

NEWS UPDATES

Monday, May 11, 2020

Notable Updates

U.S. News

- According to national COVID-19 [trackers](#), there are currently over 1.3 million cases of coronavirus confirmed by lab tests in all 50 states with over 79,606 deaths reported. Notable new cases include:
 - [Vice President Mike Pence is not planning to enter self-quarantine after his press secretary tested positive for coronavirus](#) on Friday and plans to be at the White House on Monday, his office said on Sunday.
 - Mayor Bill de Blasio of New York said on Sunday that [38 children in the city had contracted a serious new inflammatory syndrome that health officials say appears to be linked to an immune response to Covid-19.](#)
 - [Adm. Michael Gilday, chief of naval operations, is self-quarantining against the novel coronavirus following contact with a family member who tested positive for the virus,](#) the Pentagon said in a statement to news outlets Sunday.
- Notable new companies / organizations / states in favor of reopening the economy are:
 - As the U.S. death toll from the coronavirus pandemic approached 80,000, [senior White House officials over the weekend urged state governors to take steps toward restarting commerce as the economic wreckage mounted from lockdowns.](#)
 - [U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin backed Tesla CEO Elon Musk, telling CNBC that California should help Tesla reopen its California plant](#) amid the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - [Factories in Michigan can resume production on Monday,](#) enabling North American automakers to bring thousands of idled employees in the state back to work more than six weeks after locking down to help control the spread of the coronavirus.
 - The director of the Institute for Health Metrics at the University of Washington said Sunday that [he expects the number of COVID-19 cases will rise in the next 10 days in states lifting stay-at-home restrictions sparked by the coronavirus pandemic.](#)
- New states with restrictions to “non-essential” business or implementing “shelter-in-place” policies are:
 - [An ice cream shop in Massachusetts had to close its doors on Saturday, just one day after reopening, because customers refused to follow social distancing rules](#) and even harassed employees.
 - [Full Metro service in Washington, D.C. and its suburbs, which has been dramatically reduced amid the coronavirus pandemic, is not expected to return until next spring.](#)
 - An overwhelming [majority of Americans say it's important for the government to implement mandatory quarantines for people who have tested positive for the coronavirus and improve medical therapies to treat the disease in order for them to feel comfortable resuming normal activities,](#) according to a new poll from Gallup
- Notable companies halting production:
 - A 1,151-megawatt (MW) [coal power station in North Dakota is set to be retired after it was deemed to have “lost value compared to other alternatives in recent years.”](#)
- [Even as 20.5 million people lost their jobs in April, the S&P 500 stock index logged its best month in 33 years.](#) After a few weeks of wild swings, the market is down a mere 9.3 percent this year and 13.5 percent from its peak — what most investors would consider no more than a correction. On Friday, after the government released the staggering unemployment figures, the S&P 500 closed up 1.7 percent.
- [Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said Monday he is looking at “technical fixes” to address problems in the forgivable-loan program for small businesses,](#) noting that such measures could target the restaurant industry.
- [USDA says it lacks authority to pay to feed students’ families over summer](#) for meals distributed to adults through the summer meals program.
- [The F.B.I. and the Department of Homeland Security are preparing to issue a warning that China’s most skilled hackers and spies are working to steal American research in the crash effort](#)

[to develop vaccines and treatments for the coronavirus](#). The efforts are part of a surge in cybertheft and attacks by nations seeking advantage in the pandemic.

- U.S. President Donald Trump ordered meat processing plants to stay open to protect the nation's food supply even as workers got sick and died. [Yet the plants have increasingly been exporting to China while U.S. consumers face shortages, a Reuters analysis of government data showed.](#)
- [The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in South Dakota is refusing to end coronavirus checkpoints declared illegal by the state's governor](#), saying they are the best tool they have to stop the virus from spreading.
- [Endeavor Group Holdings Inc. has secured a \\$260 million term loan to help shore up the entertainment company's business](#), which has been hammered by the coronavirus pandemic, according to people familiar with the matter.
- [Stage Stores Inc. said it has filed for bankruptcy](#), with a plan to start liquidating its inventory as the discount retailer reopens its stores, while at the same time searching for prospective buyers.
- [Outdoor industry companies including Patagonia, L.L. Bean, and North Face called on Congress to invest in recreation infrastructure to help with the industry's recovery](#) from the coronavirus pandemic.
- [Marriott International Inc.'s profit fell sharply](#) for the first quarter as the Covid-19 pandemic caused it to close many of its hotels.
- Twitter CEO [Jack Dorsey is giving \\$10 million to the Reform Alliance](#) that will be used to deliver protective equipment and coronavirus relief aid to prisons and jails across the U.S.
- [American Airlines and the Hyatt Hotels Corporation on Friday announced a partnership to offer free vacations to thousands of New York City health care employees](#) working on the frontlines of the coronavirus outbreak.

