



COVID-19 7/13 UPDATE

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Global

Total cases – 13,006,764

Total deaths – 570,776

United States

Total cases – 3,346,246

Total deaths – 135,477

Total # tests – 41,002,876

Administration

- **U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos** pushed the administration’s position of opening schools in the fall, despite a heavy rate of Covid-19 infections in many states, in two Sunday-morning interviews.
 - “There is going to be the exception to the rule. But the rule should be that kids go back to school this fall,” she said on CNN. DeVos said there was “nothing in the data that suggests kids going back to school is in any way dangerous.”
 - On “Fox News Sunday” DeVos repeated a threat to withhold federal funds if schools don’t reopen for in-person learning: “if schools aren’t going to open, they shouldn’t get the funds. Give it to the families.”
- A few “simple” changes would do as much to curb the Covid-19 transmission rate as another broad shutdown, **Admiral Brett Giroir** said on NBC’s “Meet the Press.” Among the ideas: avoiding bars and wearing masks in public. The U.S. is “definitely not losing the battle,” he said, as daily cases hit new records.
 - Giroir, an assistant secretary for health, said Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infections Disease, “is not 100% right” in how the U.S. should approach the pandemic, and doesn’t “have the whole national interest in mind” when he speaks. “He looks at it from a very narrow public health point of view.”
- **One of President Trump’s coronavirus task force members** said Sunday that infectious disease specialist Anthony Fauci doesn’t necessarily “have the whole national interest in mind” in suggesting responses to the pandemic.
 - Fauci, who’s also on the task force, “looks at it from a very narrow public health point of view,” **Admiral Brett Giroir**, assistant secretary at the Health and Human Services Department, said on NBC’s “Meet the Press.” “He admits that.”

- The comments reflected tension in the administration between the goal of tamping down transmission of Covid-19 as much as possible and Trump's desire to boost the economy, now in recession, before the November election.
- **Dr. Anthony Fauci** is skeptical about the prospects of getting the Covid-19 pandemic under control without a vaccine.
 - "This virus, to our dismay, is spectacularly efficient in transmitting from person to person. So that makes me skeptical whether we would get permanent, sustained control of this without having a vaccine," Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases said Thursday on Podcast-19, FiveThirtyEight's weekly podcast on Covid-19.
- As some European countries are starting to reopen their borders during the pandemic, the **European Union** will ban most travelers from the US for now.
 - **Dr. Anthony Fauci**, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases said he thinks that's "understandable."
 - "So right now, they have their infection rate very low, much lower than we do. So they're looking at us and they're saying the same thing that we said to them," Fauci said on Podcast-19, FiveThirtyEight's weekly podcast on Covid-19.
- People who were 65 or older, men and people of color who were younger than 65 make up disproportionate shares of Covid-19 deaths in the United States, according to a **report released Friday by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**.
 - Among the 52,166 Covid-19 deaths reported to CDC from February 12 to May 18, more than 55% were men, nearly 80% were older than age 65. The median age of the people who had died was 78 years old.
 - Information reported to CDC was missing data about underlying health conditions for about 59% of people who died, so the agency collected supplemental data for about 10,000 deaths.
 - About 40% of people infected with Covid-19 show no symptoms of the disease, according to new guidance from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- In May, the **CDC** created five "Covid-19 Pandemic Planning Scenarios," using data to provide a range of possible situations for the coronavirus in the US.
 - Those scenarios have now been updated based on new data the agency received in June.
 - Under the CDC's "current best estimate," 40% of people with Covid-19 are asymptomatic. This number is up from the 35% the agency estimated on May 20. The number of asymptomatic cases remains uncertain, the CDC emphasized.
- **The Office of Management and Budget (OMB)** is working on a supplemental funding request for education that would essentially create a new pot of money for schools — but one that districts can only access if they commit to reopening, a source familiar with the plan tells CNN.
 - The White House has been told it cannot withhold existing funding from schools to get them to open their classrooms. This is a new working strategy to get around the rules: Instead of threatening baseline funding, the White House will just try to offer additional money to provide an advantage to schools that reopen.
 - The proposal, which is for now in the works as part of the White House proposal for the next stimulus bill, provides yet another example of aides scrambling to find a workable avenue for plans President Donald Trump has announced without warning or preparation.

