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Mr. Lee’s Commentary and Dairy



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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U.S. Electoral College formally confirms Joe Biden’s victory over Trump



Once the Electoral College vote is complete, Trump’s sole remaining gambit would be to persuade Congress not to certify the count on Jan. 6.

LANSING, Mich. (Reuters) - Democrat Joe Biden on Monday won the state-by-state Electoral College vote that formally determines the U.S. presidency, all but ending President Donald Trump’s floundering campaign to overturn his loss in the Nov. 3 election.

California, the most populous state, delivered its 55 electoral votes to Biden on Monday afternoon, officially putting the former vice president over the 270 votes needed to secure the White House. Based on November’s results, Biden earned 306 Electoral College votes to the Republican Trump’s 232.

Earlier in the day, electors in several major battleground states where Trump has unsuccessfully sought to reverse the outcome - Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin - also voted for Biden, who is set to take office on Jan. 20 alongside running mate Kamala Harris.

Traditionally a formality, the Electoral College vote - set for Monday by federal law - assumed outsized significance because of Trump’s unsubstantiated claims of widespread fraud.

Biden planned a prime-time address at 7:30 p.m. ET on Monday (0030 GMT on Tuesday) to mark the occasion and call on Americans to “turn the page” on the Trump era. “The flame of democracy was lit in this nation a long time ago,” he was expected to say, according to excerpts

released by his transition team. “And we now know that nothing — not even a pandemic — or an abuse of power — can extinguish that flame.

“In this battle for the soul of America, democracy prevailed.”

There was next to no chance that Monday’s voting would negate Biden’s victory and, with Trump’s legal campaign to reverse the results failing, the president’s dim hopes of clinging to power rest with persuading Congress not to accept Monday’s electoral vote during a Jan. 6 special session - an effort that is virtually certain to fail.

Once in office, Biden faces the challenging task of fighting the coronavirus pandemic, reviving the U.S. economy and rebuilding relations frayed with U.S. allies abroad by Trump’s “America First” policies.

RELATED COVERAGE THREATS OF VIOLENCE

In Arizona, at the beginning of the electors’ meeting there, the state’s Democratic secretary of state, Katie Hobbs, said Trump’s claims of fraud had “led to threats of violence against me, my office, and those in this room today,” echoing similar reports of threats and intimidation in other states.

“While there will be those who are upset their candidate didn’t win, it is patently un-American and unacceptable that today’s event should be anything less than an honored tradition held with pride and in celebration,” Hobbs said.

A group of Trump supporters called on Facebook for protests all day on Monday outside the state Capitol in Lansing, Michigan, one of the hardest-fought states where Trump lost.

But by early afternoon only a handful had gathered, including Bob Ray, 66, a retired construction worker. He held a sign that read: “order a forensic audit,” “save America” and “stop communism.”

Under a complicated system dating back to the 1780s, a candidate becomes U.S. president not by winning a majority of the popular vote but through the Electoral College system, which allots electoral votes to the 50 states and the District of Columbia largely based on the size of their population.

Electors are typically party loyalists who represent the winning candidate in their state, with the exception of Maine and Nebraska, which allocate some of their Electoral College votes based on which candidate won each of the states’ congressional districts. While there are sometimes a handful of “rogue” electors who vote for someone other than the winner of their state’s popular vote, the vast majority rubber-stamp the results. Trump said late last month he would leave the White House if the Electoral College voted for Biden, but has since pressed on with his unprecedented campaign to overturn his defeat. On Monday, he repeated a series of unsupported claims of electoral fraud. “Swing States that have found massive VOTER FRAUD, which is all of them, CANNOT LEGALLY CERTIFY these votes as complete & correct without committing a severely punishable crime,” he wrote on Twitter.

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WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

12/14/2020

CORONAVIRUS DIARY

Wealee@scdaily.com

The Help Is Really On The Way



Around the world countries are being issued emergency approvals for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for the people who need them at hospitals, clinics and cars and homes.

The first three million doses were sent to 600 locations in fifty U.S. states. Trucks and cargo planes were packed with the first coronavirus vaccines on Sunday. This is the most ambitious vaccination campaign in American history.

In Kalamazoo, Michigan, the first boxes of the vaccine developed by Pfizer were loaded on the trucks as workers applauded openly. This is an historical monument for our nation.

But the deaths and the number of new virus cases have soared in the United States and the vast majority of Americans will not be eligible for vaccination until this spring. Health officials still urge that the public must wear their masks and keep the social distance.

