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Southern DAILY

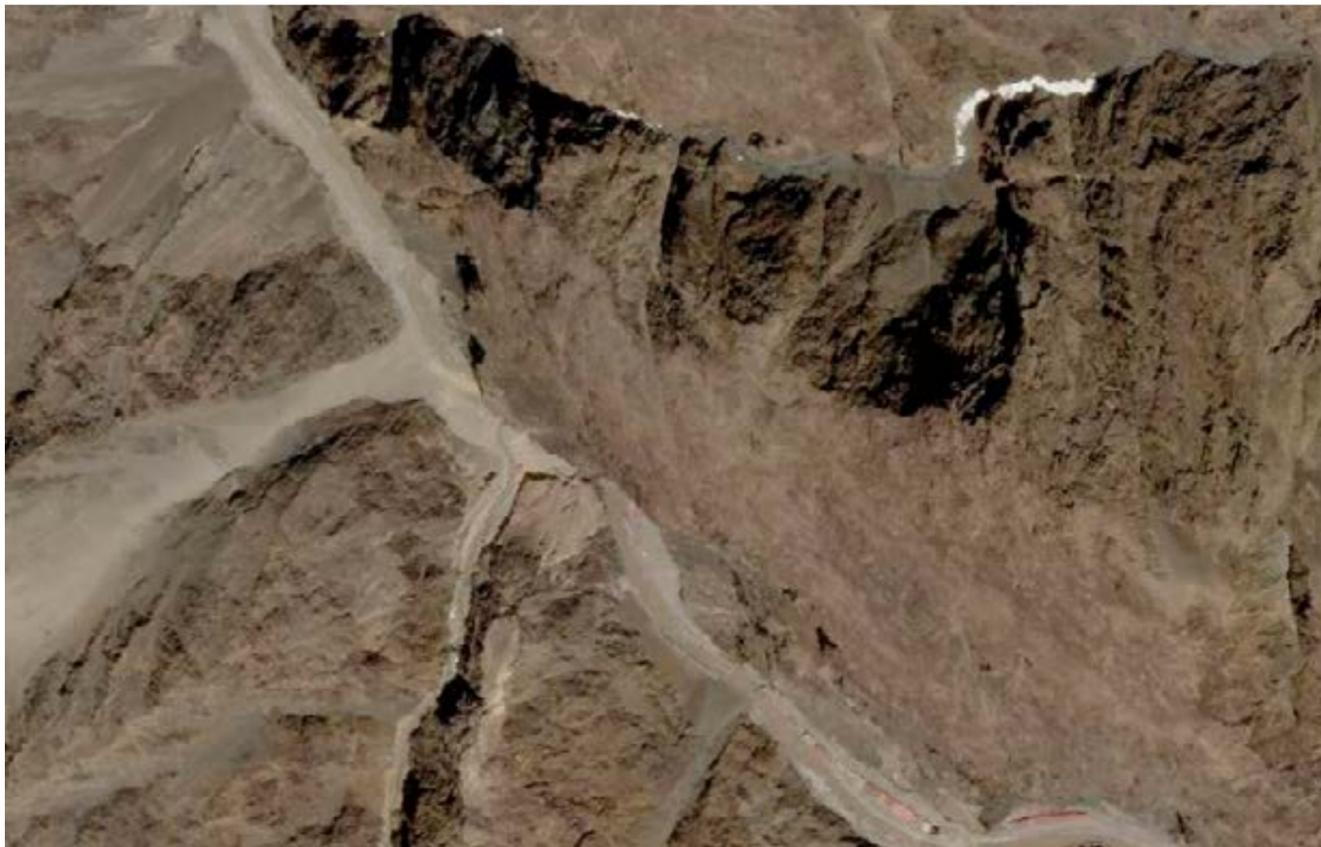
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India, China accuse each other of violating de facto border



A satellite image of Galwan Valley in Ladakh, India June 9, 2020. Picture taken June 9, 2020. Planet Labs Inc/Handout via REUTERS THIS IMAGE HAS BEEN SUPPLIED BY A THIRD PARTY. MANDATORY CREDIT. NO RE-SALES. NO ARCHIVES.

NEW DELHI/BEIJING (Reuters) - India and China on Saturday traded accusations that the other had violated their shared de facto border, an area that this week became the site of their deadliest clash in half a century.

Fighting on the two countries' Himalayan frontier on Monday killed at least 20 Indian soldiers and injured more than 70. China has not released any casualty figures for its troops.

While Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi sought to downplay the clash on Friday, his government a day later blamed China for seeking to erect structures "just across the Line of Actual Control", as the demarcation is known, and refusing India's request to stop.

India will not allow any unilateral changes to the disputed border, it said in a statement.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian accused Indian troops of a "deliberate provocation" in the tense Himalayan area.

In a series of tweets, Zhao said the Galwan Valley was on the Chinese side of the line and that Indians had since April unilaterally built roads, bridges and other facilities in the region.

The Indian troops "crossed the Line of Actual Control" and attacked Chinese officers and soldiers who were there for negotiation, triggering "fierce physical conflicts", Zhao said.



India's foreign ministry spokesperson Anurag Srivastava denied any violation of the Line of Actual Control by India, and said the claims by the Chinese side were "not acceptable".

"We do not accept the contention that India was unilaterally changing the status quo. On the contrary, we were maintaining it," Srivastava said.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo criticised China for escalating border tensions with India.

"The PLA (China's People's Liberation Army) has escalated border tensions - we see it today in India... and we watch as it militarizes the South China Sea and illegally claims more territory there," Pompeo said in at the virtual Copenhagen Democracy Summit.

Troops remain locked in a face-off at several locations along the poorly defined Line of Actual Control, despite talks between local commanders to de-escalate.

Modi on Friday appeared to downplay the clash with Chinese troops, saying: "Nobody has intruded into our border, neither is anybody there now, nor have our posts been captured."



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Beijing to have sweeping powers over Hong Kong security law, stoking concerns

BEIJING/HONG KONG (Reuters) - China will have overarching powers over the enforcement of a new national security law in Hong Kong, according to details released on Saturday that signalled the deepest change to the city's way of life since it returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

FILE PHOTO: Police stand at a metro station near a pro-democracy protest inside the New Town Plaza mall in Sha Tin in Hong Kong, China June 12, 2020. REUTERS/Laurel Chor

The planned law has alarmed foreign governments as well as democracy activists in Hong Kong, who were already concerned that Beijing is eroding the high degree of autonomy granted to the territory when it was handed over from British rule.

According to details released by the official Xinhua news agency, Hong Kong will establish a local national security council to enforce the legislation, headed by the city's leader Carrie Lam and supervised and guided by a new central government commission created by Beijing. A mainland adviser will also sit on the new Hong Kong body.

New local police and prosecution units will be set up to investigate and to enforce the law, backed by mainland security and intelligence officers deployed to Beijing's new commission.

Lam will also have the power to appoint judges to hear cases related to national security, an unprecedented move likely to unnerve some investors, diplomats and business leaders in Hong Kong

Currently senior judges allocate judicial rosters up through Hong Kong's independent judicial system.

RELATED COVERAGE

Reactions to details of Hong Kong's new national security law



"From these initial details, this new law presents unprecedented legal questions that we will have to confront in coming years," Simon Young, a barrister and professor at the University of Hong Kong's law school, told Reuters.

Young said he was troubled by the apparent "broad supremacy" of the new law over current and future Hong Kong laws.

Officials in Beijing and Hong Kong have sought to reassure investors that the law will not erode the city's autonomy, insisting it

will target only a minority of "trouble-makers" who pose a threat to national security.

Xinhua said human rights and freedom of speech and assembly would be protected, echoing previous comments by authorities in Beijing and Hong Kong.

The details were unveiled after a three-day meeting of the top decision-making body of China's parliament. It is unclear when the law will be enacted but political analysts expect it to take effect ahead of

Sept. 6 Legislative Council elections in Hong Kong.

Under the new law, no institutions, organisations and individuals in Hong Kong should engage in activity endangering national security, Xinhua said. This was widely expected to raise concerns for some religious, human rights and foreign-backed groups that have long been based in Hong Kong but are not welcome on the Chinese mainland.

