

COVID-19 Issues Tracker & Top-Tier Coverage

Thursday, March 19, 2020

Notable Updates

U.S. News

- According to national COVID-19 [trackers](#), there are currently over 10,201 cases of coronavirus confirmed by lab tests in all states with over 149 deaths reported. Notable new cases include:
 - First [two members of congress](#) tested positive for coronavirus.
 - [Millennials](#) can face severe coronavirus infections.
 - [Florida](#) is up to nearly 400 cases.
- In the daily White House task for [briefing](#), officials confirmed:
 - Yesterday President Trump signed [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#) into law.
 - President Trump said White House [“slashed red tape”](#) to develop vaccines and therapies.
 - The FDA confirmed they have 10,000 scientists working to combat coronavirus.
 - Trump said he wants to [rush development of vaccines and treatments](#).
 - Dr. Deborah Birx, the white house coronavirus response coordinator, said that a [large backlog of pending tests would be released in the next two to three days.](#)
- Notable new companies announcing layoffs/furloughs in the U.S. are: Marriott International, Hilton, Delta Airlines, American Airlines, South by Southwest, MGM Grand, General Motors and Norwegian Air
- Notable new companies that have stopped production in the U.S. are: Toyota, Ford Motor Co., General Motors, Fiat Chrysler Automotive
- New states with “shelter in place” policies are: [Colorado](#) (San Miguel’s Count), [California](#) (Napa County)
- New CDC data [showed](#) that younger adults make up a large portion of the coronavirus hospitalizations in the U.S. with nearly 40 percent of patients sick enough to be hospitalized were aged 20 to 54.
- President Trump [invokes](#) rarely used wartime powers and announces the deployment of two naval ships.
- The Washington Post [reported that](#) 21 service members in Afghanistan are in isolation with flu-like symptoms amid the coronavirus pandemic as he paused the deployment of some people to and from the war zone.
- Steven Mnuchin [said](#) President Trump wants direct payments of \$1,000 for adults, \$500 for kids in a coronavirus stimulus bill.
- A surge of American workers are filing for [unemployment](#).
- New York governor, Anthony Cuomo, declared today that [no more than 25% of employees can be in the workplace at the same time](#), while the other 75% must work from home. Gov. Cuomo also [waived](#) mortgage payments for 90 days
- Elon Musk confirmed on [Twitter](#) that his companies will make ventilators 'if there is a shortage.'
- [GM and Ford](#) in talks with Trump admin to make ventilators.
- [Amazon](#) confirmed its first coronavirus case in a US warehouse.
- The [US Census Bureau](#) will suspend operations for two weeks.

International News

- According to global COVID-19 [trackers and official counts](#), there are at least 218,700 cases confirmed globally in over 147 countries with at least 9,186 deaths. Notable new cases include:
 - COVID-19 has now infected and killed [more people in Europe than in China](#)
 - EU’s Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier said he has tested positive for the coronavirus
 - China’s coronavirus epicenter reached milestone of [zero newcases](#)
 - Iran recorded [149 additional deaths](#) from COVID-19
 - Russia announced [its first death](#) from COVID-19, but people consider the toll much higher given restrictions on media in the country
- The UK considered a [partial lockdown](#) in London and the army may be deployed to help

- French authorities are now requiring a [form to leave the house](#), after people ignored officials' warnings to isolate themselves
- Australia and New Zealand [banned non-residents](#) from entry
- Brazilian people are now calling for '[Bolsonaro Out!](#)'
- Britons [fear being stranded](#) in Peru and Morocco by coronavirus travel ban
- A [Coronavirus Explosion](#) Was Expected in Japan. Where Is It?

