

August 2021

Länderbericht

Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.



August Corona Update: Aktuelle Studien, Analysen und Kommentare

Zusammengestellt von: Dirk Hegen

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. monatlich eine Auswahl an Studien, Analysen und Kommentaren jeweils mit Links zu den Beiträgen zusammen. Die bisherigen Ausgaben des Corona Update: USA finden Sie [hier](#).

“A proposal for long-term COVID-19 control - Universal vaccination, prophylactic drugs, rigorous mitigation, and international cooperation”

Quelle: Brookings (August 20, 2021)

William A. Haseltine, Trustee, The Brookings Institution - Chairman and President, ACCESS Health International, Inc.

This [paper](#) proposes a multimodal strategy for long-term COVID control that sets up multiple barriers of protection in order to not only contain SARS-CoV-2 and eliminate COVID-19 as a major life-threatening disease, but also return to a new social and economic life. The author claims that “the strategy uses the best of what we have on hand today—a rapidly growing arsenal of vaccines and antiviral drugs and public health measures— with an eye towards future improvements and developments.”

“Recommendations to Congress Concerning the Investigation into SARS-CoV-2's Origin”

Quelle: Hudson Institute (August 24, 2021)

Thomas DiNanno, Adjunct Fellow

This [paper](#) makes several short and long-term recommendations for Congressional investigation into the origins of Covid-19. The author states that “the Biden administration seems reluctant to consider and has thus far failed to aggressively address China’s dual-use programs.” And that “Congress must address this by strengthening the capabilities of the verification and compliance mission and not stifling it, as is now apparently occurring.”

“Here We Go Again: U.S. Policy and Health Security - Framing pandemics as security threats failed to prepare the United States for COVID-19”

Quelle: Think Global Health (August 19, 2021)

David P. Fidler, Senior Fellow for Global Health and Cybersecurity, Council on Foreign Relations

According to this [report](#), the pandemic exposed “U.S. policy failures accumulated over decades under the banner of health security.” The author

views these failures as one of the worst policy debacles in U.S. history. In light of this, Fidler asks: “Why, then, is health security again at the forefront of U.S. policymaking?”

“How COVID-19 vaccine supply chains emerged in the midst of a pandemic”

Quelle: Peterson Institute for International Economics (August 2021)

Chad P. Bown, Reginald Jones Senior Fellow; Thomas J. Bollyky, Council on Foreign Relations

This [paper](#) provides an analytical framework through which to view the contours of the vaccine value chain. It also creates a new database that maps the COVID-19 vaccines of Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, AstraZeneca/Oxford, Johnson & Johnson, Novavax, and CureVac to the product- and location-specific manufacturing supply chains that emerged in 2020 and 2021. The authors also identify further questions for researchers and policymakers.

“About four-in-ten Americans say social media is an important way of following COVID-19 vaccine news”

Quelle: Pew Research Center (August 24, 2021)

Amy Mitchell, Director, Journalism Research; Jacob Liedke, Research Assistant

According to this [research](#), and amid debates about the role social media has played in the spread of misinformation related to COVID-19 vaccines, roughly half of Americans say that they have been getting some (30%) or a lot (18%) of news and information about these vaccines on social media. The other half (51%) say they have not been getting much news or none at all this way.

“The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on LGBT+ People’s Mental Health”

Quelle: Kaiser Family Foundation (August 27, 2021)

Jennifer Kates, Senior Vice President, Director of Global Health & HIV Policy; Lindsey Dawson, Associate Director; Ashley Kirzinger, Associate Director, Public Opinion and Survey Research, et al.

According to this [issue brief](#), the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the lives of people across the globe and has negatively impacted LGBT+ people’s mental health in disproportionate ways. The authors pull together data from nationally representative surveys, “adding to a small but growing evidence base on the impact of the pandemic on LGBT+ people.”

“FDA News Release - FDA Approves First COVID-19 Vaccine Approval Signifies Key Achievement for Public Health”

Quelle: U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (August 23, 2021)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration [approved](#) the first COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccine has been known as the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, and will now be marketed as Comirnaty (koe-mir’na-tee), for the prevention of COVID-19 disease in individuals 16 years of age and older. The vaccine also continues to be available under emergency use authorization (EUA) for individuals 12 through 15 years of age and for the administration of a third dose in certain immunocompromised individuals.

