/covid-19-evidence-reviews);  
- [New South Wales Government COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit](https://aci.health.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/critical-intelligence-unit/evidence-check); and  
- [Oxford COVID-19 Evidence Service](https://www.cebm.net/oxford-covid-19-evidence-service).

**Version 12**  
In January 2022, we switched from using the MAG dataset (discontinued December 2021) as our primary source for identifying eligible articles for the map, to using the (replacement) [OpenAlex](https://openalex.org/) dataset. Automated searches of the OpenAlex dataset <https://explore.openalex.org/> (see 12.1 thru 12.3, below) are managed using [OpenAlex Browser](https://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=3819" \t "_blank) tools (replacing MAG Browser) in ER-Web [3].

To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 12' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

12.1. Automated searches of updated OpenAlex datasets up to 30th January 2022 (released 6th February 2022) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above).

12.2. Automated searches of updated OpenAlex datasets up to 30th January 2022 (released 6th February 2022) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above).

12.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the OpenAlex dataset up to 30th January 2022 (released 6th February 2022)). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' OpenAlex records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 11' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' OpenAlex records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing OpenAlex- (formerly MAG)-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

***Version 13***  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 13' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

13.1. Automated searches of updated OpenAlex datasets up to 28th February 2022 (released 8th March 2022) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above).

13.2. Automated searches of updated OpenAlex datasets up to 28th February 2022 (released 8th March 2022) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above).

13.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the OpenAlex dataset up to 22nd February 2022 (released 2nd March 2022)). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' OpenAlex records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 12' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' OpenAlex records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing OpenAlex- (formerly MAG)-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

**Version 14**  
To identify further eligible systematic reviews for 'Version 14' of the map, we manually screened prioritised records (using 'priority screening mode' in ER-Web) that we had identified using:

14.1. Automated searches of updated OpenAlex datasets up to 11th March 2022 (released 20th April 2022) using our 'ContReview' model (see 'Version 1', '1.9', above).

14.2. Automated searches of updated OpenAlex datasets up to 11th March 2022 (released 20th April 2022) using our 'Custom Search' strategy (see 'Version 1', '1.1', above).

14.3. An automated 'network graph' search of the OpenAlex dataset up to 11th March 2022 (released 20th April 2022). This search automatically identified and retrieved 'new' OpenAlex records that were located in the bi-directional citation and/or bi-directional related publications networks of eligible records published in the map up to 'Version 13' ('seed' records); with results restricted to 'new' OpenAlex records published since 1st December 2019. This search was implemented as part of our ongoing OpenAlex- (formerly MAG)-enabled 'back-filling' work (see 'Version 1', above).

***Version 15***  
15.1. No records from recent updates of the OpenAlex dataset have (yet) been imported into ER-Web (eligibility screening workflow) since the 11th March 2022 version, due to technical issues associated with transitioning from use of the MAG dataset (MAG Browser) to using the OpenAlex dataset (OpenAlex Browser).

***Version 16***  
16.1. No records from recent updates of the OpenAlex dataset have (yet) been imported into ER-Web (eligibility screening workflow) since the 11th March 2022 version – see 'Version 15', above.

***Version 17***  
17.1. No records from recent updates of the OpenAlex dataset have (yet) been imported into ER-Web (eligibility screening workflow) since the 11th March 2022 version – see 'Version 15', above.

***Version 18***  
18.1. No records from recent updates of the OpenAlex dataset have (yet) been imported into ER-Web (eligibility screening workflow) since the 11th March 2022 version – see 'Version 15', above.

**Coding the evidence**  
Each record (and corresponding full text) judged eligible for inclusion in the map is coded by a single researcher, based on the following coding guidelines:

**Population(s)**  
Code at least one and code all that apply. Code principally on the review question but include any population which is a key issue for the study.

- Adults & children. Includes general population and not stated.  
- Children & young people.  
- Ethnocultural minorities.  
- Homeless & marginally housed.  
- Immigrants & refugees.  
- Indigenous people.  
- Linguistic minorities.  
- LGBTQ.  
- Older adults.  
- People with COVID-19. Review focus is on people known or thought to have been infected with COVID-19.