Top Tier Coverage:

Business

- The Verge: [The coronavirus is forcing tech giants to make a risky bet on AI](#)
- CNET: [Zuckerberg: Facebook isn't giving governments data to track coronavirus spread](#)
- Reuters: [Facebook to shift sensitive content moderation to staffers amid coronavirus crisis](#)
- CNN: [Distilleries are making hand sanitizer with their in-house alcohol and giving it out for free to combat coronavirus](#)
- Forbes: [COVID-19 And Truck Driver Shortage May Threaten Food Supply Chain](#)
- The Wall Street Journal: [Truckers Facing Coronavirus Hurdles in Keeping Supply Chains Moving](#)
- The Wall Street Journal: [As Coronavirus Empties Workplaces, Some Holdouts Have Wanted Employees to Show Up](#)
- The Wall Street Journal: [Call It a Layoff, a Furlough or a Cut Shift: Americans are Losing Work](#)
- Business Insider: [Leaked email reveals Tesla employees have to use PTO to get paid if they're staying home because they're sick, scared of the coronavirus, or unable to work](#)
- CNN: [Trump administration wants to use Americans' location data to track the coronavirus](#)
- The New York Times: [They Clean the Buildings Workers Are Fleeing. But Who's Protecting Them?](#)
- The Wall Street Journal: [Ride-Sharing Gets Locked Down by Coronavirus](#)
- CNBC: [NYSE to temporarily close floor, move to electronic trading after positive coronavirus tests](#)
- The New York Times: [Movie Theater Owners: We Need a Bailout, Too](#)
- Venture Beat: [Working from home during the coronavirus crisis opens the door to hackers](#)
- Reuters: [J.P. Morgan to close 1,000 Chase branches on coronavirus concerns](#)
- CNET: [Zuckerberg: Facebook isn't giving governments data to track coronavirus spread](#)
- The Hill: [Facebook launching coronavirus info portal](#)
- CNN: [Trump administration wants to use Americans' location data to track the coronavirus](#)

Health

- The New York Times, [A Promising Treatment for Coronavirus Fails](#)
- CNN, [US government is preparing for the possibility of a coronavirus pandemic that could last up to 18 months and 'include multiple waves of illness'](#)
- CNBC, [New York state likely has 'tens of thousands' of coronavirus cases, Gov. Cuomo says](#)
- NBC News, [Hospitals sound alarm on funding for supplies to treat patients, protect workers](#)
- The New York Times, [A Nebraska Hospital Aimed to Contain the Virus. But It Had Already Spread.](#)
- CNBC, [Merck CEO calls on all Americans to take coronavirus precautions so we 'don't have the kind of situation' like in Italy](#)
- Politico, [Hospitals need a surge — of doctors](#)
- The Washington Post, [Hospital workers battling coronavirus turn to bandannas, sports goggles and homemade face shields amid shortages](#)
- Fox 23 News, [FDA testing anti-malaria drug to treat COVID-19](#)
- Business Insider, [The US' top doctor is calling on Kylie Jenner and other influencers to help young people understand the seriousness of the coronavirus pandemic](#)
- The New York Times, [N.Y. Now Testing 7,500 Per Day for Coronavirus](#)

International

- Fortune, [China's coronavirus epicenter reaches milestone of zero new cases](#)

- CNN, [Italian doctors hope for a sign the coronavirus lockdown is working, because there's no plan B](#)
- CNN, [UK considers partial lockdown in London and the army may be deployed to help](#)
- Business Insider, [French people ignored officials' warning to isolate themselves because of the coronavirus. Now they need a form to leave the house.](#)
- BBC, [Australia and New Zealand ban non-residents from entry](#)
- Reuters, [Coronavirus thumps Brazil, promoting nationwide cries of 'Bolsonaro Out!'](#)
- The Guardian, [Britons fear being stranded in Peru and Morocco by coronavirus travel ban](#)
- Bloomberg, [A Coronavirus Explosion Was Expected in Japan. Where is it?](#)

Food

- CNBC: [Why there will soon be tons of toilet paper, and what food may be scarce, according to supply chain experts](#)
- CNET, [Whole Foods, Walmart, Target, Walgreens change store hours amid coronavirus pandemic](#)
- Fox News: [Eating takeout and dining in: What you need to know during the coronavirus pandemic](#)
- Fox News: [Burger King, Popeyes CEO assures restaurants have enough food to 'meet demand' amid coronavirus outbreak](#)
- NPR: [Empty Grocery Shelves Are Alarming, But They're Not Permanent](#)
- The Poultry Site: [Amid coronavirus crisis, US shoppers turn chicken into a scarcity](#)
- The Hill: [3 keys to mitigating severe supply shortages from coronavirus disruption](#)
- Wall Street Journal: [Coronavirus-Era Food Supply: America Has a Lot. Moving It Is Tricky.](#)

