



COVID-19 4/7 UPDATE

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Global

Total cases – 1,390,511

Total deaths – 79,091

United States

Positive Tests – 379,965 (up 9% from prior day)

% Positive Tests – 23% (same as prior day)

Total # Tests – 1,951,3044 (up 9% from prior day)

Total deaths – 11,851 (up 12% from prior day)

Administration

- **President Trump** will host a video-conference Tuesday afternoon to discuss the \$350b relief package for small businesses with the CEOs of **Goldman Sachs, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, Citibank, Visa** and other financial companies, according to an administration official.
 - The companies will detail plans on how they will help small businesses
 - Officials from **JPMorgan** and **Mastercard** will also join
- **U.S. Treasury Dept** is preparing to ask Congress for an additional \$200 billion for the small business loan program as part of coronavirus relief efforts, [Washington Post reports](#), citing two unidentified people briefed on the pending announcement.
- This week Vice President Mike Pence will hold **four conference calls** to brief **House Democrats, House Republicans, Senate Democrats** and **Senate Republicans** on coronavirus, according to spokesperson Katie Miller.
 - The House calls are scheduled for tomorrow and the Senate calls will be on Thursday, according to a source involved with planning.
 - After their call with the Vice President, House Democrats will also have a call with former Health and Human Services secretary Sylvia Burwell.
- **President Donald Trump's** top economic adviser said the White House has begun planning how the U.S. can re-open its economy once the coronavirus outbreak abates, after indications the epicenter in New York may have reached a plateau.
 - “The president would like to reopen the economy as soon as he can and we are planning internally,” **Kudlow** told Fox News on Tuesday. He said the virus’s spread is the driving force in determining a timeline.



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- **President Trump** removed Glenn Fine, the acting Pentagon inspector general charged with monitoring coronavirus relief funds, and names an EPA inspector general to serve as the temporary Pentagon watchdog, Politico [reports](#)
- **President Donald Trump** said the World Health Organization “blew it” on the coronavirus outbreak and was wrong to advise against U.S. travel restrictions he imposed on China.
 - **Trump** called the international body “very China centric” and said he would give it “a good look” in a tweet.
- **President Trump** on Monday said he may look into the dismissal of a Naval captain who was relieved of his duty aboard the U.S.S. Theodore Roosevelt after warning of an outbreak of coronavirus on board in a letter that leaked to the press.
- **Donald Trump** said he was unaware **Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi** had banned the export of a drug that the U.S. president believes is effective against coronavirus, and said he asked Modi for a supply of the medicine in a phone call on Sunday.
- **US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin** has been in touch with the top four congressional leaders — Speaker of the House **Nancy Pelosi**, Senate Minority Leader **Chuck Schumer**, Senate Majority Leader **Mitch McConnell** and House Minority Leader **Kevin McCarthy** — about passing additional funding for the emergency small business loan program, a source with knowledge tells CNN.
- The **Transportation Dept** has finalized a rule that modifies airline services to maintain minimum levels to American cities in exchange for taxpayer financial support as a result of the coronavirus outbreak.
 - Carriers that serve cities seasonally were given flexibilities, according to the DOT [rule](#)
 - In addition, the rule will allow as few as one flight per week to a city
- **President Trump’s administration** will buy \$55.5 million masks from 3M Co. monthly for three months, Dow Jones [reports](#), citing a White House official.
 - Purchase includes N95, KN95 and N90 style face masks
 - 3M currently makes ~35m respirator masks a month in the U.S.: DJ
 - **Trump** threatened last week to use a wartime production law to force the company to make more masks for the U.S. market.
- **Trump** disputed a federal [government watchdog’s finding](#) that hospitals are seeing severe shortages of Covid-19 testing kits and protective gear, and suggested a political motive by the official who produced it. “It’s just wrong,” he said of the report at a White House news conference yesterday, without offering any substantiation. He then



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demanded to know the name of the U.S. inspector general who produced the study. “Give me the name of the inspector general. Could politics have entered into that?”

