

COVID-19 Issues Tracker & Top-Tier Coverage

Friday, March 20, 2020

Notable Updates

U.S. News

- According to national COVID-19 [trackers](#), there are currently over 14,322 cases of coronavirus confirmed by lab tests in all states with over 210 deaths reported. Notable new cases include:
 - The US death toll exceeded [200 deaths](#)
 - Washington State has been hit the hardest with [68 deaths](#)
 - Confirmed coronavirus cases have [doubled](#) in the past two days
- In the daily White House task for [briefing](#), officials confirmed:
 - All interest on federally held student loan payments will be temporarily waived
 - The U.S.-Mexico border will close for non-essential travel
 - The Administration met with all U.S. governors and FEMA to implement measures in communities
 - President Trump is using the Defense Production Act to enforce production of protective equipment and medical supplies, like ventilators
- Notable new companies announcing layoffs/furloughs in the U.S. are: United Airlines, Philadelphia International Airport, Metropolitan Opera and Halliburton
- Notable new companies that have stopped production in the U.S include: Tesla
- New states with “shelter in place” policies are: California Governor Newsom ordered a [state-wide shutdown](#) for all California residents; Minnesota’s Governor Tim Walz [is considering](#) a similar measure
- [Hospitals](#) requested \$100 billion in the next relief package, which is being prepared in Congress
- The [Pentagon](#) prepared to send ships to Seattle and deploy Army hospital units amid coronavirus pandemic
- The [State Department](#) raised the international travel alert level to Level 4 and warned Americans against traveling overseas
- The [IRS](#) will move tax filing deadline to July 15
- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo mandated [all non-essential workers](#) to stay home and banned any gatherings of any size; Cuomo also said the state will [pay a premium](#) for protective equipment and is asking business to help produce or donate equipment
- The [US and Mexico](#) will keep border open for trade and workers, but will close to all non-essential travel
- Amazon’s [AWS](#) launches \$20 million initiative to help fight the coronavirus
- Walmart plans to [hire 150,000 temporary workers](#) by the end of May

International News

- According to global COVID-19 [trackers and official counts](#), there are at least 244,100 cases confirmed globally in over 150 countries with at least 10,184 deaths. Notable new cases include:
 - The coronavirus has killed [killed more people in Italy](#) than any other country, surpassing China
 - China reported a second day with [no domestic cases](#)
 - Prince Albert II Of Monaco tested [positive](#) for coronavirus
 - Germany is experiencing [high infection rates](#) but low deaths
 - Hong Kong [recorded](#) biggest daily jump in coronavirus cases on Friday with 27 additional cases diagnosed
- In the U.K., [tens of thousands](#) of retired medics were asked to return to NHS; the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies group thinks social distancing [may be needed](#) for ‘most of the year’
- Switzerland is considering a [\\$30.58 billion aid package](#)
- France’s President Macron said that this is [only at start](#) of the coronavirus crisis
- Australia officially [closed](#) its borders to non-residents and non-citizens

- Mexico's President will not impose nationwide [restrictions](#) for its citizens related to the coronavirus outbreak
- Cooling weather in Brazil could "fan" coronavirus [outbreak](#)

Top Tier Coverage:

Business

- Reuters: [U.S. CDC, Emory Univ set up sites to check coronavirus symptoms online](#)
- The New York Times: [Translating a Surveillance Tool into a Virus Tracker for Democracies](#)
- The Guardian: [Uber and Lyft drivers protest to demand more benefits during coronavirus crisis](#)
- Reuters: [Google exploring using location info to slow coronavirus spread](#)
- CNBC: [Facebook, Google discuss sharing smartphone data with government to fight coronavirus, but there are risks](#)
- CNET: [Facebook's Zuckerberg interviews Dr. Fauci: 5 takeaways from the coronavirus chat](#)
- The Washington Post: [Government efforts to track virus through phone location data complicated by privacy concerns](#)
- The Wall Street Journal: [As Coronavirus Spreads, Banks Face a Tough Call on Branch Closures](#)
- Bloomberg: [Trump Oversells Breakthroughs in Boasts of U.S. Virus Response](#)
- The Hill: [Washington scrambles to prevent massive unemployment spike](#)
- CNBC: [Tesla suspending production at Bay Area factory amid coronavirus outbreak](#)
- Reuters: [Tesla suspends production at U.S. vehicle factory due to coronavirus](#)
- The Hill: [Pelosi urges Trump to tap emergency war powers immediately](#)
- Markets Insider: [Congress' coronavirus relief bill still doesn't actually guarantee paid sick leave for around half of American workers](#)
- The Washington Post: [As schooling rapidly moves online across the country, concerns rise about student data privacy](#)
- The New York Times: [Senate Rescue Package Includes Corporate Tax Cuts and \\$1,200 Checks](#)
- The New York Times: [Coronavirus Layoff Surge Overwhelms Unemployment Offices](#)
- CNBC: [JC Penney yanks earnings outlook because of coronavirus](#)
- The Street: [Coke Pulls 2020 Earnings Guidance Amid 'Material' Coronavirus Risks](#)

Health

- CNN, [Coronavirus lives for hours in air particles and days on surfaces, new US study show](#)
- Forbes, [COVID-19: The U.S. Still Trails The World In Testing \[Infographic\]](#)
- CNN, [Doctors appeal for more supplies and millions ordered to stay home as reported US coronavirus cases jump past 13,000](#)
- Axios, [Fauci says coronavirus will keep Americans at home for "at least several weeks"](#)
- The New York Times, [Coronavirus Tests Are Now Free, but Treatment Could Still Cost You](#)
- Modern Healthcare, [COVID-19 poses long-term impact to not-for-profit hospitals](#)
- Yahoo Money, [COVID-19 could make a resurgence this fall depending on US response, infectious disease specialist](#)
- The Verge, [Blood from recovered COVID-19 patients is a key resource for scientists](#)
- Forbes, [Nationwide Lockdowns Can Begin To Halt The Spread Of Coronavirus In A Matter Of Weeks](#)
- CNN, [Data from China shows the majority of people with Covid-19 only suffer mild symptoms, then recover](#)
- NPR, [PHOTOS: Life And Work Amid The Outbreak](#)
- The New York Times, ['Chilling' Plans: Who Gets Care When Washington State Hospitals Reach Their Max?](#)
- Forbes, [There's An Unexpected Loss Of Smell And Taste In Coronavirus Patients](#)
- CNN, [TV shows are donating supplies to local hospitals amid coronavirus pandemic](#)

Food

- **AgWired:** [Farmers and Ranchers Committed to US Food Supply](#)
- **Bloomberg:** [Meat industry braces for disruptions from ill workers](#)
- **CNN:** [Are food deliveries and groceries safe during coronavirus pandemic? Yes, experts say](#)
- **Food Navigator-USA:** [COVID-19: Packaged food & beverage brands enjoy surging sales, but mass unemployment could change the landscape rapidly](#)
- **Food Navigator-USA:** [COVID-19: Inventory planning the name of the game as sales go food staples surge](#)
- **Food Navigator-SA:** [Mealkit brands see sharp increase in demand, although longer-term impact harder to predict](#)
- **Valdosta Today:** [Agriculture Recognized as Critical Infrastructure During COVID-19 Response](#)
- **Industry Week:** [A Covid-19 Supply Chain Shock Born in China Is Going Global](#)
- **Southeast AgNet:** [Secretary Perdue Salutes the Heroes in the US Food Supply Chain](#)
- **The Street:** [Tyson Foods and Sanderson Farms Upgraded as Meat Is 'Flying off the Shelves'](#)
- **The Motley Fool:** [Is Now a Good Time to Buy Beyond Meat Stock?](#)
- **The Hill:** [Our food supply is strong](#)
- **WATT AG:** [Global poultry outlook positive despite COVID-19, ASF challenges](#)