- White House economic adviser **Larry Kudlow** suggested Monday that there may be a financial incentive for local governments that reopen their schools.
 - Kudlow reiterated that President Trump is considering defunding schools that do not reopen, but, “I think the President would be willing to consider additional funding for state and local governments if the schools do reopen, so that is perhaps an incentive.”
- **Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey** along with 17 other state attorneys generals, including New Jersey and Connecticut, filed a lawsuit Monday against the Trump administration, aimed at preventing a federal rule that “threatens to bar hundreds of thousands of international students from studying in the United States.”
 - In a press release Monday, Healy said the lawsuit filed in US District Court in Massachusetts against the Department of Homeland Security and US Immigration and Customs Enforcement challenges what the attorneys general call the federal government’s “cruel, abrupt, and unlawful action to expel international students amidst the pandemic that has wrought death and disruption across the United States.”
- **Pfizer and BioNTech** announced today that they have received "Fast Track" designations from the **US Food and Drug Administration** for two of their four Covid-19 vaccine candidates, according to a press release.
 - “This designation was granted based on preliminary data from Phase 1/2 studies that are currently ongoing in the United States and Germany as well as animal immunogenicity studies,” the release stated.
- **The Securities and Exchange Commission** will allow most employees to continue working from home at least until October as the Wall Street regulator extends accommodations initiated in response to Covid-19. Chairman Jay Clayton said last week the agency had been functioning well with employees working remotely and that the extension would allow time to see how schools and other organizations approached reopening after the summer
- **Promising therapies to combat the coronavirus** include Gilead’s remdesivir, the generic steroid dexamethasone, and therapies that use plasma from people who have recovered from the virus, according to a [list](#) distributed by the **HHS Dept.**
 - Scientists are also studying whether monoclonal antibodies, hyperimmune globulin and heparin are effective against Covid-19
 - List doesn’t include hydroxychloroquine, which President Trump [as recently as last week](#) touted as a potential treatment despite multiple warnings of dangerous side effects from health officials and the FDA

Capitol Hill

- **The House** cleared a measure ([S. 4209](#)) passed by the Senate to provide coronavirus relief to non-profit groups and state, local and tribal governments.
 - The bill would ease cash flow problem caused by Labor Department regulation requiring 100% payment of unemployment contributions for furloughed staff before aid can be received, and resets it to 50%. The bill now goes to Trump, who is expected to sign it into law.
- **Reps. Emanuel Cleaver (D-Mo.) and Jeff Fortenberry (R-Neb.)** offered [legislation](#) to provide \$1.2 billion in emergency supplemental funding to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services through the end of 2020. USCIS said last month that about two-thirds of employees will be furloughed in August if Congress doesn’t provide more money. The agency relies on fees, and has seen a 50% drop in revenue during the coronavirus pandemic, a spokesperson said in June.

- **Seafood processors and fishers** struggling with falling prices and disappearing markets during the coronavirus pandemic are pushing for federal bailouts following a government directive to send aid to New England's lobster industry.
 - "Seafood has taken a serious hit from the Covid-19 lockdown," said **Sen. Bill Cassidy** (R-La.), who represents a top state for seafood production. He joins several lawmakers in calling for federal aid for the industry.
- **Senate and House Democrats** say ICE and DHS need to immediately rescind proposed policy that would threaten to deport international students if they don't take in-person classes.
 - Ninety-eight Democrats send [letter](#) to ICE's Matthew Albence and DHS Acting Sec. Chad Wolf calling the policy "irrational and xenophobic"
- Some states aren't getting the types and amounts of Covid-19 testing supplies that they've requested from the Trump administration, according to a [report](#) by **Senate Democrats**.
 - The report, released Thursday, sheds light on the problems with testing in the U.S. since the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic. Although U.S. health officials are now performing about 600,000 tests per day, many states are still grappling with supply shortages and test result delays—crippling the country's ability to respond to the pandemic.
 - The Democratic staff report of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee showed that states received wrong orders, delayed shipments, and in some cases, unusable supplies. One state said as of June 3 that it hadn't gotten clear information on where to direct supply requests or what the federal government could fulfill.
- **The federal government** must deploy a targeted strategy to ensure minority communities most susceptible to the coronavirus have free and easy access to testing, health-care advocates told a **House subcommittee**.
 - The hearing on Friday by the **House Homeland Security Committee's Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response & Recovery** came as racial inequities continue to take the spotlight due to disproportionate Covid-19 infection and death rates among minorities.
 - Lawmakers acknowledge the problem was real, and **Congressman Pete King (R-N.Y.)** said that it became apparent in April that people of color in his district were more hard hit by the virus, particularly Latino communities which can be distrustful of public institutions if they or family members are undocumented.
 - "I'm not advocating open immigration law, but again, undocumented people are afraid to go to doctors, they're afraid to go for testing, and how can we aggressively go into those communities more?" King asked
- **Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell** said Monday that "some people in the country tried to politicize" mask-wearing.
 - "Believe me, the coronavirus is not involved in American politics," he said.
 - McConnell, who has consistently promoted the importance of facial coverings in recent months, added, "but we have an obligation as individuals to try to protect ourselves and protect others."
 - McConnell told reporters that "no bill will pass the Senate without liability protection for everyone related to the coronavirus."
- **House Speaker Nancy Pelosi** said last week that, "We think there is a path to talk about protecting businesses and workers and customers who come in, and that is our OSHA provision."

