Juli 2020

Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.

Corona Update: USA (18) – aktuelle Studien, Analysen und Kommentare

Für die Zeit vom 24. bis 30. Juli 2020

Zusammengestellt von: Sabine Murphy, Jeanene Lairo, 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.

**“COVID-19 Reshapes the Future”**

Quelle: Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS, July 28, 2020)

Samuel Brannen, Senior Fellow, International Security Program and Director, Risk and Foresight Group, et.al.

This [report](https://www.csis.org/analysis/covid-19-reshapes-future) is “an attempt to think systematically about how Covid-19 has fundamentally changed major global trendlines out to 2050”. The research was conducted through the framework of the Seven Revolutions initiative, a macrotrends assessment that is continually updated with a 30-year time horizon.

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**„COVID-19 and Foreign Assistance: Congressional Oversight Framework and Current Activities“**

Quelle: Congressional Research Service
(CRS, July 29, 2020)

Nick M. Brown, Analyst in Foreign Assistance and Foreign Policy; Emily M. Morgenstern, Analyst in Foreign Assistance and Foreign Policy

The [CRS paper](https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF11606) provides an overview and assessment of Congressional measures taken with focus on foreign assistance programs ($1, 59 billion) in response to the Covid-19 crisis. The distribution of the funds follows the response activities / four pillars: (1) USAID and State; (2) Global Health Programs; (3) Migration and Refugee Assistance; and (4) Economic Support Fund. The paper states that as of July, 14, 4% of these supplemental aid funds remained uncommitted. Among the recommendations are to focus on Eastern Europe where the population is older and more susceptible to Covid-19.

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**“COVID-19 and retirement: Impact and policy responses”**

Quelle: The Brookings Institution (July 28, 2020)

Martin Neil Baily, Sr. Fellow, Economic Studies, Center on Regulation and Markets, et al.

The pandemic has been especially trying for older individuals in the U.S. According to the author of this [article](https://www.brookings.edu/research/covid-19-and-retirement-impact-and-policy-responses/), while seniors benefited from the critical support provided through Social Security and Medicare, and to a lesser extent Medicaid, the nature of the COVID-19 pandemic introduced special challenges for this group. The most obvious and painful element has been the drastically higher fatality risks for retirement-age Americans, including in particular those in institutional settings. "But older workers have also been disproportionately impacted: one recent study estimated that unemployment rate in April 2020 was 15,4 percent for workers aged 65 and older, compared to 13,0 percent for those aged 25 to 44," says the author.

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**„Eleven Things Congress Must Do Now to Sustain the Finances of Black and Brown Households“**

Quelle: Demos, (July 27, 2020)

Amy Traub, Associate Director, Policy & Research

It is well established that people of color in the U.S. have been disproportionately high affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Amy Staub's [brief](https://www.demos.org/policy-briefs/11-things-congress-must-do-now-sustain-finances-black-and-brown-households) calls Congress to action and with 11 actionable policy recommendations to enact immediate support as well as long term relief for key minority groups in danger of their health and livelihoods.

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**“Pandemic Relief Must Include Comprehensive Housing Assistance for People Experiencing the Most Severe Hardship”**

Quelle: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
(July 27, 2020)

Peggy Bailey, Vice President for Housing Policy; Douglas Rice, Senior Fellow

According to this [report](https://www.cbpp.org/research/housing/pandemic-relief-must-include-comprehensive-housing-assistance-for-people), the pandemic has increased health risks for people without homes and living on the streets or in emergency shelters. The report also maintains that “nearly 14 million adults in rental housing — 1 in 5 adult renters — are currently behind in their rent payments.” In the context of additional pandemic relief legislation currently debated in Congress, the authors recommend housing assistance resources such as housing vouchers, homelessness assistance, eviction prevention and supplemental funding for rental assistance programs.

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**“Yale study finds expanded jobless benefits did not reduce employment”**

Quelle: YaleNews at Yale University (July 27, 2020)

Mike Cummings, writer

The author of this [article](https://news.yale.edu/2020/07/27/yale-study-finds-expanded-jobless-benefits-did-not-reduce-employment) emphasizes that a new report by Yale economists finds no evidence that the enhanced jobless benefits Congress authorized in March in response to the COVID-19 pandemic reduced employment. The report (read the full pdf [here](https://tobin.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/C-19%20Articles/CARES-UI_identification_vF%281%29.pdf)) addresses concerns that the more generous unemployment benefits, which provide $600 per week above state unemployment insurance payments, would disincentivize work. "The researchers found no evidence that recipients of more generous benefits were less likely to return to work. They also found that workers who received larger increases in their unemployment benefits relative to their wages did not experience greater declines in employment after the CARES Act was enacted," says the author.

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**“Congress Must Help Rural America Respond to the Coronavirus”**

Quelle: Center for American Progress

(CAP, July 27, 2020)

Olugbenga Ajilore, Senior Economist

This [report](https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/economy/reports/2020/07/27/488129/congress-must-help-rural-america-respond-coronavirus/) analyzes the effects of Covid-19 and related policy responses on rural communities in the United States (and especially the “Sun Belt”) and provides several policy recommendations for policymakers.  The author argues that “many rural areas, particularly rural communities of color, are experiencing coronavirus case numbers and deaths that now surpass those of the large metropolitan areas that dominated the news cycle early on during the pandemic.”