International News

- According to global COVID-19 [trackers and official counts](#), there are at least 4.1 million cases confirmed globally in over 177 countries with at least 283,478 deaths. Notable new cases include:
 - [Wuhan, the epicentre of the novel coronavirus outbreak in China, reported on Monday its first cluster of infections since a lockdown on the city was lifted a month ago](#), stoking concerns of a wider resurgence of the disease.
 - [Data released by Moscow's city government on Friday showed that the number of total registered deaths in the Russian capital in April exceeded the five-year average for the same period by more than 1,700](#). That total is far higher than the official Covid-19 death count of 642 — an indication of significant underreporting by the authorities.
- [Boris Johnson called on people across the UK on Sunday to return to work if they cannot do so from home](#), as the Prime Minister laid out his vision for gradually restarting the economy.
- For the first time in nearly two months, [the French are free to leave their homes without filling out special release forms](#) — a necessity over the past eight weeks to authorize a handful of permitted outings like grocery shopping, medical appointments or brief bouts of exercise.
- [India's train network will gradually restart operations on Tuesday](#) as the country eases its coronavirus lockdown, even though infections there are rising.
- After three and a half months of closure, [Shanghai Disneyland reopened with timed entry and social distancing](#).
- Iraq's coronavirus experience has been an anomaly. Even in a region with far fewer cases than Europe or the United States, Iraq's scarcity of confirmed cases, about 2,700 by early May, has stood out. But the numbers are climbing steadily, leaving some experts asking, why now? The answer seems linked to a handful of superspreading events paired with the relaxation of lockdown measures. [In the 19 days since Iraq's curfew was eased, coronavirus cases in the country have risen 73 percent.](#)

Notable Updates

- CNN, [Pence will not self-quarantine and plans to be at the White House Monday](#)
- New York Times, [In New York City, 38 children have become ill from a new virus-linked syndrome.](#)

- Axios, [Top Navy chief self-quarantining after exposure to coronavirus](#)
- WSJ, [U.S. Coronavirus Deaths Near 80,000 as States Expand Moves to Reopen](#)
- CNBC, [Mnuchin says he agrees with Elon Musk and California should let Tesla make cars again](#)
- Reuters, [Paving way for U.S. auto industry, Michigan factories to end coronavirus lockdown](#)
- The Hill, [Public health expert expects increase in cases in states lifting restrictions](#)
- CNN, [One day after reopening, an ice cream shop was forced to temporarily close because customers didn't follow social distancing rules](#)
- The Hill, [Full Metro service not expected in DC until next spring](#)
- The Hill, [Mandatory quarantines top priority for Americans before resumption of activities: poll](#)
- CNBC, [North Dakota's largest power plant looks set to close as the owner bets on wind energy](#)
- New York Times, [The U.S. economy is in tatters. Tens of millions are unemployed. Yet stocks keep climbing.](#)
- WSJ, [Mnuchin: Fixes Possible for Small-Business Loan Program for Restaurants](#)
- Washington Post, [USDA says it lacks authority to pay to feed students' families over summer](#)
- New York Times, [U.S. is to accuse China of trying to steal data as nations step up spying efforts to gain advantage in pandemic.](#)
- Reuters, [As U.S. meat workers fall sick and supplies dwindle, exports to China soar](#)
- CNN, [South Dakota Sioux tribe refuses to take down checkpoints that governor says are illegal](#)
- WSJ, [Endeavor Group Secures \\$260 Million Loan to Help Business Battered by Coronavirus](#)
- WSJ, [Stage Stores Files for Bankruptcy, Seeks Buyer as It Sells Off Inventory](#)
- The Hill, [Patagonia, L.L. Bean, North Face call for relief to 'get Americans outside'](#)
- WSJ, [Marriott Posts Lower Profit as Occupancy Drops Amid Coronavirus](#)
- The Hill, [Twitter's Jack Dorsey gives \\$10 million to coronavirus prison relief effort](#)
- The Hill, [American Airlines, Hyatt offer free vacations to thousands of New York City healthcare workers](#)
- Reuters, [China's Wuhan reports first coronavirus cluster since lifting lockdown](#)
- New York Times, [New data on Moscow's death toll raises questions about Russia's outbreak.](#)
- CNN, [Boris Johnson calls on UK to go back to work in plan to ease lockdown](#)
- New York Times, [The French can buy groceries without a permission slip. But life is far from normal in Europe.](#)
- New York Times, [India takes another major step, restarting one of the world's largest train networks.](#)
- CNN, [Shanghai Disneyland reopens with timed entry and social distancing](#)
- New York Times, [Coronavirus cases are climbing in Iraq, driven in part by relaxed stay-at-home orders.](#)

