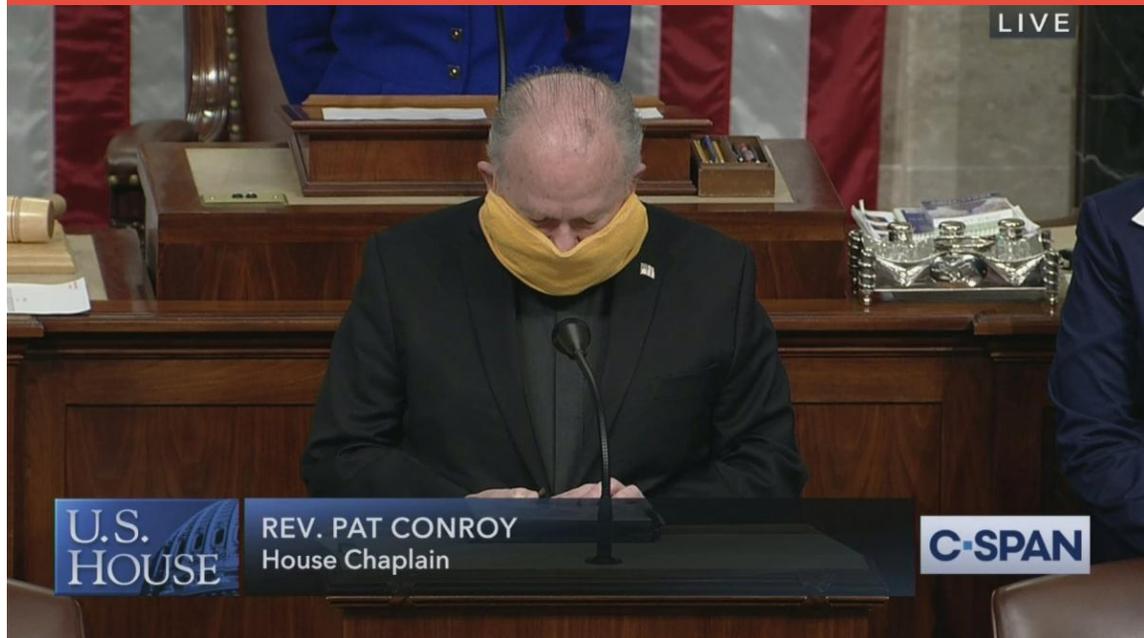


COVID-19 Daily Digest



House Chaplain Patrick Conroy delivered today's opening prayer wearing a yellow protective mask.

Today's News: Thursday, April 23

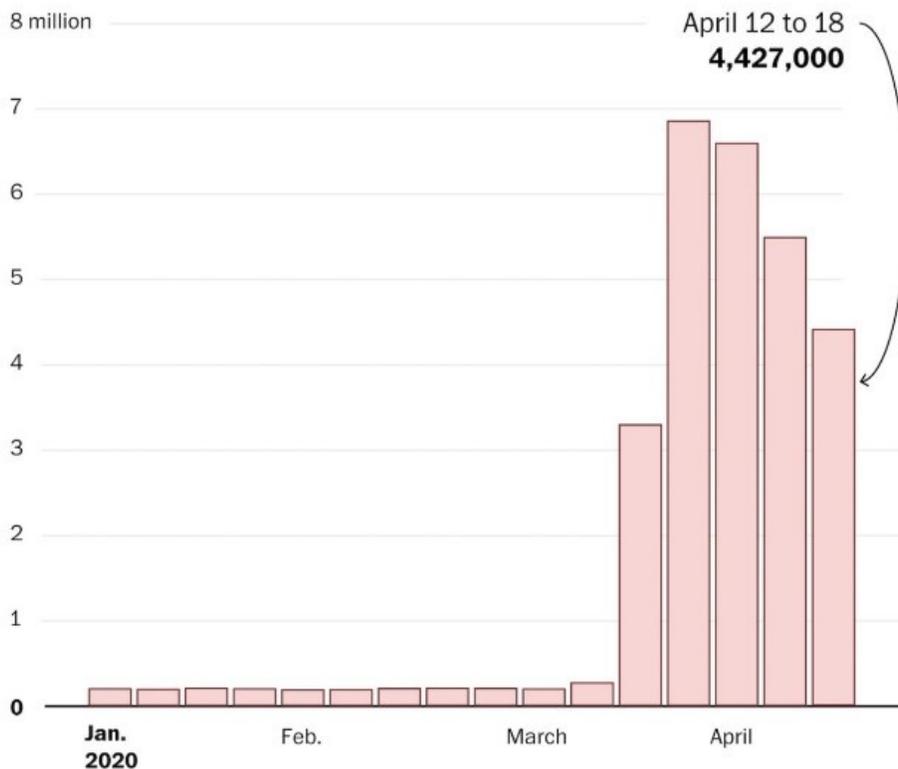
PPP Funding Sent to Trump for Signature

This evening, the House passed additional funding for the Paycheck Protection Program, by a vote of 388-5. President Trump is expected to sign the legislation into law tonight.

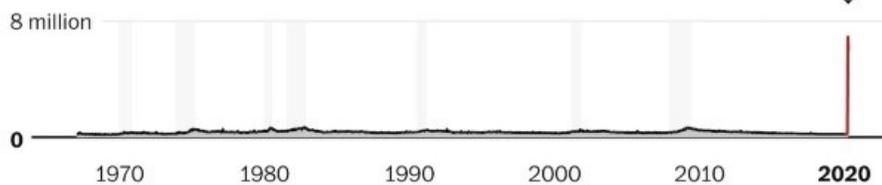
Unemployment Filings

Last week, 4.4 Million more U.S. workers filed for unemployment benefits. As of last Friday, there have been 26 million unemployment filings since the COVID-19 shutdowns started; to put that number in perspective, there are now more unemployed U.S. workers than the total population of Australia (24.99 million.)

U.S. initial claims for unemployment insurance in 2020



and here's 2020 in historical context



Note: Seasonally adjusted
Source: Labor Department

THE WASHINGTON POST

Young Adults Vulnerable to Sudden COVID-19 Strokes

Doctors have reported that coronavirus infections appear to cause unusual blood clotting in large arteries that can lead to sudden strokes in young adults. Dr. Thomas Oxley, a neurosurgeon at Mount Sinai Health System in New York, issued a report this week that shows a seven-fold increase in the incidence of strokes for coronavirus patients in their 30s and 40s. Oxley's report cautions that all patients, even those that are asymptomatic or suffering from only mild symptoms, should be aware of signs of stroke, such as: arm weakness, facial drooping, and difficulty speaking.

As Budget Shortfalls Approach, Universities Start to Poach

Universities across the nation are facing a looming financial crisis; rising expenses and plunging revenues have led to budget shortfalls threatening public and private institutions alike. After requesting \$50 billion in the CARES Act for colleges and universities, Congress instead appropriated \$14 billion in funding, a number that the American Council on Education says is insufficient. In addition to the large decrease in student enrollment, universities are feeling pressure from students and parents, arguing for a reduction in tuition for the spring semester, because they feel that remote education is an inferior to what they thought they paid for.

This massive decrease in revenue, paired with the Department of Justice's recent action to temporarily exempt college admission officers from a longstanding ban on recruiting students enrolled in other universities, has led to massive spike in "student poaching" as the need for enrollees grows. Admission officers are expected to try to entice previously

committed students deep into the summer with offers of tuition discounts, early class registration, preferred parking, and admission for students not accepted in years prior.

