

August 2020

Länderbericht

Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.



Corona Update: USA (19) – aktuelle Studien, Analysen und Kommentare

Für die Zeit vom 31. Juli bis 6. August 2020

Zusammengestellt von: Sabine Murphy, Jeanene Laird, Elmar Sulk, Syreta Haggray, Dirk Hegen, Paul Linnarz

Die Corona-Krise hat über die erheblichen gesundheitlichen Risiken und Folgen hinaus weitreichende Auswirkungen auf die Wirtschaft, Sicherheit, Forschung, Innen- und Außenpolitik sowie das gesellschaftliche Leben in den Vereinigten Staaten. Namhafte US-amerikanische Think Tanks und Experten setzen sich intensiv mit den unterschiedlichen Aspekten und Herausforderungen dieser in ihrem Umfang und ihrer Schnelligkeit beispiellosen Krise auseinander. Für einen Überblick über den aktuellen Stand der Diskussion stellt das KAS-Auslandsbüro USA mit Sitz in Washington D.C. wöchentlich eine Auswahl an Studien, Analysen und Kommentaren jeweils mit Links zu den Beiträgen zusammen.

“A Possible IMF Pandemic Support Facility for Emerging-Market Countries”

Quelle: Peterson Institute for International Economics (PIIE, July 2020)

Matthew Fisher, former deputy director of the Finance Department at the IMF; Adnan Mazarei, nonresident fellow at PIIE and former deputy director of the IMF's Middle East and Central Asia Department

In the [policy brief](#) the authors recommend that the IMF needs to adapt its strategy for pandemic situations by developing a new temporary lending instrument that primarily serves emerging-market countries – a so-called Pandemic Support Facility (PSF). Such lending arrangements would be limited in time and scope.

“The Pandemic Pain of Emerging Markets”

Quelle: Project Syndicate, (July 31, 2020)

Jeffrey Frankel, Professor of Capital Formation and Growth at Harvard University

Emerging-market and developing economies lack fiscal space to introduce big spending programs even for public health and to support hard-hit households, let alone for broad macroeconomic stimulus, Jeffrey Frankel writes in his [article](#).

“Rep. Seth Moulton: Our Response to Covid Will Affect Both National Security and Economic Security”

Quelle: Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS, Aug 4, 2020)

Rep. Seth Moulton, et al.

U.S. Representative Seth Moulton, a Democrat who represents Massachusetts' 6th Congressional District, joined CSIS for the first week of August's podcast on COVID-19 and its challenges. The Congressman offers his distinctive perspective on the health, economic, and security challenges his constituents and the nation as a whole are facing. You can listen to the interview [here](#) and read a full transcript [here](#).

“Coronavirus Throws Another Challenge at Syria’s Doctors - Already beleaguered from years of conflict, Syria’s medical professionals gear up for COVID-19”

Quelle: United States Institute of Peace (USIP, August 5, 2020)

Anthony Navone, contributor for USIP

In the [analysis and commentary](#) the author emphasizes that it is difficult to get an accurate picture of the scope of the pandemic in Syria. Rather than assessing the pandemic in the country one needs to refer to different regions. The author highlights the work done by the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS), a humanitarian relief organization that works in Syria and surrounding countries to provide medical care. With more than 6,6 million internally displaced persons in Syria, the author concludes that more comprehensive aid and support is needed.

“Student Blog — Start-ups and Venture Capital: The Uphill Battle With COVID-19”

Quelle: Baker Institute at Rice University (July 31, 2020)

Joanna Wang, Research Intern, McNair Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Growth

The economic downturn caused by Covid-19 has left no industry unscathed. However, start-ups and their venture capital (VC) partners have been hit particularly hard, states the author of this [blog](#) article. "Start-ups need to adapt to the changing consumer environment and preserve their limited resources until the pandemic passes," says Joanna Wang, and continues, "stay-at-home orders and the race for a vaccine have boosted start-ups in e-commerce, video conferencing, software-as-a-service (SaaS) and health technology."

“Preparing for The COVID-19 Vaccine and Considerations for Mass Distribution”

Quelle: National Governors Association (August 3, 2020)

This [memo](#) discusses possible actions for State Governors preparing for mass distribution of potential, future Covid-19 vaccines. It specifically includes policy considerations on the supply chain (from industry to the states to the public), on the prioritization of critical populations, on previous lessons learned, as well as on "vaccine hesitancy and misinformation."

“Changes in State TANF Policies in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic”

Quelle: Urban Institute (August 4, 2020)

Katie Shantz, Research Associate, et al.

