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Daily Read: U.S. Infections Accelerate, Hit Record Highs in 14 States — Arizona Activates Emergency Plans — Apple Shares Hit Record High

1 message

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Coronavirus Continues To Plague U.S.

[New Infections Hit Record Highs in 14 States, Including Arizona, California, Florida, North Carolina and Texas](#) (Washington Post)

As rates of Coronavirus infections ease in places such as New York and Illinois and onetime hot spots move into new phases of reopening, parts of the country that had previously avoided being hit hard by the outbreak are now tallying record-high new infections.

Since the start of June, 14 states and Puerto Rico have recorded their highest-ever seven-day average of new cases since the pandemic began: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Kentucky, New Mexico, North Carolina, Mississippi, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Utah.

Local headlines:

- **Arizona:** [ICUs Near Capacity in Phoenix, Tucson As State Health Director Tells Hospitals to 'Fully Activate' Emergency Plans](#) (AZ Central)
- **Florida Surge:** [State Has Surged To More Than 1,000 New Infections Each Day in Florida Since Middle of Last Week](#) (CNN)
- **Utah:** ['Sharp Spike' in COVID-19 Cases Statewide](#) (Salt Lake Tribune)
- **Mississippi:** [Health Department Reports Nearly 500 New Cases Reported in Single Day, A Record High](#) (Clarion Ledger)
- **Texas:** [Record-Breaking Hospitalizations Two Days in a Row](#) (NPR)

The U.S. vs the G8.

In the past day, there were 708 deaths reported in the U.S., while there were 331 deaths across the other G8 countries.

Of note, on Monday, Beijing [discharged](#) the city's final remaining coronavirus patient and recorded zero new cases.



Sources: *The Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Center, The World*

Health Organization

The New Workplace.

New Normal In Finance: [Boxed Lunches and Plexiglass Will Welcome Back Wall Street's Workers](#) (New York Times)

***Grab-and-go packaged meals** may replace midday generous buffets and three-figure lunches.*

***Plexiglass could divvy up trading floors** the size of football fields.*

***Heat maps, accessible on a mobile app,** will help identify the restrooms with the smallest crowds.*

***In a Partnership for New York City survey,** respondents from dozens of companies — more than a third from the financial sector — predicted that just 10% of employees would return to city offices by Aug. 15 and just 29% would return by Dec. 31.*

***Executives at large and medium-sized financial firms** say the first wave of returning workers will be small and composed primarily of those who cannot do their jobs at home easily — like stock and bond traders accustomed to tracking fast-moving markets on multiple screens.*

Elevator Experts: [Safe Rides Include Riders Facing Walls, Using Toothpicks to Push Buttons](#) (NPR)

***But the biggest hang-up across city skylines** for offices and residences may be the recommendation to limit the number of passengers in most elevator rides to four to accommodate social distancing — one person in each corner.*

***One expert recommends no talking** — to minimize spread of respiratory*

droplets that could carry the coronavirus.

"It makes sense when you think about it, but it's so contrary to every social protocol we have been raised with," says an expert.

London Latest: [How Transport Is Preparing for Life After Lockdown](#)
(Bloomberg)

According to the city's transit manager, maintaining social distancing means that buses and London Underground trains will only be able to carry around 13-15% of the 9 million passengers who use the services daily.

One of eight carriages on a Central line train can carry 131 people in a typical peak hour crush. Only 7% of these passengers could travel if 2-meter distancing was achieved.

An Old-School Approach To A Modern Pandemic.

[Convalescent Plasma: A COVID-19 Treatment Speeds to Clinical Trials](#) (Hopkins Bloomberg Public Health Magazine)

Since late February, Dr. Arturo Casadevall has worked 18-hour days with a cross-country network of colleagues to treat more than 18,000 hospitalized U.S. COVID-19 patients with an old-school approach: convalescent plasma.

"When we first started thinking about this, there was no infrastructure. We had no testing and few survivors," says Casadevall, an infectious disease expert at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Others recognized these shortfalls and within days, Casadevall received a \$3 million [grant](#) from Bloomberg Philanthropies and \$1 million from the state of Maryland to investigate convalescent plasma.

Soon a national team had assembled around Casadevall and dubbed itself the COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Project.

In the near future, Casadevall hopes that his approach will act as a stopgap measure until a vaccine is ready.

Longer-term, he hopes this work will reinvigorate convalescent plasma's use for other infectious diseases such as influenza and Ebola.

Read the full story [here](#).

Introducing Bloomberg Green.

[Bloomberg Launches Bloomberg Green, A Quarterly Collection of Premier Climate Journalism](#)

With a focus on solutions, readers will discover stories on science, environmental impacts, zero-emission tech, green finance, culture, and design, drawn from Bloomberg's global newsroom of 2,700 journalists and analysts in more than 120 countries.

Mike Bloomberg: [From Global Crisis to Climate Turning Point](#)

How to Grow Green: [26 Ways to Launch a Clean Energy Future Out of the Pandemic Recovery](#)

The First Issue: [A Letter From the Editor](#)

W.H.O. Clarifies Role of Asymptomatic Cases.

***The W.H.O. [said](#) Tuesday it's still unclear** how readily the novel coronavirus is spread by people who don't develop symptoms, a day after a top official sparked debate by saying such transmission is "very rare."*

***Maria Van Kerkhove, head of WHO's emerging diseases unit, said** Tuesday that her previous comment had been misunderstood, since she was referring only to certain studies on the spread of Covid-19, involving how contact tracing has found the virus spreads.*

***Although the health organization had said as far back** as February that it did not see asymptomatic cases as a major cause of viral spread, Van Kerkhove's remark at a press conference Monday revived controversy over coronavirus transmission routes.*

***Uncertainty over the issue has hindered nations' efforts** to re-open battered economies, with the New England Journal of Medicine previously warning that transmission by seemingly healthy people is "the Achilles' heel of Covid-19 pandemic control."*

***Some of the confusion lies in the distinction** between the roles played by truly asymptomatic people and those who are merely pre-symptomatic -- and later go on to become ill -- in spreading the disease.*

Read the full story [here](#).

What I'm Reading.

George Floyd Funeral: [Rev. Al Sharpton Memorializes Floyd: 'Your Nation Is Going To Always Remember Your Name'](#) (CNN)

Floyd's brother, Rodney, told mourners: "He is going to change the world."

Must-Watch Video: [The Crackdown Before Trump's Bible Photo Op in Lafayette Square](#) (Washington Post)

This painstakingly constructed 12-minute piece shows the clearing of protesters outside the White House.

Off the Air: ['Cops,' Long-Running Reality Show That Glorified Police, Is Canceled](#) (New York Times)

The Incredible Shrinking President: [Trump's Deeply Irresponsible Conspiracy Theory Tweet on the 75-Year-Old Buffalo Man Knocked Down and Injured By Police](#) (Politico Playbook)

The chasm between the president and pretty much everyone else in Washington is growing, as Trump seems more alone and isolated with his thoughts, and detached from the overall political conversation in the Capitol, and the rest of America.

Gone are the days when lawmakers twisted themselves in pretzels to defend the president. Now they just move on, as if he hardly exists at all.

Protest Art: [Violence Gives Way to Street Fair Vibe Outside White House](#) (Associated Press)

Tech Rally: [Amazon, Apple, Facebook and Microsoft Close at All-Time Highs](#) (CNBC)

Ghost Hotels Wait to Reopen: [For Staff Living in Empty Hotels, It's All Work and a Little Play](#) (Bloomberg)

News You Can Use: [How to Find a European Vacation Spot in a Lockdown](#) (Bloomberg)

Cleaning Itself Up: [Amsterdam to Scale Back Drug Tourism in Post-Virus Reboot](#) (Bloomberg)

Eiffel Tower To Reopen: [Visitors Are Welcome June 25 and Must Be In Masks](#) (USA Today)

Must Watch Movie Trailer of the Week: [Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter Revive 'Bill & Ted,' Just In Time, As They Return to Unite The World in the 'Face the Music' Trailer](#) (*Hat tip: Axios PM*)

Best of Late Night.

"This year is so crazy, Kim Jong-Un died and came back to life this year, and nobody even remembers it!"

-- [Jimmy Kimmel](#)

"LA is showing up to march, which is encouraging. Do you know how hard it is to get people to walk in LA? In Hollywood, activism usually means wearing a lapel pin to the Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards."

-- [Jimmy Kimmel](#)

On a new [NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll](#) that shows 80% of Americans think the country is out of control:

"If we hit 90% out of control, every American gets their own show on Bravo!"

-- [Jimmy Fallon](#)

"Even crazier, 15% of people think that things are under control. When the Titanic was going down, these were the people who were trying to get a drink at the bar."

-- [Jimmy Fallon](#)

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