

September 2020

Länderbericht

Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.



Corona Update: USA (23) – aktuelle Studien, Analysen und Kommentare

Für die Zeit vom 28 August bis 3. September 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.

„Mapping the Good and the Bad of Pandemic-Related Restrictions“

Quelle: Stanford Business School at Stanford University (September 1, 2020)

Alexander Gelfand, freelance journalist

According to the author of this [article](#), a new computer model developed by Stanford researchers could help policymakers choose the right reopening strategy. "[Stanford researchers] have developed a computer model that can for the first time estimate the combined health and wealth outcomes of different policy responses to the coronavirus pandemic", says Gelfand. "By computing the effects of different policies at different stages, the researchers were able to predict the impact of various reopening strategies on lives and livelihoods alike."

"Pandemic Control in ECON-EPI Networks"

Quelle: National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER, August 31, 2020)

Marina Azzimonti, Stony Brook University and NBER Research Associate, et al.

This [research](#) develops an *ECON-EPI network model* to study the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on a large U.S. metro area, and evaluates policies that limit the human as well as the economic damage. The study finds that network layers that "feature numerous and unstable contacts (such as large gatherings or schools) work as ignition rods for the infection" and that "opening sectors where workers interact with each other in stable teams (such as manufacturing) is the best strategy to minimize output losses, while at the same time keeping the spread of the disease under control."

"A Mission to Encourage Students to Vote Amid COVID-19"

Quelle: Tufts University (September 1, 2020)

Angela Nelson, Sr. editor "Tafts now" and "Tafts magazine"

According to the author of this [article](#), the current national climate, in which protests against racial injustice have led to a rise in activism, may encourage even more college students to head to the polls. The Institute for Democracy and Higher Education (IDHE) at Tufts University's Tisch College of Civic Life has now published a national report containing recommendations to increase college student voting and improve political learning and engagement in democracy. The recommendations for faculty and students as well are based on a former version, which is now revised to be applicable in a COVID-19 world. You can download the full publication as a pdf [here](#).

"The COVID City"

Quelle: Project Syndicate (August 31, 2020)

Ian Goldin, Professor of Globalization at University of Oxford; Robert Muggah, nonresident fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs

According to the authors, the COVID-19 pandemic has fallen hardest not just on cities but on poorer, overcrowded neighborhoods. "One way or another, our future lies in cities," the Chicago Council's nonresident senior fellow Robert Muggah writes with Ian Goldin in this [article](#). "For city leaders, the task is to start investing in micro-mobility and pedestrianization, while testing new models of urban design, including retrofitting buildings and public spaces with healthier renewable alternatives."

"From In Trouble to Informed: How Data Access Can Help Mass Transit Recover from COVID-19"

Quelle: Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI, September 1, 2020)

Luke Liechty, Schneider Fellow at RMI's India Mobility team; and Emily Goldfield, Senior Associate at RMI's India Program

In this [blogpost](#), the authors remind the readers that due to Covid pandemic, lockdowns saw public transportation ridership decline as much as 90 percent in some cities around the world.

To address the continued demand for public transportation service, the authors argue that improved access to mobility data can help transit agencies address the three key challenges to ramping up services: physical limitations, perceived risk, and limited revenue. All three challenges are addressed here.

"Mental Health and the COVID-19 Pandemic: What We Knew, What We Now Know, and What We Still Don't Know"

Quelle: Center for Global Development (August 28, 2020)

Damian Walker, Non-Resident Fellow, et al.

In this [blog](#), the authors analyze and highlight the effects of COVID-19 on mental health and provide some thoughts on what needs to happen to better understand the nature, scale, and scope of the global mental health crisis.

"Overlooked and Undercounted: The Growing Impact of COVID-19 on Assisted Living Facilities"

Quelle: Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF, September 1, 2020)

Sarah True, Research Analyst, et al.

This [issue brief](#) states that over 70,000 COVID-19 related resident and staff deaths have been reported in nursing homes, which "has become an urgent concern for federal and state policymakers, the long-term care industry, family members of residents, residents themselves, and the general public." Yet, according to the author, assisted living facilities (ALFs), "which are home to over 800,000 mostly frail, elderly residents, have been largely overlooked." The brief gives an overview

of state level data on ALFs, which are not federally regulated.

“Seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2 Among Frontline Health Care Personnel in a Multistate Hospital Network — 13 Academic Medical Centers, April–June 2020”

Quelle: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, posted online August 31, 2020)

Wesley H. Self, MD, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee, et al.