“Secretary of Defense Mandates COVID-19 Vaccinations for Service Members”

Quelle: U.S. Department of Defense (August 25, 2021)

David Vergun, Department of Defense (DoD) News

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III issued a [memorandum](#) directing mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for service members. John F. Kirby, the Pentagon's press secretary, also indicated that only Food and Drug Administration-approved vaccines would be mandatory.

“Insuring Quality Vaccines during a Global Pandemic”

Quelle: Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) (August 19, 2021)

Katherine E. Bliss, Senior Fellow, Global Health Policy Center; Ben Hubbard, co-founder and CEO, Parsyl Inc.

This [podcast](#) discusses the global race to access Covid-19 vaccines, as well as issues keeping products cold and ensuring their safe delivery to populations that need them. According to CSIS, assessing the risks to vaccines during critical periods of transit, storage, and distribution, particularly in lower and middle-income countries that may have limited refrigeration infrastructure, involves real-time data analysis and the use of sensors to detect and transmit information about vaccine temperatures.

“US COVID-19 hospital cases match winter surge”

Quelle: Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, University of Minnesota (CIDRAP) (August 26, 2021)

Stephanie Soucheray, News Reporter, CIDRAP News

This [piece](#) highlights that more than 100,000 Americans are currently hospitalized with COVID-

19, a level not seen since Jan 30, when the pandemic reached its peak in the United States. Hospitalizations are highest across the South, where unvaccinated communities especially vulnerable to the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant have seen a surge of virus activity. Florida has the most hospitalizations in the country, with 17,000, followed by Texas, with 14,000.

“Tony Blair: How to Vaccinate the Whole World - The G20 must help developing countries build the infrastructure they need.”

Quelle: Wilson Center (August 11, 2021)

The Right Honourable Tony Blair, Ambassador Mark Green; President, Director, & CEO, Wilson Center

The authors of this [article](#) believe that the G20 should commit up to \$6bn in financing for health system absorption capacity and commission key global multilateral health organizations to coordinate and centralize funding needs and disbursement. Blair also states that: “While we in the west are reopening our economies and societies on the basis of successful vaccine rollouts, these efforts to live alongside Covid-19 could be undone without matching progress in the rest of the world.”

“A third disrupted year can only strain Americans’ ties to traditional public schools”

Quelle: American Enterprise Institute (August 26, 2021)

Robert Pondiscio, Senior Fellow

For the author of this [article](#) - because of the pandemics’ impact on schooling - “it’s becoming clearer that the long-standing relationship between parents and local schools they have long supported has become unstable.”

“Society Will Never Be Free of COVID-19—It’s Time to Embrace Harm Reduction”

Quelle: CATO Institute (August 26, 2021)

Jeffrey A. Singer, Senior Fellow

According to this [essay](#), “policymakers should accept the fact that COVID-19 will become endemic and adopt the vision of the harm reduction movement.” For the author, the most effective COVID-19 harm reduction strategy is to promote immunization. Singer also recommends that public health officials “should provide solid, regularly updated information to allow individuals and local jurisdictions to implement harm reduction strategies suited to their contexts so that they can pursue happiness and enjoy meaningful lives in a world that will always include COVID-19.”

“Osterholm Update: COVID-19 Episode 66: Thank You Dr. Jena”

Quelle: Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, University of Minnesota (CIDRAP) (August 26, 2021)

In this [podcast](#) episode, Dr. Osterholm and host Chris Dall discuss the news of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration granting full approval to the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. They also debate updates on booster doses and the rationale being considered, as well as the need for updated guidance as schools reopen.

“Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination for Health Care Workers as a Condition for Medicare and Medicaid Participation”

Quelle: Center for American Progress (August 6, 2021)

Jill Rosenthal, Director, Public Health; Emily Gee, Senior Fellow; Senior Economist, Health Policy; Maura Calsyn, Vice President and Coordinator, Health Policy

According to this [article](#), the movement to ensure that all health care workers are fully vaccinated is gaining momentum. The authors show that more than 50 health care professional societies and organizations have urged all health care employers to require their employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19. The authors conclude that “making COVID-19 vaccination mandatory for providers participating in Medicare and Medicaid would protect vulnerable patients, set a positive example for other employers, and contribute to the national effort to contain the virus.”