- She continued, “But, again, let's hear what everybody has to say. But don't say, ‘You all have to go back to work even if it isn't safe. And by the way, we are removing all responsibility from the employer.’ I mean, that is just – no.”
- **McConnell** on Monday also repeated he “can't predict” that this stimulus bill will pass unanimously due to the proximity to the presidential election, but said “somehow, someway, we'll work our way through that and do one last package,” at a news conference in Corbin, Kentucky.
- **House Speaker Nancy Pelosi** on MSNBC Monday discussed the prospect of reopening schools in the coming months as the coronavirus pandemic surges around the country.
 - In the interview, she said the “biggest concern is safety” and called for Congress to approve funding for schools to adjust to the pandemic, including broadband provisions for low income students to allow remote learning.
 - She also reiterated her call for President Trump to implement the Defense Production Act to manufacture personal protective equipment.
 - Pelosi said effective testing is essential for the United States to move forward.
- **Senate Republicans** will finish their own plan for a new round of pandemic relief as early as next week and only then will open discussions with Democrats as the last stimulus begins running dry and a resurgence of Covid-19 cases threatens a deeper recession.
- **Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.)** said that he's working with the Trump administration on drafting a GOP proposal, the first step before talks with Democrats, who've already put out a \$3.5 trillion stimulus bill that has passed the House.
 - “We shouldn't lightly add more to the national debt, but I am predicting that we will have one more rescue package, which we'll begin to debate and discuss next week,” McConnell said during a news conference in his home state of Kentucky. McConnell said he's been talking to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin about a Republican plan for weeks and will discuss the measure next week with Senate Republicans before bringing Democrats into talks later.
 - Any deal will need to resolve disputes on several key elements: unemployment benefits and incentives for businesses to hire; a new iteration of the Paycheck Protection Program; some form of direct payments to individuals; and relief to states and local governments that includes funding to help schools reopen. All sides also face a break-neck schedule that would give lawmakers just weeks to bridge the wide schisms over how much to spend and where to spend it.
 - “No decisions have been made, no formal negotiations yet,” said **Trump's chief economic adviser Larry Kudlow**. He's also interested in temporarily suspending payroll taxes and potentially a capital gains holiday, Kudlow said, adding, “I can't be specific because decisions haven't been made yet.”
 - GOP leaders say that the relief bill could be completed before an annual August recess that is scheduled to begin Monday, Aug. 10.
- **Senate Democrats** released a report today pitching safety and accessibility policies for a Covid-19 vaccine. The paper outlines eight areas for action, including seeking \$25 billion in new emergency funding for research and development and ensuring a vaccine is provided at no cost. “We can't afford any more mistakes that put people's lives in jeopardy and waste time we don't have,” **Patty Murray** (D-Wash.), the top Democrat on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, said in a statement

- **Senate Majority Leader [Mitch McConnell](#)** says a draft of the next proposed coronavirus-related relief package will be ready to share with both Republicans and Democrats when lawmakers return from recess next week.
 - McConnell says such legislation must include “liability protections for everyone” or it won’t pass the Senate
 - We are not trying to rewrite state laws but “no one should have to face an epidemic of lawsuits” on heels of a crisis
 - Most of the emphasis in the rest of the bill will be on “kids and jobs and health care,”
 - McConnell says he’s been talking to Treasury Sec. Steven Mnuchin about the measure
 - McConnell also says the Covid-19 crisis “is nowhere near over”
 - We hoped it was on the downhill slide but “that’s obviously not the case,” he says
- Lawmakers are concerned about what appears to **be a major spike in Covid-19 cases among frontline workers at DHS**. **[In a letter on Friday, House Homeland Security Chair Bennie Thompson \(D-Miss.\)](#)** noted a “troubling rise” of cases for workers at TSA and CBP who interact with the public. Those cases increased by 43 percent and 52 percent, respectively, with more than 2,000 total at those divisions.
 - Masks are still not mandated for passengers at airport security checkpoints. “As the number of DHS employees who have fallen ill during this pandemic continues to rise at an alarming rate, I urge you to take the steps necessary to protect all of the DHS workforce,” Thompson wrote