Reopening the Economy/Response Plans

- CNN, [Why state reopenings have sent projected coronavirus death rates back up](#)
- CNBC, [Working from home is here to stay, even when the economy reopens](#)
- Wall Street Journal, [Why the Economic Recovery Will Be More of a 'Swoosh' Than V-Shaped](#)
- CNN, [Our cities may never look the same again after the pandemic](#)
- New York Times, [The Airline Business Is Terrible. It Will Probably Get Even Worse.](#)
- CNN, [Pro sports are coming back around the world. Does that mean there's a light at the end of the tunnel for the US?](#)
- WSJ, [Reopening the Coronavirus-Era Office: One-Person Elevators, No Cafeterias](#)
- CNBC, [Here's how you'll be safely shopping for clothes as stores begin to reopen](#)
- CNN, [You might need a reservation for the beach this summer](#)
- CNBC, [Detroit's automakers have enough cash to last the year without a bailout after learning the 'hard way' in the Great Recession](#)
- The Hill, [Former Google CEO: 'We're going to have to reimagine how the workplace works'](#)

Stimulus/Bailout

- Axios, [The moving goalposts for PPP loans](#)

- Reuters, [White House considers more coronavirus aid as jobs picture worsens](#)
- Forbes, [A \\$2,000 Monthly Stimulus Check Could Cost A Staggering \\$10 Trillion](#)
- USA Today, [More checks? A payroll tax cut? Trump and Congress are split on the next coronavirus stimulus plan](#)
- PYMNTS, [Wednesday Deadline Looms For Seeking Direct Deposit Of IRS Stimulus Checks](#)

Healthcare Response

- CNBC, [Why US hospitals are going bankrupt](#)
- Axios, [Coronavirus is obliterating outpatient care](#)
- CNBC, [BioAegis says its 'inflammation regulator' is best weapon to fight Covid-19](#)
- The Hill, [Regeneron CEO: US manufacturing for coronavirus treatments, vaccines is 'limited'](#)
- Axios, [Record-low science funding could slow research for coronavirus cure](#)
- WSJ, [Drugmakers Overhaul the Sales Pitch Amid Coronavirus Lockdowns](#)
- Axios, [Coronavirus reveals scary, unexpected symptoms](#)
- The Hill, [Johnson & Johnson officer says goal is to deliver 1 billion coronavirus vaccines next year](#)
- Axios, [Bat-borne coronavirus researcher speaks out after Trump administration cuts funds](#)

Healthcare Official Guidance

- CNBC, [FDA grants emergency use authorization to Abbott Labs' new coronavirus antibody test](#)
- Reuters, [UK COVID-19 study reassures pregnant women, but warns risks higher later](#)
- The Hill, [Italians report coronavirus disease recovery can take months](#)
- Washington Post, [Covid-19 school closings may spur childhood obesity, experts warn](#)

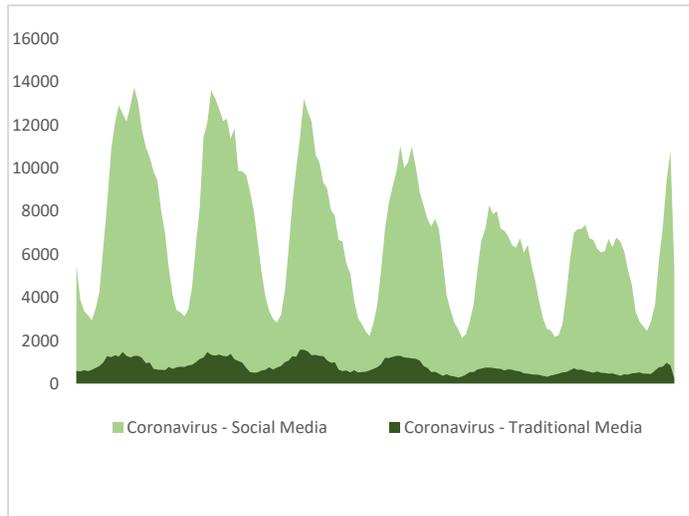
Federal Response

- CNN, [White House Covid cases contradict Trump's message on opening](#)