- The **SBA’s loan processing platform** crashed, halting for hours the ability of lenders to process any loans for small business owners seeking relief from the impact of the coronavirus. Banks reported trouble accessing the system, while an administration spokesman said later processors were back up and running,
- The **Justice Department** may not jail non-violent offenders in an effort to minimize risks during the coronavirus pandemic.
 - “You should consider not seeking detention to the same degree we would under normal circumstances—specifically, for those defendants who have not committed serious crimes and who present little risk of flight,” Attorney General William Barr says in memo
 - In a separate memo, **BOP** says prisoners are manufacturing cloth masks and the bureau is issuing surgical masks as an interim measure
- **President Trump** on Monday hosted a call with drug and biotech company CEOs to discuss developments in therapeutics to fight the Covid-19 outbreak, White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham says.
 - “We are working hard to tear down barriers, cut red tape, & encourage cooperation across private industries & government,” Grisham [tweets](#)
 - **FDA chief Stephen Hahn** in [tweet](#) says he was also part of the discussion on efforts to speed “development and availability of potentially safe and effective life-saving treatments against virus”
- The **Federal Reserve** said Monday it will start a program to provide financing backed by loans being made to small businesses through the government’s coronavirus stimulus program.
 - “To facilitate lending to small businesses via the Small Business Administration’s Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), the Federal Reserve will establish a facility to provide term financing backed by PPP loans,” the Fed said in a brief statement. “Additional details will be announced this week.”
- **White House officials** mulling new stimulus ideas have talked about possibly proposing a payroll-tax cut, a capital-gains tax reduction, introduction of 50-year Treasury bonds, and a waiver that would clear companies of liability from workers who get Covid-19 on the job, Fox Business Network reports, citing an unidentified senior administration official.



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- The **US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** is preparing to test more people in the United States for antibodies from the novel coronavirus to see whether they have already had the virus, according to a statement from CDC spokeswoman Kristen Nordlund on Monday.
 - A set of serological assays, or blood-based tests, will be able to detect antibodies that are specific to the virus. The tests, which were designed and produced by the vaccine research center at the National Institutes of Health, have already been used to monitor immune response in several coronavirus contact investigations.
- **The US Army** has paused the arrival of new trainees to basic training, the Army's top general who oversees training announced Monday.
 - The Army has paused "shipment of trainees to basic combat training," Gen. Paul Funk, the Commander of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command said at a Pentagon news conference Monday.
- **U.S. Chief Technology Office Michael Kratsios** [announced](#) new additions to the Covid-19 High Performance Computing Consortium yesterday. AMD, a multinational semiconductor company; NVIDIA, a computer graphics processing company; and the National Center for Atmospheric Research's Wyoming Supercomputing Center, all joined the White House initiative that is a public-private partnership seeking to advance research into the coronavirus vaccine and treatments using supercomputers.
- **White House top economic adviser Larry Kudlow** tells Politico he has nothing to say on the potential for a capital-gains tax cut as part of a possible new stimulus round.
 - "We haven't focused on that," **Kudlow** tells Politico in what he said was his first-ever Zoom chat
- A member of the crew aboard the **USNS Comfort** aid ship is in isolation aboard that ship after having tested positive for coronavirus, [ABC News reports](#) citing a Navy statement.
 - Navy says no impact to the Comfort's mission; won't affect ability to receive patients
- **US Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams** said that the majority of people in the United States are "doing the right thing" by staying home, social distancing and following other mitigation measures to help fight the coronavirus pandemic.
 - "Over 90% of the country is actually doing the right thing right now," Adams told ABC's George Stephanopoulos during an appearance on Good Morning America on Tuesday.