State/Local

- **California Gov. Gavin Newsom** ordered Monday all counties in the state to close indoor activities at restaurants, bars, wineries, tasting rooms, movie theaters, family entertainment centers, zoos, and museums.
 - The statewide order is effective today, Newsom said at a news conference. These sectors will need to move activities outdoors if possible.
 - Four more counties have been added to the state’s monitoring list, Newsom announced.
- **New York City**, once the epicenter of the nation’s coronavirus outbreak, has just reported its first day with zero confirmed or probable virus deaths since the infection’s peak.
 - The milestone came Sunday in initial [data](#) from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.
- **Florida** reported 15,300 new virus cases, the biggest one-day rise since the coronavirus pandemic began in the U.S. The number exceeds records from New York, California and Texas, all of which have reported daily counts at almost 12,000.
- **New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy and Democratic legislative leaders** have agreed on a plan for the state to borrow as much as \$9.9 billion to cope with revenue losses from the coronavirus outbreak.
 - The Assembly had approved a bill in June authorizing at least \$5 billion in borrowing backed by tax collections, but Senate President Stephen Sweeney had held it up, seeking more legislative input. Under the agreement among Murphy, Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, a four-member commission -- two senators and two assembly members -- would have to approve each request to borrow with a majority vote.
- **San Francisco** will delay reopening businesses that provide personal services, including haircuts, massages, tattoos and manicures, from an originally planned restart on Monday. The city made a similar move earlier this week to halt reopenings of indoor dining and outdoor bars.

- “Unfortunately, reopening businesses that will encourage gathering and interacting with people outside of your own household is not the safe thing to do right now,” Mayor London Breed said Friday in a [statement](#). The city’s new cases have jumped to 7.4 per 100,000 people, well above the goal of 1.8 and the rate of 3.5 when reopenings began on May 18.
- One area that will reopen: the San Francisco Zoo, which Breed said can allow visitors as of Monday if it follows approved safety plans
- **The Los Angeles Unified School District** in California will “not begin with students at school facilities,” LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner said this morning.
- **More than 10,000 people** were hospitalized with Covid-19 in Texas Friday, the first time the state has reached that benchmark. Cases there jumped by 9,765, an increase of 4.2% compared with the seven-day average of 3.9%. The state has added close to 10,000 cases for each of the last four days, and deaths have begun to spike in tandem, with another 98 fatalities exceeding the seven-day average.
- With the number of cases in **New York** remaining relatively low, **residents the state’s nursing homes and long-term facilities** will be allowed to have visitors, health officials said. They must be virus-free for at least 28 days, and no more than two visitors will be allowed at a time.
 - Visitors must have their temperature checked, wear face coverings, and socially distance during the visit, according to the guidance. Only 10% of the residents in each facility can be allowed visitors at any one time.
- **Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R)**, chairman of the National Governors Association, said U.S. governors have been “pushing very hard” to ensure that state and local governments are included in the next federal stimulus package. Hogan said on Bloomberg Television that he would normally be opposed to adding to the national debt, but it’s necessary to prevent the economy from “tanking even further.” The U.S. is in a “very unique situation where we can’t afford not to.”
- **Mayor Bill De Blasio** ordered large events that typically require a permit to be canceled through Sept. 30. The goal is to ensure room for outdoor restaurant seating and New York’s “Open Streets” program, which expands car-free public spaces for city dwellers. “Permits will also be denied for all events larger than one block, stage/video events that require amplification, street fairs, and events in parks that may unreasonably diminish public use,” the mayor said in a statement. Demonstrations, religious events and news conferences are exempt.
- **The Texas Republican Party** [sued the Democratic mayor](#) of Houston for ordering the cancellation of next week’s state GOP convention in the city, which is the epicenter of the state’s outbreak.
 - Mayor Sylvester Turner on Wednesday barred the in-person gathering that was expected to draw 6,000 people for fear it would contribute to the spread of the virus in the city.
- **New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham** announced she is once again prohibiting indoor seating at restaurants and breweries, saying Covid-19 trends in the state are "going in the wrong direction."
 - Gyms, however, can remain open at current capacities.
 - Lujan Grisham is also restricting the state's parks in New Mexico to residents only.
- **Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves** ordered a mask mandate for 13 counties with the greatest spikes of Covid-19.