“Digital Vaccine Passports Only Real Solution to Fake Vaccination Cards”

Quelle: Center for Data Innovation (August 23, 2021)

Daniel Castro, Director, Center for Data Innovation

This [commentary](#) claims that targeting online marketplaces with new verification requirements would impose unnecessary costs on consumers, sellers, and marketplaces and fail to stem the use of fake vaccination cards. Castro concludes that “if Congress is serious about stopping fake vaccination cards, it should put pressure on states to permit and deploy digital vaccine passports, accelerate the development of electronic IDs, or develop a federal digital vaccine passport available to all Americans.”

“Early COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign in the United States Prevented Nearly 140,000 Deaths”

Quelle: RAND Corporation (August 18, 2021)

Christopher M. Whaley, Policy Researcher, Professor, Pardee RAND Graduate School

This new [study](#) shows that the early COVID-19 vaccination campaign in the United States prevented nearly 140,000 deaths and 3 million cases of COVID-19 by the second week of May. According to lead author Whaley, “the findings provide support for policies that further expand vaccine administration to enable a larger proportion of the nation's population to benefit.”

“Insights from IHME's latest COVID-19 model update”

Quelle: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington (IHME) (August 27, 2021)

Dr. Christopher J.L. Murray, Director IHME, and lead modeler

This video [update](#) shares insights from IHME latest COVID-19 model run. Murray reports that regarding “Delta surges that have been dominating what’s happening to COVID pretty much everywhere so far, besides South America, we’ve seen a number of epidemics peak and those peaks are occurring in quite widespread regions.” According to Murray, a number of US states – Arkansas, Missouri, Louisiana, Florida, Nevada – had also peaked.

“How Local Leaders are Using Data to Navigate the Eviction Crisis during the Pandemic”

Quelle: New America (August 12, 2021)

Sabiha Zainulbhai, Senior Policy Analyst, Future of Land and Housing

These [case studies](#) show that nearly 1 in 6 U.S. households are behind on rent as COVID-19 surges and the federal eviction moratorium faces either “extinction and extension.” (Note: *The Supreme Court effectively [ended](#) the CDC Moratorium on August 26, 2021*)

The study specifically looked into how three different localities--Houston, Texas; Orlando, Florida; and the state of Connecticut--used eviction data and analysis to help tenants during this period of uncertainty.

“NBER WORKING PAPER SERIES - THE VIRUS, VACCINATION, AND VOTING”

Quelle: National Bureau of Economic Research (August 2021)

Jeffrey A. Frankel, Research Associate, Harvard University; Randy Kotti, Harvard Kennedy School

This [research](#) shows that vaccination rates have a statistically significant downward effect on the Covid-19 death rate cross US counties, as of August 12, 2021. The researchers point out that controlling for poverty rates, age, and temperature lowers the magnitude of the estimate a little. However, using the Biden-Trump vote in the 2020 election as an instrument for vaccination rates raises the magnitude of the estimate.

“Resources for Tracking Federal COVID-19 Spending”

Quelle: Congressional Research Service (August 23, 2021)

Jennifer Teefy Senior Research Librarian; Maria Kreiser Senior Research Librarian

Congress has responded to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic with supplemental appropriations measures providing relief and assistance to individuals and families, state and local governments, businesses, health care providers, and other entities This [report](#) provides selected sources for tracking COVID-19 relief and assistance spending. It contains links to and information on government sources detailing spending amounts at various levels, including consoli-

dated spending by multiple government agencies, spending by individual government agencies, and spending for specific recipients and geographies.

Für die aktuellen Zahlen zur Coronakrise in den USA:

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

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Dirk Hegen
Project Manager, KAS Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.
Europäische und Internationale Zusammenarbeit
www.kas.de

dirk.hegen@kas.de



Der Text dieses Werkes ist lizenziert unter den Bedingungen von „Creative Commons Namensnennung-Weitergabe unter gleichen Bedingungen 4.0 international“, CC BY-SA 4.0 (abrufbar unter: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/legalcode.de>)