Across the country governors and state health officials were preparing for the arrivals of the vaccine shipments. Later they will make the final decision as to who will be given the vaccine first.

We are really thankful for all those scientists who made their mission from the impossible to the possible.

In the last eleven months we have been living in hell. Many of us have lost our loved ones, and because of COVID-19, there are many sad stories among all of us.

Today real help is on the way. We will fight and win against this evil. May the world get back to normal and peaceful very soon.



Southern News Group Chairman / CEO
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
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Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Stay Home!

BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

More Than D-Day Or 9/11

COVID-19's Most Lethal Day: 3,309 Dead on Friday



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

Coronavirus infections jumped by almost 17% over the past week as the number of new cases increased in 38 states and Washington, D.C.

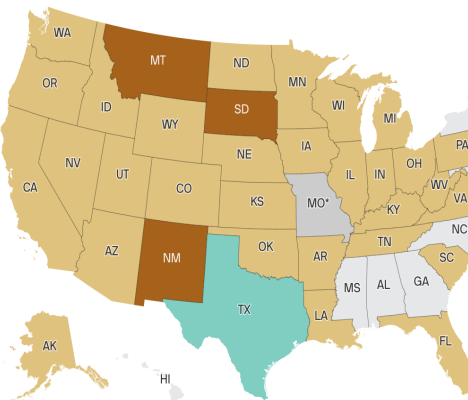
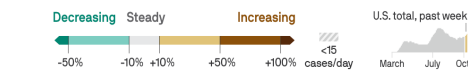
Why it matters: The U.S. is headed solidly in the wrong direction — and at a dangerous time, as experts say the fall and winter will likely make the pandemic worse. They had hoped we could get cases under control before then, but that seems unrealistic.

By the numbers: The U.S. racked up an average of up 51,000 new cases per day over the past week.

- The number of new infections rose in 38 states, spanning every region of the country.
- Three states — Montana, New Mexico and South Dakota — saw their case counts rise by over 50%.
- The pace of new infections slowed down in only one state: Texas.
- The U.S. is now conducting roughly 1 million tests per day, up about 6% from the week before.
- But the increase in cases is bigger than the increase in testing, which is a sign of an actual worsening outbreak.

Change in new COVID-19 cases in the past v

Percent change of the 7-day average of new cases on Oct. 6 and Oct. 13, 2020



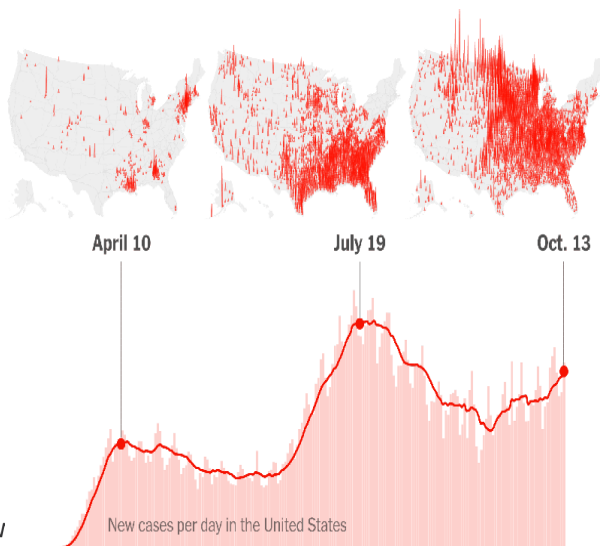
Data: The COVID Tracking Project, state health departments; Note: Missouri has not reported cases since Oct. 10; (Map: Andrew Witherspoon, Sara Wise/Axios)

The big picture: The U.S. has consistently failed to control the virus, and we are failing to control it now.

- Experts say the fall and winter will likely make things worse, as colder weather causes people to move their socializing indoors, where the virus can spread more easily. If those assumptions bear out, those increases will come on top of a caseload that's already too high.
- Americans believe the federal government's handling of the pandemic has gotten significantly worse over time, according to the latest

installment of the Axios/Ipsos Coronavirus Index.

Poll Says: Federal Response Has Only Grown Worse



Data: Axios/Ipsos poll; Note ±3.3% margin of error for the total sample size; Chart: Andrew Witherspoon/Axios

Why it matters: Every other institution measured in Week 29 of our national poll — from state and local governments to people's own employers and area businesses — won positive marks for improving their responses since those panicked early days in March and April.

