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John Robbins 281-965-6390
Jun Gai 281-498-4310

Publisher: Wea H. Lee
President: Catherine Lee
Editor: John Robbins

Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072
E-mail: News@scdaily.com



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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Brazilian police question some 1,000 detainees after rampage in capital

BRASILIA, Jan 10 (Reuters) - Brazilian police on Tuesday were questioning some 1,000 protesters held in an overcrowded gymnasium in the capital after anti-government mobs sacked public buildings over the weekend, as the country's new government worked to overcome the crisis.

Most of the supporters of far-right former President Jair Bolsonaro were detained on Monday as troops dismantled a camp in Brasilia from which demonstrators set off on Sunday to storm Brazil's Congress, Supreme Court and presidential palace.

Protesters at the camp outside army headquarters had called for a military coup to overturn the October election in which leftist President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva narrowly defeated Bolsonaro, who made baseless suggestions of a rigged election.

Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes, who is running investigations of the "anti-democratic" protests, vowed in a speech on Tuesday to combat the "terrorists" calling for a coup.

Police officer killed in burning car in Peru after 17 killed in protests

Peru's mining south, rocked by violence, braces for 'endless battle'

Colombia, ELN rebels likely to hold emergency meeting in Caracas-negotiator

Colombia VP Francia Marquez says explosive found near her home

"Democracy will prevail and Brazilian institutions will not bend," said Moraes at the swearing-in of a new head of the federal police.

Yet the challenge of carrying out such an enormous criminal investigation into a loosely organized protest movement in the first weeks of a new government was already beginning to show.

Roughly 1,000 detainees from the protest camp were held for questioning at a police gymnasium where they slept on the ground, some wrapped in Brazilian flags, and complained to a Reuters journalist that they were being held indefinitely and poorly fed. They sang and took selfies with their phones, video posted on social media showed.

Opposition Senator Marcos do Val, who has denounced the Brasilia riots as a blunder for the political right, told journalists outside the gym that many of those detained "are paying for being in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Around 200 other demonstrators were under arrest and awaiting charges in a penal facility for their role in Sunday's rampage, which vandalized some of the capital's most iconic buildings in the worst attack on Brazilian democracy in decades.

Government lawyers asked Moraes to order cellphone carriers and social media platforms to store information that could place users in the areas of the rioting on Sunday as authorities try to identify the organizers and their financial



sources.

'NOTHING WAS DONE'

Investigations may also sprawl far beyond Brasilia. Pro-Bolsonaro militants discussed on social media their plans to disrupt highways and oil refineries to cause economic chaos in synch with their storming of the capital.

Brazilian energy company Eletrobras (ELET6.SA) is investigating whether the collapse of two transmission towers was related to Sunday's violence in Brasilia, according to two sources familiar with the probe.

Eletrobras did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Its subsidiary, Eletronorte, released a statement on Monday about a fallen tower connecting rural communities in northern Brazil to the central grid, with "signs of sabotage."

Financial markets have largely shrugged off the uprising in Latin America's largest economy, with the Bovespa benchmark stock index (.BVSP) up 0.7% on Tuesday and Brazil's currency, the real, rebounding almost 1% against the U.S. dollar.

But the violence stunned Lula's government, which has been in office for barely a week, and could delay economic policy announcements that were planned for this week by an administration eager to show results.

Lula's chief of staff, Rui Costa, said the government was back to work and policy decisions would be made on time.

On Monday night, Lula, who took office on Jan. 1, met with the head of the Supreme Court, congressional leaders and state governors in a show of national unity to condemn the riots. They visited the ransacked Supreme Court

building, which was the site most damaged by the pro-Bolsonaro rioters.

Lula accused the rioters of trying to overthrow democracy and questioned why the army had not discouraged calls for a military coup.

"People were openly calling for a coup outside the barracks, and nothing was done. No general lifted a finger to tell them they could not do that," the 77-year-old president said. He accused some security forces of being complicit with rioters.

The Brazilian army did not respond to a request for comment on Lula's criticism.

Bolsonaro, who flew to Florida 48 hours before his term ended, was admitted to a hospital in the U.S. state. He told CNN Brasil he may cut short his stay there due to his medical issues, returning to Brazil before the end of the month.

His son, Senator Flavio Bolsonaro, denied on Tuesday that the former president was responsible for the riots.

"Since the election result he's been silent, licking his wounds, virtually incommunicado," he said in a session in the Senate.

Public prosecutors asked on Tuesday for a federal audit court to freeze the ex-president's assets in light of Sunday's vandalism, according to a report on the website of CNN Brasil - a move outside the traditional scope of that court

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WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

01/17/2022

Welcome The Year Of The Rabbit

TEXAS LUNAR FESTIVAL
27th Texas Lunar New Year Festival
 Saturday, January 21st, 2023
 10:00am-5:00pm

- ♥ International Food
- ♥ Fabulous Giveaways
- ♥ Exhibitions
- ♥ Entertainment

Featuring Robot Bili

2023
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Wea H. Lee
 Wealee@scdaily.com

Chairman of International District Houston Texas
Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee
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 Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
 Republic of Guiana Honorary consul at Houston Texas

With the arrival of the Year of the Rabbit we have walked out from the dark days of the pandemic. We all open our arms to welcome the arrival of spring.

Our team always stands at the forefront of the working line and faithfully reports the joys and sorrows of the world in every corner of the community with the writing pen in hand and the camera on our shoulders.

Walking down Bellaire Blvd. in the International

District we have witnessed the endless flow of vehicles. We have cultivated the raw land into green space and have turned the land into our own home.

The annual Lunar New Year Festival will soon be unveiled again. The double golden lions in front of our building will once again welcome guests from all over our community. We are here to express our gratitude again.



Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



Rutenberg power station is seen as lightning strikes over the Mediterranean sea at the coastal city of Ashkelon, Israel. REUTERS/Amir Cohen



Demonstrators clash with security forces during a protest demanding early elections and the release of jailed former President Pedro Castillo, near the Juliaca airport, in Juliaca, Peru January 9, 2023. REUTERS/Hugo Courotto



Brazil's former President and presidential candidate Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva stands next to his wife Rosangela da Silva, on the day of Brazil's presidential election, in Sao Paulo, Brazil. REUTERS/Amanda Perobelli



Andrew Tate and his brother Tristan are escorted by police officers outside the headquarters of the Bucharest Court of Appeal, in Bucharest, Romania. Inquam Photos/Octav Ganea



Members of Special police march during parade celebrations to mark their autonomous Serb Republic's national holiday, banned by the constitutional court, in East Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. REUTERS/Dado Ruvic



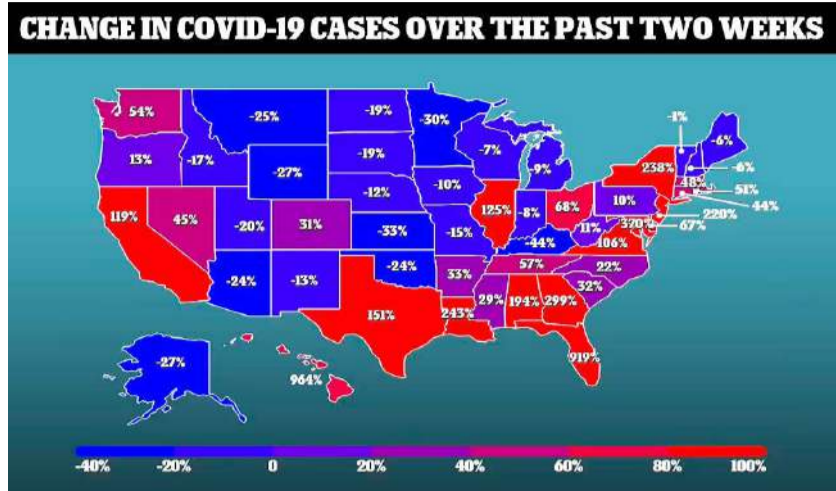
Max Barnett, 23, is pulled on a surfboard by driver Riley Johnson, 23, down a flooded street after the threat of mudslides prompted evacuation orders in east Santa Barbara, California. REUTERS/Erica Urech

