



# Washington State Fusion Center INFOCUS



MONDAY — 8 JUN 2020

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## Events, Opportunities

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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Protesters crowd Spokane park</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.krem.com/article/news/local/second-spokane-peaceful-protest-set-for-sunday/293-a19b15a6-07d9-4420-ba75-bf73a694f7dd">https://www.krem.com/article/news/local/second-spokane-peaceful-protest-set-for-sunday/293-a19b15a6-07d9-4420-ba75-bf73a694f7dd</a>
GIST	<p>SPOKANE, Wash. — A crowd of protesters has returned to Spokane's Riverfront Park after a day of demonstrations that included marches and gatherings outside the Spokane County Courthouse and downtown.</p> <p>After several marches and gatherings in the park, the group then went through the Peaceful Valley area and gathered at the Spokane County Courthouse at one point. After leaving the courthouse, the group returned to the downtown area.</p> <p>Thousands of people came out for the second organized protest in Spokane after the death of George Floyd during an arrest in Minneapolis. The protest remained peaceful this Sunday.</p> <p>An organizer with Occupy Spokane told KREM's Brandon Jones that the protest was officially ended early due to inclement weather.</p> <p>Spokane Police Corporal Teresa Fuller told KREM that police are monitoring the situation. Armed individuals were seen earlier in the downtown area, but Fuller said police didn't contact them as a crime wasn't committed.</p> <p>The protest came a week after thousands of people descended on downtown Spokane and at the Spokane County campus in a demonstration against police brutality. The protest was one of hundreds across the nation after the in-custody death of George Floyd in Minneapolis.</p> <p>Organizers Occupy Spokane say this protest is in support of Breonna Taylor, who was fatally shot in March by the Louisville Police Department.</p>

KREM's Amanda Roley learned that 80 National Guardsmen were at the Spokane County Courthouse. A helicopter has also been seen in the air above downtown Spokane.

KREM crews and protesters have reported seeing people armed in the area of the protest, which has remained peaceful so far.

The Spokane Police Department tweeted that a bucket of rocks had been found downtown during the protest. SPD spokesperson Julie Humphreys also said bricks were found downtown.

Humphreys said police will arrest anyone destroying property or being violent after the peaceful protest.

"At that point we hope that people will feel that they've made their statements and its time to go on and go home," Humphreys said. "But if there are people that want to hang around and cause trouble afterwards, we will be arresting people, we will use tactics that we need to to protect property downtown and to protect lives of the community and the people of Spokane."

Spokane Mayor Nadine Woodward said a curfew hasn't been placed yet as a certain set of criteria has to be met, but that could change as the night goes on.

Spokane City Council President Breean Beggs said he hopes the protests remain peaceful.

"It's also going to depend on people who are out there and there are certainly a few elements who would like disruption. And I hope that like some of us did last week, we stood up against that for a more positive vision of Spokane. So I am very hopeful it will be good, but if there is a bad incident, I think Spokane will rally to create the Spokane that we all want," Beggs said.

KREM's Brandon Jones spoke with some of the peaceful protesters, who said they were happy to see so much support in Spokane.

"I love this, this is absolutely the most wonderful thing I've ever seen. I live right across the street. I could see this from my balcony, but I had to come over and be a part of this," a woman said.

"It brings joy to my heart. It kind of makes me feel good to be here. It kind of makes me feel good that there's so many people around here, because being a person of color, a lot of times I feel like I get different looks and different vibes at the places I go. So it's kind of nice to kind of be able to gather here and feel welcome," a man told KREM.

Occupy Spokane posted to their Facebook page saying the peaceful protest was planned to start at 2:00 p.m. and end Sunday at 7:00 p.m. The group also said there is a suggested curfew of 8 p.m. that may become mandatory. Spokane Mayor Nadine Woodward said criteria hasn't been met yet to enforce a curfew, but one could be implemented if things change.

The Spokane chapter of the NAACP released a statement in support of the protest on Sunday:

*"Regarding today's protest and rally,*

*Occupy Spokane in collaboration with the Spokane NAACP appreciate all our populations desire to honor the historic purpose behind events like the one upcoming today.*

*Our organizations are in full agreement for today's event to be nonviolent protest and rally.*

*We have made it noticeably clear that we will not tolerate any fringe groups infiltrating or agitators instigating violence or destruction of any kind and we have communicated that unified intent to our governing municipalities.*

*There will be an official start and finish time for today's event.*

*That time is from 2:00 p.m. to 7 p.m.*

*We have also officially requested an 8:00 p.m. curfew considering the high-level emotional content and energy combined with the verified threat of agitators, instigators and infiltrators who have no desire for this event to remain productive, nonviolent and non-destructive.*

*We will not tolerate anyone and everyone who decides to operate outside of event times, curfew, and our nonviolent, non-destructive principles.*

*We encourage everyone to be engaged in having a meaningful experience that represents the best of the demands for change that we need to see."*

Numbers from the last U.S Census show that African Americans make up less than three percent of the population in Spokane with whites being the majority at nearly 90 percent.

For the turnout to be so monumental, there had to be multiple demographics that showed up to support.

"We've collaborated with city leaders, organizations to really keep that message and stay true to what that message really is," said Dustin Jolly who's the head of Occupy Spokane. "To not let that message be hijacked by extremist groups or people with their own agenda."

Occupy Spokane is one of the main organizers for last week's protest and they're hoping to duplicate those same results tomorrow.

This time marching for Breonna Taylor, a black woman who was shot and killed by police in her Louisville home on March 13th.

Outrage from the George Floyd case has shined a spotlight on this situation and the FBI is now looking into the shooting.

In terms of distance, these particular situations are far from Spokane but for attorney Natasha Hill who grew up here in a biracial family, she says this movement is a change that's needed across the nation.

"We have to rebuild our system to get rid of the racial bias that exists," said Hill. "It's there and if you're denying it, you are perpetuating it."

Now as the world watches what's unfolding in the United States through a magnifying glass. Local activists say this is their moment to entice real change.

For so long, racial tension has divided the country. These uncomfortable moments are a chance to break through the ice and have real conversations.

"One of our great leaders in America said power concedes nothing without demand," explained Spokane NAACP Executive board member Le'Taxione. "The demand must be a constant application of pressure on the psyche and consciousness of the country."

As they continue to protest peacefully, they're aware some people may try to hinder progress through riots.

This however isn't what they believe in. Instead, they promote peace through dialogue. For hours, that's what they accomplished last week.

"It was a beautiful thing. It was something that I didn't think Spokane would ever do but y'all did that and we need more of that. Keep coming, this don't stop today," shared Marlon from the N'Step Program.

	<p>Kurtis Robinson, the local NAACP president has said there have been conversations with city leaders and that so far they've been understanding.</p> <p>The goal now is to advance those talks into action that treats everyone equally.</p> <p>"It's all of us. It's our allies across the system, it's our Caucasian allies," Robinson explained. "It's all of our communities of color and we're coming together with a common voice and a common mission to have sustained meaningful and immediate change."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Area shopping malls begin to reopen</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.king5.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/southhillmallreopens/281-c87d8ad7-be2b-4a31-af93-726259ce1ec5">https://www.king5.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/southhillmallreopens/281-c87d8ad7-be2b-4a31-af93-726259ce1ec5</a>
GIST	<p>PUYALLUP, Wash. — Phase 2 of Governor Jay Inslee's Safe Start plan means large shopping malls can reopen at limited capacity with specific criteria.</p> <p>Pierce County just got the go-ahead to move into Phase 2, and Puyallup's South Hill Mall was one of the first to get their doors open on Saturday. Mall management said even they were surprised to see shoppers waiting in the parking lot before opening time.</p> <p>Only about 15-20% of the shops and food stands inside were able to get staff and supplies in time to open. There was a steady stream of shoppers, including a long line outside the Old Navy, which limited the number of people inside the store to stay in-line with the county guidelines.</p> <p>The mall spaced tables at the food court further apart and added plexiglass at food stands. They're going to add hand-sanitizers around the building and have dramatically increased the amount of cleaning.</p> <p>Things were different but customers said it felt good to be back at the mall after months of quarantine.</p> <p>"It's strange but everyone's pretty excited to be out," Lorrerita Vandi said.</p> <p>Face masks are required by the county but it's not enforced.</p> <p>Stores are expected to maintain the 30% capacity limit on customers. Some store owners said it just felt good to be open.</p> <p>"We were wondering what the crowd would be like, I'll be glad when everyone starts to open up," Paul Passmore explained.</p> <p>The mall said the hand sanitizing stations they've ordered are still a few weeks out because it's so hard to get supplies right now. KING 5 asked about the pressure of making sure they keep things clean so the area doesn't experience another spike in cases and force businesses to close again.</p> <p>"I wouldn't say that there's pressure but I would say we're definitely making sure everyone knows we're putting their safety and their health and we're making that a paramount part of our daily operations," General Manager Justin Hunt said.</p> <p>The mall expects more stores to open soon as staff is rehired and inventory arrives but even with only a few open, people seemed to find stuff to buy.</p> <p>Although in many ways it wasn't really about shopping.</p> <p>"I think there's a level of socializing that people want to do. They've been cooped up for months and they want to come out and see each other," Hunt explained.</p>

HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Seattle police tactics under fire, criticism</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://komonews.com/news/local/were-asking-for-demilitarization-seattle-police-tactics-under-fire">https://komonews.com/news/local/were-asking-for-demilitarization-seattle-police-tactics-under-fire</a>
GIST	<p>SEATTLE - There is growing criticism over the Seattle Police Department's use of pepper spray and flash bangs to disperse a crowd of protesters Saturday night on Capitol Hill.</p> <p>Once photos and video of the police actions hit social media, it prompted some local elected officials to head to the front lines of the protest themselves.</p> <p>Now some of those officials are calling for a reform in police tactics - such as getting rid of pepper spray and flash bangs.</p> <p>After a day of peaceful protests throughout Seattle on Saturday, things took a turn at around 7:30 p.m. Police say protesters began throwing things like rocks and bottles - and even improvised explosives - at officers, sending two to the hospital.</p> <p>That led police to unleash a barrage of flash-bangs and canisters that released an irritant that could be felt in the eyes and lungs - and many people having breathed it in, just a day after Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan promised a 30-day moratorium on the use of tear gas.</p> <p>And within a few hours some Seattle city council members, one King County councilmember and a state representative made their way to 11th Avenue and Pine Street - to the front of that barrier separating the two sides.</p> <p>Here's what they're saying about what played out:</p> <p><b>Seattle City Council member Dan Strauss:</b> <i>"I thought we had commitments that we weren't going to use weapons on the citizens of Seattle tonight. I had to come down to make sure that we don't use any more gas, (that) we don't use any more spray, we don't use any more flash-bangs on the residents of Seattle peacefully assembling to exercise their First Amendment rights."</i></p> <p><b>State Rep. Nicole Macri:</b> <i>"The police are creating a standoff situation that antagonizes the crowd, and it's totally unnecessary."</i></p> <p><b>King County Council member Girmay Zahilay:</b> <i>"So we're out here asking for demilitarization, redirecting Police Department funding towards community-based alternatives, we're asking to severely restrict use of force policies."</i></p> <p>Also chiming in on all of this is Seattle City Council member Kshama Sawant, who says she'll introduce legislation to ban chemical and crowd control weapons.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Surging fatalities in Latin America</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://news.yahoo.com/virus-deaths-top-400-000-latin-america-infections-170939336.html">https://news.yahoo.com/virus-deaths-top-400-000-latin-america-infections-170939336.html</a>
GIST	<p>Surging fatalities in Latin America helped push the global coronavirus death toll above 400,000 on Sunday, even as Europe emerged from its virus lockdown with infections increasingly under control there.</p> <p>Pope Francis, addressing Catholics in Saint Peter's Square on Sunday for the first time since the health emergency began, said the worst was over in Italy and expressed sympathy for those in hard-hit Latin American countries.</p>

"Your presence in the square is a sign that in Italy the acute phase of the epidemic is over," Francis said as the Vatican confirmed it had no more cases of COVID-19 among its employees or within Vatican City.

"Unfortunately in other countries -- I am thinking of some of them -- the virus continues to claim many victims."

Brazil has the world's third-highest toll -- more than 36,000 dead -- but President Jair Bolsonaro has criticized stay-at-home measures imposed by local officials and has threatened to leave the World Health Organization.

Tolls are also rising sharply in Mexico, Peru and Ecuador, while in Chile, total deaths have now reached 2,290.

Chilean health minister Jaime Manalich said on Sunday that some miscounting pointed out by the World Health Organization in March and April was corrected, pushing the toll up from 1,541 on Saturday.

But in communist Cuba, President Miguel Diaz-Canel declared the pandemic "under control" after the island nation registered an eighth straight day without a death from COVID-19, leaving the toll at 83.

The number of infections has reached almost seven million worldwide since COVID-19 emerged in China late last year, forcing much of the globe into lockdown and pushing the world economy towards its worst downturn since the Great Depression.

However, fears of a second wave of the deadly disease have given way to grave worries over the economy, encouraging European countries to reopen borders and businesses, and those throughout Asia and Africa to slowly return to normal life.

As of 1900 GMT, a total of 400,581 deaths were recorded worldwide, according to an AFP tally using official figures -- a number that has doubled in the past month and a half.

While almost half of the deaths have been recorded in Europe, the United States remains the hardest-hit nation with more than 110,000 deaths, followed by Britain, whose toll exceeds 40,500.

Late Sunday, the US daily death toll, at 691, was the lowest it had been in a week, according to data from Johns Hopkins University.

The number of coronavirus cases in Saudi Arabia surpassed 100,000 on Sunday, the health ministry said, after a new surge in infections.

The kingdom has seen infections spike as it eases lockdown measures, with the number of daily cases exceeding 3,000 for the second day in a row on Sunday.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Pressures increasing in South China Sea</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/07/asia/china-malaysia-indonesia-south-china-sea-intl-hnk/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/07/asia/china-malaysia-indonesia-south-china-sea-intl-hnk/index.html</a>
GIST	<p>Hong Kong (CNN)Chinese and Malaysian vessels were locked in a high-stakes standoff for more than one month earlier this year, near the island of Borneo in the South China Sea.</p> <p>The Malaysian-authorized drill ship, the West Capella, was looking for resources in waters also claimed by Beijing, when a Chinese survey vessel, accompanied by coast guard ships, sailed into the area and began conducting scans, according to satellite images analyzed by the Asia Maritime Transparency Institute (AMTI).</p>



Malaysia deployed naval vessels to the area, which were later backed by US warships that had been on joint exercises in the South China Sea.

Beijing claimed it was conducting "normal activities in waters under Chinese jurisdiction," but for years Chinese vessels have been accused of hounding countries who try to explore for resources in waters that China claims as its own.

Now, experts say the Chinese ships are adopting increasingly forceful tactics, which risks sparking new conflicts with major regional powers such as Malaysia and Indonesia.

Greg Polling, director of the AMTI, said the countries are more important than ever as Chinese ships expand their reach in the region, mostly due to the advanced construction of Beijing's artificial islands in the South China Sea.

"(The islands) provide forward basing for Chinese ships, effectively turning Malaysia and Indonesia into front line states," Polling said. "On any given day, there about dozen coast guard ships buzzing around the Spratly Islands, and about a hundred fishing boats, ready to go."

### **Nine-dash line**

The South China Sea is one of the most hotly contested regions in the world, with competing claims from China, Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan and Indonesia.

Beijing's territorial claims, known as the nine-dash line -- owing to the markings printed on Chinese maps of the region -- are by far the largest and encompass almost the entirety of the sea, from Hainan Island down to the top of Indonesia. China's claims have no basis under international law and were found to be invalid in a 2016 international court ruling.

Despite this, from about 2015 the Chinese government began to bolster its territorial ambitions by building artificial islands on reefs and shoals in the South China Sea, and then militarizing them with aircraft strips, harbors and radar facilities.

"These (islands) are bristling with radar and surveillance capabilities, they see everything that goes on in the South China Sea," Polling said. "In the past, China didn't know where you were drilling. Now they certainly do."

Experts say Beijing has created an armada of coast guard and Chinese fishing vessels that can be deployed in the South China Sea to harass other claimant's ships or sail in politically sensitive areas.

### **Growing aggression**

The confrontation over the Malaysian drill ship wasn't the first act of aggression by the Chinese government in the region in 2020.

The year began with a standoff in the Natuna Islands on the far southern end of the South China Sea, territory claimed by China and Indonesia. Vessels from both countries were involved in the standoff, which began when Chinese fishing vessels started to operate inside Indonesia's exclusive economic zone.

Eventually, Indonesia deployed F-16 fighters and naval ships to the islands and President Joko Widodo personally flew to the area, in an unusual show of strength from the country.

In April, a Chinese maritime surveillance vessel rammed and sank a Vietnamese fishing boat near [the disputed Paracel Islands](#) in the South China Sea.

The act prompted Vietnam to send a diplomatic note to the United Nations restating its sovereignty over its exclusive economic zone in the South China Sea. Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang responded by saying China would take "all measures necessary" to safeguard Beijing's interests in the region.



"I want to stress this: attempts by any country to negate in any means China's sovereignty, rights and interests in the South China Sea and to reinforce its own illegal claim are bound to be fruitless," Geng said.

### **Insecurity**

Beijing has a long history of harassing other countries' vessels in the South China Sea, mostly from Vietnam and the Philippines and also occasionally from Malaysia and Indonesia.

In the past, Chinese diplomats have helped soothed aggrieved parties, but experts say the fallout from the coronavirus and the rise of so-called "wolf warrior" diplomacy in Beijing have removed any circuit breaker in the relationship between China and its regional rivals.

"What has changed is that they've really taken the glove off of the fist diplomatically. The statements are brash and unhelpful," said Polling.

Experts said Beijing's growing forcefulness in the region is partly driven by the global coronavirus pandemic, which has dealt a heavy blow to China's rapid economic growth and damaged the country's international reputation.

At the meeting of its parliament in May, the Chinese government didn't set a target for annual GDP growth for the first time in years, a sign that it is concerned about falling economic performance.

At the same time, tensions are rising with the United States and Europe over Beijing's role in containing the initial outbreak and whether it gave the world enough time to respond to the pandemic, which has killed more than 380,000 people.

Concerned about appearing like its grip on power is slipping, the ruling Communist Party is doubling down on its rhetoric and on its nationalistic agenda, which includes control of the South China Sea, experts said.

Beijing is keen to foster a narrative that the US is retreating as a global power to solidify its hold on the region, said Ian Storey, senior fellow at ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute in Singapore.

"It will want to show Southeast Asian claimants that American military power is on the decline and its commitment to the region is waning," Storey said. "(It will want to show that) the economic problems that China is facing will not impact its policy on the South China Sea."

So far, Malaysia and Indonesia have tried to avoid letting South China Sea dominate their relationship with China, but with Beijing marking its territory in the region, the days of quiet diplomacy might not last forever.

"At what level of aggression does it become impossible to ignore? ... At what point do they add their voice to the criticism that you've been getting for years and years from Hanoi and Manila?" AMTI's Polling said.

### **Free-for-all**

Facing an entrenched Chinese presence on their doorstep, now might seem like the time for Southeast Asian nations to band together and face down Beijing's presence in the region.

But Storey said with regional powers preoccupied with coronavirus as well as their own economic and political crises, any hope of unity in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was unlikely. "No matter how hard China pushes I don't think we're going to see the ASEAN members coalesce and present that strong united front against China," he said.

"I think going forward in the next six months, towards the end of 2020, we can expect China to double down on its assertive behavior in the South China Sea."

Malaysia has long worked to balance the benefits of a close relationship with China with running its own independent foreign policy, AMTI's Polling said, which is why previous clashes with Chinese vessels in Malaysian waters were kept out of the media as much as possible.

Indonesia has in the past opened fire on Chinese fishing vessels that failed to leave its waters, and President Widodo's tough behavior in January showed he will not sit by while Beijing moves into the Natuna Islands.

But experts say China won't be easily deterred.

"Beijing believes it can wear down Indonesian opposition; and eventually Indonesia, much like Malaysia, will realize that it has little choice but to accommodate China's presence," Foreign Policy Research Institute senior fellow Felix Chang [wrote in January](#).

Still, there is risk too for the Chinese government. The United States is already increasing its freedom of navigation operations in the South China Sea, holding half as many in the first five months of 2020 as it did in the whole of last year.

Washington is also working to directly support Southeast Asian nations in the South China Sea. The Malaysian Navy received its first batch of surveillance drones from the US in May.

And, during the West Capella's operations, US Navy warships performed what the US Navy called "presence operations" near the drill ship while it was being monitored by the Chinese vessels.

"The US supports the efforts of our allies and partners in the lawful pursuit of their economic interests," Vice Adm. Bill Merz, commander of the US 7th Fleet, said in a statement at the time.

Speaking in a public lecture in May, James Holmes, a professor at the US Naval War College and former Navy officer, said that as Beijing pushes harder in the South China Sea, the US may look like the better bet for a steady friend.

"I think China has actually seriously overplayed its hand by being so bullying and by being so aggressive," Holmes said.

"That starts driving together allies that are worried about Chinese aggression ... The more China pushes the more coalition partners are likely to unite and push back."

Any push back could cost Beijing economically.

China has close trade ties with many of its regional neighbors, such as the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia, and needs them for parts of its international agenda such as its [much trumpeted Belt and Road Initiative](#) -- the country's interlinking web of regional trade deals and infrastructure projects.

"I think there's already been a lot of unease in the region about how China has used Covid-19 to push its claims in the South China Sea," said Storey, from ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.

"China won't want to completely destroy its relations with Southeast Asia by pushing too hard."

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HEADLINE	06/08 US police shoot, kill, imprison more
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/08/us/us-police-floyd-protests-country-comparisons-intl/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/08/us/us-police-floyd-protests-country-comparisons-intl/index.html</a>
GIST	(CNN)Enough.

That's the [message from many of the protesters](#) who have filled American cities for nearly two weeks, demanding justice for the death of George Floyd and seeking to end a litany of police killings of black Americans.

The protests have rippled across the United States and throughout the world, with activists streaming through the streets of [many capital cities](#) in solidarity with the movement.

Floyd was just one of the many Americans killed by police officers each year. But in other developed countries, such incidents are rare.

Statistical comparisons show that police in the US typically shoot, arrest and imprison more people than similarly developed nations.

Each nation listed below either accompanies the US in the G7 group of the world's most advanced economies, or is ranked similarly on global wealth, freedom and democracy indexes. But when it comes to policing and criminal justice, the US is a noticeable outlier, and black Americans are disproportionately affected...

Data on arrests, deaths and prison populations do not exist uniformly across developed countries, so it can be difficult to pinpoint exactly how the US fares in comparison to every nation. For instance, it is impossible to know exactly how many people die at the hands of police officers in the US each year: no single, nationwide database that contains such information exists.

"We can't have an informed discussion, because we don't have data," former FBI Director James Comey told the House Judiciary Committee in 2015. "People have data about who went to a movie last weekend ... and I cannot tell you how many people were shot by police in the United States last month, last year, or anything about the demographics. And that's a very bad place to be."

We are therefore forced to rely on estimates -- but even they paint a stark picture.

A [media review](#) by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) found a total of 1,348 potential arrest-related deaths in the ten months from June 2015 through March 2016 -- an average of 135 deaths per month, or just over 4 per day. (The review excludes deaths under the jurisdiction of federal and tribal law enforcement, and the BJS acknowledged it does not provide a complete picture.)

By comparison, only 13 people in the UK died in or following police custody in the closest time period, according to the country's [police watchdog](#). In Australia, 21 deaths occurred in police custody or custody-related operations in 2015/16. Those measures are the most accurate comparison to the US's figure of arrest-related deaths, [according](#) to the UK Home Office. The UK's figure does not include every death that occurred following police contact.

American police also shoot more people than forces in similarly developed countries.

The FBI [recorded](#) that 407 people were shot in an act of "justifiable homicide" by a police officer in 2018, a decline on previous years. But homicides ruled justifiable do not capture every police killing, and the FBI's numbers are derided by many human rights groups and news organizations which have collected far higher figures. The [Washington Post](#) counted 1,004 people fatally shot by police in 2019, for instance, while the group [Mapping Police Violence](#) tallied 1,099.

Comey's comments to the House Judiciary Committee illustrate the FBI's own acceptance that their number does not tell the full story. Nonetheless, even the FBI's figure dramatically dwarfs that of many other countries, where police shootings are highly isolated incidents. And police in New Zealand and the UK (except Northern Ireland) do not routinely carry firearms.

Canada may most closely follow the US among G7 countries. Official data is only collected when an officer is charged, but an analysis by CNN affiliate [CBC](#) found 461 fatal police encounters between 2000 and 2017.

Americans are also more likely to be arrested or jailed than their peers worldwide.

A total of 10,310,960 arrests were made in the US in 2018 -- that's one arrest made per every 32 American citizens. Those figures give the US a far higher arrest rate than the UK or Australia, among others.

Of those confronted or arrested by police, black Americans are more likely to be subjected to force -- a key complaint of the protesters marching across the US.

Police officers are more likely to use force on black Americans -- and, [according to a 2016 study published in the American Journal of Health](#), black men are nearly three times more likely than white men to be killed by police intervention. Comparable figures for other countries are not readily available.

In general, more Americans are subjected to the cogs of the criminal justice system than in many other countries; and more end up in prison, too.

The US has the largest prison population in the world, as well as the largest incarceration rate per capita, according to [World Prison Brief](#) -- a London-based initiative that counts inmate populations around the world annually.

Only four US cities have more inhabitants than the country's prisons -- and [America's prison population of 2.2 million](#) is higher than the combined [populations](#) of Washington, DC, Boston and Miami.

Rates are high across the country. If every US state were counted as a country, the 31 countries with the highest incarceration rates in the world would all be US states, according to the [Prison Policy Initiative](#). Oklahoma, Louisiana and Mississippi all have incarceration rates of over 1,000, meaning more than one in a hundred people in those states were prisoners in 2018. By comparison, the highest incarceration rate outside the US is in El Salvador, where 614 people per 100,000 are prisoners, according to the Prison Policy Initiative.

Black Americans make up a third of the US prison population, despite only making up around an eighth of the country's total population.

The UK and [Canada](#) suffer similar issues, but not on the scale that the United States does.

The available data paints a clear and concerning picture -- and explains why policing and justice reform have been rallying cries of protesters for so long.

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HEADLINE	06/08 Analytic reflection: open, all-source intel
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/surveillance-protection-detection/analytic-reflection-measuring-the-attributes-of-open-and-all-source-intelligence/">https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/surveillance-protection-detection/analytic-reflection-measuring-the-attributes-of-open-and-all-source-intelligence/</a>
GIST	<p>U) On the analytic lines of the ICA, the Committee concludes that all...analytic lines are supported with all-source intelligence, although with varying substantiation. The Committee did not discover any significant analytic tradecraft issues in the preparation or final presentation of the ICA.</p> <p>(U) The Committee found that specific intelligence as well as open source assessments support the assessment...</p> <p><a href="#">Volume IV</a>: Review of Intelligence Community Assessment (ICA), Senate Select Committee on Intelligence</p>

Since the COVID-19 pandemic has forced some members of the U.S. Intelligence Community (IC) to [change](#) the nature of their work into a more open environment, it is an opportune time to not only learn how to operate therein, but better determine the true attributes of open source information in a more reflective manner. This valuable exercise could directly meet a suggestion posed in the [2007](#) Congressional Research Service (CRS) Report for Congress titled “Open Source Intelligence (OSINT): Issues for Congress,” and mimic the same progression that occurs across every other type of intelligence to this day.

There are some that believe that [open source information](#), a key and expanding source of intelligence used significantly by its officers [for decades](#), is now the preeminent type of information we should exclusively gravitate toward as professionals. It is not and should be carefully tested instead as an integral piece on a larger chessboard. Open source is easily the most voluminous and accessible type of information available, but it is also becoming the most [corruptible](#) and misleading as a result.

Simultaneously, all-source intelligence – of which open source is a component – and the appropriate (evolutionary) application of analytic tradecraft therein, seems more significant now than ever before. This importance was explicitly reinforced this year in the fourth U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence [report](#) in the committee’s bipartisan Russia 2016 presidential election interference investigation, and is referenced throughout this article.

#### What’s in a Source? An Analytic Review

All-source analysis is the [fusion](#) of multiple sources of intelligence, each serving as a form of evidence, used to build a [claim](#) reached by a process of reasoning. Analysts will often use different types of intelligence to test a hypothesis for weaknesses, knowing full well their conclusions are rarely flawless, and their sources perfectly reliable. Good all-source intelligence analysts fundamentally realize the strengths and weaknesses of each of their collected sources of information, or intelligence. Every “-INT” has them, which is why “all-source” analysis is so imperative.

For example, human intelligence (HUMINT) can be used to gain an individual leader’s hidden intent, but suffers from questions of asset motivation and access; signals intelligence (SIGINT) can be used to gain targeted, clandestinely obtained conversations, but suffers from translation and contextual discrepancies; measurement and signature intelligence (MASINT) can be used to gain scientific evidence of a specific activity, but suffers from noise and platform limitations. In each case, there are methods our adversaries use to deceive our collection systems and effect confidence in our assessments. Those methods can be neutralized or mitigated through the secretive [penetration](#) of our adversaries’ network using multiple collection techniques.

(U) The analytic line on “new normal” serves as both prediction and warning, and the Committee notes that IC and open source reporting has revealed much evidence to reinforce the IC’s 2016 assessments.

#### [Volume IV](#): Review of Intelligence Community Assessment, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence

Open source information, and its exclusive use, embodies a true juxtaposition therein. Public sources and social feeds are becoming easier to access, expansive in volume, and better tagged for discovery. They also serve as timely information sources that allow more rapid response to a diversity of requirements.

This is incredibly valuable in areas where there are gaps in collection feeds from other platforms and serves as a signal to quickly modify priorities. Some are even gaining their own [sub-categories](#) as types of “intelligence,” including financial, cultural, economic, and most recently, health information. More importantly, open source intelligence (OSINT) – appropriately collected and exploited from public sources – can be used to gain a variety of digital material but often suffers from our initial inability to determine the true originator of the data, and the [purpose](#) of its dissemination.

As we’ve observed, many forms are easy to [manipulate](#) and aggregate to the masses with a mere touch of a button. China’s recent COVID-19 [misinformation](#) campaign, and the Russians infamous use of [Twitter](#)

[bots](#) to meet their strategic objectives leading up to the 2016 U.S. presidential election, are modern examples. The 2016 the [Cambridge Analytica](#) scandal further cements the notion that accessible “big data” is easy to influence and weaponize against large targets. In 2019, it was uncovered that academic journals in [Russia](#) are retracting more than 800 papers following a probe into unethical publication practices. Trusting the information is not a simple task, which is why incorporating corroborating information using different types is so important. Distinguishing between accurate sources of public information and [manipulated](#) ones is very challenging. This exacerbates the intelligence ecosystem with an influx of more [bad information](#) than good.

Revisiting the CRS Report titled “Open Source Intelligence (OSINT): Issues for Congress”

One of the recommendations in the keystone [2007 CRS](#) Open Source Report included a “request for an alternative analysis of a specified topic solely based on open sources in order to compare it with all-source analysis.” Unfortunately for most, the pandemic crisis creates an incredible opportunity for the U.S. intelligence community to execute this exact recommendation in a more comprehensive manner.

U.S. intelligence officers are currently mobilized to support operations while teleworking, and on shifts in their standard secure analytic environment. The significant increase in open source analysis in the near term is creating a perfect opportunity to test it independently as a standalone analytic product, and/or as a component of all-source intelligence, and compare the two. Intelligence Community Directive [203](#), describing the U.S. IC’s Analytic Tradecraft Standards, explicitly references the significance of incorporating analysis of alternatives in a systemic manner. This is clearly a unique way to execute that guidance. Are the conclusions and confidence levels similar or different, and what are the underlying reasons for any differences?

Several analytic organizations within the U.S. intelligence community have already learned to operate at the unclassified level, including the Department of Homeland Security’s Office of Intelligence and Analysis, the Defense Intelligence Agency’s National Center for Medical Intelligence, and the State Department’s Bureau of Intelligence and Research, as well as the Intelligence Branch division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Based on quantitative metrics I applied at the [National Intelligence University](#), it is clear that the incorporation of open source information in agency and community-wide analytic products is significant, and has been for years. It is embraced as a valuable source of information, and a peer to its well-known [intelligence equivalents](#).

(U) Open source collection is a long-standing discipline for CIA and other elements of the IC, and open source reporting is used throughout the ICA to support specific analytic assertions.

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As a result, some, but not all agencies have evaluated the strengths and weaknesses therein. Additionally, many formalize complementary classified products buttressed by intelligence sources with equal or greater analytic fidelity to serve a variety of customers and improve confidence in their final claim. No example better exemplifies this trend than the well-publicized National Intelligence Council 2017 [unclassified](#) and classified Intelligence Community Assessment (ICA) summarizing intelligence concerning the 2016 election.

(U) The Committee found that the ICA provided a range of all-source reporting to support these assessments.

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Regardless, open source information – like other -INTs – must be handled and managed carefully by the U.S. intelligence community to enforce the right protocols for its use, and to uphold legal standards for oversight and accountability, something far less observable in private institutions.

Learning from Post-Cold War Intelligence and Avoiding Source Exclusivity



Following the end of the Cold War and based on a perceived change in the threat environment, there was a reduction in resources for HUMINT operators, resulting in fewer agents and stations. Ironically, the Central Intelligence Agency almost lost their open source capabilities – the Foreign Broadcast Information Services (FBIS) – when Congress cut the budgets of most IC organizations. With less HUMINT reporting, the IC inherently relied more on other sources of intelligence to maintain situational awareness and produce finished intelligence for its customers.

In this case, SIGINT – according to the [2002](#) House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence on Counterterrorism Intelligence Capabilities and Performance Prior to 9-11 report – in combination with imagery intelligence (IMINT) made up a preponderance of intelligence fused into analytic products. The result, following the intelligence failure leading up to the catastrophic events of 9-11, included a recommendation ensuring better global coverage capability for clandestine human intelligence collection and analysis. Albeit a small sample, examples like this serve as an important warning about source exclusivity, and the dangers therein. History is rife with them. Compare today’s collection to the U.S. SIGINT coverage during the [1950s](#), which was considered so poor that the period was referred to as “the dark ages for communications intelligence.”

#### In Conclusion – Credibility and Feedback as a Key

The credibility of an analyst will forever be compromised when they realize incorporated information in finished intelligence is deemed false later, despite other sources available that invalidate one source’s integrity. The Intelligence Community still treats “[Curveball](#)” as an unholy term, and learned a painful but vital lesson from his duplicitous exposure during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Ultimately, the [United Nations](#) weapons inspectors proved to have the most accurate source of information regarding Iraq’s alleged Weapons of Mass Destruction program. Ethos, or character appeal, still serves as an important type of [appeal](#) in finished intelligence, and must be maintained to ethically persuade an audience.

The U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence’s bipartisan Russian election interference investigation culminated into something the U.S. intelligence community craves most from their customers – feedback. In this case, the committee evaluated a finished intelligence product along the lines of analytic tradecraft and integrity, and provided objective conclusions detailing the importance and application of open source and all-source intelligence. In combination with the request for alternative analysis found in the 2007 CRS OSINT report, and challenges we face during the pandemic crisis, the IC now has a clearer pathway to improve their performance in a more reflective way.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/08 Disparate actors accused of violence</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/lone-wolves-self-styled-anarchists-the-disparate-actors-accused-of-protest-violence-11591608601">https://www.wsj.com/articles/lone-wolves-self-styled-anarchists-the-disparate-actors-accused-of-protest-violence-11591608601</a>
GIST	<p>As flares of violence and destruction have disrupted largely peaceful demonstrations against police brutality over the past two weeks, federal and state officials have warned that members of extremist groups are at work behind the scenes.</p> <p>U.S. Attorney General William Barr said Thursday the Justice Department had evidence that “<a href="#">extremist agitators</a>” were hijacking protests to “pursue their own separate and violent agenda”—an assertion he and President Trump have repeated throughout the national unrest. Minnesota officials described a professional campaign of urban warfare involving domestic terrorists seeking to destroy Minneapolis and St. Paul. New York Police Department officials have said outside agitators were working to provoke violence and sow fear.</p> <p>What has emerged from the protests—and in criminal charges filed across the country—is a diffuse collection of what appear to be self-styled anarchists and opportunists, lone actors and clusters of alleged extremist cells, with a range of allegiances, interests and motivations. Some may be bent on revolution, while others, bound by no apparent ideology at all, have been accused of vandalism, theft and violence.</p>



Since George Floyd was killed in police custody on May 25, tens of thousands of people have [joined protests erupting across the U.S.](#) The demonstrations have been overwhelmingly peaceful, but scattered reports of vandalism, looting and violent confrontations with police have prompted alarm among officials, up to the nation's highest law-enforcement authorities.

Thousands have been arrested or detained on charges related to violating local curfews, while others face charges for property damage, theft, or assaulting police officers, according to local reports. A handful have been charged with federal crimes, including arson, inciting riots and use of explosive devices, court filings show.

As they comb social media and gather intelligence from the protests, law-enforcement authorities and observers of extremist groups say they haven't seen nationwide coordination among organized extremist groups. Still, they say, some acts of violence have been carried out by people inspired by or aligned with such groups, across the political spectrum.

"We're not seeing extremist groups coordinate or significantly plan for this," said Oren Segal, of the Anti-Defamation League. The ADL is tracking online discussions among such groups, including white supremacist groups that authorities say see the protests as a means to try to move toward a goal of theirs: what white supremacists describe as a race war.

"We've witnessed some individual extremists attempting to participate," Mr. Segal said. "But we have not seen enough evidence to suggest any one group is coordinating or organizing this."

At a larger level, Mr. Segal said he is concerned about the focus on extremists and violence. "I'm struck by the unintentional impact on communities that are reeling from racism, that maybe this time is being co-opted from them by the discussions of extremism," he said.

Messrs. Barr and Trump, among others, have pointed the finger at antifa—a [loosely organized activist movement](#), short for "antifascist," that has at times violently confronted entities they say are authoritarian, racist or anti-Semitic.

None of the charged incidents of violence has been publicly attributed to antifa.

A Justice Department official said investigators had seen intelligence showing coordination among various groups, including antifa. The official didn't provide any specifics, but said there were at least two separate incidents, in separate states, involving antifa, and cases in which people involved in protests had self-identified as antifa.

"We're mining that data now," the official said. "A lot of this has been happening on social media, so we've got to run it down."

In Las Vegas, federal authorities arrested three alleged members of a militarized far-right movement on May 30 and accused them of plotting to bomb government property and to stoke violence at a Black Lives Matter protest using Molotov cocktails. They face charges of conspiracy and possession of an unregistered firearm.

It can be hard to determine membership in so-called extremist groups—some who signal allegiance to movements through their attire or social-media posts may not have actual connections to organizational leadership, if that leadership exists at all.

On Wednesday, federal authorities arrested Vincent Eovacious, an 18-year-old from Worcester, Mass., who allegedly was assembling Molotov cocktails at a local protest sparked by Mr. Floyd's killing. According to the charges, Mr. Eovacious told police officers he was "with the anarchist group" and "waiting for an opportunity."

A lawyer for Mr. Eovacious didn't respond to a request for comment.

In Minnesota, which has been [shaken by dozens of arson attacks](#) since Mr. Floyd's killing, federal authorities have arrested two local men for allegedly using Molotov cocktails to set fire to a suburban government building. A prosecutor cited evidence showing one of the men was motivated by anti-law-enforcement fervor. Federal prosecutors separately accused an Illinois man of traveling to Minneapolis to riot and pass out explosive devices for attacking police.

At times, it is hard to discern a motive at all.

Samantha Shader, a 27-year-old woman from upstate New York, was arrested May 30 in Brooklyn, along with her 19-year-old sister, after she allegedly threw a Molotov cocktail at police officers during a demonstration. Their mother told investigators that she didn't know her daughter to be part of any radical group, saying Ms. Shader was more likely to be a follower than a leader, according to a person familiar with the investigation.

Ms. Shader's parents couldn't be reached for comment.

Federal prosecutors in Brooklyn, who have charged her with causing damage by fire and explosives, argued [successfully for Ms. Shader's detention pending trial](#), pointing to 11 arrests in 11 states and a record of confrontations with police.

As protests in New York [began to escalate at the end of May](#), John Miller, the NYPD's deputy commissioner for intelligence and counterterrorism, said the department was "seeing a lot of outside and independent agitators connected with anarchist groups who are deliberately trying to provoke acts of violence." He said police had observed groups organizing scouts, supplies and medics for protesters, planning their moves through social media.

A week later, NYPD officials said outside agitators weren't playing a major role. Mr. Miller said outsiders accounted for a significant portion of arrests in the first days of protests, but in later days accounted for relatively few. "We don't see this as a significant factor at this point," Mr. Miller said.

Protest leaders in New York City have condemned acts of violence associated with the demonstrations. At a memorial for Mr. Floyd in Brooklyn on Thursday, Mr. Floyd's brother called for demonstrators to distance themselves from people engaged in violence.

In Minnesota, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives has said it is investigating about 135 business fires linked to unrest in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Gov. Tim Walz and other state officials have blamed the destruction on groups working in a sophisticated operation, using stolen cars without license plates to transport incendiary devices, rocks and other weapons. "They are domestic terrorists," Mr. Walz said.

Officials in Minnesota have suggested that white supremacists, anarchists and even drug cartels were fueling the mayhem, but provided no evidence of those groups' involvement.

No arrests in the Twin Cities arsons have been announced. A spokesman for Minnesota's Department of Public Safety said Friday state and federal agencies "continue to follow leads and investigate individuals and organizations who intend to harm people and destroy property in our communities."

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HEADLINE	06/07 Seattle mayor, PD chief apologize; failures
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-area-protests-live-updates-for-sunday-june-7/">https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-area-protests-live-updates-for-sunday-june-7/</a>
GIST	In a news conference Sunday night held as protests against police brutality again broke out on Capitol Hill, Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan and Police Chief Carmen Best apologized for instances during the past week

	<p>in which police officers failed to de-escalate tense moments and deployed less-than-lethal weapons against demonstrators too quickly.</p> <p>But Durkan and Best also asked protesters to “do more” to quell violence within crowds, blaming "bad actors" for inciting clashes, and said officers would continue to barricade streets surrounding the Police Department’s East Precinct. While the city "should not look like a military zone," officers must "respond to the reality on the ground," Durkan said.</p> <p>The mayor said she would freeze spending on police technology, weapons, vehicles and buildings until more dialogue with community members, and she promised to identify \$100 million in budget allocations for community needs.</p> <p>That money won’t necessarily come from reductions to the Police Department’s budget, however, she said. Some protesters have demanded that up to half of the Police Department's \$400 million-plus annual budget be redirected.</p> <p>Asked about Seattle City Councilmember Kshama Sawant calling for Durkan to resign, the mayor said she wouldn't be "distracted by political plays." Best left before the event ended to deal with another chaotic scene near the East Precinct.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 DOH: 23,729 cases, 1159 deaths</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.thenewstribune.com/news/coronavirus/article243355941.html">https://www.thenewstribune.com/news/coronavirus/article243355941.html</a>
GIST	<p>The Washington State Department of Health on Sunday reported 287 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 and six deaths.</p> <p>Statewide totals have reached 23,729 cases and 1,159 deaths, up from 23,442 cases and 1,153 deaths on Saturday.</p> <p>King County continues to be the hardest hit with 8,457 cases and 578 deaths. Yakima County has 4,509 cases and 100 deaths while Snohomish County has 3,033 cases and 152 deaths. Pierce County reported 14 new cases and no deaths on Sunday, bringing its totals to 2,050 cases and 80 deaths.</p> <p>Garfield, the state’s least populous county, remains the only county without a reported case. Seven other counties are reporting fewer than 10 cases each.</p> <p>There are 32 cases that have not been assigned to a county.</p> <p>There were 13 people with confirmed cases of COVID-19 admitted to state hospitals on May 30, the most recent date with complete data. The total number of people who have been hospitalized in the state stood at 3,669 on Sunday.</p> <p>There have been 405,056 tests conducted in the state with 5.9% coming back positive.</p> <p>The test numbers reflect only polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests, which are given to patients while the virus is presumably still active in the body.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Seattle police flash-bang; disperse crowd</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-area-protests-live-updates-for-sunday-june-7/">https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-area-protests-live-updates-for-sunday-june-7/</a>

GIST	<p>In the Seattle area, there has been over a week of protests over the death of George Floyd, a Black man who was killed on May 25 by a white Minneapolis police officer when he pressed his knee onto Floyd's neck for more than eight minutes.</p> <p>Black Lives Matter Seattle – King County is <a href="#">calling for a statewide general strike and silent march</a> on Friday, June 12, the group announced Saturday. More details on the June 12 actions are yet to come, according to the local Black Lives Matter group, which met Saturday with Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan to discuss police-reform demands as protests continued over police killings of Black people, including George Floyd in Minneapolis last month.</p> <p>Calling for an end to tactics like <a href="#">pepper spray and flash-bang grenades</a>, city, county and state elected officials joined protesters Saturday night on Capitol Hill. Seattle City Councilmembers Lisa Herbold, Dan Strauss, Andrew Lewis and Teresa Mosqueda, King County Councilmember Girmay Zahilay, state Sen. Joe Nguyen and state Rep. Nicole Macri, who represents Capitol Hill, joined the protest near the front line facing a line of police.</p> <p>Meanwhile, at Saturday's march beginning at Magnuson Park, demonstrators echoed demands to defund the Seattle Police Department. The rally and march took place in the northern Seattle neighborhood to honor <a href="#">Charleena Lyles</a>, killed by Seattle police in 2017, and to bring attention to racial injustice in white neighborhoods, speakers said before the group left the park to march.</p> <p><a href="#">12:21 am</a>  <b>Police use flash bangs and pepper spray after giving order to disperse</b>          Seattle Police were using flash bangs, pepper spray and tear gas against protesters on Capitol Hill, starting at around midnight Sunday.</p> <p>The police department said on Twitter that a crowd twice ordered to disperse from outside of the East Precinct on Capitol Hill started throwing bottles and other projectiles, and shining green lasers into officers' eyes.</p> <p>Social media videos showed the streets filling with gas, with demonstrators running and crying out in pain.</p> <p>At 12:40 a.m., after a barrage of flash bangs and gas, protesters were given a five-minute warning to disperse.</p> <p>Earlier Sunday, Mayor Jenny Durkan and Police Chief Carmen Best apologized for instances during the past week in which police officers failed to de-escalate tense moments and deployed less-than-lethal weapons against demonstrators too quickly.</p> <p>But Durkan and Best also asked protesters to "do more" to quell violence within crowds and said officers would continue to barricade streets surrounding the Police Department's East Precinct. While the city "should not look like a military zone," officers must "respond to the reality on the ground," Durkan said.</p> <p><a href="#">Return to Top</a></p>
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HEADLINE	06/06 Police tactics differ around world
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/06/06/guns-neck-restraint-how-police-tactics-differ-around-world/">https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/06/06/guns-neck-restraint-how-police-tactics-differ-around-world/</a>
GIST	<p>The knee-on-neck restraint used in the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis is banned in most of Europe outside of France. Armed police — such as those who fatally shot Breonna Taylor in her apartment in Louisville, Ky., last month — are not part of routine law enforcement in places such as Iceland or Norway.</p> <p>The Minnesota police officer who stopped Philando Castile's car and fatally shot him in 2016 would have been violating Finland's strict protocols for the use of deadly force.</p>

In places such as [Brazil](#), Egypt, [Kenya](#) — and most recently [Hong Kong](#) — accusations of police violence are common and are often seen by rights groups as far less accountable than in the United States.

But in other countries, including many in Europe, the police practices that are causing outrage in the United States are either entirely banned or are far more strictly regulated. Paul Hirschfield, an associate professor of sociology at Rutgers University, said more apt parallels can be drawn between the United States and Latin America.

The United States is “more similar to many Latin American countries in terms of the vast inequalities, localized policing, and highly racialized function and history of policing,” he said.

Here’s how five police practices in the United States compare in Europe and elsewhere:

### **Where don’t police routinely carry guns?**

The average police officers in Norway, New Zealand, Iceland, Britain, Ireland and some other nations are not armed. Many of these countries have had high-profile instances of alleged police brutality. But overall, the absence of firearms appears to lessen the level of tension between officers and civilians, opponents of armed police forces argue.

This approach has also worked in at least one nation with a relatively high gun-ownership rate by European standards: Iceland. According to the GunPolicy database, there were an estimated over 30 firearms per 100 civilians in Iceland in 2017, compared to five firearms per 100 people in Britain. (The United States had [120.5 guns per 100 residents](#) in 2017, according to the Small Arms Survey.) Still, Iceland’s police do not routinely carry firearms.

Iceland’s crime rate is far lower than the United States’ — and so is inequality and poverty. In Britain and Ireland — with significantly higher crime rates than Iceland — resistance to equipping police officers with firearms has historically come from inside police forces.

Terrorist attacks in London, Manchester and New Zealand’s Christchurch, among others, in recent years have mounted pressure on some countries to make armed police the standard rather than for special operations. After a gunman killed 51 people in attacks on two mosques in Christchurch in March 2019, New Zealand partially abandoned its approach of having only a select number of senior officers carry firearms. It widened the pool of firearms-carrying officers for a six-month trial period, and a review is now under way.

Norway faced a similar choice between arming and disarming police officers after far-right gunman Anders Behring Breivik killed 77 people in 2011. In 2014, police officers started carrying firearms more frequently following concerns that another attack could be imminent. But around one year later, amid a dropping threat level, the policy was reversed and officers disarmed again.

### **When can police fire a gun or shoot to kill?**

While cops can be armed in most European countries, they have nowhere near America’s level of police killings. Hirschfield, who studies why [U.S. police officers kill more people than their European counterparts](#), found that police shootings in the United States in 2014 were 18 time more lethal than in Denmark and 100 times more deadly than in Finland.

Americans are comparatively more heavily armed than Europeans, a factor Hirschfield said could lead police to escalate and use deadly force faster.

But Hirschfield said another key factor is the legal framework. The European Convention on Human Rights allows police to use deadly force that is “absolutely necessary.” In contrast, police in the United States are permitted if they have a “reasonable belief” their lives are in danger. Under these differing principles, a police shooting might be lawful in the United States and not according to European standards, said Hirschfield.

European Union countries set their own regulations within the commission's framework. Some countries have stricter rules than others. In Finland, for example, a cop is expected to seek a superior's approval before using deadly force. In Spain, the police officer must first fire a warning shot and shoot at a non-vital part of the body before they can shoot to kill, said Hirschfield, citing his research.

### **What are the rules around neck restraint?**

According to the Minneapolis Police Department's own rules the day of Floyd's death, the neck hold, or carotid restraint — in which officer Derek Chauvin pushed his knee onto Floyd's neck for nearly nine minutes to restrict blood flow — should only be used when the officer fears for their life. Chauvin has been charged with second-degree murder and three other officers are charged with aiding and abetting murder.

