

August 2020

Länderbericht

Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.



Corona Update: USA (22) – aktuelle Studien, Analysen und Kommentare

Für die Zeit vom 21. bis 27. 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.

„International Financial Institutions’ Ongoing Response to the COVID-19 Crisis“

Quelle: Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS, August 24, 2020)

Stephanie Segal, Sr. Fellow

CSIS estimates that international financial institutions (IFIs) have approved \$175,0 billion in Covid-19-related support since January 27, with an increase of \$23,3 billion since July 14. According to CSIS, IFIs have disbursed \$118,9 billion, about two-thirds of the amount approved. “Regionally, the Americas remain the largest recipient of IFI approvals, while Africa and Asia/Oceania have received the most disbursements,” says Stephanie Segal, an international development expert, in her [analysis](#).

“What COVID-19 is Revealing About Latin America’s Politics“

Quelle: Wilson Center (August 26, 2020)

Cynthia J. Arnsion, Director for Latin American Program

The author reflects on the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and confirms the report’s analysis that the Covid-19 pandemic has laid bare the fragility and inadequacy of social safety nets and institutional capacity across a range of government functions in Latin America. In the [article](#) special focus is on governments “that were already authoritarian when the pandemic emerged”, the widening chasm in the societies, corruption and lastly the high unemployment that leads to criminal behavior, the author states.

“China’s Use of AI in its COVID-19 Response“

Quelle: Center for Security and Emerging Technology (August 2020)

Emily Weinstein, Research Analyst

This [data brief](#) which you can download here assesses the different types of AI technologies used in China to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and

the key players involved in this industry. According to CSET "the current global pandemic has given China a chance to amplify its efforts to apply artificial intelligence across the public and private spheres. Chinese companies are developing and retooling AI systems for control and prevention."

"How Does the COVID Recession Compare?"

Quelle: Project Syndicate (August 24, 2020)

Michael J. Boskin, Professor of Economics at Stanford University

Every recession is different, according to economists. However, the author, chairman of George H.W. Bush's Council of Economic Advisers from 1989 to 1993, suggests that history offers lessons for the current pandemic-induced downturn. "Amid so much uncertainty, policymakers should focus on keeping taxes low, developing plans for fiscal consolidation, and avoiding new regulations until the economy is back on track", states Boskin in an [article](#) for Project Syndicate, an international media organization.

"Education Plus Development - Wages and GDP lost due to COVID-19 school closures"

Quelle: The Brookings Institution (August 27, 2020)

George Psacharopoulos, Adjunct Professor for Global Human Development at Georgetown University, et al.

This [article](#) revises some of the findings made in a World Bank report published by the same authors in May on the impact school closures during the global pandemic will have on education, future earnings as well as how these losses will lead to reductions in GDP globally.

„Income and Poverty in the COVID-19 Pandemic“

Quelle: National Bureau of Economic Research, (NBER, August 25, 2020)

Jeehoon Han, School of Economics, Zhejiang University, et al

This working [paper](#) explores the economic impact of COVID-19 and provides information on the effects of the current pandemic "on income and poverty to inform the targeting of resources to those most affected and assess the success of current efforts." The authors state that the "decline in poverty that we find can be accounted for by the rise in government assistance, including unemployment insurance benefits and the Economic Impact Payments."

"Where to Prioritize Emergency Rental Assistance to Keep Renters in Their Homes"

Quelle: Urban Institute (August 25, 2020)

No specific author

According to the findings of this project, the pandemic's economic and health impacts are exacerbating the nation's affordable housing and homelessness crises - adding more low-income renters to the millions already at risk of eviction and homelessness and widening racial disparities in housing instability. With this project, the Urban Institute has the goal of "...mapping neighborhoods [in all U.S. counties] where low-income renters face greater risks of housing instability and homelessness to inform an equitable COVID-19 response." You can get the data U.S. county by county [here](#).

"The ACA Marketplaces Are Poised To Weather COVID-19"

Quelle: Center for American Progress
(CAP, August 21, 2020)

Emily R. Gee, health economist, et al.

The authors observe in their [issue brief](#) that people who have lost their jobs and job-based health insurance coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic have been able to rely on the non-group marketplaces established under the Affordable Care Act to maintain coverage. Despite criticism of the ACA, the new pressures the coronavirus has put on the U.S. health care system, the ACA is and is expected to remain a reliable source for comprehensive coverage for years to come.