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

BUSINESS

COVID-19 Cases TRIPLE Over The Past Two Weeks With A 964% Increase In Hawaii And A 238% Jump In New York

Omicron Continues To Ravage The Nation



Key Point

- *Covid cases have increased by over 200% - or three-fold - over the past two weeks in seven U.S. states as Omicron continues spread in the U.S.
*Hawaii has been the hardest struck, with cases increasing nearly ten-fold over the past two weeks
*New York is experiencing the highest rate of positive cases in the U.S., with 167 out of every 100,000 residents testing positive every day
*Cases are declining in states like Alaska and Michigan where the death rate is among the highest in the nation, signaling the recent surge may be ending

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

The U.S. is experiencing yet another winter Covid surge, with the situation expected to only worsen over the weeks following the Christmas and New Year's holidays. According to data from Johns Hopkins University, the U.S. is averaging 181,948 Covid cases every day, with that number set to increase in the coming days due to reporting lags during the holiday season.

(106), Maryland (104), Massachusetts (104) and Ohio (104). In the Empire State, the number of New Yorkers hospitalized with COVID ballooned over Christmas, with more than 5,500 people spending their holidays inside one of New York's many hospital facilities - the largest increase since February.



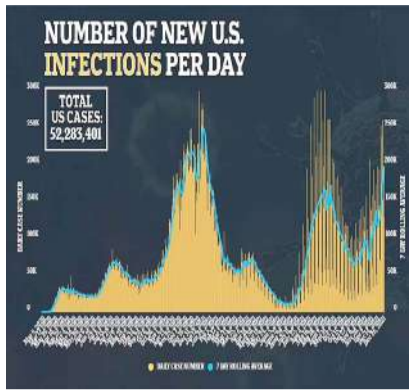
cases again after a technical glitch prevented the state from doing so in recent weeks - has seen cases increased by 370 percent. In New Jersey, the number of new daily cases have increased by 220 percent - more than tripling over 14 days. Other states among the nation's leaders in Covid case rates have all also seen infections jump by 50 percent or more over the past two weeks.



States in the west that were previously recording little change in cases, if not outright declines, have seen cases jump as well.

California, the nation's most populous state, has witnessed a doubling of cases over the past two weeks. Oregon, a 13 percent increase, and Washington, 54 percent, have jumped after experiencing case declines in recent weeks as well.

among the leaders in death rate - with it 1.27 deaths per every 100,000 residents being third in the country - though cases are down nine percent over the past two weeks.



Many other states in the north and Midwest are recording declining cases as well, as the early fall surges called by cold weather are starting to recede. Kansas leads the country in largest two week case decline, with infections dropping by 33 percent in 14 days.



New York COVID hospitalizations top 5,500 for the first time since February, with child admissions rising FIVE-FOLD as Gov Kathy Hochul urges parents to vaccinate children between the ages of 5-11

5,500 people spending their holidays inside one of New York's many hospital facilities - the largest increase since February. Gov. Kathy Hochul announced on Monday that statewide hospitalizations stand at 5,526 - the highest total since February 23 and nearly a 190 percent increase since November 1, according to NBC 4 New York.



Gov. Kathy Hochul on Monday announced that hospitalizations have increased over Christmas

'Many people thought - continue to think - that children don't become infected with COVID. This is not true,' she said. 'Children become infected and some will be hospitalized.'