This [study](#) by the CDC reports that among healthcare workers in the U.S., 6% have antibodies against the novel coronavirus, indicating that they have been infected by the virus. However, 69% of those with antibodies had not previously had an official diagnosis of COVID. According to the authors, this result implies that a high proportion of COVID cases among healthcare workers might go undetected.

“Unsafe school facilities reinforce educational inequities among marginalized students”

Quelle: Brookings Institution (September 1, 2020)

Alejandro Vazquez-Martinez, research intern, et al.

The nationwide rise in COVID-19 cases has forced many school districts to open with remote-only instruction for the initial part of the school year. In this [article](#) for the Brown Center on Educational Policy, the authors state that “the long-documented unequal state of the nation’s school infrastructure leaves the most disadvantaged students most vulnerable in the pandemic”. They make suggestions to lawmakers on how to help schools and students this fall.

“How Much COVID Relief Have Public and Private Schools Received?”

Quelle: Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget (CRFB, September 1, 2020)

NO AUTHOR

In this [blog](#), which is part of the Covid Money Tracker initiative, CRFB identifies and tracks the disbursement of federal funds into the economy to combat the Covid crisis. The Covid Money Tracker estimates that at least \$42 billion has been committed or disbursed to the education sector from COVID relief legislation; with ca. 55 percent of those funds having gone to public schools and 35 percent to private for-profit and nonprofit schools, charter schools, and training programs.

“Democrats and Republicans disagree about Covid-19 facts, in a divide that goes beyond usual political partisanship”

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

Andrea Robbett, Associate Professor of Economics at Middlebury; Peter Hans Matthews, Charles A. Dana professor of economics at Middlebury

The authors are behavioral economists who use controlled experiments in human decision-making to study political behavior. According to them, their current research shows that “Americans who identify with a political party don’t always vote for what they believe to be correct”. When it comes to COVID-related questions, the authors write in this [article](#), they found that “Democrats and Republicans held genuine but different beliefs, not just about values or policies, but about basic facts”.

“Only a National Strategy To Combat COVID-19 Can Ensure a Full Economic Recovery”

Quelle: Center for American Progress (CAP, September 2, 2020)

Ryan Zamarripa, Associate Director of Economic Policy; Christian E. Weller, Senior Fellow

In this [article](#) the authors present the results of a study by the Center for American Progress analyzing “how different U.S. regions have fared after state lockdowns”. In their conclusion they call for a national strategy to deal with the coronavirus to make a full economic recovery possible and argue “until the entire country knows that there is a nationally coordinated strategy to ensure the virus is under control in every community across the country, the economy will not experience a full recovery.”

“Before the Pandemic, Homeowners of Color Faced Structural Barriers to the Benefits of Homeownership”

Quelle: The Urban Institute (August 28, 2020)

Michael Neal, Senior Research Associate, et al.

This research [report](#) produces several recommendations focused on eliminating systemic gaps when it comes to homeownership by people of color, and asserts that economic downturns - such as the current one induced by Covid-19 - affect homeowners of color disproportionately. According to the authors “advancing these policies should minimize the volatile experiences of homeowners of color while sustainably reducing the racial and ethnic housing wealth gap.”

Weitere Kurzbeiträge:

“HHS Moves to Eliminate Delays in COVID-19 Testing”

Quelle: Heritage Foundation (Aug 28, 2020)

Robert E. Moffit, Sr. Fellow

In his [commentary](#) published by the Heritage Foundation, the author argues that “Bureaucratic rules, developed years ago, have needlessly delayed desperately needed lab testing for COVID-19.” He supports that “the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has moved to roll back some of these rules.”

“Retro Review: William H. McNeill - Plagues and Peoples (1976)”

Quelle: Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI, September 2, 2020)

Ryan Young, Sr. Fellow

The author provides a [review](#) of the book “Plagues and Peoples” by William H. McNeill, which was published in 1976 and extracts relevance to today’s pandemic. The book’s thesis, according to R. Young, is that disease is to be regarded “as an engine of world history.” He poses the question, what can we learn from how other societies have dealt with plagues? One conclusion he draws (from p. 195) is that “smaller, closer governments tend to be more responsive than larger, distant ones.”

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>

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Paul Linnarz

Leiter Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.

Europäische und Internationale Zusammenarbeit

www.kas.de

paul.linnarz@kas.de



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