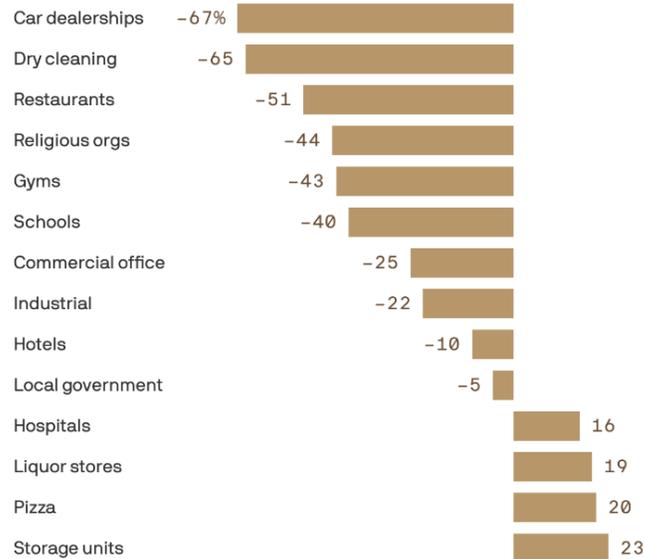
WHO Documents Suggest Remdesivir Not Helpful Against COVID-19

Leaked draft documents, since removed from the the World Health Organization's website, suggest that Gilead's drug remdesivir showed no benefits when treating coronavirus patients in a randomized clinical trial. While COVID-19 patients who received remdesivir died at higher rates than the control group, researchers concluded the differences were not statistically significant. The company is responding that the data is preliminary and incomplete since the study ended early due to low enrollment

Electricity Consumption Plummets in Quarantine Era

Change in electricity consumption

Between first and fourth weeks of March; weighted average across four power grids

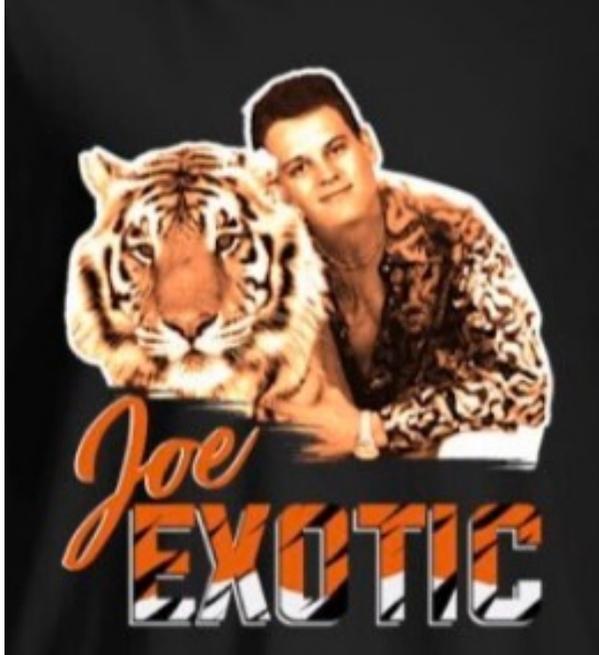


Global Food Crisis on the Horizon

National lockdowns and social distancing measures are quickly leading to a hunger crisis in many parts of the world, and experts say the number of those facing acute hunger globally could double to over 265 million people by the end of 2020. Johan Swinnen, the Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute, says that, while there currently isn't a global food shortage, poorer countries are at higher risk because their methods of planting, harvesting, and transporting food are hugely labor-intensive, and therefore more vulnerable to quarantines and work stoppages brought on by the pandemic. To make matters worse, the loss of employment and income, the global collapse of oil prices, and the steep decline in tourism has disproportionately affected developing nations entering the summer months.

First Round of NFL Draft Tonight

The first round of the NFL draft is tonight at 8 p.m. EST, and unlike prior years, this draft will be conducted virtually; owners and general managers will be calling their picks in via conference call. Joe Burrow, the presumptive number one overall pick and admirer of the mighty panthera tigris, is expected to be drafted to the Cincinnati Bengals after one season as an LSU Tiger.



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