(Article Continues Below)

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

COMMUNITY

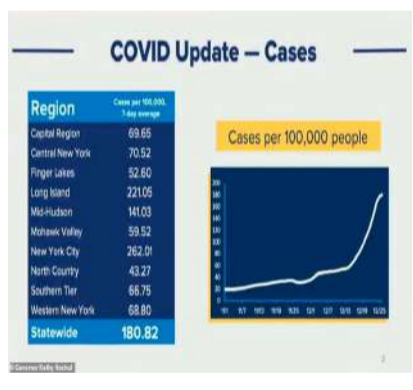
(Article Continues From Above)

Omicron Continues To Ravage The Nation

Meanwhile, New York State saw 26,737 people test positive for the virus - though Hochul said on Monday she expects the number to rise up to 20,000 or more by the time Tuesday's data comes in, as more people will get tested following the Christmas holiday.

The situation is more grim in New York City, which is seeing a 10.7 percent positivity rate with a 17,334 total cases reported over the past week. There were also 208 hospitalizations over the past week, according to New York City health data, and 10 deaths as the Omicron variant continues to spread. It now accounts for 73 percent of cases in the U.S. according to most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

'public-facing location' at the place of employment.



New York State saw 26,737 people test positive for the virus - though Hochul said on Monday she expects the number to rise up to 20,000 or more by the time Tuesday's data comes in, as more people will get tested following the Christmas holiday.

As of Monday, there were 5,526 New Yorkers in the hospital - the first time the state has surpassed more than 5,500 hospitalizations since late February. Still, Mayor Bill de Blasio has vowed that the annual New Years Eve ball drop will continue, even as Dr. Anthony Fauci announced that people should cancel their New Years plans.

the most dominant strain in the US, accounting for over 73% of new coronavirus cases less than three weeks after the first was reported, according to estimates posted Monday by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



In this aerial view, cars line up at a Covid-19 testing site at Tropical Park in Miami, Florida on December 21, 2021. - Days out from Christmas, Americans are facing long lines to get tested for the coronavirus amid a new surge driven by the Omicron variant and a dire shortage of options for this vital screening measure.

Omicron is even more prevalent in certain parts of the country - making up over 95% of circulating virus in parts of the Northwest and Southeast, the data shows. As of Monday, 48 US states have reported cases of Omicron, according to public statements from hospital systems and state officials, as well as Puerto Rico and Washington, DC.



People wait in line to get tested for COVID-19 at a mobile testing site in Times Square on Friday, Dec. 17, 2021, in New York.

Scientists are still waiting on data on the severity of Omicron in the US compared to other variants. But it is expected to put added strain the health care system and health care workers especially.

Dr. Francis Collins, the outgoing director of the National Institutes of Health, told CNN's Anderson Cooper on Friday that the Omicron variant could result in as many as a million new cases a day.



Flight crew from Air China arrive in hazmat suits in the international terminal at Los Angeles International Airport on December 3, 2021, as Los Angeles County reported its first case of the new Covid-19 variant, omicron.

Covid-19 hospitalizations trended upward over the past month as medical facilities in some parts of the country have been inundated with patients infected with the Delta variant. Now, the presence of Omicron - which scientists be-

lieve to be more contagious though most cases so far appear to be mild - may push some strained health care systems to the brink. 'It is quite likely that we are going to see in some sections of the country, a significant stress on the hospital system as well as on the health care workers who are getting exhausted by all of this,' Dr. Anthony Fauci told ABC's 'This Week' on Sunday, noting that a more transmissible form of Covid-19, such as Omicron, will have a greater impact on the tens of millions of Americans who have not been vaccinated.



People walk by groups of people lined-up to get tested for Covid-19 in Times Square on Dec. 5, 2021 in New York City. With the newly discovered omicron strain of Covid, health officials are urging people to get a vaccination or a booster and get tested for Covid.

Omicron will lead to a spike in cases in the upcoming weeks, but those who are vaccinated and unvaccinated will have a 'stark difference' in experience, US Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy told anchor Tony Dokoupil on 'CBS Mornings' Monday.