"Attitudes on Voting in 2020: Preparing for Elections During a Pandemic"

Quelle: RAND Corporation (August 27, 2020)

by Jennifer Kavanagh, Director, Strategy, Doctrine, and Resources Program, RAND Arroyo Center, et al.

In this [report](#) the RAND authors analyzed expectations for public safety, election integrity, and the preparedness of local officials to manage the November 2020 election in the pandemic context. Responses to the survey indicate that both demographic characteristics and political partisanship influence respondent attitudes toward election safety, integrity, and preparedness.

"Election Regulation during the COVID-19 Pandemic"

Quelle: CATO Institute (August 26, 2020)

Ilya Shapiro, director of the Robert A. Levy Center for Constitutional Studies; James Knight, legal associate

In the [article](#) the authors argue that the pandemic will dramatically change the voting system to safeguard public health. It is anticipated that there will be less poll workers and thus fewer

polling stations. The authors point out that "while fraud in mail balloting is more common than it is with in-person voting, it still hasn't been a significant problem, with one estimate placing the fraud rate at 0.00006 percent." To mitigate mail-in fraud concerns, the authors provide steps that states can take.

"FDA OKs use of convalescent plasma for COVID-19"

Quelle: Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, University of Minnesota (CIDRAP, August 24, 2020)

Stephanie Soucheray, News Reporter

This news [report](#) discusses the recent approval by the Food and Drug Administration of plasma from recovered COVID-19 patients to be used as a hospital-based treatment for the novel coronavirus under an emergency use authorization (EUA). Stephen Hahn, MD, the head of the FDA is reported to have claimed a 35% reduction in mortality.

"Phylogenetic analysis of SARS-CoV-2 in the Boston area highlights the role of recurrent importation and super-spreading events"

Quelle: Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, and others (August 25, 2020)

Jacob E. Lemieux, post-doctoral researcher, Broad Institute of Harvard University and MIT, et al.

This prepublication [study](#) – so far not peer reviewed – investigates the introduction, spread, and epidemiology of COVID-19 in the Boston area, which lead to 111,070 confirmed cases and 8,433 deaths in Massachusetts. The abstract states that "results highlight the failure of measures to prevent importation into MA early in the outbreak, underscore the role of super-spreading in amplifying an outbreak in a major

urban area, and lay a foundation for contact tracing informed by genetic data.”

“Controversial Antigen Tests Could Be Key to Defeating COVID-19”

Quelle: The Pew Charitable Trusts
(August 26, 2020)

Christine Vestal, Staff Writer

This [article](#) evaluates the prospects of so-called “rapid result antigen tests” and reports on a recent high-profile testing error involving Ohio Governor Mike DeWine. According to the authors this “mishap did little to dampen enthusiasm for the cheap, fast and easy-to-use tests.” The article recommends that future considerations about this testing method include “tests potentially going unreported and whether the industry will be able to produce enough of the antigen kits to meet the country’s skyrocketing demand.”

Weitere Kurzbeiträge:

“Giving vaccines a shot?”

Quelle: American Enterprise Institute
(August 21, 2020)

Karlyn Bowman, Senior Fellow; Samantha Goldstein, opinion research assistant

In this AEI ideas [blog](#) post, the authors take a look at the polls which indicate that demographic and partisan differences affect people’s willingness to get a COVID-19 vaccine once it becomes available.

„Demographers put COVID-19 death toll into perspective“

Quelle: University of California, Berkeley
(UC Berkeley, August 25, 2020)

Yasmin Anwar, media relations representative at UC Berkeley

Seeking to put current COVID-19 mortality rates into historic, demographic, and economic perspective, UC Berkeley demographers Ronald Lee and Joshua Goldstein calculated the consequences of U.S. lives lost to COVID-19 in 2020 using two scenarios. One was based on a projection of 1 million deaths for the year, the other on the more likely projection of 250,000 deaths. Lee’s and Goldstein’s measures are based on factors that include a current U.S. population of 330 million, age-specific death rates and the economic valuation of saved lives, states the author of this [article](#). You can find the researchers’ findings and the full text [here](#).

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/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

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



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