- People with disabilities.  
- Professional staff / volunteers. Also apply this code to professional vocation students (such as medical students) if the focus of the systematic review is on their professional work. Otherwise, code students as 'Adults & children'.  
- Rural / remote communities.  
- Other(s). Apply this code when none of the above codes apply.

**Topic(s)**  
Code at least one and code all that apply.

- Economic.  
- Education.  
- Employment.  
- Health.  
- Housing, communities & cohesion.  
- Living online. Reviews investigating only one aspect of online life are excluded.  
- Mental health & well-being.  
- Research production / use. Systematic reviews of studies of how research is produced or used.  
- Social care. Care homes and/or adult social care.  
- Social inclusion.  
- Vulnerable individuals / communities.  
- Other(s). Apply this code when none of the above codes apply.

'Population' and 'Topic' codes (above) were developed and adapted from (respectively) 'Population' and 'Outcome' codes used by Social Systems Evidence [https://www.socialsystemsevidence.org] – a repository of research evidence related to achieving Sustainable Development Goals, maintained by an initiative of [McMaster's Forum+](https://www.mcmasterforum.org/lets-collaborate/forumplus) and the [Monash Sustainable Development Institute](https://www.monash.edu/sustainable-development).

**Gender(s)**  
Apply one code based on systematic review eligibility criteria.

- All genders. Female, male and trans/ non-binary, or not stated.  
- Female only.  
- Male only.  
- Trans/ non-binary only.  
- Female & male.  
- Male & trans/ non-binary.  
- Female & trans/ non-binary.

***Research Question(s)***  
Code all that apply.

- Nature / extent of phenomena. Features of a phenomena and/or their extent or prevalence or incidence. For example: (i) a survey of extent and type of mental health issues. This may include correlations indicating risk factors. If detailed examination of causal associations such as using regressions etc, then also code as Effects - not experimenter controlled; (ii) a qualitative study of how school students experience lockdown. If a detailed examination and development of causal processes, then also code as Effects - not experimenter controlled.

- Process / cause. The processes, or causal mechanisms, or theories of change by which some outcome occurs. N.B. Some studies of nature and extent and some impact studies examine processes of cause and effect, so should be double-coded. Do not include here studies where examination of cause is limited to only statistical associations including risk factors or statistical hypotheses testing of cause.

- Effects - experimenter controlled. The impact or consequences of some phenomena studied through experimenter control of allocation to that phenomena. For example: (i) experimenter allocation to intervention or comparison or control groups such as a RCT (but not a natural experiment - see Effects - not experimenter controlled; or (ii) ABA designs where an intervention is given, then withdrawn, and then given again (but not just pre/post tests where the intervention is not applied twice).

- Effects - not experimenter controlled. A 'natural experiment' or 'observational study' where the researcher studies the outcomes of what interventions or exposures people happen to have received. In other words, the impact or consequences of some phenomena studied without experimenter control of allocation to that phenomena. For example: (i) a study of the outcomes of patients having happened to have received different drugs; (ii) pre/post studies examining the outcomes of some new policy or practice intervention; or (iii) modelling of administrative or survey data that sees how different experiences and outcomes are correlated together (eg childhood experiences and adult outcome). The key issue is that the researcher has not determined who receives/experiences some intervention/phenomena. N.B. Some systematic reviews of impact effects include both experimenter controlled and not-experimenter controlled studies (in which case both need to be coded).

- Views / perceptions. Studies of how people perceive, understand, experience or have beliefs about something.

- Other(s). Apply this code when none of the above codes apply.

***Countries***  
Code one. Code based on systematic review eligibility criteria (geographical restrictions vs. none) rather than checking the countries of studies that ended up being included in the review. Be guided by definitions of: <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>

- All countries. High Income Countries, Lower / Middle Income Countries and Low-Income Countries, no relevant eligibility restriction, or not stated.  
- HICs only. High Income Countries only.  
- LMICs / LICs only. Lower / Middle Income Countries and Low-Income Countries only.

