

COVID-19 6/22 Update

Global

Total cases – 9,015,582 Total deaths – 469,378

United States

Total cases – 2,298,696 Total deaths – 120,225 Total # tests – 27,084,900

Administration

- The **US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** has been conducting a scientific review about the public health benefits of masks, and will soon make an updated recommendation, a senior CDC official told CNN.
 - o The reviews are happening even though the CDC has already published guidance on its website.
- White House trade adviser Peter Navarro said the Trump administration is preparing for the possibility that a second wave of Covid-19 could hit the US in the fall.
 - Navarro told CNN that the administration is "filling the stockpile in anticipation of a possible problem in the fall. We are doing everything we can beneath the surface, working as hard as we possibly can."
- **President Trump** said there will be another bipartisan stimulus package, Scripps reports.
 - Trump didn't comment on amount and said details will be announced in next couple of weeks
- **President Trump** hasn't directed anyone to slow down coronavirus testing, White House spokeswoman Kayleigh McEnany says at a briefing.
 - o "Any suggestion that testing has been curtailed is not rooted in fact," she says
- The **White House** is cutting back on screening visitors for the coronavirus as President Donald Trump pushes to reopen the country.
 - "In conjunction with Washington, D.C., entering Phase Two today, the White House is scaling back complex-wide temperature checks," White House spokesman Judd Deere said in a statement on Monday.
 - o "In addition to social distancing, hand sanitizer, regular deep cleaning of all work spaces, and voluntary facial coverings, every staff member and guest in close



- proximity to the president and vice president is still being temperature checked, asked symptom histories, and tested for COVID-19," Deere said.
- A notice posted in the briefing room lists symptoms of the virus and recommends social distancing.
- Vice President <u>Mike Pence</u> warns that growing numbers of young people under age 35 are now testing positive for the coronavirus, as almost half of all states are seeing an increase in infections, ABC News reports.
 - o Pence cited conversations with Texas and Florida officials, ABC says, citing audio of a conference call Pence had with state governors on Monday
 - o Health experts say the rising number of cases is not explained by increased testing
- The **EPA** is reopening its Washington headquarters tomorrow, according to an internal email sent last week. Employees will "have the option to return to the office," wrote Donna Vizian, the EPA's principal deputy assistant administrator for the Office of Mission Support. The reopening also applies to the EPA's satellite office in Arlington, Va., Vizian wrote in the email, which was obtained by Bloomberg Law.
- **President Donald Trump** at his Oklahoma rally said health testing for the virus is a "double-edged sword," so he urged staff to "slow the testing down," a comment his trade adviser called a joke while his homeland security chief described it as a sign of frustration.
 - o "That was tongue in cheek, please," trade adviser Peter Navarro said on CNN's "State of the Union. "It was a light moment, OK?" Navarro also said the government is filing the stockpile for a possible outbreak later this year. "I am not saying it's going to happen, but of course you prepare it."
 - Acting Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf on CBS's "Face the Nation" said Trump was expressing "frustration" about tests and rising infections. "We've tested more than any other country in this world. Instead, the press and others, all they want to focus on is an increasing case count."
- One of two test kits developed by the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** to detect the "first wave" of the coronavirus failed because some reagents were "likely contaminated," a Department of Health and Human Services review concluded.
 - Development of kits began in early January, on a rush basis, and the reagents -needed to determine final results -- may have been exposed in late January,
 according to the report. Lab processes may have been insufficient to prevent the
 contamination risk, although "it is likely that time pressure also contributed," the
 report found.



- The three-page review, first reported by the Washington Post, didn't identify any CDC staff responsible.
- **SBA** and **Treasury Dept** have agreed with the bipartisan leaders of **the Senate Small Business Cmte** to "make public additional data" regarding the Paycheck Protection Program virus relief loan program, according to a statement from Treasury.
 - The agreement on "disclosure which will strike the appropriate balance of providing public transparency, while protecting the payroll and personal income information of small businesses, sole proprietors, and independent contractors," Treasury Sec. Steven Mnuchin says in statement
 - SBA will disclose the business names, addresses, NAICS codes, zip codes, business type, demographic data, non-profit information, jobs supported, for loan amounts from \$150,000 to \$10m
 - o These categories account for nearly 75 percent of the loan dollars approved
- Public briefings by the **White House Coronavirus Task Force are** over, although the panel that includes infectious disease expert Anthony Fauci and epidemiologist Deborah Birx will review data and speak with the governors, Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany said.
 - o McEnany said as the U.S. presses ahead with reopening its economy, she will relay any further information about the outbreak.
 - The task force's profile has diminished since McEnany's arrival in May. Fauci, the head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, hasn't spoken publicly at the White House in more than seven weeks.
- The restart of professional baseball, football, basketball and hockey is "essential" as the U.S. economy reopens and the Trump administration has had talks with league commissioners on the issue, White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett said.
 - "Everybody believes that it's very important for the national morale," Hassett said at the White House, noting the National Basketball Association's plan to play on a campus in Florida, with tests for everybody, has been praised by health officials. "If the NBA is able to go down to Disney World and get it's season going, then it will also be a demonstration to businesses all around the country about how to operate a certain campus safely."
- On Tuesday, US President Donald Trump is heading to **Arizona**, where a spike in coronavirus cases has raised alarm and prompted new rules.
 - Trump will speak to student supporters in Phoenix, where the city council and mayor have made face masks mandatory for people inside a building less than six feet away from others.



- Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego told CNN that she hopes everyone attending the
 event will wear a mask -- including the President, who has previously claimed
 that masks don't do much in battling the virus, in direct contradiction to health
 experts.
- o "It is not safe right now to have any large events, whether it be the President of the United States or large indoor sporting event," Gallego said.
- Banks are getting a break on fees they pay to the U.S. Office of the Comptroller of the
 Currency as a thank you for their response to the coronavirus. The OCC issued an
 interim final rule today saying it'll charge a lower assessment to the banks that it oversees
 in September, partly because their assets swelled as they participated in programs like the
 Paycheck Protection Program
- Six members of the **Trump re-election campaign's** advance team tested positive for Covid-19 ahead of Saturday's rally in Tulsa, Oklahoma, a spokesman said. Quarantine steps were taken after results from hundreds of tests, according to a statement.
 - o "No Covid-positive staffers or anyone in immediate contact will be at today's rally or near attendees and elected officials," said Tim Murtaugh, campaign communications director. "All rally attendees are given temperature checks before going through security, at which point they are given wristbands, face masks and hand sanitizer."
- Two more members of the **Trump campaign staff** who were in Tulsa, Oklahoma, tested positive for the coronavirus after another round of testing, an NBC News reporter <u>tweets</u>, citing campaign spokesman Tim Murtaugh.
 - The aides attended the Tulsa rally on Saturday but were wearing masks during the entire event, Murtaugh says
 - o Their infections were found in another round of testing

Capitol Hill

- The nation's top health officials warned **Congress** today that the upcoming flu season in the U.S. is poised to exacerbate the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, with an influx of patients to hospitals expected to stretch thin health supplies, available beds, and health workers.
- **House Energy and Commerce Committee** releases testimony from panelists for coronavirus hearing on June 23.
 - o Read NIH's Anthony Fauci testimony here
 - o Read FDA Commissioner Stephen Hahn testimony here
 - o Read CDC Director Robert Redfield testimony here



- Federal food assistance that helps Americans put dinner on the table needs a boost in the next coronavirus-relief package, thousands of organizations told Senate leadership.
 Nearly 2,500 groups called for a 15% hike in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, maximum benefit, in a <u>letter</u> to **Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell** (R-Ky.) and **Minority Leader Chuck Schumer** (D-N.Y.).
- Democrats on House oversight panels asked the Food and Drug Administration to brief their staff on the development, review, and deployment of any eventual Covid-19 vaccines, according to a letter to the agency. Members urged the FDA to set rules and ensure transparency of the process to win the public's trust for the vaccine. "One simple step you could take," members argued in the letter, would be declaring that any candidate "will have to prove itself safe and effective in a complete Stage 3 cl inical trial with at least 30,000 volunteers
- **Democrats** unveiled two pieces of legislation Monday they say will keep prices down for any taxpayer-funded treatments and vaccines for Covid-19.
 - The federal government has granted billions to pharmaceutical companies for Covid-related research without assurances that the drugs and vaccines that result from that research will be affordable and accessible to the American public, according to Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL).
 - The bills intend to establish protections against drug price gouging for Covid-19 treatments and vaccines and excessive pricing of drugs for any disease that causes a public health emergency.
 - The bills would also initiate major steps toward transparency, including a
 database of the funding and tax benefits that pharmaceutical
 companies have received.

State/Local

- Colorado Governor Jared Polis on Saturday extended his state of emergency declaration after the three-day moving average of cases started to increase. "The data is now starting to show a reversal of some of our gains," he said.
- **Texas** cases rose 3.5% to 103,305, outpacing the previous 7-day average of 2.9%. Hospitalizations rose for the eighth straight day to 3,148, up 6.8% from the day before. As of Friday, the state has reported 2,140 deaths.
 - While Texas Governor Greg Abbott has avoided issuing mask requirements, he's begun letting local governments order businesses to require face coverings for patrons and employees. Counties for Dallas, Austin and San Antonio, which are



adding Covid-19 cases at a record-setting pace, have issued such mandates, and Houston is expected to take action Friday.