State/Local Response

- The Hill, [Cuomo orders biweekly coronavirus tests for nursing home workers](#)
- The Hill, [Emails reveal states struggling to obtain necessary testing supplies](#)
- WSJ, [Texas Businesses Defy Coronavirus Shutdown](#)
- The Hill, [Massachusetts shop says employee quit after reopening over lack of social distancing, harassment](#)
- The Hill, [Northern Virginia officials urge governor to use regional benchmarks for reopening](#)
- WSJ, [Nearly a Third of Kentucky Workers Seek Jobless Aid](#)
- The Hill, [Armed stay-at-home demonstrators visit North Carolina Subway shop](#)
- The Hill, [Colorado restaurant draws crowds after reopening in defiance of state order](#)

**Conversation over time (US, past 7 days):
May 5 – May 11, 2020**

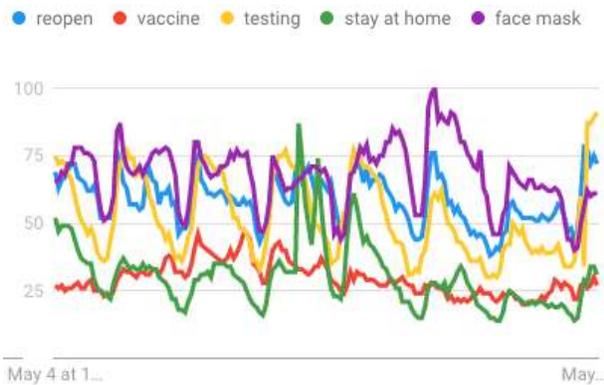


*Note: overall mentions of COVID-19 have decreased by 15% since last week

Over the past week, there have been 1.2M traditional media articles and social media posts related to COVID-19. The majority (89%) of conversation is driven by social media.

- Top drivers of coverage for the week include news around reopening phases, Stay-At-Home protests, COVID-19 vaccinations and the Trump Administrations decision to bury a CDC report, which provided [detailed advice](#) for reopening communities.
- Tweets, including a [tweet from NPR](#), focuses on President Trump's reservations about increasing testing for coronavirus ahead of the election.
- Other posts centered around Vice President Mike Pence's press secretary, Katie Miller, who [tested positive](#) for coronavirus last week.

Search trends (US, past 7 days):



Over the past week, there was a significant boost in search interest around ‘face mask,’ particularly how to buy and wear facemasks, as Americans began to venture into public after many states eased restrictions.

- The recent spike in search popularity for ‘face mask’ started on May 9th, as state officials announced reopening phases that included opening retail stores and restaurants at a 25% capacity. As lockdowns around the country began to lift, consumers eagerly searched for face mask DIY’s, proper face mask use and where to purchase face masks.
- Many outlets discuss how masks are becoming the new norm.

Top hashtags^ and related content (This week, May 5th – May 11th):

1. #Trump	6. #lockdown
2. #pandemic	7. #Facemask
3. #CoronavirusOutbreak	8. #NationalNursesDay
4. #StayHome	9. #SocialDistancing
5. #COVIDIOTS	10. #OPENAMERICANOW

Top hashtags^ and related content (Last week, April 27th – May 4th):

6. #Trump	11. #lockdown
7. #MAGA	12. #SocialDistancing
8. #StayHome	13. #StayAtHome
9. #Pandemic	14. #AmericaStrong
10. #CoronaVirusOutbreak	15. #InThisTogether

^Note: Iterations of ‘COVID-19’ have been excluded

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GENERAL INFORMATION

- 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
- 3/19/20: The Department of Homeland Security classifies food & agriculture as “essential” work
- 3/20/20: The U.S., Mexico and Canada close borders for all non-essential travel
- 3/27/20: The U.S. signed into law the CARES Act, which allocates \$9.5 billion for agriculture
- 3/27/20: The U.S. signed into law the Defense Production Act, to manufacture 39 million N95 masks
- 4/1/20: Reports emerge that China may have underreported the COVID-19 death toll and the severity of the outbreak
- 4/2/20: Unemployment filing hits a record-breaking number in the U.S.
- 4/6/20: Japan announces a State of Emergency
- 4/7/20: China reported its first day without COVID-19-related deaths
- 4/14/20: The U.S. halts funding to the WHO
- 4/16/20: The U.S. rolls out a 3-phase plan to reopen the country
- 4/21/20: Trump announces he will sign a 60-day Executive Order to suspend immigration to the U.S.
- 4/28/20: The U.S. surpasses 1 million COVID-19 cases
- 5/1/20: WHO extends its declaration of global health emergency

Relevant Links:

- WHO press briefings Monday/Wednesday/Friday ([LINK](#))
- White House Task Force briefing ([Twitter](#))
- Tracker on states reopening ([NYT](#), [WSJ](#), [CNN](#))
- 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](#))

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