**Policy Response(s)**  
Code any and all that apply (policies, practices or topics listed and not only policy responses that are a focus of the review). If none apply, code none. Codes were obtained from the Blavatnik School of Government (University of Oxford) [COVID-19 Government Response Tracker](https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/research/research-projects/coronavirus-government-response-tracker) (at January 2021). For the purposes of this map, where the policy response is non-specified lockdown, code as 'C6 Stay at home requirements'.

- C1. School closing.  
- C2. Workplace closing.  
- C3. Cancel public events.  
- C4. Restrictions on gatherings.  
- C5. Close public transport.  
- C6. Stay at home requirements.  
- C7. Restrictions on internal movement.  
- C8. International travel controls.

- E1. Income support (for households).  
- E2. Debt/contract relief (for households).  
- E3 Fiscal measures.  
- E4 International support.

- H1 Public information campaigns.  
- H2 Testing policy.  
- H3 Contact tracing.  
- H4 Emergency investment in healthcare.  
- H5 Investment in vaccines.  
- H6 Facial coverings.  
- H7 Vaccination policy.  
- H8 Vulnerable elderly populations.

- M1. Other response(s): Code if other policy responses were the aim or advocated in the conclusions of the review.

Members of the coding team can refer any records about which they were uncertain for a 'second opinion'. The coding of these 'second opinion' records is then resolved by consensus and discussion among coding team members. This is the primary quality assurance process for the coding of records in the map. We have also implemented a secondary quality assurance process, whereby a second member of the coding team is assigned to check the original coding on at least 10% of coded records, on a monthly cycle, usually prior to (but sometimes after) being published in the map.

Finally, once coded, any records identified from sources other than OpenAlex (MAG), which have not already been linked to their corresponding OpenAlex (MAG) record(s) at an earlier stage in the workflow, are either automatically or manually matched and linked to their corresponding MAG record(s), when available, using OpenAlex (MAG) Matching tools in OpenAlex Browser (MAG Browser) in ER-Web.

N.B. This is a living map that is being continuously updated and published monthly. Its coding scheme and coding guidelines are therefore expected to continue to evolve as we encounter, discuss and resolve further borderline cases and coding issues. Unless otherwise stated above in this section, current codes were developed by members of our coding team.