- The mask mandate was ordered for Hinds, DeSoto, Harrison, Rankin, Jackson, Washington, Sunflower, Grenada, Madison, Claiborne, Jefferson, Wayne and Quitman counties. This also includes the cities of Jackson, Biloxi and Gulfport.
- Reeves said the counties have seen either 200 new cases within the last 14 days or have had an average of 500 cases per 100,000 residents in the last 14 days.
- He is also adding social distancing requirements in the counties but not requiring businesses to shut down, he said. Everyone must wear masks when in public, Reeves said.
- **Indoor dining in Arizona** will now be limited to 50% occupancy, Gov. Doug Ducey announced at a news conference on Thursday.
 - “We have had a brutal June in Arizona,” the governor said, as the state saw a 50% increase in Covid-19 cases. The state reported a total of at least 108,614 Covid-19 cases.
 - He emphasized that residents are safer at home and should continue staying at home.
- **North Carolina** has hired more than 480 contact tracers, which means there are more than 1,500 people working on contact tracing, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services said Thursday.
 - The agency also tweeted that it launched an initiative to deploy up to 300 new, no-cost testing sites in underserved communities that currently have limited testing options.
- **Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves** announced additional social distancing measures for 13 counties identified as Covid-19 hotspots in order to limit transmission in communities, his office said Friday.
 - “Governor Reeves signed a new executive order establishing additional restrictions for those thirteen counties to slow the spread of COVID-19, including requiring people to wear masks when at public gatherings or in a shopping environment and limiting social gatherings to no more than 10 indoors and 20 outdoors,” his office said in a statement.
- **Rhode Island Gov. Gina Raimondo** is rolling out an initiative next week to help people avoid eviction during the pandemic.
 - Raimondo said that she is thankful that Rhode Island has not had a massive spike in evictions, but is worried that once the \$600 federal government benefit ends in July, this could change and the problem could get worse before it gets better.
 - The governor said the state has been working with the Rhode Island Judiciary Court, which is the court in charge of evictions. The state is also working with United Way to launch an eviction diversion effort called the Safe Harbor Housing Program.
- **South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster** said bars and restaurants in the state will be banned from selling alcoholic beverages after 11 p.m. nightly.
 - McMaster announced said the new order — called the “The Last Call” executive order — is aimed at reducing the transmission of coronavirus, especially among young adults.
- **Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer** has sent a letter to President Trump requesting he authorize the use of Michigan National Guard forces through December 31, according to a statement from the governor’s office.
 - “The Michigan National Guard is a crucial part of the state’s emergency response to the Covid-19 pandemic, and the guard will be vital to our ongoing recovery as well,” Whitmer said. “Beyond August 21, 2020, we will continue to require the Michigan National Guard to perform humanitarian missions across the state, such as helping run mobile screening facilities, testing, distributing food and medical supplies, ensuring resiliency of supply lines, disinfecting public spaces and supporting public safety when required.”

- **South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster**, speaking at a news conference today, said he plans to reopen schools this fall.
 - “We intend to open the schools and we’re making plans in that direction now,” he said. “When the children have to stay home, that means some of the parents can’t go to work. And ladies and gentlemen, South Carolina’s business is business. We must go to work. We must stay working. If we can’t work, then we cannot survive as a prosperous state.”
- **Louisiana** will implement a statewide mask order for everyone 8 and older, Gov. John Bel Edwards said during a press conference Saturday.
 - Edwards also announced that bars throughout the state will closed for on-site consumption.
 - The Executive Order announcing these new changes will be signed Saturday, Edwards said, and all changes go into effect at 12:01 a.m. CST Monday morning.
- **Mayor Hardie Davis Jr.** issued an executive order Friday mandating the use of face coverings in public places in **Augusta, Georgia**.
 - The executive order specifically requires the use of facial coverings or masks in all public places and government buildings in Augusta-Richmond county, a summary of the order posted to the mayor's Twitter account said.
- **New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo** said he will soon issue an emergency health order that mandates that people traveling from high-risk states must give their contact information to local officials so the state can enforce the mandatory two-week quarantine.
 - People traveling to New York state by plane will get a contact form to fill out. If they leave the airport without turning it back in, they will receive a summons and a \$2,000 fine. Those travelers may also be brought to a hearing and be forced to quarantine.
 - New York currently requires anyone traveling from a state with a high infection rate to quarantine for at least two weeks once they enter the state. Cuomo said there have been incidents of travelers coming to the state and not complying with the quarantine, causing outbreaks in communities.
- **New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo** laid out the state's criteria for schools to reopen in the fall across the state.
 - He said that for a region to reopen its schools, it must be in phase four of reopening and the daily infection rate must be below 5%, which means that "the virus is under control" and it is "safe to reopen," the governor said.
 - Cuomo said that "if the infection rate goes over 9%...that means the virus is moving rapidly" and if that happens, schools will be closed.
 - "That's the green light and that's the red light," Cuomo said about the formula the state is going to use.
- **Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron** announced that a Scott Circuit Judge ordered Gov. Andy Beshear to cease issuing or enforcing executive orders related to Covid-19, unless the orders meet specific criteria for an emergency as outlined by state law, a statement from the attorney general’s office said.
 - According to the statement, the judge stated that in order to issue and enforce executive orders related to Covid-19, the governor has to “specify the state of emergency that requires the executive order, the location of the emergency, and the name of the local emergency management agency that has determined that the emergency is beyond its capabilities.”