As the U.S. economy shut down in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, U.S. state administrators for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)—the nation’s primary program for helping families with low incomes meet basic needs while supporting their transition to economic mobility through work opportunities—faced new challenges operating the program and meeting their clients’ needs. In this [brief](#), the Urban Institute experts describe how some of these agencies adapted their policies during the early months of the pandemic. You can also download the full pdf [here](#).

“Low-income households falling further behind on student debt due to COVID-19”

Quelle: The Brookings Institution (August 5, 2020)

Jason Jabbari, data analyst, Social Policy Institute, Washington University in St. Louis, et al.

This [article](#) presents the findings of a survey by

the Washington University in St. Louis about the influence of COVID-19 on student debt. The survey shows that low-income households fall farther behind in debt payments and what this means for their financial outlook.

“A Call for Effective Emergency Management in Correctional Facilities During COVID-19”

Quelle: Center for American Progress (CAP, July 31, 2020)

Akua Amaning, Associate Director for Criminal Justice Reform

Several prisons and correctional facilities in the U.S. have turned into hot spots for the coronavirus pandemic, writes Amaning in her [article](#) for the Center for American Progress. “As this virus spreads rapidly within the nation’s jails and prisons, facilities have shown that they are ill-prepared to protect the people under their watch.” According to the author, this endangers people within prison walls, as well as surrounding communities.

“Regulatory Changes to Medicare in Response to COVID-19”

Quelle: The Commonwealth Fund (August 4, 2020)

Jennifer Podulka, Senior Consultant, Health Management Associates and Jonathan Blum, Managing Principal, Health Management Associates

This [issue brief](#) tracks and categorizes coronavirus-induced regulatory changes to the Medicare program, the federal health insurance program for people over 65 and certain younger people with disabilities. The authors identify over 200 policies which Congress and the administration modified as a response to the pandemic. In conclusion, the brief recommends that “any changes considered for extension should be studied to as-

sess their long-term benefits and potential consequences.”

„The COVID Tonic, Ep.9“

Quelle: CATO Institute/Human Progress (July 31, 2020)

Marian L. Tupy Editor of HumanProgress.org Senior fellow at the Center for Global Liberty and Prosperity, CATO Institute; Michael Shermer, Founding Editor of Skeptic magazine

In this week’s Human Progress’ COVID tonic [podcast](#) (and [transcript](#) of the podcast) Marian Tupy and Michael Shermer discuss the global impact of COVID-19 and the continued importance of objective truth and rational in dealing with the pandemic and other movements that have occurred in its wake, such as Black Lives Matter (BLM).

“Lack of Public Data Hampers COVID-19 Fight”

Quelle: The Pew Charitable Trusts (August 3, 2020)

Christine Vestal, Staff Writer

This [article](#) discusses several issues pertaining to data and the Covid-19 pandemic in the United States. According to the author, state and local data were hard to come by, as states and localities had constrained budgets, “stodgy technology and disjointed state and local reporting systems.” The article further identifies the standardization of data, privacy protections, incomplete data and non-contextualized data as “major concerns.”

“An Assessment of State Voting Processes - Preparing for Elections During a Pandemic”

Quelle: RAND Corporation (August 5, 2020)

Jennifer Kavanagh, senior political scientist, et al.

The RAND [report](#), which you can download here, summarizes state election laws on voter registration, remote voting, and early voting, and discusses the potential implications of these laws for the execution of the November 2020 general election under conditions brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. According to RAND, the report is intended to inform state legislatures and election officials as they prepare for the 2020 general election and seek to mitigate health risks while protecting the election's legitimacy.

Weitere Kurzbeiträge:

“COVID-19 has been such a disaster even red state residents aren't happy with Republicans”

Quelle: American Enterprise Institute (AEI, August 5, 2020)

Samuel J. Abrams, Visiting Scholar (civic and political culture and American ideologies), Professor of politics and social science at Sarah Lawrence College

In his [op-ed](#), Abrams contends that the handling of the COVID-19 crisis in states under republican leadership has resulted in an equal dissatisfaction and frustration among both democrats and republican identifying residents, which may put president Trump in hot water come November.

“How much does fake coronavirus news affect people's real-life health behavior?”

Quelle: NiemanLab at Harvard University (July 31, 2020)

Laura Hazard Owen, Deputy Editor NiemanLab

In this [article](#) for Harvard University's NiemanLab, the author reviews a working paper by Ireland's University College Dublin and University College Cork about the effects of misinformation and fake news on the audience's behaviors and actions.

Für die aktuellen Zahlen zur Corona-Krise in den USA:

The Centers for Disease Control:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

The Johns Hopkins University:
<https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

The New York Times:
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html>

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