- The findings suggests people see President Trump and his political team as one of the biggest impediments to turning things around.
- With one week left in the presidential election, as the U.S. hits all-time daily highs for new cases, four in five Americans say they're worried about COVID-19 outbreaks.

By the numbers: 26% of Americans said the federal government's handling of the virus is better than it was at the beginning, but 46% say it's actually gotten worse (and another 27% saw no change), for a net deficit of 20 percentage points.

- Barely half of Republicans said the federal government's handling has improved while one in five said it has gotten worse. Only one in 10 Democrats and one in four independents said it improved.
- Those sentiments fit with other measures in the survey: 62% said the federal government is making the country's recovery worse, an assessment essentially unchanged since the summer. And just one-third of respondents trust the federal government to provide them with accurate information about the virus.

How are the following handling the COVID-19 pandemic now, compared to the beginning?

Survey of 1,079 U.S. adults, Oct. 23-26, 2020

	Net difference between better and worse
Businesses in your area	+27%
Your employer	+26
Your local government	+10
CDC	+10
Your state government	+3
Federal government	-20

Data: Axios/Ipsos poll; Note ±3.3% margin of error for the total sample size; Chart: Andrew Witherspoon/Axios
Between the lines: Concerns are directed more at the political arm of the federal government than at scientists.

• On its own, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention won net positive ratings (+10) — 33% said it improved it's handling, while 23% said it declined and the rest saw no change.

What they're saying: The coronavirus "is the issue of this election," said Cliff Young, president of Ipsos U.S. Public Affairs.

• "People are just looking around at the facts on the ground and at the end of the day there's been no coordinated response to the coronavirus at the national level."

• At the local level, by contrast, people see "specific, concrete things" like stickers on the ground for social distancing at stores where they shop, or modifications to schooling.

• "When they think of the federal government, they're just thinking of the overall mess. There's no end in sight. The number of cases are only increasing."

Methodology: This Axios/Ipsos Poll was conducted Oct. 23-26, 2020, by Ipsos' KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 1,079 general population adults age 18 or older.



Editor's Choice



Gabriel Cervera calls the family of a patient who died, as healthcare personnel work inside a coronavirus unit at United Memorial Medical Center in Houston, Texas. REUTERS/Callaghan O’Hare



President Trump stands among U.S. Army cadets as he attends the annual Army-Navy collegiate football game at Michie Stadium in West Point, New York. REUTERS/Tom Brenner



A man wearing a protective mask points his guns outside the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in Manhattan, New York. REUTERS/Jeenah Moon



Members of the far-right group Proud Boys clash with counter protesters, in downtown Washington. REUTERS/Erin Scott



An Ethiopian refugee who fled Tigray region, stands within the Fashaga camp on the Sudan-Ethiopia border, in Kassala state, Sudan. REUTERS/Mohamed Nureldin Abdallah



Marine One, carrying President Trump, passes over people attending a rally to protest the results of the election in front of Supreme Court building in Washington. REUTERS/Jonathan Ernst



Boxes containing the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine are prepared to be shipped at the Pfizer Global Supply Kalamazoo manufacturing plant in Portage, Michigan. Morry Gash/Pool



Boxes containing the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine are prepared to be shipped at the Pfizer Global Supply Kalamazoo manufacturing plant in Portage, Michigan. Morry Gash/Pool

The pandemic has come storming back to Europe, and hope of a return to normality is being replaced by a much more ominous prospect: the return to lockdown.

The big picture: Case counts in countries like France and Spain have skyrocketed past the numbers seen during the spring peak. While that's partially due to more widespread testing, it's now clear that deaths are climbing too.

Breaking it down

In the first two weeks of August, a total of **668** people died of coronavirus across Spain, France, the U.K., Italy and Germany — remarkably low given the U.S., which has a similar population, was averaging roughly twice as many per day during that time.

• **Fast forward two months**, to the first two weeks of October, and those countries have combined for **4,316** deaths — 6.5 times higher.

• Spain (1,622 deaths), France (1,081) and the U.K. (1,012) have been hit hardest, but even Italy (401) and Germany (200) are recording more than three times as many deaths as they were two months ago.

• **Flash back** to the first two weeks of April, though, and the five countries' combined death total was **44,771** — ten times what they're recording now.

The looming disaster

Sky-high case counts and a reluctance to impose full lockdowns mean the question is less whether these countries can quickly return to the relative calm of August, than whether they can avoid a return to April's brutal reality.

The European Coronavirus Crisis in Photos

Italy



Peaceful demonstrators in Naples, Oct.

26.

Europe's Second Wave Soars Past America's Third Wave



Czech

Republic



Mass at Town Square, Prague, Oct. 26, 2020.

France



Bar owner closes before the citywide curfew.

United Kingdom



Quiet street in Cardiff, Wales capital.

Coronavirus Civil Unrest In France.

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



Bar in Manchester, nor'west England.

Spain



1st night of a nationwide curfew Madrid, Spain.

Germany



Open Bavaria inn before curfew measures.

Ireland



Pub in Dublin under 6-week lockdown.

Belgium



Poland



UNESCO Main Square in Krakow, Poland.

(Photos Courtesy Getty Images)

The looming disaster (continued)

• “We’re probably just seeing the beginning part of the increase in hospitalizations and deaths,” which tend to lag three or four weeks behind a spike in cases, says Stephen Kessler, a researcher at Harvard who models the spread of diseases including COVID-19.

• But that doesn’t mean the unprecedented spike in cases across Europe will necessarily translate to unprecedented death tolls, Kessler says, both because of increased testing and improved treatments.

The outlook is nonetheless grim. Hans Kluge, the WHO’s director for Europe, said today that if the current trajectory holds, death rates will be four or five times higher in January than they were in April.

• “It’s time to step up. The message to governments is: don’t hold back with relatively small actions to avoid the painful damaging actions we saw in the first round,” Kluge said.

But with weary populations and wounded economies, governments are highly reluctant to impose the sorts of strict lockdowns that snapped into place across Europe last March.

• “The only thing that we know works and works very effectively is pretty strict lockdown,” Kessler says. “That said, I do think that there’s a lot we can do in the middle ground to mitigate the spread of the virus.”

• It will be particularly important to prevent large gatherings that could become super-spreader events, he says. (Courtesy axios.com)

美南電視最新節目單

Southern Television 15.3 2020年12月份 電視頻道節目表							12/14/2020 - 12/20/2020	
美中時間	星期一	星期二	星期三	星期四	星期五	星期六	美中時間	
	14日	15日	16日	17日	18日	19日	20日	
0:00	遠方的家(重播)	美南時事通(重播)	美南時事通(重播)	美南時事通(重播)	美南時事通(重播)	美南時事通(重播)	中國文藝 周末版(重播)	0:00
0:30								0:30
1:00	國家回憶(重播)	美南大咖談	美南大咖談	美南大咖談	美南大咖談	美南大咖談	美南大咖談	1:00
1:30								1:30
2:00	深度國際(重播)	愛家好醫生(重播)	光鹽健康園地(重播)	輕談國學歌風雅(重播)	世界聽我說(重播)	轉轉發現愛(重播)	中國緣(重播)	2:00
2:30	中國輿論場(重播)	生活(重播)		平凡匠心(重播)			外國人在中國(重播)	2:30
3:00		美南經濟信息廣場	美南經濟信息廣場	美南經濟信息廣場	美南經濟信息廣場	美南經濟信息廣場	愛家好醫生(重播)	3:00
3:30	中國文藝 周末版(重播)	海峽兩岸(重播)	海峽兩岸(重播)	海峽兩岸(重播)	海峽兩岸(重播)	海峽兩岸(重播)	華人故事(重播)	3:30
4:00		今日關注(重播)	今日關注(重播)	今日關注(重播)	今日關注(重播)	今日關注(重播)	平凡匠心(重播)	4:00
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6:00		中國文藝	中國文藝	中國文藝	中國文藝	中國文藝		6:00
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8:30	華人故事(重播)						遠方的家	8:30
9:00	平凡匠心(重播)	今日亞洲(重播)	今日亞洲(重播)	今日亞洲(重播)	今日亞洲(重播)	今日亞洲(重播)		9:00
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電視台保留變更節目權利，以實際播出為準。								Updated as: 12/10/2020

電視台保留變更節目權利，以實際播出為準。

Updated as 12/10/2020



美南大咖談(5:30-6:30)
主持人: Sky 董, 段娜



美南事實通之大選倒計時
(7:00-7:30)
主持人: 蓋軍, 蕭永群



三個女人 一台戲
主持人: 黃梅子