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- "I want the American people to know there is a light at the end of this tunnel and we feel confident if we keep doing the right thing for the rest of this month that we can start to slowly reopen in some places," Adams said Tuesday morning.
- The **U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** will give \$186 million to health departments in hotspots of Covid-19 infections, the HHS announced today. Those health departments will be able to pay for increased staffing and buy critical resources such as lab equipment and medical supplies, the HHS said. The money will also go to state health departments, who hope to bolster their tracking and data analysis of coronavirus cases.
- **HHS** is announcing upcoming action by the CDC to provide \$186,000,000 in funding for additional resources to state and local jurisdictions in support of our nation's response to COVID-19. ([HERE](#))
- **FDA** released FAQs on Shortages of Surgical Masks and Gowns ([HERE](#))
- **FDA** released FAQs on 3D Printing of Medical Devices, Accessories, Components, and Parts During the COVID-19 Pandemic ([HERE](#))
- **SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza** announced that SBA issued guidance clarifying that all faith-based organizations impacted by Coronavirus (COVID-19) are eligible to participate in the Paycheck Protection Program and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, without restrictions based on their religious identity or activities, to the extent they meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the CARES Act that was passed by Congress, signed into law by President Trump, and implemented by the Paycheck Protection Act Interim Final Rule. ([HERE](#))
- **FEMA** released COVID-19 Best Practice Information: Community Emergency Response Team ([HERE](#))
- **FAA** released CARES Act Airport Grants FAQs ([HERE](#))
 - This document answers frequently asked questions (FAQs) stakeholders may have related to the approximately \$10 billion in grants for airports under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The FAA has additional information unrelated to CARES Act grants for airport sponsors considering COVID-19 restrictions or accommodations. That information can be accessed at www.faa.gov/airports.
- **OSHA** has issued a new poster listing steps all workplaces can take to reduce the risk of exposure to coronavirus. The poster highlights 10 infection prevention measures every employer can implement to protect workers' safety and health during the coronavirus pandemic. The new poster is available for [download in English](#), or [Spanish](#).



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- In the latest effort to implement President Trump's Memorandum on Making General Use Respirators Available, **OSHA** has issued [interim enforcement guidance](#) regarding disposable N95 filtering facepiece respirators (N95 FFRs) that are either certified under certain standards of other countries or jurisdictions or certified under other countries' or jurisdictions' standards but are expired. ([HERE](#))
- **DOL** announced the publication of Unemployment [Insurance Guidance Letter 15-20](#) (UIPL) providing guidance to states for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC). Under FPUC, states will administer an additional \$600 weekly payment to certain eligible individuals who are receiving other benefits. ([HERE](#))
- **DOJ** announced today that it will not challenge collaborative efforts of McKesson Corporation, Owens & Minor Inc., Cardinal Health Inc., Medline Industries Inc., and Henry Schein Inc. to expedite and increase manufacturing, sourcing, and distribution of personal-protective equipment and coronavirus-treatment-related medication. ([HERE](#))
- **Secretary DeVos** announced today a [new streamlined process](#) for providing states funding flexibilities to best meet the needs of students and educators during the COVID-19 national emergency. ([HERE](#))
- The coronavirus pandemic dominated a meeting of **NATO** foreign ministers in Brussels last week, Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said. ([HERE](#))
- **Greenhouse gas emissions** from power plants, cars and other sources in the U.S. are forecast to decline by a whopping 7.5% this year as people use less energy amid a slowing economy and stay-at-home restrictions put in place due to the coronavirus, according to **Energy Department data** released Tuesday.

Capitol Hill

- The **Treasury Department** will ask **Congress** for \$200 billion more to aid small businesses, according to a person familiar with the matter, and **Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell** said the Senate could act as soon as this week to provide additional money.
 - Businesses have rushed to tap the \$350 billion Paycheck Protection Program that was part of the massive \$2.2 trillion stimulus passed by Congress in response to the economic crisis spawned by the coronavirus pandemic.
 - McConnell said the **Senate** could approve more funding for the program during Thursday's pro-forma session by voice vote or unanimous consent, which would allow almost all members to stay home.



