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Subject Scientists Have Glimpsed 59 New Exoplanets in Our Backyard

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S43

Scientists Have Glimpsed 59 New Exoplanets in Our Backyard

The hunt for habitable extrasolar planets continues! Thanks to dedicated missions like Kepler, TESS, and Hubble, the number of confirmed extrasolar planets has exploded in the past fifteen years (with 5,272 confirmed and counting!).

At the same time, next-generation telescopes, spectrometers, and advanced imaging techniques now allow astronomers to study exoplanet atmospheres more closely. In short, the field is shifting from the process of discovery to characterization, allowing astronomers to more tightly constraint habitability.

[Continued here](#)

S39

This Key Ability Helps Make Us Human and We Still Don't Completely Understand It

You can easily picture yourself riding a bicycle across the sky, even though that's not something that can happen. You can envision yourself doing something you've never done before – like water skiing – and maybe even imagine a better way to do it than anyone else.

Imagination involves creating a mental image of something that is not present for your senses to detect or even something that isn't out there in reality somewhere. Imagination is one of the key abilities that make us human. But where did it come from?

[Continued here](#)

