COVID-19 Issues Tracker & Top-Tier Coverage

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

Notable Updates
U.S. News
- According to national COVID-19 trackers, there are currently over 53,852 cases of coronavirus confirmed by lab tests in all 50 states with over 728 deaths reported. Notable new cases include:
    - The US sees its deadliest day so far with 160 deaths
    - New York Governor Andrew Cuomo slams federal relief as cases in NY soar to 30,000
    - New York City Mayor Bill DeBlasio predicts half of all New Yorkers will become infected with the coronavirus
    - New Orleans sees a spike in coronavirus cases, doctors say Mardi Gras could be to blame
- Congress and the White House reach historic $2 trillion stimulus package amid coronavirus fears
- More than half of the US population will now be under a stay at home order
- According to the White House task force briefing Monday night:
    - President Donald Trump makes clear that he wants to reopen the nation by Easter Sunday,, clashes with the grim reality of the coronavirus outbreak
    - Dr. Deborah Birx said that anyone recently left New York should self quarantine for 14 days
    - President Donald Trump says that Governor of New York Andrew Cuomo should be buying his own ventilators
- Notable new companies announcing layoffs/furloughs in the U.S. are:
    - General Electric & GE Aviation
    - Hyatt Hotels
    - StubHub
- Notable new companies that have stopped or are modifying production in the U.S. are:
    - Kia Motors
    - Goodyear
- New states with restrictions to "non-essential" business or implementing "shelter-in-place" policies are:
    - Rhode Island and Maine with just over 100 cases have enacted non-essential business closures, imposed travel restrictions, activated the National Guard and placed limits on gatherings
    - South Dakota and Mississippi have closed their schools

International News
- According to global COVID-19 trackers and official counts, there are at least 425,600 cases confirmed globally in over 168 countries with at least 19,301 deaths. Notable new cases include:
    - Prince Charles of Wales, heir to the British throne tests positive for the coronavirus
    - The coronavirus death toll in Spain overtakes China with 738 deaths in the past 24 hours and 3,434 total
    - Libya reports their first coronavirus case
- India's Prime Minister Modi orders a 21 day lockdown affecting 1.3 billion citizens
- Italy's coronavirus mortality rate is nearly 10%, higher than any other country
- Australia bans overseas travel and extends social restrictions

Top Tier Coverage:
Business
- NPR, How To Avert Economic Catastrophe: Ideas From 5 Top Economists
- Yahoo! Finance, Amazon, CVS Have Thousands of Jobs for Furloughed Hilton Workers
- MSN, Here are 700,000 open jobs that need filling ASAP

- CNN, Ford is working with 3M and GE to make respirators and ventilators
- Reuters, Fiat Chrysler to make face masks for North America
- USA Today, Uber provides free meals, discounted rides for health care workers
- Business Insider, The world's biggest retailers are using their factories to create hand sanitizer and hospital gowns and donating millions to help fight the coronavirus pandemic
- MarketWatch, Target rings up additional $300 million in first-quarter costs as March food and beverage comps soar 50%
- Fortune, Help wanted: Amazon and online delivery services staff up during coronavirus outbreak
- MarketWatch, Costco's coronavirus-related surge won't end anytime soon, analysts say
- Forbes, As Coronavirus Pushes Shoppers Online, Retailers Without E-Commerce Are Now Paying The Price
- Harvard Business School, These Coronavirus Heroes Show Us How Crisis Leadership Works
- The Washington Post, Smartphone data reveal which Americans are social distancing (and not)
- WIRED, Amazon's New 'Essential Items' Policy Is Devastating Sellers

Food

- Bloomberg: They're Called Essential, But Local Food Workers Are Resisting
- The Atlantic: Grocery Stores Are the Coronavirus Tipping Point
- Forbes: How The Coronavirus Will Shape The Food Supply Chain
- The New York Times: **China to Encourage Local Governments to Stockpile Poultry, Aquaculture Products**

Health
- CNN, White House public health expert says anyone who recently left New York should self-quarantine
- New York Daily News, Head of largest mask manufacturer in U.S. says they should not be on store shelves
- MSP Business Journal, Mayo Clinic, Amazon join project to fight COVID-19 with harvested plasma from recovered patients
- Fox News, Can coronavirus spread through food or packaging?
- CNN, Fearing coronavirus, Arizona man dies after taking a form of chloroquine used to treat aquariums
- The Washington Post, The coronavirus isn't mutating quickly, suggesting a vaccine would offer lasting protection
- ABC News, As coronavirus pandemic surges, hospitals prepare for grim possibility of 'ventilator triage'
- Politico, Health workers fear U.S. hospitals will become coronavirus hot spots