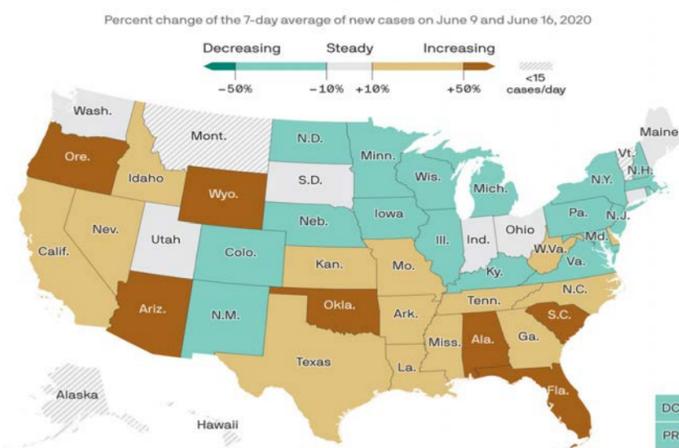
Stay Safe!

BUSINESS

Wash Your Hands!

Oklahoma Now Among The States With Highest Coronavirus Case Growth

Change in new COVID-19 cases in the past week



Data: The COVID Tracking Project, state health departments; Map: Andrew Witherspoon, Sara Wise, Naema Ahmed/Axios

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Coronavirus cases are quickly spreading in Arizona, a handful of southern and western states and, ominously, Oklahoma — the planned site of President Trump's controversial rally this weekend.

Why it matters: Once community spread takes off, cases can begin to increase exponentially.

The big picture: "We're at a point where there are warning signs going off, and people need to take steps to help control it," said Chris Meekins, a health policy research analyst at the investment bank Raymond James.

By the numbers: Oklahoma has seen a 91% jump in its coronavirus cases over the past week, and new cases are up 53% in Arizona.

Between the lines: Each week, Axios is documenting the change in new cases in each state. We use a seven-day average to minimize inconsistencies in when new cases are reported.

• Overall, new coronavirus cases are up 11% nationwide over the past week.

New cases alone don't measure the extent of a state's outbreak, but many of these

same states also are in worsening shape according to other measures.

- Arizona, South Carolina, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Florida have seen significant growth in the percentage of coronavirus tests coming back positive over the last two weeks, according to Nephron Research, indicating that the case growth in these states isn't solely attributable to more testing.

- Arizona, Texas, North Carolina and Alabama have also hit record hospitalizations in the last few days.

- "For the first time, I would have to say, I'm growing worried about the system," Donald Williamson, president of the Alabama Hospital Association, told the Alabama Political Reporter. He said that the Tuscaloosa area had only one ICU bed available Tuesday morning.

What we're watching: "Ultimately, the president doesn't ask for permission before he" goes places, Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt said yesterday, per Reuters. "So we found out that president was coming, so we are going to make sure it's the best and as safe as possible."

The bottom line: "People are going to want to react to really bad numbers," Harvard's Ashish Jha said. But "if you don't slow the virus down, it'll keep going up, and exponential growth is a bad thing. Because it's building on itself." (Courtesy axios.com)

Related
Simulators that can rapidly test trillions of options would accelerate the slow and costly process of human clinical trials

AI-Powered Biotech Could Help Deploy a Vaccine In Record Time

By Guest Writer Ray Kurzweil
THE MAGNITUDE OF the Covid-19 pandemic will largely depend on how quickly safe and effective vaccines and treatments can be developed and tested. Many assume a widely available vaccine is years away, if ever. Others believe that a 12- to 18-month development cycle is a given. Our best bet to reduce even that record-breaking timeline is by using artificial intelligence.

The problem is twofold: discovering the right set of molecules among billions of possibilities, and then waiting for clinical trials. These processes ordinarily take several years, but AI holds the key to radically shortening both. This is where combining AI with biotechnology is headed, and within several years all vaccine and medication development could be done this way. We can already shorten the development time of a Covid-19 vaccine using this method.



A human doctor may come up with a few dozen drugs that may treat a disease. The actual number of theoretical drug possibilities is in the trillions. (Photo/Getty Images)

Although a human trial of a vaccine or other treatment is regarded as necessary today before widespread use is approved,

even large-scale trials are very imperfect, time-consuming, and expensive. A human doctor may come up with a few dozen drugs that may treat a disease. The actual number of theoretical drug possibilities is in the trillions. The current method for testing these few treatments is to organize a few hundred human subjects and then test them over about a year and a half, at a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars. Very often, the first several solutions tested on humans are not ideal and lead to other solutions that also take a few years to develop and test. We are literally stuck, watching people succumb to a disease for years while only a few possible solutions are tested. Not much can be advanced until those results are available.