**Results**  
For 'Version 1' of the map (published on 26th March 2021) we screened 4,095 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 1st March 2021) and other sources (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 148 records were duplicates; 3,564 records were excluded; and 347 records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map. A further 36 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 1' of the map included a total of 347 records of articles reporting eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 2' of the map (published on 30th April 2021) we screened 881 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 13th April 2021) and other sources (see 'Identifying the evidence'). None were duplicates. In total, 55 records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 19 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 2' of the map included a total of 401 records of articles reporting eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 3' of the map (published on 28th May 2021) we screened a further 368 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 26th April 2021) (see 'Identifying the evidence'). None were duplicates. In total, 65 records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 22 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 3' of the map included a total of 466 records of articles reporting eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 4' of the map (published on 25th June 2021) we screened a further 183 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 24th May 2021) and other sources (see 'Identifying the evidence'). Two of these records were marked as duplicates. In total, 68 records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 29 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 4' of the map included a total of 534 records of articles reporting eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 5' of the map (published on 30th July 2021) we screened a further 302 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 5th July 2021) and other sources (see 'Identifying the evidence'). Five of these were marked as duplicates. In total, 51 records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 39 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 5' of the map included a total of 585 records of eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 6' of the map (published on 27th August 2021) we screened a further 1,341 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 2nd August 2021) and other sources (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 5 records were marked as duplicates. In total, 161 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 43 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. One previously unidentified duplicate record of an eligible systematic review was removed from the map. 'Version 6' of the map therefore included 746 records of articles reporting eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 7' of the map (published on 24th September 2021) we screened a further 964 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 30th August 2021) and other sources (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 5 further records were marked as duplicates. In total, 100 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 66 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 7' of the map included a total of 846 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 8' of the map (published on 29th October 2021) we screened a further 1,088 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 27th September 2021) and other sources (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 2 further records were marked as duplicates. In total, 124 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 42 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 8' of the map included a total of 970 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 9' of the map (published on 26th November 2021) we screened a further 210 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 25th October 2021) and other sources (see 'Identifying the evidence'). No further records were marked as duplicates. In total, 95 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 324 records of eligible systematic reviews were waiting to be coded. A further 45 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 9' of the map included 1,065 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 10' of the map (published on 31st December 2021) we screened a further 1,034 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 22nd November 2021) and other sources (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 7 further records were marked as duplicates. In total, 58 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 472 records of eligible systematic reviews were waiting to be coded. A further 59 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 10' of the map included a total of 1,123 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 11' of the map (published on 28th January 2022) we screened a further 1,476 records identified from the MAG dataset (up to 6th December 2021) and other sources (up to 11th January 2022) (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 1 further record was marked as a duplicate. In total, 189 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 354 records of eligible systematic reviews were waiting to be coded; and 85 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 11' of the map included 1,312 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 12' of the map (published on 25th February 2022) we screened a further 2 (two) records identified from the OpenAlex / MAG datasets and other sources (up to 30th January 2021) (see 'Identifying the evidence'). No further records were marked as duplicates. In total, 105 further records of eligible systematic reviews have been fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 252 records of eligible systematic reviews are currently waiting to be coded; and 96 records are currently awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 12' of the map includes a total of 1,417 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 13' of the map (published on 25th March 2022) we screened a further 189 records identified from the OpenAlex / MAG datasets and other sources (up to 28th February 2021) (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 10 further records were marked as duplicates. In total, 79 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 275 records of eligible systematic reviews were waiting to be coded; and 84 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 13' of the map included a total of 1,496 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 14' of the map (published on 29th April 2022) we screened a further 200 records identified from the OpenAlex / MAG datasets and other sources (up to 11th March 2021) (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 2 further records were marked as duplicates. In total, 68 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 293 records of eligible systematic reviews were waiting to be coded; and 76 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 14' of the map included a total of 1,564 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 15' of the map (published on 27th May 2022) we screened a further 621 records identified from the OpenAlex / MAG datasets and other sources (up to 11th March 2021) (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 2 further records were marked as duplicates. In total, 122 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 247 records of eligible systematic reviews were waiting to be coded; and 92 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 15' of the map included a total of 1,686 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 16' of the map (published on 24th June 2022) we screened a further 371 records identified from the OpenAlex / MAG datasets and other sources (up to 11th March 2021) (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 1 further record was marked as a duplicate. In total, 70 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 250 records of eligible systematic reviews were waiting to be coded; and 81 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 16' of the map included a total of 1,756 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 17' of the map (published on 2nd August 2022) we screened a further 1,014 records identified from the OpenAlex / MAG datasets and other sources (up to 11th March 2021) (see 'Identifying the evidence'). 1 further record was marked as a duplicate. In total, 58 further records of eligible systematic reviews were fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 243 records of eligible systematic reviews were waiting to be coded; and 86 records were awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 17' of the map included a total of 1,814 eligible systematic reviews.

For 'Version 18' of the map (published on 26th August 2022) we screened a further 651 records identified from the OpenAlex / MAG datasets and other sources (up to 11th March 2021) (see 'Identifying the evidence'). No further records were marked as duplicates. In total, 79 further records of eligible systematic reviews have been fully coded and added to the map (including some that had previously been awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding). 198 records of eligible systematic reviews are currently waiting to be coded; and 87 records are currently awaiting further assessment and/or completion of coding. 'Version 18' of the map includes a total of 1,893 eligible systematic reviews.

**Footnotes**  
A. This machine learning classifier was originally built using records and screening metadata from the archived Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (DARE), supplied by the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD), University of York.

B. Search strategies used to search Social Care Online and Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) databases are available from the authors on request. Social Policy and Practice (Ovid) is updated quarterly.

C. Because 'Sources 1 to 8' include (but are not limited to) the MAG dataset, those records not originally sourced from MAG are first semi-automatically matched to their corresponding MAG records (when available) using 'MAG Matching' features in MAG Browser in ER-Web.

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**Conflicts of interest**  
None.

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