In most of Europe, police officers are banned from using these kinds of neck restraints, sometimes also referred to as a choke hold, said Hirschfield. Germany allows police officers to only briefly use a version of it, in which pressure is temporarily applied to the head (and not neck) to subdue somebody. Belgium forbids police from completely leaning on a suspect even temporarily, according to the Associated Press.

[One exception is France](#), where on May 28 officers used it to pin down a black man in an incident captured by bystanders. In Hong Kong, police are also investigating a case in which a man died after police restrained and held him face down during an arrest.

Under international law, "police should only use force as a last resort and to the minimum extent possible," and neck restraints are treated as a serious form of violence, said Patrick Wilcken, a researcher on military, security and policing issues with London-based Amnesty International.

### **How does U.S. police training compare to Europe?**

A police officer in the United States trains for an average of 19 months before being put on the job. In much of Europe, it's three years.

"Training is a much more lengthy process in countries with national policing," said Hirschfield. "You can impose national standards much more easily, and enforce them much more easily."

"In these more politicized contexts, local structures are the ones that decide about policing," said Hirschfield. "The mayors and city counsels are in charge of regulating police... in some places the police exert a lot of influence on the policy process."

He added, "Any time they try to adopt a reform... the cost is directly on the police force, [as] there's no national police force paying. That makes it harder to reform."

Some U.S. police leaders have also sought to learn from other nations. Following a spate of fatal police killings of black men and the Ferguson protests in 2014, a group of police leaders [sought advice from European counterparts](#) on how to better avoid deadly force. Israeli police have partnered with U.S. officers to provide training in anti-terror tactics, a relationship [human rights groups have criticized](#).

### **Where is de-escalation a greater police priority?**

In many European countries, training may focus on how to use space and time to reduce a threat, as well as less-risky weapons such as tasers. In Japan, police officers are discouraged from using firearms; instead, they are trained in a form of martial arts called [taiho-jutsu](#) to wield if necessary.

In the United States, in contrast, crisis intervention and de-escalation "tends to be an afterthought and sometimes just a day" in U.S. police training, said Hirschfield. "If officers have time and there's an investment in training, they could be trained in nonlethal ways of subduing people ... [such as] pressure points or pain compliance techniques that are effective in subduing people with a very low risk of harm."



	<p>Police use of <a href="#">tear gas</a>, rubber bullets, and other aggressive tactics against demonstrators over the past week have shocked many analysts and reporters, particularly those who've covered protests and revolts in other countries.</p> <p>"Compared to some Middle Eastern countries, China, Russia, Turkey, our police are hopefully not as aggressive toward citizens," said University of Arizona professor Jennifer Earl, who studies police and protests. But U.S. police are "much more militarized than [other] western countries," she continued. "We do on average have more aggressive policing than our peers."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 European countries confront racist past</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/george-floyd-protests-prompt-europe-to-reckon-with-racist-legacies-of-colonial-past-11591441201?mod=hp_listb_pos2">https://www.wsj.com/articles/george-floyd-protests-prompt-europe-to-reckon-with-racist-legacies-of-colonial-past-11591441201?mod=hp_listb_pos2</a>
GIST	<p>BRUSSELS—<a href="#">Global protests</a> over the killing of George Floyd are prompting some Europeans to confront their colonial past and rethink racist traditions.</p> <p>In countries that once ruled most of the world—and which now have millions of immigrants from former colonies—long-revered leaders, historic figures and characters are facing intense scrutiny and criticism.</p> <p>The protests have revived calls to take down symbols of colonial oppression that have long been controversial and tackle the persistent discrimination and racism in several European nations, including the U.K., Germany, France and Spain. Across Europe, statues have been defaced, street names questioned and historic pageants pilloried on an exceptional scale.</p> <p>An inspiration, aside from <a href="#">the U.S. protests</a>, was the announcement by Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam on Thursday that the state will address its past in the slave-owning Confederacy by <a href="#">removing a large statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee</a> in Richmond.</p> <p>In Belgium, which controlled and exploited the Congo for decades, calls are increasing to remove statues of King Leopold II, who established the colony as his personal territory in the 1880s and was responsible for the death and mutilation of millions of people there.</p> <p>A bust of Leopold II in Ghent on Tuesday was covered with a cloth and painted in red with the words, "I can't breathe," <a href="#">Mr. Floyd's last words</a> before he was killed by a Minneapolis policeman who knelt on his neck for almost nine minutes.</p> <p>Statues of the king in other Belgian cities were burned or covered with red paint symbolizing blood. The Brussels City Council on Monday will address a petition that gathered 45,000 signatures in four days, demanding the removal of all statues of Leopold II.</p> <p>In the Netherlands, an early colonial power whose trading companies were instrumental in carrying African slaves to America for more than two centuries, the prime minister has acknowledged racism as a problem following massive antiracism demonstrations.</p> <p>"It's not just an American phenomenon," Prime Minister Mark Rutte said. "It's also a Dutch problem. There is racism here, too. There is discrimination here, too."</p> <p>Mr. Rutte on Thursday abandoned his yearslong support for the traditional Dutch Christmastime character known as Black Pete. The mischievous sidekick to Santa Claus, clad in a Renaissance-era costume, is usually portrayed by a white boy in blackface, curly black wig, red lipstick and big golden earrings—a costume reminiscent of the slave trade.</p> <p>The character, also common in the Dutch-speaking Flanders region of Belgium, has become increasingly controversial over recent years. Mr. Rutte and many others have rejected charges that it is racist.</p>



“I was part of the group that said Black Pete is black” and so not racist, Mr. Rutte told Parliament on Thursday. “But I’ve met many people with dark skin color who said they feel incredibly discriminated against. And that’s the last thing you want with Santa Claus celebrations,” he said, adding that it wasn’t up to the government, but to society itself to change the tradition.

In 2014, Mr. Rutte described Black Pete as “an old children’s tradition” when asked about his support for it. “It is not Green Pete or Brown Pete, it is Black Pete, so I cannot change that.” He complained of spending days cleaning his face after playing Black Pete.

In recent years, Black Pete has become a rallying point for far-right groups who protest, sometimes violently, against anti-Black Pete demonstrators each December.

Changing racist attitudes will be a long process, but having the prime minister publicly change his mind is an important step, said Linda Nooitmeer, who chairs the National Institute for the Study of Dutch Slavery and its Legacy.

“When the prime minister acknowledges there is institutional racism, it’s a big thing,” she said. “This may inspire European leaders and citizens to look at their own history and their position during slavery.”

In Spain, Afroféminas, a feminist organization participating in Floyd protests, is calling for the abolition of a blackface festival in Alcoy in southeastern Spain. Every January, thousands of teenagers paint their faces black and their lips bright red and dress up as royal pages for the Three Kings Parade. The procession winds through the city, commemorating the Three Wise Men who followed a star through the desert to reach Jesus’ birthplace.

“Blackface is still being put on in so many public schools,” said Afroféminas Director Antoinette Torres Soler. “As a black mother, if I point that out, it means I’m drawing the antipathy of all other fathers and mothers.” She said she remains undeterred.

In Portugal, Parliament on Friday approved three draft resolutions to tackle racism. The Left Bloc party, which tabled one of them, asked for a national strategy on the issue, particularly in schools. Students from Portuguese-speaking African countries are much less likely to go to university than Portugal-born students, it said. Portugal was for centuries a colonial power, closely controlling the slave trade between Africa and Brazil.

In Berlin, the racist street name “Mohrenstrasse” was covered with a “George Floyd-Strasse” sign in recent days. Mohr is an old German word for black person, and also means simpleton. The street was named Mohrenstrasse in 1707, with one historic reference attributing it to a black slave acquired by Prussian Prince Philipp Wilhelm von Brandenburg-Schwedt. The Prussian state had three colonies in West Africa in the late 1600s and early 1700s.

In the U.K., the city council of Glasgow is reviewing the names of streets and buildings after a public petition requested they no longer celebrate slave owners.

Scottish Trade Minister Ivan McKee backed the initiative and said Glasgow could start by renaming a street for George Floyd. One of the city’s most famous streets, Buchanan Street, is named after tobacco trader Andrew Buchanan, whose family owned slave plantations in Virginia. Oswald Street is named after James Oswald, a plantation owner in America and the Caribbean and also a slave trader.

“It is about recognition, not blame, but we could take away the names of individuals who have benefited from it,” Mr. McKee said.

Protests in some of Europe’s onetime colonies also want historic racism addressed. Jacinda Ardern, prime minister of former British colony New Zealand, this week acknowledged the country’s record on relations with the indigenous Maori population, saying that “we don’t for a moment pretend to be perfect.”

HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Ex-sheriff: massive failures all institutions</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://mynorthwest.com/1923059/former-sheriff-sue-rahr-police-reform/">https://mynorthwest.com/1923059/former-sheriff-sue-rahr-police-reform/</a>
GIST	<p>With protests raging across the country, many have called for large-scale police reform. Weighing in on that Friday with KIRO Radio's Dave Ross was former King County Sheriff Sue Rahr.</p> <p>"Those of us in law enforcement desperately want to say, 'Oh, it's just a bad apple,' but that's getting pretty hard to hold up," Rahr said. "If you put a good apple into a bad barrel, the apple is eventually going to go bad. We do have to bring good people in, but we also have to pay attention to the barrel that we're putting them in."</p> <p>On that front, Rahr sees it coming down to how we view and evaluate law enforcement.</p> <p>That means moving away from the "tough on crime," arrest-centric approach, and finding ways to judge officers based on the way they serve their respective communities.</p> <p>"We have not come up with a good way to measure how successfully you build trust in your community, [or] how successfully you engage the community to work with the police to keep the community safe."</p> <p>That being so, it points to the need to reform not just the way we police, but the larger criminal justice system as well.</p> <p>"It's not just the police department we need to be looking at," said Rahr, who now works as the Executive Director for the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission. "We also have massive failures in all of our institutions."</p> <p>She points to a mental health system she labels "a disaster," as well as "huge problems" with things like income inequality and drug addiction.</p> <p>That, in turn, puts the onus on police to shoulder the burden for larger systemic failures.</p> <p>"Law enforcement ends up picking up the mess of that failed system," she noted. "We have massive institutional failures, and we expect a 25-year-old cop on the street to fix something that all of these systems were not able to address."</p> <p>As protesters continue to take to the streets calling for reform, Rahr has some advice.</p> <p>"Keep raising your voices, but expand it beyond just the police because if they're only focusing on the police, they're missing the opportunity to really make systemic change."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Reckoning for policing? Experts skeptical</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/protesters-hope-this-is-a-moment-of-reckoning-for-american-policing-experts-say-not-so-fast/2020/06/07/85f759e4-a742-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html">https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/protesters-hope-this-is-a-moment-of-reckoning-for-american-policing-experts-say-not-so-fast/2020/06/07/85f759e4-a742-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html</a>
GIST	<p>Glimmers of hope have emerged for Americans demanding action on police violence and systemic racism in the aftermath of the death of George Floyd, the black man who gasped for air beneath the knee of a white Minneapolis police officer last month.</p> <p>All four officers involved have been fired and charged in his death, a far more rapid show of accountability than has followed similar killings of unarmed black people. Massive, diverse crowds</p>

have filled streets nationwide, sometimes with politicians and law enforcement officials marching and kneeling alongside. Legislation banning chokeholds and other forms of force have been passed by local governments. And on Monday, congressional Democrats plan to roll out a sweeping package of police reforms on Capitol Hill.

But there are signs that Floyd's killing might not be the watershed moment that civil rights advocates are hoping for, some experts say.

The extraordinary facts of the May 25 incident — the gradual loss of consciousness of a handcuffed man who cried out for his deceased mother with his final breaths — distinguishes it from the more common and more ambiguous fatal police encounters that lead to debate over whether use of force was justified. And the politics of police reform that have squashed previous efforts still loom: powerful unions, legal immunity for police and intractable implicit biases.

"We have 400 years of history of policing that tell me things tend not to change," said Lorenzo Boyd, director of the Center for Advanced Policing at the University of New Haven. "It's a breaking point right now, just like Trayvon Martin was a breaking point, just like Michael Brown was a breaking point. But the question is: Where do we go from here?"

It's a familiar question for Gwen Carr, who watched her son take his final breaths on video as a New York police officer held him in a chokehold and he pleaded, "I can't breathe."

Thousands of Americans filled the streets for Eric Garner in 2014 — mostly black men and women — with bull horns and protest signs in dozens of cities.

But their pleas for comprehensive police reforms took hold in only a smattering of the country's more than 18,000 police departments. Dozens of agencies adopted training on de-escalating tense encounters. Sixteen states passed stricter requirements for use of deadly force.

Not a single piece of federal legislation passed on Capitol Hill.

So when Carr reached out last week to the family of 46-year-old Floyd, who uttered the same words as her son while officers held him down, she offered encouragement — and a warning.

"I told them, 'Don't think it's going to be a slam dunk,' " Carr said. "They had video of my son, too; the world also saw him murdered. It should have been a slam dunk then — it's been anything but."

### **Changing perspectives**

There are some signs that this time is different. For one thing, public perception of police bias has started to shift. Last week, a poll by Monmouth University found that 57 percent of Americans now say police in difficult situations are more likely to use excessive force against black people. That's a substantial jump from the 34 percent of registered voters who said the same when asked a similar question after the fatal police shooting of Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge in 2016.

Civil rights leaders and allied lawmakers point to substantial differences in protest crowds this time around: Their historic size, even during a pandemic. The faces, now as likely to be white and brown as they are to be black. After Garner's death, there were about 50 demonstrations, compared with more than 450 so far this time around, based on media coverage and police records.

"I don't think they used to think there was an attack on black lives. Not until it was recorded and people were seeing it, I don't think they believed it," said Lezley McSpadden, mother of Michael Brown, who was killed by a Ferguson, Mo., police officer in 2014. "What is happening now is not new to those of us who live in these oppressed areas and communities that are devalued. But it's new for people who don't live in those areas. It's changing people's perspective."

Even some Republican lawmakers have broken from strict law-and-order stances to express support for protesters. Last week, Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) said, “I think people are understanding that those protests make sense.” And Sen. Lindsey O. Graham (R-S.C.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and a staunch Trump ally, allowed that “there’s a problem here, and we have to get to the bottom of it.”

The growing assortment of voices represents an important shift, said Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.). He is among the sponsors of the Justice in Policing Act, expected to roll out Monday. The massive package targets racial profiling, bans chokeholds and no-knock warrants, and makes it easier to prosecute and sue for police misconduct.

“No change in America that is worth it has been easy. But the demands are now coming from increasingly diverse coalitions,” Booker said. “I feel we are in a moment now.”

### **'The deeper problem'**

Reform advocates have won other victories. Last week, the Minneapolis City Council unanimously passed a ban on chokeholds and neck restraints. And the council in New York is poised to pass a law this month that would make using a chokehold in an arrest a misdemeanor.

Without systemic change, however, some experts say these piecemeal policies would do little to curb the use of excessive force and racial inequities in policing. And the effectiveness of policy changes is blunted by police union contracts that protect officers from discipline and firing for wayward behavior.

“There are so many terms and conditions in the collective bargaining agreements that insulate police from accountability and transparency,” said Jody Armour, a law professor at the University of Southern California. “Can we know who the bad police are? Are there public records? A lot of times, that is squelched in collective bargaining.”

Even changes to training can have little effect. A growing number of police departments are providing cadets with de-escalation and anti-bias training, but once they are assigned to a field training officer — a veteran on the force — the training can fall by the wayside, according to police training experts.

One of the rookie officers who helped hold Floyd down questioned whether they should roll the gasping man over, but then-officer Derek Chauvin dismissed the suggestion and insisted on “staying put” with his knee on Floyd’s neck, according to court records.

“Seasoned officers will push away from what they learned in the academy and go to what works for them in the street,” Boyd said. “And officers will often say, ‘We have to police people differently because force is all they understand.’”

Those views appear to disproportionately impact black communities, at least in the most extreme cases. A Washington Post database that tracks fatal police shootings found that about 1,000 people have been killed by police gunfire every year since 2015. So far this year, 463 people have been fatally shot. While the vast majority are white men armed with weapons, black men are killed at a rate that far outstrips their numbers in the overall population.

Other forms of police violence, from chokeholds to beatings in custody, also tend to fall heavily on African Americans, Armour said.

“When you give police discretion to enforce any law, it seems to get disproportionately enforced against black folk. Whether it’s curfew, social distancing,” said Armour, noting that Floyd was accused of using a counterfeit \$20 bill.

“Would you have put your knee on a white guy’s neck like that? Would you have a little more recognition of humanity, and when he’s screaming out, ‘I can’t breathe,’ would that have raised more concern?” he said. “That’s the deeper problem.”

The vast majority of such cases are not caught on video and therefore often go unnoticed, Boyd said. For example, Breonna Taylor, the 26-year-old emergency room technician who was shot at least eight times inside her home by Louisville police in March, is often left out of the discussion of systemic injustice — in part because no one was there to record Taylor getting shot by officers serving a drug warrant at the wrong address, said Andra Gillespie, director of the James Weldon Johnson Institute at Emory University. All three remain on administrative leave, but no charges have been filed, [according to the Courier Journal](#).

“Video is certainly aiding in getting justice for these individual people,” Gillespie said. “Breonna Taylor hasn’t gotten comparable attention because there is no video. That’s also because she’s a woman, and we forget the black women are subject to disproportional police violence as well.”

Even killings captured on video rarely lead to prosecution of police officers. Sterling had a handgun in his pocket when he was tackled by police outside a Baton Rouge convenience store, and police said he was reaching for it when officers shot him six times. The DOJ and Louisiana attorney general decided not to file criminal charges against the officers involved. Attorneys for the officer who put Garner, 43, in a chokehold argued that he probably died because he was obese and had resisted arrest. Daniel Pantaleo lost his job after a disciplinary hearing four years later, but the Justice Department declined to bring criminal charges.

Floyd’s killing has received near-universal condemnation because it lacks the contradictory evidence that allows skeptics to deny that race was a factor in police behavior, said Armour, author of “Negrophobia and Reasonable Racism: The Hidden Costs of Being Black in America.”

“It’s almost like you have a case that’s so cry-out-loud bad that people who aren’t necessarily that sympathetic to black equality are able to come out and now make a big display,” Armour said. “It’s not that often you run into these knockdown, no-question videos.”

### **Setting a different tone**

That raises the question of whether the nation is experiencing a real turning point or simply responding to a particularly egregious offense, some experts say.

There have been many questionable displays of solidarity: When the Washington Redskins joined the #BlackoutTuesday protest by posting a black square on Twitter, critics noted the perceived hypocrisy from an organization whose team name is a slur for Native Americans. And as New York Police Commissioner Dermot Shea celebrated images of officers embracing peaceful protesters, video surfaced Wednesday that showed his officers beating a cyclist with batons in the street.

“We’ve seen officers kneeling in the same departments that are brutalizing journalists and protesters,” said Philip Atiba Goff, director of the Center for Policing Equity research center. “You can’t say justice for George Floyd, that you condemn the actions, while you condone the actions in your own house.”

Charles H. Ramsey, a former chief in the District and Philadelphia and co-chair of President Barack Obama’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing, said perhaps the biggest obstacle to nationwide change is the unwieldy way in which police departments are organized. With every city, town, state and county fielding its own force, he said, it’s hard to standardize training and policies.

“Regionalizing them would be a solid first step,” Ramsey said. “But then you get into the politics. Every county and every mayor; they want their own police force, they want their own chief.”

For that reason, a coalition of nearly 400 disparate organizations is focusing on securing federal reforms. Last week, the group — including the NAACP, the Center for Reproductive Rights and the American Music Therapy Association — sent a joint letter to congressional leaders calling for legislation to combat police violence.

	<p>“With so many police departments, it is important that there is federal action,” said Vanita Gupta, a former head of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.</p> <p>Although past efforts at policing reforms stalled in Congress, Booker expressed optimism, noting that civil rights legislation has always traveled a bumpy road. Bills were introduced and stagnated for years before the Civil Rights Act passed in 1964 and the Voting Rights Act passed in 1965, he said.</p> <p>Police reform advocates are skeptical. Ramsey noted that the playbook for reform that he created as chair of Obama’s policing commission sat on a shelf, unused, for five years. Meanwhile, the FBI still hasn’t followed through on a pledge to aggressively track the nation’s fatal police shootings.</p> <p>“It’s been five years since they promised to fix that database,” Ramsey said. “Come on. That’s enough time.”</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Coronavirus batters India’s Mumbai</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/worse-than-a-war-zone-covid-19-batters-indias-mumbai-city-11591531201?mod=hp_listb_pos1">https://www.wsj.com/articles/worse-than-a-war-zone-covid-19-batters-indias-mumbai-city-11591531201?mod=hp_listb_pos1</a>
GIST	<p>India is struggling to suppress the coronavirus pandemic in Mumbai, one of the world’s most densely populated cities, as its hospitals are pushed to the brink.</p> <p>Nurses and other health workers wearing full-body protection suits are fainting from the summer heat in un-air-conditioned facilities, as patients are turned away for lack of beds and bodies lie unclaimed in some hospitals.</p> <p>Akash Pillai, a nurse in one Mumbai hospital, used the same personal protective equipment for his full eight-hour shift and avoided drinking water so that he wouldn’t have to go to the bathroom, which would require a change of gear. The protective equipment is supposed to be worn for only four hours, he said.</p> <p>Like many nurses, he tested positive for Covid-19, the illness caused by the new coronavirus, last month and is now stuck in quarantine at the hospital. He hasn’t told his parents, who live in another state.</p> <p>“No one ever had pictured the ground reality inside the covid units,” said Mr. Pillai, 32 years old. “It is the same or worse than a war zone.”</p> <p>One of India’s wealthiest and most cosmopolitan cities, Mumbai has become the center of India’s outbreak and a potential springboard for the virus to leap deep into the country’s rural regions, as migrant workers who were stranded in the city return home.</p> <p>Its population of 20 million, out of India’s 1.3 billion people, accounts for almost one in five of India’s more than 246,000 coronavirus infections and almost 7,000 deaths, according to India’s health ministry.</p> <p>Even as India plans a phased reopening of the economy, the country is shooting up the ranks of nations with the most infections. India recently passed Italy and Spain, according to data from Johns Hopkins University, leaving it behind only the U.S., Brazil, Russia and the U.K.</p> <p>As in other countries at the peaks of their outbreaks, many of Mumbai’s hospitals have reached capacity and now have insufficient beds and ventilators. The city has built coronavirus treatment facilities in parking lots, playgrounds and sports complexes. It is recruiting doctors and nurses from other states, taken over 80% of the beds in private hospitals and ordered private- sector doctors to report for Covid-19 duties.</p> <p>The city has created an app to help people find open hospital beds, but they are often gone before the patients arrive, said Deepak Baid, a physician in charge of a Covid-19 unit in a government hospital in</p>

Mumbai. Doctors are getting infected and dying every week, he said, so they are asking that 10% of hospital beds be reserved for health workers and their families.

“There are patients that are going to die. Unfortunately, we don’t have places to shift them,” said Dr. Baid, who is also the president of the Association of Medical Consultants, Mumbai. “The family members of dead patients are also in quarantine and there is no one to take the bodies.”

Doctors, nurses and other crucial hospital support staff say they are overworked and under protected. Many nurses are hesitant to work because hospitals aren’t providing them with quality personal protective equipment, said Mr. Pillai, who is the general secretary of the United Nurses Association for Maharashtra, the state that encompasses Mumbai. Nurses are protesting a new government rule that they cannot take time off or they will risk losing their licenses.

The western state of Maharashtra has reported more than 82,000 coronavirus cases and almost 3,000 deaths. That is 34% of the confirmed cases nationwide and 43% of total reported deaths in the country.

Mumbai has been cursed by both its prosperity and its poverty. As a jet-set, center of finance, media and technology, it was one of the first places to get hit by people traveling from abroad. Once in the city, the virus quickly found its way to poor crowded neighborhoods where social distancing is almost impossible.

The virus has all but shut down the city’s prolific film industry. The city’s other booming industries—finance, outsourcing, jewelry, fashion and others—are also hurting. India is reliant on Mumbai’s companies and consumers—India’s richest—to start spending again to reignite growth.

When India started its nationwide lockdown March 25, Mumbai had less than 100 coronavirus cases. A month into the lockdown, the number shot up above 5,000 and it started to become obvious that forcing people to stay in their homes wasn’t stopping the virus.

Mumbai has more than 80,000 people per square mile of usable land. New York City, by comparison, has around 28,000. Mumbai’s slums, which house close to half its population, are even more crowded.

“Mumbai is complex,” said Rajesh Tope, health minister of Maharashtra. “It’s challenging to implement a containment strategy.”

With so many people packed so closely together, the coronavirus has moved faster than the efforts to contain it. Mumbai’s largest slum, Dharavi, is a tight patchwork of factories and tiny family homes, where five people or more often share a room as small as 10 feet by 10 feet.

Varsha Gaikwad, a lawmaker in Dharavi, said the city has been restricting movements around the slum and spraying its narrow, crooked lanes and shared bathrooms daily with disinfectant. The government is trying to identify and isolate cases, even resettling hundreds of vulnerable families in hotels, schools and government housing. But the surge in cases hasn’t slowed until last week, when the growth in the daily number of new infections started to peak.

One of the biggest measures to ease the crowding was allowing migrant workers who had been stuck for weeks in the city to return to their villages.

“We have managed to decongest the area to some extent by sending about 150,000 to 200,000 migrant workers to their home states in special trains and buses,” said Ms. Gaikwad.

This holds risks for the rest of the country. As millions of migrant workers left Mumbai, infections have jumped in poor states like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, home to many migrants.

Meanwhile, experts are concerned Mumbai may be just the first of India’s many mega cities to be overwhelmed despite strict lockdowns. New Delhi may be next in line. The capital region closed its borders for a week earlier this month as it struggled to contain its outbreak.



	<p>“The thing that they went through in New York, Mumbai is going through now,” said Nilesh Gawde, chairman of Center for Public Health at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai. “Other Indian cities may go through similar issues in June and some in July.”</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Shale companies turn oil taps back on</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/u-s-shale-companies-are-turning-the-oil-taps-back-on-11591542000?mod=hp_lead_pos5">https://www.wsj.com/articles/u-s-shale-companies-are-turning-the-oil-taps-back-on-11591542000?mod=hp_lead_pos5</a>
GIST	<p>American oil producers are reopening the spigots, complicating the crude market’s recovery.</p> <p>Scores of shale drilling companies turned off wells to reduce output when U.S. oil prices fell to negative territory in late April, after millions world-wide stopped driving and flying due to the new coronavirus, causing a steep drop in global demand.</p> <p>Now that more of the world is reopening and prices are rebounding to nearly \$40 a barrel, companies including Parsley Energy Inc. PE 8.37% and WPX Energy Inc. WPX 13.34% are starting to turn some of those wells back on, even as they continue to put off most new drilling.</p> <p>The increased volumes remain far below peak levels before the pandemic, when the U.S. was pumping more than 13 million barrels a day of crude, the most in the world. But the oil market remains fragile, and many of the world’s other top producers are still voluntarily curtailing their output to help rebalance supply and demand.</p> <p>The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies, which agreed in April to limit production by 9.7 million barrels a day through June, struck another deal Saturday to extend cuts another month.</p> <p>The extension aims to reduce output by 9.6 million barrels a day, as Mexico isn’t going to continue its production curbs. Libya, which is exempt from the quotas, also said over the weekend that it is restarting some 300,000 barrels a day of production, another challenge for global rebalancing.</p> <p>OPEC delegates were briefed on the likelihood that U.S. producers would turn the taps back on last week but also discussed forecasts that American production would likely decline later in the year before agreeing to extend output cuts.</p> <p>While turning existing wells back on is likely to temporarily boost U.S. production this summer, American oil output is still widely expected to drop in 2020. That is because shale wells lose steam quickly, and companies have sharply cut back on the number of new wells they are drilling.</p> <p>The decline in new oil-drilling activity is likely to remain a drag on employment and the national economy. Analytics firm IHS Markit thinks the country will be generating around 10 million barrels a day by year-end, down nearly a quarter from the peak.</p> <p>Global oil demand has recovered from an April trough, but the International Energy Agency estimates that this month it will still be about 86 million barrels a day, or roughly 13% below last year’s levels.</p> <p>Oil prices have staged a remarkable recovery from April 20, when futures plunged to negative \$37.63 a barrel as sellers effectively paid buyers to take contracts off their hands amid a growing shortage of oil storage.</p> <p>In May, as stay-at-home orders eased, drivers returned to the road and American energy producers curtailed output, West Texas Intermediate futures posted their biggest monthly increase on record in both</p>

dollar terms and percentage gain. Crude futures climbed another 11% last week to end Friday at \$39.55 a barrel.

“We’re seeing production coming back in pretty much all of the basins,” said Kelcy Warren, chief executive of pipeline giant Energy Transfer ET 3.85% LP. “It’s been a steady recovery since the first week of May.”

The amount of oil traversing Energy Transfer’s systems fell about 20% from March to May, but the company said it is on track to regain about half of those losses this month.

American companies that can get their oil onto boats and into the global market can sell it for more than the U.S. price. Brent crude, the international benchmark, closed Friday at \$42.30.

Current prices remain below the levels many companies need to drill new wells profitably. But the bounceback is sufficient for many to start up existing wells. The average price required to cover operating expenses on existing wells ranges from \$23 a barrel to \$36 a barrel in the U.S., depending on the region, according to a recent Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas survey.

EOG Resources Inc., EOG 7.54% one of the largest U.S. oil producers, has a plan to ramp its output back up in the third quarter.

“In the mid-\$30s, some of the existing shut-in production will be coming back on. There’s no doubt about that,” Kenneth Boedeker, EOG’s exploration and production chief, told investors last week.

Rivals aren’t waiting. Parsley Energy told investors last week that it is already restoring a “vast majority” of the roughly 26,000 barrels a day of production that it choked back last month from its Permian Basin fields in West Texas.

WPX, which drills in the Permian as well as in North Dakota, said in a securities filing Wednesday that it is restoring the 45,000 barrels a day that it took off the market last month.

Concho Resources Inc., CXO 9.20% another Permian producer, pinched its output by some 5,000 to 10,000 barrels a day during the lockdown.

“As prices have improved, we are working to bring that production back online,” Brenda Schroer, the Midland, Texas, company’s finance chief, told an online gathering of investors.

Some operators have said in recent weeks that they planned to turn wells off for only a portion of the month rather than shutting them down entirely, said Mark Houser, chief executive of University Lands. The organization manages oil and gas leases across 2.1 million acres in West Texas for a state endowment, with the royalty payments supporting education.

“It’s a mixed bag,” Mr. Houser said.

U.S. crude production during the final week of May averaged 11.2 million barrels a day, down from a record 13.1 million in mid-March, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Some estimate that output has fallen even lower.

Roughly 1.75 million barrels a day worth of production losses this spring were attributable to turning off existing wells, according to IHS Markit. The analytics firm expects most of that output to be restored by September.

But without new drilling, U.S. onshore production would decline by more than a third in a year, far more quickly than in most other places in the world, IHS Vice President Raoul LeBlanc said.

“If you stop feeding the beast, it declines incredibly quickly,” Mr. LeBlanc said.

	<p>The number of drilling rigs in the U.S. has dropped by more than 70% in the past year, to 284, according to oil-field services company Baker Hughes Co.</p> <p>Mr. Warren, the pipeline chief, said the loss of rigs is worrisome, longer-term. “You pull all those rigs out, it’s not overnight like a shut-in that you can just turn it back on,” he said. “We’re concerned about declines.”</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Protests, rallies until police policy changes</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/protests-sparked-by-george-floyd-killing-set-to-resume-as-some-leaders-dial-back-enforcement-11591542085">https://www.wsj.com/articles/protests-sparked-by-george-floyd-killing-set-to-resume-as-some-leaders-dial-back-enforcement-11591542085</a>
GIST	<p>The largest protests sparked by the killing of George Floyd remained mostly peaceful across the U.S. this weekend, as emboldened organizers said they didn’t plan to stop rallying until they saw concrete changes in police policy.</p> <p>From New York to Los Angeles, and in cities of all sizes in between, protesters asked officials to defund police departments and redirect those funds to other programs. They called for banning police chokeholds and revamping law-enforcement training programs.</p> <p>After a largely peaceful demonstration in Washington, D.C., President Trump ordered the National Guard to withdraw from the capital, and mayors in New York City, Chicago and Philadelphia lifted curfews Sunday.</p> <p>There were signs the protesters were being heard. In Minneapolis, where Mr. Floyd was killed in police custody, a veto-proof majority of the city council agreed to begin the process of disbanding the police department—a necessary step, council members said, after decades of incremental police reform.</p> <p>“Our commitment is to end our city’s toxic relationship with the Minneapolis Police Department, to end policing as we know it, and to re-create systems of public safety that actually keep us safe,” Minneapolis City Council President Lisa Bender said Sunday.</p> <p>Council members said they “don’t have all the answers about what a police-free future looks like” but vowed to work with the community over the next year, according to a statement Ms. Bender posted on Twitter.</p> <p>The police department didn’t respond to a request for comment.</p> <p>“It shouldn’t have taken so much death to get us here,” said Kandace Montgomery, director of Black Visions Collective, a Minneapolis-based community organization. “George Floyd should not have been murdered for so many people to wake up.”</p> <p>In addition, congressional Democrats said they plan to introduce legislation Monday that would lower barriers to prosecuting police for misconduct. Rep. Karen Bass, a California Democrat and chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus, said Sunday that the Justice in Policing Act would strive to hold police officers more accountable, require bias training and improve efforts to track episodes of misconduct.</p> <p>In a news conference Sunday, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio vowed a “next wave of reform,” including shifting funding from the city’s police department to youth and social services, and supporting increased transparency in police discipline.</p> <p>California Gov. Gavin Newsom called for state police to stop using strangleholds, and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti is proposing cutting police funding and putting the money into social services in minority communities.</p>

A U.S. district judge in Denver signed a restraining order barring the city's police from using chemical weapons or projectiles against protesters acting peacefully. And in Buffalo, N.Y., two police officers were charged Saturday with felony assault in connection with a Thursday night altercation that injured a 75-year-old protester. The officers pleaded not guilty, according to Tom Burton, a lawyer for the Buffalo Police Benevolent Association, which represents the officers.

Mr. Floyd, a 46-year-old black man, was killed May 25 after police officers arrested him for allegedly trying to pass off a counterfeit \$20 bill. Video that circulated widely on social media showed a white police officer, Derek Chauvin, with his knee on Mr. Floyd's neck as Mr. Floyd pleaded for mercy and said he couldn't breathe.

Mr. Floyd's body stopped in Raeford, N.C., the small town where he was born, for a public viewing and private service Saturday before traveling to Houston, where he lived before moving to Minneapolis. On Monday, the Floyd family will hold a public viewing, and a private funeral will follow Tuesday.

Former Vice President Joe Biden will travel to Houston on Monday to meet privately with the Floyd family, a campaign aide said Sunday. The presumptive Democratic presidential nominee also plans to record a video message for Mr. Floyd's funeral service on Tuesday. Mr. Biden had previously spoken with Mr. Floyd's family over the phone, where he discussed the death of his son, Beau Biden, five years ago from brain cancer.

Mr. Biden is expected to unveil additional policies around police oversight and racial justice in the coming days.

Sen. Mitt Romney (R., Utah) joined a march on Sunday that went past the barricades near the White House at Lafayette Square, becoming the first Republican senator known to have joined the protests in Washington. "We need a voice against racism, we need many voices against racism and against brutality. And we need to stand up and say black lives matter," said Mr. Romney, a Trump critic who was the only Republican to vote to convict him in impeachment proceedings. Other senators who have joined protests include Sens. Elizabeth Warren (D., Mass.) and Kamala Harris (D., Calif.).

President Trump tweeted early Sunday, "I want great and well paid LAW ENFORCEMENT. I want LAW & ORDER!"

The Los Angeles police union said in a written statement that any cuts to police funding would "undoubtedly affect not only police operations, but more importantly the community members we serve each day."

Leaders of several of the weekend's protests stressed the importance of keeping gatherings peaceful, and in some cases they chanted that they were using their right to protest peacefully. Greater New York City Black Nurses Association, which organized an event at Union Square on Sunday, said in its social-media posts that "provocateurs will not be tolerated at this event."

Ty Hobson-Powell, an organizer in Washington, D.C., said the tenor of the protests has changed over the past week of protests.

"The first couple of days, I was coming out here with milk in my backpack and with towels because we were getting tear-gassed," Mr. Hobson-Powell said. "Now, I'm coming out here with water, just to survive the day and stay hydrated."

New York City has gone five days with no significant property damage and arrested only four people during protests Saturday, according to the mayor's office.

Many protesters said they didn't plan to stop demonstrating until they see substantial criminal-justice overhauls.

Near New York City's Times Square on Sunday, speakers took to the stage to urge protesters to keep going and try to attend meetings of powerful people, including Congress, to be agents of change. Chivona Newsome, co-founder of the Greater New York branch of Black Lives Matter and a Democratic candidate for the city's 15th congressional district, said the movement had entered its most important stage.

"We know that nothing happens for marginalized people unless there's an agenda, unless there's legislation," she said. "There would be no civil rights, there would be no voting rights and we would still be in bondage if there wasn't legislation."

Ms. Newsome said if elected she would propose a law dubbed the "I Can't Breathe Act" that would make it a felony if a person who was denied medical assistance died in custody. She also outlined a broad set of other proposals, including the banning of the use of chokeholds by police officers.

Tyhem Commodore, a local comedian and actor, told the crowd not to let the energy of the past week dissipate in coming days. The issues the black community faces are ever-present, he said.

"Black Lives Matter isn't one day. It's not one week," he said. "Black Lives Matter is forever."

U.S. Attorney General William Barr said Sunday he doesn't see systemic racism in law enforcement.

"There's racism in the United States still but I don't think that the law-enforcement system is systemically racist," he said on CBS. "I understand the distrust, however, of the African-American community given the history in this country. I think we have to recognize that for most of our history, our institutions were explicitly racist."

The Justice Department is investigating Mr. Floyd's killing to determine whether Minneapolis police officers willfully violated his civil rights. Mr. Chauvin faces charges from the state of Minnesota of second-degree murder; three other officers who were at the scene of the arrest were charged with aiding and abetting second-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter. Mr. Barr said investigators were examining things such as the officers' training and the department's use-of-force policies.

The Trump administration was criticized for deploying National Guard troops and federal law-enforcement personnel who used smoke canisters and pepper balls to clear Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C., Monday before Mr. Trump went to St. John's Church, across the street from the White House.

D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser said Sunday that Mr. Trump's response to the protests hadn't quelled them but motivated more people to turn out for peaceful gatherings. "What Americans saw was federal police forces tear-gassing peaceful Americans and how they responded made clear to the president that Americans would exercise their First Amendment rights and do it peacefully," Ms. Bowser said on ABC.

Many police departments had changed their tactics throughout the week-plus of protests. At a protest Sunday in New York City's Union Square, a handful of officers stood on the periphery, not wearing the helmets police donned at other protests.

Drake Madison, a public-relations officer for the Los Angeles Police Department, declined to detail whether or how police presence at future demonstrations might change. He said acts of looting have largely subsided across the city and there have been a lot of peaceful marches over these past few days.

"If it goes that way, heck, do those daily if you'd like," he said. "We always hope for the best, but we do plan for the worst, just in case."

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SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/health/doctors-george-floyd-coronavirus.html?action=click&amp;module=Well&amp;pgtype=Homepage&amp;section=US%20News">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/health/doctors-george-floyd-coronavirus.html?action=click&amp;module=Well&amp;pgtype=Homepage&amp;section=US%20News</a>
GIST	<p>Outside medical centers across the country, doctors and other health care workers have been stopping work in recent days for 8 minutes and 46 seconds to join in protesting the death of George Floyd, who was pinned down by a police officer in Minneapolis for that amount of time before his death.</p> <p>For doctors in New York who have strained to meet the challenges of coronavirus care for months, participating in the demonstrations has been especially poignant. Workers at a number of the hospitals hit hard by Covid-19 including Bellevue, Downstate, Lincoln, Mount Sinai and Montefiore have held events displaying their support for the protests this week.</p> <p>Many say they view the deaths of black people at the hands of police as a public health issue. But they also express worries that large gatherings will cause a second wave of Covid-19 cases, and they are balancing their involvement with calls for protesters and police officers to adhere to public health guidelines.</p> <p>For some black physicians, the protests, like the pandemic, are a reminder of the unequal health risks that black Americans face.</p> <p>“As a physician, when I hear ‘I can’t breathe’ I’m usually rushing to someone’s bedside,” said Dr. Teresa Smith, an emergency doctor at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, who thought of her patients with respiratory failure when she saw the video of the killing of Mr. Floyd. “To see George Floyd crying that, that was personal for me as a physician of color.”</p> <p>To Dr. Smith, these protests are all the more important at a time when a public health crisis is disproportionately affecting black patients. Black Americans comprise 13 percent of the population, but 24 percent of deaths from Covid-19.</p> <p>In New York City, black and Latino people died at twice the rate of white people, according to data released by the city. A study from the city’s comptroller found that minorities make up 75 percent of the city’s front line workers, and therefore many have not been able to shelter in place.</p> <p>“The black community has been facing a pandemic that has taken the lives of their family and friends,” Dr. Smith said. “Then the community had to wake up to face the deaths of their people by the hands of those who were supposed to protect them. It’s a double whammy.”</p> <p>That’s part of what motivated Dr. Rob Gore, an emergency physician, to lead more than 100 residents, medical students and nursing staff in a “die-in” on Thursday at SUNY Downstate. Dr. Gore said the action was intended in part to make medical workers imagine they were personally in Mr. Floyd’s position. As a black physician, Dr. Gore said he wanted his co-workers to understand the fear of police violence as viscerally as they have felt the threat of Covid-19.</p> <p>Dr. Oluyemi Omotoso, an emergency medicine resident at Lincoln Medical Center in the Bronx, said he could not bring himself to watch the George Floyd video after all the Covid-19 deaths he had witnessed, especially among black patients.</p> <p>“Seeing clips of it is traumatizing because in the last three months on the front line I kept seeing patients saying they couldn’t breathe,” Dr. Omotoso said. “I remember one shift where five people were intubated and five people died.”</p> <p>Dr. Omotoso led a solidarity event on Thursday, in which roughly 100 workers at Lincoln Medical Center gathered for a moment of silence and speeches.</p> <p>But he simultaneously worries that the protests will cause a spike in coronavirus infections.</p> <p>“The second wave might come sooner than anticipated given what’s happening,” Dr. Omotoso said. “Like most emergency departments in the city, we’re preparing for the worst.”</p>

Some public health experts have also warned that the use of tear gas at protests and other police crowd tactics could increase the risk of coronavirus transmission.

“Arresting peaceful protesters and putting them in paddy wagons increases the risk of transmission,” said Dr. Dara Kass, an emergency room doctor in New York who has spent recent weeks advising patients and colleagues on how to protest safely, and joined a solidarity event at New York Presbyterian. “There’s also no reason to use chemical inhalants that cause people to cough.”

Some physicians have used their involvement in the demonstrations to promote social distancing and ensure that protesters are wearing appropriate protective equipment. Dr. Madison Edens, an emergency medicine resident, said she brought masks to hand out at a protest in Union Square at the end of May, and another gathering for health care workers in Times Square on Tuesday.

Dr. Edens said she feels the role of physicians in the protests is important in a period when people are especially reliant on the expertise of the medical community.

“People are looking to doctors more than they usually do,” she said. “It’s our obligation to stand up and show solidarity even with the risks of gathering at this moment.”

Some physicians say the unity they see at demonstrations has been a comfort after months of seeing patients struggling in isolation, as many hospitals have disallowed or strictly limited visitors during the Covid-19 crisis.

“People have been dying by themselves in the hospital,” said Dr. Hillary Dueñas, a resident physician at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City, who helped organize the Times Square event. “To see people gather together in silence was so powerful.”

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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 States reopen; ill-prepared mass protests</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/world/coronavirus-updates-us-usa.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage#link-57686410">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/world/coronavirus-updates-us-usa.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage#link-57686410</a>
GIST	<p>Before the eruption of outrage over the killing of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis, debates about reopening centered on whether states had adequate systems in place to detect and treat cases of the coronavirus, which has killed more than 110,000 people in the United States since the beginning of the year.</p> <p>But as the protests against police brutality enter a third week, public officials are warily watching for signs of a spike in new cases.</p> <p>And on Sunday, infectious disease experts on Twitter debated how to supply a reliable estimate of the protests’ impact on virus transmission — or whether trying to do so may wrongly be seen as discouraging participation in the growing racial justice movement.</p> <p>In what he called a back-of-the-envelope estimate, Trevor Bedford, an expert on the virus at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Institute, wrote on Twitter that each day of protests could result in about 3,000 new cases and 50 to 500 deaths. Given the racial disparities seen during the pandemic, he noted, that surge would disproportionately affect black people. “Societal benefit of continued protests must be weighed against substantial potential impacts to health,” he wrote.</p> <p>Marc Lipsitch, an epidemiologist at Harvard, agreed that Dr. Bedford’s projections were in the ballpark, and said in an email that he had done “a service” by making an approximate estimate with explicit assumptions.</p>



But he also noted that if states where the virus was still spreading managed to rein it in, the number of lives saved would “[massively overshadow the effects of the protests](#).” If all states were better able to detect new cases with tests and contact tracing, or reduce transmission by social-distancing and mask-wearing, it would mitigate a rise in infections acquired at protests.

Dr. Bedford wrote that his estimates contained a lot of uncertainty. There is no official estimate for how many people are protesting on an average day, for instance. Still, he thought it was important, he said, to provide a framework grounded in epidemiologic principles to counter the offhand assumptions being made by political pundits. But, [in response](#), other scientists [voiced concern](#) that Dr. Bedford’s posts would “give fodder to those opposing civil rights.”

Because it can take up to two weeks for a newly infected person to show symptoms, health experts expect that any uptick in cases will begin to surface this week. Demonstrators in several places have contracted the virus, including in Lawrence, Kan., and [Athens, Ga.](#)

Politicians and public health officials have urged demonstrators to wear face coverings and to maintain social distancing. In some places, including New York, Atlanta, Illinois, Los Angeles and Minnesota, officials have also urged protesters to get tested.

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo said in his daily briefing that New York would seek to conduct 35,000 tests a day in New York City, which has been the site of large, and sometimes fractious, demonstrations for more than a week. He also pledged to dedicate 15 testing sites in the city exclusively to people who have attended demonstrations.

“Please get a test,” the governor said, adding that protesters should “act as if you were exposed,” and notify people that they interact with accordingly.

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HEADLINE	06/07 Other protests fade; this feels different
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/us/unrest-protests-minneapolis-ending.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/us/unrest-protests-minneapolis-ending.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage</a>
GIST	<p>DENVER — Ever since people across the country began pouring into the streets to protest police violence, Dakota Patton has driven two hours each day to rally on the steps of the Colorado State Capitol. He has given up his gig jobs delivering food and painting houses. He is exhausted. But he has no plans to leave.</p> <p>“This is bigger,” Mr. Patton, 24, said. “I’m not worried about anything else I could be doing. I want to and need to be here. As long as I need.”</p> <p>As Monday marks two full weeks since the first protest sparked by the killing of George Floyd, the massive gatherings for racial justice across the country and now the world have achieved a scale and level of momentum not seen in decades. And they appear unlikely to run out anytime soon.</p> <p>Streets and public plazas are filled with people who have scrapped weekend plans, canceled meetings, taken time off from work and hastily called babysitters. Many say the economic devastation of the coronavirus had already cleared their schedules. With jobs lost and colleges shuttered, they have nothing but time.</p> <p>“This feels like home to me,” said Rebecca Agwu, 19, who lost her campus job in the pandemic. She spent five days at the Denver protests, and spent a recent afternoon chatting in the shade of the boarded-up Capitol building with three other women who had been laid off from their mall jobs.</p> <p>On Sunday, as protesters continued gathering around the country, their growing influence was apparent as local leaders vowed to curb the power of the police.</p>

Mayor Bill de Blasio pledged to cut the budget for the New York Police Department and spend more on social services in the city. In Minneapolis, nine City Council members — a veto-proof majority — publicly promised to create a new system of public safety in a city where law enforcement has long been accused of racism.

Mr. de Blasio also canceled the nightly curfew that he imposed last week. And President Trump said on Sunday that he had ordered National Guard troops to begin withdrawing from Washington.

Raids and arrests broke up protest encampments over an oil pipeline in North Dakota near the Standing Rock reservation and at the heart of Occupy Wall Street in years past. But protesters now say that aggressive responses by the police are only reinforcing their commitment to return to the streets. After police last week used flash grenades and a chemical spray to clear peaceful protesters from Lafayette Square in front of the White House, even more people began showing up.

One recent afternoon in Washington, D.C., one person among hundreds of demonstrators shouted that they would all be coming back the following day. Another person added, “and the next day.” The phrase caught fire, and the crowd started chanting, “And the next day! And the next day!”

“If I’m the next hashtag, hopefully people will be out here for me too,” said Andrew Jackson, a 25-year-old government contractor who has joined protesters in Washington.

Mr. Jackson said his own experiences of police abuse had compelled him to cut back on his work hours and join the rallies: An officer once pointed a gun at his head, and the son of a neighbor had been shot and killed by the police, he said.

“I’ll come out day after day after day,” Mr. Jackson said.

Because the protests are not only about the death of Mr. Floyd but a broader system of racial inequality, officials cannot simply defuse concerns by pressing charges against police officers, as they did in Baltimore after the death of Freddie Gray.

In Minneapolis, activists said they did not believe the movement would lose oxygen simply because the officer who knelt on Mr. Floyd’s neck for eight minutes and 46 seconds and three others who were at the scene had now been charged.

“I’ve been attending protests as far back as I can remember,” said Raeisha Williams, who brought her toddler son along to a protest she helped organize last week in downtown Minneapolis. “And I plan to keep attending them until the system actually changes.”

People around the world — in Australia, Britain, France, Germany and beyond — have defied cold weather and public health rules against mass gatherings to show solidarity with American protesters, who have now taken to the streets in more than 150 cities.

Activists and scholars who have studied the crest and fall of other upwellings over police killings, school shootings, women’s rights and immigration detentions say that the widespread outrage over economic and racial injustices may give the new movement a greater durability.

“There was a wash, rinse, repeat cycle, a standard script,” said Jody David Armour, a law professor at the University of Southern California who studies racial justice. “Convene a commission, hold some hearings, have community members vent and testify, and here come some policymakers saying, ‘Here’s a fix.’ ”

The result, he said: “Look where we are.”

Nekima Levy Armstrong, another organizer in Minneapolis, changed her life to be able to march on the streets. Ms. Armstrong, a civil rights lawyer and former president of the Minneapolis chapter of the N.A.A.C.P., was an associate professor of law at the University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis. But she

quit in 2016 to be able to fully devote herself to the civil-rights movement and protesting. She even ran unsuccessfully for mayor.

“My entire life has changed since taking to the streets,” she said.

On Wednesday, shortly after charges against the four officers in the Floyd case were announced, she rallied more than 500 people, carrying placards with slogans like “Black Lives Matter More Than Windows” and “4 Killer Cops 4 Convictions.” She said the officers could be tried by an all-white jury; they could be acquitted.

