



If you would like to share news or information with our readers, please send the unique stories, business

news organization events, and school news to us including your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

For news and information consideration, please send to News@scdaily.com or contact John Robbins 832-280-5815 Jun Gai 281-498-4310

A sign marks the seat of Iran's ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) ahead of a board of governors meeting at the IAEA headquarters in Vienna, Austria March 9, 2020. REUTERS/Lisi Niesner/File Photo



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Publisher: Wea H. Lee
President: Catherine Lee
Editor: John Robbins, Jun Gai
Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072
E-mail: News@scdaily.com

Monday August 17, 2020 | www.today-america.com | Southern News Group

Trump orders ByteDance to divest interest in U.S. TikTok operations within 90 days



FILE PHOTO: TikTok logo is displayed on the smartphone while standing on the U.S. flag in this illustration picture taken, November 8, 2019. REUTERS/Dado Ruvic

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Donald Trump ordered ByteDance on Friday to divest the U.S. operations of its video-sharing app TikTok within 90 days, the latest effort to ramp up pressure on the Chinese company over concerns about the safety of the personal data it handles.

FILE PHOTO: TikTok logo is displayed on the smartphone while standing on the U.S. flag in this illustration picture taken, November 8, 2019. REUTERS/Dado Ruvic "There is credible evidence that leads me to believe that ByteDance ... might take action that threatens to impair the national security of the United States," Trump said in the order.

Trump's latest move comes on top of an executive order he issued last week that would prohibit certain transactions with TikTok unless ByteDance divests it within 45 days. ByteDance is already in talks to sell the North America, Australia and New Zealand operations of TikTok to Microsoft Corp (MSFT.O).

The new order adds to pressure for ByteDance to divest TikTok, and legally buttresses the U.S. government's crackdown on the Chinese-owned social media app. It authorizes U.S. officials to inspect TikTok and ByteDance's books and information systems to ensure the safety of personal data while the sale talks are ongoing.

While TikTok is best known for its anodyne videos of people dancing and going viral among teenagers, U.S. officials

have expressed concerns that information on users could be passed on to China's communist government.

ByteDance said on Friday in response to the order that it is used by 100 million Americans "because it is their home for entertainment, self-expression, and connection. We're committed to continuing to bring joy to families and meaningful careers to those who create on our platform for many years to come."

Trump has said he would support an effort by Microsoft to buy TikTok's American operations if the U.S. government got a "substantial portion" of the proceeds, but has also said there are other interested potential buyers.

Last year, the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), a U.S. government panel that reviews deals for potential national security risks, opened a new review of ByteDance's acquisition of app Musical.ly in 2017. That deal created TikTok in its current form.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said on Friday the order also requires ByteDance to divest "any data obtained or derived from TikTok or Musical.ly users in the United States."

He said CFIUS "conducted an exhaustive review of the case and unanimously recommended this action to the president in order to protect U.S. users from exploitation of their personal data."

The Trump administration has stepped up its efforts to purge what it deems "untrusted" Chinese apps from U.S. digital networks. Beyond TikTok, Trump has also issued an order that would prohibit transactions with Tencent Holding Ltd's (0700.HK) WeChat.

Asked on Friday if he was concerned that the sweeping ban on WeChat could prevent Apple Inc (AAPL.O) from selling iPhones in China, Trump did not express worry.

"I do what's good in terms of the security of our country," he told reporters.

A group of major U.S. companies, including Apple, raised concerns this week about the potential negative implications on U.S. firms from the TikTok and WeChat orders.



恆豐銀行 American First National Bank

借記卡手機管理 24小時保護你的賬戶



- | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Houston Area:
Main Office
713-596-2888 | Spring Branch
713-273-1838 | Katy Branch
281-762-6688 | Harwin Branch
713-273-1888 | First Colony Branch
713-596-2588 | Nevada Area:
Las Vegas Branch
702-777-9988 | Pahrump Branch
775-751-1773 | Amargosa Valley Branch
775-372-1100 |
| Dallas Area:
Richardson Branch
972-348-3488 | Harry-Hines Branch
972-348-3433 | Legacy Branch
972-348-3466 | Carrollton Branch
972-428-5088 | Arlington Branch
817-261-5585 | Garland Branch
972-272-3375 | Plano Branch
469-429-2422 | California Area:
City of Industry Branch
626-667-3988 |
| | | | | | | | Alhambra Branch
626-863-1980 |

U.S. loses Iran arms embargo bid as Putin pushes summit to avoid nuclear deal showdown

NEW YORK/MOSCOW (Reuters) - The United States lost a bid on Friday to extend a U.N. arms embargo on Iran as Russian President Vladimir Putin proposed a summit of world leaders to avoid "confrontation" over a U.S. threat to trigger a return of all U.N. sanctions on Tehran.