International
- BBC, Prince Charles tests positive but 'remains in good health'
- The Guardian, Coronavirus death toll in Spain overtakes China as lockdowns extend around globe
- Time, Libya Reports First Coronavirus Case as the Pandemic Sweeps Across the Middle East
- The New York Times, Modi Orders 3-Week Total Lockdown for All 1.3 Billion Indians
- Business Insider, One chart shows 10 countries' current coronavirus death rates, based on known cases and deaths. Italy's is highest: nearly 10%
- The Guardian, Time running out for Australians stranded overseas by coronavirus as airlines ground planes
- The New York Times, Britain Seeking 250,000 Volunteers to Help Health Service

- The New York Times, [New Zealand Announces Mortgage Holiday, Business Finance Support to Cushion Virus Impact](#)
- The New York Times, [South Korea to Tighten Border Checks for U.S. Entries](#)
- CNN, [Why is Covid-19 death rate so low in Germany?](#)
- CNN, [China's premier warns local officials not to hide new coronavirus infections](#)
- Reuters, [Indonesia's health system on the brink as coronavirus surge looms](#)
- Fox News, [UK deploys 500 transit police to prevent unnecessary travel amid coronavirus outbreak](#)

Travel
- Forbes, [Airlines Offer Discounts And Bonuses If Passengers Take Vouchers Instead Of Refunds During Coronavirus Downturn](#)
- The New York Times, [Coronavirus Travel Restrictions, Across the Globe](#)
- USA Today, [Alaska, Florida and Hawaii force travelers to self-quarantine: What to know before you go](#)
- CNN, [What to know before you make summer vacation plans](#)
- Business Insider, [Travel safety tips for flying domestic during the coronavirus pandemic](#)

Sports
- The Wall Street Journal, [Olympics in 2021 Will Still Be Called Tokyo 2020 Games](#)
- ESPN, [Olympics delay could cost Japan $5.7 billion in extra cost](#)
- ESPN, [Lionel Messi and Pep Guardiola donate €1m each to coronavirus fight in Spain](#)
- Yahoo! Sports, [Federer donates one million Swiss Francs to vulnerable families](#)
- USA Today, [Roger Goodell issues memo telling NFL teams to close facilities effective Wednesday](#)

Politics
- CNN, [Congress and White House Strike Deal for $2 Trillion Stimulus Package](#)
- CNN, [Trump's hope for an Easter reopening clashes with coronavirus reality](#)
- CNET, [Governments could track COVID-19 lockdowns through social media posts](#)
- Reuters, [Forget politics. Majority of Republicans, Democrats now agree coronavirus is 'serious threat'](#)
- CNN, [Blame game escalates between US and China over coronavirus disinformation](#)
- Politico, [Extraordinary change': How coronavirus is rewiring the Republican and Democratic parties](#)

<u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u>
Key dates:
- 12/31/19: China alerted WHO of potential new disease
- 1/7/20: WHO announced identification of "novel" coronavirus
- 1/20/20: The U.S., South Korea, Japan and Thailand confirm cases
- 1/23/20: Wuhan, China quarantined by Chinese authorities
- 1/30/30: WHO declares coronavirus a "global emergency"; U.S. State Department warns against traveling to China
- 2/2/20: First death from the coronavirus reported outside of China (Philippines)
- 2/5/20: Diamond Princess Cruises quarantined off shore of Japan
- 2/7/20: CDC begins to ship test kits to state and local health departments
- 2/10/20: Death toll from coronavirus surpasses SARS worldwide
- 2/11/20: WHO names the disease COVID-19
- 2/19/20: Diamond Princess Cruises passengers disembark, fly back to U.S. for quarantine
- 2/21/20: Iran announces an increase in coronavirus cases

- 2/23/20: Italy announces surge in coronavirus cases
- 2/26/20: President Trump appoints Vice President Pence to lead COVID-19 task force
- 2/26/20: U.S. reports first case of "community spread"; Latin America reports first coronavirus case
- 2/28/20: WHO increases global health threat to "very high," the highest risk level before "pandemic"
- 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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