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- **Senate Democrats** press Trump admin. to issue more guidance on temporary expansion of unemployment benefits during the pandemic and to provide additional technical support to states whose systems are overwhelmed by the number of unemployment claims.
 - “The Department must do everything it can to assist states during this pandemic,” a majority of Democratic Caucus senators say in [letter](#) to Labor Dept Sec. Eugene Scalia
 - **Sen. Ron Wyden**, top Democrat on the Senate Finance Committee. says in interview that the guidance given on unemployment claims is “too narrow”
- **Senate Democrats** are proposing giving hazard pay of up to \$25,000 each for workers including grocery store employees, transit workers and pharmacists who are risking their lives to stay on the job amid the coronavirus outbreak.
 - **Democrats** are also proposing a death benefit for essential workers who have lost their lives to the coronavirus, Schumer said.
 - **Schumer** and other **Senate Democrats** made clear the payments are a key priority for the next phase of federal spending to respond to the virus, but stopped short of saying they would withhold support if they don’t get it. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has scaled back her plans for additional federal help by focusing mostly on replenishing the pot of money for loans to small businesses and direct payments to individuals.
- **President Donald Trump** has said he’d support additional funding, and Senate Majority Leader [Mitch McConnell](#) said Tuesday he’ll support more money for small business aid. But some congressional Republicans say they want to see the impact of the \$2.2 trillion package that’s already been signed into law before moving on an expanded rescue plan. Adding more programs could complicate quick passage of additional legislation.
 - Also covered by the fund would be **federal workers** including Veterans Administration nurses and doctors, postal workers delivering essentials, Border Patrol officers and Transportation Security Administration airport screeners, said Senator Gary Peters of Michigan, the top Democrat on the Homeland Security Committee.
 - The so-called **Pandemic Premium Pay** of as much as \$25,000 would be paid from the start of the crisis to the end of the year. In addition, the Democrats’ proposal would offer an essential worker recruitment incentive of up to \$15,000 for more medical workers.



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- The \$25,000 bonus would equate to a raise of about \$13 an hour for recipients, Schumer said.
 - Other key demands, the Democrats said, are some form of student loan relief and language giving weight to more mail-in ballots in the 2020 elections
- The **next coronavirus package** should include funding relief for the U.S. Postal Service, **House lawmakers** say in [letter](#) to House and Senate leaders.
 - The letter asks for funds of as much as \$250m per year to cover USPS employee costs, such as paid leave
- **Lawmakers'** next stimulus bill to prop up the U.S. economy reeling under the coronavirus outbreak will be at least \$1 trillion, Speaker [Nancy Pelosi](#) (D-Calif.) told members of her party yesterday on a private call. The next stimulus package would be focused on replenishing funds for programs established in Congress's \$2.2 trillion virus relief bill signed into law last month, according to people on the call. Pelosi said there should be additional direct payments to individuals, extended unemployment insurance, more resources for food stamps and more funds for the Paycheck Protection Program that provides loans to small businesses, lawmakers on the call said.
- **Pelosi** also said the bill should assist state and local governments, with an emphasis on smaller municipalities with fewer than 500,000 residents, one lawmaker said. Pelosi has said she wants the next stimulus bill to be passed this month. The House isn't scheduled to be back in session until April 20 at the earliest. It is possible to pass legislation with most members out of town, as long as no one objects.
- The **Paycheck Protection Program** "really needs money right away" House Speaker [Nancy Pelosi](#) says on CNN.
 - Pelosi says she wants to make sure the program is administered in a way that does not solidify inequality
- The U.S. Defense Dept is best at "mass production," and should assist with making the coronavirus tests, according to **Rep. Adam Smith**, D-Wash., chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.
 - Smith says he's looking at the upcoming fiscal 2021 defense authorization bill to include provisions that would ramp up production of the test swabs within the Defense Dept; says it's a long-term need at least until a vaccine can be developed and will necessary to test en masse over the next several months
 - Smith says he's talking to House Speaker [Nancy Pelosi](#) about including funding in next virus rescue package to ramp up the Pentagon's response to the epidemic as well as the industrial base



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- The chairman also tells reporters on a telephone conference he's considering provisions to shore up the defense industrial base in aftermath of epidemic; in particular, the medium and small supplier chain will be "massively stressed" in months ahead
- **A bipartisan congressional group** sent a letter to **Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell** urging the central bank to prioritize ensuring adequate liquidity for the mortgage servicing market for both single- and multi-family residential and commercial mortgages. They're also requesting that the Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility program be expanded to include investment-grade agency and private-label MBS and CMBS, as well as CRE CLOs, as eligible collateral.
- **Senate Finance Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa)** urged the IRS's watchdog to do more to educate Americans about potential scams related to economic stimulus payments that will soon be sent out. Grassley in a letter yesterday urged the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration to make "every reasonable effort" to raise awareness about potential fraud schemes during the pandemic. He also requested that the IRS's watchdog brief his panel on efforts to combat coronavirus-related fraud
- **House Ways and Means Cmte Chairman Richard Neal, Senate Finance Cmte Chairman Chuck Grassley** request International Trade Commission probe to identify imports needed for treating and otherwise responding to the coronavirus pandemic.
 - Neal, Grassley request ITC report not later than April 30 in [letter](#)
 - Probe will allow cmtes and U.S. Trade Representative in "proposing and taking appropriate and responsive actions": letter
- **Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.)** said today he'll nominate Bharat Ramamurti to be one of five people on a task force to oversee a part of the \$2.2 trillion coronavirus stimulus law. A former aide to Sen. [Elizabeth Warren](#) (D-Mass.), Ramamurti has experience in finance and "a great nose for figuring out wrongdoing," according to Schumer on a call with reporters.
 - Four members of that panel, including Ramamurti, will be named by Republican and Democratic leaders in the House and Senate, according to the stimulus that Trump signed last month. The fifth person will be a bipartisan consensus choice from congressional leaders
- **Rep. Bill Pascrell** is urging Fed Chairman Jerome Powell to begin buying up municipal debt to assist states and local government hurt by the coronavirus.
 - Pascrell says in a [letter](#) to Powell the Fed has the power to buy municipal debt issued by governments at the state and local levels



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- **Republican Sen. Marco Rubio** says fear the federal emergency small business loan program will run out of money is “creating tremendous anxiety.”
 - Rubio says he’s working with Treasury Dept to make a formal request for more funds as soon as possible and with Senate leaders to fast track a vote
- **GOP Sen. Susan Collins** says [she’s calling on](#) the White House and fellow senators to prepare to increase funding for the Payroll Protection Program she co-authored
- **Senate Minority leader Chuck Schumer** and other Democrats are proposing legislation to give a raise to essential workers during the pandemic.
 - Raise would go to medical workers, transit workers, truck drivers and those employed at pharmacies and grocery stores, among others, Schumer says in conference call with reporters
 - Raise would be equivalent to about \$13 per hour during the pandemic, Schumer says; would also include a \$15k incentive to recruit medical workers
 - Says proposal should be part of next relief bill
- **Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.)** said that beginning tomorrow, chamber staff must electronically submit all floor documents, including bills and resolutions, to a secure email system rather than deliver materials by hand. The House is taking action to reduce the need for the physical presence of lawmakers and staffers in the Capitol during the pandemic, Pelosi said in a letter to House members
- **Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.)** and **Rep. Elaine Luria (D-Va.)**, both members of the Senate and House Armed Services panels, called for acting Navy Secretary Thomas Modly to be removed after he said the fired captain of the USS Roosevelt was “too naïve or too stupid.” Modly “should be removed unceremoniously for these shocking remarks—especially after failing to protect sailors’ safety & health,” Blumenthal tweeted today. Secretary of Defense Mark Esper “should immediately fire
- **Senate Democrats** send [letters](#) to student loan companies asking how they are helping private student loan borrowers hurt by the coronavirus and urge them to provide relief similar to steps federal govt. has taken.
- **Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.)** and **Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.)** and Reps. **Peter Welch (D-Vt.)** and **Roger Marshall (R-Kan.)** led a bipartisan group of 22 lawmakers in a [letter](#) yesterday calling on House and Senate leadership to include funds in the fourth coronavirus stimulus package to help small broadband providers continue providing Internet service to students and low-income families. Klobuchar and Cramer introduced [S. 3569](#) on March 24 that would appropriate \$2 billion for these broadband providers. Welch and Marshall introduced companion legislation ([H.R. 6394](#)).



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- Democratic **Sens. Elizabeth Warren** and **Sherrod Brown** write Deutsche Bank's CEO about the Trump Organization's [reported request](#) for financial help amid the coronavirus crisis.
 - They raise concerns about the bank's financial leverage over President Trump and his family and on the president's ability to "improperly favor or punish Deutsche Bank based on whether they grant the Trump Organization's requests," according to news release from Warren's office
 - Link [here](#) to letter from Brown, top Democrat on the Senate Banking Cmte, Warren, and Democratic Sens. [Chris Van Hollen](#) and [Richard Blumenthal](#)

State/Local

- **Washington Democratic Gov. Jay Inslee** announced Monday that the state's ban on in-person school classes will continue for the remainder of the school year.
 - **Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal** said reopening schools too soon would be even more disruptive than at-home instruction, since a single Covid-19 case in a school would force that building to be closed again for days, at least, until contacts could be traced and the building deep cleaned.
- **New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo** (D) said today that deaths from the coronavirus were showing signs of hitting a plateau in the state that's become the epicenter of the U.S.'s outbreak. The challenge now, he cautioned today, is maintaining the social distancing measures that have finally pointed New York toward a possible decline in new deaths.
- The **City of Miami Beach** issued an emergency order today requiring all grocery store, pharmacy and restaurant employees and customers to wear face coverings to cover their noses and mouths.
 - The mandate also applies to delivery service workers, according to a press release from the city.
 - "Acceptable coverings may include a face mask, homemade mask or other cloth covering, such as a scarf, bandana or handkerchief, and should complement — not substitute for — social distancing practices," the statement said
 - The statement also points out that medical and surgical face masks, such as N95 masks, should be reserved for healthcare workers and first responders.
- **South Carolina Republican Gov. Henry McMaster** announced a mandatory stay-at-home order in a press conference Monday. The order goes into effect Tuesday April 7 at 5 pm ET.



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- South Carolina residents should stay home unless they are working, visiting family, recreating outdoors, or obtaining necessary goods or services, he said.
- **Missouri Governor Mike Parson** signs executive order waiving state law requirements that notaries be physically present to authenticate documents.
- **Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker** wasted no time at today's press conference in going after the federal government's response to Covid-19, specifically as it pertains to personal protective equipment from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS).
 - The governor, who entered the briefing room wearing a face mask per US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, immediately called out the White House for changing the stated purpose on the SNS website from an entity that "support states" to one that will "supplement states" in the short-term during a public healthcare emergency.
- **Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson** announced Monday that his state will send five ventilators to Louisiana this week to help with treating hospitalized Covid-19 patients.
- **Arkansas** public schools will remain closed for the rest for the current school year due to the coronavirus pandemic, Gov. Asa Hutchinson said Monday.
 - During a news conference in Little Rock, Hutchinson told reporters alternative methods of instruction will continue while schools remain closed.
- **Georgia Governor Brian Kemp** said the state's beaches are an important option for residents to "maintain their physical and mental health." He issued the statement today to reiterate his stance on [opening the state's beaches](#).
 - Kemp said state troopers and local law enforcement are working to make sure those visiting the beaches are abiding by the shelter-in-place order. Visitors are not allowed to bring chairs, umbrellas, coolers or other items that encourage group activity.
- **New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo** says he wants local law enforcement to demonstrate "more aggressive" enforcement of social distancing. He said he is increasing the fine of violating state directives from \$500 to \$1,000.
 - New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo extended the state's ["pause act"](#) – which closes schools and non-essential businesses — until April 29th.
 - He said the situation is "turning" and the "rate of infection is going down" and that is because "social distancing is working."
- **Wisconsin** is [holding its primary as scheduled today](#) despite public health concerns.
 - **Dr. Jerome Adams**, the US Surgeon General, urged Wisconsin voters to maintain a safe six-foot distance from other voters and wear a face cloth or covering as



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they head to the polls Two of **Nevada's Native American nations** are enforcing mandatory curfews for their members in an attempt to avoid the spread of coronavirus.

- **Colorado** is extending its statewide "stay at home" order for another two weeks, said Gov. Jared Polis in a televised state address today.
 - The extended order is now planned to end on April 26.
- All 10 million residents in **Los Angeles County** are now eligible to apply for a coronavirus test.
 - **Mayor Eric Garcetti** said at a news conference today that there are "no longer any limits" on who can apply for the testing. Patients don't have to be over age 65, have underlying medical conditions, or have a weakened immune system, as was previously required.
- **California's Judicial Council** approved a series of temporary emergency rules Monday, including staying eviction and foreclosure proceedings during the Covid-19 pandemic, a vote that reinforces Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom's executive order to delay such actions against renters and homeowners in the state.
 - During a teleconference Monday afternoon, the council also moved to set bail statewide at \$0 for misdemeanors and lower-level felonies to "safely reduce jail populations."
- **Los Angeles County** health officials urged residents to skip grocery shopping this week as the number of coronaviruses cases continue to rise.
 - "If you have enough supplies in your home, this would be the week to skip shopping altogether," said Dr. Barbara Ferrer, the LA County Department of Public Health Director, on Monday.

International

- **India** partially lifted a ban on the exports of a malaria drug after Trump sought supplies for the U.S., according to government officials with knowledge of the matter. Exports of hydroxychloroquine and paracetamol will be allowed depending on availability of stock after meeting domestic requirements and existing orders, said the government officials, who asked not to be identified citing rules. Shipments will be restricted and permission will be on humanitarian ground, they added
- The **British Prime Minister** has been in stable condition overnight and "remains in good spirits," his spokesperson said on Tuesday.
 - Boris Johnson is getting standard oxygen treatment and is breathing without assistance, the spokesperson added.



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- Addressing speculation over Johnson’s condition, the spokesperson said: “He has not required invasive or non-invasive support,” and has not been diagnosed with pneumonia
- The **Saudi G20 Presidency** will hold an extraordinary G20 energy ministers’ virtual meeting on April 10 to “foster global dialogue and cooperation to ensure stable energy markets and enable a stronger global economy,” Saudi Arabia said in a statement.
 - The G20 Energy ministers will also act, alongside invited countries, and regional and international organizations, to alleviate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the energy markets
- Police in **Italy** say they are concerned about criminal organizations, or Mafia, infiltrating "basic needs" sectors of industry and society under financial pressure during the coronavirus lockdown.
- **El Salvador** is extending its nation-wide quarantine another 15 days amid the coronavirus outbreak, according to a tweet from the Press Secretary of the Presidency late Monday.
 - Earlier, President Nayib Bukele announced a 30-day quarantine period starting Saturday, March 21 until April 20. With the 15-day extension, the period now extends to May 5.
- **Russian President Vladimir Putin** will hold a high-level meeting Tuesday on efforts to combat the Covid-19 pandemic in Russia, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said.
 - The meeting, to be held by teleconference, will include representatives of Russian research institutes and medical centers that are working on vaccine development and drug-treatment regimens, Peskov said in a conference call with reporters. Ministerial-level officials will also take part, he added.
- **Iran** has been seeing a “flattening off” of the number of new coronavirus cases, the WHO East Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO) said in a press conference on Tuesday.
- The mayor of **Paris** has said that from Wednesday, people wishing to exercise outdoors in the French capital will have to do so before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m. local time. France has not yet reached the peak of its coronavirus outbreak, according to health minister Olivier Veran, who said "we are still in a worsening phase of the epidemic."
- The rate of new infections and deaths from the novel coronavirus in **Spain** has increased after a week-long decline, data from the Spanish Health Ministry released on Tuesday shows.



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- **Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe** formally declared a one-month state of emergency just now at a task force meeting.
 - The state of emergency will last from today through May 6, and be in place across seven virus-hit prefectures, including Tokyo.
- **Colombian President Iván Duque** announced that he will extend the nationwide isolation order until April 26.
 - In a tweet, Duque said the measures taken to slow the spread of coronavirus "have been positive."
- **Chile** has announced the mandatory use of face masks for all travelers riding public and private transportation to combat the spread of coronavirus.
 - During a televised news conference Monday, Chile's Undersecretary of Public Health Paula Daza said the measure will go in effect on Wednesday, April 8 at 5 a.m. local time.
 - Some of the transportation methods that are included in the measure include trains, buses, metros and taxis.
- People in **Honduras** will now be required to cover their mouths when they are outside.

Private Sector

- **Tyson Foods**, one of the world's largest poultry, beef and pork producers, is suspending operations at an Iowa pork plant after more than two dozen employees there tested positive for coronavirus.
 - CEO Noel White said the suspension was imposed "out of an abundance of caution," and that the company was seeing "varying levels of production impact."
- **Major League Baseball (MLB)** is trying to work through plans to get back to playing, including having games at a central location once the coronavirus pandemic has improved.
 - "MLB has been actively considering numerous contingency plans that would allow play to commence once the public health situation has improved to the point that it is safe to do so," the league said in a statement Tuesday.
- **Samsung**, the world's largest smartphone maker, predicts it eked out a rise in profit last quarter, as the [coronavirus pandemic](#) was just beginning to disrupt supply chains and hobble global demand.
- **Nissan** plans to furlough most of its hourly manufacturing employees as its US plants remain closed to help slow the spread of Covid-19.



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- Nissan spokeswoman Lloryn Love-Carter confirmed the company will lay off about 10,000 employees Tuesday at plants in Canton, Mississippi; Smyrna, Tennessee and Decherd, Tennessee.
- **Dairy farmers** forced to pump their milk down the drain because of shrinking markets are calling on the **Agriculture Department** to buy and distribute their perishable products to the hungry during the coronavirus outbreak.
 - Industry leaders urge Secretary Sonny Perdue to provide direct relief to dairy farmers while restaurants and schools remain shuttered to slow the spread of Covid-19. Dairy group representatives add that federal purchases of their commodities, including butter, dry milk, and cheese, would alleviate the financial burden shouldered by farmers, they say.
- **Peloton** is canceling all live classes days after confirming an employee tested positive for Covid-19. Peloton informed members in an email Monday that it would pause production at both its London and New York studio locations through April 30. The fitness company previously had continued to offer virtual live classes despite New York closing all essential businesses.
 - This decision was made following news last week that the company confirmed a studio employee in New York had tested positive for Covid-19.
- **Formula One** has placed 50% of its staff into temporary furlough whilst the sport's Chief Executive, Chase Carey, will take a significant voluntary salary cut as part of measures to reduce costs during the coronavirus crisis.
 - In addition, **Formula One** directors and executives have voluntarily agreed to take a 20% pay cut.
- The **Independent Restaurant Coalition**, an organization founded during the coronavirus outbreak by well-known restaurateurs including "Top Chef" head judge Tom Colicchio, gathered 5,000 signatures [for a letter sent](#) to congressional leadership Monday asking for more help in the next round of relief legislation.
 - The letter asks lawmakers to create a **Restaurant Stabilization Fund**, enact tax rebates for the small restaurants that survive the crisis, and make changes to business interruption insurance, which in many cases doesn't cover the affects of the global pandemic.
- **State transportation departments** need \$50 billion in federal funds to offset significant revenue declines due to plummeting road travel and gasoline sales, according to the **American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials**.



COVID-19 4/7 UPDATE

- Group [requests](#) \$49.95 billion for state transportation departments to be included in next virus stimulus package in letter to top lawmakers including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell
- The **National Football League** commissioner Roger Goodell has announced that all league and club facilities will remain closed indefinitely and that the upcoming three-day NFL Draft, set to start on April 23, will be conducted in a "fully virtual format" with coaches and team personnel making picks from their individual homes.
- National grocery store chain **Kroger** says it will only allow 50% of each store's capacity in to shop at one time, according to a statement released by the company today.
 - Starting tomorrow, stores will "limit the number of customers to 50% of the international building code's calculated capacity."
- **Facebook** is expanding the user location data that the company offers to researchers and non-profits trying to study the outbreak of the Covid-19 coronavirus. The world's largest social network shares anonymized, aggregated location information as part of an effort to study disease outbreaks, and more than 150 organizations partner with the company to use that data for research. Facebook is adding new data points for researchers fighting Covid-19, including information about whether people are staying at home, and other material that details "the probability that people in one area will come in contact with people in another," the company said yesterday.
- **Drivers for ride-sharing services** like [Uber](#) and Lyft can qualify for emergency unemployment insurance if the pandemic forces them off the road, the **Labor Department** said.
 - The DOL issued [guidance](#) Sunday night to establish a new category of eligible claimants for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, a program created under the \$2 trillion coronavirus-relief law to extend benefits to various groups of workers affected by the pandemic who otherwise would be excluded from jobless aid. The guidance addressed a key area of confusion in recent weeks by specifying that independent contractors, such as workers for ride-sharing companies and other gig-economy platforms, can be reimbursed for lost wages if the public health emergency forces them to suspend operations.