- Masks or face coverings will be required in public in **Miami** due to the increase in Covid-19 cases, Mayor Francis Suarez announced during a news conference Monday. The order will go into effect immediately.
- Although a spike in coronavirus cases in **Washington**, **DC** caused the data to reset backwards over the weekend making Monday the 13th sustained day of a decline in community spread Mayor Muriel Bowser said the District hit the metric of 14 sustained days on Friday, and therefore phase two of reopening is officially effective today.
 - Bowser urged residents to continue to exercise "good judgement" and adhere to public health guidance.
- **New Jersey** casinos can reopen at 25% capacity on July 2, Gov. Phil Murphy <u>tweeted</u> <u>Monday</u> morning.
 - o Indoor dining "limited at first to 25% capacity" can also resume, he posted, adding that additional guidance relating to health and safety will be released "within the next several days."
- **New York City** is entering its widest <u>reopening phase today</u> after Gov. Andrew Cuomo gave the city approval to move forward.
 - Phase two allows for a broader range of businesses to continue to reopen under Covid-19 guidelines, including <u>retail businesses</u>, restaurants and <u>offices</u>.
- A leader of an anti-police brutality group in South Carolina is calling on demonstrators
 to get tested after several people involved with the protests recently tested positive,
 Columbia's newspaper "The State" reported. Lawrence Nathaniel, one of the leaders of
 the "I Can't Breathe" South Carolina movement, posted a note on his Facebook page
 saying several protesters in Columbia marches between late May to mid-June tested
 positive.
- More than 35% of the confirmed coronavirus cases in **California** have been recorded in just the past two weeks, Gov. Gavin Newsom said in a news conference Monday.
 - There have been three single-day highs recorded in the past week, and on Sunday, the highest rate of hospitalizations to date. Hospitalizations have climbed about 16% over the last 14 days.
 - Testing is increasing throughout the state with about 85,000 tests conducted each
 day, Newsom said. While that may be factor in the uptick in confirmed cases, the
 positivity rate is also climbing slightly and currently stands at about 4.8%.



- West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice said the state had its first coronavirus-related death since June 12 over this past weekend.
 - Louisiana will not be moving to phase three at the end of the week like expected,
 Gov. John Bel Edwards announced in a press conference.
 - The state will remain in phase two under a new order that will be signed later this week and extended for 28 days, he said.

International

- The number of new cases reached a record 183,000 in the most recent **World Health**Organization report, as the disease spreads in several large countries simultaneously,
 WHO officials said at a press briefing in Geneva. Latin America is particularly impacted,
 as the number of reported cases has increased 25% in Brazil over the last week, while
 Chile is up 41% and Argentina 38%, according to the WHO
- President of the United Nations General Assembly Tijjani Muhammad-Bande says in press briefing that the that General Assembly will held virtually and on schedule in September.
- **Israel** is considering renewing the controversial use of government spying technology to help fight a surge in coronavirus cases.
 - o "We know this topic is problematic, but on the other hand, we know it contributed greatly to keeping the epidemic in check," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Monday at a meeting of cabinet ministers.
- The outbreak in **South Africa** is about to peak and the government expects hospitals to start filling up with patients, Health Minister Zweli Mkhize said.
 - The number of new infections is projected to first peak in the Western Cape,
 which has been hardest hit by the pandemic, followed by Gauteng and the Eastern
 Cape province, Mkhize said in an interview with radio station Safm on Monday.
- **Toyota Motor Corp.** expects to increase production further in **Japan** during July as it restarts factories following the shutdown, reaching 90% of its targeted output level.
- **Germany's** coronavirus infection rate rose for a third day, lifted by local outbreaks including in North Rhine-Westphalia, where more than 1,300 people working at a slaughterhouse have tested positive.
 - The reproduction factor of the virus climbed to 2.88 on Sunday, from 1.79 the day before, according to the latest estimate by the country's health body, the Robert Koch Institute. There were 602 new infections in Germany in the 24 hours through Monday morning, bringing the total to 191,272, according to data from Johns Hopkins University.