- **Utah Gov. Gary Herbert** said he is mandating masks be worn in K-12 schools in his state but is not mandating a similar measure statewide.
 - Herbert tweeted that he is “mandating that all students, faculty, staff and visitors in all K-12 school districts and charter schools will wear a mask in buildings and on buses.”
 - Districts need to have reopening plans in place by August 1, Herbert said, adding that “some flexibility will be given to school boards and principals to accommodate younger children.”
- **Arkansas** has moved its back-to-school date from August 13 to August 24, but that date will not be pushed beyond August 26, Gov. Asa Hutchinson said Thursday.
 - In their decision, state officials wanted to give “school districts more time to make necessary adjustments for the blending learning environment. We are committed to schools, on-site instruction,” Hutchinson told reporters in Little Rock, before adding that “we believe this is the right decision.”
 - The governor also presented a three-prong approach to respond to infections in schools, ranging from a limited to a critical response.
- **Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear** signed an executive order mandating that people must wear a face covering or mask in public in certain situations.
 - The order goes into effect Friday at 5 p.m.
 - According to the governor, the order requires all customers in retail facilities to wear a mask, customers in grocery stores must wear a mask, and customers in most forward facing businesses have to wear a mask if they are indoors.
- **Colorado Gov. Jared Polis** said the key to the economic recovery in the state is for people to wear a mask.
 - Polis ordered all bars and nightclubs to close again last week for the month of July. He said that they won't see the impact from those closures for another week or two.
- **The head of Atlanta Public Schools** will recommend that schools open virtually with a new start date of August 24, the district said Friday.
 - Superintendent Lisa Herring “will recommend school open virtually with a new start date of August 24. August 3-21 will be used for pre-planning,” the district said on Facebook.
 - Herring, who began her new role on July 1, will present a strategy for reopening on Monday during a school board meeting.
- **Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms** is planning to roll back the city's reopening to phase one due to a spike in Covid-19 cases, her spokesperson said Friday.
 - Phase one includes an order for all city residents to stay home except for essential trips.
 - Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp slammed the mayor's decision, calling it “confusing” and “legally unenforceable,” his office said Friday.
 - Kemp's office said in a statement that Bottoms' "action today is merely guidance — both non-binding and legally unenforceable."
 - "As clearly stated in the Governor's executive order, no local action can be more or less restrictive, and that rule applies statewide. Once again, if the Mayor actually wants to flatten the curve in Atlanta, she should start enforcing state restrictions, which she has failed to do. We ask citizens and businesses alike to comply with the terms of the Governor's order, which was crafted in conjunction with state public health officials. These common-sense measures will help protect the lives and livelihoods of all Georgians,” the statement said.

- **Florida** has allocated 550 contact tracers to Miami-Dade County, according to Alberto Moscoso, a spokesperson for the state's Department of Health.
 - This comes after reporters grilled Gov. Ron DeSantis on contact tracing early this week and a group of mayors in Miami-Dade County demanded Thursday that the state provide at least 500 contact tracers.
 - **Mayor Carlos Giménez** announced Thursday that he signed a contract for 250 contact tracers. According to Moscoso, Miami-Dade already had 300 contact tracers allocated to the county by the state.
- Following an increase in Covid-19 cases in **Michigan**, **Gov. Gretchen Whitmer** signed an executive order on Friday requiring a face covering to be worn in all indoor public spaces across the state, and most notably, requiring businesses to refuse service or entry to anyone not wearing a covering, the governor announced in a release.
 - Violating the order — which goes into effect at 12:01 a.m. local time on Monday — could carry a \$500 penalty.
 - Businesses are required to post signs instructing customers to wear a mask, and there are exemptions for people with medical conditions and children under the age of 5, as well as for when people are eating and drinking at a restaurant.
- **Detroit Public Schools (DPS)** are scheduled to open their doors for a scheduled start of summer classes on Monday. This is the first time schools will welcome back students for face-to-face instruction since districts closed their doors in response to the pandemic.
 - Superintendent Nikolai Vitti said he sees a “desperate demand for face-to-face learning” but stated that online learning is not the “one size fits all” approach.
- **Officials in Allegheny County** — which includes Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania — have issued a temporary two-week order banning residents from eating inside restaurants and bars, a release from Health Department Director Dr. Debra Bogen said.

International

- **Hong Kong** will tighten travel and social distancing measures, Chief Executive Carrie Lam said on Monday, as the city reported 52 new cases of Covid-19 in Hong Kong’s “third wave” of infections. Hong Kong ordered gyms and bars to close for a week, restored strict limits on public gatherings and introduced fines for anyone refusing to wear a mask on public transport in a fresh bid to prevent the resurgent coronavirus from spiraling out of control.
- **British Prime Minister Boris Johnson** said Monday that people should wear face coverings inside shops, adding that the UK government would outline how it plans to enforce its advice on masks over the next few days.
 - "I do think that in shops it is very important to wear a face covering if you are going be in a confined space and want to protect other people and receive protection in turn," Johnson said during a televised interview on Monday.
 - U.K. Cabinet Office Minister Michael Gove said the government shouldn't make face masks compulsory in English shops -- but added that it was “good manners” to wear one.
- **France** will proceed to systematic testing at airports “over the next few days” for passengers arriving from countries where coronavirus is circulating intensely, government spokesman Gabriel Attal said during a BFM TV interview on Sunday. The government is targeting 2,000 tests a day at airports initially.
 - Asked whether France will impose wearing masks in closed spaces, Attal said “we’re adapting constantly to the situation.”