International

- BBC, [Coronavirus: Italy's death toll overtakes China's](#)
- The Guardian, [Coronavirus tightens grip on US as China reports second day with no domestic cases](#)
- NPR, [Prince Albert II Of Monaco Tests Positive For Coronavirus](#)
- BBC, [Coronavirus: Tens of thousands of retired medics asked to return to NHS](#)
- BBC, [Japan cherry blossom season wilted by the coronavirus pandemic](#)
- Reuter's, [France's Macron says only at start of coronavirus crisis](#)
- BBC, [Social distancing may be needed for 'most of year'](#)
- The Guardian, [Australia's Covid-19 travel ban comes into force for all non-residents and non-citizens - as it happened](#)
- Financial Times, [Germany's coronavirus anomaly: high infection rates but few deaths](#)
- Time, [Mexico's President Is Resisting Coronavirus Restrictions as the Rest of the World Shuts Down](#)
- Reuter's, [Winter is coming: cooling weather in Brazil could fan coronavirus outbreak](#)
- Time, [Hong Kong Records Its Biggest Rise in Coronavirus Cases as New Wave of Infections Crashes Into Asia](#)

Travel

- The New York Times, [As Pandemic Grows, U.S. Warns Americans Not to Travel Abroad](#)
- CNN, [US and Mexico coordinating on plan to restrict travel across the border](#)
- ABC News, [US evacuating Americans from Morocco, as ban to block virus strand thousands abroad](#)
- The Guardian: [Air Canada to cut more than 5,000 jobs in response to coronavirus crisis](#)

Sports

- The Washington Post, [Live horse racing suspended in Maryland due to coronavirus outbreak](#)
- USA Today, [Spurs' Marco Belinelli helps his native Italy during coronavirus pandemic family, financial support](#)
- CBS Sports, [Coronavirus: Lakers announce two players have tested positive for COVID-19](#)
- NBC Sports, [NBA rumors: All teams must close facilities to halt coronavirus spread](#)
- The New York Times, [Olympics President: 'Of Course, We Are Considering Different Scenarios'](#)

- Wall Street Journal: [Olympic Flame Arrives in Japan With Summer Games Up in the Air](#)
- The New York Times: [Olympics: Coronavirus Closures Force Softball Players Into TFH Mode- Training From Home](#)
- The New York Times: [Spanish Athletes Fight Coronavirus Cabin Fever](#)
- The Star: [Coronavirus will not deter athletes, says hockey champion Dwyer](#)
- Sports Illustrated: [All Systems Are Go for USA Basketball During Coronavirus Pandemic](#)
- Sports Illustrated: [Coronavirus and the U.S. Olympic Qualifying Conundrum](#)
- Bloomberg: [Paralysis Seizes Japan Over an Impossible Olympics Situation](#)

Politics

- The Washington Post, [Senate Republicans release massive economic stimulus bill for coronavirus response](#)
- USA Today, [Senators sold off their stocks ahead of coronavirus economic crash](#)
- The New York Times, [On Politics: What Does This All Mean for November?](#)
- CNN, [Ivanka Trump tested negative for coronavirus and is back at work, source says](#)
- The Washington Post, [First lady Melania Trump gives hand-washing advice to parents of young children](#)
- Axios, [Coronavirus crisis drives housing advocates' push for rent and mortgage relief](#)
- USA Today, [McConnell is aiming for a coronavirus stimulus deal by midnight - live updates](#)
- The New York Times, [Under the Virus's Cloak, Trump Pursues Long-Sought Policies](#)
- The Washington Post, [As coronavirus hits Congress, lawmakers rethink tradition-shattering idea of voting remotely](#)
- CNN, [Senate Intel chairman asks Ethics Committee to review stock sales under scrutiny](#)
- The New York Times, [White House to Cancel In-Person Meeting of G7, Citing Coronavirus Outbreak](#)
- The Washington Post, ['We're about to be overwhelmed,' L.A. Mayor Garcetti says](#)

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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