FILE PHOTO: A sign marks the seat of Iran's ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) ahead of a board of governors meeting at the IAEA headquarters in Vienna, Austria March 9, 2020. REUTERS/Lisi Niesner/File Photo

In a U.N. Security Council vote, Russia and China opposed extending the weapons ban, which is due to expire in October under a 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers. Eleven members abstained, including France, Germany and Britain, while Washington and the Dominican Republic were the only yes votes.

"The Security Council's failure to act decisively in defense of international peace and security is inexcusable," U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in a statement.

RELATED COVERAGE

Failure to extend arms embargo on Iran a serious mistake: Pompeo

Iran says U.S. humiliated by rejection of U.N. arms embargo extension

See more stories

China's U.N. Ambassador Zhang Jun said in a statement after the vote that the result "once again shows that unilateralism receives no support and bullying will fail."

The United States could now follow through on a threat to trigger a return of all U.N. sanctions on Iran using a provision in the nuclear deal, known as snapback, even though President Donald Trump abandoned the accord in 2018. Diplomats have said the United States could do this as early as next week, but would face a tough, messy battle.

"In the coming days, the United States will follow through on that promise to stop at nothing to extend the arms embargo," U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Kelly Craft said in a statement.

Diplomats have said such a move would put the fragile nuclear deal further at risk because Iran would lose a major incentive for limiting its nuclear activities. Iran already has breached parts of the nuclear deal in response to the U.S. withdrawal from the pact

and unilateral sanctions.

Iran's U.N. Ambassador Majid Takht Ravanchi warned the United States against trying to trigger a return of sanctions.

"Imposition of any sanctions or restrictions on Iran by the Security Council will be met severely by Iran and our options are not limited. And the United States and any entity which may assist it or acquiesce in its illegal behavior will bear the full responsibility," he said in a statement

'THE ISSUE IS URGENT'

Putin on Friday proposed a video summit with the United States and the remaining parties to the nuclear deal - Britain, France, China, Germany and Iran - to try to avoid further "confrontation and escalation" at the United Nations over Iran.

"The issue is urgent," Putin said in a statement, adding that the alternative was "only further escalation of tensions, increasing risk of conflict - such a scenario must be avoided."



Stay Home!

BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

Covid-19 Death Toll Rivals Fatality Rate During 1918 Flu Epidemic, Researchers Say



The debate surrounding reopening too soon amid the coronavirus pandemic is striking an eerily familiar tone. (Adriana Usero/The Washington Post)

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

The increase in deaths in New York City during the early months of the covid-19 pandemic rivals the death toll there at the peak of the 1918 flu pandemic, according to an analysis published Thursday. The comparison, published online in the medical journal JAMA Network Open, found that the number of deaths from all causes was roughly equal during the two peak months of the flu epidemic and the first 61 days of the current outbreak. The H1N1 flu pandemic eventually killed 50 million people a century ago, about 675,000 of them in the United States. The current pandemic has claimed at least 746,000 lives worldwide, about 162,000 of them in the United States, according to a tally kept by The Washington Post.

"For anyone who doesn't understand the magnitude of what we're living through, this pandemic is comparable in its effect on mortality to what everyone agrees is the previous worst pandemic," said Jeremy S. Faust, an emergency physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston who led the team that conducted the data review. There were 31,589 deaths from all causes in New York during the peak period of the flu epidemic, about the same as the 33,465 tallied in the 61 days after the first death on March 11 of this year, the analysis shows. New York in 1918 had a population of 5.5 million people, so the death rate of

287 per 100,000 person-months was greater than the 202 of the current covid-19 pandemic. Person-months is a way of measuring the number of deaths in a population during a specific period of time.

But the current outbreak has seen a more dramatic rise in "excess deaths" — the number of fatalities above what would be expected in a normal year. With better medical care, public health, hygiene and medicines such as antibiotics, New York typically has about half the death rate of a century earlier — about 50 per person-month instead of 100. So the current outbreak has quadrupled the death rate, while the flu pandemic nearly tripled it.