“We have to continue to be vigilant. We can’t rest,” she told the crowd, her voice rising. She added: “We got to keep marching. Keep demonstrating. Keep speaking the truth. Keep protesting.”

The crowd, in front of the TV station where the wife of the head of the police union works as an anchor, erupted in cheers and applause.

Community organizers say that some of the energy now coursing through the street will eventually ebb.

But they say the Floyd protests appear to be creating a new generation of activism out of deep, widespread anger. There is outrage: At police killings of black men and women. At economic inequality when 13 percent of Americans are out of work. At failed political leadership during a pandemic that has killed more than 100,000 Americans.

“You’re watching injustice take place in every sector of our society,” said Wes Moore, who chronicles Freddie Gray’s death and its aftermath in the book, “Five Days.” “Schools have been closed. Students are burdened and under debt. There’s a compounding to the pain.”

In South Florida, activists said they were trying to sustain the energy of this moment by signing up volunteers, holding trainings and making sure people had a ride or gas money to get to the multiple daily protests that are happening.

“In the past we have seen where momentum would have gone away, but now we are seeing people want to know how to plan protests,” said Tiffany Burks, a member of the Black Lives Matter Alliance in Broward County, Fla. “I see a shift.”

Asa Rogers-Shaw, 30, a Black Lives Matter activist in Fort Lauderdale, said he does not protest every day. He is focusing his efforts now on crafting strategies to ensure that the protesters have tools to sustain the protest. Organizers in Broward County held a virtual training Wednesday night to teach protesters to continue their activism through “direct actions.” More than 200 people signed up.

“If you cover the arc of these moments, you know the energy is going to dissipate eventually,” Mr. Rogers-Shaw said. “It’s how much of that residue can we hold on to.”

Activists across the country say that while the news media may pay attention when buildings burn or another black person is killed, their protests and calls for reforms have never ceased.

In Ferguson, Mo., where Michael Brown, a black 18-year-old, was shot dead by a white police officer in 2014, residents and Black Lives Matter activists have spent nearly six years working to change the city’s courts, police policies and political leadership. Last week, Ferguson elected its first African-American mayor, Ella Jones.

In Baltimore, the family of Tyrone West, who died after a struggle with the police in 2013, has gathered in the street every Wednesday to call for justice in his death and commemorate victims of police brutality.

In Los Angeles, Black Lives Matter activists have demonstrated downtown against police abuses every Wednesday for more than two years, often drawing just a couple of dozen people. But last week,

	<p>thousands came, underscoring how the outrage at Mr. Floyd’s killing has catalyzed the work that local activists have been carrying out for years.</p> <p>Valerie Rivera, whose son Eric was killed by police in 2017, said she was glad the others were joining her.</p> <p>“We have been waiting for these days to come, for these people to stream into these streets,” she said.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 NYC mayor pledges police funding cuts</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/nyregion/deblasio-nypd-funding.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/nyregion/deblasio-nypd-funding.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage</a>
GIST	<p>Mayor Bill de Blasio on Sunday pledged for the first time to cut the city’s police funding, following 10 nights of mass protests against police violence and mounting demands that he overhaul a department whose tactics have caused widespread consternation.</p> <p>The mayor declined to say precisely how much funding he planned to divert to social services from the New York Police Department, which has an annual budget of \$6 billion, representing more than 6 percent of Mr. de Blasio’s proposed \$90 billion <a href="#">budget</a>.</p> <p>Mr. de Blasio said the details would be worked out with the City Council in advance of the July 1 budget <a href="#">deadline</a>.</p> <p>“We’re committed to seeing a shift of funding to youth services, to social services, that will happen literally in the course of the next three weeks, but I’m not going to go into detail because it is subject to negotiation and we want to figure out what makes sense,” Mr. de Blasio said.</p> <p>As recently as Friday, Mr. de Blasio expressed skepticism about cutting police funding, even as he noted that all city agencies might face cuts, absent more financial assistance from the federal government.</p> <p>His Sunday morning reversal was one of two shifts in his stance toward protesters. In the early morning, he <a href="#">announced on Twitter</a> that New York City’s first curfew <a href="#">since</a> World War II would end effectively immediately, a day earlier than planned. He attributed the course correction to his belief that the protests had become more peaceful in recent days.</p> <p>The mayor’s announcement that he favored the budget cuts represented the latest turn in his fraught relationship with the Police Department.</p> <p>Mr. de Blasio campaigned for the mayoralty in 2013 on promises of reforming the department, which had been embroiled in controversy over its aggressive use of stop-and-frisk in communities of color. He made his wife, who is African-American, and his children central to his campaign. But by the time he took office, the use of stop-and-frisk had already fallen sharply.</p> <p>During his first year in office, Eric Garner died in a police chokehold on Staten Island, and his final words, “I can’t breathe,” became a rallying cry for activists across the country.</p> <p>Mr. de Blasio tried to empathize with protesters, telling reporters that he had advised his son, Dante, “on how to take special care” during interactions with officers.</p> <p>When, later that month, <a href="#">two police officers</a> were fatally shot in Brooklyn while they were sitting in their patrol car, a police union leader said de Blasio had blood on his hands.</p> <p>Police officers turned their backs to the mayor when he attended the officers’ funerals — events that proved to be a turning point in the de Blasio administration, making the mayor more eager to accommodate the department.</p>

Now, Mr. de Blasio is facing a possible \$9 billion budget [gap](#) and significant unrest within his own administration over his handling of both the coronavirus crisis and the mass demonstrations following the Minneapolis police killing of George Floyd.

Many protesters and observers have accused the Police Department of using violent tactics during the unrest while enforcing the curfew, which began Monday.

The Brooklyn district attorney's office said on Sunday that it was investigating two police officers over their actions during the demonstrations.

One officer was seen on video shoving a female protester, who fell on the street and hit her head. The other officer was seen on video removing a protester's mask and pepper spraying him.

On Saturday, dozens of employees at the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice [signed a statement demanding that Mr. de Blasio](#) support several policing reforms, including a ban on the use of chokeholds by the police proposed by the City Council.

The legislation, which is believed to have a veto-proof majority in the Council, would criminalize the use of chokeholds by law enforcement, making it easier for district attorneys to prosecute infractions.

Mr. de Blasio has resisted signing on to the measure unless it includes an exemption for officers in life-threatening situations. He did not address the issue in his announcement on Sunday.

The [statement from the criminal justice employees](#) said the demonstrations in the streets mandated transformative change.

"As soon as the protests started, we felt such a disconnect, because we're supposed to be the ones out there figuring this stuff out, we want to effect change and make things better," said one of the letter's signatories, who wanted to remain anonymous for reasons of job protection. "We were left leaderless."

That statement came on the heels of a June 3 letter, signed by hundreds of former and current staffers, [demanding](#) that Mr. de Blasio cut Police Department funding by \$1 billion.

In an apparent effort to quell rising internal unrest, on Saturday morning, Mr. De Blasio sent an email to staff assuring them that he and his wife, Chirlane McCray, understand "how deeply this moment hurts."

"We are here for you," reads the letter, which was acquired by The New York Times. "We will never stop fighting for you. Black Lives Matter in New York City."

On Sunday, Mr. de Blasio's chief of staff, Emma Wolfe, organized a remote meeting between the mayor, Ms. McCray and staff members.

Mr. de Blasio and his wife arrived 15 minutes late to the video conference meeting, one attendee said.

Ms. McCray spoke first. According to an audio recording of the event, she and Mr. de Blasio repeated many of the same points they've made in more public settings: that they have been facing a perfect storm of challenges; that Mr. de Blasio, above all, wanted to prevent any protest-related deaths; and that more police officers will face disciplinary measures.

"It may be true to say that no people in government have ever dealt with so complex and so deep a challenge," Mr. de Blasio said.

Mr. de Blasio didn't take any questions directly from staff members, but did respond to some questions that his spokeswoman, Freddi Goldstein, said deputy mayors solicited from staff in advance.

“Government is incredibly hard,” he told the employees.

Mr. de Blasio’s assertion on Sunday that he would redirect some police funding was met with skepticism from both protesters and police leaders. He paired the proposal with a handful of other ideas, including removing street vendor enforcement from the Police Department’s purview.

Advocates for vendors, many of whom are immigrants, have long accused the city of harassing the vendors. In November, police sparked a firestorm of criticism when they [arrested](#) a woman for selling churros on the subway.

He also affirmed his support for an effort to replace a [state civil rights law](#) known as Section 50-A, a law that his administration says requires it to protect the confidentiality of police disciplinary records.

It took five years for de Blasio’s police department [to fire Daniel Pantaleo, the officer](#) who put Mr. Garner in a chokehold, after a police administrative judge found that the officer had violated a department ban on chokeholds.

Given that history, critics are skeptical that de Blasio’s vow to cut funding for the Police Department would amount to anything substantive, or that it came from the heart.

“I hope he’s not trying to make it seem as if that was his calling,” said Anthony Beckford, president of Black Lives Matter Brooklyn, which has called for at least \$1 billion to be cut from the department. “That was basically one of our major demands, one of many, but we were specific on numbers.”

“He’s trying to thread this needle where he can sound like he’s meeting the demands and not actually do it,” said Anthonine Pierre, deputy director of the Brooklyn Movement Center and an advocate for overhaul of the police.

Ed Mullins, the president of the Sergeants Benevolent Association, a police union, expressed doubt that Mr. de Blasio would stick to his stance, too.

“I know he just recently said that he wasn’t going to do that,” Mr. Mullins said. “I guess, let’s see what he says on Monday and what his next decision is going to be.”

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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Minneapolis council pledges dismantle PD</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/us/protests-today-george-floyd-video.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage#link-512cff3a">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/us/protests-today-george-floyd-video.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage#link-512cff3a</a>
GIST	<p>Nine members — a veto-proof majority — of the Minneapolis City Council pledged on Sunday to <a href="#">dismantle the city’s Police Department</a>, promising to create a new system of public safety in a city where law enforcement has long been accused of racism.</p> <p>Saying that the city’s current policing system could not be reformed, the council members stood before hundreds of people who gathered late in the day on a grassy hill, and signed a pledge to begin the process of taking apart the Police Department as it now exists.</p> <p>For activists who have been pushing for years for drastic changes to policing, the move represented a turning point that they hoped would lead to a complete transformation of public safety in the city.</p> <p>“It shouldn’t have taken so much death to get us here,” <a href="#">Kandace Montgomery</a>, the director of Black Vision, said from the stage at the rally. “We’re safer without armed, unaccountable patrols supported by the state hunting black people.”</p>

The pledge in Minneapolis, where George Floyd died 13 days ago after being pinned to the ground by a white police officer's knee, reflected [calls across America to completely rethink what policing looks like](#). Protesters have taken to the streets with demands to shrink or abolish police departments, and "defund the police" has become a frequent rallying cry.

Officials in other cities, including New York, have begun to talk of diverting some money and responsibilities from police forces to social services agencies, but no other major city has yet gone as far as the Minneapolis officials promised to do.

Council members said in interviews on Sunday that they did not have specific plans to announce for what a new public safety system for the city would look like. They promised to develop plans by working with the community, and said they would draw on past studies, consent decrees and reforms to policing across the nation and the world.

Protesters who gathered at the rally, with a view of Powderhorn Lake, said what mattered most was that elected officials had finally committed to a sweeping overhaul of policing, even if they had yet to offer specifics for how such a dismantling would work.

"There needs to be change," said Paola Lehman, a 23-year-old actor and educator in Minneapolis.

Though the City Council controls the police budget, the department answers to Mayor Jacob Frey, who can veto the council's actions. Council members said they had enough votes to override a veto by Mr. Frey, who was booed out of a rally by hundreds of people on Saturday after he said he did not believe in abolishing the Police Department.

The pledge "signals a strong and clear direction about where this is going," said Councilwoman Alondra Cano, the chair of the council's Public Safety Committee.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/08 Report: coronavirus cases on the rise</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.foxnews.com/us/coronavirus-cases-on-the-rise-in-california-several-other-states-report">https://www.foxnews.com/us/coronavirus-cases-on-the-rise-in-california-several-other-states-report</a>
GIST	<p>Nearly three months since the U.S. declared a national emergency over the new <a href="#">coronavirus</a>, some states are reporting a rise in new cases as they lift restrictions meant to slow the virus's spread.</p> <p>California, Utah, Arizona, North Carolina, Florida, Arkansas and Texas, among others, have all logged rises in confirmed cases, according to a Johns Hopkins tabulation of a five-day moving average. Meantime, New York City, the U.S. area hit hardest by the pandemic, has seen a drop in cases and deaths and plans to begin reopening its economy Monday.</p> <p>"It's a very mixed picture," said Wafaa El-Sadr, an infectious-disease specialist and epidemiologist at Columbia University. "In some places we have made amazing progress, and there are other places where I remain very concerned about what's going on."</p> <p>The U.S.'s overall daily count of new coronavirus cases has declined steadily in recent weeks. It is now hovering around 20,000, down from a peak of more than 30,000 in April, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. Daily deaths are also trending downward, and overall testing continues to increase gradually.</p> <p>The overall drop in new cases in the U.S. is largely because of progress in heavy-hit states. Some states, including Illinois, Connecticut, New Jersey and New York continue a decline in daily cases. Others are logging increases or remain relatively steady.</p> <p>"If you take out the impact of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and so on, you'd have a much more worrisome picture of what's happening in the U.S.," El-Sadr said.</p>



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HEADLINE	<b>06/08 Britain: 2 week virus quarantine for arrivals</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/latest-pakistan-surpasses-100000-coronavirus-cases-71126958">https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/latest-pakistan-surpasses-100000-coronavirus-cases-71126958</a>
GIST	<p>LONDON — Travelers to Britain are now being required to go into quarantine for two weeks — a sweeping measure meant to halt the further spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>Starting Monday, all passengers will be asked to fill in a form detailing where they will self-isolate, with only a few exceptions. Those who fail to comply with the quarantine rules could be fined.</p> <p>Ryanair chief executive Michael O’Leary says the quarantine will cause “untold devastation” for the country’s tourism industry — not just on the airlines.</p> <p>He told the BBC that hotels, visitor attractions and restaurants will also be hurt, and thousands of jobs will be lost.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 New Zealand eradicates coronavirus</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/zealands-coronavirus-case-recovered-71126686">https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/zealands-coronavirus-case-recovered-71126686</a>
GIST	<p>WELLINGTON, New Zealand -- New Zealand appears to have completely eradicated the coronavirus — at least for now — after health officials said Monday the last known infected person had recovered.</p> <p>The announcement was greeted with joy around the country and means the nation of 5 million people will be among the first to welcome throngs of fans back into sports stadiums, embrace crowded concerts and remove seating restrictions from flights.</p> <p>It has been 17 days since the last new case was reported, during which time an additional 40,000 people have been tested, bringing the total number tested to about 300,000. Monday marked the first time since late February there have been no active cases.</p> <p>Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said she was confident New Zealand had halted the spread of the virus but it still must be prepared for more.</p> <p>“We are confident we have eliminated transmission of the virus in New Zealand for now, but elimination is not a point in time, it is a sustained effort,” she said at a news conference. “We almost certainly will see cases here again, and I do want to say that again, we will almost certainly see cases here again, and that is not a sign that we have failed, it is a reality of this virus. But if and when that occurs we have to make sure — and we are — that we are prepared.”</p> <p>More cases are likely to be imported as people enter the country. For now, the border remains shut to all but citizens and residents, with some limited exceptions. Everybody who does enter has to go into quarantine.</p> <p>Ardern announced that the Cabinet had agreed to remove almost all remaining virus restrictions from midnight, with the exception of the border strictures.</p> <p>“We can hold public events without limitations. Private events such as weddings, functions and funerals without limitations,” Ardern said. “Retail is back without limitations. Hospitality is back without limitations. Public transport and travel across the country is fully opened.”</p>

	<p>Experts say a number of factors have helped New Zealand wipe out the disease. Its isolated location in the South Pacific gave it vital time to see the devastating spread of the virus in other countries. Ardern also acted decisively by imposing a strict lockdown early in the outbreak.</p> <p>She said her government's focus will be on the country's borders, where isolation and quarantine will continue.</p> <p>Just over 1,500 people contracted the virus in New Zealand, including 22 who died.</p> <p>Eliminating the virus won't end the economic pain for the country. Thousands of people have lost their jobs. The tourism industry, which accounts for about 10% of the economy, has been particularly hard hit.</p> <p>But Monday was a time of celebration for many. Ardern said that when she heard there were no more active cases, she did a little dance in her living room in front of her daughter Neve, who turns 2 this month. Ardern said the toddler had no idea what was going on but was happy to join her.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Argentina: ex-officials spied on journalists</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/argentine-government-officials-spied-journalists-71123102">https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/argentine-government-officials-spied-journalists-71123102</a>
GIST	<p>BUENOS AIRES, Argentina -- Argentina's intelligence agency says the administration of previous President Mauricio Macri spied on more than 400 journalists, and officials have released a document they say is evidence of the claim.</p> <p>An Excel spreadsheet presented to courts on Friday and made public Sunday by the president's office listed 402 journalists who apparently had applied for accreditation to cover summits of the World Trade Organization or Group of 20 that were being scheduled in 2018 by the Macri administration.</p> <p>The spreadsheet contained brief references to the political or social stances of some of the journalists, many gleaned from social media posts, though most had no comment at all, or merely noted that the person worked for a small news outlet.</p> <p>Ten of those listed were staffers or freelancers who worked for The Associated Press. Also listed were journalists for international media such as Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP and CNN.</p> <p>The document was filed in support of a federal prosecutor's complaint accusing the former leadership of Argentina's Federal Intelligence Agency of domestic espionage without a judicial order.</p> <p>A person who had been a spokesperson for Macri said he was no longer working for him, and a spokesperson for the party of former Security Minister Patricia Bullrich said she was not on duty and hung up.</p> <p>The prosecutor's office said the new chief of the intelligence agency, Cristina Cañamo, reported finding a computer hard drive with evidence of illegal spying on emails of academics, journalists and social and political workers during Macri's term from 2015 to 2019.</p> <p>Cañamo said the files had information, such as a journalist's stance toward the government, with "nothing to do with the content of the event" for which the investigation was based.</p> <p>The Argentine Journalism Forum said on Twitter that it is following the case "with attention and concern" and said "these practices are intollñerable in a democracy."</p>

	<p>During Macri's own presidency, legal authorities opened numerous investigations into alleged corruption involving former President Cristina Fernández, who is now vice president. Those have been stalled in part by difficulties in holding hearings under pandemic restrictions.</p> <p>Macri is also under investigation over government handling of a debt owed by one of his family's businesses, of a wind-farm contract and campaign financing.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Anti-racism protesters global rally</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/detentions-injuries-anti-racism-protests-europe-71118497">https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/detentions-injuries-anti-racism-protests-europe-71118497</a>
GIST	<p>LONDON -- Thousands of people took to the streets of European cities Sunday to show their support for the Black Lives Matter movement, with protesters in the English port of Bristol venting their anger at the country's colonial history by toppling a statue of a 17th-century slave trader.</p> <p>Demonstrators attached ropes to the statue of Edward Colston before pulling it down to cheers and roars of approval from the crowd.</p> <p>Images on social media show protesters appearing to kneel on the statue's neck, recalling the death of George Floyd in Minnesota on May 25 that has sparked worldwide protests against racism and police violence.</p> <p>Floyd, a black man, died after a white Minneapolis police officer pressed a knee on his neck even after he pleaded for air while lying handcuffed on the ground. The statue met with a watery end as it was eventually rolled into the city's harbor.</p> <p>It wasn't the only statute targeted on Sunday. In Brussels, protesters clambered onto the statue of former King Leopold II and chanted "reparations," according to video posted on social media. The word "shame" was also graffitied on the monument, reference perhaps to the fact that Leopold is said to have reigned over the mass death of 10 million Congolese.</p> <p>Protesters also defaced the statue of former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in central London, crossing out his last name and spray painting "was a racist" underneath. They also taped a Black Lives Matter sign around its mid-section.</p> <p>The day's demonstration in London had begun around the U.S. Embassy, where thousands congregated — most it seemed wearing masks against the coronavirus — to protest Floyd's brutal death and to shine a light on racial inequalities at home.</p> <p>"Everyone knows that this represents more than just George Floyd, more than just America, but racism all around the world," said Darcy Bourne, a London-based student.</p> <p>The protests were mainly peaceful but for the second day running there were some scuffles near the offices of Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Objects were thrown at police. Police have sent reinforcements and calm appears to have been restored.</p> <p>Protesters also threw objects at police down the road outside the gates of Parliament, where officers without riot gear formed a line. They were reinforced by riot police who quickly ran toward the scene.</p> <p>London Mayor Sadiq Khan said violence was "simply not acceptable" and urged those protesting to do so lawfully while also maintaining social distancing by remaining two meters (6.5 feet) apart. But most demonstrators didn't heed that call, particularly in front of the U.S. Embassy.</p>

Police said 14 officers were injured Saturday during clashes with protesters in central London that followed a largely peaceful demonstration that had been attended by tens of thousands.

Hundreds of people also formed a densely packed crowd Sunday in a square in central Manchester, kneeling in silence as a mark of respect for George Floyd.

In Hong Kong, about 20 people staged a rally in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement on Sunday outside the U.S. Consulate in the semi-autonomous Chinese city.

“It’s a global issue,” said Quinland Anderson, a 28-year-old British citizen living in Hong Kong. “We have to remind ourselves despite all we see going on in the U.S. and in the other parts of the world, black lives do indeed matter.”

Hundreds of demonstrators took to the streets in downtown Rio de Janeiro to protest against racism and police killings of black people on Sunday. The protesters weren’t just joining protests against Floyd’s death in the U.S., but also denouncing the killing of black people in Rio’s favelas.

The most recent case was João Pedro Pinto, 14, who was inside his house on May 18 in Sao Gonçalo, a city in Rio’s metropolitan area, when police chasing alleged drug traffickers shot into the house. The protesters on Sunday carried banners reading “Black mothers can’t stand crying anymore.” In Sao Paulo, another demonstration ended with clashes between a small group of protesters and the police.

Several dozen demonstrators took part in a Black Lives Matter protest held in Tel Aviv’s central Rabin Square. Many wore blue surgical masks but did not observe social distance guidelines.

A rally in Rome’s sprawling People’s Square was noisy but peaceful, with the majority of protesters wearing masks. Among those present was 26-year-old Ghanaian Abdul Nassir, who is studying for a master’s in business management at one of the Italian capital’s public universities.

“It’s quite unfortunate, you know, in this current 21st century that people of color are being treated as if they are lepers,” Nassir said. He said he occasionally has felt racist attitudes, most notably when riding the subway.

“Maybe you’re finding a place to stand, and people just keep moving (away) and you’ll be, like, ‘What?’” Nassir said. “We’re strong people but sometimes everyone has a limit.”

At one point, the protesters, most of them young and some with children or siblings, took the knee and raised a fist in solidarity with those fighting racism and police brutality.

In Italy’s financial capital, Milan, a few thousand protesters gathered in a square outside the central train station Sunday afternoon. Many in the crowd were migrants or children of migrants of African origin.

In Spain, several thousand protesters gathered on the streets of Barcelona and at the U.S. Embassy in Madrid.

Many in Madrid carried homemade signs reading “Black Lives Matter,” “Human rights for all” and “Silence is pro-racist.”

“We are not only doing this for our brother George Floyd,” said Thimbo Samb, a spokesman for the group that organized the events in Spain mainly through social media. “Here in Europe, in Spain, where we live, we work, we sleep and pay taxes, we also suffer racism.”

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SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/US/tracking-tropical-storm-cristobal-heads-us-coast/story?id=71118362">https://abcnews.go.com/US/tracking-tropical-storm-cristobal-heads-us-coast/story?id=71118362</a>
GIST	<p>Tropical Storm Cristobal made landfall in Southeast Louisiana Sunday evening.</p> <p>The National Hurricane Center announced that the center of the storm made landfall at 6 p.m. ET along the coast of southeast Louisiana between the mouth of the Mississippi River and Grand Isle. Maximum sustained winds neared 50 mph.</p> <p>Throughout Sunday, the storm brought bands of heavy rain and storm surge to the northern Gulf Coast as it made its way toward the U.S. coastline.</p> <p>Tropical-storm-force winds lashed the Gulf Coast, from southeastern Louisiana eastward along the Alabama/Mississippi coastline. Heavy rain and areas of storm surge will continue to impact the northern Gulf Coast throughout the evening.</p> <p>Midday Sunday, St. Bernard Parish in Louisiana warned of flooding near the Hopedale Marina, with water reportedly rising 8 inches in an hour.</p> <p>Storm-surge flooding was also reported in several areas of Mississippi, including along Highway 90 in Biloxi, which was closed to motorists from the Bay St. Louis to the Biloxi Bay bridges.</p> <p>Tornado risk remains along parts of the Gulf Coast as well. Cristobal brought eight reported <a href="#">tornadoes</a> to central and northern Florida this weekend, including reports of a confirmed tornado moving through downtown Orlando Saturday. It was rated an EF-1 by the National Weather Service, with maximum winds of 105 mph.</p> <p>Cristobal will continue inland overnight, moving up across the lower Mississippi Valley, and is expected to gradually weaken to a Tropical Depression by early Monday morning.</p> <p>The storm will likely bring rounds of heavy rain and the threat of flash flooding across parts of Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas throughout Monday.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 NYPD: extremist groups exploit protests</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/escalation-in-rhetoric-and-propaganda-by-extremist-groups-exploiting-protests-nypd/2450292/">https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/escalation-in-rhetoric-and-propaganda-by-extremist-groups-exploiting-protests-nypd/2450292/</a>
GIST	<p>There has been a dramatic escalation in rhetoric and propaganda by extremist entities who seek to take advantage of the protests following the death of George Floyd while in police custody in Minneapolis, according to the NYPD.</p> <p>During a NYPD's Intelligence and Counterterrorism Bureau briefing Saturday afternoon, Deputy Commissioner for Intelligence and Counterterrorism John Miller, alongside two other officials, discussed various factions that have sought to use peaceful protests and turn them violent.</p> <p>Police officials said "there's been a pretty dramatic escalation in terms of rhetoric and propaganda from these extremist entities" in postings online and on social media seeking to capitalize on the unrest seen across the country following the death of George Floyd while in police custody in Minneapolis.</p> <p>The NYPD said it's seen messaging from Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), ISIS, political extremists from right-wing groups to left-wing groups, anarchists, as well as racial and hate groups, including white extremists and neo-Nazis.</p> <p>According to the NYPD all the groups seem unified in a goal of opportunistic propaganda to "accelerate conflict, incite violence."</p>

For example, according to the NYPD, on May 28 there was a neo-Nazi white supremacist post of a photo to skull with a police hat (the logo on the hat says ACAB, which stands for "All Cops Are Bastards") and text which says "the only good cop is a dead cop". Miller said this posting was tied to an attempt to exploit a Black Lives Matter protest.

"What they're seeking is more disorder, more violence, more mayhem," Miller said.

Additionally, the NYPD showed slides of police cars burning as online memes and posts that they say came from a pro-Al Qaeda account and similar imagery from pro-ISIS accounts.

Police said the groups that seek to carry out violence against police and possibly protesters by throwing rocks, Molotov cocktails, bottles, and other acts are conducted by anarchist groups and other splinter groups which coordinate their tactics.

Miller did not specifically cite ANTIFA as being behind the violence.

"We look at ANTIFA as more of a movement and an ideology than an organization", he said.

Police officials at the press conference also said "the theme is individuals who seek to exploit an otherwise peaceful demonstration with violent tactics."

The groups have specific roles for people looking to protest more violently including: fire squads, light mages (people who use lasers to point at police), and "copwatch," which is when people look out for police movements and use social media for "real time strategic updates", Miller said.

Officials detailed a number of stops and arrests made including stopping a car with Ohio plates that was filled with radios, gasoline cans, gravity knives, a machete, a sword and other items.

Miller said they were seen in Brooklyn at "a massive orderly, legal, peaceful protest, but you have them circling the area in a car, screaming 'f--- the police' and so on." He said this was an instance where protesters initially identified the car as suspicious, reported it to police and gave police enough information to track down the car and make a stop -- which Miller said is an emerging trend of protesters making police aware of people who may try to commit violence.

Additionally, officials said, there are gangs that have sought to conduct violence off of the protests and police have arrested gang members with loaded guns near protests.

"It's our responsibility and obligation to make sure that we track down which of these propagandists has security implications for the large number of protests in New York City," police officials said.

At the time of the press conference, the NYPD said they've arrested 1,024 people in protest related arrests and 1,164 summonses. That number does not include curfew violations. Overall, 467 arrests have been tied specifically to felonies.

"It does not appear that groups traveled into New York together", Miller says. He noted that initially arrests of people outside New York made up a high percentage but over time they became a much smaller percentage. Last Saturday, 1 out of 7 arrests were from outside NYC, currently, just over 100 of the 1,000 come from outside the city but just 18 came outside of the tri-state area.

Of those arrested, 3.6 percent had prior arrests or contacts with law enforcement tied to shootings, homicides, or weapons charges, 6 percent had ties to gangs, and 2.3 percent were repeat offenders (people who were arrested several times over the course of the protest period starting May 28). However, Miller strongly cautioned against drawing inferences from these numbers until more analysis can be done.

When asked about looting-related arrests and if they were specifically tied to the protests around Floyd's death, Miller said that "so far, it appears to be a byproduct."

	<p>“You have anarchist groups that are actively planning to do destruction and violence against police,” he said, adding that those groups typically do not loot, but, rather, seek to break glass, damage buildings, break bank glass, but they don’t try to break into the vault, but rather they want to make a mark.</p> <p>“You have the looters who have tried to blend with the protesters for cover and then break off with the sole purpose of looting merchandise,” he said.</p> <p>Miller went on to apologize for the lack of awareness of “SoHo Night” which saw rampant looting in the SoHo neighborhood Sunday night.</p> <p>“That’s an intelligence failure in that if a couple of hundred people knew to be at a certain place at a certain time for criminal activity and we didn’t detect that, that’s on me,” he said, adding: “We’ve gone back. Where was the Facebook page? Where was the chatter?...we still haven’t seen it.”</p> <p>“There’s an intelligence gap,” Miller went on to say.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>06/06 Portland curbs police tactics</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.registerguard.com/news/20200606/portland-joins-others-in-curbing-tear-gas-police-tactics">https://www.registerguard.com/news/20200606/portland-joins-others-in-curbing-tear-gas-police-tactics</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SEATTLE — Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler on Saturday ordered the city’s police to stop using a common type of tear gas except as a last resort in life-threatening situations, making it one of several cities that have started restricting law enforcement tactics in response to widespread protests over the killing of George Floyd.</p> <p>Wheeler issued a statement saying he shares community concerns about the use of CS gas, especially during a respiratory-illness pandemic. Critics have called on the Portland Police Bureau to permanently ban the use of CS gas on protesters.</p> <p>“I strongly believe that gas should not be used to disperse crowds of non-violent protestors or for general crowd management purposes,” Wheeler tweeted. “It should only be used in response to violence that threatens life safety.”</p> <p>Seattle took a similar step Friday, with Mayor Jenny Durkan announcing a 30-day moratorium on the use of CS gas for crowd control — though pepper spray and other less-than-lethal measures remain available to officers.</p> <p>Officials in Pittsburgh, New Orleans and Washington, D.C., have proposed bans or limits on the use of tear gas, and Minneapolis, where Floyd was killed, has halted the use of choke holds and neck restraints like the one that killed him. California Gov. Gavin Newsom ordered police there to stop training officers in choke holds, and Bellevue, Washington, Police Chief Steve Mylett on Friday banned his officers from using controversial neck restraints except when deadly force is needed.</p> <p>In Denver, U.S. District Judge R. Brooke Jackson on Friday imposed restrictions on the use of chemical and less-lethal weapons by police, saying officers there had failed to police themselves when it came to using them. His order, as he modified it on Saturday, requires the use of such weapons to be approved by a supervisor with the rank of lieutenant or higher — and only in response to violence or property destruction personally witnessed by the supervisor.</p> <p>The judge also ordered police not to aim the non-lethal weapons at people’s heads and groins. Videos of police firing pepper spray at protesters who were yelling but not acting violently “showed that the officers had ample time for reflection and were not dealing with dangerous conditions,” he said.</p>



	<p>Denver police said the order was largely consistent with its use-of-force policy and that it would comply.</p> <p>Police in Seattle were similarly criticized for overreacting to protests last week. Video from last Monday night showed police attacking mostly peaceful protesters with pepper spray after an officer tried to grab a pink umbrella from a demonstrator on the other side of a metal barricade.</p> <p>The city has promised a thorough review of the department's actions. More than 12,000 complaints poured into Seattle's police accountability office.</p> <p>Portland's announcement came a day after the mayor said police would no longer use a "long-range acoustic device," or LRAD, to disperse protesters. The device can emit high-pitched, loud frequencies and can cause hearing damage.</p> <p>Police used it early Friday to disperse a small group of protesters who set fires, threw projectiles and pointed lasers at officers' eyes after most peaceful protesters had gone home.</p> <p>Portland police arrested about 20 people late Friday and early Saturday, alleging offenses that included disorderly conduct and interfering with an officer.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Black police chiefs express anger, dismay</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/protests-black-police-chiefs/2020/06/06/120770dc-a738-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html">https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/protests-black-police-chiefs/2020/06/06/120770dc-a738-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html</a>
GIST	<p>The day that George Floyd's cries for his mother reverberated across the country, Chief William T. Riley III walked up to a group of his officers discussing the horror they had seen.</p> <p>"You know, chief, we already know if anything like that happened with us, we wouldn't have a job," one officer said.</p> <p>Riley, a black police chief who was hired to transform the force in Inkster, Mich., after the suburban Detroit city settled a police brutality lawsuit in 2015, had trouble hiding his delight. But he remained firm.</p> <p>"You are right," Riley said. "Not only would you not have a job, you'd be locked up."</p> <p>In the past six years, as Black Lives Matter has emerged as a national movement to confront police brutality against people of color, the job of leading a department while black has become far more complex, politically sensitive and personally painful.</p> <p>Black police executives face the exhausting work of leading organizations that have historically — and often disproportionately — arrested, beaten and killed people who have the same color skin as they do. This amounts to a cruel paradox: Becoming law enforcement officers, for many of them, was a way of continuing the civil rights legacy of their parents. They hoped to change the system from within.</p> <p>But the violence that has come along with peaceful protests nationwide has provoked anger and dismay from many black police chiefs, prompting some of them to condemn the Minneapolis officers charged in Floyd's death and the vandalism that has scarred many cities in his name. Both, in their views, are still crimes, though of far different severity. It is a message black police chiefs are delivering, mindful of the distant and immediate pasts of their nation and cities, to departments looking for clarity and guidance.</p> <p>Chief Carmen Best, who runs Seattle's department of more than 1,400 sworn officers, calls what happened to Floyd over those nearly nine minutes on the Minneapolis pavement simply "murder."</p>

“From my perspective as an African American woman, it certainly gave me pause to think that, as much as we have moved forward, we still have some real issues of disparity when it comes to how we address people of color and black people specifically,” Best said.

Sacramento Police Chief Daniel Hahn, who managed his department’s recent killing of an unarmed black man and weeks of ensuing riots, said “there’s no way you can understand what possibly would make one human being treat another human being like that.”

Hahn himself was arrested at 16 for assaulting a Sacramento police officer. He has run the department for almost three years, including at the time when 22-year-old Stephon Clark was shot at 20 times in his grandmother’s backyard in 2018 by police who confused his cellphone for a handgun.

What he saw on the Floyd video, he said, “touches home on two fronts, being African American but also being a police officer, watching somebody that wears a uniform similar to mine doing what he was doing.”

“The callousness that you see on his face and the non-activity from all the other officers, the ones that weren’t on top of him,” he said. “So it’s very emotional when those things happen. But the real issue is day-to-day, for the last several centuries. Since the inception of this country, day-to-day, what is our activity with our community? What is the interaction? What is the understanding? What is the partnership?”

### **Bonds of fraternity**

Presiding over departments that are confronting demonstrators, with whom police executives might largely agree or identify, provokes anguish, rage and internal conflict. It challenges the bonds of fraternity, the executives said, and adherence to policies that are legal but might need a moral and ethical recalibration.

“We train on the legality of policies and procedures, but what we don’t do, but are starting to do, is train on the necessity of it,” said former Denver police chief Robert C. White. “Officers need to understand that just because it is legal doesn’t always mean it is necessary.”

The deadly actions of four Minneapolis police officers have been condemned — and have resulted in arrests. But for current and former black law enforcement leaders, who are often tapped to reform delinquent departments, the ugly episode and ensuing clashes at protests validate their struggle. The work, they say, has barely begun.

Police executives said in interviews that the majority of officers enter the force for noble reasons and perform with integrity. The problem is not simply a few bad officers but systemic societal racism that exists well beyond policing, said Washtenaw County Sheriff Jerry Clayton, who leads a force in suburban Detroit that covers Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

If racism permeates much of our society, Clayton said, “it is impossible and illogical to believe that it’s not also in policing because it’s in every other profession. But there is no profession in this country that is legally sanctioned to take away what we value most in this country — freedom, liberty and your life.”

Protesters have gathered outside Clayton’s office all week with “Black Lives Matter” and “No Justice, No Peace, No Racist Police” signs. Clayton, who teaches a course on bias, said he met with organizers to keep protests peaceful. But when one of his deputies was filmed punching a black woman in the head after she allegedly bit him during an arrest the night Floyd was killed, tensions flared. He promised an investigation and to hold people accountable.

But it was a setback.

Days later, Clayton addressed protesters in Ann Arbor with a speech he wrote and agonized over the night before. He began reading it off his phone and talked about 400 years of injustice and the work his force has done for good.

“I think we all agree on Black Lives Matter,” he said, later putting the phone in his pocket and improvising, telling the crowd he loved them. “It was almost like an out-of-body experience because I heard myself say, ‘I love you.’ . . . It was right from my heart.”

Black police executives say they often compartmentalize their emotions to carry out their duties and provide leadership amid adversity. But it is the quiet moments at home or on the phone with their sons and nephews when the heart pangs are hard to ignore.

Riley said he could not bring himself to watch more than 10 seconds of the video of Floyd’s killing at the office, the sights and sounds smothering him, making him feel like he was choking. His thoughts reeled to his son, his officers, himself, Floyd’s family and Derek Chauvin, the Minneapolis officer who has been charged with second-degree murder in Floyd’s death.

“Not only is he kneeling on his neck in broad daylight, but he has his hands in his pocket and looks at the crowd as if saying, ‘We can do what we want to do,’ ” Riley said. “That’s the attitude. What is wrong with a person like that? We have got to do better.”

### **Changing the culture**

White, the former Denver chief, started his career in his hometown of Washington in 1972. As a child, he was inspired by a Metro police officer who he saw help a lost little girl. But as he matured, White realized his dreams about the kind of officer he wanted to be were not about what occurs in everyday policing, so he set his sights on leadership, where he believed he could effect broad change.

He rose to lead departments in Louisville, Asheville, N.C., and Denver, which he said was the most challenging assignment of his career.

“Most departments I worked with required transformational change,” he said. “But it doesn’t come without a price.”

White’s effort to reform the Denver department drew praise from President Barack Obama for its focus on de-escalation, and he banned officers from shooting into moving vehicles. In the past, he said, police were recognized for their number of arrests, but he wanted to refocus their work toward the prevention of crime and not the reaction to it. White created a Preservation of Life award for those officers who did not take a life, even though it might have been justified under the circumstances.

But he was consistently criticized by union officials and the department’s officers for his communication style and using his officers to serve as a backdrop to Obama’s gun control address. White said he was not as efficient as he could have been, but when he was watching the protests this week, it reminded him of his passion.

“I look at policing as a series of deposits and withdrawals,” White said. “If we engage the community and give them a voice, we make deposits into a bucket of goodwill. But when catastrophic things happen by our making, it knocks the bucket over, spilling out the good will. We need to set it upright again. You withdraw what you deposit.”

Hahn, the Sacramento chief, has programs in place that bring the public, including those previously convicted of crimes, into his department for a better view of an officer’s daily duties. He also takes into consideration the culture and upbringing of the officers that he hires, and knowing his native city as well as he does, Hahn makes sure that patrol assignments fit backgrounds.

“We have to realize we’re hiring police officers from all walks of life,” Hahn said. “And some of them don’t have experiences of working in more of our challenged neighborhoods.”

Hahn said the demonstrations following the Clark shooting in March 2018 were not nearly as violent as those the city has experienced in recent days, featuring vandalism and theft that left much of the

downtown business district damaged. The majority of those arrested, though, have been from the greater Sacramento area, just as they were during the Clark protests.

“The difference to me is the people that were protesting during the Clark protests,” Hahn said. “Yes, they were angry. Yes, that was volatile at times. Yes, they were emotional. But they cared about our community and the people that live here. The people who arrived here only at night do not care about this community. They were not here to protest for Mr. Floyd. They were here to destroy our city.”

Best, the Seattle police chief, said the city has about 300 demonstrations each year, the vast majority of which do not require a police response of any kind. But the “weird confluence of events,” the chief said, referring to the city’s early and sustained attack from the coronavirus followed by the Floyd demonstrations, made this moment unlike any other in her decades-long career.

Right now, she said, her goal is to regain the city’s trust by protecting people and property and allowing demonstrators to exercise their First Amendment rights.

“The issues of race and racism probably strike home to me a little more, sometimes even daily, than others here,” she said. “I always say from my first breath from the womb, I was an African American female, and that’s who I am going to be when I go out. So that’s who I am.

“But I’m also a police chief of an organization that I love and care deeply about, and I am working with wonderful men and women,” she continued. “I believe in our work here and that we are working to try to make sure that we have a just and fair response. But right now, we’re under extreme scrutiny and we want to make sure that we’re evaluating and reviewing all of our interactions and how we’re supporting the community and building community trust at really such volatile times.”

### **The personal and public**

Yale University Police Chief Ronnell A. Higgins is a police officer because his dad was a police officer.

In mostly white New Haven, Conn., Higgins’s father was one of just a few officers of color. The younger Higgins was immersed in law enforcement life, going to police picnics, getting to know other police families and hanging out in the police garage while his father worked.

But when his brother was brutalized by those same billy-club-wielding police officers outside a nightclub in the 1990s, his father spoke up about the abuse. He went from interacting daily with the community as a patrolman to manning the front desk.

“He was penalized and retired earlier than he might have,” Higgins said.

Now a police chief, Higgins said he has been in the awkward position of defending police behavior to his brother, who he said is still haunted by the night he was beaten: “That’s the fear when you stand up.”

Floyd was killed in Minneapolis, but trust in police was shattered nationally. As Higgins stood in his father’s driveway to celebrate the 76-year-old’s birthday, he said that police, regardless of background, have work to do to regain what was lost.

Black police executives, he said, “need to show them how.”

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HEADLINE	06/06 Timeline of demonstrations in Seattle
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/timeline-of-demonstrations-over-the-police-killing-of-george-floyd/">https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/timeline-of-demonstrations-over-the-police-killing-of-george-floyd/</a>

The police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis sparked nationwide unrest and large demonstrations against police brutality to express sorrow, and in support of the Black community. Here's how protests played out in Seattle and nationwide:

**Monday, May 25:** George Floyd, 46, is killed by Minneapolis police. Video shows Officer Derek Chauvin pressing his knee on Floyd's neck for more than 8 minutes as Floyd repeatedly says "I can't breathe," and bystanders [plead for Chauvin to stop](#).

**Tuesday, May 26:** After the video circulates online, four [Minneapolis police officers are fired](#). Protesters in Minneapolis march and clash with police dressed in riot gear and using tear gas. Stores are looted. [Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey calls for criminal charges against Chauvin](#).

**Wednesday, May 27:** Demonstrators skirmish with police in Minneapolis. Officers use tear gas and fire rubber bullets. Elsewhere, [demonstrators close a Los Angeles freeway](#).

**Thursday, May 28:** [Demonstrators torch a Minneapolis police station](#). Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz calls in the National Guard. Protests spread to New York City, Denver, Los Angeles, Memphis, Tennessee, and Louisville, Kentucky, among other cities.

**Friday, May 29:** Prosecutors [file a third-degree murder charge against Chauvin](#). Protesters in Seattle's Chinatown International District [speak out against police brutality](#). Protesters throw fireworks. Seattle police in riot gear use pepper spray and flash bangs. After clashes, demonstrators smash windows on South Jackson Street. Police arrest several and punch one person on the ground. Protests spread nationwide.

**Saturday, May 30:** [Peaceful protests turn to pandemonium on Seattle streets](#). Police use flash-bang grenades, pepper spray and tear gas to try to disperse crowds. Protesters march onto Interstate 5. Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan announces a 5 p.m. curfew. Protesters light police vehicles on fire. Looters break into downtown stores. Police arrest more than two dozen people.

**Sunday, May 31:** Volunteers clean up downtown Seattle, which remains under curfew order. Durkan and Seattle Police Chief Carmen Best [face questions as protesters say police instigated violence](#). Police arrest several people and video shared on social media apparently shows an officer punch a person on the ground. [Protesters march through Bellevue](#). Bellevue Square stores are looted. Bellevue imposes curfew and declares civil emergency. Olympia police face off with protesters and toss flash bangs. Gov. Jay Inslee activates National Guard.

**Monday, June 1:** [Demonstrations continue in Seattle](#). Protesters smash windows at a University Village supermarket. At night, police stand off with protesters in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood. Police declare a riot, throw flash bangs and use tear gas. Police say crowd threw rocks and bottles, but video shows tensions escalating after an officer grabbed a pink umbrella from protesters as other cops used pepper spray.

**Tuesday, June 2:** Mayor Jenny Durkan [promises to meet with protesters](#). Police Chief Carmen Best announces curfew extension through week's end. Protests are peaceful during the day, but end in violence as police use tear gas and flash bangs after standoff on Capitol Hill.

**Wednesday, June 3:** Durkan and Best [meet with protest organizers](#), who call for reducing police budget. City withdraws court filing to remove federal oversight of Seattle police. Officials lift curfew in Seattle. Three more officers are charged in Floyd's death; Chauvin charge upgraded to second-degree murder. Peaceful protests continue into wee hours on Capitol Hill.

**Thursday, June 4:** Durkan [rejects a 50% cut of the police budget](#). Best orders officers to display their badge numbers. At night, protests on Capitol Hill take on elements of a street party with music and stands with free hot dogs. Protests remain largely peaceful, though police later report two officers were hurt.

	<p><b>Friday, June 5:</b> Public health officials say <a href="#">tear gas could exacerbate the COVID-19 pandemic</a>. Chief Best bans use of tear gas for 30 days. Inslee orders review of man killed in March while being restrained by police in Tacoma. Seattle students <a href="#">shut down streets and call for reform of police and schools</a>. Protests are mostly peaceful in Seattle.</p> <p><b>Saturday, June 6:</b> <a href="#">Medical workers march in support of demonstrators</a>. Seattle City Councilmember Kshama Sawant calls for Durkan's resignation. Bellevue police ban controversial neck restraint.</p> <p><b>Sunday, June 7:</b> A "March for Black Lives and to End violence" is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. Sunday at Othello Park in Seattle.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Black youth suicide rate crisis; rising</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2020/06/07/coronavirus-police-violence-boost-risks-rising-black-youth-suicide/2300765001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2020/06/07/coronavirus-police-violence-boost-risks-rising-black-youth-suicide/2300765001/</a>
GIST	<p>WASHINGTON – A decade after she tried to take her life as a college freshman, Victoria Waltz, a gifted child who played the harp, is only beginning to understand how things got so bad.</p> <p>"It's been a journey and a process from then to now," said Waltz, now 28. "It was a slow build up over time, starting in middle school. I had a lot of challenges trying to fit in and not knowing to talk about how I was really feeling."</p> <p>Girls started to bully the too tall, too smart girl with acne and glasses, who grew up middle class in Prince George's County, Maryland, one of the wealthiest black counties in the U.S.</p> <p>Aabrielle Spear remembers the first time she felt truly hopeless. She was in kindergarten and also bullied by classmates.</p> <p>Spear had suicidal thoughts by third grade, compounded by her parents' separation, strict teachers and her mother's career and graduate studies, which sometimes kept her from home until late at night.</p> <p>Now 14 and more than a year from her last suicide attempt, Spear joins Waltz among black teen suicide survivors. Both are speaking out to dispel misconceptions about treatment and to raise awareness.</p> <p>The African American teen suicide rate was already rising far faster than for white teens. Now these "quaranteens" of color have to deal with the disproportionate COVID-19 death toll in black communities, social isolation and what Washington psychologist Charlayne Hayling-Williams calls the "vicarious trauma" of police violence, which is "particularly deleterious in our weakened conditions" from the pandemic.</p> <p>A recent 16-year-old black client at Hayling-Williams' core service agency Community Wellness Ventures threatened to kill himself at home with a knife. He "didn't want to be here anyway," and the compounding stress of the pandemic made it all too much, she said. Fewer than five clients have been hospitalized since the start of the pandemic due to suicidality, but she said "people are underreporting and avoiding hospitals" due to COVID-19.</p> <p>"Suicide is sort of the tip of an iceberg," said Hayling-Williams. "There are so many challenging conditions leading up to that. Take extreme depression, anxiety and grief and add the increased reports of child abuse, neglect and domestic violence the child is likely witnessing because they would have been at school."</p> <p>Calling black youth suicide a "crisis," the Congressional Black Caucus issued a report in December showing <a href="#">suicide attempts by black adolescents of both sexes rose 73% from 1991 to 2017</a>. Injuries from attempted suicides increased 122% for black boys during the same period. White youth still die by suicide</p>

at a higher rate, but the rate of black youth suicide is increasing faster than any other racial or ethnic group. Black youth under 13 were twice as likely to die by suicide than their white counterparts.

"We must get at the bottom of why," said Michael Lindsey, executive director of New York University's McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research, who worked on the black caucus' report. "With COVID and the continuous loop of news cycles we've seen in recent weeks around law enforcement and blacks, we not only have to be concerned about vicarious trauma, but the fears it incites for kids."

Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman, D-N.J., introduced the Pursuing Mental Health Equity Act of 2020 when the Congressional Black Caucus' report came out in December. There was little movement once coronavirus hit. Now the House Appropriations Committee member is citing the dual traumas of coronavirus and urban violence to argue for similar boosts in research and access to mental health treatment for minorities in COVID-19 funding measures.

The numbers and the stories challenge public perception black youth don't die by suicide, a misconception that helped prompt actor Taraji P. Henson to start the Boris Lawrence Henson Foundation in. It's named after her father, who had mental health struggles after his Vietnam service.

"We've got to do something; we're losing our kids," said Henson. "Believe a friend when they say they are not in a good head space, believe your friends when they post about suicide. It is very real."

### **'Amazing they survive'**

Spear began chronicling her mental health journey in the fall of 2018 for a class assignment. She wound up with a 7,000-word essay that became testament to the power of treatment. In it, she shared the time her mother found her self-inflicted cuts and took her to the emergency room.