- **Hungary** will conduct health checks at the border and require [14-day quarantine](#) for those arriving from higher-risk countries for the coronavirus while foreigners from the highest risk nations will be barred from entry, cabinet minister Gergely Gulyas said at a televised briefing on Sunday.
 - **No European Union nation** is listed in the “red” category currently, denoting the highest risk, Gulyas said. Bulgaria, Romania, Sweden and the U.K. were among countries listed as “yellow” or higher risk. Authorities will review the list weekly.
- **Qatar Airways** said all [passengers from Pakistan](#) must show they were tested for Covid-19 within 72 hours of their flight departure and present a negative result.
 - The mandatory pre-flight requirement will take effect Monday, a Qatar Airways spokesperson said in an email on Saturday. Qatar Airways currently operates services to the Pakistani cities of Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar. Pakistan has more than 246,000 reported cases, the highest in Asia after India. Cases in Qatar rose by 498 to more than 103,000.
- **The UK** has eased travel restrictions for dozens of countries — but the United States is not one of them.
 - Travelers arriving into the UK from 75 countries and British overseas territories will no longer have to self-isolate for 14 days starting July 10.
- **Hong Kong** announced Friday the suspension of all schools in the city, following a surge in locally transmitted coronavirus cases.
 - “Due to the growth of confirmed COVID-19 cases, some parents are concerned about the hygiene of [schools],” said Secretary of Education Kevin Yeung. “After consideration and listening to expert’s advice, we decided that all kindergarten, primary school, secondary school can start the summer holiday [early] from next Monday,” he said.
- **Australia** will slash the number of its citizens and permanent residents allowed to return home from overseas each week, in an effort to stem new Covid-19 cases, Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced Friday.
 - Currently 8,000 residents are allowed to fly into the country each week. That number will be reduced to 4,000, Morrison said.
 - There are no international flights currently allowed into Melbourne, which reintroduced strict lockdown measures this week as it grapples with a resurgence of coronavirus cases.
 - Returned travelers are subject to 14 days of enforced hotel quarantine.
- **South Africa** will resume a ban on alcohol sales and reinstate a daily curfew to free up hospital capacity as the country’s Covid-19 cases continue to rise.
 - “The storm is upon us. More than a quarter of a million South Africans have been infected by the coronavirus,” President Cyril Ramaphosa said in a televised address to the nation on Sunday evening.
- **Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon** hinted at the possibility of asking visitors from England to quarantine on arrival in Scotland.
 - Speaking to the BBC, Sturgeon said that imposing quarantine restrictions for English travelers is “not something we have decided to do at this stage, it’s not something I am immediately planning to do, but I will take decisions the best I can to protect the health of Scotland and to take that absolutely from a public health perspective.”
 - Sturgeon said that Scottish officials would “take a very close look” at making sure the virus isn’t brought into the country by people arriving from other parts of the UK.

- Surgeon also added that the decision to quarantine English travelers is “not political, it’s not constitutional, it’s just taking a similar view to countries across the world in terms of protecting populations from the risk of the virus.”
- **Brazil’s São Paulo** state announced today that universities and technical schools can return to in-person practical classes starting Monday in cities that have been in the yellow phase of the state’s plan for more than 14 consecutive days.
 - The São Paulo deescalation plan allows for the gradual resumption of activities. The yellow phase is the third of the five stages, and allows for a relaxation of restrictions on the majority of economic and social activities.
 - The city of São Paulo also reopened parks and gyms on Monday. Ibirapuera Park, the biggest in the country, saw heavy vehicle traffic in the park region and large crowds.

Other

- **Credit Suisse Group AG** could cut “hundreds” of jobs as the Swiss lender mulls different savings plans that would allow it to reach its profit targets, according to SonntagsZeitung, which didn’t say where it obtained the information. The coronavirus crisis has given its [online operations](#) a boost and Chief Executive Officer Thomas Gottstein is mulling thinning out the Zurich-based bank’s domestic branch network.
- **Disney** opened its Magic Kingdom and Animal Kingdom Saturday, after a four-month shutdown and despite criticism that it did so as virus cases are spiking in Florida.
 - Josh D’Amaro, chairman of Walt Disney Co.’s theme parks, said he was pleased with booking trends. The park is opening with virus-related safety protocols, including temperature checks at gates and mandatory mask-wearing by guests and employees inside.
- **Scientists** say an upper-arm shot using the antibody-rich blood plasma of Covid-19 survivors could inoculate people against the virus for months, but federal officials and companies aren’t enthusiastic about the proposal, according to the Los Angeles Times.
 - The dispute is over the timing, rather than the promise of the idea. Plasma-based therapies should focus on treating people who are already sick, not on prevention, federal health officials and industry groups told the newspaper.
 - **Anthony Fauci** said the idea is an “attractive concept” but scientists need to first prove it’s effective for current patients. Companies are reluctant to invest in a product that could soon be replaced by a vaccine, advocates for the immunity shots told the LAT.
- **Gilead Sciences Inc.** said its [remdesivir virus treatment](#) is associated with a 62% reduction in the risk of death compared with the standard of care. The death rate with remdesivir was 7.6% at Day 14 versus 12.5% among those not taking remdesivir.
 - The finding is based on an analysis that combines results from a Phase 3 trial and a “real-world” retrospective cohort of patients with severe disease, the company said, noting that it requires confirmation in prospective clinical trials.
- An increasing number of **U.S. small businesses** plan to lay off workers after using a federal coronavirus relief loan as many states are slowing or changing reopening plans amid a spike in cases, a new survey shows.
 - About 22% of **firms that received [Paycheck Protection Program](#)** assistance have fired workers or expect to lay off one or more workers once their loan runs out, up from 14% last month, according to a **National Federation of Independent Business** survey of its members. The PPP, a key federal stimulus program, was meant to keep workers on payrolls during the pandemic.