We are seeing the beginnings of a profound paradigm shift in health technology. AI simulations have the potential to test all of the trillions of possibilities with tens of thousands of (simulated) patients for a (simulated) period of years, and do all of this in a matter of hours or days. In 2019, for example, researchers at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia, created a "turbocharged" flu vaccine in part by using a biology simulator that used AI to find drugs that activate the human immune system. In a matter of weeks it created trillions of chemical compounds, and the researchers used another simulator to see if each compound would be useful as an immune-boosting drug against the disease agent, selecting the ideal formulation. US researchers are now testing this optimized flu vaccine on human subjects.

Moreover, in the search for antiviral drugs for Covid-19, Argonne National Laboratory has used five of the world's most powerful supercomputers to narrow a billion molecules down to a few thousand. Then, with a combination of physics simulations to model the microscopic chemistry and deep learning for pattern recognition, they identified about 30 of the most promising candidates for laboratory study. To fight the coronavirus much more rapidly and effectively, more labs need to use AI to simulate trillions of

possibilities, and then use human trials for the most promising ones.



These examples mark only the beginning of AI's contribution to overcoming health problems. Today we can simulate how small molecules interact with certain virtual or human proteins. As these methods take off in the coming years, we will be able to test all trillions of possible solutions to each health problem very quickly. Using neural nets with sufficient computational power will go way beyond what humans can possibly do on their own. Given the exponential nature of progress in this field, I believe that by the end of the decade we will be able realistically model all biology and simulate interventions for diseases without the need for human trials.

Amplifying progress in creating new medications for diseases is among the most profound near-term objectives of AI. Such technology will improve medicine for a vast array of diseases, but it will also be enormously valuable when the next pandemic strikes—whenever that happens. It might have a natural origin. It might be a terrorist bioweapon. It might spread faster than Covid-19, and be 10 or 20 times as lethal. Deploying an effective cure in weeks instead of a year could save tens of millions of lives. (Courtesy wired.com)

About The Writer

Ray Kurzweil was the principal inventor of the CCD flat-bed scanner, omnifont optical character recognition, print-to-speech reading machine for the blind, text-to-speech synthesizer, music synthesizer capable of recreating the grand piano and other orchestral instruments, and commercially marketed large-vocabulary speech recognition. He's received a Grammy Award for outstanding achievements in music technology, the National Medal of Technology, 21 honorary doctorates, and is an inductee in the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Ray has written six national best-selling books, including the New York Times best seller *The Singularity Is Near* (2005) and *How To Create a Mind* (2012).

Editor's Choice



Joseph Fons runs in front of the U.S. Supreme Court with a Pride flag after the court delivered a watershed victory for LGBT rights and a defeat for President Donald Trump's administration by ruling that a longstanding federal law barring workplace..



Patrick Hutchinson carries an injured suspected far-right counter-protester to safety during scuffles between anti-racism protesters and far-right opponents, near Waterloo station during a Black Lives Matter protest in London, Britain,



A boy interacts with his horse before competing in a local show jumping that resumed after Palestinians eased the coronavirus restrictions, in Gaza City. REUTERS/Suhaib Salem



A Kentucky State Trooper explains to Margaret Wells that the line outside a temporary unemployment office established by the Kentucky Labor Cabinet is closed at the State Capitol Annex in Frankfort, Kentucky, June 17, 2020. Hundreds of people who...



Senior Ruby Wilson holds a sign saying that Tamir Rice, killed by Cleveland Police in 2014, would have been a 2020 graduate as Nathan Hale High School seniors join a protest against racial inequality in the aftermath of George Floyd's death on their...MORE



Supporters of President Donald Trump camp outside the BOK Center, the venue for his upcoming rally, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. REUTERS/Lawrence Bryant



An Atlanta SWAT officer draws his weapon during a rally against racial inequality and the police shooting death of Rayshard Brooks in Atlanta, Georgia, June 13, 2020.



An Indian Army convoy moves along a highway leading to Ladakh, at Gagangeer in Kashmir's Ganderbal district. REUTERS/Danish Ismail

Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund



Public Application open June 23 and June 24 online and by phone.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Harris County established the Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund to provide much-needed relief to Harris County residents most impacted by the global pandemic.



Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo
The sudden loss of jobs, wages, and childcare has created an unprecedented economic crisis – especially for the most vulnerable in our community, who were already struggling when the pandemic struck. It is our responsibility to help these individuals, especially those who won't be getting support from anywhere else. -- Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo

About the Fund

The \$30 million fund, which is administered by Greater Houston Community Foundation, aims to strategically serve a large number of the most vulnerable people, in particular county residents who may not be eligible for other COVID-re-

lated funding and/or who cannot afford to wait for assistance.

The Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund will distribute funds in two ways to help ensure equitable distribution.

Phase 1 Nonprofit Distribution

The Fund will partner with trusted, high performing community-based organizations that are already actively supporting the community and have deep relationships and understanding of families with emergency needs.

Phase 1 funds were disbursed on June 12, 2020.

Phase 2 Public Application

The Fund will invite **all eligible low-income Harris County residents** to complete an application through a multilingual call center and/or website to participate in a fair, randomized process. Eligible individuals will be matched with a community-based organization to understand their needs, verify eligibility, and provide assistance.

The **online application** will open here on harriscountyrelief.org on **Tuesday, June 23 at 6:00am CT**, and close on Wednesday, June 24 at 10:00pm CT.

You can also apply over the phone. Operators will help you during the process by recording your answers and submitting

the application. The **phone application** number will be posted shortly.

Phone Application Hours

June 23: Open 6:00am to 2:00pm CT

June 24: Open 2:00pm to 10:00pm CT

Eligibility

The Fund is open to all eligible low-income Harris County residents (regardless of status), including immigrant households, those who may receive Pandemic Unemployment Assistance but cannot afford to wait for months, and those ineligible for CARES Act payments or unemployment insurance.

Those eligible **MUST**:

1. Live in Harris County
2. Have a **household income below 60% Area Median Income (AMI)**, OR be accessing **public benefits**
3. Have experienced negative economic impact related to the COVID-19 pandemic
4. Has not received benefits from the following programs in 2020:
 - o The City of Houston BakerRipley Rental Assistance Program,
 - o the Harris County Utility Assistance Program, or
 - o the Harris County COVID-19 Forgivable Loan Program

60% Area Median Income* (AMI)
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), 2020

If your household income is at or below the amounts in this table, then you meet requirement number 2.



Household size	Monthly income	Annual income
1 person	\$2,759	\$33,113
2 person	\$3,153	\$37,838
3 person	\$3,547	\$42,563
4 person	\$3,941	\$47,288
5 person	\$4,256	\$51,075

6 person	\$4,572	\$54,863
7 person	\$4,888	\$58,650
8 person	\$5,203	\$62,438

*AMI is for the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA in 2020 as defined by HUD and reported by City of Houston Housing and Community Development, retrieved from <https://hous.tontx.gov/housing/flyers/AMI-2020-04222020.pdf>

THE PROCESS



How to Apply

The application will be open **June 23 and 24**.

You will be able to apply one of two ways:

Apply online: You will be able to apply here on harriscountyrelief.org Tuesday, June 23 at 6:00amCT through Wednesday, June 24 at 10:00pm CT

Apply by phone: Friendly operators will help you during the process by recording your answers and submitting the application

Call (832) 848-0214 during the phone application hours to apply.

Our phone application hours are

• **June 23:** Open 6:00am — 2:00pm CT

• **June 24:** Open 2:00pm — 10:00pm CT

You only need to apply once. For example, if you apply online, you do not have to apply over the phone too. Multiple applications do not guarantee or increase chances of receiving aid.

After Application

Given the enormous need, we are expecting to receive more applications than funding available.

When the application **closes on June 24 at 10:00pm**, all applications will be put into a drawing and randomly selected.

Applicants from vulnerable census tracts will be prioritized to receive assistance, with those in the most vulnerable areas receiving up to a 50% increased chance

of being selected. By **Friday, June 26**, all applicants will receive an email and/or text notification regarding the status of your application. For additional information, go to: <https://www.harriscountyrelief.org/>



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• Meyerland Plaza Clinic

Frank Hua, M.D.
Internal Medicine
Mandarin
• Spring Medical and Diagnostic Center

John Tam, M.D.
Internal Medicine
Cantonese and Mandarin
• Fort Bend Medical and Diagnostic Center

Yee-Ru (Amy) Chen, D.O.
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Cantonese, Mandarin, and Taiwanese
• Downtown at The Shops at 4 Houston Center

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Whether you're new to Kelsey-Seybold or a current patient, you have a choice of where you can safely get care. Call our **24/7** Contact Center at **713-442-0000** to schedule a same-day or next-day virtual **Video Visit** or, for non-respiratory illnesses, an **in-person appointment** at a Kelsey-Seybold Clinic near you.



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