Travel

- Forbes, [Unlike With Europe, U.S.-Canada Travel Restrictions Won't Affect Trade](#)
- Travel Agent Central, [U.S. Travel Association: Worst Travel Job Losses In Next 6 Weeks](#)
- USA Today, [Coronavirus vacations: Tourists still visiting Los Angeles, New York but 'it's a downer'](#)
- KFOR, [State Department preparing to advise Americans not to travel abroad amid coronavirus pandemic](#)
- USA Today, [Trump: 'Airlines would be No. 1' for coronavirus bailout](#)

Sports

- Axios, [How sports media is handling the coronavirus outage](#)
- The Guardian, [Tokyo Olympics could be delayed due to coronavirus, admits Sebastian Coe](#)
- USA Today, [As coronavirus has current season on hiatus, NHL says playing 82 games in 2020-21 is goal](#)
- CBS Sports, [MLS extends season hiatus, Member of PGA Tour tests positive for COVID-19](#)

Politics

- The New York Times, [Who Qualifies for Paid Leave Under the New Coronavirus Law](#)
- CNN, [Trump signs coronavirus relief legislation into law](#)
- The New York Times, [Trump Seeks \\$500 Billion in Checks for Taxpayers](#)
- Fox News, [Congress moves as one to fight coronavirus as pandemic hits home, sickens first two members](#)
- The New York Times, [Trump Defends Using 'Chinese Virus' Label, Ignoring Growing Criticism](#)
- The Washington Post, [Trump invokes rare powers to combat coronavirus outbreak he previously downplayed, calling it 'war'](#)
- Politico, ['It is not science fiction anymore': Coronavirus exposes U.S. vulnerability to biowarfare](#)
- The New York Times, [Trump says White House "slashed red tape" to develop vaccines and therapies.](#)
- USA Today, [Trump says he's no longer shaking hands, following coronavirus guidance - live updates](#)

- The Guardian, [Trump says US in 'a medical war' at briefing as coronavirus cases rise](#)
- CNBC, [Trump blames China for coronavirus pandemic: 'The world is paying a very big price for what they did'](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Key Dates (March 2020):

- 3/1/20: U.S. reports first two deaths
- 3/2/20: Number of cases reported in Italy spikes by nearly 50%; the E.U. raised its risk level to "high"
- 3/6/20: Number of cases surpassed 100,000 globally
- 3/9/20: Global stock markets plunged and oil prices dropped amid global anxiety
- 3/10/20: Number of known coronavirus cases in the U.S. surpassed 1,000
- 3/10/20: Deadliest single day toll to date
- 3/11/20: WHO declares a pandemic; U.S. bans travel from Europe, excluding the U.K.
- 3/13/20: Trump declares a national emergency
- 3/14/20: U.S. extends travel ban to include Britain, Ireland
- 3/18/20: The EU announced it will seal its borders; the U.S. and Canada will close its border to "non-essential" traffic

Relevant Links:

- WHO press briefings Monday/Wednesday/Friday ([LINK](#))
- White House Task Force briefing (11:30 AM ET, [Twitter](#))
- CDC COVID-19 travel advisories ([LINK](#))
- CDC report on situation in the U.S. ([LINK](#)) and Cases in the U.S. ([LINK](#))
- FDA updates related to COVID-19 ([LINK](#))
- Tips to prevent spread ([CDC](#), [WHO](#))
- News outlets with LIVE running updates on COVID-19 ([NYT](#), [WSJ](#), [CNN](#), [BBC](#), [The Guardian](#))
- Outbreak Trackers: ([NYT U.S.](#), [NYT World](#), [Foreign Policy](#), [Information is Beautiful](#))
- Event Cancellation Tracker ([AdAge](#), [NYT](#))
- Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) COVID-19 resource center ([LINK](#))

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