"Because baseline mortality rates from 2017 to 2019 were less than half that observed from 1914 to 1917 ... the relative increase during early covid-19 period was substantially greater than during the peak of the 1918 H1N1 influenza pandemic," the authors wrote. The Post has reported that the United States re-

corded about 37,100 excess deaths in March and the first two weeks of April, nearly 13,500 more than were attributed to covid-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus, during that time. The report was based on an analysis of federal data conducted for The Post by a research team led by the Yale School of Public Health. The Post later reported that many of the excess deaths in New York City and five hard-hit states in March, April and May could be attributed to heart problems and a handful of other diseases.

That analysis, which also used the model developed by the Yale research team, suggested that many patients suffering from serious conditions died as a result of delaying or not seeking care as the outbreak progressed and swamped some hospitals. (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/>)

Related

The CDC Issues A Dire Warning For The Fall If Coronavirus Measures Are Not Followed

(CNN)A top federal health official is issuing a dire warning: Follow recommended coronavirus measures or risk having the worst fall in US public health history.

"For your country right now and for the war that we're in against Covid, I'm asking you to do four simple things: wear a mask, social distance, wash your hands and be smart about crowds," said Dr. Robert Redfield, director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"I'm not asking some of America to do it," he told WebMD. "We all gotta do it."

Without following the recommendations, this could be "the worst fall, from a public health perspective, we've ever had," he said.



Conspiracy theorists attack efforts for Covid-19 vaccine 02:53

Coronavirus has infected more than 5 million people and killed over 166,000 nationwide, according to Johns Hopkins University. On Wednesday alone, there were 55,910 reported new cases and 1,499 deaths -- the highest number of fatalities since May.

"You can't run away from the numbers," Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of

Allergies and Diseases, said during a National Geographic panel Thursday. "You can't run away from the numbers of people who've died, the number of people getting hospitalized, the surges we're seeing."

Coronavirus continues to spread at high rates across the South, Midwest and West -- even as the total number of new cases has declined following a summer surge. The country is averaging 53,318 new cases over the last seven days -- down 6% from the week prior. As of Thursday morning, 7 states, Washington DC, the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico were trending upwards in new cases of Covid-19. Adjusting for population, states in the Southeast are seeing the most new cases. Georgia and Florida -- states led by Republican governors who have not issued face mask requirements -- have the highest per capita new cases over the past seven days, followed by Alabama and Mississippi.



Deaths from the virus have remained high.

The seven-day average of daily coronavirus deaths was over 1,000 on Wednesday, the 17th consecutive day the US averaged over 1,000 deaths per day.

"How long we're going to have to be doing this depends totally on us," Fauci said Thursday. "If we keep running away from the reality of the need to do it, it could linger on and linger on."

Anti-vaxxers ramp up conspiracy theories

On coronavirus vaccines, Redfield is cautiously optimistic that one or more vaccines will be ready by the start of 2021. There are 270 active trials for coronavirus treatments, experts say.

But anti-vaxxers have taken to social media to spread lies about the future coronavirus vaccine. Some include claims it contains monkey brains or that it's a CIA plot to take over the world. Others allege the vaccine will include an invisible trackable tattoo or it will disfigure those who take it.

US government slow to act as anti-vaxxers spread lies on social media about coronavirus vaccine

As the lies spread, the government's multi-billion-dollar vaccine effort has yet to come up with a public education campaign to counteract the propaganda.



Conspiracy theorists attack efforts for Covid-19 vaccine

"We are behind here," said Dr. Francis Collins, director of the National Institutes of Health. "We haven't done a good job of getting (coronavirus vaccine) information out there."

The stakes are high. A third of Americans said they'd not get vaccinated against coronavirus, even if the vaccine is widely available and low cost, according to a CNN poll in May.

"Speaking for myself, I think I underestimated the level of public resistance," Collins said. "I didn't expect it to be that widespread."

Dr. Tina Hartert of the Vanderbilt University Medical Center said lack of faith in the vaccine can lead to major outbreaks. She described the government's communication on the vaccine as crucial. "We should have started on this months ago but it's never too late to start this important messaging. Because otherwise the messaging people will listen to is the story of one child from another parent," Hartert told CNN's Anderson Cooper.



Fauci recommends 'universal wearing of masks' as schools reopen

Over 2,000 people quarantined as schools reopen

Nationally, over the past seven days, the United States is averaging about 53,000 new cases per day, down 11% from the week prior. As educators and parents clash over starting in-person classes, some schools that have reopened have seen new cases. More than 2,000 students, teachers and staff have been placed under quarantine in the few reopened districts in several states, a CNN tally of reported cases shows. Of those, at least 230 positive coronavirus cases have been reported among the school districts reopened for in-person learning. (Courtesy <https://www.cnn.com/>)

Editor's Choice



Lyra Conley hugs therapy llama Caesar McCool at the site of ongoing protests against police violence and racial inequality, in Portland, Oregon, August 6, 2020. Caesar, the six-year-old "No Drama Llama," has become a fixture in the city.