"No, Mama! Please! I'm begging you! I'll be fine, Mama!" I started to yell as she grabbed my arm and dragged me downstairs," she wrote. "I fought with all I had inside me, but she kept pulling me as if I were a rag doll. I'll get better, I promise! Don't take me!"

Dr. Joycelyn Elders, a pediatrician who was surgeon general under President Bill Clinton, said the life stressors for African American youth, particularly those in low income households, makes it even more "amazing that they survive."

In 2018, Joe Massa, 24, decided to produce a [Web "docuseries," My Suicide Story](#), after he learned childhood friend Kenny Serrano attempted suicide a decade earlier. Massa had no idea and knew little about depression or suicide.

He wanted to tell others' stories so searched Instagram for the hashtag #suicideattemptsurvivor. "I wasn't considering race as a factor in relation to suicide," said Massa, who lives in West Haven, Connecticut. "I opened it up to anyone willing to share their story."

But other than Serrano, who is Hispanic, everyone was white and straight. He decided he needed diversity, and found Philip Galbert, who is gay. It took more than a year to find Waltz, who will be featured in an upcoming episode.

"Many of the few African American survivors that I could find were either not interested or did not answer," he said.

Melanie Warner, who is African American, also is talking. Early last year, she joined the Facebook group for the nonprofit [Suicide Prevention Rocks](#), started by friends Bill and Dawn York after their son Josh died by suicide. She wanted to support others and promote awareness around suicide prevention. Members of the group paint colorful rocks with inspiring messages to commemorate loved ones who died by suicide.

It wasn't until her teen daughter was facing depression, anxiety and thoughts of suicide, that Warner turned to the group. Members gave her advice and encouragement on how to connect with her child.



"Hearing words of affirmation" and knowing resources were available helped her and her daughter find treatment that worked. The social isolation has actually helped some and with medication and therapy, her daughter is thriving.

"Never feel like you're alone because there is always someone willing to listen," said Warner. "That's what I got from the group."

### **Stuck, lost and scared**

Waltz, who always was "the smart kid," got a nearly full scholarship at 17 to attend Howard University, where she was to study mechanical engineering. Everyone always expected her to go to college and "major in something great," so engineering seemed logical. Except she did terribly her first semester and was placed on academic suspension.

Home over the year-end holidays, she overheard her parents discussing how they couldn't afford Howard without the scholarship. She knew she was in jeopardy of losing it.

"I felt really stuck, really lost and really scared," said Waltz. "I didn't think I wanted to hurt myself. I wanted to go to sleep and not wake up."

Her mother found her after she attempted suicide with prescription pills in the bathroom. She was rushed to the hospital. Waltz doesn't remember if she was officially diagnosed there with depression, but she was referred to a counselor at Howard – a service she had no idea existed. She went for about two months and then stopped. She wasn't encouraged to go back.

Due to lapses in insurance coverage in the years since, Waltz said she hasn't been able to stay in therapy for more than a four-month stretch. Now with a new job and new insurance, she's been back in therapy for a month.

"We all need therapy," she said. "Why aren't we talking about it?"

Many [African Americans, especially men, may be hesitant to get treatment](#) or take prescription antidepressants, said Dr. Sidney Hankerson, a New York City psychiatrist and researcher. Not only are men resistant to talking about their feelings, there are "racial norms tied to the distrust piece."

Black men have historically been far more likely to be involuntarily hospitalized for mental illness, said Hankerson. The thinking becomes, "Why engage in mental health treatment if I'm going to be brought to the police. It's very, very stigmatizing," he added.

Hankerson, a assistant professor of psychiatry at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, works with black churches on mental health outreach. Many churches offer their clergy the option to become certified in [Mental Health First Aid](#), a program that certifies people to be "first responders" when they detect mental illness symptoms in others.

When parents fail to talk openly about emotions, as was the case in Waltz's home, teens are more likely internalize their feelings. That's especially common in black families.

"It's an unfortunate cultural trait," said Waltz. "That's why I wanted to talk."

Even African American therapists can hit walls of mistrust when treating black patients.

Medication isn't the only way to address mental health issues, but Washington psychiatrist Dr. Terry Jarrett said she has to work hard to convince both parents and teens that it's often needed in combination with therapy. She keeps a model of a brain handy to illustrate how it's a part of the body that, like any other, may need treatment.

Washington psychologist Bruce Purnell, who runs the [Love More Movement](#), uses "transformative life coaches" to help young people think positively. By helping young people feel good about themselves and their futures, it "builds a resilience that can be a filter against all of their problems," he said.

Jarrett said she will ask, "Is there a chance for you to create a scenario where you break the cycle so you and your future generations don't have this as a cultural norm?"

#### **A new bully every year**

When it came to bullies, Spear said she "would have a new one every year" until fifth grade. Toward the end of sixth grade, Spear said she "started to cut and burn myself."

In October 2018, when Myrna Spear first noticed the cutting, she took her daughter to the emergency room. Aabrielle was placed on a 72-hour hold and then sent by ambulance to inpatient treatment at the Loma Linda Behavioral Medical Center. That was followed by months of outpatient treatment through the Behavioral Medical Institute's "Shield Program." It provides teens with coping mechanisms to prevent self-injury and promote open communication with parents, who are part of the therapy with other parents and their children.

"Shield was developed by our hospital in response to the number of people coming for in-patient care," said Glen Scott Jr., director of Loma Linda's Youth Partial Hospital Program.

The 15-year-old program started after an "epidemic of young people engaging in self-harm," said Scott. It uses "dialectical behavioral therapy" approach, which uses mindfulness, emotion regulation and other tools.

"Eighty percent of our patients are one and done and there is a very small percentage that need to come back," Scott said. "Family involvement is a huge success."

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Russia hiring Syrians to fight in Libya?</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-libya-security-syria-russia-exclusive/exclusive-russian-hiring-of-syrians-to-fight-in-libya-accelerated-in-may-idUSKBN23E06H">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-libya-security-syria-russia-exclusive/exclusive-russian-hiring-of-syrians-to-fight-in-libya-accelerated-in-may-idUSKBN23E06H</a>
GIST	<p>(Reuters) - A Russian drive to recruit Syrians to fight in Libya for militia leader Khalifa Haftar accelerated in May when hundreds of mercenaries were signed up, five Syrian opposition sources and a regional source familiar with the matter said.</p> <p>Private military contractor Wagner Group is conducting the hiring with Russian army supervision, according to two senior Syrian opposition sources and the regional source. A former Wagner Group member said it first sent Syrians to Libya in 2019.</p> <p>The Russian Defence Ministry and the Wagner group did not respond to questions from Reuters.</p> <p>Turkey, meanwhile, says it is providing military support to the other side of the conflict, the internationally recognised Government of National Accord (GNA) based in Tripoli.</p> <p>Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said in February that fighters from the Turkey-backed Syrian National Army were in Libya, as well as Turkey's own military.</p> <p>Russia has been a staunch ally of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, helping him crush the rebellion at home. Moscow's involvement in Libya is an extension of its ambition to project influence in the Eastern Mediterranean, some experts say.</p> <p>Egypt and the United Arab Emirates have also lent support to Haftar because they suspect the GNA of having ties to the Muslim Brotherhood, an Islamist group they strongly oppose.</p>

Turkey, on the other hand, has made deals with the GNA over maritime borders and wants to protect its own interests in the region.

#### ECHOES OF SYRIA

The involvement of Russia and Turkey on opposite sides of the Libyan conflict has echoes of the war in Syria, where they have also backed warring parties. It also risks exacerbating the conflict, experts have warned.

“Russia and Turkey are both escalating their fire power and force numbers in Libya, where Europe has been caught on its heels,” said Joshua Landis, head of the Center for Middle East Studies at the University of Oklahoma.

“Russia has tried to match Turkey’s effort to send Syrian mercenaries, but with mixed results.”

Wagner has up to 1,200 people deployed in Libya, according to a confidential U.N. report seen by Reuters in May. The Russian state has denied having forces in Libya.

When asked in January if the Wagner Group is fighting in Libya, Russian President Vladimir Putin said that if there are Russians in Libya, they are not representing the Russian state, nor are they paid by the state.

A spokesman for Haftar’s Libyan National Army denied it had recruited Syrian fighters. It has repeatedly highlighted the presence of Syrians fighting alongside its enemy.

U.S. officials said on May 7 they believed Russia was working with Assad to transfer militia fighters and equipment to Libya.

The Syrian government’s information ministry did not respond to questions sent via email.

Haftar’s adversary, the GNA, has been supplied with drones, air defences and advisers from Turkey.

GNA deputy defence minister Saleh Namroush said its request for military support was in response to what he called “international meddling in Libya.”

“Turkey is the only country that was willing to help us end the widescale civilian killing and destruction by the UAE, Russia and others,” he said.

#### PACE OF HIRING INCREASES

New recruits to the Russian effort in support of Haftar included 300 from the Homs area, among them former Free Syrian Army fighters, according to one of the two senior opposition sources, and some 320 from the southwest, a third source said.

The pace of hiring increased as Libya’s fighting intensified and the war in Syria died down, the regional source said.

According to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which reports on the Syrian conflict using a network of sources on the ground, more than 900 Syrians were recruited by Russia to fight in Libya in May.

The fighters are trained at a base in Homs before going to Libya, according to the sources who cited salaries ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000 a month.

The movement of fighters into Libya violates a U.N. arms embargo and the U.N.’s acting Libya envoy on May 19 urged the Security Council to stop “a massive influx of weaponry, equipment and mercenaries”.

	<p>Many former Syrian rebels stayed behind in areas recovered by Damascus and its Russian allies, signing agreements that required them to pledge loyalty to the state. But their lives remain tightly restricted and monitored by the authorities.</p> <p>Since 2014, Libya has been split between areas controlled by the Tripoli government and territory held by Haftar's eastern-based forces in Benghazi.</p> <p>Haftar is supported by Russia, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt, according to U.N. experts and some security sources. The countries deny direct involvement in the conflict.</p> <p>Despite this backing, forces loyal to the GNA captured Haftar's last major stronghold near Tripoli on Friday, capping the sudden collapse of his 14-month offensive on the capital.</p> <p>On Thursday, Erdogan vowed to ramp up Turkey's support for its ally in Libya to lock in the gains. On Saturday, Haftar was in Egypt, where President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi announced a new peace plan.</p> <p>The retreat, reversing many of Haftar's gains from last year, extends the GNA's control of most of northwest Libya. Haftar and allied groups still control the east and much of the south, as well as most of Libya's oilfields, however.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>06/07 London: 14 officers injured in clash</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-minneapolis-police-protests-britain/london-police-chief-says-14-officers-injured-during-anti-racism-protests-idUSKBN23E0A3">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-minneapolis-police-protests-britain/london-police-chief-says-14-officers-injured-during-anti-racism-protests-idUSKBN23E0A3</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>LONDON (Reuters) - Fourteen police officers were injured in "shocking and completely unacceptable" assaults during anti-racism protests in central London on Saturday, London police chief Cressida Dick said on Sunday.</p> <p>After a largely peaceful day, small numbers of protesters briefly clashed with mounted police on Saturday after thousands gathered to voice their anger at police brutality after the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.</p> <p>"I am deeply saddened and depressed that a minority of protesters became violent towards officers in central London yesterday evening. This led to 14 officers being injured," Dick, who is Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service, said in a statement.</p> <p>"The number of assaults is shocking and completely unacceptable."</p> <p>The police said that 13 officers were also hurt in protests earlier in the week and a number of arrests had been made.</p> <p>One officer received hospital treatment on Saturday after falling from her horse, but the police said her injuries are not life-threatening.</p> <p>Further protests are planned on Sunday. Dick urged protesters to find another way to make their views heard which "does not involve coming out on the streets of London" due to the risk of the spread of the coronavirus.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>06/06 NYPD: 292 officers injured amid protests</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.foxnews.com/us/nypd-292-officers-injured-floyd-protests">https://www.foxnews.com/us/nypd-292-officers-injured-floyd-protests</a>

Nearly 300 [New York police officers](#) have been injured amid the ongoing protests following [George Floyd's](#) death, Fox News has learned.

The 292 figure provided by police gave some initial context to the fallout of how the protests, lasting over a week, have impacted law enforcement -- which has faced threats of violence, defunding and harassment in the streets. Messages like "F--k the police," acab (all cops are b---ards) and descriptions of cops as "pigs" have been painted across buildings and monuments in U.S. cities, and held up on protesters' signs.

The extent of the 292 injuries is unclear. While the bulk of protests have reportedly been peaceful, [U.S.](#) cities have utilized law enforcement to tamp down on the more violent and destructive aspects. The unrest has become so dangerous that [President Trump](#) threatened to deploy the [armed forces](#) to help police officers and the [National Guard](#).

Tens of thousands of protesters streamed into the nation's capital and other major cities Saturday in another huge mobilization against police brutality and racial injustice, while [Floyd](#) was remembered in his North Carolina hometown by mourners who waited hours for a glimpse of his golden coffin.

Highlighting the potential for violence, the NYPD tweeted a video of a brutal assault on one of their police officers, who was on anti-looting patrol in Brooklyn Wednesday. "This was not a chance encounter -- it was a planned assassination attempt on an NYPD police officer. It's only by sheer luck that this didn't have a drastically different outcome," the department said in a tweet.

In Oregon, the [Portland Police](#) Bureau and [Multnomah County Sheriff's Office](#) also tweeted images of objects thrown at them during protests. The seemingly random objects included glass beer bottles, bricks, batteries, ball bearings, garbanzo bean cans and White Claws.

Two [New York City](#) police officers were also suspended without pay Friday after videos emerged showing them in violent confrontations with [George Floyd](#) protesters, according to reports. One video showed an officer pepper-spraying a man after pulling down the man's face mask, while the other video showed an officer throwing a woman to the ground and shouting profanity at her, [BuzzFeed News reported](#).

Both protesters' and police officers' conduct has come under scrutiny as a swarm of videos have surfaced online showing physical violence between the two -- prolonging an already difficult tension that initially sparked the protests.

Protesters are demanding that politicians implement reforms that would combat what they describe as systemic racism in the justice system. [Floyd's](#) death was just the latest in a series of high-profile incidents that activists say are indicative of a broader trend. The tension surrounding the issue has been mounting in recent years because of those police encounters and the ensuing backlash -- including NFL players kneeling during the national anthem.

It's unclear what policies will make it through Congress, but prominent Democrats have already lent support to sweeping reforms.

Both House and Senate efforts are expected to include changes to police accountability laws, such as revising immunity provisions and creating a database of police use-of-force incidents. Revamped training requirements are planned, too, among them a ban on the use of chokeholds. Joe Biden, the [Democratic presidential nominee](#), has endorsed such a ban.

Perhaps most notably, [Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y.](#), put her stamp of approval on the [far-left police defunding demand](#) as a policy solution to combat brutality and racial injustice during a congressional primary debate that aired Friday [night on NY1](#).

Ocasio-Cortez said she's "actively engaged in advocacy for" a "reduction of our NYPD budget and defunding a \$6 billion NYPD budget that costs us books in the hands of our children and costs us very badly needed investment in NYCHA [New York City Housing Authority] and public housing."

	<p>She echoed the demands of the Black Lives Matter movement and police reform activists that New York City should be spending less on policing and put that money into resources that would help black communities thrive, such as education, housing and social services.</p> <p>Also in New York, a congressional candidate, Laura Ashcraft, sent a fundraising email that read: "F&amp;\$# THE <a href="#">POLICE</a>."</p> <p>The <a href="#">Los Angeles Police Department</a> already faces a funding cut proposal from Mayor Eric Garcetti who sought to <a href="#">redirect \$250 million</a> into the black community and others "who have been left behind." The city is reportedly considering a figure closer to between \$100 and \$150 million.</p> <p>Law enforcement leaders have ardently pushed back on the movement, claiming that it will put others in danger.</p> <p>"I mean, so we talk about de funding, and then there's talk about dismantling in some instances, it's clearly a knee jerk reaction -- this notion that one-size-fits-all, it's flawed," Detroit Police Chief James Craig said during "Cavuto Live" on Saturday. Joe Gamaldi, who serves as vice president of the Fraternal Order of Police, similarly told "Outnumbered Overtime" Friday that it was "insane" to defund the police.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Data: coronavirus spike in Los Angeles</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/Health/testing-data-reveals-coronavirus-spike-la/story?id=71099034">https://abcnews.go.com/Health/testing-data-reveals-coronavirus-spike-la/story?id=71099034</a>
GIST	<p>A snapshot of <a href="#">coronavirus</a> testing data from Los Angeles indicates what many have feared -- that in the wake of relaxed stay-at-home orders, the virus may once again be spreading.</p> <p>According to an analysis shared with ABC News by Curative, an FDA-authorized testing company responsible for a majority of COVID-19 tests in Los Angeles County, coronavirus cases in Los Angeles could be increasing in the wake of <a href="#">Memorial Day</a> gatherings and the early wave of protests over the <a href="#">killing of George Floyd</a>.</p> <p>As of May 31, the portion of Los Angelenos testing positive for the virus was hovering at around 4%, according to Curative's data, which offers a roughly representative snapshot of the county as a whole, according to CEO Fred Turner.</p> <p>But the portion of positive tests began climbing on June 1, up to 6% by June 2 and jumping again to 8.7% by June 3. Although experts agree there's a two-week lag to see the true impact of social movement on infection rates, the Curative data may offer an early glimpse at what's happening in Los Angeles.</p> <p>The average person does not develop symptoms until about four or five days after they are exposed to the virus, and some people see symptoms from a range of two days to two weeks after exposure, according to the <a href="#">Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</a>.</p> <p>Los Angeles County began slowly easing stay-at-home orders and allowing some businesses to reopen two weeks ago. Meanwhile, over Memorial Day weekend, thousands of pent-up Los Angelenos flooded beaches, parks and hiking trails. And after the death of Floyd on May 25, thousands more gathered to protest police brutality.</p> <p>"It is impossible to separate out which is contributing the most of these. Most likely we're seeing Memorial Day and reopening right now," Turner said, meaning that those who became infected over Memorial Day weekend likely account for the increase in positive cases seen during the first week few days of June.</p> <p>"We really won't know for another week how much of an impact the protests have had," he said.</p>

"While we can't know for sure what is driving these increases in positive tests," said John Brownstein, chief innovation officer at Boston Children's Hospital and an ABC News contributor

"We have seen a resurgence in human mobility in Los Angeles through the month of May and approaching pre-COVID levels in the past week. It's not surprising that this increased mixing is contributing to new cases," Brownstein said.

Curative has contracts in multiple states to conduct COVID-19 testing. The company estimates it is running at least 10% of counties' testing right now across the nation, and told ABC News it is conducting a majority of the testing for LA County.

On a typical day, Curative tests 8,000 to 12,000 people across Los Angeles County at its drive-thru testing sites, in which people swab the inside of their mouths while sitting inside their cars. Turner said that Curative closed all but two of its testing sites during the height of the protests.

Because of these closures, the company said it only tested between 3,000 to 6,000 people per day -- less than half its normal capacity. Turner said it's safe to surmise that the rate of positive cases went up by making an apples-to-apples comparison against the portion of cases only at those two sites.

Still, the Curative analysis may only be one data point amid a confusing mosaic of coronavirus testing. For example, Los Angeles also reports its testing numbers across the entire county, but because of a lag in reporting, those numbers are only confirmed up to May 31.

According to some experts, it may be too early to see the true impact of eased stay-at-home orders, Memorial Day celebrations and the protests on the number of coronavirus cases. Also, using a seven-day average may be a better way to gauge meaningful shifts in coronavirus cases, rather than looking at the daily ups and downs.

"We expect to see the first signs of the impact of reduced social distancing in testing data among those with mild symptoms," Brownstein said. "If that holds true, then we will likely see spikes in hospitalizations and deaths from there."

"As testing capacity has increased, we're seeing more individuals testing positive for COVID-19 in Los Angeles," said Dr. Rekha Murthy, vice president of medical affairs and associate chief medical officer at Cedars-Sinai.

"We have not seen an uptick in people testing positive that's directly related to Memorial Day or the protests," Murthy added. "It may be too early to tell."

Regardless, experts urge everyone attending protests this week to exercise caution and maintain social distance when possible.

"We need to be very cautious to not undo anything we've done over the last few months in being shut down," said Turner. "People's right to protest is very important. It's a very challenging balancing act."

"As a reminder, individuals with coronavirus may lack symptoms and still pose a risk for spreading the virus to others while interacting in close proximity (such as by speaking, coughing or sneezing)," said Murthy.

"We're in this for the long haul," Murthy said. "It's all the more important to be vigilant about hand hygiene, wearing masks, self-care and social distancing."

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SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/latest-india-biggest-day-jump-cases-71117381">https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/latest-india-biggest-day-jump-cases-71117381</a>
GIST	<p>LONDON — The worldwide death toll from COVID-19 has surpassed 400,000, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University that health experts say is still an undercount because many who died were not tested for the virus.</p> <p>The milestone was reached Sunday, a day after the Brazilian government stopped publishing a running total of coronavirus deaths and infections. Critics called the move an extraordinary attempt to hide the true toll of the disease rampaging through Latin America's largest nation.</p> <p>Brazil's last official numbers recorded over 34,000 virus-related deaths, the third-highest toll in the world behind the U.S. and Britain.</p> <p>Worldwide, at least 6.9 million people have been infected by the virus, according to Johns Hopkins. The U.S. has seen nearly 110,000 confirmed virus-related deaths and Europe has recorded over 175,000 since the virus emerged in China late last year.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 China defends its coronavirus response</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/china-defends-covid-19-response-report-71117592">https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/china-defends-covid-19-response-report-71117592</a>
GIST	<p>BEIJING -- Senior Chinese officials released a lengthy report Sunday on the nation's response to the coronavirus pandemic, defending their government's actions and saying that China had provided information in a timely and transparent manner.</p> <p>China "wasted no time" in sharing information such as the genome sequence for the new virus with the World Health Organization as well as relevant countries and regional organizations, according to the report.</p> <p>An Associated Press investigation found that government labs sat on releasing the genetic map of the virus for more than a week in January, delaying its identification in a third country and the sharing of information needed to develop tests, drugs and a vaccine.</p> <p>National Health Commission Chairman Ma Xiaowei did not address the specific findings in the AP report, but said it "seriously goes against the facts." He added that there were many unknowns in the early stage of the outbreak and that it took time to gather evidence and figure out the characteristics of the new virus.</p> <p>"The Chinese government did not delay or cover up anything," he said. "Instead, we have immediately reported virus data and relevant information about the epidemic to the international community and made an important contribution to the prevention and control of the epidemic around the world."</p> <p>He ticked off a series of government actions from a detailed timeline in the government report. The timeline says that China began updating the WHO on a regular basis on Jan. 3 and that the head of China's Center for Disease Control and Prevention briefed the head of the U.S. CDC on Jan. 4.</p> <p>U.S. officials have been critical of China's early response, adding to a deterioration of U.S.-China relations over trade and technology and pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong.</p> <p>Asked how China would repair its relations with the rest of the world, Vice Foreign Minister Ma Zhaoxu said that cooperation over the pandemic had improved ties with most other countries.</p> <p>Without naming the U.S., he said: "Certain countries go against the tide of history. To disguise their inadequate response to COVID-19, they insanely smeared and slandered China ... . In response to such scapegoating practice, China will certainly fight back."</p>

	<p>The report, which ran 66 pages in the English version, lauded China's success in reducing the daily increase in new cases to single digits within about two months and the “decisive victory ... in the battle to defend Hubei Province and its capital city of Wuhan” in about three months.</p> <p>Wuhan, where the first cases of the virus were detected late last year, was the hardest-hit part of China in the outbreak. The city and soon after much of Hubei province were locked down for 2 to 2 1/2 months to stop the spread of the virus to the rest of the country.</p> <p>The report credited Chinese leader Xi Jinping with making the Jan. 22 decision to cut Wuhan off by cutting transportation links and banning people from leaving or entering the city.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Technology fuels rallies, protests</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/messaging-technology-helping-fuel-global-protests-71109249">https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/messaging-technology-helping-fuel-global-protests-71109249</a>
GIST	<p>When a friend shared a Facebook post with Michelle Burris inviting her to protest in downtown Washington, D.C., last Saturday, she knew she had to go. So she bought a Black Lives Matter mask from a street vendor before marching the streets of the district with a “No Justice, No Peace” sign.</p> <p>After that march ended, she pulled up details on Instagram for a car caravan demonstration just a few blocks away. “It was extremely powerful, not only Facebook but Instagram,” Burris said. “It was very easy to mobilize.”</p> <p>Protesters are using a variety of technology tools to organize rallies, record police violence and communicate during the marches sweeping the U.S. and other countries following the death of George Floyd. Some of that involves secure messaging services like WhatsApp, Signal and Telegram, which can encrypt messages to thwart spies. Those apps, along with others for listening to police scanners and recording video, are enjoying an uptick in popularity.</p> <p>But experts say convenience and reach are key. “Reaching as many people as possible is the number one criterion for which platform someone is going to use,” said Steve Jones, a University of Illinois at Chicago media researcher who studies communication technology.</p> <p>That means Twitter, Facebook and Facebook-owned Instagram remain the easiest ways for people to organize and document the mass protests. Facebook's tools remain popular despite a barrage of criticism over the platform's inaction after President Donald Trump posted a message that suggested protesters in Minneapolis could be shot.</p> <p>“I don’t want to support or be a part of something that is possibly supporting Trump and his racist, hate filled spew,” said Sarah Wildman, who's been to three protests in Atlanta and has used Instagram exclusively to locate and to document the demonstrations she attended. But she said she feels that, at this point, “the benefits of Instagram outweigh not using it.”</p> <p>Half a century ago during the civil rights protests, Jones said, it was almost impossible to know what was going on during a protest. “There was a lot of rumor, a lot of hearsay,” he said. “Now you can reach everyone almost instantaneously.”</p> <p>Wildman said she uses Instagram's “live” function to find out what is happening during protests, especially when protesters in the back might not know what's happening at the front. At one, she said, people started yelling that police were using tear gas — but it wasn't true, which she learned by checking Instagram.</p> <p>Organizers are also using Telegram, an app that allows private messages to be sent to thousands of people at once, creating channels for specific cities to give updates on protest times and locations, as well as</p>

updates on where police are making arrests or staging. One New York City Telegram channel for the protests grew from just under 300 subscribers on Monday to nearly 2,500 by Friday.

During a peaceful rally in Providence, Rhode Island, on Friday, Anjel Newmann, 32, said that while she's mostly using Instagram and Facebook to organize, younger people are using Snapchat. The main problem: It's hard to tell which online flyers are legitimate. "That's one of the things we haven't figured out yet," she said. "There was a flyer going around saying this was canceled today."

The simplicity of shooting and sharing video has also made possible recordings of violence that can spread to millions within moments. A smartphone video of Floyd's death helped spark the broad outrage that led to the protests.

Apps like Signal are seeing an uptick in downloads according to Apptopia, which tracks such data. Signal was downloaded 37,000 times over the weekend in the U.S., it said, more than at any other point since it launched in 2014. Other private messaging apps, such as Telegram and Wickr, have not seen a similar uptick.

One new user is Toby Anderson, 30, who also attended the Providence rally on Friday. Anderson, who is biracial, said he downloaded the encrypted Signal app several days earlier at the request of his mom. "She's a black woman in America," he said, worried about his safety and eager to grasp any additional measure of security she could.

Meanwhile, apps like Police Scanner and 5-0 Police Scanner, which allow anyone to listen to live police dispatch chatter — and may be illegal in some states — racked up 213,000 downloads over the weekend, Apptopia said. That is 125% more than the weekend before and a record for the category. Citizen, which sends real-time alerts and lets users post live video of protests and crime scenes, was downloaded 49,000 times.

On the down side, the Anti-Defamation League's Center on Extremism said in a blog post this week that it has found white nationalists using Telegram to try to wreak havoc during the protests.

"Some, especially those in the accelerationist camp, are celebrating the prospect of increased violence, which they hope will lead to a long-promised 'race war,'" the ADL said Monday. "They are extremely active online, urging other white supremacists to take full advantage of the moment."

In one Telegram channel, the ADL found, participants suggested murdering protesters, then spreading rumors to blame the deaths on police snipers.

Others want to further exacerbate racial tensions. "Good time to stroke race relations" and "post black live's don't matter stickers," a user posted — with misspellings — to the Reformthstates Telegram channel, according to the ADL.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Africa essential truckers face virus stigma</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/africas-essential-truckers-face-virus-stigma-71118051">https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/africas-essential-truckers-face-virus-stigma-71118051</a>
GIST	<p>NAMANGA, Kenya -- They haul food, fuel and other essential supplies along sometimes dangerous roads during tough economic times. But Africa's long-distance truckers say they are increasingly being accused of carrying something else: the coronavirus.</p> <p>While hundreds of truckers have tested positive for the virus in recent weeks, the drivers say they are being stigmatized and treated like criminals, being detained by governments and slowing cargo traffic to a crawl.</p>

That has created a challenge for governments in much of sub-Saharan Africa, where many borders remain closed by the pandemic, on how to strike a balance between contagion and commerce. Countries are struggling to reach common ground.

“When I entered Tanzania, in every town that I would drive through, they would call me, ‘You, corona, get away from here with your corona!’” said Abdulkarim Rajab, a burly Kenyan who has been driving trucks for 17 years and recalls when drivers were being accused of spreading HIV during that outbreak.

Rajab and his load of liquefied gas spent three days at the Kenya-Tanzania border, where the line of trucks waiting to be cleared stretched into the distance and wound around the lush hills overlooking the crossing at Namanga.

Tanzania closed the border there this week, protesting Kenya's efforts to re-test all incoming truckers, including those who even had certificates showing they had been tested in the previous 14 days. It was the second time the frontier was closed in less than a month and was taken after many Tanzanian truckers with negative results started testing positive at the border.

Many truckers must sleep in unsanitary motels and interact with many people, increasing their risk of contagion. They're often stuck for days at a border waiting for virus test results, mingling in crowded parking lots.

Some told The Associated Press they try to elude authorities or switch off their phones when they enter Uganda so they can't be ordered to pull over. More than half of the country's 507 coronavirus cases as of Wednesday have been confirmed among truckers.

New government orders largely confine truckers to their vehicles and have designated rest areas along highways to limit contact with residents. Authorities say the restrictions are necessary, but the truckers see them as biased and unjust.

When a driver takes a bathroom break, "the people in the area start chasing him, saying, ‘You want to leave your COVID here.’ That's discrimination,” said Byron Kinene, a Ugandan who heads the Regional Lorry Drivers and Transporters Association.

Several Kenyan truckers driving through northern Uganda to South Sudan on May 30 made a distress call after locals threatened them as they sought to park, Kinene said.

Health authorities in East African countries don't have enough tests for their population, so they focus instead on highly mobile truckers.

“We are concentrating on hot spot areas. We are picking many (truckers) who are positive,” said Pontiano Kaleebu, who heads the Uganda Virus Research Institute, the government testing agency. “This is not unfair. This is the reality.”

The testing at the border is often slow, frustrating and risky.

“The challenge is the number of people who come. They are so many,” said Aggrey Keya, a Kenyan lab technician at the Namanga border.

Taking samples raises the possibility of getting infected, Keya said. Processing the samples can take two days, along with another three days for truckers to clear customs and immigration. Some drivers report waiting for up to a week.

The East African Community regional bloc said May 30 it wants to monitor truckers via mobile phones and issue certificates declaring their health status. But the measure can't be implemented until each country sets up a coordinating office and gets the necessary equipment, and no start date has been set.

That means countries like Kenya and Tanzania, which have responded differently to the pandemic, will continue their own restrictions.

Tanzania hasn't updated its number of virus cases since April 29. While its president claims the virus has been defeated, African health authorities want its government to be more transparent and the opposition fears a cover-up. Officially, cases remain at just over 500 while the opposition says the real number could be in the tens of thousands.

Neighboring Kenya and Uganda have enforced strict measures. The countries are on major transport corridors that serve a large part of central and southern Africa. Some trucks coming in from the Indian Ocean port of Mombasa head for South Sudan, which is emerging from civil war.

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has said banning trucks is "suicidal" in a region where delivery by other means, including air and sea, is underdeveloped.

Some truckers have staged protests on the highway leading to the Kenya-Uganda border recently, citing alleged mistreatment in Uganda. The four-day protest, during which truckers deflated their tires, caused a huge traffic jam inside Kenya.

Feeling harassed, some truckers refuse to cooperate with authorities, switching off phones or giving the wrong contact address if their sample tests positive, said Ndugu Omogo, head of the Uganda Professional Drivers Network. He said some drivers have been mistreated when arrested.

Ally Akida Samwel of Tanzania, waiting at the Namanga border post to haul maize to Kenya, said some officials refuse even to touch a trucker's documents, asking they be read aloud instead.

"On the other hand, drivers themselves are scared of getting the coronavirus from the people, so most prefer to sleep in their trucks and not hotels," he said. "I stop and cook on the roadside, and I am on my way. If you are scared of me giving you the coronavirus, I am also scared of you giving it to me."

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 British black deaths in police custody</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/International/british-black-deaths-police-custody-compare-us/story?id=71054650">https://abcnews.go.com/International/british-black-deaths-police-custody-compare-us/story?id=71054650</a>
GIST	<p>LONDON -- While protests erupt across the U.S., crowds have taken to the streets of Britain. Many carry banners bearing George Floyd's name and face -- but there have been British names on placards too.</p> <p>Speaking on Sky News, Marcia Rigg -- whose brother Sean Rigg died after being arrested in 2008, said, "I welcome the protests, but where have the protesters been all these years in the U.K.? They've never supported us enough, and I would like that support again from the U.K. From the public to support us as well as globally in spite of this [pandemic] we need to clean up our own backyard."</p> <p>The U.K. has tight gun restriction laws. Guns are illegal to possess without proper licenses. A consequence of having a largely unarmed public is that British beat police mostly patrol U.K.'s streets armed with little more than a baton or stun gun.</p> <p>"There may be fewer guns issued in the U.K., but there is still a war against black people," said a founder of the British Black Lives Matter group -- not officially affiliated with the American movement.</p> <p>Cases of police brutality and deaths in custody have long been issues for campaigners in the U.K.</p> <p><b>Are black deaths in police custody in the U.K. comparable with the U.S.?</b> <a href="#">Figures from 1990</a> listing the number of deaths in England in police custody show that the proportion of black and minority deaths is roughly equal to the demographic breakdown.</p>

Looking within the minority breakdown -- [the figures show that black deaths](#) (excluding other minorities) on their own were overrepresented in the number of deaths in police custody compared to the national demographic.

[Furthermore, independent analysis of the figures](#) found that where use of force or restraint was applied, black and minority individuals were twice as likely to die in police custody than white individuals.

### **What story does the data tell us about black deaths in custody?**

Methods of data collection and classification are important factors to consider. Different watchdogs and agencies compile numbers differently. The national police watchdog counts deaths in custody [only where arrests were made, and excluding deaths while in prison](#) - other agencies or campaign groups cast a wider net.

[As a report by another police watchdog group found](#), figures included people who had died after being reported missing to the police: "The police generally did not have direct contact with the deceased in these circumstances."

The watchdog also found a large prevalence of mental health disorders among the number of people who had died while in, or following, police custody or contact. Figures from 2018-2019 show that over two-thirds of the people who died were found to have mental health disorders.

In many cases, emergency calls motivated by a concern of welfare were directed to police, who arrived first on the scene -- and not social care or medical workers specifically trained to deal with mental health emergencies.

### **What have investigations into deaths in police custody found?**

David Lammy, a lawmaker for Tottenham in north London, led a review into black and minority deaths in police custody, that released its findings in 2017. He found that while society generally was becoming more tolerant, "...Some prejudice that was overt, is now covert."

Part of Lammy's review looked into the controversial 'stop-and-search' policy, which has been blamed for worsening race relations between the police and the black community. [Analysis of government data into 'stop-and-search'](#) found that black people were seven times more likely than white people to be targeted for spot checks looking for drugs or weapons.

[Lammy concluded](#) that black and minority individuals "...still face bias, including overt discrimination, in parts of the justice system. Prejudice has declined but still exists in wider society -- it would be a surprise if it was entirely absent from criminal justice settings."

[Another review](#) found that the "stereotyping of young Black men as 'dangerous, violent and volatile' is a longstanding trope that is ingrained in the minds of many in our society. People with mental health needs also face the stereotype of the mentally ill as 'mad, bad and dangerous'. There is therefore a particular concern with what INQUEST describes as 'double discrimination' experienced by Black people with mental health issues."

Two of the widely cited cases of black deaths in police custody are Kingsley Burrell and Sean Rigg. Both suffered from mental health issues.

Kingsley Burrell, 29, died in 2011 from cardiac arrest days after being detained by West Midlands Police in northern England. Three officers were cleared of allegations of using excessive force -- one of whom was sacked for gross misconduct for not removing a spit hood placed on Burrell during his detention and transfer to a psychiatric ward.

Sean Rigg, 40, was a physically fit musician -- but died from cardiac arrest and asphyxia after being detained by police in Brixton, south London in 2008. He suffered from paranoid schizophrenia and after



	<p>emergency calls responding to reports of aggressive behavior, he was restrained and transported to a local police station in a van, dying shortly after arrival.</p> <p>The police involved in Rigg's arrest were cleared of allegations of misconduct last year, despite an inquiry ruling their methods of restraint had "more than minimally contributed to his death."</p> <p>The decision was "traumatic" for Marcia Rigg, who has spent over ten years campaigning for justice following her brother's death.</p> <p>"The death of Sean Rigg has always been a matter of regret for the Met, along with the additional stress suffered by both the Rigg family and the officers involved caused by the delay in bringing matters to a more timely conclusion," a Met Police spokesperson told ABC News,</p> <p>"This is not the same Met as it was 20 – 25 years ago. We have improved how we investigate and respond to crimes; how we engage and work with our communities; how we develop and support our own staff and have made huge improvements in becoming a more representative workforce. We scrutinized this case to learn how we can expedite matters more swiftly in future while maintaining a full, thorough and transparent process," the spokesperson said.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Protesters: cops taking knee 'PR stunt'</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/US/protesters-issue-police-kneeling-calling-pr-stunt/story?id=71067237">https://abcnews.go.com/US/protesters-issue-police-kneeling-calling-pr-stunt/story?id=71067237</a>
GIST	<p>When a high-ranking Los Angeles Police Department commander kneeled with protesters outside of Mayor Eric Garcetti's house earlier this week, it appeared to be a moment of solidarity. However, many protesters and organizers say they don't want police officers to kneel, with some calling it a "PR stunt" that doesn't contribute to the movement.</p> <p>While ABC News was interviewing Cory Palka, the assistant commanding officer for LAPD's West Bureau, he was interrupted by Kendrick Sampson, a Black Lives Matter organizer and actor.</p> <p>"We don't want anybody to take a knee, a knee doesn't help me heal the wounds. They shot me seven times on Saturday," Sampson says, shaking his head. "It does not help my boy who has two broken bones in his skull right now because they aimed a cannon at his head with rubber bullets."</p> <p>MORE: Why some police officers stood with protesters outraged over George Floyd's death Sampson, who stars on the HBO show "Insecure," called the commander's actions a "farce," and said it was "PR to make them look good."</p> <p>On Friday, Sampson shared a photo of the bloody wounds on his legs from being shot with pepper balls while also encouraging the mayor to attend a Black Lives Matter town hall.</p> <p>Similar gestures of police officers kneeling, hugging and marching with protesters around the country have been shared widely on the internet. In many instances, the protesters have been the ones who asked the officers to kneel with them and the gesture has elicited cheers.</p> <p>The paradox has highlighted the country's struggle to navigate the complex and delicate relationship between law enforcement and the communities they are supposed to protect.</p> <p>On June 3, Buffalo, New York, police officers were filmed kneeling with protesters outside City Hall. One day later, in a now-viral video, two officers pushed a 75-year-old man to the ground during a protest outside City Hall, seriously injuring him and resulting in both being arrested.</p> <p>Roxane Gay, a bestselling author and activist, shared the same apprehension as Sampson about protesters sharing moments with law enforcement.</p>



"I need cops and politicians and white people more broadly to stop kneeling," she wrote on Twitter. "We don't need you to kneel. We need you to stand up for real, radical, sustained change."

The specific act of kneeling also carries a different connotation at this particular point in time, as Paula Minor, a Black Lives Matter Los Angeles organizer, pointed out. Given Floyd died with an officer's kneeling on his neck, Minor told ABC News she's "highly uncomfortable" with officers taking a knee.

Minor hopes we don't get caught up in symbolism: "That's not what we're here for, the change has to occur from within."

Others, like protester Simeon Bartee, see kind interactions between police officers and protesters as genuine acts of compassion. On Thursday morning, Bartee shared a now-viral video of a white Houston police officer comforting his daughter after she began crying at a protest.

He said he appreciated the sense of comfort the officer gave his daughter.

"I do love that you have those officers who are willing to understand what's going on," Bartee told ABC News. "I know not all officers are racist or prejudiced, not all of them want to harm and antagonize African Americans."

Having experienced police brutality in his own family, Bartee understands the pain the country is going through, adding he would like to see these police officers' empathy extend well beyond the protests.

"It's good to see law enforcement participate with the community and support the community," said Derrick Johnson, president and CEO of the NAACP. However, in order for the country to move on, systemic reform is needed, he added, including the abolishment of qualified immunity and separation of law enforcement from district attorney's offices.

There is no definitive way to judge these interactions as one reality; it depends on the community, Johnson told ABC News. As a Mississippi resident, Johnson said a mile across county lines can mean a much "more hostile environment" for he and his family.

Like many, Johnson has been working to change the fundamental role of law enforcement in our society while threading the needle of police-community relationship.

"If they (police officers) don't live in your jurisdiction, then the connection is different and how they see African Americans is different," Johnson said. "It's hard to respect a community if you're not a part of it."

After a week of nationwide protests sparked by George Floyd's death, the country is showing signs of reformation. Garcetti announced sweeping reforms to the LAPD, including cutting \$100 million to \$150 million from the department's budget, something protesters have been calling for. Garcetti said \$250 million would instead be spent on programs benefitting black and brown communities in the county.

"What would give me hope is if they decide to give us the money, the inflated budget of the police department, and actually put it into systems that were meant to care and stop continuing the legacy of slave catching," Sampson told ABC News.

In addition to budget cuts, the department will invest in implicit bias, training, youth and overnight programs to reduce police misconduct, according to the mayor. The police union was less than supportive of the budget cuts, with the L.A. Police Protective League releasing a statement Friday saying Garcetti had "lost his damn mind."

City leaders in Seattle, San Francisco and Minneapolis are also looking to shift funds from the police department as a means of curbing overly aggressive police tactics. In New York state, the effort to repeal police transparency law is gaining momentum, though facing criticism from police unions.

HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Kentucky police shooting raises questions</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/kentucky-police-shooting-video-raises-questions-tactics-71106729">https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/kentucky-police-shooting-video-raises-questions-tactics-71106729</a>
GIST	<p>LOUISVILLE, Ky. -- The shooting of a popular Kentucky barbecue cook by law enforcement has raised new questions about use of force practices after police released videos of the clash this week.</p> <p>Louisville Metro Police and National Guard soldiers have said they were in the area responding to a reports of a crowd gathering near David McAtee's eatery early Monday morning, miles away from downtown protests. Police said McAtee fired at officers, who returned fire, but video evidence suggests law enforcement officials were firing pepper balls at the restaurant before McAtee fired his weapon.</p> <p>The Louisville Metro Police Department's use of force policy, obtained this week by The Associated Press, says: "While the use of reasonable physical force may be necessary in situations that cannot be otherwise controlled, force may not be resorted to unless other reasonable alternatives have been exhausted or would reasonably be ineffective under the particular circumstances."</p> <p>Louisville Police spokeswoman Jessie Halladay said Friday that inquiries about use of force are "questions we expect to be answered during our investigation into the incident." She declined further comment.</p> <p>The National Guard was in the city to help enforce a 9 p.m. curfew amid protests spurred by the deaths of George Floyd in Minnesota and Louisville native Breonna Taylor. Taylor was shot by Louisville detectives serving a warrant in her home in March.</p> <p>A video released by Louisville Police on Tuesday appears to show McAtee firing a gun from the door of his restaurant as officers shot projectiles. Video from a different camera posted outside the building shows a beverage container on a table outside the door exploding and falling to the ground just before smoke emerges from inside the building where McAtee was standing.</p> <p>That video shows people on Broadway, a major thoroughfare, scattering away from and into McAtee's eatery as officers approach, firing projectiles. Police had used pepper balls to scatter protests crowds after curfew through the weekend. It's not clear if the projectile that hit the exploded beverage container was a pepper ball or a bullet. Louisville Police Assistant Chief LaVita Chavous said on Tuesday that police policy with pepper balls is to "shoot at the ground in front of the crowd to get them to disperse."</p> <p>Gov. Andy Beshear said this week that people should examine the video "frame by frame."</p> <p>"People can see with their own eyes and make determinations with their own eyes," the Democratic governor said at a Capitol briefing the day the video was released. "It is only one piece of a much larger — and what will be an ongoing — investigation."</p> <p>Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer fired the police chief after the shooting because Louisville officers did not have body cameras running during the incident. The chief, Steve Conrad, announced his retirement last month but was going to stay on until the end of June.</p> <p>A Guard spokesman did not immediately answer questions from AP about use of force policies on Friday.</p> <p>On the use of nonlethal chemical agents, including pepper balls, Louisville police said in their policy that officers can use them to disperse "disorderly aggressive crowds and restore order during a civil disturbance incident."</p> <p>The videos show McAtee raising his arm past his doorway, but his hand is blocked from camera view. After he's struck by a bullet, he stumbles back inside, drops a gun and falls to the ground.</p>

	<p>McAtee's family has said he was protecting his restaurant in a chaotic situation. They have questioned the account put forth by police. A lawyer for the family said the video “raises more questions than answers.”</p> <p>McAtee's nephew, Marvin McAtee, said people fled to the barbecue stand when police began firing pepper balls. David McAtee’s niece was standing at the door, and Marvin McAtee said she was hit on the arm with one of the projectiles.</p> <p>Beshear said “good, bad, ugly, our commitment is to the truth” in regards to what happened in the shooting. The governor reduced the number of National Guard troops on duty in Louisville after the incident.</p> <p>Guard soldiers and Louisville police fired about 18 shots, authorities said. McAtee died of a gunshot wound to the chest.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 US troop reduction plan stuns Germany</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/trump-e2-80-99s-troop-plan-stuns-germany-and-rocks-the-postwar-order/ar-BB158oIy">https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/trump-e2-80-99s-troop-plan-stuns-germany-and-rocks-the-postwar-order/ar-BB158oIy</a>
GIST	<p>(Bloomberg) -- President Donald Trump’s directive to pull 9,500 troops from Germany hits home hard for friends of America like Edgar Knobloch, whose Bavarian town has been home to U.S. service members for seven decades.</p> <p>Like Chancellor Angela Merkel, the mayor of Grafenwoehr was caught off guard. It’s the latest sign of the U.S.’s deterioration of ties with a loyal ally, one that not only hosts most of its troops in Europe but also has seen them fuel the local economy.</p> <p>This medieval town, with a tiny population dwarfed by the size of the American military presence, shows just what a shadow the U.S. has cast over Europe after World War II and what its retreat symbolizes in the eyes of locals and international observers. Another troop cut would signal a further break with a legacy of two generations.</p> <p>Located near the former East German border, Grafenwoehr is a place where overseas U.S. military infrastructure and community bonds survived the end of the Cold War. Locals celebrate Thanksgiving and enjoy spare ribs. Every year, they turn out by the thousands for the German-American Folk Festival to share beer, bratwurst and country music with the roughly 11,000 U.S. troops based at NATO’s biggest training area in Europe.</p> <p>“They’re completely integrated here,” Knobloch, 55, said in an interview. “Restaurants are bilingual. There are mixed marriages, mixed families. You often hear from the older members of the community: ‘The Americans liberated us.’”</p> <p>There hasn’t been much nostalgia between Trump and Merkel, who have clashed repeatedly over trade and Germany’s slow timetable for meeting the North Atlantic Treaty Organization’s defense spending target. Last month, Merkel snubbed Trump on his plan to hold an in-person Group of Seven summit in June which he’d like Russian President Vladimir Putin to attend.</p> <p>U.S.-German relations have become “complicated,” German foreign minister Heiko Maas said, in the first comment by a government official about the planned troop withdrawal. As of Sunday, the government still hadn’t received any official communication from the U.S. “Should there be a partial withdrawal of U.S. troops, we will take note of it,” Maas told the tabloid Bild am Sonntag.</p> <p>While Trump has taken aim at Germany’s economic might, Merkel — the longest-serving G-7 leader after 15 years in power — has stared him down across a broad front, from defending the rules-based global</p>

economy to policy disputes such as defense spending. A physicist by training, Merkel also contrasted with Trump in her science-based approach to reopening Germany from its coronavirus lockdown.

Lawmakers and government officials in Berlin criticized Trump's troop decision, which would cut U.S. forces in Germany by slightly more than a quarter, as a snub.

"These plans demonstrate once again that the Trump administration neglects a central element of leadership: the involvement of alliance partners in the decision-making process," Johann Wadephul, deputy head of Merkel's parliamentary caucus, said in an emailed statement.

Trump's decision and the way it was communicated hint at how much Germany's relations have cooled with a U.S. president who has publicly questioned NATO's value.

Green party lawmaker Tobias Lindner evoked Trump's appearances at NATO summits, where he berated U.S. allies to step up defense spending and called Germany "a captive to Russia" for refusing to halt the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project.

"Somebody who acts in this way can't show up in Brussels with the attitude of reminding alliance partners of their duties," Lindner said.

Even so, a U.S. troop reduction may make military sense, since Germany nowadays serves mostly as a hub for U.S. operations in other parts of the world such as the Middle East and North, said a German government official who asked not to be named because the decision hasn't been publicly announced. Other key U.S. installations in Germany include Ramstein Air Base and the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center hospital.

During the heyday of post-World War II relations, U.S. troops were welcomed in West Germany as liberators from the Nazis and a bulwark against a Soviet invasion. Older Germans remember when Elvis Presley was stationed as a G.I. in 1958-60 at Friedberg, north of Frankfurt. To the delight of young German women, he even recorded a song in broken German about his time there. The Army closed the post in 2007.

### **Important Partner**

Attitudes shifted in the late 1970s and early 1980s, when NATO's decision to base U.S. Pershing II's in Germany to counter Soviet ballistic missiles triggered mass protests in West Germany. Since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, some German politicians have called for the removal of U.S. nuclear weapons from German soil.

Ties forged over decades by American service members who rotated through Germany have left their mark in the U.S., too. While 85% of Americans view U.S. military bases in Germany as important for U.S. national security, only 52% of Germans say the bases are important for their own national security, according to a poll by Pew Research and the Koerber Foundation published in November.

Yet Germans are more likely to view the U.S. as an important partner than Americans are likely to view Germany as one, according to the poll.

Reports that Trump is considering further cuts and a possible troop shift to Poland have surfaced for at least two years. Meanwhile, U.S. troop strength in Germany has dwindled to about 34,500 from a peak of 274,000 during the 1960s.

"Such a pullout would be regrettable in every way," Norbert Roettgen, a Merkel ally who heads the German parliament's foreign affairs committee, said in an interview with Funke Media Group. "I can't see any rational reason for the withdrawal."