- Italy is planning value-added tax reductions in areas hit hardest by the coronavirus pandemic, Deputy Finance Minister Laura Castelli said in an interview with la Repubblica, specifying areas including restaurants and tourism, clothing and cars.La Stampa reported that Finance Minister Roberto Gualtieri, of the Democratic Party, favors proceeding more cautiously on tax cuts.
- <u>Chinese banks</u> have offered relief on 3.9 trillion yuan (\$551 billion) of loans since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic to help struggling small businesses and bolster an economy facing its worst slump in four decades.
- **Mexico** reported 1,044 coronavirus deaths Sunday, the second-highest daily fatality toll from the pandemic, according to data from the Ministry of Health.
- **Australia's** second-most populous state has tightened coronavirus controls as a spike in cases triggers fears the nation could be hit by a second wave of infections.
 - Victoria <u>extended</u> a state of emergency by four weeks to July 20, halved the number of visitors allowed in homes to five and delayed a planned increase in the size of gatherings in cafes, restaurants and pubs.
- **Prime Minister Boris Johnson** will set out which further parts of the U.K. economy can open in July, and give an update in Parliament on Tuesday after hearing conclusions of the review into England's 2-meter (6 feet 7 inches) social distancing rule.
 - O A week after the government encouraged its citizens to go shopping again, the country is on track to reopen additional parts of the economy including hospitality businesses, Health Secretary Matt Hancock said Sunday on Sky News. Any reduction in social distancing could be done with other measures such as wearing masks or using perspex screens in shops, he said.
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 - U.K. Chancellor Rishi Sunak <u>suggested</u> that England's social distancing rules may be relaxed, saying a decision is due next week. The 2-meter (6 feet, 6 inches) rule, in place since March, has been criticized for undermining efforts to reopen shops, bars and other parts of the economy.
- Saudi Arabia will resume all commercial activities and lift restrictions on movement even as coronavirus cases show no signs of easing. Saudi Arabia reported another 3,941 cases of the virus on Saturday.

Other



- The **78th Golden Globe Awards** are moving from January to February, following a similar delay to the Academy Awards due to the coronavirus pandemic.
 - The annual event, considered the unofficial kickoff to Hollywood awards season, honors top films and television shows as selected by members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association.
 - The show will now take place on Sunday, February 28 the original date for the next Oscars before it was announced last week it would be pushed back.
- The **NFL Players Association** issued a statement on Saturday advising players to cease training together during private workouts due to "the increase in Covid-19 cases in certain states."
 - The statement is attributed to Dr. Thom Mayer, who serves as the medical director of the NFL Players Association, to deliver a "consensus medical opinion" to players as they prepare for the fall season.
- Ford Motor Co. and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV will resume pre-pandemic factory schedules from June 22, racing to meet stronger-than-expected demand. General Motors Co. aims to be back to normal output by month's end.
 - Ford is moving two weeks earlier than planned, a sign its supply base and workforce ramp up has gone smoothly. Once Fiat Chrysler restores a second shift at a Jeep Cherokee plant in Belvidere, Illinois, it will be back to previous production, a spokeswoman said.
- **Major cruise lines** agreed to <u>suspend</u> voyages from U.S. ports until Sept. 15, another setback for an industry trying to rebound from the pandemic. A no-sail order issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was to expire on July 24.
 - o "Although we are confident that future cruises will be healthy and safe, and will fully reflect the latest protective measures, we also feel that it is appropriate to err on the side of caution to help ensure the best interests of our passengers and crew members," Cruise Lines International Association said.
- As many as 30 **LSU** football players, a quarter of the team, were quarantined this week over virus-related concerns, Sports Illustrated reported, citing sources it didn't identify. The players were isolated because they tested positive or were found to had contact with those who tested positive, the magazine said.
- The **Philadelphia Phillies** confirmed five players and three staff at its Clearwater, Florida, baseball training facility tested positive for Covid-19 this week. The first case occurred Tuesday. The center has closed indefinitely to players, coaches and staff



- AMC Entertainment Holdings Inc., facing customer outrage over its mask policy, reversed course and will require guests to wear face coverings when its theaters reopen next month. Chief Executive Officer Adam Aron said he got "intense and immediate outcry" from customers after the optional-mask policy was announced on Thursday. "Those who are unwilling to wear a mask will not be admitted or allowed to stay," he said.
- The **Yankees** and the **Mets** will <u>move</u> their baseball training camps from Florida, where cases of the coronavirus are accelerating, to New York City, Governor Andrew Cuomo said. The teams will work out at their home fields, in the Bronx and Queens.
- Los Angeles International Airport will begin testing temperature-scanning cameras on passengers in late June, making it the largest U.S. airport known to experiment with the technology at scale.
 - Airport officials hope the cameras will help them root out passengers with coronavirus by detecting those who have a fever. The airport will place thermal cameras at Tom Bradley International Terminal so they can scan passenger temperatures as they walk by.
 - O No passengers will be denied boarding because they have high temperatures, said Heath Montgomery, public relations director for Los Angeles World Airports. The goal for now is to test the effectiveness of the technology so findings can be shared with other airports, the Transportation Security Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the airport said in a <u>presentation</u>.
- **Gilead** CEO Daniel O'Day says the company is screening healthy volunteers for Phase I trials this week and hopes to begin studies with patients with Covid-19 in August.
 - o Inhaled formulation would be given through a nebulizer, potentially easier to administrate outside of the hospital
 - Next wave of clinical development will study remdesivir in treating earlier in the disease, in combo with other treatments and in other patient groups