People protest at an apartment complex to stop the alleged eviction of a tenant, standing in a hallway to keep an eye on the landlord (C) to make sure he does not change the locks to the apartment, in Mount Rainier, Maryland, August 10, 2020.



A Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) fire brigade member holds a dead anteater while attempting to control hot points in a tract of the Amazon jungle near Apui, Amazonas State, Brazil, August 11, 2020



Shayla Williams, 39, disinfects surfaces to prevent the spread of the coronavirus at Beresford Funeral Service in Houston, Texas, August 12, 2020. REUTERS/Callaghan O'Hare



A Palestinian woman argues with Israeli border police officers who arrived to force her stop building a house, in Susya village in the Israeli-occupied West Bank August 11, 2020. REUTERS/Mussa Qawasma



A seagull carries a protective face mask at the port of Dover, Britain, August 11, 2020. REUTERS/Peter Nicholls



Anthony Mmesoma Madu, an 11-year-old ballet dancer, poses during a rehearsal with other students at the Leap of Dance Academy in Lagos, Nigeria. A video of Anthony dancing barefoot in the rain on concrete outside the studio where he trains went viral...



Syrian refugee Ahmed Staifi poses for a picture in front of the house where his wife and two of his daughters were killed in a massive explosion in Beirut, Lebanon, August 11, 2020

The Number Of People Collecting Unemployment Benefits Through Regular State Programs Also Fell At The Beginning Of August

U.S. Weekly Jobless Claims Drop Below One Million for First Time Since March



KEY POINTS

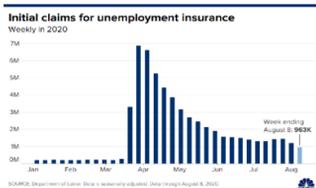
First-time jobless claims totaled 963,000 last week versus the Wall Street estimate of 1.1 million.

That was the first time below 1 million since March 14.

Continuing claims totaled 15.5 million, down more than 600,000.

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

First-time claims for unemployment insurance last week fell below 1 million for the first time since March 21 in a sign that the labor market is continuing its recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.



While the sub-1 million reading marks a

milestone, there's still plenty of work to do for the job market to get back to normal. Those collecting benefits for at least two weeks, known as continuing claims, totaled nearly 15.5 million, a decrease of 604,000 from a week ago, but still well above pre-pandemic levels.

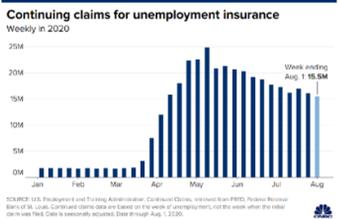
Markets cut losses following the report, and Wall Street indicated a flat open for stocks. Equities were little changed in midmorning trading. The total marks the second week of declines since a provision expired July 31 that gave unemployment insurance recipients an extra \$600 a week on top of their normal compensation.

extension as President Donald Trump issued an executive order that would provide an extra \$400.



More than 50 million Americans have filed for unemployment since the start of the pandemic, overwhelming some states. WSJ visits an unemployment processing event in Ardmore, Okla., to hear from some of the people waiting to get help with their claims.

The decline "provides some fuel for the argument that the enhanced benefits were providing an incentive for people to stay away from returning to work if they had the option," Jefferies said in a note.



At the state level, the biggest drops in claims came from Florida (-23,180), New York (-21,905) and Texas (-11,233), according to numbers not adjusted for seasonality.

ed number is more relevant as the current circumstances surrounding the pandemic are not subject to seasonality. The report comes as the U.S. has recovered about half the jobs it lost during the Covid-19 closures, according to a recent nonfarm payrolls report.

U.S. Stocks Waver as Jobless Claims Edge Lower

U.S. stocks wavered Thursday as the number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits came in below expectations, but still held at historically high levels.



The S&P 500 fell 0.1% to 3335.20, near its record close in February. The Dow Jones Industrial Average added 0.1%, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq was about flat.

Driving the trading, about 1.2 million filed new claims for unemployment benefits for the week ended Aug. 1, fewer than the 1.4 million analysts expected.

"We've not seen, prior to this year, weekly jobless numbers over about 700,000" since the 1980s, Mr. Lee said.