- “As owners finish using their loan, more are finding that economic conditions are unable to support current staffing levels,” the NFIB said in the survey released Friday.
- Most surveyed businesses that have requested a PPP loan have received it, with 56% of borrowers reporting they have spent all of their loan funds and the remaining 44% likely not far behind, the NFIB said.
- **The Roman Catholic Church** used an exemption to collect at least \$1.4 billion in coronavirus relief, the Associated Press [reports](#).
 - Catholic Church may have received \$3.5 billion or more in aid, which would make it one of the largest recipients of the U.S. government’s pandemic relief efforts, according to an Associated Press analysis of federal data
 - NOTE: The government’s data didn’t name recipients of loans under \$150,000
- **Industry lobbyists** are pushing Congress to expand Covid-19 relief tax breaks that provided a liquidity bump to some of the nation’s largest retailers, as the pandemic has shuttered long-struggling shopping malls across the U.S., Lydia O’Neal reports.
 - The lobbying push comes as dozens of retail chains—such as Urban Outfitters, Abercrombie & Fitch, Gap, and Express—have disclosed tens and in some cases hundreds of millions of dollars in benefits from the CARES Act. The typical fixtures of American malls often took advantage of a provision allowing companies to carry losses back to earlier years to trigger refunds of previous taxes paid, as well as a tax credit meant to discourage employee layoffs.
- **The Big Ten Conference** has [announced](#) all fall sports, including football, will participate in a conference-only schedule due to health and safety concerns surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - In a statement released on Thursday, the conference outlined its reason for the decision by saying, it “will have the greatest flexibility to adjust its own operations throughout the season” while allowing for fluid decision-making based on the most current medical advice.
- **An antibody therapy from Eli Lilly** could be on the market by the end of the year, according to the CEO of a biotech firm working with the pharmaceutical giant.
 - “We’re moving at breakneck speed,” said Carl Hansen, CEO of AbCellera. “It’s like running 100 meters in two seconds.”
 - The company is two weeks into Phase 2 trials, which will involve hundreds of Covid-19 patients. Some of them will get the antibody drug at varying doses and others will receive a placebo, or a pill that does nothing, and then doctors will compare how each group fares.
 - He said the Phase 1 trial of a few dozen patients showed the drug was safe.
- **The Jacksonville Jaguars** announced they will only seat about 25% capacity for all 2020 home games due to Covid-19 concerns.
 - The team revealed their decision — which complies with state and local health authorities — in a statement to season ticket holders on Friday. Updates on new health protocols put in place prior to the season were also included [in the announcement](#).
 - All guests will be required to wear a face covering.
 - The team is looking to develop a seating chart which “allows for six feet of distance between unaffiliated parties.”
- **The Women’s National Basketball Association** announced Monday that it will begin its abbreviated season on July 25 from its bubble at the IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida.

- The opening weekend will be dedicated to the Black Lives Matter movement and will feature triple headers on July 25-26.
- **The 2020 Chicago Marathon**, along with all race weekend activities, has been canceled amid the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - In a [statement](#) released on Monday, race organizers announced all registered runners for this year's event will have the option to
- **JetBlue** says it will continue to block all middle seats through September 8, extending a policy that was set to expire at the end of the month.
 - The policy also blocks sale of aisle seats on smaller aircraft.
 - Southwest and Delta also have policies that limit the number of seats sold on a given flight.
 - The other major carriers, American Airlines and United, both have said they will sell every seat on their flights.
- **The American Economic Association** said its annual meeting, among the largest events for the economics profession, will be held virtually in January 2021 due to uncertainty around coronavirus, instead of in Chicago. "The safety risks posed by the Covid-19 pandemic have made it impossible to plan, prepare for, and hold an in-person event as expected," the association said in a statement today