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**“COVID-19 opportunities”**

Quelle: Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment at University of Stanford (July 29, 2020)

Rob Jordan, Associate Editor, Environment and Sustainability

COVID-19 could provide unintended glimpses into how complex Earth systems operate, according to a new Stanford-led paper. “The perspective, published July 29 in *Nature Reviews Earth & Environment*, hypothesizes outcomes of unprecedented changes in human activity wrought by worldwide sheltering orders, and outlines research priorities for understanding their short and long-term implications,” says Rob Jordan in this summarizing [article](https://woods.stanford.edu/news/covid-19-opportunities).

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**“What Do We Know About Children and Coronavirus Transmission?”**

Quelle: Kaiser Family Foundation (July 29, 2020)

Josh Michaud, Associate Director, Global Health
Policy; Jennifer Kates, Senior VP

While policymakers in the United States are struggling to decide whether and how to reopen schools, many parents are weighing the risks and benefits for their children. This [analysis](https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/what-do-we-know-about-children-and-coronavirus-transmission/) for the Kaiser Family Foundation looks at case numbers and community spread in countries around the world and their decisions to open schools and compares them to the United States.

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**„Data Privacy During Pandemics - A Scorecard Approach for Evaluating the Privacy Implications of COVID-19 Mobile Phone Surveillance Programs“**

Quelle: RAND Corporation (July 30, 2020)

Benjamin Boudreaux, Policy Researcher and Professor at Pardee RAND Graduate School, et al.

As part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, governments worldwide have deployed mobile phone surveillance programs to augment public health interventions. In the [report](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA365-1.html), which you can download here, the authors evaluate the short- and long-term privacy harms associated with the use of these programs—including political, economic, and social harms — and examine how these programs can be implemented in ways that protect privacy. For this the authors create a standardized privacy scorecard, which assesses 40 mobile phone surveillance programs from around the world.

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**„After Coronavirus II: The Pandemic and The Defense Budget“**

Quelle: CATO Institute (July 30, 2020)

Brandon Valeriano, Senior Fellow, et al.

Part two of Cato's [podcast](https://www.cato.org/multimedia/power-problems/after-coronavirus-ii-pandemic-defense-budget%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank%22%20%5Co%20%22https%3A//www.cato.org/multimedia/power-problems/after-coronavirus-ii-pandemic-defense-budget) "After Coronoavirus" features a lively discussion on whether or not the COVID-19 crisis will prompt a revision of the U.S. defense budget. The discussion focuses on the recent articles titled "Defund the Pentagon" published in POLITICO by Sen. Bernie Sanders, Andrew Lautz and Jonathan Bydlak who debate the issue from liberal and conservative points of views, respectively.

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**„The Aftermath of the Pandemic Recession: The Role of Economic Development Policy“**

Quelle: W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment
Research (July 29, 2020)

Timothy J. Bartik, Senior Economist

In a [presentation](https://www.upjohn.org/research-highlights/aftermath-pandemic-recession-role-economic-development-policy) to the International Economic Development Council the research conducted demonstrates how the Covid-19 pandemic will affect the U.S. in several ways, including increased regional inequalities, income inequality, inequalities between big and small business, and inequality across different racial groups. The economist also argues that the pandemic will also accelerate the trend toward remote work and reveal the need to grow our capacity to provide healthcare services. You can download the full presentation [here](https://research.upjohn.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1067&context=presentations).

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**“Fighting for the Right to a Safe Return to Work during the COVID-19 Pandemic”**

Quelle: The Century Foundation (July 29, 2020)

Andrew Stettner, Senior Fellow, et al.

Despite the continuously rising COVID-19 cases in the U.S., many states are attempting to reopen their economies. Many workers are hesitant to return to unsafe work conditions, however, often have no alternative. In this [report](https://tcf.org/content/report/fighting-right-safe-return-work-covid-19-pandemic/) the authors discuss  policies that could currently address, or can be reformed to address, options to safely return back to work.

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**Weitere Kurzbeiträge**:

**“Pandemic Brings Fresh Challenges for City Budgeting”**

Quelle: The Pew Charitable Trusts (July 27, 2020)

Larry Eichel, Senior Adviser; Thomas Ginsberg, Senior Officer, The Pew Charitable Trusts’ Philadelphia Research and Policy Initiative

This [article](https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2020/07/27/pandemic-brings-fresh-challenges-for-city-budgeting) discusses how officials from cities such as Philadelphia, San Francisco and Houston respond to the “economic shock” the Covid-19 pandemic has created for their budgets.

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**“News organizations are trying something new: Peace and quiet”**

Quelle: NiemanLab at Harvard University
(July 28, 2020)

Rachel Del Valle, Writer

This [article](https://www.niemanlab.org/2020/07/news-organizations-are-trying-something-new-peace-and-quiet/) for the NiemanLab dives into an unexpected side-effect of the coronavirus pandemic. Many public radio stations have introduced a new feature to the airwaves: moments of silence and meditation. The lack of live, in-person events to promote, leads to room for quiet time and programming directors reach to creative solutions.

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**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>

An der roten Absatzmarke bei Bedarf einen Seitenumbruch einfügen

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