The S&P 500 has risen over the last four trading sessions as investors bet that lawmakers will hammer out the terms of a new coronavirus-relief package.

saying they were prepared to walk away from negotiations and use executive actions by President Trump if an agreement isn't within reach by the end of the week.

Overnight, the mood in markets dimmed after U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo asked American companies to consider withholding their apps from phones made by China's Huawei Technologies, according to analysts.



Every 8 minutes, we respond to a disaster.

Your donation can help impact lives.



HELP NOW

redcross.org



美国风俗面面观

美国的文化,从某种意义上说,是欧洲文化的延伸,因为美国人的语言、人口构成、立国精神等都源于欧洲。

文化习俗是个范围广泛、内容复杂的题目,涉及人在社会生活和交往中的方方面面,下面,本人主要介绍美国各地区生活习惯上的差异,以便新移民更好地融入当地的生活。

根据地区差异,美国分为如下几个地区:新英格兰地区、中大西洋地区、南部地区、中西部地区及西海岸地区。

1. "圣经带"(Bible Belt) 指的是美国东南及中南部各州,包括德克萨斯、俄克拉荷马、路易斯安

那、阿肯色、田纳西、密西西比、肯塔基、亚拉巴马、佐治亚、南卡罗来纳、北卡罗来纳等黑人比例较高的州。

2. 圣帕特里克节(St. Patrick's Day) 每年3月17日的爱尔兰节日圣帕特里克节(St.Patrick's Day),芝加哥市内的芝加哥河都会被染成绿色。

3. "软性饮料"(Soft drinks, 不含酒精的饮料) 当美国人提到"软性饮料"(Soft-drinks, 不含酒精的饮料)时,不同地区的人们使用的词汇是不一样的。

4. 美国西岸文件VS. 美国东岸文化 以矽谷湾区(Silicon Valley, Bay Area)为代表的美国西海岸地区文化集中于科技与创业,而以纽约为代表的美国东海岸地区文化集中于时尚、艺术、娱乐、及媒体等。

5. 加州令人头疼的交通 说到民风自由、种族多样性非常高的加州,就不得不提到加州令人头疼的交通.....除了北加的湾区尚有公共交通Bart系统(类似于地铁),联结了旧金山、圣

较为盛行,因为南方各州非裔人口比例高,爱尔兰后裔相对较少。

3. "软性饮料"(Soft drinks, 不含酒精的饮料) 当美国人提到"软性饮料"(Soft-drinks, 不含酒精的饮料)时,不同地区的人们使用的词汇是不一样的。

4. 美国西岸文件VS. 美国东岸文化 以矽谷湾区(Silicon Valley, Bay Area)为代表的美国西海岸地区文化集中于科技与创业,而以纽约为代表的美国东海岸地区文化集中于时尚、艺术、娱乐、及媒体等。

此外,还有一个"8/6 Phenomenon"(8/6现象),就是说在矽谷湾区能被评为8分的女人,到了纽约就至多只能是6分,原因是湾区男人占多数,而纽约是女多于男。

6. 美国对"进门是否脱鞋"各地区文化不同 在美国,进门是否脱鞋也因地区文化不同而异。在大部分南方各州及哥伦比亚特区,进门无需脱鞋。

7. 美国纹身文化 和大多数生活在大陆的人们相比,来自夏威夷岛的人们一般身上会有更多纹身(tattoo)。这一现象主要有三个原因:

8. 美国各地区英语用词方面的差别 约瑟、奥克兰、伯克利、萨克拉门托等湾区主要城市,加州其他地区基本上可以是没有公共交通。

9. 美国火车 在美国,一般的出行方式是坐飞机、大巴或自己开车,极少人会选择坐火车。

10. 美国的官方语言 虽然惯例上大家都默认美国的官方语言是英语,但事实上联邦法律并没有明确规定美国的官方语言。

1. 宗教保守主义在夏威夷岛屿的影响非常小,民风相对自由开放。

2. 由于夏威夷岛的高度移民率,波利尼西亚文化、东亚文化和西方传统三者的融合,为夏威夷地区的纹身文化提供了更丰富多样的图案选择和发展方向。

3. 军队的存在也同时促进了夏威夷地区纹身文化的繁荣。

总的来说,越是民风开放、少数民族人口比例高的地区(诸如西海岸的加州、俄勒冈州及南方的佛罗里达州、德克萨斯州和内华达州等),纹身文化越是流行。

4. 大多数生活在大陆的人们相比,来自夏威夷岛的人们一般身上会有更多纹身(tattoo)。这一现象主要有三个原因:

