

Juni 2022

# Länderbericht

Auslandsbüro USA, Washington D.C.



## Juni Corona Update: Aktuelle Studien, Analysen und Kommentare

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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](#).

### “Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Authorizes Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines for Children Down to 6 Months of Age”

Quelle: U.S. Food and Drug Administration (June 17, 2022)

On June 17, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration [authorized](#) emergency use of the Moderna and the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines for the prevention of COVID-19 to include use in children down to 6 months of age. For the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, the FDA amended the emergency use authorization (EUA) to include use of the vaccine in individuals 6 months through 17 years of age. The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is now allowed for individuals from 6 months through 4 years of age.

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### “The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Global GDP Growth”

Quelle: American Enterprise Institute (AEI) (June 27, 2022)

Steven B. Kamin, Senior Fellow, AEI; Joseph Gagnon, Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics; John Kearns, AEI

This [working paper](#) analyses Covid-induced changes of the global GDP. The authors find that “readings on the number of COVID-19 deaths had a very small effect in the aggregate sample. On the other hand, changes in the stringency of the lockdown measures taken by governments to restrict the spread of the virus were an important influence on GDP.” The paper also shows that the economic effects of the pandemic differed between rich and poor countries.

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### “COVID-19 vaccines saved an estimated 20 million lives in 1 year”

Quelle: Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP), University of Minnesota (June 24, 2022)

Jim Wappes, Editorial Director, CIDRAP News

This [article](#) reports that COVID vaccines reduced the potential global death toll during the pandemic by almost two-thirds in their first year, saving an estimated 19.8 million lives, according to a mathematical modeling study. The study also

shows that “an additional 600,000 lives could have been spared if a World Health Organization (WHO) goal of vaccinating 40% of the population of every country by the end of 2021 had been met.”

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### “The economic and societal effects of COVID-19 on our brains”

Quelle: The Brookings Institution (June 23, 2022)

Erin Smith, Atlantic Fellow, Global Brain Health Institute Steering Committee Member, OECD Neuroscience-inspired Policy Initiative (NIPI), Stanford University School of Medicine; Carol Graham, Leo Pasvolsky Senior Fellow and Research Director, Global Economy and Development; Eric Lenze, Incoming Chair of Psychiatry and Professor of Psychiatry, Washington University, St Louis, et al.

This [blog](#) maintains that COVID-19 has had enormous negative effects on individual, societal, and worldwide “Brain Capital.” The authors state that “we are in the infancy stages of understanding COVID-19’s short- and long-term effects on the brain. However, what we do know is alarming. While COVID-19 is mainly a respiratory illness, long-COVID-19 is increasingly being revealed as a neuropsychiatric disorder.”

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### “China’s Zero-Covid: What Should the West Do?”

Quelle: Center for Strategic and International Studies (June 27, 2022)

J. Stephen Morrison, Senior Vice President and Director, Global Health Policy Center; Scott Kennedy, Senior Adviser and Trustee Chair in Chinese Business and Economics; Yanzhong Huang, Senior Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations

This [commentary](#) on China’s Zero-Covid strategy says that “it may slow the virus’s spread, but it no longer works effectively against the virus. Ultimately, the Omicron variant will continue to defy

lockdowns, mass testing, isolation and quarantine, and closed borders, leaving much of China stuck in a cycle of outbreaks and lockdowns with no off-ramp.” The authors articulate several recommendations and advise that “China and the West can adopt the mantle of détente and seek to bridge the chasm that divides them.”

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### “The BA.5 story - The takeover by this Omicron sub-variant is not pretty”

Quelle: Substack (June 27, 2022)

Eric Topol, MD, Gary & Mary West Endowed Chair of Innovative Medicine, Scripps Research, Executive VP, Scripps Research, Professor, Molecular Medicine, Scripps Research, Director & Founder, Scripps Research Translational Institute

In this [article](#), Topol highlights the Omicron sub-variant BA.5. For him this is “the worst version of the virus that we’ve seen. It takes immune escape, already extensive, to the next level, and, as a function of that, enhanced transmissibility, well beyond Omicron (BA.1) and other Omicron family variants that we’ve seen (including BA.1.1, BA.2, BA.2.12.1, and BA.4).” Topol then continues to review (1) what we know about its biology; (2) its current status around the world; and (3) the ways we can defend against it.

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### “Reframing Vaccine Diplomacy Amid Strategic Competition: Lessons from COVID-19”

Quelle: Wilson Center (June 23, 2022)

#### Speakers:

Natalya Shok George F. Kennan Fellow, Professor, Privalzhsky Research Medical University; Achal Prabhala, Coordinator, AccessBSA Project; Jessica Sklair, Research Fellow, Margaret Anstee Centre for Global Studies, Newnham College, University of Cambridge; Donna A. Patterson Fellow, Professor, Department of History, Political Science, and Philosophy, Delaware State University

Moderator: Alex Long, Program Associate

This [online event](#) addresses continuity and change in different actors' global health policies over time, and explores new strategies for vaccine diplomacy while sharing the perspective of less represented voices in health diplomacy. Questions discussed include: What lessons can be learned from the competitive nature of COVID-19 vaccine diplomacy? What hidden layers of great power competition, diplomacy, philanthropy, and regional and national dynamics were revealed? How should new multilateral and bilateral phenomena of vaccine cooperation inform the global health policy making and international relations?

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### **“How Did COVID-19 Unemployment Insurance Benefits Impact Consumer Spending and Employment”**

Quelle: Congressional Research Service (June 24, 2022)

Julie M. Whittaker, Specialist in Income Security  
Katelin P. Isaacs, Specialist in Income Security

This [research](#) shows that COVID-19 pandemic dramatically disrupted the economy with mass layoffs and business closures, limiting certain jobseekers' options for employment, and creating unusual shifts in the labor market. According to the authors, during the pandemic, Congress recognized the potential threat that massive earnings losses posed to the national and global economy and responded by augmenting the joint federal-state Unemployment Insurance (UI) system to maintain the economy. The authors give an overview of recent studies which have examined the impact of these UI expansions on consumer spending and employment.

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### **“What was unexpected about the state and local sector during COVID-19?”**

Quelle: Brookings Institution (June 21, 2022)

Louise Sheiner, The Robert S. Kerr Senior Fellow, Economic Studies Policy Director, The Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy; David Wessel Director, The Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy Senior Fellow, Economic Studies

This [podcast](#) discusses that the COVID-19 pandemic posed a particular dilemma to state and local governments. The federal government provided close to \$1 trillion to state and local governments to help them meet this dilemma—far more than the roughly \$275 billion provided during the Great Recession. The podcast also discusses why Washington sent so much money to state and local governments, “whether we overdid it, and what state and local governments did with the money.”

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### **“Vaccination Policy, Delayed Care, and Health Expenditures”**

Quelle: National Bureau of Economic Research (June 2022)

This [research paper](#) evaluates the effect of COVID-19 vaccination on the individual propensity to delay or skip medical care. The research design exploits variation in age-specific vaccine eligibility rollout across states and over time as an instrument for individual vaccination status. The authors find that receiving a COVID-19 vaccine reduces the likelihood of delaying care for any medical condition by 37 percent. Furthermore, the analysis reveals that children are significantly less likely to delay or skip healthcare as a result of the availability of vaccines for their parents. The authors also stress that the decline in delayed or foregone care caused by vaccination is particularly strong among minorities and those with a low socioeconomic background, revealing an important role that vaccination efforts can

play in narrowing inequities in health and healthcare.

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**Für die aktuellen Zahlen zur Coronakrise in den USA:**

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/>

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