### **'Great Pity'**

	<p>As in previous rounds of cuts, German regions where troops are stationed would take an economic hit. About half of U.S. troops are stationed in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate, which borders France, Belgium and Luxembourg.</p> <p>“This affects not only 9,500 troops, but also their families, which means about 20,000 Americans in total,” Peter Beyer, the government’s coordinator for trans-Atlantic relations, told the DPA newswire. He said he fears lasting damage to U.S.-German ties.</p> <p>At Grafenwoehr, Mayor Knobloch says American service members are so much a part of local society that they immediately abided by Bavaria’s measures against the coronavirus pandemic. He’s betting the U.S. won’t ditch Grafenwoehr, in part because the Army has invested in the facility in recent years.</p> <p>“It would be a great pity if it came to that,” the mayor said. “In Grafenwoehr, you can really see how understanding among nations functions in daily life.”</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Alarm: virus spread amid reopen, protests</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/experts-sound-alarm-over-coronavirus-spread-as-u-s-ramps-up-reopening-prepares-for-more-protests-11591395463">https://www.wsj.com/articles/experts-sound-alarm-over-coronavirus-spread-as-u-s-ramps-up-reopening-prepares-for-more-protests-11591395463</a>
GIST	<p>Experts and officials warned about a possible increase of coronavirus infections as U.S. states continued this week to ease restrictions and thousands of people took to the streets nationwide to <a href="#">protest against the killing of George Floyd</a> in police custody.</p> <p>Nationally, there have been more than 1.87 million confirmed cases and more than 108,000 deaths from Covid-19, according to the latest figures from Johns Hopkins University. Last Friday, the U.S. had 1.74 million cases and reported deaths exceeded 102,000.</p> <p>Experts say the exact tally might be higher, as testing capabilities and reporting standards vary from state to state. Some testing locations were also shut down this week as <a href="#">demonstrations unfolded across the nation</a> in cities large and small. Several Los Angeles Covid-19 testing sites reopened Friday after being preventively closed because of protests. Illinois and Pennsylvania also shut down some testing facilities citing safety concerns earlier in the week.</p> <p>Robert Redfield, director for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, encouraged demonstrators to get tested to help mitigate the spread of the disease.</p> <p>“I do think there is potential, unfortunately, for this to be a seeding event,” Dr. Redfield said while testifying before Congress Thursday.</p> <p>Officials in New York, where <a href="#">daily deaths dropped below 50</a> this week, also expressed concern over the impact of protests and the spread of the virus. “We don’t even know the consequence of the Covid virus for those mass gatherings,” Gov. Andrew Cuomo said earlier this week. “We won’t even know for weeks. How many super spreaders were in that crowd?”</p> <p>The number of confirmed coronavirus cases declined in May after rising dramatically in April, according to a Wall Street Journal analysis of data from Johns Hopkins University. Cases jumped from 213,602 on April 1 to more than 1.4 million on May 1. As June began, there were more than 1.8 million confirmed cases in the U.S.</p> <p>But as reopenings have accelerated across the country, more than a dozen U.S. states have seen confirmed cases increase in the last week at a pace faster than in the week prior, a Journal analysis of Johns Hopkins data shows.</p>

The spread of the virus picked up in Utah weeks after reopenings began, said Angela Dunn, state epidemiologist with the Utah Department of Health. She said she is very concerned about the rise in infections and urged residents to use face coverings and maintain social distancing.

“This past week, we’ve had a sharp spike in cases, and it’s not explained easily by a single outbreak or increase in testing,” Dr. Dunn said Wednesday. “This is a statewide trend.”

In Nashville, Tenn., a surge in the number of daily coronavirus cases reported has slowed reopening plans. Alex Jahangir, a surgeon and the head of the city’s Covid-19 task force, said case counts over the last few days had increased the city’s seven-day average. The city will wait to make a decision on when to begin its next reopening phase.

“It is concerning enough for us to slow down and see what’s happening over the next few days,” Dr. Jahangir said Thursday.

Other states and regions have seen a rise in positive Covid-19 cases this week as testing capabilities expanded, while reporting gaps prompted some other large jumps.

Los Angeles County, for example, reported a significant increase in cases Thursday, but health officials there said the surge was from a lag in reporting from a particular lab. The county has a total of nearly 60,000 cases and more than 2,500 deaths.

Following a week of a record number of cases in Arkansas, Gov. Asa Hutchinson said Thursday that a regional approach to lifting restrictions would be considered. Cases in the northwestern portion of the state, particularly among the [Hispanic community](#), climbed steeply.

“The spike in the new cases that we have reflects the dramatic increase in testing that we’re doing,” Mr. Hutchinson said, adding that more testing was being done in places that have seen a jump in positive cases.

Despite a roughly 13% increase in the weekly number of reported coronavirus cases in Florida, Universal Orlando Resort reopened its theme parks Friday, one of the first major entertainment venues to do so since pandemic restrictions took effect in March. The parks, which typically host millions of visitors annually, will require face coverings and temperature checks for attendees and staff.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 World economy from rescue to recovery</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://finance.yahoo.com/news/guardians-world-economy-stagger-rescue-190000037.html">https://finance.yahoo.com/news/guardians-world-economy-stagger-rescue-190000037.html</a>
GIST	<p>(Bloomberg) -- The world’s governments and central banks are shifting from rescue to recovery mode as the deepest slump since the Great Depression shows signs of bottoming out.</p> <p>After rolling out trillions of dollars worth of measures to prevent their economies and markets from collapsing, they are now doubling down with even more spending to backstop a recovery as coronavirus lockdowns ease. In what counts for good news these days, Bloomberg Economics’ global GDP growth tracker showed economies contracted at an annualized rate of 2.3% in May, less than the 4.8% slump in April.</p> <p>“Policy makers are moving from triage to recovery,” said Deutsche Bank Securities Chief Economist Torsten Slok. “They are realizing that more fiscal support will be needed to households and small businesses to prevent this liquidity crisis from turning into a solvency crisis.”</p> <p>The new wave of stimulus has both governments and central banks moving in sync to continue flooding lenders, markets and companies with cheap credit at an unprecedented pace.</p>

The European Central Bank last week expanded its asset purchases by 600 billion euros (\$677 billion) to 1.35 trillion euros, and extended them until at least the end of June 2021. And Germany's government agreed another 130 billion-euro fiscal stimulus push and said it will back a proposed new 750 billion-euro European Union recovery fund.

"Action had to be taken," ECB President Christine Lagarde said in a press conference.

It's a similar story in Asia.

Japan is planning another \$1.1 trillion worth of spending in its biggest splurge yet and the central bank in May called an emergency meeting to roll out 30 trillion yen (\$274 billion) of loan support for small businesses.

China last week unveiled another 3.6 trillion yuan (\$508 billion) in spending and South Korea's 76 trillion won (\$63 billion) 'New Deal' fiscal package is its largest to date.

In the U.S., lawmakers continue to debate extra fiscal stimulus and the Federal Reserve, which meets on June 10, has just launched a new Main Street Lending Program, the latest in trillions of support it has already poured into the economy and markets.

While the Fed is unlikely to signal any moves when its officials gather this week, many economists expect it to harden its commitment to easy monetary policy later in the year and perhaps even start pursuing a Japan-style campaign to control long-term borrowing rates.

The latest U.S. jobs numbers give some hope that the stimulus unleashed so far is beginning to kick in. A record 2.5 million workers were added by employers during May while unemployment declined to 13.3%, wrong footing economists who had forecast widespread job losses.

To be sure, there's far from consensus that the latest wave of support will be enough to get growth back to where it was at the start of the year. Some of the steps being taken are merely to replace existing policies as they start to expire.

"It seems clear already approved packages are perceived to be not enough," said Alicia Garcia Herrero, chief Asia-Pacific economist at Natixis SA.

There are other concerns that monetary policy can only do so much to revive growth before it loses its potency.

"How does the Fed actually get money to millions and millions of households and small businesses, that is difficult to do operationally," former New York Federal Reserve Bank President William Dudley told Bloomberg Television.

"It's much easier to intervene in the capital markets where the Fed can rely on counterparties, primary dealers and others," Dudley said. "It is much more difficult to lend one by one to millions of different entities."

Another risk is a return to austerity, even if it seems unlikely now. JPMorgan recently predicted a fiscal thrust of 3.3% of GDP this year and 1.5% drag next year.

U.S. senators have put the brakes on a \$3 trillion fiscal package that was approved by lower house lawmakers. China's government has ruled out a return to the kind of large scale stimulus it rolled out after the global financial crisis, preferring to keep a lid on rising debt.

Still, because the crisis meant economies were forced into shutdown, much of the emergency response so far has been less about driving growth and more about avoiding total collapse. It's that dynamic which is leaving governments with little option but to borrow harder.



	<p>"We shouldn't look at the positive immediate growth impact of the opening up process as being the rate of growth that may last," said David Mann, chief economist for Standard Chartered Plc.</p> <p>Creating jobs will be mission critical to cementing any upswing. That will need support for firms to retrain employees, incentives to hire older workers and for governments to continue with wage subsidies. More than one in six people have stopped working since the onset of the crisis, according to the International Labour Organization, which in April estimated more than 1 billion workers were at high risk of a pay cut or losing their job.</p> <p>"A faster job market recovery will speed up the economic healing and reduce the risk from widening income inequality and social stress," said Chua Hak Bin, senior economist at Maybank Kim Eng Research Pte.</p> <p>Ultimately, the rescue of economies will go well beyond quantitative solutions and into the realm of story telling too, as policy makers will need to inject confidence back into wary consumers and executives, said Stephen Jen, who runs hedge fund and advisory firm Eurizon SLJ Capital in London.</p> <p>"Human psychology is the same and is now as important as the mechanics of delivering the fiscal stimuli themselves," he said.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Protests nearly 2 weeks; crowds larger</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/07/us/george-floyd-protests-sunday/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/07/us/george-floyd-protests-sunday/index.html</a>
GIST	<p>(CNN)Massive demonstrations across large US cities -- <a href="#">and small ones too</a> -- have been underway for nearly two weeks and protesters show no signs of slowing down.</p> <p>Saturday's marches drew some of the largest crowds since the demonstrations began -- especially in the nation's capital.</p> <p>The words "Black Lives Matter" now aren't just chanted across US cities, but by thousands of people globally; including in France, Germany, England, Australia and Canada. The <a href="#">short, powerful message was even captured from space</a> after the mayor of Washington, DC, ordered it painted in giant, yellow letters on the street leading to the White House.</p> <p>The damage and looting that overshadowed the earlier days of unrest have mostly subsided and some cities have begun doing away with curfews.</p> <p>In others, including in New York, the nightly deadlines remain.</p> <p>"We are a peaceful protest. There's no reason that we should be arrested for being outside peacefully," said Paris, a protester in Manhattan's Greenwich Village. "You see no looting, you see no rioting ... The fact that they would give us a curfew at 8 p.m., they're trying to control us. They don't have that right to control us. If we want to speak, if we want to march, we don't have to be silent."</p> <p>Despite experts' concerns about coronavirus spread, the peaceful crowds <a href="#">decrying police brutality and demanding both justice for George Floyd and sweeping changes</a> within the country's policing systems continue to swell in size.</p> <p>And as the protests enter day 13, some cities have begun rolling out new rules for officers or plans of reform, prompted by both the demonstrations and the violent police response they've been met with, including tear gas and rubber bullets.</p> <p><b>Some police departments suspend tear gas use</b></p>

[Police forces all over the US have come under fire for their use of excessive force](#) during the protests -- the very thing demonstrators say they are speaking out against.

In just a week, footage showed police in Buffalo, New York, push an elderly protester to the ground, causing him to bleed from the head. In Fort Lauderdale, Florida, an officer was placed on administrative leave after shoving a kneeling protester during a demonstration. And in Kansas City, Missouri, footage shows officers using pepper spray and restraining a man who was yelling about police using excessive force.

On Saturday, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler [directed the city's police chief to stop using tear gas](#) to disperse crowds "unless there is a serious and immediate threat to life safety, and there is no other viable alternative for dispersal."

"I stand in solidarity with our non-violent demonstrators, who are sending a strong message that we are long overdue for meaningful reform and restorative justice," the mayor tweeted.

Portland is the latest US city to move away from the tactic.

The Seattle police chief said Friday she suspended the department's use of tear gas for crowd management for at least the next month. And in Denver, a federal judge granted a temporary restraining order prohibiting the use of "chemical weapons or projectiles of any kind" against peaceful protesters.

The order comes after four Denver residents who participated in demonstrations filed a complaint Thursday challenging the department's use of chemical agents and rubber projectiles during protests.

### **New York's 'Say Their Name' agenda**

In New York, Gov. Andrew Cuomo outlined a legislative agenda on criminal justice reform saying on Saturday that his state "is going to lead the way" in change.

Points on the "Say Their Name" agenda include:

- Banning law enforcement officers from using chokeholds
- Designating the attorney general as an independent prosecutor for matters relating to the deaths of unarmed civilians caused by law enforcement
- Prohibiting false race-based 911 reports and making them a crime
- Allowing for transparency of prior disciplinary records of law enforcement officers

"Police have to do their jobs, protect public safety. There's also police abuse. There's abuse of power. Protestors -- most of the protestors are peaceful -- they are indignant. It is righteous indignation," Cuomo said in [a statement](#).

"I don't see anybody who can see the Mr. Floyd video and not be indignant. I don't understand how you can see that murder on video tape and not be outraged. I said from day one, I share that outrage," he said.

### **Floyd remembered near his birthplace**

While thousands of people continued protesting Saturday, hundreds lined up for a public viewing of Floyd's casket in Raeford, North Carolina -- about 20 miles from where he was born.

Floyd died last month after pleading for his life as ex-Minneapolis officer Derek Chauvin pressed his knee on the man's neck.

Since then, Chauvin was arrested and charged with second-degree manslaughter and third-degree murder. [Prosecutors later charged him with the more serious charge of second-degree murder.](#)

[The other three officers involved in Floyd's death.](#) J. Alexander Kueng, Thomas Lane and Tou Thao, were charged with aiding and abetting second-degree murder and aiding and abetting second-degree manslaughter.

	In a packed memorial for Floyd Saturday, Rev. Christopher D. Stackhouse recounted the protests all over the country and said it was "Floyd who sparked the fuse that is going to change this nation."
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Defund police: what it means</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/06/us/what-is-defund-police-trnd/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/06/us/what-is-defund-police-trnd/index.html</a>
GIST	<p>(CNN)There's a growing group of dissenters who believe Americans can survive without law enforcement as we know it. And Americans, those dissenters believe, may even be better off without it.</p> <p>The <a href="#">solution to police brutality</a> and racial inequalities in policing is simple, supporters say: Just defund police.</p> <p>It's as straightforward as it sounds: Instead of funding a police department, a sizable chunk of a city's budget is invested in communities, especially marginalized ones where much of the policing occurs.</p> <p>The concept's been a murmur for years, particularly following the <a href="#">protests against police brutality in Ferguson</a>, Missouri, though it seemed improbable in 2014.</p> <p>But it's becoming a shout. With the <a href="#">deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor</a> at the hands of police and <a href="#">nationwide protests demanding reform</a>, at least one city is considering dissolving its police force altogether.</p> <p><b>Does defunding the police mean disbanding the police?</b></p> <p>That depends on who you ask, said Philip McHarris, a doctoral candidate in sociology at Yale University and lead research and policy associate at the Community Resource Hub for Safety and Accountability.</p> <p>Some supporters of divestment want to reallocate some, but not all, funds away from police departments to social services. Some want to strip all police funding and dissolve departments.</p> <p>The concept exists on a spectrum, but both interpretations center on reimagining what public safety looks like, he said.</p> <p>It also means dismantling the idea that police are "public stewards" meant to protect communities. Many Black Americans and other people of color don't feel protected by police, McHarris said.</p> <p><b>Why defund police?</b></p> <p>McHarris says divesting funds ends the culture of punishment in the criminal justice system. And it's one of the only options local governments haven't tried in their attempts to end deaths in police custody.</p> <p>Trainings and body cameras haven't brought about the change supporters want.</p> <p>McHarris grew up in a neighborhood where there were "real, discernible threats of gun violence," and he said he never thought to call the police -- that was for his own safety. Instead, he relied on neighbors who helped him navigate threats of danger.</p> <p>What if, he said, those people could provide the same support they showed him on a full-time basis?</p> <p>To explain why he supports the idea, Isaac Bryan, the director of UCLA's Black Policy Center, points to history: <a href="#">Law enforcement in the South began as slave patrol</a>, a team of vigilantes hired to recapture escaped slaves. Then, when slavery was abolished, police enforced Jim Crow laws -- even the most minor infractions.</p>

And today, police disproportionately [use force against black people](#), and black people are [more likely to be arrested and sentenced](#).

"That history is engrained in our law enforcement," Bryan said.

### **Where would those funds go?**

Patrisse Cullors, co-founder of the Black Lives Matter movement, said defunding the police means reallocating those funds to support people and services in marginalized communities.

Defunding law enforcement "means that we are reducing the ability for law enforcement to have resources that harm our communities," Cullors said in an interview with [WBUR](#), Boston's public radio station. "It's about reinvesting those dollars into black communities, communities that have been deeply divested from."

Those dollars can be put back into social services for mental health, domestic violence and homelessness, among others. Police are often the first responders to all three, she said.

Those dollars can be used to fund schools, hospitals, housing and food in those communities, too -- "all of the things we know increase safety," McHarris said.

### **Why disband police?**

Disbanding police altogether falls on the more radical end of the police divestment spectrum, but it's gaining traction.

MPD150, a community advocacy organization in Minneapolis, focuses on abolishing local police. Its work has been spotlighted since the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis Police custody.

"The people who respond to crises in our community should be the people who are best-equipped to deal with those crises," the [organization says](#).

Rather than "strangers armed with guns," the organization says, first responders should be mental health providers, social workers, victim advocates and other community members in less visible roles.

It argues law and order isn't abetted by law enforcement, but through education, jobs and mental health services that low-income communities are often denied. MPD150 and other police abolition organizations want wider access to all three.

### **Would defunding police lead to an uptick in violent crimes?**

Defunding police on a large scale hasn't been done before, so it's tough to say.

But there's evidence that less policing can lead to less crime. A [2017 report](#), which focused on several weeks in 2014 through 2015 when the New York Police Department purposely pulled back on "proactive policing," found that there were 2,100 fewer crime complaints during that time.

The study defines proactive policing as the "systematic and aggressive enforcement of low-level violations" and heightened police presence in areas where "crime is anticipated."

That's exactly the kind of activity that police divestment supporters want to end.

### **Will defunding the police come to pass?**

It's radical for an American city to operate without law enforcement, but it's already being discussed in Minneapolis.

City council member Steve Fletcher, [in a Twitter thread](#), said council members are discussing "what it would take to disband the Minneapolis Police Department and start fresh with a community-oriented, non-violent public safety and outreach capacity."

	<p>"We can totally reimagine what public safety means, what skills we're recruiting for, what tools we do and don't need," he wrote. "We can invest in cultural competency and mental health training, de-escalation and conflict resolution."</p> <p>Defunding is simpler than disbanding, though, and at least one mayor's already taken that step. After Californians decried a proposal to increase the <a href="#">Los Angeles Police Department budget to \$1.86 billion</a>, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti <a href="#">agreed to slash</a> between \$100 million to \$150 million from the proposed funding.</p> <p>It's not a significant dent in the budget, but it's proof that officials are listening, Bryan said.</p> <p>"A week ago, defunding the police in any capacity would sound like 'pie in the sky,'" he said. "Now we're talking about it. Defunding police in its entirety still might sound like 'pie in the sky,' but next week might be different."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Largest protests swarm major cities</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.thedailybeast.com/thousands-swarm-major-cities-in-largest-george-floyd-protests-to-date?ref=home">https://www.thedailybeast.com/thousands-swarm-major-cities-in-largest-george-floyd-protests-to-date?ref=home</a>
GIST	<p>Despite police crackdowns, curfews, boiling heat, rain, and fears of a global pandemic that continues to plague America, huge crowds of protesters swelled to their largest size yet on Saturday in some of the country's biggest cities.</p> <p>On the 11th day of nationwide protests sparked by the killing of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police, tens of thousands of demonstrators descended on Union Park in Chicago, downtown Philadelphia, New York City, San Francisco, and Seattle.</p> <p>Thousands converged in Washington, D.C., where protesters covered a metal fence recently erected around the entire perimeter of the White House with banners and posters calling for an end to police brutality and racism.</p> <p>Trump did not make any public appearances, instead blasting out a random "LAW &amp; ORDER!" tweet while totally peaceful demonstrations were underway. Later, he reminded the nation he never was very good at crowd estimates, proclaiming that the protests in the nation's capital were "much smaller" than anticipated.</p> <p>Across the nation, the almost festival-like marches and rallies provided a jarring contrast to footage of hundreds of police officers cheering outside a Buffalo, New York, courthouse that morning, in support of two colleagues charged with second-degree assault for shoving a 75-year-old protester to the ground two days earlier.</p> <p>There were no reports of major clashes between crowds and law enforcement, with the exception of scuffles between demonstrators and police in Seattle that ended an otherwise peaceful day of protest in the city.</p> <p>In Washington, there were no low-flying National Guard helicopters, like the ones that had buzzed demonstrators earlier in the week—reportedly on orders of the Pentagon. And in New York, where officials have been under fire over scenes of cops surging against curfew breakers and hitting them with batons, there were close calls, but they ended in de-escalation. At one point after curfew, the situation in Brooklyn seemed bound to spin out of control.</p> <p>As a crowd of protesters merged at Eastern Parkway and Brooklyn Avenue, a dozen NYPD vans rushed east, lights blaring. Squads of riot cops assembled, putting on their helmets and swinging their batons,</p>

primed for action. A protester climbed the lamppost at the intersection, while a hundred or so protesters lay down in the street. It became clear that there was an equal number of cops on the west side of the junction: The activists were penned in.

Earlier in the week, scenes like this one had ended in violent climaxes, with NYPD officers attacking, clubbing, and pepper-spraying protesters who were guilty of ... well, of not much. "The aggression—it literally came out of nowhere. I'd kept thinking someone must have hit a cop, but that was never the case," said Jumaane Williams, a local activist who now serves as New York City's Public Advocate. This corner seemed ripe for a replay on Saturday night.

"Come back tomorrow, they will arrest you," one protester shouted. "Time to disperse! If you need water or shelter follow me!" another yelled.

But no one left. And there was no confrontation. While chants of "fight another day," erupted, Williams and a local city councilman huddled with the police commanders on scene. After a few minutes, an agreement was set: the marchers could continue north. Most chose to hang around instead—a man was being cuffed for attempting to run over some protesters, and they decided to shout some suggestions about what ought to happen to him at the prison at Riker's Island.

Scenes not dissimilar to this played out all over Brooklyn on Saturday night, with the police keeping their distance, and even making tactical truces with the protesters calling for their reform, defunding, and even abolition. "At least right here, right now, there's been some pullback," Williams said. "The cops are giving us some space."

"I've seen the protesters self-regulate, too," added Williams. One woman was getting too aggressive in how she approached the cops; the protesters circled around her to prevent a confrontation. Some activists threw garbage on the streets they were marching through; others cleaned up the trash.

Asked who was responsible for pulling the police back, New York's second highest-ranking public official responded: "I don't know who's in charge."

Throughout the day, many marchers made the protests a family affair. "I'm letting them learn right here, in person. I want them to see firsthand that it's not just black people fighting for them. We're all family," said Demetrius Oliver, 38, who bought his three young children to a march in Philadelphia.

The importance of demanding change for the next generation was echoed by demonstrators in other cities.

"I wanted him to see what it is to protest and that he has to stand up for his rights, because he has rights," said Stacey Samuels, a nurse practitioner who attended a protest in Brooklyn with her 11-year-old son.

"I think the crescendo is building," she said of the huge turnout at protests across the country.

"My whole life has been spent trying to keep my sons from being killed and out of the school-to-prison pipeline. Seven of their friends were killed, two by police. One when police were dispersing a crowd and another when he was being chased for missing a court date and crashed. The police don't act like that in white communities," said Tevis Duncan, who took part in a demonstration in Louisville, Kentucky.

"I want a future that I can be proud of for my children," said Chad Nasr, a 24-year-old grad student in Louisville.

Heather Orsini, who lives in New Jersey, marched in Philly with a sign that read, "If the shooting starts, get behind me." She told *The Daily Beast*: "I know that things have been getting crazy and I want my friends to know they're protected. That I'll protect them."

Following days of unrest stoked by an at-times irritated and defiant President Trump, Washington, D.C. officials said they expected Saturday to mark the biggest turnout yet.

Around 2 p.m. huge crowds gathered in front of Congress and the Supreme Court and chanted the names of the victims of police brutality.

Some came with portable speakers, blasting audio of speeches from such black leaders as Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcom X. Onlookers offered “free water, free snacks!” and complimentary hand sanitizer in the 90 degree heat.

A casually dressed Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) greeted waves of protesters passing between two Senate office buildings, handing out bottles of water and Kind bars.

“I think members of Congress need to support peaceful protests,” he told The Daily Beast, saying the crowds sent “an incredibly powerful message of unity.”

Kimberly Walker, 28, from Maryland, and some other licensed therapists set up a table outside St. John’s Episcopal Church, the church across from the White House that Trump used to stage his pointless Monday photo op. They were offering free protein bars, fresh fruit, and water to protesters.

“We noticed that there was a need, that while the protests were happening... a lot of people were getting really emotional. We just wanted to kind of be out here to de-escalate everybody,” Walker said. The group, who called themselves Social Workers 4 Justice said they were offering 10 minute therapy sessions and had, moments earlier, spoken to a distraught woman.

“She’s like, ‘Nobody listens to me. They don’t help me. They don’t have any resources for me,’” Walker said. “And I said, ‘What is it that you need? Let’s write it down.’ We got a notepad out. We took some notes and then we gave her our information.”

As the march passed Trump International Hotel on Pennsylvania Ave.—just a few blocks from the White House—a long line of protesters started lustily booing and shouting at the wall of security and police flanking the president’s hotel. They shouted, “Fuck Donald Trump” and “Vote him out!” Others opted to walk past silently, middle fingers raised high at the president’s namesake.

Many demonstrators made clear they blamed the president for encouraging racism.

“We are tired of the blatant racism in this country and Trump incited it. This had been coming for a while. We expect change,” Annette Bridges, 67, told The Daily Beast in Louisville.

At a public memorial held for Floyd in Raeford, North Carolina, on Saturday as protests were underway, a local sheriff called on fellow law enforcement officers to listen to protesters and realize that “we are part of the problem.”

“Enough. Don’t let the life of George Floyd be in vain. It has become a sacrifice,” Hoke County Sheriff Hubert Peterkin said at the memorial service, held 12 days after white Minneapolis cop Derek Chauvin held his knee on Floyd’s neck until he lost consciousness and died.

A vigil was also held for Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Kentucky on Saturday, a day after she would have turned 27 had she not been gunned down in a botched “no-knock” police raid in March. An EMT, she was asleep when she was shot eight times in her own home.

Taylor’s death sparked protests and an FBI investigation, but even the outrage over her death was not enough to stop other cases of excessive force by police, a fact which protesters have said makes them more determined to keep protesting.

“Don’t forget while we were peacefully protesting they killed David McAtee,” Sadiqa Reynolds, the head of the Louisville Urban League, said at Saturday’s vigil. McAtee, a black restaurant owner in Louisville, was fatally shot by authorities during protests earlier this week after he allegedly fired a gun.



	<p>“Breonna was an essential worker. Everyday her mother prayed for her to make it home. But imagine that your baby makes it home and the police break through the door and shoot. What do you say? You say no justice, no peace,” Reynolds said.</p> <p>Demonstrators sang happy birthday in honor of Taylor and chanted her name, with plans for the crowd to release balloons to pay tribute.</p> <p>In New York City, where the streets were flooded Saturday with people coming together and sharing free food and drinks with demonstrators, there was a strong sense of hope after nearly two weeks of unrest.</p> <p>“There was a Muslim community that came out and prayed a few days ago. Yesterday the Jewish community was out here holding hands. People are realizing that this is a movement, this is a revolution, the last time this happened was with Martin Luther King. This is our time. People are losing patience, they’re losing hope, they don’t want to live in fear. They want to live equal,” said Sami Rahman, attending a protest in Brooklyn.</p> <p>“I couldn’t sit home and watch TV.”</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 BLM group: mayor commits to reforms</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/black-lives-matter-group-in-seattle-meets-with-mayor-durkan-calls-for-general-strike-and-march/">https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/black-lives-matter-group-in-seattle-meets-with-mayor-durkan-calls-for-general-strike-and-march/</a>
GIST	<p>Black Lives Matter Seattle – King County is calling for a statewide general strike and silent march on Friday, June 12, the group announced Saturday.</p> <p>“We’re calling on everyone in Washington state who is able to be there. If you can’t march in Seattle, organize one in your community,” board member Ebony Miranda said in a video news conference, asking people to participate despite the COVID-19 crisis.</p> <p>“Anti-blackness is a greater threat to our survival, and racism in itself is its own pandemic. It’s killing us. We’re fighting to survive and thrive.”</p> <p>The local Black Lives Matter group previously <a href="#">had cautioned</a> protesters about COVID-19 risks.</p> <p>More details on the June 12 actions are yet to come, according to the group, which met Saturday with Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan to discuss police-reform demands as protests continued over police killings of Black people, including George Floyd in Minneapolis last month.</p> <p>Marlon Brown, another board member, said the group had begun to establish some common ground with Durkan on certain demands. He said the mayor made several commitments, though Durkan’s office said the discussions were less than clear-cut and other officials would need to be involved in various decisions.</p> <p>The Black Lives Matter group demanded that Durkan reduce the Seattle Police Department’s budget for military-style weapons and equipment by \$100 million and invest that money in other needs, such as street outreach, crisis intervention, mental-health diversion and housing. The mayor agreed to divest funds and to reinvest them in community needs, Brown said.</p> <p>But Durkan is not committing to cutting \$100 million from the police department and redirecting that much money elsewhere, said Stephanie Formas, the mayor’s chief of staff, in a subsequent interview. The police department doesn’t spend \$100 million annually on military-style weapons and equipment, Formas said.</p>

	<p>Durkan believes some department funds will need to be cut this year, as City Hall seeks to close a budget gap created by the pandemic, Formas said.</p> <p>The mayor agrees in principle that Seattle should redirect some funds from military-style policing to outreach, intervention and diversion programs, Formas said, noting certain such programs already are housed within the police department.</p> <p>Lastly, Durkan believes \$100 million will not be sufficient to meet all community needs, according to Formas.</p> <p>The mayor proposes Seattle budgets, which are altered by the City Council. King County oversees public-health programs.</p> <p>Brown said Durkan committed to requiring police deployed to demonstrations to keep their body cameras on throughout their shifts, with more details to come. Formas said the mayor intends to “fast-track” that policy work. Durkan also agreed to form a Seattle commission of Black leaders, Brown said.</p> <p>Brown said more discussion was forthcoming over additional issues. The Black Lives Matter group is calling on City Hall to end homeless encampment sweeps, drop a legal challenge against King County’s new inquest process for fatal police shootings, and mandate community oversight of police-union contract bargaining.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Tacoma: hundreds rally at protests</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://q13fox.com/2020/06/06/hundreds-rally-at-several-protests-in-tacoma/">https://q13fox.com/2020/06/06/hundreds-rally-at-several-protests-in-tacoma/</a>
GIST	<p>TACOMA, WA – Friday, hundreds marched and rallied through the streets of Tacoma raising awareness for the need for equality.</p> <p>Tacoma is facing unrest, including controversy over its own <a href="#">investigation</a> into the death of a black man in police custody.</p> <p>Protests took place at several different locations through Tacoma including Wright Park, UW Tacoma’s campus, and the streets of the city.</p> <p>“I’m hoping to see as many people as possible and it be as peaceful as possible,” said Sonja Jones. Jones is 19 years old. She organized an event at UW’s campus.</p> <p>“The number of black people that we’re seeing on the media being murdered by police is incredibly high,” she said.</p> <p>She organized the rally to put a focus on the need for change across the board.</p> <p>Several other events took place throughout the day, including a march through the streets of the city.</p> <p>Hundreds of protesters marched up Pacific Avenue disrupting traffic, but maintained peace. One of the organizers said they want to disrupt the norm, because normal is not working.</p> <p>The march ended at Wright Park, but protesters say they will continue to come out until there is a change. This effort is exactly what Jones says needs to happen.</p> <p>“This rally here, with people standing in the street, if we don’t have any action behind it, that’s all it is. People standing in the street,” she said.</p>

	<p>Among a day full of rallies and protest, Tacoma Mayor Victoria Woodards also spoke to the city at another press conference. This is her third press conference in just as many days.</p> <p>She is calling for <a href="#">swift action</a> and answers regarding an investigation into the death of Manuel Ellis, a black man who died in Tacoma Police custody.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Biggest day jump virus cases in 2mo.</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://komonews.com/news/coronavirus/one-day-jump-in-coronavirus-cases-is-greatest-in-nearly-2-months">https://komonews.com/news/coronavirus/one-day-jump-in-coronavirus-cases-is-greatest-in-nearly-2-months</a>
GIST	<p>The number of new confirmed cases of coronavirus surged by its greatest amount in nearly two months Saturday in Washington state.</p> <p>State health officials reported 442 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 on Saturday - the biggest one-day jump since April 10, when 452 new confirmed cases were tallied. Since then, the daily count of new cases has rarely jumped by more than 300.</p> <p>The spike in new confirmed cases brings the statewide total to 23,442 since the start of the pandemic.</p> <p>There was no immediate official explanation for the sudden increase in confirmed cases. But it comes after most counties have moved to reopen their economies and after nine days of statewide protests that have brought many thousands of people into close contact.</p> <p>Virus testing also has become more widely available, which may be turning up cases that would not have been found in earlier stages of the pandemic.</p> <p>Despite the surge in new cases, only four new fatalities were reported in Washington, bringing the statewide total to 1,153.</p> <p>The number of hospitalized COVID-19 patients also has been steadily dropping - and that trend continued Saturday.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Seattle protesters eligible free virus testing</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://komonews.com/news/coronavirus/all-seattle-protesters-now-eligible-for-free-drive-up-covid-19-testing">https://komonews.com/news/coronavirus/all-seattle-protesters-now-eligible-for-free-drive-up-covid-19-testing</a>
GIST	<p>SEATTLE - Anyone who has taken part in any of the recent protests is now eligible to get tested for COVID-19 under a new Seattle program - whether or not they have symptoms of the disease.</p> <p>Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan said the testing also is recommended for people experiencing symptoms or who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the past 14 days.</p> <p>Under the new testing rules, anyone who has recently attended a large gathering, including recent demonstrations, can get tested.</p> <p>"Over the last week, residents across Seattle have been gathering to build community and share their anger and frustration about the killing of George Floyd and injustices against black Americans, here in Seattle and across the country," Durkan said.</p> <p>"While I believe everyone should exercise their right and speak out, we must also remember we're in the middle of a pandemic. I have been hearing from community members who attended demonstrations over the past week about their concerns of COVID-19 exposure. While public health guidelines reserve testing</p>

for those who have symptoms, or who have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 illness, I recognize that many have put themselves at risk of exposure to make their voices heard, and this expanded criteria will ensure they can get tested at city test sites."

Without a vaccine or treatment, COVID-19 has become a disease with deadly repercussions. People of color especially black and Latinx communities – many of which have been on the frontlines of demonstrations – have already been disproportionately impacted by the virus.

"Whether from living in congregate households, a lack of and/or mistrust of the health care system, or employment as an "essential" worker, the COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare the inequities in our country for communities of color," Seattle officials said in a prepared statement.

If individuals test positive for COVID-19, they will be contacted by Public Health Seattle & King County on the next steps.

The new Seattle testing sites are located in north Seattle, at 12040 Aurora Ave. North, and south Seattle, at 3820 6th Ave. South, and operate Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and accommodate drive-through clients who [book ahead through the website](#). These sites are designed and intended for drive-up testing and are not ADA compliant for pedestrians.

For individuals who are experiencing symptoms or have a confirmed COVID-19 exposure, Public Health Seattle & King County offers many options for free COVID-19 testing at walk-up locations with ADA accommodations. More information is available [at the website](#) or call 206-477-3977 for more information. Most people can access testing through their regular health care provider.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Black Lives Matter: general strike Jun. 12</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/black-lives-matter-seattle-king-county-calls-statewide-general-strike-march-next-week/SLLBUBFTYZB5JPXTTR3QNY43O4/">https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/black-lives-matter-seattle-king-county-calls-statewide-general-strike-march-next-week/SLLBUBFTYZB5JPXTTR3QNY43O4/</a>
GIST	<p>SEATTLE — Leaders with Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County announced plans on Saturday for a statewide general strike, march and day of action in support of all black lives on June 12.</p> <p>Officials said the march will be held in Seattle and are encouraging members of other communities to hold their own.</p> <p>"We are calling on everyone in Washington state who is able- to be there. If you can't be at the march with us in Seattle, organize one in your community," officials said.</p> <p>Saturday's announcement came after officials met with Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan to present a list of demands.</p> <p>Here are the demands they presented:</p> <p>"We demand that all law enforcement at demonstrations turn on their bodycams and leave them on throughout the entirety of their shift. With that, we understand that this is only the beginning of this conversation. Per the ACLU, we want the access and use of the recorded data from bodycams to be taken out of the hands of the police. Furthermore, more regulations must be put in place into how this data is distributed. - Mayor Durkan agreed</p> <p>"We demand the city divest \$100 million in the police budget that would be used for militarized weapons and equipment and reinvest those funds in de-escalation teams, street outreach, crisis intervention teams, mental health diversion teams, housing, and PPE - Mayor Durkan agrees to a divestment that is reinvested in our community needs. It was also agreed that \$100 million may not be enough to meet the needs.</p>

	<p>"We demand the end of sweeping homeless encampments, as it violates CDC guidelines in treating and supporting people and families experiencing homelessness - Mayor has a tentative plan that includes housing/shelter options. ULMS would be interested in continuing the discussion with the Mayor's office as they have more data to share on the matter.</p> <p>"We demand that the City of Seattle drop the Inquest Lawsuit with King County - The Mayor will be speaking with the City Attorney about this matter.</p> <p>"We demand that Community Oversight be a part of the police contract bargaining process - The Mayor mentioned the CPC expressed this also. We shared that the community will need a better relationship with the CPC and that we, BLM, are willing to assist with.</p> <p>"We demand the City of Seattle to develop a fully funded and staffed Black Commission to address these and further issues in the future - Mayor Durkan agrees to its formation, staffing and funding support of the commission."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Seattle 9<sup>th</sup> day for protests</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/protests/washington-seattle-george-floyd-protests-rallies/281-90c647ce-f0fa-448a-b52e-72090827c2a1">https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/protests/washington-seattle-george-floyd-protests-rallies/281-90c647ce-f0fa-448a-b52e-72090827c2a1</a>
GIST	<p>SEATTLE — A peaceful protest in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood near Cal Anderson Park turned tense at about 7:30 p.m. Saturday after police ordered the crowd to move back behind a barrier.</p> <p>The protest that started in the early afternoon remained mostly peaceful, however, one protester told KING 5 there were a few "bad apples" trying to rile the crowd.</p> <p>Police could be heard over loudspeakers giving verbal commands to the crowd several times to move back. From the view from SkyKING it appeared protesters began throwing things at police officers around 7:30 p.m. and police then deployed flashbangs and pepper spray on the crowd.</p> <p>Seattle police <a href="#">tweeted pictures</a> of the items they called "improvised explosives" that were thrown at them and injured "several officers." In the tweet, Seattle police said the crowd was trying to move barricades at 11th and Pine Streets against police's commands to stop, which is what triggered the confrontation.</p> <p>The clash comes as Saturday marks the 9th day of protests in western Washington over the death of George Floyd, a black man killed while in Minneapolis police custody.</p> <p><b>11 a.m.</b> Earlier on Saturday, thousands of healthcare workers marched through Seattle to show their support for the Black Lives Matter movement.</p> <p>The event was called #WhiteCoatsForBlack Lives.</p> <p>Doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals marched from Harborview Medical Center to Seattle City Hall on Saturday. The marchers passed by the Seattle Police Department downtown and had peaceful interactions with officers.</p> <p>"The demonstration today was very peaceful, people were respectful, people were keeping space," said one healthcare worker participating in the march. "There were people that had hand sanitizer everywhere, offering it up. I think it's an important health concern but we were doing our best to try and stay as safe as possible and this issue is important and it needs to be addressed and talked about and publicized."</p> <p>It appeared most of the participants were wearing face masks while protesting.</p>

	While marching, many people held up signs that read, “Racism is a public health emergency,” and “Racism is a pandemic, too.”
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Seattle peaceful protest takes violent turn</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/police-officers-injured-after-protesters-throw-improvised-explosives-seattle/LGJ624HG5FHKJDYRKLY7X7NQ6A/">https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/police-officers-injured-after-protesters-throw-improvised-explosives-seattle/LGJ624HG5FHKJDYRKLY7X7NQ6A/</a>
GIST	<p><b>SEATTLE</b> — Officials with the Seattle Police Department say several officers were injured during a clash with protesters outside the East Precinct in Capitol Hill Saturday night.</p> <p>Around 7:30 p.m., <a href="#">police said</a> demonstrators began moving barricades set up near 11th and Pine.</p> <p>Police said they made multiple requests for them to stop.</p> <p>Some of the demonstrators then began throwing rocks, bottles and “improvised explosives” at officers, police said.</p> <p>The police department <a href="#">tweeted out</a> a picture of what appears to be the remnants of a candle and a glass container in their original report about the “improvised explosives.”</p> <p>Police Chief Carmen Best was asked about the photo but she did not clarify what types of “explosives” were thrown.</p> <p>Best said two of the injured officers were sent to the hospital. She did not give a further update on their conditions.</p> <p>Protesters at the scene told KIRO 7 there were some “instigators” in the crowd, but stressed that many people in attendance are promoting peace.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 USMC bans Confederate battle flag</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.newsweek.com/us-marines-confederate-flag-racism-monuments-protests-1509148">https://www.newsweek.com/us-marines-confederate-flag-racism-monuments-protests-1509148</a>
GIST	<p>Amid heightened racial tensions spilling over due to protests against the death of George Floyd, the United States Marine Corp has banned all depictions of the Confederate battle flag at its installations.</p> <p>A marine administrative message (MARADMIN) outlined the ban which would even prohibit wearing marines T-shirts or drinking coffee from mugs that feature the flag on installations in the U.S. and abroad.</p> <p>Marine commanders will have to find and get rid of any displays of the flag within work spaces and public areas on their installations and "must exercise best judgement and discretion" when conducting inspections.</p> <p>No other military branch has announced such a policy, which comes as the U.S. Army faced criticism for not renaming bases named for Confederate leaders, Military.com reported.</p> <p>"The Confederate battle flag has all too often been co-opted by violent extremists and racist groups whose divisive beliefs have no place in our Corps," the marine statement said. "This presents a threat to our core values, unit cohesion, security, and good order and discipline. This must be addressed."</p> <p>The guidance defines the flag as the ensign "carried by Confederate armies during the Civil War, most notably by the army of northern Virginia, but also was carried by other Confederate states' armies."</p>

	<p>In February, after issuing a directive to start the removal of Confederate materials from Marine Corps installations, Commandant Gen. David Berger told Military.com that "things that divide us are not good... When on government property, we have to think as a unit and how to build a team, a cohesive team."</p> <p>The order comes as nationwide protests sparked by Floyd's death, some of which have turned violent, have prompted some mayors and governors to remove Confederate statues and displays from public areas, amid a racially-charged debate over police brutality.</p> <p>On Thursday, it was announced that Confederate monuments would be removed from Indianapolis and Richmond, Virginia. There had been earlier removals in Alexandria, Virginia, and Birmingham, Alabama.</p> <p>Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam said that the statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee in Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, would be removed.</p> <p>"The legacy of racism continues, not just in isolated incidents. The legacy of racism also continues as part of a system that touches every person and every aspect of our lives," he said, according to ABC News.</p> <p>The Rev. Robert Wright Lee, a descendent of Robert E. Lee, backed the monument's removal, telling reporters: "There are more important things to address than just a statue, but this statue is a symbol of oppression."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Economic recovery years away</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-economy/u-s-labor-market-unexpectedly-improves-recovery-years-away-idUSKBN23C0E9">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-economy/u-s-labor-market-unexpectedly-improves-recovery-years-away-idUSKBN23C0E9</a>
GIST	<p>WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The U.S. economy unexpectedly added jobs in May after suffering record losses in the prior month, offering the clearest signal yet that the downturn triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic was probably over, though the road to recovery could be long.</p> <p>The Labor Department's closely watched employment report on Friday also showed the jobless rate falling to 13.3% last month from 14.7% in April, a post World War Two high. But the improvement was unequal, with the unemployment rate for whites posting a record decline, but rising for blacks and Asians.</p> <p>The report followed on the heels of surveys showing consumer confidence, manufacturing and services industries stabilizing. Businesses have reopened after shuttering in mid-March to slow the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>"The country has turned the corner from the pandemic and the recession it created for now, but all the workers who lost their paychecks will find it difficult to regain their place in society as many of these jobs are gone forever," said Chris Rupkey, chief economist at MUFG in New York.</p> <p>"It took years for the economy to grow enough to find jobs for those unemployed in the last recession, and it will take years again this time to do the same."</p> <p>The survey of establishments showed nonfarm payrolls rose by 2.509 million jobs last month after a record plunge of 20.7 million in April. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast payrolls falling by 8 million jobs. They had expected the survey of households to show the unemployment rate jumping to 19.8%.</p> <p>President Donald Trump, who had a turbulent week amid nationwide protests over police brutality and racial inequality, quickly took credit for the surprise labor market turnaround.</p> <p>"Really Big Jobs Report. Great going President Trump (kidding but true)!" Trump wrote on Twitter.</p>



The unemployment rate for blacks increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 16.8%. In contrast, the jobless rate for whites fell to 12.4% from 14.2% in April. Economists believe the unemployment rate peaked in May, but see it remaining above 10% when Americans head to the polls on Nov. 3.

Stocks on Wall Street rallied on the report. The dollar rose against a basket of currencies. U.S. Treasury prices fell.

#### DEEP HOLE

Even with May's rebound, the hole is deep. Part-time workers accounted for two-fifths of the increase in employment. Payrolls are nearly 20 million below their pre-COVID-19 level. The unemployment rate has risen 9.8 percentage points and the number of unemployed is up 15.2 million since February.

The Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, which compiles the employment report, also noted a continuing problem with misclassification by respondents. A large number of people misclassified themselves as being "employed but absent from work." Without this misclassification, the May unemployment rate would have been about 16%.

A broader measure of unemployment, which includes people who want to work but have given up searching and those working part-time because they cannot find full-time employment, dipped to 21.2% in May from 22.8% in April.

The sharp rebound in employment is in stark contrast to a persistently high number of people filing weekly claims for jobless benefits.

Economists said the government's Paycheck Protection Program, part of a historic fiscal package worth nearly \$3 trillion, offering businesses loans that can be partially forgiven if used for employee salaries, artificially juiced employment. They noted many sectors added jobs in May, though businesses remained shut.

"Once the PPP money runs out, there could be another round of layoffs especially in services which was a big beneficiary of the government program," said Sung Won Sohn, a business economics professor at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

Employment in May was boosted by restaurants and bars, which added 1.4 million jobs after losing 6 million in April and March. But payrolls continued to decline in the accommodation industry in May, with another 148,000 jobs lost.

Hiring in the construction industry increased by 464,000 jobs last month, recouping about half of April's decline. There were also gains in employment in education and health services, retail trade, manufacturing, professional and business services, financial activities and wholesale trade.

But government payrolls dropped by 585,000 in May, with the declines in state and local governments, whose budgets have been crushed in the fight against COVID-19. There were more job losses in the information, mining, transportation and warehousing industries.

The labor force participation rate, the proportion of working-age Americans who have a job or are looking for one, rose to 60.8% last month from 60.2% in April, which was the lowest rate since January 1973. The employment-to-population ratio, viewed as a measure of an economy's ability to create employment, rose to 52.8% from a record low 51.3% in April.

With the rebound in lower-wage industry jobs, average hourly earnings fell 1.0% after shooting up 4.7% in April. That lowered the annual increase in wages to 6.7% in May from 8.0% in April. The workweek averaged 34.7 hours, up from 34.2 hours.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 NYPD suspends cops; protest violence</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.foxnews.com/us/two-nypd-officers-suspended-after-videos-show-violence-against-protesters-reports">https://www.foxnews.com/us/two-nypd-officers-suspended-after-videos-show-violence-against-protesters-reports</a>
GIST	<p>Two <a href="#">New York City</a> police officers were suspended without pay Friday after videos emerged showing them in violent confrontations with <a href="#">George Floyd</a> protesters, according to reports.</p> <p>One video showed an officer pepper-spraying a man after pulling down the man's face mask, while the other video showed an officer throwing a woman to the ground and shouting profanity at her, <a href="#">BuzzFeed News reported</a>.</p> <p>Police officers are seen walking away while the woman <a href="#">appears to writhe in pain</a> in the street after apparently striking her head against a curb or the pavement.</p> <p>The incident involving the masked man took place May 30 while the incident with the woman took place May 29, the NYPD said in statement, according to The Associated Press.</p> <p>The officers' suspensions resulted from internal affairs investigations, the statement said.</p> <p>"While the investigations have to play out, based on the severity of what we saw, it is appropriate and necessary to assure the public that there will be transparency during the disciplinary process," city police Commissioner Dermot Shea said, <a href="#">according to NBC News</a>.</p> <p>Police investigators are examining "other matters" as well and pledged to be transparent with their findings, the NYPD statement said.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Protesters who support 'orgy of violence'</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.foxnews.com/us/minneapolis-protest-riot-loot-ami-horowitz-video">https://www.foxnews.com/us/minneapolis-protest-riot-loot-ami-horowitz-video</a>
GIST	<p>Documentary filmmaker Ami Horowitz embedded himself in the <a href="#">Minneapolis</a> protests-turned-riots and said the majority of protesters he spoke with supported an "orgy of violence," including "killing cops."</p> <p>Horowitz, who previously covered police protests in Ferguson, Mo., in 2014, spoke to "peaceful protesters" Sunday night in the city where <a href="#">George Floyd</a> died while in <a href="#">police</a> custody on Memorial Day. He found that, while they acted peacefully, they supported the looting and violence that started there and continued in other cities.</p> <p>"What I saw was really shocking," Horowitz told Fox News. "It was a city on fire and full of chaos. Anarchy was reigning across the streets, and you saw police officers chasing roving bandits all over the city."</p> <p>The <a href="#">"U.N. Me"</a> filmmaker who has previously produced "Ami on the Streets" segments for Fox News Channel about Black Lives Matter and other issues said he wanted to get to the truth about the protesters.</p> <p>"There's a media narrative that tries to divorce the violence and the protesters and what I actually found is that they're two sides of the same coin," Horowitz explained. "Not that the protesters engaged in violence, but that the protesters agreed that violence was a necessary means to an end. Their perverted version of justice."</p> <p>He said the mainstream media in their coverage of the protests and riots never asked the right questions because they were afraid to hear their answers.</p> <p>"We're attacking big, known businesses like Apple, Boost ... Target, Walmart, Best Buy, all that s--t, Gucci ... Whatever the f--k you all like, you better lock your doors!" one protester tells him in the video.</p>

This protester calls the looting "slavery money ... So when we take it back or we burn it down, yeah. We're getting back what's ours. You won't give it up? Okay, you ain't having it no more."

Another added, "If anybody's a thief, it's America."

The filmmaker asked if they supported the violence and wanted to see stores burned down.

"If they didn't kill a black man, their stores wouldn't get burned down," one said.

"Sometimes we gotta act out. It sucks that all this happening, that all the small businesses are getting burnt down, but without that, where would we be?" a protester tells him. "The FBI came here in three days because we're rioting, because we're tearing s--t up."

Another says, "This country was built on violence and when people have had enough of the violence that y'all have against us, and we give it back to y'all, y'all wanna be mad."

When Horowitz asks if the U.S. should defund the cops, a protester replies: "I think we should kill them b--ches."

"I want to be abundantly clear," Horowitz said. "I support their right to protest. My point isn't to say they shouldn't have been there. My point is to say those particular protesters support the violence happening across the country. That view gives the anarchist rioters the air to breathe -- to keep that fire burning."

As Horowitz was packing up for the night, he saw a man defending his home from being looted and burned. Another man took a thick stick, and started attacking him and throwing rocks at him: "It looked to me that if he continued that he would've killed this guy."

Horowitz said he approached the man with the stick and yelled to him. "Luckily, he walked away."

Horowitz and his crew witnessed at least five cars burned by rioters and three stores looted after rocks were thrown through windows. "I saw a lot of violence just driving through the streets," he said.

He also saw a group of Native Americans gather before curfew to protect Native American-owned stores after a number were looted and burned the night before.

"This is coming on the back of the coronavirus when they were already barely making it, on the verge of losing their businesses," he said. "It was really sad. It was heartbreaking."

Horowitz also witnessed food bank workers trying to protect stock.

"It's hard to overstate the jarring nature of seeing an American city burning," he said. "It's something you wish you would never see or occur. It's something you'd expect to see in Venezuela or Africa, but you don't expect to see in Minneapolis, Chicago, Los Angeles or any other cities."

"I've witnessed it twice now and I worry about this country a lot more than I used to."

Horowitz has previously filmed an expose on the United Nations' inability to live up to its stated purpose and founding ideals of a more peaceful world. Another video led to an executive order by President Trump. He taped a Middle East conference co-hosted by Duke University and UNC-Chapel Hill that was paid for in large part by the government. During the event, a rapper performed an anti-Semitic song. The Department of Education issued a lawsuit against the universities and Trump signed an order against anti-Semitism on college campuses.

In 2016, Horowitz filmed a short video mid the Black Lives Matter movement asking predominantly black and Hispanic residents in Harlem, N.Y., if cops' lives matter, too. He also asked white people in gentrified Brooklyn if violence was justified.

And in Dec. 2016, he investigated an influx of refugees in Sweden, telling "Tucker Carlson Tonight" that, according to the country's statistics murder increased between 2012 and 2016 by "almost 70 percent" and rape similarly increased between 2007 and 2015. Trump referenced it at a Florida event in 2017.

Horowitz said he and his crew were threatened at least twice in Minneapolis.

"My biggest takeaway is the media malpractice on how these protests are being reported as if they have nothing to do with the violence," he said. "The reality is different in that the protesters are justifying the violence and the anarchy and the rage."

Horowitz contends: "The thesis of the protests is that our country is fundamentally racist and that our police departments are fundamentally racist but the data doesn't support that thesis."

After two nights of witnessing riots, he said he thought both the police and national guard were acting with incredible restraint.

"One might argue too much restraint. They were trying to be as understanding as possible," Horowitz said. "It was probably an overcorrection from the criticism they were getting before. ... The protesters were goading them into attacking the crowd, but both the police and national guard wouldn't take their bait."

"These crowds and protests are trying to make out that our country is fundamentally racist. I find that so offensive that they would have that viewpoint," he noted. "The truth is that they are just wrong and the data does not support their argument."

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HEADLINE	06/05 NYC mayor pledges police reform
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/de-blasio-pledges-police-reform-as-public-blames-mayor-for-abuse/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/de-blasio-pledges-police-reform-as-public-blames-mayor-for-abuse/</a>
GIST	<p>New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio pledged Friday that reform is coming for the city's law enforcement. "You will see change in the NYPD," he said, after more than a week of clashes between protesters and police officers following the death of George Floyd.</p> <p>"We simply have not gone far enough. The status quo is still broken, it must change," de Blasio said.</p> <p>"This will be the work for the next year and a half of this administration: To make more change, to make it urgently, to make it powerfully, to make it clear. And that work will proceed immediately. And you will see those results and you will judge for yourself, as all New Yorkers do," he said.</p> <p>The mayor's pledge comes after he implemented an <a href="#">8 p.m. curfew</a> on the city beginning Tuesday. Many New Yorkers claimed the curfew has emboldened police to use force against peaceful protesters out after curfew.</p> <p>De Blasio and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo maintain that the curfew is in place to assist police in stopping violence and looting. Cuomo said Friday that the city was "on the edge of chaos" due to rampant looting, but that it has been better over the last few days.</p> <p>"The curfews are designed to let the police to be in a position where they can stop the looting," Cuomo said. "And that has been a serious problem."</p> <p>Videos of New York police officers hitting protesters with batons, driving police cruisers into crowds and, most recently, <a href="#">pushing an elderly man who then fell to the ground</a>, have drawn millions of views online. Police Commissioner Dermot Shea on Monday said the NYPD Internal Affairs was reviewing about six incidents from just four days of protests. More incidents have been recorded in the days since.</p>

On Wednesday, a group of protesters gathered at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn began marching in defiance of the curfew at 8 p.m. Shortly after, the protesters turned around and marched in the opposite direction, as police had asked. Officers then began chasing after the group.

"They're pushing us, they're pushing us," several young female protesters screamed as police used their batons to physically move the protesters back with force. Police had arrived on the other side, too — and with nowhere to turn, some protesters fell to the ground. Others were detained.

At no point did officers say the protest had become unlawful or use any form of megaphone to ask protesters to disperse.

After identifying himself as a member of the media by sharing his press pass, a CBS News journalist was told by an officer: "I'm going to take... that pass from you in two seconds if you don't keep walking."

"I saw cops actually diving at protesters, one person got hurt and there were cops still diving on her," Diesel, a protester who was at Cadman Plaza, told CBS News. "That is completely unacceptable. That's why we are out here now. Because cops keep using unnecessary force and it's not correct."

"It's coming down from leadership. And leadership needs to tell their guys to back off when needed," he said.

On Thursday, The New York Times' editorial board called on de Blasio and Cuomo to protect the city's residents in an op-ed titled "[The Police Are Out of Control](#)."

The board wrote that it holds de Blasio "responsible for the city's failure to protect the safety of its residents." "As evidence of police abuse has mounted, he has averted his eyes, insisting Thursday that the Police Department uses as 'light a touch as possible,'" the op-ed said.

The mayor acknowledged Friday that there have been several instances of police behavior that need to be reviewed, and said disciplinary action is imminent.

"Each night we see – certainly several – situations that raise real questions. Individual instances where our officers have taken action that raises a valid concern. In each and every case, there must be a full investigation, and where discipline is warranted, it needs to be speedy," the mayor said, according to [CBS New York](#).

"The vast, vast majority of officers do their job, do it right. But when someone does something wrong, as in all of our society, there must be consequences," he said. "Commissioner Shea made it clear yesterday, disciplinary action is about to be announced, some will include suspensions of officers."

Cuomo announced Friday that the state is set to pass the "[Say Their Name](#)" reform agenda next week to address police brutality towards African Americans.

According to the governor's office, the agenda will reform 50-a of the civil rights law to "allow for transparency of prior disciplinary records of law enforcement officers"; ban police chokeholds; and make false race-based 911 reports a crime.

"Mr. Floyd's murder was the breaking point of a long list of deaths that were unnecessary and abusive, and people are saying enough is enough, we must change and we must stop the abuse," Governor Cuomo said.

"Stopping police abuse vindicates the overwhelming majority — 99.9% — of police who are there to do the right thing," he said. "It restores the confidence, the respect, and the trust that you need to make this relationship work."

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HEADLINE	06/06 From Eric Garner to George Floyd
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/US/eric-garner-george-floyd-12-black-lives-lost/story?id=70999321">https://abcnews.go.com/US/eric-garner-george-floyd-12-black-lives-lost/story?id=70999321</a>
GIST	<p>They are bookends in a tragic streak of encounters with U.S. law enforcement, milestone markers that claimed the lives of black people. The eerily similar last words of "I can't breathe" uttered by Eric Garner and George Floyd echo across six years of accumulating carnage in the nation's history as protesters in the burning streets of American cities keep pleading for the recurring nightmare to end.</p> <p>From the police chokehold that cost Garner his life in <a href="#">New York City</a> to a police officer pinning Floyd's neck under his knee in Minneapolis, demonstrators are repeating the same complaints that black people are paying the disproportionate and ultimate price of lethal actions of law enforcement.</p> <p>Black lives have been lost in numerous police encounters between Garner's death in 2014 and Floyd's death on May 25. Protesters pouring into the streets of major cities have recited names such as <a href="#">Walter Scott</a>, the 50-year-old South Carolina resident who was shot in the back in 2015 by a white North Charleston police officer following a routine traffic stop, and <a href="#">Jordan Edwards</a>, 15, who was in a car leaving a house party in a Dallas suburb when he was shot to death by an officer who opened fire on the vehicle.</p> <p>While officers have been arrested and charged in some of the cases, loved ones of most of those killed are still seeking justice.</p> <p>Here are just a dozen high-profile deaths, searing episodes that have added to a cauldron of anger and pain now boiling over across the country:</p> <p><b>Eric Garner</b></p> <p>Garner, 43, was confronted by undercover police on July 17, 2014, on Staten Island in New York City and accused of selling untaxed cigarettes, also known as loosies. A video of the encounter showed the more than 300-pound Garner, who was unarmed, resisting and saying he was tired of being harassed as officers moved in to arrest him.</p> <p>One undercover officer, Daniel Pantaleo, who is white, came up behind Garner and placed him in a chokehold that had been banned by the <a href="#">New York Police Department</a>, and, with the help of other officers, they got Garner on the ground. While still in the chokehold, Garner told the officers multiple times, "I can't breathe" until his body went listless. Garner was taken to a hospital where he was pronounced dead.</p> <p>The incident was caught on video by a witness.</p> <p>Numerous acts of civil disobedience erupted in New York City and across the country in the wake of Garner's death with protester using the words "I can't breathe" as a rallying cry for justice. Although the case was presented to a grand jury, none of the officers were indicted. It took five years before <a href="#">Pantaleo was fired in 2019</a> by then-NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill.</p> <p><b>Michael Brown</b></p> <p>Brown, 18, was shot to death on Aug. 9, 2014, in Ferguson, Missouri, a suburb of St. Louis, during an encounter with Darren Wilson, who was then a Ferguson police officer. Wilson, who is white, was investigating a complaint of shoplifting at a convenience store and claimed Brown matched the description of one of the suspects when he saw the teenager walking down a street.</p> <p>Wilson alleged, according to grand jury transcripts, that Brown approached the window of his patrol car and a struggle ensued over his gun before Brown attempted to run away. Wilson claimed that he was pursuing Brown when the teenager turned around and charged towards him with the "most intense aggressive face I've ever seen on a person." Wilson, according to the transcript, said he opened fire multiple times when Brown appeared to reach for something in his waistband.</p> <p>But an eyewitness, Brown's friend, Dorian Johnson, claimed that Brown had his hands up and told Wilson "don't shoot" when he was killed. Brown, who was unarmed, was shot six times.</p>

The killing prompted days of protests in Ferguson and across the country with demonstrators chanting "Hands up, don't shoot."

While the case was presented to a grand jury, Wilson, who resigned from the police department in November 2014, was not indicted. The U.S. Department of Justice conducted an investigation and in 2015 cleared Wilson of civil rights violations.

### **Akai Gurley**

Gurley, 28, was with his girlfriend in the stairwell of a Brooklyn, New York, public housing project on Nov. 20, 2014, after she had just braided his hair when two New York City Police officers on foot patrol entered the same darkened stairwell. One of the officers, Peter Liang, who had drawn his pistol, fired a single shot. The bullet ricocheted off a wall and [fatally struck Gurley](#), who was unarmed and deemed an innocent bystander.

The shooting set off protests from coast to coast and Liang, who was a rookie officers, was fired from the NYPD.

He was charged with second-degree manslaughter and convicted by a jury in February 2016. At Liang's sentencing hearing, a [judge reduced his manslaughter conviction](#) to criminally negligent homicide.

Liang was sentenced to five years of probation and 800 hours of community service.

### **Tamir Rice**

Rice, 12, was alone at the Cudell Recreation Center in Cleveland on Nov. 22, 2014, playing with a replica toy Airsoft gun when a 911 dispatcher received word from a caller that a male was in the park randomly pointing a gun at people.

While the 911 caller told the dispatcher the gun was "probably fake," the detail was never relayed to the two police officers who responded to the call and spotted Rice at a gazebo holding what they say they thought was a real gun. Within two seconds after arriving on the scene, one of the officers, Timothy Loehmann, [opened fire twice](#), hitting boy once in the torso. He died a day later in a hospital.

The episode was captured on surveillance video.

The case against Loehmann and his partner, Frank Garmback, was presented to a grand jury. On Sept. 28, 2015, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Timothy McGinty announced that the grand jury decided not to indict the officers.

In May 2017, [Loehmann was terminated](#) from the Cleveland Police Department for submitting inaccurate details on his job application and other administrative policy violations.

### **Freddie Gray**

Gray, 25, was [taken into police custody](#) in Baltimore on April 12, 2015, for possessing a knife. He was handcuffed and placed in a police van and while being transported to a stationhouse, he sustained a spinal injury and went into a coma. Gray died in a hospital about a week after his arrest, triggering riots in Baltimore and protests across the country. His death was ruled a homicide.

Six Baltimore police officers faced criminal charges in Gray's death, ranging from manslaughter, second-degree assault, misconduct in office and false imprisonment. All of them were found not guilty.

### **Philando Castile**

Castile, 32, was with his girlfriend and her 4-year-old daughter when he was [pulled over on July 6, 2016](#), in St. Anthony, Minnesota, a suburb of Saint Paul. A St. Anthony police Officer Jeronimo Yanez asked for Castile's license and registration. Yanez, a Hispanic-American, also inquired if Castile had any firearms.



Castile told Yanez that he did have a registered gun in the car, prompting Yanez to say, "Don't reach for it then." Castile's girlfriend, [Diamond Reynolds](#), claimed Castile was reaching for his driver's license and told the officer he wasn't pulling out the gun.

But Yanez opened fire on Castile, shooting him five times at point-blank range. In the aftermath of the shooting, while still inside the car with her child, Reynolds began recording on her cellphone and posted it to Facebook Live.

Yanez was charged with second-degree manslaughter and two counts of dangerous discharge of a firearm. A jury acquitted him of the charges in June 2017, but he was fired from his job by the City of St. Anthony. The city also reached a [\\$3.8 million settlement](#) with Castile's family and Reynolds after they filed a wrongful death lawsuit.

### **Stephon Clark**

Clark, 22, was [shot multiple times in Sacramento](#), California, on March 18, 2018, setting off days of protests in the state capital and across the country.

The fatal shooting occurred after officers responded to a 911 call reporting someone breaking car windows. Authorities said a police helicopter spotted Clark in the area and followed him, eventually spotting him jumping a fence into the backyard of what turned out to be his grandmother's house.

Officers Terrence Mercadal, and Jared Robinet responded to the home and told investigators they thought Clark had a gun, only to later discover he was holding a cellphone. The officers fired 20 shots at Clark. An autopsy by the County of Sacramento coroner's office determined Clark was hit seven times.

The shooting was partly captured on police body-camera video.

In March 2019, Sacramento County District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert announced that Mercadal and Robinet [would not face charges](#). Federal prosecutors later declined to file civil rights violation charges against the officers and they were returned to full active duty.

### **Botham Jean**

Jean, 27, an accountant at the international auditing firm PriceWaterhouseCoopers, was in his apartment eating ice cream on Sept. 6, 2018, when Dallas Police Officer Amber Guyger entered his home after mistaking it for her own and [fatally shot Jean](#) believing he was an intruder.

Guyger was fired from her job, arrested and charged with Jean's killing.

In October 2019, a Dallas County [jury convicted her of murder](#) after deliberating for less than two days. She was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

### **Atatiana Jefferson**

Jefferson, 28, was in her home playing video games with her 8-year-old nephew at 2:30 a.m. on Oct. 12, 2019, when she heard a disturbance in the backyard of her family's Fort Worth, Texas, home. She grabbed a registered pistol from her purse, went to a bedroom window to investigate and was [fatally shot by a police officer](#), who had gone to the house to investigate after a neighbor called 911 and asked for a welfare check because he noticed the front door was open.

An investigation determined that Aaron Dean, the officer who shot Jefferson, and his partner never knocked on the door or identified themselves as police. The officers entered the backyard of the home and Dean allegedly opened fire almost as soon as he saw Jefferson standing at the bedroom window peering out.

After being shot, Jefferson "yelled out in pain, and fell to the ground," according to the affidavit. Dean resigned from the police force within days of the shooting and was [charged with murder](#).

### **Breonna Taylor**

Taylor, 26, a licensed EMT, was shot to [death in her own apartment](#) in Louisville, Kentucky, when three white police officers executed a no-knock warrant on March 13.

The three plainclothes police officers rammed down the door and were alleged to have "blindly" opened fire into Taylor's apartment, according to a wrongful death lawsuit filed in April by Taylor's mother, Tamika Palmer. Taylor was shot at least eight times and died.

Taylor was accused of accepting USPS packages for an ex-boyfriend who police were investigating as an alleged drug trafficker and used her address, according to the warrant.

The police said they knocked several times before using a ram to open the door and were allegedly met with gunfire from Taylor's new boyfriend, Kenneth Walker, authorities said. Walker said he called 911 before firing one shot from his licensed firearm, striking one of the officers in the leg.

The three officers involved in the episode were placed on administrative reassignment pending an investigation and are named as defendants in the lawsuit filed by Taylor's mother.

The [FBI announced on May 22](#) that it has opened an investigation into the police-involved shooting death.

### **Ahmaud Arbery**

Arbery, 25, was out for a Sunday jog on Feb. 23 in Satilla Shores, Georgia, near his home in the city of Brunswick, when he was [allegedly accosted](#) by white retired police officer Gregory McMichael, 64, and his son, Travis McMichael, 34, who claimed Arbery matched the description of a burglar who had been targeting homes in their neighborhood.

Armed with a shotgun and a .357 magnum handgun, the McMichaels allegedly chased Arbery down in a pickup truck and attempted to make a citizens arrest, according to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. After Travis McMichael confronted Arbery with a shotgun, a struggle ensued and Arbery was shot to death.

The McMichaels were arrested on May 7 and [charged with murder and aggravated assault](#).

The shooting was captured on a cellphone video taken by William "Roddie" Bryan Jr., 50, who has denied any involvement in the slaying. But on May 22, Bryan was arrested and charged with felony murder and criminal attempt to commit false imprisonment stemming from Arbery's death.

### **George Floyd**

Floyd, 47, was confronted on May 25 by police called to a convenience store in Minneapolis to investigate a complaint that he used a counterfeit \$20 bill.

During the [encounter that was caught on video](#), officers removed Floyd from his car, handcuffed him and escorted him to the sidewalk where they ordered him to sit down. At some point, Floyd, who did not appear to resist, was walked to a nearby squad car, where an altercation occurred.

The video, taken by one of Floyd's friends, shows him face-first on the ground next to the squad car and Officer Derek Chauvin with his [knee digging into the back of Floyd's neck](#) for nearly nine minutes. Floyd is heard repeatedly pleading "I can't breathe," begging for his life and calling for his mother as his body went listless. He was taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Chauvin was fired from the police force within days of the incident. Chauvin was arrested on May 29 and charged with second-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter. Three other police officers involved in the arrest -- Tou Thao, Thomas Lane and J. Alexander Kueng -- were also fired from the Minneapolis Police Department and remain under investigation.

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HEADLINE	06/06 'Tough guy' policing paradoxical
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/US/tough-guy-policing-fails/story?id=71041640">https://abcnews.go.com/US/tough-guy-policing-fails/story?id=71041640</a>
GIST	<p>Law enforcement's reaction to widespread protests this week could be summed up in an order that was handed down from President Donald Trump to the nation's governors during a phone conference Monday.</p> <p>"Law enforcement response is not gonna work unless we dominate the streets," Trump told governors. "They're gonna run over you, you're gonna look like a bunch of jerks. You have to dominate," he repeated. "Most of you are weak," he added.</p> <p>The approach reverberated in the streets. In cities across the country, police officers outfitted in riot gear and gas masks clashed with demonstrators, dispelling them using tear gas and rubber bullets or striking them with police batons. In Washington, D.C., a National Guard helicopter flew so low over protestors that it sprayed them with rotor wash, a scare tactic used by military aircrafts in war zones. As protests escalated, individuals threw rocks and glass bottles at officers and lit police vehicles on fire.</p> <p>"What the president said on Monday was the ultimate exhortation of 'tough guy' policing," said Bob Edwards, a sociology professor at East Carolina University, who studies social movements.</p> <p>So-called "tough guy policing" is paradoxical, Edwards said, because hostile treatment of protestors creates and escalates the very behavior the police are trying to suppress.</p> <p>Police departments send a message to protestors from the moment they direct officers on how to suit up for the day.</p> <p>Riot gear, gas masks and military vehicles send a message to protestors, Edwards explained. While officers may think riot gear simply means being prepared, protestors interpret that gear as a signal of the amount of force officers intend to use on them. Whether or not it's their intention, a police officer in a gas mask is sending a signal to the crowd that he intends to use tear gas.</p> <p>"The signals get miscommunicated," Edwards said. "As opposed to the police thinking of them as acts of preparation, riot gear and gas masks are in themselves acts of escalation."</p> <p>The tough guy approach doesn't leave space for distinguishing between a small number of opportunistic individuals seeking chaos and the vast majority of aggrieved demonstrators responding to a police officer kneeling on George Floyd's neck until he died. Instead, peaceful protestors, bystanders and journalists are policed in the same way, "often with hostility and force," Edwards said, "which makes them angry for being treated in way they don't deserve."</p> <p>The result is a vicious cycle of escalation.</p> <p><b>We've known for decades that 'tough guy' policing doesn't work</b></p> <p>"Best practices in policing these days is to de-escalate, not escalate," said John Noakes, an associate professor of sociology at Arcadia University, where he researches the policing of political protests.</p> <p>It's hardly a novel idea.</p> <p>Three federal police commissions between 1967 and 1970 investigated violence at protests and found that escalation tactics like tear gas and mass arrests were counterproductive, often creating the violence they were intended to stop.</p> <p>City government and police authorities should "eliminate abrasive policing tactics," recommended the bipartisan Kerner Commission, which was appointed by President Lyndon Johnson after protests in cities including Newark and Detroit turned violent in 1967.</p>

But despite decades of recommendations to police to practice de-escalation, that guidance has not been adopted in a widespread sense.

A Pentagon program continues to transfer military weaponry like bayonets and grenade launchers to local law enforcement departments.

Community policing, which relies on building relationships and trust between officers and the neighborhoods they serve, has eroded, Edwards said. "People in the community, and also protesters, often see the police as an occupying force," he said. "Both groups seem to almost live in different worlds."

Noakes pointed to cities where police have kneeled with protesters or held up Black Lives Matter signs. "That only works if you built a relationship with the community over the years," he said.

In Camden, New Jersey, where protests have remained relatively peaceful, former Chief of Police Scott Thomson, pointed to the effort the force had made to build trust with the community long before the George Floyd protests.

"What we're experiencing today in Camden is the result of many years of deposits in the relationship bank account," Thomson told Bloomberg Businessweek.

This week's protests may also be especially fraught because unlike demonstrations on climate change, vaccines or abortion, for example, demonstrators are protesting the police themselves, including calling for agencies across the country to be defunded.

"The police have a much harder time responding to protests that are about them," Noakes said. Police departments also talk with one another, he explained, and may view acts of violence against officers at companion protests in other parts the country as raising their own perceived threat level.

While there have been widespread examples of tough guy and abrasive policing tactics used in cities across the country this week, law enforcement is not a monolithic institution and some departments are doing better than others.

"There's a fair amount of variation across how individual police departments do their job on a daily basis and how they do their job in unusual times like this," Edwards said.

"Reform gets adopted in an uneven way."

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Judge limits Denver PD during protests</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/US/george-floyd-protest-updates-judge-orders-denver-police/story?id=71104967">https://abcnews.go.com/US/george-floyd-protest-updates-judge-orders-denver-police/story?id=71104967</a>
GIST	<p>A federal judge ruled Friday that the Denver Police Department must scale back its use of chemicals and projectiles in protests.</p> <p>Judge R Brooke Jackson of U.S. District Court, District of Colorado, said some actions of "what I hope and believe to be a minority of the police officers in Denver and the nation during recent days (and before) not only vis a vis persons of color but against peaceful protesters of all backgrounds have been disgusting."</p> <p>Jackson ruled that tear gas and non-lethal projectiles can only be used after a supervisor at the rank of Captain or above at the scene "specifically authorizes such use of force in response to specific acts of violence or destruction of property that the command officer has personally witnessed."</p>

<a href="#">Return to Top</a>	<p>The court's ruling also said that projectiles may never be shot toward the head, pelvis or back and that they are not to be shot indiscriminately into a crowd.</p> <p>"Although I do not agree with those who have committed property damage during the protests, property damage is a small price to pay for constitutional rights—especially the constitutional right of the public to speak against widespread injustice," Jackson wrote in his ruling. "If a store's windows must be broken to prevent a protestor's facial bones from being broken or eye being permanently damaged, that is more than a fair trade. If a building must be graffiti-ed to prevent the suppression of free speech, that is a fair trade. The threat to physical safety and free speech outweighs the threat to property."</p> <p>Additionally, all officers deployed to demonstrations must have their body cameras worn at all times and must not intentionally obstruct the camera from recording.</p> <p>The judge's ruling, according to ABC affiliate <a href="#">KMGH</a> in Denver, came after four residents filed a lawsuit against the city of Denver, claiming police officers violated protesters' constitutional rights. They also asked the judge to temporarily halt the use of tear gas, pepper balls, spray and other non-lethal projectiles.</p> <p>Denver PD said it would comply with the judge's ruling and that most of the orders are in line with department policy already.</p> <p>"A federal judge issued a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) clarifying #DPD use of non-lethal dispersant devices," the department said in a statement. "In the meantime, we will comply with the judge's directions, many of which are already in line with our community-consulted Use of Force Policy."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>06/05 US destroyer sails thru Taiwan Strait</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2020/06/05/us-warship-steam-through-taiwan-strait/">https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2020/06/05/us-warship-steam-through-taiwan-strait/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The guided-missile destroyer <a href="#">Russell</a> transited the Taiwan Strait this week, U.S. Navy officials said.</p> <p>Russell conducted the transit on Thursday and Friday "in accordance with international law," U.S. Pacific Fleet spokeswoman Lt. j.g. Rachel Maul said in an email. "The ship's transit through the Taiwan Strait demonstrates the U.S. commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific. The U.S. Navy will continue to fly, sail and operate anywhere international law allows.</p> <p>It was the second trip through the strait for a Navy warship in the past three weeks, as the McCampbell made the same trek on May 13, <a href="#">USNI News reported</a>.</p> <p>With Beijing claiming Taiwan as its own, and the United States continuing to assist the island without officially recognizing it as independent, such trips regularly irk the Chinese government.</p> <p>After a similar U.S. Navy transit in January, Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang warned that the United States should handle Taiwan-related issues "cautiously and properly so as to avoid damaging China-U.S. relations and peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait," the <a href="#">Associated Press</a> quoted Geng as saying.</p> <p>The White House approved a <a href="#">\$180 million potential arms sale</a> to Taiwan last month, a move that China's Ministry of National Defense spokesman, Wu Qian, criticized in an article by the state-run <a href="#">Xinhua News Agency</a>.</p> <p>Such a sale would jeopardize peace and stability across the strait, Wu said, according to Xinhua.</p> <p>Bottom of Form</p> <p>"National rejuvenation and reunification are the aspirations of the people and an irresistible trend of the times, and on one and no force can stop it," Xinhua quoted Wu as saying.</p>

	<p>A White House report released last month, <a href="#">“United States Strategic Approach to the People’s Republic of China,”</a> criticizes Beijing’s aspirations for Taiwan and beyond.</p> <p>“The (Chinese Communist Party’s) expanding use of economic, political and military power to compel acquiescence from nation states harms vital American interests and undermines the sovereignty and dignity of countries and individuals around the world,” the report states.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Black unemployment rate rises</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.msn.com/en-us/finance/markets/black-unemployment-rate-rises-while-white-joblessness-falls/ar-BB155z5U">https://www.msn.com/en-us/finance/markets/black-unemployment-rate-rises-while-white-joblessness-falls/ar-BB155z5U</a>
GIST	<p>(Bloomberg) -- Black unemployment climbed to the highest in more than a decade in May as the coronavirus pandemic continued to weigh on the U.S. labor market.</p> <p>The 16.8% rate for black Americans topped that for white Americans, which ticked down to 12.4% last month, according to a report published Friday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The highest rate was among Latino workers, 17.6% of whom reported being unemployed.</p> <p>The unemployment-rate gap between black and white Americans had been narrowing since 2011, but even at its low in August, the black unemployment rate was two percentage points above white Americans’ 3.4% rate. The difference between the two rates swelled during the last recession.</p> <p>Racial inequality has been under a harsh spotlight in the U.S. since George Floyd, an unarmed black man, died at the hands of a white police officer in Minneapolis, sparked days of continuing nationwide protests.</p> <p>The significant job losses during the pandemic have pushed the overall ratio of Americans with a job to just above 50%. For black Americans, that number is now below 50%.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Demonstrators vow to sustain moment</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://apnews.com/05476b9620f2b5f9900e16ccc8dc3a75">https://apnews.com/05476b9620f2b5f9900e16ccc8dc3a75</a>
GIST	<p>WASHINGTON (AP) — Protesters stirred by the death of George Floyd vowed Friday to turn an extraordinary outpouring of grief into a sustained movement as demonstrations shifted to a calmer, but no less determined focus on addressing racial injustice.</p> <p>In Minneapolis, where Floyd died in police custody, the city agreed to ban police chokeholds and require officers to intervene any time they see unauthorized force by another officer. The changes are part of a stipulation between the city and state officials who launched a civil rights investigation into Floyd’s death. The City Council was expected to approve the agreement, which will be enforceable in court.</p> <p>The country’s most significant demonstrations in a half-century — rivaling those during the civil rights and Vietnam War eras — resumed for an 11th day nationwide with continued momentum as the mood largely shifted from explosive anger to more peaceful calls for change. Formal and impromptu memorials to Floyd stretched from Minneapolis to North Carolina, where family members will gather Saturday to mourn him, and beyond.</p> <p>Josiah Roebuck, a university student who used social media to help gather 100 people to demonstrate Friday in an Atlanta suburb, is confident the momentum will last.</p> <p>“Once you start, you’re going to see this every day,” said Roebuck, who has attended multiple protests. “I just want minorities to be represented properly.”</p>

Protests across the country had initially been marred by the setting of fires and smashing of windows, but Friday marked the third day of more subdued demonstrations.

The Rev. Al Sharpton, who eulogized Floyd at a heartfelt tribute in Minneapolis on Thursday, said Friday that plans are in the works for a commemorative march on Washington on Aug. 28, the anniversary of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. Sharpton said the event would be a way to maintain momentum as the legal cases of the four officers charged in Floyd's death move forward.

Floyd's body was being taken to North Carolina, the state where he was born 46 years ago, for a public viewing and private service for family Saturday. Then in Texas, where Floyd lived most of his life, services culminating in a private burial will take place Monday and Tuesday.

In Washington, city workers and volunteers painted "Black Lives Matter" in enormous yellow letters on the street leading to the White House on Friday in a sign of local leaders' embrace of the protest movement. The mural stretched across 16th Street for two blocks, ending just before the church where President Donald Trump staged a photo-op earlier this week after federal officers forcibly cleared a peaceful demonstration to make way for the president and his entourage.

"The section of 16th Street in front of the White House is now officially 'Black Lives Matter Plaza,'" Mayor Muriel Bowser said in a tweet shortly after the mural was completed.

The project follows Bowser's verbal clashes with the Trump administration over the response to protests over Floyd's killing. Still, the local chapter of Black Lives Matter took a swipe at Bowser on Twitter by saying the project distracts from their efforts to shift funds from local police to community investment.

There were zero arrests during demonstrations in the city Thursday and Friday and Bowser canceled the curfew that had been in place since Monday. She said she will decide Saturday morning if it will be reinstated.

Meanwhile, in a sign protesters' voices were being heard, more symbols of slavery and the Confederacy came down. Mobile, Alabama, removed a statue of a Confederate naval officer after days of protests there, while Fredericksburg, Virginia, removed a 176-year-old slave auction block after several years of efforts by the NAACP.

Community activists were working to convert anger and grief into long-term action. Black Lives Matter Alliance Broward circulated a sign-up sheet at a Fort Lauderdale, Florida, protest that drew 1,500 names of people who want to stay involved. The group followed up with each person this week suggesting simple actions such as emailing or calling to demand local change.

"We are taking more of the strategy of: 'How do we actually invest people's energy beyond protesting?'" said Tiffany Burks, a community organizer. "We are thinking long term."

This weekend, they were building a church altar with the names of victims killed by local police and having their family members speak. On Monday, they plan a workshop to help people engage at the local level, including mobilizing in upcoming elections.

"Every single day it's growing from people who want to get more involved, who want to take more actions, so we're going to be mobilizing those folks," Burks said.

In Minneapolis, organizer Sam Martinez said regular meetings and a mailing list of about 5,000 has sustained the Twin Cities Coalition for Justice 4 Jamar, formed after the 2015 shooting death of Jamar Clark during a struggle with two white officers.

"We meet every week, because we know that's what it takes," Martinez said.



	<p>Nakia Wallace, an organizer of protests in Detroit, said people were beginning to understand the movement's power.</p> <p>"The world is watching," she said, adding: "The main strategy is to get people to collectively come out and make demands until those demands are met."</p> <p>For the past week in Richmond, Virginia, Austin Carroll, a 28-year-old musician, has spent six hours a day marching or protesting near a soaring statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee, which the governor agreed this week to remove.</p> <p>Carroll, a member of Black Lives Matter, has strained his voice from yelling and his 6-year-old son, Levi, has blisters on his feet. But Carroll said they plan to continue to march every day until more changes come, including deescalation training for police.</p> <p>"I am tired. My voice and legs are gone," Carroll said. "We're resting right now, but we'll be back out here marching tonight."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Black Lives Matter protests in rural towns</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/06/us/small-town-blm-protests-trnd/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/06/us/small-town-blm-protests-trnd/index.html</a>
GIST	<p>(CNN)As a person of color, Kaneesha Willie has dealt with racism her entire life.</p> <p>Participating in her hometown's protest in Paducah, Kentucky, gave her an opportunity to show her young, mixed-race kids that their voices matter, especially as black people are fighting to be heard in the wake of George Floyd's death.</p> <p>The 23-year-old said she was proud to see her small town fight for justice in such a big way at the Chief Paduke statue, a historical marker for the town.</p> <p>"We all bleed red," Willie said. "We are all one and the protest really showed that our community came together. It was beautiful."</p> <p>And the message that Willie believes has been sent to her kids is this: "They are powerful, unique, brave and should be unapologetic about who they are and what they stand for," Willie said.</p> <p>Thousands have demonstrated in communities across the world to protest and demand racial justice in the aftermath of George Floyd's death. The 46-year-old black man died May 25 at the hands of Minneapolis police with his last moments caught on video.</p> <p>The national stage has shown us protests in big cities like Washington DC, New York City and Los Angeles, but small towns that dot the map -- ones you may never hear about -- are also protesting with small acts of solidarity.</p> <p>State College, Pennsylvania  State College, Pennsylvania, is home to Penn State University, making it predominately a college town. With the majority of its students away for the summer, Ryan Jones was surprised to see hundreds of people show up in the city's downtown area on Sunday.</p> <p>The town, 192 miles west of Philadelphia, is in the middle of an otherwise white and rural part of the state, according to Jones.</p> <p>"Silence very much feels like complicity at this point," he said. "The anger driving the protests is clearly justified, and no one's ever made the point better than Dr. King: 'A riot is the language of the unheard.'"</p>

Local police officers were in attendance but kept their distance and showed restraint, according to Jones. He said while participating he could feel the anger and intensity but the demonstration was peaceful. Jones and his 15-year-old son marched with what he estimates to be somewhere between 1,000 and 1,500 people.

#### Farmington, Missouri

During Tuesday's protest at the St. Francois County Courthouse in Farmington, 73 miles south of St. Louis, Missouri, Grace Gilliam said she felt closer to her community than ever before.

Gilliam, who is home from college for the summer, said growing up, it was difficult to be vocal in Farmington because she found many in her community were narrow-minded. But on Tuesday, she saw people who wanted to embrace other ways of thinking.

"Even if it was small, it was loud, and it was powerful," she said. "Some people don't see that these things happen everywhere. It is not specifically in big cities where people of color are facing injustices, it's all over America."

#### Holland, Arkansas

Even though farmer Chad Jones was solo in his efforts, he, too, wanted to show his kids that even the smallest gesture can have the biggest impact.

Holland is home to 552 people and though the community is small, Jones said he wanted to "help change hearts and minds, and show that "not all small towns come with small minds."

So he stood outside his farm with his homemade "Black Lives Matter" sign while wearing a "Defend Equality" t-shirt. After a while, a fellow farmer expressed interest in joining him.

"It's relieving to see more with open minds," Jones said. "People are angry. This has been going on for years and it keeps happening. I understand why people of color are frustrated."

#### Solebury, Pennsylvania

Solebury had its primary elections on Tuesday, so Mallory Carr seized the moment by voting and protesting with her neighbors.

Corr grew up in Solebury, a town with a conservative history. And she says she's never seen so much activism in her small town, 44 miles north of Philadelphia.

"I was admittedly naïve thinking a protest in my small town wouldn't matter as much in the shadow of Philly, NYC, and DC nearby but we gathered at a safe distance," she said.

With protesters socially distanced from one another, Carr and other community members stood along the road between the police station and a church with handwritten signs that said, "Black Lives Matter. White silence is violence."

"I think real change can happen when you have hard conversations with people, and being a member of this tight-knit community, I can use my privilege to be vocal about what I believe is right," she said.

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HEADLINE	06/05 Lockdowns' toll on employment
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/evidence-grows-of-lockdowns-toll-on-employment-11591389475?mod=hp_major_pos1#cxrecs_s">https://www.wsj.com/articles/evidence-grows-of-lockdowns-toll-on-employment-11591389475?mod=hp_major_pos1#cxrecs_s</a>
GIST	Yes, lockdowns cost jobs.

That might seem obvious, given the May increase in U.S. jobs, which economists attributed to both relaxed business restrictions in some states and government payments to companies that rehired workers.

In fact, the economic costs of lockdowns have been debated since the start of the pandemic. Since many people voluntarily stayed home and kept their distance from others to avoid coronavirus infection, it isn't clear how much difference mandated social distancing makes. Conceivably, there might be no trade-off between lives and livelihoods if, without lockdowns, there would be more infections and just as much social distancing.

But evidence is growing that there is a trade-off. This doesn't mean the lockdowns are mistakes: The imperative to save lives might warrant such measures despite their economic costs, especially during the early days when so much about the infection wasn't clear. Nor do we yet know what impact the current easing of restrictions will have on infections and economic activity.

"Just because a state reopens does not mean everybody is going back to the way they were in early March," said Kosali Simon, an economist at Indiana University. "On the other hand, if you thought these laws don't matter at all, we're finding they do have an impact."

Pinning down the effect of lockdowns is difficult because voluntary and mandated social distancing often occurred simultaneously, and because almost every U.S. state and country [has had some form of social distancing](#) and suffered an economic hit.

A team of researchers led by Ms. Simon and Ohio State University economist Bruce Weinberg tackled this by studying mobility data of people at work and Google searches related to unemployment, and compared them to when states imposed stay-at-home orders and closed nonessential businesses. They then examined hard data on weekly claims for unemployment insurance and the Bureau of Labor Statistics' monthly employment surveys.

[Their study](#), released last month, found that work-related mobility dropped notably after the imposition of a stay-at-home order, and unemployment related searches rose sharply after the closure of nonessential businesses. Initial claims for unemployment insurance rose sharply immediately after stay-at-home mandates. Weaker employment is correlated with stay-at-home mandates and business closures.

The authors conclude the share of people 21 and over with a job fell 1.7 percentage points for every extra 10 days a state was under a stay-at-home order between March 12 and April 12. They estimate 60% of the job losses between January and April were driven by states' social-distancing policies and the remainder by factors common to the whole country, such as fear of infection or the slumping global economy.

In previous research, Ms. Simon had found that mobility fell sharply in mid-March before stay-at-home orders. In an interview, she said it appears that employers didn't respond to slowing activity with job cuts until states ordered people to stay home and nonessential businesses to close.

While Denmark locked down its economy, [Sweden didn't](#), which appears to have helped its economy. Between March 11 and the end of May, newly registered unemployed rose by a cumulative 4.2% of the labor force in Denmark compared with 2.9% in Sweden. Between February and April, retail sales fell 4.4% in Denmark compared to 1.3% in Sweden. [Nordea](#), a bank with operations throughout Scandinavia, projects private consumption will fall 6% this year in Denmark compared to 1% in Sweden.

This doesn't mean Sweden's economy will fare better overall than those of its neighbors. Helge Pedersen, chief economist at Nordea, says the country's less restrictive policies on the pandemic cost it some business: Denmark and Norway are allowing tourism to resume with each other, but not with Sweden. And because Sweden's exports have been hit harder than Denmark's, Nordea projects the Swedish economy will contract 6% this year, compared with 5% for Denmark.

	<p>Sweden also appears to have paid a high price for its policy, with far more deaths per capita due to Covid-19 than its neighbors, which led its chief epidemiologist to recently say the country <a href="#">should have enacted tougher restrictions</a>.</p> <p>South Korea also <a href="#">avoided lockdowns</a> but kept infections low <a href="#">by testing extensively</a>, quickly isolating infected people and <a href="#">tracing their contacts</a>. South Koreans still socially distanced voluntarily, and that cost jobs. <a href="#">A study</a> by Sangmin Aum of Myongji University and two co-authors found employment nationwide fell 0.9% during February at the start of the pandemic, and by 1.9% in the region where a <a href="#">large religious gathering</a> was the source of most of the country's infections.</p> <p>But based on per capita infections, South Korea's job losses were about half those suffered in the U.S. and U.K., which did have widespread lockdowns.</p> <p>That social-distancing orders cost jobs isn't an argument against them, but against using them indiscriminately.</p> <p>Ms. Simon asked: "What if we go through a second wave and we have policies that are just very blunt, that shut down everything" despite mounting evidence that the risks of various activities differ widely? "Every activity has some transmission risks associated with it, but some are so much lower."</p> <p>Lockdowns might be better than no lockdowns, but lockdowns targeted at riskier activity might be better than both, she said.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 China, India try to ease border tensions</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-and-india-try-to-ease-tensions-at-disputed-border-11591376304?mod=hp_listb_pos5">https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-and-india-try-to-ease-tensions-at-disputed-border-11591376304?mod=hp_listb_pos5</a>
GIST	<p>NEW DELHI—China and India are elevating talks between military leaders to try to calm tensions along their disputed borders in the Himalayan mountains.</p> <p>Chinese and Indian troops have faced off for a month along a remote stretch of the mountainous frontier following a brawl between units patrolling one disputed area. Since then, skirmishes have broken out at other disputed Himalayan border points, including along the northeastern part of India where scores of Indian and Chinese soldiers last month shouted at each other and exchanged physical blows, leaving some on both sides injured.</p> <p>In recent weeks, both countries have moved thousands of additional troops and armaments to a strategic border point near a high-altitude glacial lake along their disputed border, according to experts and government officials.</p> <p>After lower-level military discussions and a flurry of diplomacy between the two countries in recent weeks, senior army commanders for both sides are scheduled to hold talks Saturday in the region. The senior officers will discuss ways to de-escalate tensions and lower the numbers of troops at the front line, said an Indian security official.</p> <p>The dust-ups and posturing between two nuclear-armed countries that fought a war in 1962 are part of both a broader border disagreement between them and a maneuvering for global influence as tensions between the U.S. and China have risen during the coronavirus crisis, analysts say.</p> <p>Disputes along the more than 2,000-mile border between India and China have grown in the past decade, India says, as much of the border is contested and undefined. Some in India worry that China is trying to gradually seize the region one slice at a time. Both countries claim significant chunks of each others' territory.</p>

China and India have both stepped up efforts to build roads and military installations closer to the disputed regions in recent years, and their troops sometimes encounter each other as they patrol disputed areas.

The two countries confronted each other in 2017 for months over land on the border of China and Indian-ally Bhutan that India considers strategically important to defending its claims against China. Tensions remained high until the two sides worked out a deal for their troops to step back.

That was followed by meetings in China and India between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which seemed to return relations to a stable course until the confrontations last month.

The two countries have long managed tensions and troop movements along their disputed border, especially around this time of year when snows melt and more of the high-altitude territory becomes accessible for patrols and construction of infrastructure such as roads and arms installations.

But this year, larger movements of Chinese troops that could have broader strategic implications have elevated tensions and attracted Indian responses, analysts say.

India worries that China is persistently probing the region with its army to erode India's grip on the parts of disputed areas it controls. China says India has recklessly built military capacity in and near disputed areas, provoking China now particularly when it has been under international criticism for how it has handled the coronavirus outbreak.

Last year India also fully took control of the portion of another disputed region it controls—what it considers to be a part of India, Jammu and Kashmir—over the objections of Pakistan and its international benefactor China. At the time, India said the move was unrelated to any of its other border disputes with China. Analysts say China could also be seeking to head off U.S. efforts to rally global criticism against it.

Manoj Joshi, a distinguished fellow at the Observer Research Foundation, a New Delhi-based think tank, said Chinese leadership was probably unhappy about India strengthening its border infrastructure in recent years, and aligning with the U.S. on global matters.

India has constructed new roads and military facilities closer to the disputed areas in recent years.

“It's a signal that India has its own vulnerabilities and should not think of exploiting Chinese vulnerabilities, especially in conjunction with the U.S.,” he said.

Saturday's meeting, planned to take place in an area of Chinese control, is expected to be the highest-level encounter between military leaders since the tensions flared. The two sides will seek ways to avoid unplanned encounters of patrols into disputed areas, and ways to avoid escalation when they do occur.

“What happened this time around was not just pushing back each other, but violence with iron rods and stones. This is unacceptable and shouldn't happen anymore,” said the Indian security official.

Also on the table will be talks about protocols to resolve disputes at the local commanders' level, to avoid the need for either side to order a heavy buildup of troops and artillery, said the official. India is also expected to discuss the construction of border infrastructure in undisputed areas by both countries.

“We are hopeful of working out some solution,” said the official.

Chinese officials declined to speak specifically about the meeting, but the country's Foreign Ministry has described the situation as under control and subject to a reduction of tensions without the use of force.

The border face-off attracted global attention when President Trump last month offered to mediate, but both the countries turned down the request.

	<p>“The two sides are capable of properly resolving relevant issues through dialogue and consultation. There is no need for any third party to intervene,” China’s Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said.</p> <p>India made no direct comment on Mr. Trump’s offer but has rejected any role for third parties in the past.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 IAEA concern: Iran blocking sites’ access</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/iaea-voices-serious-concern-over-iran-blocking-inspector-access-to-sites-11591374898?mod=hp_listb_pos2">https://www.wsj.com/articles/iaea-voices-serious-concern-over-iran-blocking-inspector-access-to-sites-11591374898?mod=hp_listb_pos2</a>
GIST	<p>The United Nations atomic agency expressed “serious concern” Friday about Iran’s failure to cooperate with its probe into undeclared nuclear material in the country, adding to calls from opponents of the 2015 nuclear deal with Tehran to kill off that agreement.</p> <p>In two reports sent to member states by the International Atomic Energy Agency, viewed by The Wall Street Journal, the Vienna-based organization said Iran had failed to give its inspectors access to two sites the agency wanted to visit. The agency also said Iran didn’t answer questions about the use of possible undeclared nuclear material in the early 2000s and what had happened to it since.</p> <p>The agency recorded another big jump in Iran’s nuclear-fuel stockpile, far above the levels permitted under the 2015 pact. Iran has reduced its compliance with the nuclear deal in response to sweeping U.S. sanctions. The Trump administration has called for its European allies—Britain, France and Germany—to exit from the agreement and work with Washington on a new tougher accord with Tehran.</p> <p>In Friday’s reports, IAEA for the first time provided significant detail on the questions it was asking Iran and the sites it wanted to visit. Taken together, the information suggests Tehran had been working seriously on a nuclear test or nuclear device in the early 2000s and failed to declare material related to that work. There is no evidence it is currently doing so.</p> <p>Western officials have long suspected that Tehran had an active nuclear-weapons program in the early 2000s. The IAEA said in a 2015 report that Iran likely had such a program up until 2003. However, experts have said evidence has since emerged—including in information provided by Iran’s rival, Israel—to suggest that the weapons program was more advanced than previously thought. Last year, following an Israeli tip, the agency found undeclared nuclear material at a site in the outskirts of Tehran.</p> <p>“The Agency notes with serious concern that, for over four months, Iran has denied access to the Agency...to two locations and, for almost a year, has not engaged in substantive discussions to clarify Agency questions related to possible undeclared nuclear material and nuclear-related activities in Iran,” one of the reports said.</p> <p>The U.S. has demanded Iran clarify questions about its past nuclear work. American and Israeli officials have argued that Tehran’s failure to open up about its past activities, as well as its hoarding of a nuclear archive and material, is intended to help the country develop nuclear weapons in future, once the restrictions in the 2015 nuclear deal start to expire.</p> <p>“We now have confirmation that Iran is hiding undeclared nuclear sites and materials, which have been deliberately concealed from the world despite a nuclear deal built on the promise of full disclosure of nuclear activities. All responsible nations must hold Iran accountable,” said Richard Goldberg, a senior adviser at the Washington-based think tank, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, which advocates for a tougher stance toward Iran, and until recently a White House official.</p> <p>A State Department spokesman declined to address the contents of the reports, as they haven’t yet been made public.</p>

The U.S. government is “deeply concerned about Iran’s ongoing refusal to cooperate with the IAEA regarding possible undeclared nuclear material and activities in Iran,” he said.

If Iran fails to answer the IAEA’s questions, the issue could be sent up to the U.N. Security Council, which has previously imposed sanctions on Iran. However, permanent members of the security council Russia and China have publicly played down the significance of Iran’s past nuclear work.

The agency said it has been stonewalled by on three sets of issues. One is the possible presence of an undeclared metal disk made of natural uranium between 2002-3 at a location that was later largely destroyed, and the question of where it is now. The agency also wanted answers about the possible use and storage of undeclared nuclear material, where explosives testing might have taken place in 2003 in relation to neutron detectors. The agency noted Iran appeared to start cleansing the site in July 2019.

The suspected work on a uranium metal disk, which could be used as a nuclear weapon component, and on neutrons—which are used to trigger a nuclear implosion—point to Iranian work on a neutron initiator for a nuclear weapons test or nuclear weapons device, two diplomats said.

Iran also had provided no answers on questions related to the possible use and storage of undeclared nuclear material at a location in the early 2000s related to processing or converting uranium ore. The diplomats said this might have been related to Iran’s search for uranium that it could use in an undeclared enrichment program at the time.

The IAEA also reported that Iran’s stockpile of enriched uranium has grown by around 50% since February to 1,572 kilograms. That puts Iran’s stockpile of the nuclear fuel far above the limit of 202.8 kilograms stipulated in the 2015 nuclear accord. The material hasn’t been enriched beyond 4.5%, however, making it far below weapons grade.

Nuclear experts say that with 1,000 kilograms of low-enriched uranium, Iran would likely have enough material to fuel a single bomb once the material is further enriched, a process some experts believe could take as little as three months.

The agency also reported Iran informed it of a new breach of the 2015 accord on June 1. That involves the setting up of a new cascade of centrifuges—machines to enrich uranium—at the so-called Pilot project at Iran’s Natanz facility. That would allow Iran to further speed its uranium production.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 States short on needed contact tracers</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/states-are-short-the-contact-tracers-needed-to-emerge-safely-from-coronavirus-lockdown-11591435800?mod=hp_lead_pos6">https://www.wsj.com/articles/states-are-short-the-contact-tracers-needed-to-emerge-safely-from-coronavirus-lockdown-11591435800?mod=hp_lead_pos6</a>
GIST	<p>James Brainard, mayor of Carmel, Ind., says his state is taking way too long to set up a system to identify Hoosiers who come down with the coronavirus, and to then keep those victims from spreading the disease to others.</p> <p>So Mayor Brainard reached out to Carmel’s fire department.</p> <p>Now, besides standing ready to fight fires in this town of 100,000 along Indiana’s White River, Carmel’s 171 firefighters are also part of the city’s rapid-response team. The mayor put the fire brigade’s emergency-services division in charge of contacting any city employee or family member the day they test positive.</p> <p>The division then reaches out to anybody who might have had recent contact with the newly infected patient. “The state has been taking eight and 10 days to do it,” Mayor Brainard said. “By then, you’ve infected how many people? States have got to do better.”</p>



Contact tracing—identifying new cases and mitigating their contact with others—is widely cited by experts as the key to successfully reopening the nation, and to reversing the economic devastation of recent weeks. But even as they reopen, [states are short of the staffing](#) that epidemiologists say will be needed to identify and trace new Covid-19 clusters.

A failure to set up effective contact tracing raises the risk, health experts say, that infection levels will stay elevated—or possibly spike again—as the economy reopens. Those worries have only been heightened by the risk of spread amid mass nationwide protests following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis police custody.

Estimates vary on how many tracers the country needs to mitigate the risks of prolonging the pandemic. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Robert Redfield told Congress on Thursday the country would need between 30,000 and 100,000 contact tracers. Dr. Tom Frieden, former CDC director, and others have said the country may need as many as 300,000.

“All the states need contact tracers,” said Dr. Patricia Simone, director of the CDC’s Scientific Education and Professional Development division, “some in quite large numbers.”

Current national totals of contact tracers are shifting daily. The [National Association of County and City Health Officials](#) says 30 contact tracers per 100,000 people are needed to adequately manage the risks, and to match the totals used in reopening Wuhan, China, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials said as many as 300,000 would be needed in the U.S. Most states are reopening with a fraction of that.

Indiana, with a population of more than six million, would need at least 2,000 contact tracers, according to a study by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. In April, the state hired Maximus, a health-and-human-services provider, to operate a statewide contact-tracing center with plans to hire at least 500 contact tracers by May.

Maximus has hired more than 500 people and continues to scale up as demand warrants. “Our local health departments have been doing an incredible job with contact tracing for Covid-19, but we know that as the number of cases increases, the strain on local resources will be significant,” said state Health Commissioner Kris Box.

Louisiana began its first phase of reopening in May, which permitted a limited number of customers at gyms and barbershops, with about 1.5 contact tracers per 100,000 people. Idaho launched its initial reopening with about 1.4 contact tracers per 100,000 people, while Delaware had 1.6.

“We need to reprioritize and put this at the top of the list because we can bring transmission down to much lower levels and save thousands of lives,” said Crystal Watson, a senior scholar at Johns Hopkins University Center for Health Security.

It is a time-consuming, labor-intensive business. Contact tracers must work swiftly before exposed individuals can infect others. It means interviewing all new patients, asking where they have been and who they have been in close contact with. It means reaching out to those contacts to warn them, to tell them in many cases to get tested right away, to monitor for symptoms and to quarantine for 14 days.

Tim Griffin, a father of five, is among those handling contact tracing in Carmel to supplement state efforts. People contacted “are very grateful and have questions, and we facilitate answers for them,” Mr. Griffin said. “People can go and get tested. We can really speed up the process.”

Contact tracing doesn’t have to be perfect to work. Identifying and testing 90% of contacts, as well as successfully isolating them, could reduce overall transmission of coronavirus by more than 45%, according to a May 8 study by researchers at Harvard and Stanford universities and Aledade Inc., a primary-care company.

And it has proven successful elsewhere. New Zealand in late May reported no coronavirus patients in hospitals, and Iceland reported only five new cases in the same month. Both countries used extensive contact tracing to help suppress the virus.

Singapore's effective contact tracing uses a mobile app that shows when people have been close together. South Korea relies on credit-card transactions and cellphone global positioning to aid in contact tracing.

In the U.S., states face public distrust. The names of the newly infected aren't shared with those to whom the patient may have been exposed over privacy concerns. But the CDC says people mistakenly believe they will be removed from their homes and forced into quarantine.

States, meanwhile, face other challenges. The CDC has largely sought to support state efforts rather than taking a leadership role in developing a national contact-tracing strategy, a stance that is spurring criticism from public-health leaders and some Democrats who say more federal leadership is needed.

"We need to do it in a way that's locally controlled and nationally coordinated," said Rep. Andy Levin (D., Mich.), who introduced legislation with Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D., Mass.) for a national contact-tracing strategy.

CDC officials say they allocate staff to states based on capacity and needs. The agency already has more than 500 people assigned to state and local governments, but officials add that states should have the lead role because they are in charge of public health in their localities.

Public-health departments of individual states have been depleted by years of funding cuts. Scott Gottlieb, the former Food and Drug Administration commissioner in the Trump administration, is among public-health leaders calling for \$46.5 billion to fund contact tracing and quarantine measures. The agency in May allocated \$10.25 billion for testing and contact tracing.

Some states, seeking to fill in the gap, are partnering with universities and recruiting volunteers. Maryland, which has hired about 1,400 tracers, is one of many states launching digital and social-media ad campaigns to encourage residents to pick up the phone if contact tracers or the public-health department calls.

States are also moving to provide support to people during their self-quarantine with services such as grocery and prescription delivery. Public-health leaders say jobs and income should also be protected to ensure people stay home.

States need significant testing capacity for contact tracing to work. That includes the testing of asymptomatic contacts, experts say. In some states, including many that have begun reopening, test results are still taking days to come back, a delay that creates a significant opportunity for spread.

"For contact tracing to be really effective, we need to be finding a lot of cases in the community," said Joshua Salomon, a professor of medicine at Stanford University. "We have to push forward as quickly as we can."

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HEADLINE	06/06 Huawei puts up fight on US; 'state of war'
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/huawei-founder-ren-zhengfei-takes-off-the-gloves-in-fight-against-u-s-11591416028?mod=hp_lead_pos5">https://www.wsj.com/articles/huawei-founder-ren-zhengfei-takes-off-the-gloves-in-fight-against-u-s-11591416028?mod=hp_lead_pos5</a>
GIST	Huawei Technologies Co. founder Ren Zhengfei was preparing to gather his top executives in Argentina in December 2018 to discuss a sweeping reorganization of the Chinese technology giant when he learned <a href="#">his daughter had been detained</a> during a stopover in Vancouver.

Meng Wanzhou, [who also serves as the company's chief financial officer](#), was wanted by the U.S. for allegedly helping Huawei dodge sanctions on Iran. She urged her father to call off his trip.

"Dad, they are coming after you. Please be careful," Ms. Meng said, in a message relayed by her husband, a former Huawei employee.

Mr. Ren ignored the advice. Accompanied by three close deputies, he took a circuitous route via Dubai and Brazil. Meeting at a resort in the foothills of the Andes mountains, executives devised a plan to decentralize the world's largest maker of telecom equipment, starting with Argentina.

"It was risky, but if I acted scared, everyone else would too, right?" Mr. Ren said in an interview. "I had to go anyway."

The Argentina summit placed Huawei on a more nimble footing just as the U.S. was preparing to ratchet up a campaign to hem in the company Mr. Ren founded 33 years ago. Huawei's battle with the U.S. thrust the once-reclusive 75-year-old entrepreneur, a former Chinese army engineer steeped in Communist thinking, onto the global stage, a place he long shunned.

At stake is whether China or the U.S. will control next-generation telecom networks—the sensitive and strategically significant building blocks upholding the internet and modern communication around the world. U.S. officials warn Beijing could direct Huawei to sabotage or spy through 5G networks, which promise to provide superfast wireless speeds for coming technologies such as self-driving cars.

Huawei denies it would ever use its networks to spy, and Beijing says it has no rules compelling companies to do so.

Mr. Ren has hunkered down in Huawei's Shenzhen headquarters, drawing on skills acquired from a lifetime of battle.

With his focus turned to a U.S. counterattack, Mr. Ren assembled a council of close deputies and dispatched executives around the world to assuage worried customers. Lawsuits are a crucial part of the strategy, as laid out in memos viewed by The Wall Street Journal.

A critical victory came this year, when [the U.K. defied the Trump administration and cleared Huawei to build 5G networks](#).

But it is far from clear his counterattack will prevail. Over the past 18 months, the U.S. has fired a fusillade against Huawei—from criminal indictments to a supplier blacklisting and restrictions on sales in the U.S.

The past month has seen new setbacks. In May, Washington [restricted Huawei from obtaining chips it designed itself, threatening its plan to cut its reliance on the U.S.](#) The move prompted [British officials to consider steering telecom carriers away from Huawei gear](#), jeopardizing its victory there.

Mr. Ren's daughter remains unable to leave Canada as she fights extradition to the U.S. Both she and Huawei deny wrongdoing. The case could drag on for years [following a ruling in the U.S.'s favor from the Vancouver judge last week](#).

Net profit growth slowed to its lowest in three years in 2019, as Huawei's overseas business was squeezed and it became more reliant on customers back home. Huawei has been shut out of 5G markets including New Zealand and Australia. Cut off from Google's popular apps, the company's smartphone brand is losing ground overseas, threatening its once-booming consumer business, which represents more than half its revenue.

This account of Mr. Ren's marshaling of Huawei's fight with the U.S. is based on dozens of interviews with current and former Huawei employees, associates of Mr. Ren, internal Huawei documents and interviews with Mr. Ren in November and March.

In Argentina, the days of meetings ended with a restructuring plan that handed more authority to regional bosses running Huawei's sprawling field operations, spanning more than 170 countries. The new plan involves thinning the management ranks at headquarters and giving local managers more autonomy by, for instance, allowing them to end contracts independently, according to a copy of the plan reviewed by the Journal.

The entire initiative will take five years to complete, Mr. Ren said, adding that it was inspired by nimble-minded U.S. military management philosophies.

"People assigned to the Pentagon may not necessarily have a bright future, while people working in the field may get promoted faster," he said, explaining the importance he assigns to the company's front-line workforce. "It's going to be the same at Huawei."

In the months that followed, Huawei became a more forceful presence around the world, promoting its viewpoints with a string of public events and more-aggressively responding to the West.

At home, Mr. Ren delivered rally-the-troops speeches to motivate staff, evoking his military past and issuing dire warnings about Huawei's survival.

Just over a month after his daughter's arrest, Mr. Ren visited a Huawei research-and-development center in Hangzhou, commanding employees to learn from the U.S. tech giant Google and "surge forward, killing as you go, to blaze us a trail of blood," according to a transcript confirmed by two Huawei executives.

In February, at a Huawei campus in Wuhan, Mr. Ren told assembled employees "the company has entered a state of war," according to a transcript.

Mr. Ren still speaks with reverence for the U.S., even as he oversees the fight with Washington. He remains an admirer of American culture, and often offers praise of President Trump, sometimes with tongue seemingly in cheek: He said a gilded hall on Huawei's new campus in Dongguan, near Shenzhen, had been nicknamed "Trump Corridor."

Cross-country travels through the U.S. in the 1990s brought the budding executive to Silicon Valley, where he took copious notes about his meetings with executives there.

"I have been to the United States of America many times and each time I visit I'm deeply impressed by the bold, innovative spirit of the American people," Mr. Ren wrote in a 1998 essay titled, "What Can We Learn From the American People?"

"Through the positive impact of the different cultures of immigrants over many generations, a culture of innovation thrives in the U.S." he wrote.

China's southwestern province of Guizhou, where Mr. Ren was born in 1944, is draped in lush hills, dotted with scenic villages. Duyun, where Mr. Ren went to middle school, is bisected by modern highways. The region is a popular vacation destination for Chinese travelers and a data-storage hub.

When Mr. Ren was born, however, Guizhou was a backwater. The son of two school teachers, Mr. Ren and his six siblings survived the famine under Chairman Mao's catastrophic "Great Leap Forward," and Mr. Ren has spoken frequently of how he was toughened by poverty.

After graduating from college with an engineering degree, Mr. Ren eventually joined the army as an engineer. In his early 30s, he made headlines in state media for an invention at a factory. His work won him recognition in Beijing and eventually a seat at the Communist Party's National Congress in 1982.

Discharged from the army in a massive decommissioning wave, Mr. Ren co-founded Huawei in 1987 in a Shenzhen apartment as an importer of telecom switches—devices that connect phone calls—from Hong Kong. The company began manufacturing and sold products across China’s countryside, then its cities. Huawei says the Chinese government has never owned a stake, though a Journal analysis found that [the company benefited from tens of billions of dollars worth of state financial assistance over the years](#). Huawei says it never received special treatment from the state.

As Huawei moved beyond domestic telecom deals, opening its first overseas field office in Russia and later expanding into Western Europe. Its annual revenue doubled for years during the early 1990s.

Huawei’s attempts to enter the U.S. in the early 2000s attracted the attention of officials in Washington. In 2011, one of Mr. Ren’s deputies, Ken Hu, [wrote an open letter](#) inviting a U.S. investigation of Huawei to clear long-held concerns by U.S. officials that using Huawei telecom gear exposed networks to Chinese-government espionage. The House Intelligence Committee took Huawei up on the offer—and the next year published a [52-page report](#) warning that Huawei and its main Chinese rival couldn’t be trusted to be free of Beijing’s influence. The company has been largely locked out of the U.S. ever since.

Over the next several years, Huawei [rose to dominate the telecom-equipment business despite the U.S. stance](#), and Washington’s position against the company hardened. By 2019, Mr. Ren became focused on countering the mounting U.S. attack.

He enlisted an inner circle of Huawei board members to coordinate strategy. They include Catherine Chen, Huawei’s head of public affairs; Song Liuping, the chief legal officer; and Liang Hua, a longtime Huawei executive who holds the title of board chairman, and who runs the company’s finances in Ms. Meng’s absence.

Ms. Chen, in a 14-page memo in October 2019, laid out the strategy communicated by Mr. Ren. The memo, whose contents haven’t been disclosed previously, outlined a three-pronged plan for fighting back: engage foreign media, battle on the legal front and invest in technology.

According to Ms. Chen’s memo, Mr. Ren had described the company’s public-engagement strategy as a “Marshmallow Campaign.” Huawei sought to turn around public suspicions of the company with a media charm offensive, led by Mr. Ren, who had barely given interviews to foreign media or spoken on the global stage.

“Not pushing too hard, but still making our messages stick,” was Ms. Chen’s description of the strategy. She added: “Mr. Ren has pointed out the right way forward for us, which is to adopt a Western mind-set to solve the issues we face in Western markets.”

Mr. Ren gave dozens of interviews, often laughing and embracing the spotlight in a way that surprised associates.

A later memo quoted Mr. Ren describing the company’s win in convincing the U.K. to let it build 5G networks as “just like the success of the Battle of Stalingrad, which was a turning point that reshaped the global landscape.”

Huawei’s counteroffensive entered a new phase in March 2019. Mr. Ren had long cautioned that Huawei should bide its time with the U.S., but he grew tired of having U.S. officials be the only voice in the room. The company decided to [file a lawsuit challenging a defense act that blocked federal agencies and contractors from buying Huawei products](#).

To announce the lawsuit, Huawei arranged a press conference in Shenzhen. Scowling executives in suits argued before hundreds of journalists that the law’s provisions amounted to a “bill of attainder,” an unconstitutional action convicting an entity of a crime via legislation.

Unstated at the press conference was that members of the company's Washington, D.C., staff had opposed the lawsuit. In an email to Ms. Chen before it was filed, they called its timing "a major mistake" that would mark a setback in efforts to engage with U.S. officials. "To have a lawsuit against the law is likely to chill, or eliminate entirely, any willingness of the U.S. government agencies to engage with Huawei," the U.S. executives wrote.

Mr. Ren said there was no internal dissent over the decision to sue. He said the lawsuit was a necessary countermeasure to the U.S.'s relentless assault on Huawei.

The company [filed a second lawsuit](#) in the U.S. on Dec. 5, this time accusing the Federal Communications Commission of violating its due-process rights for a decision banning rural customers from using a subsidy to buy Huawei gear. [A Texas judge threw out the first lawsuit](#); the second is pending before an appeals court in New Orleans.

"The fact is, we were forced to speak up and stand up and defend our position," Mr. Ren said in an interview. "The U.S. is waving a stick at us, and after taking a blow from the left, we can't just wait for the next one to come at us from the right."

Mr. Ren believes that his more-aggressive approach has been successful—and by some counts he is right. Huawei continues to rack up new contracts to build 5G networks, which number more than 90. Even as the U.K. wavers, other European countries [such as Germany](#) have [signaled they plan to go with Huawei](#)—and Chinese diplomats have threatened to cut imports from some countries that ban the company.

"The U.S. is a powerful country and has a powerful government, so people generally trust what they say," Mr. Ren said. "As time goes by though, more and more facts are coming to light, and the sky is changing from pitch black to a dark gray, to a more neutral gray—and hopefully soon to a light gray."

Huawei [last year bought large amounts of American technology](#) despite its blacklisting—some from suppliers who secured licenses from Commerce Department officials, like [Microsoft](#) Corp. and others via a technicality exempting American components built offshore—and is ordering a massive increase in R&D spending to fill in gaps in its supply chain.

Still, new fires keep emerging. In February this year, prosecutors expanded an existing indictment of Huawei to [include allegations of technology theft and racketeering](#)—a charge traditionally used to prosecute organized-crime figures. Trump administration officials revealed plans to limit Huawei's access to the Taiwan-based builder of its chips, threatening its ability to obtain advanced chips and [opening the door to rivals such as Sweden's Ericsson AB](#). This week, Canada's biggest telecom carrier said it was turning to Ericsson to supply 5G equipment in a deal that would reduce its dependence on Huawei.

In 2013, Mr. Ren told executives at a telecom operator and customer in New Zealand that he would like to retire in the Pacific island country and own a cafe. Now, the idea of retirement seems far off—he told an interviewer last year that he has delayed it to focus on the crisis at Huawei.

Yet Mr. Ren has reasons to be optimistic. The explosion in remote-working is increasing demand for the company's networking services. Demand for Huawei laptops, tablets and other gadgets is booming, he said. Huawei has donated medical supplies to hard-hit areas—earning [an unusual tweet in gratitude](#) from New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo. Once the pandemic ends, Mr. Ren says, "we're actually concerned that we may not be able to produce enough [telecom] equipment to meet these needs."

Though he won't commit to a successor, Mr. Ren has drastically scaled back his public appearances this year. The pandemic has made it impossible to receive customers and other outside visitors, and Mr. Ren has had few face-to-face meetings. Following a brief talk alongside the historian Yuval Noah Harari at the World Economic Forum at Davos in January, Mr. Ren has remained in Shenzhen, giving pep talks to front-line staff via videoconferencing software.



	<p>He recently encouraged staff to promote a video of members of the Shanghai Ballet practicing Swan Lake while wearing surgical masks, according to a person familiar with the matter. On Twitter, <a href="#">Huawei's official account touts the dancers' "spirit of survival."</a></p> <p>"While our company is climbing upwards, I will be on the way down due to my physical condition, and will not be able to continue climbing with the company," he said. "We now know where our pain points are and where we should improve."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 PDs change how they discipline officers</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/after-george-floyds-killing-police-departments-change-how-they-discipline-officers-11591435800?mod=hp_lead_pos7">https://www.wsj.com/articles/after-george-floyds-killing-police-departments-change-how-they-discipline-officers-11591435800?mod=hp_lead_pos7</a>
GIST	<p>In the days since George Floyd was killed during his arrest by Minneapolis police officers, police departments and elected officials across the U.S. have responded with unusual swiftness to allegations of police misconduct.</p> <p>Disciplinary action against officers has surged during the national wave of <a href="#">protests that has followed the killing</a>, as cities and police departments fire officers, place them on leave and bring criminal charges.</p> <p><a href="#">Within 24 hours</a> after a cellphone video captured a white police officer, Derek Chauvin, kneeling on the neck of Mr. Floyd, who is black, as he gasped "I can't breathe," Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arradondo fired Mr. Chauvin and three officers who failed to intervene.</p> <p>By contrast, the New York City Police Department <a href="#">waited five years</a> before firing the officer who locked Eric Garner in a chokehold as he gasped "I can't breathe," a fatal 2014 encounter that was also captured on video and sparked mass protests.</p> <p>Advocacy groups and law-enforcement officials agree that structural changes to policing will take time, and experts dispute whether disciplinary actions against officers will have a lasting effect.</p> <p>But some police chiefs and elected officials said they believe Mr. Floyd's killing could prove to be a tipping point.</p> <p>"Silence is compliance," said former Camden County (N.J.) Police Chief Scott Thomson after watching swaths of New York City police officers wearing riot gear and taking a knee with protesters last week. "If you're not going to say something, you need to do something to show that you do not condone what occurred."</p> <p>In Buffalo, N.Y., the police commissioner suspended two officers late Thursday after they were <a href="#">seen on video</a> pushing a 75-year-old man to the ground at a protest earlier that evening. The department said an investigation was under way.</p> <p>The next day 57 members of the police department resigned from the unit assigned to mass gatherings, according to city and union officials. A union official said the officers were protesting the city's decision to suspend the two officers.</p> <p>In Atlanta, two police officers were fired on May 31 after body-camera footage captured them breaking the window of a car and tasing two college students who were out past the city's curfew that Saturday night. Four other officers were placed on desk duty pending an investigation. All six face criminal charges.</p> <p>A Fort Lauderdale, Fla., officer was placed on administrative leave on Monday after pushing a kneeling protester to the ground during protests on Sunday.</p>



The mayor of Louisville, Ky., fired the city's police chief on Monday after two officers failed to turn on body cameras during [the fatal shooting early that morning](#) of a black business owner. The two officers were placed on administrative leave. [Police said](#) that video released by the department shows that the business owner fired first, which was disputed by a family member.

The police chief had announced his retirement last month amid scrutiny of the fatal shooting of Breonna Taylor in March. Ms. Taylor, a black woman, was unarmed when police burst into her home unannounced, according to a lawsuit filed by her family.

On Wednesday, the Louisville mayor called for a "top-to-bottom review" of the police department.

Los Angeles plans to cut up to \$150 million from the city's police department budget and reinvest the money in jobs and education in communities of color, among other things, Mayor Eric Garcetti and city officials said Wednesday. The Black Lives Matter movement and other activists have called for such defunding of police by cities.

Mr. Garcetti equated the moment with "a movement to change who we are in America when it comes to black America and our criminal-justice system."

Some unions and police advocates have pushed back against disciplinary actions, saying officers have faced violent attacks by protesters and are being unfairly scapegoated, sometimes for political reasons.

In Minneapolis, where the national wave of protests began, the head of the police union has argued that the officers were fired without due process. All four now face charges, including a charge against Mr. Chauvin for second-degree murder.

Similarly in Atlanta, the police union said the officers' firing was done without following the department's own procedures and before an investigation could be conducted.

"I think it was a knee-jerk reaction to the protesters," said Vince Champion, southeast regional director for the union, the International Brotherhood of Police Officers. "You've got to do an investigation, that's all we're saying. If it comes out that they did wrong, we'll live with that."

But condemnation of the actions by the Minnesota officers was nearly universal among law-enforcement officials, unlike the aftermaths of other instances of alleged police abuse, where police brass sometimes defended the accused or remained silent pending lengthy investigations.

The shift has caused some experts to say that this moment may be an inflection point in policing.

The explosive public reaction may owe partly to the gruesome nature of the video that captured the killing of Mr. Floyd, handcuffed and pinned to the ground with a knee on his neck for nearly nine minutes. It shows "the slow-moving lynching of a man in public" by an officer wearing "a look of indifference," said Phillip Goff, chief executive of the Center for Policing Equity, a law-enforcement and reform think tank.

The Monmouth University Polling Institute said Americans' views on systemic racism are changing, publishing a survey on Tuesday that found that 57% of Americans believe police are more likely to use excessive force against a black person than a white person. In December 2014, when a grand jury declined to indict the officer in Mr. Garner's death, that figure stood at 33%.

Many individuals who interact with the criminal-justice system are skeptical that any change will be lasting. Union contracts often make it difficult to fire officers. Officers have been rehired on appeals despite records of misconduct.

Barry Friedman, a professor at New York University School of Law and director of its Policing Project, an organization focused on police accountability, said many of the country's policing problems are systemic and not about individual events or bad apples.

"We try to fix policing on the back end, with punishment for things that have gone wrong," he said. "It doesn't work very well."

Others are hopeful that positive moments over the past week will continue to resonate.

"You're going to have officers that make bad decisions. The key is what is our response," said Sheriff Chris Swanson of Genesee County, Mich.

A video of Mr. Swanson taking off his helmet and joining protesters in Flint, Mich., has drawn international attention. Since that moment last Saturday there have been no arrests or injuries at protests in Flint, he said.

"The decision to walk was the best decision I've ever made in my career," said Mr. Swanson, who has been in law enforcement for 27 years. "George Floyd changed American policing forever."

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HEADLINE	<b>06/04 Pandemic sparks debate on data sharing</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://news.trust.org/item/20200604083213-unbew/">https://news.trust.org/item/20200604083213-unbew/</a>
GIST	<p>BANGKOK, June 4 (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - The coronavirus pandemic has rekindled a long-standing debate on whether viruses are a nation's property, and if countries are obliged to share biological samples and scientific data that are key to developing life-saving treatments and vaccines.</p> <p>More than 6.5 million people are reported to have been infected globally, according to a Reuters tally. China, where the novel coronavirus emerged late last year, <a href="#">shared the viral genetic sequence data (GSD) with the World Health Organization (WHO)</a> in early January.</p> <p>That enabled laboratories around the world to start developing test kits, medications and vaccines.</p> <p>Since then, however, a war of words has erupted around who gets access to vaccines and treatments first, with outrage over reports the U.S. administration tried to gain access to a potential vaccine being developed by a German firm.</p> <p>"It is morally wrong to think that someone has a stronger claim to a vaccine because they happen to live in a rich country," said Mark Eccleston-Turner, co-author of <a href="#">a recent paper on the issue of viral sovereignty</a>.</p> <p>The international legal system encourages countries to look at viruses as their "sovereign resources that can be bargained and bartered away in exchange for future health goods such as vaccines," he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.</p> <p>"We need to move away from this model to one where viruses, and the health goods which are developed are seen as public goods, which everyone in the world has equal claim and access to," said Eccleston-Turner, a lecturer at Britain's Keele University.</p> <p><b>'BLIND SPOT'</b></p> <p>Countries have fought before over sharing virus samples and data, and access to vaccines, notably during the AIDS crisis and the Ebola outbreak.</p> <p>In 2007 Indonesia stopped sharing virus samples of the H5N1 avian flu virus, on concerns that wealthy countries were developing vaccines based on those strains, which they would then sell at high prices. Indonesia resumed sharing of virus samples after the WHO vowed to help boost vaccine production in poorer countries, but the face-off reiterated the persistent challenge of sharing scientific data and biological samples.</p>

The [U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity](#) (1992) and its Nagoya Protocol (2012) on access and benefit sharing both recognise nations' sovereignty over genetic resources, with no legal obligation to share, even in a health emergency.

"The lack of a clear legal obligation to share represents a blind spot in international law and governance, impeding pandemic response and scientific progress," Eccleston-Turner wrote in the Science journal paper published in May.

But "limiting access to the resources on the basis of state sovereignty may be one of the few points of leverage available to developing countries hoping to negotiate fair and equitable access to diagnostics, treatments, and vaccines," he said.

The question of [who owns data](#) - and not just scientific data - has come under scrutiny during the coronavirus crisis, as countries rolled out technologies to track the virus, but which digital rights experts say invade privacy and increase surveillance.

But the very idea of data sovereignty "is illusory," said Martin Tisne, managing director of philanthropic organisation Luminate, that works on digital rights issues.

"COVID-19 is a public harm; we will fight it by building a public good. The data, models and software used to address the COVID-19 pandemic should be as open as possible," he said.

#### MANDATORY SHARING

The coronavirus pandemic has [exacerbated existing inequalities](#), and exposed the vulnerability of disadvantaged populations including the urban poor, indigenous people and migrant workers, according to human rights groups.

The gap between wealthy and poor nations is evidenced in everything from quarantine facilities to relief measures, with fears that so-called "immunity passports" that can clear people to travel or work, would further entrench inequalities.

This is why the WHO must ensure "mandatory worldwide sharing" of COVID-19 related knowledge and data "with need prioritised above the ability to pay," more than 150 academics, former heads of state and U.N. officials said [in an open letter](#) last month.

"The ask for free access to vaccines, data and treatments is based on the experience of health and development experts that denial of access is often a serious problem in handling a health crisis," said Purnima Mane, a signatory to the letter.

"It is entirely relevant in a global pandemic where poorer countries and less well-off populations in countries are often denied the benefits of development and progress," said Mane, a former head of healthcare non-profit Pathfinder International.

Luminate funds a project of the Britain-based Open Data Institute (ODI) to [make all data related to the coronavirus open](#), so it can be used "quickly and without restrictions by those who need it most, and to the benefit of everyone."

The WHO has launched the [COVID-19 Technology Access Pool](#), supported by other international institutions and about 30 countries, and aimed at making vaccines, tests, treatments and other health technologies accessible to all.

But while the coronavirus crisis has seen many examples of rapid sharing, it has also highlighted the reality that "countries may not readily relinquish their sovereignty over pathogenic genetic resources and associated GSD," said Eccleston-Turner.

	<p>What's needed is a legal framework that makes these resources available for research and development, he said.</p> <p>"It is understandable that countries will want to use what leverage they have to gain equitable access to necessary and limited resources," said Jeni Tennison, vice president of ODI.</p> <p>But withholding data "seems like cutting off your nose to spite your face".</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Spotlight: rights of indigenous Australians</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://news.trust.org/item/20200605144305-7g5m2/">https://news.trust.org/item/20200605144305-7g5m2/</a>
GIST	<p>SYDNEY, June 06 (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - "I can't breathe, please don't! Let me up, please! Help please! I can't breathe!"</p> <p>The last words not of George Floyd, but of Aboriginal man David Dungay Jr as he laying dying on the floor of his jail cell in Australia, a case strikingly similar to the one that has sparked mass protests against racial injustice.</p> <p>The death of 26-year-old Dungay in 2015 garnered relatively little attention in Australia, where indigenous people account for a disproportionate number of prisoners and rank near the bottom on economic and social indicators.</p> <p>But the reaction to Floyd's death in Minneapolis has inspired protests in every major city in the country, prompting some indigenous Australians to question why it took an American incident to turn the spotlight on their plight.</p> <p>"Suddenly people are saying, 'Black Lives Matter', and we're like, 'so when did this happen?'," University of Queensland senior academic Chelsea Bond told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.</p> <p>Indigenous Australians are the most incarcerated people in the world.</p> <p>Despite making up about 2 per cent of Australia's population, they account for 28 per cent of the adult prison population.</p> <p>In the Northern Territory, 84 per cent of prisoners are indigenous, while indigenous Australians make up more than half those in the youth justice system nationally.</p> <p>They are also more likely than white Australians to die in custody. That was the subject of a national inquiry in 1991 that made more than 300 recommendations, many of which have still not been implemented.</p> <p>Since then, more than 430 indigenous Australians have died in custody, and the inquests into their deaths have continued to call for reform.</p> <p>But Bond said the problems facing indigenous Australians went far beyond policing.</p> <p>"In every institution in this country we have indigenous peoples dying as a result of the state's failures," she said, citing "preventable and avoidable" health conditions that she said were not being treated.</p> <p>The mortality rate of indigenous children is twice that of non-indigenous children, while overall life expectancy is about eight years less.</p> <p>The employment rate for indigenous Australians is about 50 per cent, one third lower than for non-indigenous Australians.</p>

In 2008, Australia's state and federal governments set targets to address these issues, but 10 years on they are only on track to meet two.

The office of the minister for indigenous affairs did not respond to a request for comment.

## MOMENTUM FOR CHANGE

On Monday Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison said the protests in America made him think "how wonderful a country is Australia".

"Australia is not the United States," he said.

But many Australians have a less optimistic view.

Belinda Stevens' mother died from a traumatic brain injury in 2017 after she repeatedly fell and hit her head in her cell.

The 55-year-old was arrested for public drunkenness after falling asleep on a train, and it was hours before officers entered the cell to check on her.

The inquest found her race played a part in her death and Stevens has no doubt her mother would have been treated differently if she was not an Aboriginal woman.

"We've got an opportunity now to work together to fix the problem. But part of that is acknowledging there is a problem," said Stevens, whose family has been pursuing justice for almost three years.

"And when you've got the leader of the country saying we live in a fair country that's not acknowledging the problem."

About 50,000 protesters had been expected at nationwide events on Saturday, before authorities in the state of New South Wales secured a court injunction to prevent the largest rally planned for Sydney.

Yet advocates are cautiously hopeful the momentum for change will grow.

They are calling for better use of alternatives to custodial sentences, independent oversight of suspected incidences of police brutality, and an obligation to implement recommendations made by coroners looking into deaths in custody.

Federal opposition spokeswoman Linda Burney, an indigenous woman, said Morrison need only think back to November when an Aboriginal man with an intellectual disability was shot in his bedroom by police.

"I think the idea of fairness is a very strong part of Australian ethos and culture, but in terms of whether an Aboriginal child enjoys the same life choices and chances as a non-Aboriginal child in this country, that is not the case," she said.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Tensions rise in US Olympic community</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2020/06/05/tensions-rise-us-olympic-community-amid-protests-punishments/">https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2020/06/05/tensions-rise-us-olympic-community-amid-protests-punishments/</a>
GIST	Last summer at the Pan American Games, fencer Race Imboden took a knee on the medal podium and hammer thrower Gwen Berry raised a fist during the national anthem. Their protests earned them 12-month probations from the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee, a decision that was controversial at

the time and has come under renewed fire this week amid [nationwide protests over equality and police brutality](#).

As various athletes have joined and in some cases led those public calls for justice, the USOPC and many national governing bodies (NGBs) have struggled to find appropriate and satisfactory responses to the concerns of those who regularly wear “USA” on their uniforms when competing. Imboden and Berry’s demonstrations and subsequent punishments have become touchstones for what some athletes see as a leadership beholden to corporate interests and a vague international policy that stifles individual voices.

USOPC chief executive Sarah Hirshland apologized to Berry this week, more than 10 months after her podium protest in Lima, Peru. The USOPC scheduled a town hall discussion for its athletes for Friday, offering them an opportunity to discuss the issues enveloping the nation. It initially invited Imboden, who is white, to be among three athletes to help facilitate the dialogue, but the fencer bowed out Friday morning.

“I contacted the athletes in the black community closest to me and asked them for their opinions and feelings before moving forward,” Imboden [said via Twitter Friday morning](#). “They have made it clear that they do not see this as a genuine response from the USOC and that me as non-POC should not be facilitating a conversation on ‘Race’. I stand by them, and will decline the position as facilitator and instead join in the conversation as a member of the community and an ally.”

The town hall discussion remains scheduled for Friday afternoon and is to be facilitated by wrestler Jordan Burroughs and former Paralympic skier Bonnie St. John, both of whom are African American, according to a USOPC spokesman.

The USOPC and NGBs issued public statements this week, voicing concerns and pledging support, many touching on inclusion and the Olympic ideals. But the message hasn’t resonated with everyone, especially in light of the punishments levied at Berry and Imboden last summer.

“The USOC and its CEO are claiming to be supportive of Equality and supporting Black athletes. I’m white, I don’t want an apology. I want proof,” [Imboden said in a tweet](#) this week.

In [a letter to athletes this week](#), Hirshland said: “We absolutely condemn the systemic inequality that disproportionately impacts Black Americans in the United States. It has no place in ours or any other community.” But many felt the message ran counter to the decision to punish the athletes last year and it sparked a firestorm of sorts in some social media corners.

Berry told Hirschland, [via Twitter](#): “I want an apology letter .. mailed .. just like you and the IOC MAILED ME WHEN YOU PUT ME ON PROBATION.. stop playing with me.”

When she initially punished Imboden and Berry last year, Hirshland warned against future protests, saying in a letter: “It is also important for me to point out that, going forward, issuing a reprimand to other athletes in a similar instance is insufficient.”

“I am grateful to Gwen for her time and her honesty last night. I heard her,” Hirshland wrote on Twitter on Thursday. “I apologized for how my decisions made her feel and also did my best to explain why I made them. Gwen has a powerful voice in this national conversation, and I am sure that together we can use the platform of Olympic and Paralympic sport to address and fight against systematic inequality and racism in our country.”

In a phone interview Friday, Berry said Hirshland called her Wednesday and apologized. She characterized the interactions with Olympic leadership as constructive but limited.

“I feel like they’ve tried to de-escalate the situation as much as possible,” she said. “I feel like they’ve done their best to hear us out and understand where systematic oppression and sports coincide, and they’ve



tried to delegate the dos and don'ts of the rules and discuss what some of the rules are, how they are and why they are.

"I feel like the sentiment to me is not sincere only because when you are legally bound by money or other interests you need to protect, there is no way you can sincerely be for the athletes or for a movement that is brought on by systematic oppression. Because you benefit from the system."

Han Xiao, chair of the USOPC's Athletes' Advisory Council, said the USOPC is in a tough position in responding to the controversy and appeasing all parties, including athletes, sponsors, the International Olympic Committee and elected officials. "For the USOPC and the NGBs, it's a particularly difficult topic because they have to balance a couple of different pressures," Xiao said. "One is the IOC and Rule 50." The USOPC cited the Olympic Charter's controversial rule in levying its punishments. Rule 50 states: "No kind of demonstration or political, religious or racial propaganda is permitted in any Olympic sites, venues or other areas."

Xiao said the rule is somewhat vague and should be revisited — "it's not clearly defined what the punishments will be, what the criteria is or what constitutes a political protest," he said — but for now, he says the USOPC feels its hands are tied by the charter; the IOC requires the organization to respond to any violations, such of Imboden's and Berry's Pan Am protests.

"It's also important to recognize that the issue around police brutality and the way minorities are treated, especially black people in this country, has been heavily politicized," he said. "It's difficult for the USOPC voicing political concerns being a nonpolitical entity but being overseen by Congress. Just like other organizations, they're in a difficult position. I think the current situation has become a catalyst to try to understand what they can be doing better. Hopefully they succeed in that. I think the conversations that are now happening, the listening, is at least a first step."

Berry has said the protest cost her sponsorship money and endangered her quest for the Tokyo Olympics, which have been postponed to 2021 because of [the novel coronavirus pandemic](#). She said this week that she was contacted by Max Siegel, the chief executive at USA Track & Field, to facilitate a meeting. On Thursday, the USOPC organized a conference call for all of its track and field athletes in which Hirshland took part.

While race equality and police brutality have sparked dialogue across the country, Berry and Imboden have been a focal point for many in the Olympic world.

Sprinter Noah Lyles, the reigning 200 meter world champion and one of the sport's biggest rising stars, admired Imboden and Berry taking their stances, knowing how much they had to lose in sponsorship support and risk in public perception.

"Seeing them do that, that already puts them on a very high level for me," Lyles said in a phone interview Friday. "And it also shows really how much these organizations are really trying to support us. I guess some people could look at them and say, 'Oh, they're on suspensions. That's nice of them do to.' In our eyes, it's like, no, they basically told them, 'You're kind of on house arrest. Don't do anything, or we're going to really mess you up next time.'"

Lyles participated in Thursday's conference call for track and field athletes. He sensed frustration from his peers during the lengthy session.

"The strongest point that was made in there was us pleading that we hear the IOC, USATF and all these big companies, even sponsors, saying, 'We support you,' " Lyles said. "Which you do. But we're not seeing any action taken on to that. If you support us, we need to see how much you support us. There are people who are going to be putting up a fist or kneeling, and we need to know, are you going to be putting them on probation? Or are you going to be saying, 'They did this for the right reason, we don't need to be punishing them anymore.'?"



	<p>Rule 50 and the punishment hasn't stopped Berry from speaking her mind. She continues training for Tokyo and has followed the headlines and developments closely these past several days.</p> <p>"We have to understand that Major Corporations And Organization's are only speaking out because they have to protect their investments. It is purely for political reasons," <a href="#">she tweeted</a>. "I urge us all to NOT BE EASILY SATISFIED!!! Make them PUT UP or SHUT UP."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Libya forces seize warlord stronghold</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle-east/libyan-pro-government-forces-seize-last-western-stronghold-of-eastern-warlord/2020/06/05/6585ba54-a727-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html">https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle-east/libyan-pro-government-forces-seize-last-western-stronghold-of-eastern-warlord/2020/06/05/6585ba54-a727-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html</a>
GIST	<p>CAIRO — Forces of Libya's U.N.-backed government seized control of the last remaining western stronghold of militia commander Khalifa Hifter on Friday, dealing a major setback to his <a href="#">ambitions to wrest control of the country</a>.</p> <p>Pro-government fighters backed by Turkey reached the center of Tarhuna, roughly 40 miles southeast of the capital, Tripoli, on Friday morning after Hifter's forces retreated, according to military commanders and security analysts. Videos posted on social media showed pickup trucks mounted with machine guns rolling into enclaves and fighters flashing victory signs.</p> <p>Mohammed Gnounou, a military spokesman for the Tripoli government, said in a statement that its fighters entered the city from four directions and gave Hifter's forces a "lesson they will not forget." Hifter's military office did not respond to a request for comment.</p> <p>By the afternoon, pro-government forces were reported to be pushing eastward to other Hifter-controlled areas.</p> <p>The swift capture of Tarhuna came a day after the forces of the 76-year-old strongman retreated from their last positions in Tripoli. Hifter, based in eastern Libya, <a href="#">launched an offensive on the capital 15</a> months ago in an attempt to oust the government and install himself as Libya's ruler.</p> <p>Hifter's defeat in western Libya leaves his future uncertain but appears unlikely to end the <a href="#">violent contest over lucrative oil and gas resources</a>, territory, ideology and geographical dominance. Hifter still controls Libya's east and south, as well as many of the oil fields.</p> <p>"The fall of Tarhuna spells the end of Hifter's offensive on Tripoli," said Wolfram Lacher, a Libya expert at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs. "He now no longer has a realistic chance to seize power."</p> <p>"This will have major ripple effects on his alliance, which was based on the idea that he would sweep to power," Lacher added. "Now that his forces have been routed, many in his alliance will reconsider their loyalties."</p> <p>A year ago, few observers would have predicted such a stunning military reversal.</p> <p>Hifter, a dual U.S.-Libyan citizen and former CIA asset who lived for years in Northern Virginia, received heavy weaponry and other military support from the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and other regional powers in violation of a U.N. arms embargo. Russia printed billions in Libyan dinars to finance his war, pay his fighters' salaries and bribe local tribes to support him, according to diplomats and analysts. <a href="#">France and other European powers elevated his stature</a> diplomatically and politically inside and outside Libya.</p> <p>Hifter's Libyan National Army (LNA), the name he gave to his militias, swept swiftly from the east, seizing the south before besieging Tripoli in early April of last year. He vowed to overrun the capital, but</p>

his forces quickly became bogged down [in a stalemate as militias loyal to the Tripoli government rose up to fight](#).

In September, [hundreds of Kremlin-linked Russian mercenaries](#) emerged on Tripoli's front lines, bolstering his forces. Then the Tripoli government, known as the Government of National Accord (GNA), inked deals with Turkey giving it access to Mediterranean Sea gas fields in exchange for military aid that included drones, Syrian mercenaries and armored vehicles.

By last month, GNA-aligned militias backed by Turkish drones and defense systems, took town after town from Hifter's forces, including capturing a strategic air base. That prompted Russia to dispatch 14 fighter jets to eastern Libya, the Pentagon said, in an apparent effort to help Hifter and send a warning to Turkey.

But then the Russian mercenaries withdrew from the front lines and headed to Hifter's eastern strongholds, apparently in a deal with Turkey, leaving Hifter's forces vulnerable in Tripoli. And the GNA forces took advantage.

Tarhuna had been vital to Hifter's Tripoli offensive, a crucial base where his fighters resupplied themselves and where he had the support of powerful local tribes and a brutal militia known as the Kaniyat. On Thursday, the Kaniyat fled the city and Hifter's other alliances also unraveled, underscoring the extent to which the commander depended on his foreign backers.

"What Hifter did in the first months of 2019 will be difficult for someone else to do again," said Jalel Harchaoui, a Libya analyst at the Clingendael Institute in The Hague.

With his defeat, Hifter could face challenges to his authority in the south and east. The commander has already alienated some eastern tribes and politicians by a recent declaration that he was in full control of eastern Libya.

"The LNA, as a defense apparatus, is unlikely to survive in [eastern Libya] without Russia's military and political help," added Harchaoui. "The Persian Gulf states and Egypt aren't quite able to stop Turkey in Libya."

But Russia never fully supported Hifter's all-or-nothing gamble for Tripoli, analysts said. In recent weeks, Moscow appeared to be looking for alternatives to Hifter by backing the political initiative of Aguila Saleh, a prominent lawmaker for a rival government in the east.

"For Russia, a weakened Hifter dependent on Russian military support may be an even more attractive partner than a Hifter who is close to seizing power and can choose between numerous foreign sponsors," said Lacher.

Longtime Libya watchers sense a pivotal moment.

"Hifter's game is over," tweeted Peter Millett, former British ambassador to Libya. "Next steps by the main Libyan actors will be vital. There will be many voices arguing for more fighting & rejecting reconciliation. Important to bring all Libyans together behind a comprehensive plan."

But in the scramble to dominate Libya, that will depend on the two nations that, more than ever, control Libya's fate.

"Turkey now has an opportunity to firmly establish its influence in western Libya," Lacher said. "It's not yet clear whether Turkey and Russia have agreed on where the lines of their spheres of influence should be drawn. Negotiating those might involve more conflict between their Libyan proxies."

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HEADLINE

06/05 Iran virus cases surge again

SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/irans-coronavirus-cases-surge-again-as-strategic-province-becomes-new-epicenter/2020/06/05/6a5e4f9e-a021-11ea-be06-af5514ee0385_story.html">https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/irans-coronavirus-cases-surge-again-as-strategic-province-becomes-new-epicenter/2020/06/05/6a5e4f9e-a021-11ea-be06-af5514ee0385_story.html</a>
GIST	<p>ISTANBUL — A dramatic surge in coronavirus infections in Iran has rekindled the largest outbreak in the Middle East, just weeks after the country appeared to have tamed its epidemic.</p> <p>Iran is again reporting an average of more than 3,000 new cases each day and on Thursday recorded its largest single-day total, more than 3,500 new infections, raising the total to about 164,000, the official IRNA news agency said.</p> <p>While the epidemic was initially concentrated in the capital, Tehran, and the holy city of Qom, the new flare-up has largely been centered in Khuzestan province, an oil-rich region in Iran’s southwest.</p> <p>There, an ethnic Arab minority, which has long complained of discrimination, has at times balked at central government control. Doctors and residents say that widespread disregard for public health restrictions in Khuzestan has helped fuel the pathogen’s spread.</p> <p>“The numbers are really high now. Most people can’t find masks, and no one has been taking social distancing seriously,” said a pediatrician at the Nezam Mafi hospital in the city of Dezful, one of the centers of Khuzestan’s outbreak. She spoke on the condition of anonymity to more freely discuss conditions in the area.</p> <p>In her hospital alone, she said, at least 40 staff members tested positive for the virus, and the intensive care unit was shuttered as a result.</p> <p>A relative lack of infrastructure has undercut efforts to address the public health emergency in the province. Clinics and hospitals are overwhelmed, the local economy has ground to a halt and a water shortage near the provincial capital, Ahvaz, has driven angry residents into the streets.</p> <p>“How can I take a shower or even just wash my hands if I don’t have any water? We haven’t had water for a whole month,” a resident of Ahvaz yelled angrily in a video recently posted on social media. He is flanked by several other men, some of whom are wearing masks and shouting in agreement.</p> <p>Two weeks ago, residents of Gheyzanieh, a farming hamlet near Ahvaz, protested the lack of potable water and were fired at by security forces. “If I want to defend my rights, they [the government] respond to me with bullets,” the man said. “It doesn’t matter anymore, I want to die. . . . Death is better than this life.”</p> <p>Khuzestan, an arid expanse on Iraq’s border, is home to the majority of Iran’s oil and gas reserves and is vital to trade both overland and through ports on the Persian Gulf. Any prolonged outbreak there could pose a challenge to Iran’s government, which relies on its wealth and industry and is already accused by the local population of ignoring its many grievances.</p> <p>During nationwide protests late last year sparked by fuel price hikes, the worst violence was in Khuzestan, where security forces in Mahshahr city responded to roadblocks erected by demonstrators by opening fire with heavy weapons, according to human rights groups. At least a dozen people were killed, with some estimates putting the toll much higher.</p> <p>“Khuzestan is definitely of strategic significance to Iran,” said Alex Vatanka, director of the Iran Program at the Middle East Institute in Washington. He added, “There are a couple of interesting factors that create a sensitive cocktail.”</p> <p>Iran was one of the first countries to see a major outbreak of the coronavirus after it emerged in China. Since February, the virus has killed more than 8,000 Iranians and sickened another 164,000, according to official reports that health experts say underestimate the true magnitude of the toll.</p>

Earlier in the epidemic, the government enacted, at times, haphazard restrictions. These were often ignored by ordinary Iranians, who continued to travel, shop, visit their families and, in some cases, work. But after the outbreak peaked in early April, the epidemic seemed to slow, and most curbs on economic and social life were lifted by the middle of that month.

Some Iranian analysts and health officials have been quoted in the country's media blaming the loosening of restrictions for the new spike in infections. Iranian government officials, for their part, have faulted the population, including in Khuzestan, for flouting public health measures, such as bans on large gatherings and long-distance travel.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said Wednesday that stricter restrictions may have to be reimposed if the public does not adhere to the more relaxed guidelines.

"The reemergence of coronavirus, beyond any economic damage, will threaten the health of our dear people and it is not appropriate now that the achievements be lost due to negligence," Rouhani said in remarks published on his website.

Khuzestan's infections now account for about a quarter of Iran's total daily cases, according to figures released by health officials. Nearly 600 people have already died in the province of the virus and more than 13,000 have fallen ill, according to Ali Ehsanpour, spokesman for Ahwaz's Jondi Shapour University of Medical Sciences. Local doctors say the official tally is probably an undercount.

"Based on what I've seen, there are a lot of undiagnosed patients circulating within the society and spreading the disease," said Mohammadreza, a medical resident at Jondi Shapour University. He spoke on the condition that his full name not be used so he could comment freely about the spread of the virus.

"And with the increase in the number of patients and our lack of space at the hospitals, many are being sent home to self-quarantine," he said. "But they are not taking the warnings seriously and continue to engage in high-risk behavior."

In Dezful, a city of more than 400,000 residents, an increase in coronavirus testing has revealed the extent of what may be the province's worst outbreak. According to the head of the local medical university, Yousef Paridar, quoted by Iranian media late last month, a staggering 37 percent of people tested were positive for the virus.

The pediatrician in Dezful said few government institutions appear to be capable of addressing the contagion and that Khuzestan's poverty and poor infrastructure have made the fight against the virus an uphill battle.

A cash shortage in the local economy has taken a toll on Khuzestan's emergency responders. Dozens of medical workers in Dezful staged walkouts late last month to protest late wage payments. A senior official of the Health Ministry, Maryam Hazrati, said this month that she was seeking to send more nurses to Khuzestan from other provinces.

"We are trying to . . . prevent medical teams from burning out in these difficult conditions," she said, according to IRNA.

Even before the new waves of cases, the epidemic was causing economic pain in Khuzestan, threatening to make living conditions far worse for many residents. IRNA quoted an Ahwaz-based economics professor saying that at least 160 companies have been negatively affected and that tens of thousands of workers either temporarily or permanently lost their jobs.

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SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/teacher-health-fall-schools-coronavirus/2020/06/05/12bf261a-99f9-11ea-ac72-3841fcc9b35f_story.html">https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/teacher-health-fall-schools-coronavirus/2020/06/05/12bf261a-99f9-11ea-ac72-3841fcc9b35f_story.html</a>
GIST	<p>Christian Herr is only 35, but he has been on medication ever since he suffered a heart attack in his classroom nine years ago. His cardiologist is clear: Herr's condition puts him at risk of dangerous complications if he contracts the novel <a href="#">coronavirus</a>.</p> <p>So two months after his school closed, and with next school year on the horizon, Herr, a sixth-grade science teacher in the District, wonders: Can he go back when classrooms reopen? Will he be safe? How will he know?</p> <p>School districts across the country are sharing rough drafts of what the fall could look like. They are under increasing pressure, from parents and politicians, for those plans to include at least some in-person learning.</p> <p>But teachers, especially ones who are older or medically compromised, worry those plans do too little to protect them.</p> <p>The plans are also just unrealistic, teachers say. They can't envision students maintaining social distance, keeping masks on, or walking in the same directions in hallways, all things health officials are recommending. Even before the pandemic, teachers said, their schools struggled to keep ample soap and water running in the bathrooms.</p> <p>"When I hear about keeping students socially distant, I just kind of laugh at that," said Crysta Weitekamp, a 47-year-old special education teacher at Southeast High School in Springfield, Ill., who has asthma. "They're social creatures."</p> <p>So, teachers say, they're anxious about returning. But they're also anxious about what happens to their job if they refuse.</p> <p>"It does make me nervous to say no," said Lara, a high school teacher at a Los Angeles charter school who is immunocompromised. (Worried about her job, she spoke on the condition that she be identified only by her first name.) "Of course schools need to reopen, but at what point are you being sacrificed?"</p> <p><b>A pressing problem</b></p> <p>For all the plans to reopen schools, from masked kids to staggered schedules to half-empty buses, few address what to do with at-risk teachers. But one strong advocate of a return to normalcy this fall has at least brought it up: President Trump said that schools "should be opened ASAP," and that older teachers may just need to stay home.</p> <p>The American Enterprise Institute, a right-leaning think tank, has an idea for making that happen: It recommends school districts offer early retirement incentives to older teachers, a controversial proposal that has long been pushed by some education reformers — and dismissed by teachers unions as a way to drive down labor costs.</p> <p>John P. Bailey, co-author of the American Enterprise study, said this is an unprecedented scenario and that the plan would protect older teachers. Given the economy, he is unsure how many teachers would even want this option; districts should also find new, less risky roles for those teachers. But retirement incentives are worth exploring, he said.</p> <p>Nearly 18 percent of teachers are 55 and older, <a href="#">according to the National Center for Education Statistics</a>. If teachers retire in big numbers, that could exacerbate a national teacher shortage, particularly in rural areas.</p> <p>"They are being squeezed on both ends," Bailey said of school districts. "They are having these teachers who cannot come to school. And they are also having to find teachers who are able to come to school."</p>

Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers, the nation's second largest teachers union, told teachers to "scream bloody murder" if their districts attempt to reopen against health guidelines. But as pressure builds for an in-person fall, teachers and unions say they want to be part of the discussion so they can ensure that reopening is driven by science, not economics.

"There is a lot of categories of people who we should be concerned about in the absence of a vaccine and in the absence of very aggressive testing," Weingarten said. "The notion that it's just affecting people 65 and older is wrong."

School leaders across the country are proposing alternatives. One Idaho school that has already reopened is allowing teachers to lead classes remotely from home, with substitute teachers supervising the physical classrooms, according to [Education Week](#).

In Washington, Paul Kihn, the District's deputy mayor for education, called figuring out how to staff school in the fall a "jigsaw puzzle." The pieces of that puzzle include teachers who are considered high-risk; teachers who live with someone who is high-risk; and teachers who have children on a different school schedule. The District's health guidelines call for teachers who are considered high-risk to receive medical clearance before returning to the classrooms.

"This is an extraordinarily complex undertaking for each school community," Kihn said. "We have a fairly good understanding of the concerns that families, parents and school staff have about returning to school buildings. We also understand that our primary job is to ensure safety."

Kihn said the school district is exploring plans to protect at-risk teachers. One factor, he said, is that many students won't attend in-person classes because they have a medical condition or live with someone considered high-risk. Teachers who must remain home may be able to teach those children virtually. And like many districts, D.C. is considering having students report to school for in-person learning some days and stay home on others, to allow for more social distancing on campuses. At-risk teachers may be given a greater share of distance-learning.

Eric Williams, superintendent of Loudoun County Schools and a member of Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam's (D) Education Work Group, said reopening can happen only if school districts are entirely transparent with their teachers and staff. Opening up won't happen unless there are good plans in place "so staff and parents won't have anxiety about returning," he said. "We are committing to making decisions based on conditions, not time. It's about data, not dates."

### **Front-line workers**

With so many unknowns about how long the pandemic will extend, teachers — including younger and healthy ones — question whether schools can safely pull off a plan.

Herr's 33 year-old wife, for example, is a librarian at a D.C. Public Schools campus. She is healthy, he said, but she worries her daily interactions with children could endanger Herr.

"These are kids, and they are unpredictable, and we can set up as many structures and guidelines as we want, and stuff is going to fall through the cracks, and kids will not always follow the rules," Herr said. "The consequences of that are really dire."

Teachers say the safe reopening of schools relies on families following the health guidance. If someone in a household is ill, school staff said they must trust that the family won't send their kids to school. But job pressure often forces parents to send their kids to school sick, and teachers said they don't believe that will change.

"I want to be back in school with students, badly," said Zach Carroll, a middle school teacher in the District. "But would I feel safe? Not at all."



	<p>Teachers aren't the only school-based staff worrying about returning. Paraprofessionals, cafeteria workers and security guards tend to skew older. In D.C. Public Schools, 2 percent of teachers are 65 and older, according to city data. But 6 percent of school-based staff are 65 and older.</p> <p>Robert Alston Jr., the in-school suspension coordinator at Coolidge High in Northwest Washington, is the leader of the union that represents school support staff. He's 51 and has type 2 diabetes. When a fight breaks out at his school, he's the person called to help break it up. When a teenager at his school is struggling or has an outburst, he often rubs their backs, soothes them, ensures they are okay. He wonders how aides assigned to help students with special education needs would continue their work under these health guidelines.</p> <p>"We talk about front-line workers, but do they really look at us — support staff in schools?" Alston asked. "We have people who are crying, kids who are bleeding, kids who need a hug, kids who need extra support."</p> <p>Alston said support staff are in this profession for the long run. So whatever schools plan for the fall, they need to figure how to accommodate him and his colleagues.</p> <p>"We are the lowest-paid people in schools," Alston said. "We don't have enough money to retire."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Europe: lockdowns loosened; no spike</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/06/05/coronavirus-infections-havent-spiked-since-europe-loosened-lockdowns-there-are-many-theories-about-why/">https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/06/05/coronavirus-infections-havent-spiked-since-europe-loosened-lockdowns-there-are-many-theories-about-why/</a>
GIST	<p>ROME — When Italy ended its lockdown one month ago, Angelo Pan, an infectious-disease doctor, was worried. His hospital, at the epicenter of the country's outbreak, braced for the possibility that progress against the <a href="#">coronavirus</a> might slow or reverse — and that beds might again become crowded with people struggling to breathe.</p> <p>But that is not what has happened.</p> <p>In Italy and across most of Europe, countries have restarted their economies and resumed a degree of socializing without visible signs of the dire health consequences forecast by many. Pan's northern Italian hospital, rather than seeing an uptick, has been able to restore once-paused services and dismantle the intensive care beds added during the emergency.</p> <p>As of Friday, it hadn't admitted a coronavirus intensive care patient in 12 days.</p> <p>"It's amazing that [the virus] has not started back," said Pan, who leads the infectious-disease unit at the public hospital in Cremona.</p> <p>Virologists from Milan to Berlin have become much more optimistic about Europe's ability to manage the pandemic and say that, at least through the summer, the continent might have nothing more than localized and hopefully-containable hot spots.</p> <p>Europe's experience, at least so far, suggests that sending children back to school, reopening restaurants and even making way for large outdoor protests does not lead to an inevitable resurgence of the virus. But scientists also readily admit there's much they don't know about the idiosyncrasies of this virus. They are still trying to make sense of why it is behaving as it has in Europe and whether those trends will hold — and what the answers might mean for the rest of the world.</p> <p>Many disease experts say enduring behavioral changes, from hand-washing to mask-wearing, could by themselves be substantially limiting the spread in Europe. They say the continued ban of large-scale events</p>



is probably capping the damage wrought by highly contagious people — the “super-spreaders” who account for much of the transmission.

They also say there’s growing evidence that the virus could be proving seasonal — ebbing based on the temperature or other climactic conditions. Though warmer weather doesn’t stop the virus, it can aid in the fight.

Europeans, heeding warnings that the virus is more transmissible indoors, have adapted their lives accordingly — something easier to do in warmer months. In Rome, the [parks and alfresco restaurant tables](#) are full; the [tables indoors are empty](#).

In Germany, confined indoor gatherings have led to small outbreaks, while outdoor mass demonstrations against the lockdown in several cities — some drawing thousands of people — have not led to obvious consequences.

“There might be [open-air] transmissions occurring but they are rare,” said Dirk Brockmann, a professor at Humboldt University in Berlin who models infectious diseases for Germany’s Robert Koch Institute, the federal agency tasked with disease control.

“When you are in a club and there are hundreds of people dancing and breathing and yelling in a confined space — that’s a whole different ballgame,” Brockmann said.

One contested theory, aired by two Italian doctors this past week, is that the virus has [weakened or become less aggressive](#). Many health officials have pushed back forcefully against that claim, saying there is no peer-reviewed evidence of such changes, and that cases every day are still proving deadly.

Massimo Ciccozzi, head of the molecular epidemiology unit at the Rome-based University Campus Bio-Medico, said his lab would be studying ways the virus may have mutated. But he said there were other reasons serious pneumonias might be developing less frequently — among them, the wider use of new therapies. Other experts have raised the possibility that a younger cohort of people is now being infected.

There is accumulating evidence that the “viral load” is linked to the severity of the infection, and that outdoor summer transmissions could make for a milder disease.

“It’s like a huge, huge puzzle,” Ciccozzi said. “Every day you find a piece.”

All the while, in country after European country, reported daily case numbers have not just leveled off, like in parts of the United States, but continued to plummet.

In Italy, the number of coronavirus patients in ICUs has declined from 4,000, at the peak in early April, to 400; it ticked down every single day of May. In Germany, many [contact tracing teams sit idle](#), without enough new infections to trace. In Belgium, which had been one of the worst-hit countries, hospitals are clearing out, and doctors don’t report any unusual spikes in patients reporting flu-like symptoms.

“I was also expecting a scenario where the numbers would have stabilized, maybe a small rise,” said Steven Van Gucht, a virologist who is the head of the scientific committee that has been advising Belgian health authorities on their pandemic response. “It would have been natural. But we don’t see that for the moment.”

Experts warn there is still the danger of a second wave, as happened a century ago, when wintertime brought an even deadlier return of the 1918 flu pandemic.

Even now, Europe has not fully reopened; international flights and tourism have been mostly on hold, and some countries have not restarted schools. There is still a debate raging about what sort of openings, from kindergartens to theaters, might push things too far.

Once people start moving around in society again, potentially exposing themselves to the virus, it can take a week or two before symptoms show up — and a week more before somebody might need to go to the hospital. Policymakers are getting an initial picture of how Europe is responding to the reopening efforts, but it is far from complete. And there are some worrying signs beyond the continent: Countries in the Middle East are seeing a surge of new cases following a loosening of restrictions.

“Let’s take some more weeks before we claim victory,” said Ilaria Capua, an Italian virologist at the University of Florida.

Ranieri Guerra, a World Health Organization assistant director-general who is advising the Italian Health Ministry, said the risk could rise if Europe goes through the summer without a major spike and people drop their guard and revert to their pre-virus behavior.

“We have achieved a lot, with massive sacrifices,” Guerra said. “But the virus is still circulating.”

France is one of the only European countries that has seen a notable uptick in daily cases since it began to loosen restrictions. It is not clear what caused the increases. Jean-François Delfraissy, the head of France’s National Scientific Council, said Friday that the overall trend was nonetheless a significant decline in case numbers. “We can reasonably say the virus is currently under control,” he said, speaking to France Inter radio. “The virus is still circulating, in certain regions in particular... but it is circulating slowly. Where we had tens of thousands of cases, about 80,000 new cases per day in March before the confinement, we estimate that we’re now around about 1,000.”

Some other countries have seen small but manageable clusters of infections over the past month. One, in the lightly populated Italian region of Molise, was reportedly linked to a funeral. Spain has seen several clusters [attributed to parties](#). In Germany, there have been several outbreaks connected to meat packing plants and to indoor gatherings.

The latest such outbreak, a cluster of 36 infections in the Lower Saxony city of Göttingen, was said to have stemmed from private family parties during Eid holiday festivities and a hookah bar that was open in breach of health guidelines. More than 300 people have been quarantined.

Another cluster of 44 infections emerged days after a May 24 church service in Bremerhaven, while a larger outbreak of 200 cases hit a church congregation in Frankfurt. The church later apologized for allowing singing and not requiring face masks.

“This infection chain shows us again how quickly an infection can spread if many people come together in a small space,” said Frankfurt’s health department head, Stefan Majer. “I appeal to everyone’s personal responsibility to take this virus seriously and to continue to adhere to the distance rules and hygiene measures.”

But these clusters have not been enough to disrupt the overall downward trend. In the latest week, 93 German districts — about a quarter — reported no new infections. As numbers remain subdued, some of the country’s top virologists predict that Germany, which is among the most advanced European countries in contact tracing, may be able to avoid a second wave altogether.

“There was this warning about the second wave, but we said this is not going to happen for several reasons,” said Hendrik Streeck, a virologist at Bonn University. “We still have social distancing and hygiene measures in place, and when we see larger outbreaks, hotspots, we immediately get in and control the virus.”

Most European countries implemented lockdowns in March, essentially bringing economic activity to a halt. Those measures, within several weeks, appeared to cut down on transmission of the virus in areas where it had been spreading — and acted as a public alarm bell.

But public health officials, seeing no resurgence since the easing of lockdowns, have begun to wonder whether some restrictions could have been avoided.

"The fact that we haven't seen major spikes so far tells us that confinement was only a part of the strategy to reduce the spread of this virus, and perhaps not the most important part," said Camilla Stoltenberg, the director general of the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, who has helped lead her country's pandemic response.

Norway started reopening public life in late April, and its numbers have stayed low.

Stoltenberg pointed to school closures as one area that deserves reconsideration. She said she advised against closing Norway's schools in March but was overruled.

"We should all have second thoughts about whether it was really necessary. We see now that after having opened schools, we haven't had any outbreak," she said.

In Italy, there has been little second-guessing of a lockdown that was among the most rigid in the Western world. Health officials say it gave overwhelmed hospitals the swiftest chance to stabilize. For doctors who attended to the emergency, the hope is that the worst is over.

"We have come out of a nightmare," said Vanni Borghi, a doctor in the northern city of Modena.

There might yet be a return wave, Borghi said, but if that happens, hospitals will be more prepared.

"We have time to organize ourselves," he said.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Videos capture alleged police brutality</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/protests-police-brutality-video/2020/06/05/a9e66568-a768-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html">https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/protests-police-brutality-video/2020/06/05/a9e66568-a768-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html</a>
GIST	<p>Police in riot gear were marching across a mostly empty plaza in Buffalo when two officers shoved a lone 75-year-old man who stood in their way. He fell to the ground and hit his head on the concrete. Officers marched past him as he lay motionless and bleeding from the ear.</p> <p>The city suspended the two officers after video of the incident spread around the world. Then, on Friday, the Buffalo Police Department's entire riot-control team — 57 officers — <a href="#">quit the unit</a>.</p> <p>Not to protest their colleagues' use of force. To protest the city for suspending them.</p> <p>"These guys did nothing but do what they were ordered to do," police union President John Evans said in a statement, referring to their directive to clear the plaza. "This is disgusting."</p> <p>The incident involving police responding to demonstrations in Buffalo is one of many caught on video in recent days displaying police riot tactics — the use of batons, rubber bullets, tear gas and shields to move people out of the way. Such violent interactions have been viewed by police as necessary to do their job, age-old approaches to dealing with unruly gatherings. But they also have fueled what began as a local outcry over a police killing in Minneapolis into a swelling national protest of police brutality.</p> <p>In New York, officers clubbed nonviolent protesters several nights running. In Philadelphia, a high-ranking police official hit an unarmed protester in the head with a metal baton. In Erie, Pa., a woman sitting in front of police was hit with gas, then kicked over by an advancing officer.</p>

Now, both police and protesters believe that a steady stream of new videos revealing the confrontations has brought about a turning point and a question: Are these the tactics police in the United States should be using?

These were scenes not seen so widely in the United States in decades, scenes that police training, recruitment and reform were intended to prevent: officers striking unarmed protesters, in the heart of American cities, carrying out orders.

Even among police leaders, there is a sense that these incidents — and, in some cases, misleading official accounts given before the videos emerged — could do lasting damage to the image of American police, most of whom have never been involved in violent encounters with anyone.

“We certainly, as a profession, have been diminished by events that have been witnessed on video over the course of the last couple of weeks,” said Jim Pasco, executive director of the national Fraternal Order of Police, a labor union. “And the burden is on us to reestablish and build a relationship with the community. We can’t do our job without the community. So the burden is on us going forward.”

The attention to policing is hauntingly familiar. After Michael Brown was shot to death by a police officer in Ferguson, Mo., in 2014, the nation focused on whether police departments had become overmilitarized. Across the country, policymakers debated and often enacted new training protocols aimed at de-escalating interactions between police and the public.

For longtime advocates against police brutality, the recent videos have provided a sense that — finally — the country could see what they already knew: Brutal tactics are still in use.

“I don’t know if ‘vindicated’ is the right word. I do feel like my words are resonating with people more than they did before, with a more diverse group of people than before,” said Lezley McSpadden, Brown’s mother. “Even friends of mine who are different races are saying: ‘Oh, I see it now. I’m sorry. I wish I would have aligned myself with you then.’”

Catherine Lhamon, the chair of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, a federal agency, said the violence we’re seeing is now more accessible because of cellphones.

“I’m not sure that the excessive force that we are witnessing right now is in fact more frequent than it was in the past,” said Lhamon, who was appointed by President Barack Obama. She said she was heartened that so many people have joined protests nationwide, but said, “We should have been alarmed before we were able to witness it, too.”

A new ABC News/Ipsos poll shows a striking change in public opinion from the time of Brown’s death. In 2014, 43 percent of Americans saw his killing as a sign of broader problems in how police treat African Americans. After the death of George Floyd — the Minneapolis man who stopped breathing after a police officer knelt on his neck for more than eight minutes — the figure is now 74 percent.

Since the protests began in Minneapolis last week, there have been demonstrations in hundreds of cities and towns. The vast majority have been peaceful, but in some cases there have been looting, vandalism and attacks on police. In several cases, officers have been shot or hit with cars. In others, officers and police vehicles have been pelted with water bottles, rocks or molotov cocktails.

“I’ve been in law enforcement 43 years, and I’ve never seen it this bad. And I certainly understand the anger and frustration out there. But I’ve never seen this much violence,” said Steven Casstevens, the head of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. But, Casstevens said, some officers’ actions now risk tainting public views of all police. “No matter how bad the situation is, we have to be the professionals out there. We expect that.”

Charles H. Ramsey, a former police chief in Washington and Philadelphia, said he believes some of the incidents could have been prevented with better management by police leaders.

“It’s hard to be on your feet for that long. It’s hard to have people screaming at you for that long. It’s hard to keep dodging bricks and water bottles,” Ramsey said. He said officers should be rotated off the line regularly — and taken out early if they are losing their cool. “Supervisors need to be paying attention, looking for who may be getting a little antsy.”

The scale of the use of force is illustrated vividly on Twitter, in [postings](#) by Durham, N.C., lawyer T. Greg Doucette. He began collecting videos of police use of force from Minneapolis, numbering them and connecting them so readers could see that it wasn’t just one police officer or one time.

He started with 10. Then the list grew, with videos from cities all over the country.

“It’s the brazenness of it,” Doucette said, explaining what strikes him about the videos. “It’s weird to see it so often, in so many places, all just within the past week. And it’s all on camera, it’s not like they don’t know they’re being recorded. . . . They’re doing it anyway.”

“I’ve always been cynical. Apparently, not cynical enough,” he said in an interview Friday after he posted video No. 310.

In Philadelphia on Friday, a high-ranking police officer was taken off street duty after videos emerged of him beating protesters this week.

A video widely circulated on social media — No. 294 on Doucette’s list — shows the officer striking a protester in the head with his baton Monday, and another officer holding the man’s head to the ground with his knee. The victim, 21-year-old college student Evan Gorski, was charged with assaulting a police officer. He was released Wednesday after prosecutors reviewed the video.

Gorski was hospitalized and required staples in the back of his head, said his lawyer, Jonathan Fineberg. “He is home now and trying to understand why this happened,” he said. Fineberg is collecting evidence to file a lawsuit against the Philadelphia Police Department. “I’m deeply concerned about what appears to be brazen misconduct. . . . This raises in my mind concern about this officer’s history. If you act this way in front of so many people, it tells me that you’re used to getting away with it.”

That same officer appears to have been filmed again beating a protester Tuesday — two incidents of many drawing rebuke for aggressive policing in Philadelphia this week, including multiple incidents of tear gassing protesters, and being slow to respond when a group of white vigilantes “patrolled” a police precinct armed with bats and attacked residents.

In a news conference Friday afternoon, Philadelphia Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw said her department received several videos and photographs of police conduct at the protests this week. “Some of the images are disturbing,” she said. “I am deeply concerned.”

She said there are “several concurrent internal affairs investigations underway.”

On Friday, Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner (D) said he was charging the officer who hit Gorski, Staff Inspector Joseph Bologna, with aggravated assault.

Attempts to reach Bologna were unsuccessful Friday night.

In Los Angeles, another video posted online showed police officers with batons striking protesters during a daytime demonstration in the city’s Fairfax district on May 30. The protesters in the video appeared nonviolent.

Asked to comment on the matter, Los Angeles police officials issued a statement to the local ABC station that did not refer to any specific confrontation.

“Protests, marches and demonstrations over the last several days have been often dynamic and at times dangerous situations for both officers and demonstrators,” the statement said. In a separate incident Tuesday, police fired a nonlethal round that struck a homeless man in a wheelchair, leaving him bleeding heavily from his forehead, [according to](#) the Los Angeles Daily News.

The lead-up to the blow was captured on video: Benoit’s video shows officers in riot gear charging toward him. Another video captured the aftermath: Benoit slumped on the sidewalk, bloodied and disoriented. At one point, he spits out blood.

He felt “like half of my face was missing,” he said. “All I felt was blood dripping down.”

Benoit said that his glasses were broken during the altercation and that he believes his injuries might have been more severe had he not been wearing them.

Benoit is represented by an attorney, Paul Prestia, who filed a complaint with a city police review board. He said they do not know the names of the officers involved. “The flagrant, unprovoked attacks by New York City police officers on peaceful protesters like Mr. Benoit cannot be tolerated,” he said, adding that he finds it “ironic that people in our city who are peacefully protesting police brutality are being brutalized by police.”

The police review board has received 633 grievances in the past week, officials said. By comparison, 533 complaints were filed for the entire month of April, the most recent data publicly available.

Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) and Police Commissioner Dermot Shea have vowed to investigate all allegations of improper police action reported during the protests. Some could result in disciplinary actions against the officers, officials have said.

In Benoit’s case, a police spokeswoman said that officials were aware of the video and that the incident was under internal review. She declined to comment further.

Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett and city police commanders said Friday they continue to investigate a video that shows officers in that city repeatedly striking two women with batons. The incident is believed to have occurred Sunday, when the city was struggling to confront days of unrest that prompted an 8 p.m. curfew.

In a video shot by WISH-TV, several Indianapolis officers arrive on the scene to aid officers already there. A white officer grips a black woman near her chest with his left hand, but she breaks free. One officer shoots her with what appears to be pepper balls. Two other officers hit her with batons as she falls to the ground. A white woman standing nearby yells: “Why her?” An officer shoves that woman to the ground and handcuffs her.

Indianapolis Police Chief Randal Taylor said four officers have been reassigned pending the outcome of an internal investigation, which is expected to be completed next week. Police said they have not been able to locate the woman to interview her.

This week, some cities and states already have changed their policies for tracking and limiting police use of force. The city of Minneapolis proposed banning police from putting arrestees in chokeholds and requiring officers to try to stop any colleague who is using improper force. In Philadelphia, the police ordered officers to report any use of force via radio immediately after an incident, rather than filing a paper report after the fact, according to a memo obtained by news outlets WHYY and Billy Penn.

A group of about 50 protesters gathered in Buffalo on Friday at the place where the 75-year-old man fell after being shoved by police. It was a symbol of the multiplying nature of these protests: A spot that had been utterly unremarkable a day earlier was now a center of a new outrage.



	“This is not going to stop,” said Marina Akaic, one of the marchers. “You want us to go home, but you’re not hearing us.”
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Rebound in latest US jobs report</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/business/economy/jobs-report.html?action=click&amp;module=Well&amp;pgtype=Homepage&amp;section=Business">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/business/economy/jobs-report.html?action=click&amp;module=Well&amp;pgtype=Homepage&amp;section=Business</a>
GIST	<p>The job market halted its pandemic-induced collapse in May as employers brought back millions of workers and the unemployment rate unexpectedly declined.</p> <p>Tens of millions are still out of work, and the unemployment rate, which fell to 13.3 percent from 14.7 percent in April, remains worse than in any previous postwar recession. The rate would have been higher had it not been for data-collection issues.</p> <p>Nonetheless, after weeks of data depicting enormous economic destruction, Friday’s report from the Labor Department offered a glimmer of hope. Employers added 2.5 million jobs in May, defying economists’ expectations of further losses and holding the prospect that the rebound from the economic crisis could be faster than forecast.</p> <p>Job growth was concentrated in industries hit hardest early in the crisis, like leisure, hospitality and retail work. But manufacturing, health care and professional services added jobs as well, possibly signaling that the damage did not spread as deeply into the economy as many feared.</p> <p>Major stock indexes surged on the news, and President Trump hailed the report in remarks outside the White House, saying the rebound “leads us onto a long period of growth.”</p> <p>“We will go back to having the greatest economy anywhere in the world, nothing close, and I think we’re going to have a very good upcoming few months,” Mr. Trump said.</p> <p>All the same, economists warn that it will take far longer for the economy to climb out of the hole than it did to fall into it.</p> <p>And even as the economy shows signs of revival, the United States is confirming more than 20,000 new coronavirus cases a day, with counts rising in particular in the South and the West.</p> <p>While employers recalled temporarily laid-off or furloughed workers in May, the number of permanent job losses rose, a sign that some businesses didn’t survive the shutdown, or expect demand to stay depressed as the economy reopens. Others are bringing back workers at reduced hours: The number of people working part time because they couldn’t find full-time work barely budged. And millions more people have been laid off in the weeks since the data released Friday was collected in mid-May.</p> <p>“The surprise to me in this report is that the recovery was earlier than we expected, but the next question is whether it will be faster than we expected,” said Daniel Zhao, senior economist at the career site Glassdoor. The increase in permanent job losses, he said, “is a concerning sign for the length of the recovery because every layoff that turns permanent makes a full recovery harder.”</p> <p>Economists said the gains in May indicated that Congress and the Federal Reserve had at least partly succeeded in limiting permanent economic damage by providing trillions of dollars in assistance to households and businesses.</p> <p>But that aid is now in jeopardy, and economists warned that there was no guarantee the job market would continue to improve without it.</p>



“The economy is still being very much buffered by stimulus,” said Michelle Meyer, head of U.S. economics at Bank of America. “When that starts to wane, we will learn a lot more about the underlying health of the recovery.”

The Labor Department cautioned that data-collection issues troubling the agency throughout the crisis continued last month. Some temporarily jobless workers were characterized as employed in May; had they been counted correctly, the department said, the unemployment rate would have topped 16 percent.

The official unemployment rate also leaves out many people who are not actively looking for jobs or are working reduced hours. A broader measure of unemployment and underemployment, which includes those groups, was 21.2 percent in May, down from April but higher than any other month on record.

For some demographic groups, the crisis is deeper. Early job losses were concentrated among low-wage workers in service jobs, many of them black and Latino. The unemployment rate for black workers rose slightly, to 16.8 percent, although mostly because more people were looking for work. The jobless rate for Latinos fell but was still the highest of any racial or ethnic group, at 17.6 percent.

Even if they didn’t anticipate the May bounce, many economists had expected that unemployment would begin to ease as states reopened and businesses called employees back to work.

More than half of the month’s job gains — 1.4 million — were in restaurants and bars, many of which received assistance under the federal Paycheck Protection Program. Friday’s report suggests that the program, along with other elements of the government’s response, helped offset at least some of the economic damage caused by the shutdown, which should allow for a faster recovery.

“If it is the case that more people were able to hold on to their jobs and remain attached to the labor force, then the recovery will be more efficient,” Ms. Meyer said. “People will have more income to spend, they will have more consistency as far as their employment, and confidence will be higher.”

At Beef ‘O’ Brady’s, a Florida-based chain of more than 150 sports bars, business was down 62 percent in April, when its dining rooms were closed nationwide and its only business came from takeout. But only a handful of the chain’s restaurants have closed permanently, in part because nearly all of its franchisees received Paycheck Protection Program loans.

“The damage would have been much greater without P.P.P., I can tell you that,” said Chris Elliott, the chief executive.

Now business has begun to pick up as states gradually allow restaurants to reopen. In the last week of May, sales were down about 15 percent, Mr. Elliott said, and customers appear eager to eat out again.

The longer-run outlook is uncertain. If business stays at its current level, many franchisees will struggle to eke out a profit, he said, and many locations are losing money. That won’t be sustainable.

“There are going to be franchise owners that if they can’t reach 15 percent, or it doesn’t improve incrementally over time, they’re going to get fatigued, and I think some of them are at risk of just throwing in the towel,” Mr. Elliott said.

At the same time, employment in nearly every sector remains far below where it was before the crisis. Many economists expect an initial resurgence in at least some kinds of business. But it isn’t clear how strong that upturn will be, or what will come after.

“It’s the jump and then the crawl, and the question is how high is the jump and then how long does the crawl take,” said Nick Bunker, who leads North American economic research at the Indeed Hiring Lab.

When Mike Lowe flew to Florida in early March to visit his mother, he had a successful freelance business doing web and graphic design, and a part-time gig in dog day care. A week later, he arrived home in

Portland, Ore., to a text message from the dog business telling him not to go into work. He was let go entirely within days, even as his freelance clients began calling to cancel orders.

Two and a half months later, Oregon has begun to reopen, but Mr. Lowe, 51, is treading water. One freelance project looks likely to resume soon, but another client, a local bar, told him this week that it would shut down permanently — its business relied on live music, which seems unlikely to come back anytime soon. The owner of the dog day care says she hopes to bring him back at reduced hours but isn't sure when business will rebound sufficiently to make that possible.

"I'd say I'm just in wait-and-see mode at the moment," he said.

The leisure and hospitality industry, which includes restaurants, had a severe loss in April but bounced back the most in May.

Like many laid-off workers, Mr. Lowe is able to get by largely because of the \$600 a week in extra unemployment pay that Congress approved as part of its emergency funding bill in March. But that benefit is set to run out at the end of July, and it is far from clear that Congress will extend it. Economists warn that pulling away support too early could stall the recovery.

"Right now, the government is plugging a good deal of that hole for households, but how long will that last, we don't know," said Ellen Zentner, chief U.S. economist for Morgan Stanley. She noted that the unemployment rate will almost certainly remain elevated in August, adding, "It's a very tough time to pull support away from households when the unemployment rate is still that high."

Even now, as some businesses start to bring back workers, layoffs are continuing. Nearly two million workers filed first-time claims for state unemployment benefits last week, more than double the worst week of any previous recession. State and local governments cut nearly half a million jobs in May, and millions more such layoffs are likely in coming months in response to plunging tax revenues.

In Jackson, Mich., a small city about 70 miles west of Detroit, the school board voted last week to cut more than 40 positions in response to a multimillion-dollar budget shortfall. Jeff Beal, the district's superintendent, said he worried about the impact the cuts would have on education and on the local economy. But he said the district had little choice.

Among the cuts: the assistant superintendent for human resources, which means Mr. Beal will have to inform laid-off workers himself.

"Now that that position has been eliminated, that responsibility falls to me," he said. "I'm going to have to make a lot of very personal, very painful phone calls this week."

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HEADLINE	06/05 Buffalo officers suspended for shoving
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/buffalo-police-shove-protester-unrest.html?action=click&amp;module=Latest&amp;pgtype=Homepage">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/buffalo-police-shove-protester-unrest.html?action=click&amp;module=Latest&amp;pgtype=Homepage</a>
GIST	<p>Prosecutors are investigating the actions of two Buffalo police officers who were suspended without pay on Thursday night after a video showed them shoving a 75-year-old protester, who was hospitalized with a head injury.</p> <p>The video taken by WBFO, a local radio station, shows the man, identified on Friday as Martin Gugino, approaching a group of officers during a protest stemming from the death of George Floyd. He was identified by the Western New York Peace Center, a nonprofit that named him in a Facebook post, saying he is a peace activist and a member.</p>

After the video shows Mr. Gugino stopping in front of the officers to talk, an officer yells “push him back” three times; one officer pushes his arm into Mr. Gugino’s chest, while another extends his baton toward him with both hands. Mr. Gugino flails backward, landing just out of range of the camera, with blood immediately leaking from his right ear.

An officer leans down to examine him, the video shows, but another officer then pulls the first officer away. Several other officers are seen walking by the man, motionless on the ground, without checking on him.

On Friday, John T. Evans, the president of the Buffalo police union, said all 57 officers on the Emergency Response Team, a special squad formed to respond to riots, had resigned from the team in support of the suspended officers, [according to The Buffalo News](#). The officers remain employed by the department.

“These officers were simply following orders from Deputy Police Commissioner Joseph Gramaglia to clear the square,” Mr. Evans told The News. “It doesn’t specify clear the square of men, 50 and under or 15 to 40. They were simply doing their job. I don’t know how much contact was made. He did slip, in my estimation. He fell backwards.”

The Erie County District Attorney’s Office said in a statement on Friday that prosecutors were investigating the incident. It said Mr. Gugino was unable to provide a statement to investigators on Thursday night at the Erie County Medical Center, where he was taken for treatment for the head injury. On Friday, Mr. Gugino was in serious but stable condition and was alert and oriented, according to a hospital spokesman.

The video, which rapidly spread across social media, added to a growing body of videos from across the nation that showed [officers responding to protests against police violence with more police violence](#). Fury among online supporters of the protests was heightened by the Police Department’s initial claim that he “[tripped and fell](#),” a description at direct odds with the video.

The officers’ union and the Buffalo Police Department did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment on Friday. Byron Brown, the mayor of Buffalo, said the city was aware of the development.

“At this time, we can confirm that contingency plans are in place to maintain police services and ensure public safety within our community,” he said. “The Buffalo police continue to actively work with the New York State Police and other cooperating agencies.”

A lawyer for Mr. Gugino described him on Friday as a “longtime peaceful protester, human rights advocate and overall fan of the U.S. Constitution for many years.”

“Mr. Gugino requests privacy for himself and his family as he recovers,” the lawyer, Kelly V. Zarcone, said. “He appreciates all of the well-wishes he has received and requests that any further protests continue to be peaceful.”

The Buffalo Police Department told local news media that five people were arrested during the protest.

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo of New York condemned the actions of the officers in the video late Thursday night.

“The incident in Buffalo is wholly unjustified and utterly disgraceful,” Mr. Cuomo said in a statement. “I’ve spoken with City of Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown and we agree that the officers involved should be immediately suspended. Police officers must enforce — not abuse — the law.”

“It sickens me,” the Erie County executive, Mark Poloncarz, said [on Twitter](#) of the video, which includes both vulgarity and disturbing images.

Mr. Brown, the mayor, said in a statement that he was disturbed by the episode and that the city's police commissioner had ordered an immediate investigation.

"After days of peaceful protests and several meetings between myself, police leadership and members of the community, tonight's event is disheartening," he said.

Like other cities in New York, Buffalo has widely deployed law enforcement during the protests. [On June 1](#), officers in armored vehicles fired tear gas after asking a crowd to disperse. Several stores were looted; a vehicle drove into a group of police officers, injuring two; and two people were struck by gunfire.

The next day, Mr. Poloncarz said he was imposing a curfew because of those events, when a "peaceful protest devolved into violence."

In response, the New York Civil Liberties Union raised concerns that the curfew would be disproportionately enforced against nonwhite residents of the state. On Thursday, John Curr, the director of its Buffalo chapter, referred to the treatment of Mr. Gugino, saying the "casual cruelty" of the officers was "gut-wrenching and unacceptable."

"Suspensions and an investigation are already in order, but there is little more we have to see to know what took place," Mr. Curr said in a statement. "Police officers cannot continue to hide behind the lie that they are protecting and serving."

Mr. Curr said city leaders "need to take this as a wake-up call and seriously address the police violence during this week's protest and the culture of impunity that led to this incident."

The Buffalo Police Department has been accused in lawsuits in recent years of discriminating against minority groups. In 2018, the department was [sued in federal court, accused of discriminating](#) against people of color through traffic enforcement practices that included checkpoints in neighborhoods where a majority of residents are black.

Chinyere Ezie, one of the lawyers litigating the case, said additional plaintiffs had been added to the suit, amended in April. Ms. Ezie said the video showing Mr. Gugino's treatment highlighted "systemic problems and institutional failures" in the department's enforcement, even when both the city's mayor and police chief are black.

"It is a lens applied as to who and what is criminal," she said. "We are seeing a pandemic of police brutality in a racial justice lens."

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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 US plans to pull 9,500 troops out Germany</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/trump-directs-u-s-troop-reduction-in-germany-11591375651">https://www.wsj.com/articles/trump-directs-u-s-troop-reduction-in-germany-11591375651</a>
GIST	<p>President Trump has directed the Pentagon to remove thousands of American troops from Germany by September, a move that would dramatically reshape the U.S. military posture in Europe and reflects growing tensions between Washington and Berlin over military spending and other security issues, U.S. government officials said Friday.</p> <p>The removal order would reduce the U.S. troop presence in Germany by 9,500 from the 34,500 service members who are permanently assigned there. It would also cap at 25,000 the number of American troops in Germany at any one time. Under current practice, overall troop levels can rise to as high as 52,000 as units rotate in and out or take part in training exercises.</p> <p>The Trump administration ordered the change in a memorandum signed recently by White House national security adviser Robert O'Brien, the officials said Friday.</p>

The decision drew criticism from some former senior defense officials and lawmakers concerned that it would further weaken a key alliance and empower U.S. adversaries. Moscow is likely to welcome the open display of differences between two key North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies, U.S. experts said, though Russia didn't comment publicly on the development.

One senior U.S. official said that the administration has been discussing the move since September and that it isn't linked to German Chancellor Angela Merkel's decision not to attend a G-7 meeting Mr. Trump was to host in Washington at the end of June.

But the official acknowledged that it reflected the Trump administration's long frustration with German policy, especially [the nation's level of military spending](#) and its insistence on completing the controversial Nord Stream 2 pipeline that will channel Russian gas directly to Germany under the Baltic Sea.

A senior German defense official said his government hasn't been formally notified of the move, though it had been hearing rumors through diplomatic channels that U.S. troop reductions were coming.

"We always knew Trump would lash out when he is under pressure domestically, but we thought he would first pull out of Afghanistan," the official said. "This move will not help friends of the U.S. in Germany who are working hard to preserve the trans-Atlantic relationship, but it will boost the anti-American sentiment that has been spreading here."

Germany's defense minister promised last year to meet the [NATO goal of spending 2% of its GDP on defense](#), but the target date for reaching that objective is 2031.

Pentagon officials declined to comment.

Richard Grenell, the former ambassador to Germany who recently [stepped down](#) as the acting director of national intelligence, has long pressed for a significant troop cut, though the administration wasn't of one mind on the question and some other officials hoped for a more modest reduction.

As part of the decision, the Trump administration is also rethinking the number of U.S. troops sent to Germany on a temporary basis for training, the officials said.

Germany has long been a major hub for U.S. military training in Europe, and an array of important American military bases are located there. They include major military training ranges at Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels, as well as the headquarters for the U.S. Air Force and Army forces in Europe. The U.S. Africa Command also is located in Germany.

The Pentagon embraced a defense strategy in 2018 that calls for stepping up efforts to deter possible Russian and Chinese aggression. As he has campaigned for reelection, Mr. Trump has urged returning troops from what he has called the "endless wars" in Afghanistan and the Middle East.

Critics say that in pushing to reduce the U.S. military presence in Germany, Mr. Trump appears to be hamstringing his own military strategy.

Frederick Hodges, a retired Army general who previously commanded U.S. Army forces in Europe, said the U.S. presence in Germany has facilitated the Pentagon's ability to project power in Europe and beyond.

"Russia has done nothing to lower its threat to our allies. Why would we want to reward that behavior with a reduction of our forces in Europe?" Gen. Hodges said. "Germany is the most important ally we have in Europe. This looks like punishment somehow."

Mr. Trump's order would give the Pentagon some flexibility in carrying out cuts as long as there were no more than 25,000 troops in Germany at any period, a person familiar with the plan said.

Some American officials suggested that the U.S. might meet that ceiling and still maintain a significant force in Europe by shifting some of the troops to Poland and other European nations while bringing the rest home.

One official said that more than 1,000 of the troops leaving Germany would be deployed to Poland, which is meeting the NATO military-spending goal and has decided to stop buying Russian gas altogether after 2022.

The infrastructure in Poland and other Central European countries, however, generally isn't as well developed as in Germany. And the suddenness of the move might concern allies, including South Korea, which is [locked in a dispute with Washington](#) over how much it should pay to defray the cost of the U.S. military deployment there.

"A move like this not only erodes trust with Germany but with other allies, too," said James Townsend, a former senior Pentagon official for Europe and NATO. "Other allies will be asking, 'Will I be next?'"

Congress has yet to be officially informed of the decision. Sen. Jack Reed (D., R.I.), the senior Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, criticized it as a "favor to Putin and another leadership failure by this administration that further strains relations with our allies."

The Quincy Institute, a think tank that favors a limited role for the American military, praised Mr. Trump's decision, urging that the administration follow it with a broader strategy that "empowers Europe to take responsibility for its own security."

The Trump administration has taken other actions that have proved controversial regarding U.S. defense in Europe.

In May, Rep. Eliot Engel (D., N.Y.), who chairs the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and other lawmakers complained that the Pentagon was taking funds from military construction efforts in Europe to pay for the border wall with Mexico. The cuts involved \$274 million in spending that had been intended to construct sites to store munitions, fuel and other logistical requirements.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Ellis arrest witness: 'stop hitting him'</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/manuel-ellis-tacoma-video-unrest.html?action=click&amp;module=News&amp;pgtype=Homepage">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/manuel-ellis-tacoma-video-unrest.html?action=click&amp;module=News&amp;pgtype=Homepage</a>
GIST	<p>TACOMA, Wash. — A woman who witnessed the arrest of <a href="#">Manuel Ellis</a>, a black man who died during the police encounter in Tacoma, Wash., has come forward to dispute the account provided by the police, saying officers themselves had initiated a confrontation so violent that she yelled at them to "stop hitting him."</p> <p>Sara McDowell, who was in a car behind the officers, said Friday in an interview that she saw Mr. Ellis approach the police car late on the night of March 3 for what she initially thought was a friendly conversation. But that suddenly changed, she said, when an officer threw open the car door and knocked Mr. Ellis to the ground.</p> <p>The police have provided a different account, saying that Mr. Ellis initiated the confrontation when he picked up a police officer and threw him to the ground, prompting officers to move in to restrain him.</p> <p>Ms. McDowell, who recorded parts of the encounter on video, said that the violence of the police response had appeared to her to be unprovoked.</p>



In brief video clips captured by Ms. McDowell, the officers can be seen punching Mr. Ellis, 33, while he was on the ground. On one of the video clips, her voice can be heard calling out to them: “Stop. Oh my God, stop hitting him. Just arrest him.”

“I was terrified for his life, honestly,” Ms. McDowell said. “The way that they attacked him didn’t make sense to me. I went home and was sick to my stomach.”

[Mr. Ellis died in the minutes following his arrest](#) after pleading, “I can’t breathe” — an eerie echo of some of the final words from other black men who have died in police custody, including [Eric Garner](#) and [George Floyd](#).

Ms. McDowell said she did not realize until this week that Mr. Ellis had died in the aftermath of what she saw.

Detective Ed Troyer of the Pierce County Sheriff’s Department, which has been investigating the death, said authorities have not had a chance to speak with Ms. McDowell but had further evidence they have not yet disclosed and would not share it until the case had been brought to prosecutors next week.

The county medical examiner, Dr. Thomas Clark, listed the cause of death as “hypoxia due to physical restraint,” according to a copy of the report provided by the family’s lawyer on Friday night. It concluded that his death was a homicide but also said it was unlikely that his death would have occurred because of physical restraint alone, saying methamphetamine intoxication and heart disease were factors.

Dr. Clark’s report said Mr. Ellis had enough methamphetamine in his system to be fatal, but he said paramedics initially found him to have a normal heartbeat. At the same time, he was close to respiratory arrest. Dr. Clark said it was possible that the most important factor in his death was oxygen deprivation “as a result of physical restraint, positioning, and the placement of a mask over the mouth.”

The report said officers had placed a “spit hood,” a device used to keep someone from spitting or biting, over Mr. Ellis’s mouth.

After Ms. McDowell’s videos were posted online on Thursday, Tacoma’s mayor, Victoria Woodards, [released a video message](#) late that night saying she was enraged by what she saw and was directing the city manager to fire all of the officers involved.

“The officers who committed this crime should be fired and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law,” Ms. Woodards said.

While the videos show only two officers arresting Mr. Ellis, the Tacoma Police Department has identified four officers involved in the arrest: Christopher Burbank, 34; Matthew Collins, 37; Masyih Ford, 28; and Timothy Rankine, 31. Two of the officers are white, while one is black and one is Asian, according to the Police Department.

After the death, the officers had been placed on leave but then returned to work because no policy violations were found. They were placed on leave again this week.

On the night of his death, Mr. Ellis had been jubilant after playing drums at a church service, family and friends said. Marcia Carter, his mother, said he called her late that night as he returned home and told her that he was feeling good.

“I’m just coming from church, Mom, feeling real good,” Ms. Carter recalled him saying. “I’m ready to give my life to Christ. I want to live it right. I want to raise my kids. I want to be around in their lives. I want to do the right thing.”

Family members said he later went out to get a snack from a convenience store.



	<p>Detective Troyer said earlier that before the arrest, Mr. Ellis was bothering people in vehicles, approached the officers and then violently attacked one of them when they stepped out of the vehicle, throwing one officer to the ground.</p> <p>The first video captured by Ms. McDowell begins in the middle of the encounter, showing two officers taking Mr. Ellis to the ground on the road in front of some garbage cans. With Mr. Ellis on his back, one of the officers got down on his knees and began punching Mr. Ellis.</p> <p>In a later clip, as Ms. McDowell drove past the scene, video showed the officers asking Mr. Ellis to put his hands behind his back. The officers appeared to have Mr. Ellis subdued and on his side.</p> <p>Detective Troyer said earlier this week that Mr. Ellis at one point called out, “I can’t breathe,” and the officers called for medical support and propped Mr. Ellis on his side. He has said that Mr. Ellis was breathing when medics arrived but that though personnel worked on him for more than half an hour, he did not survive.</p> <p>The officers were not wearing body cameras, and Ms. Woodards said Thursday that she would push to get funding for body cameras.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 NYPD ‘kettling’ of peaceful protesters</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/nyregion/police-kettling-protests-nyc.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/nyregion/police-kettling-protests-nyc.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage</a>
GIST	<p>It was about 45 minutes past New York City’s 8 p.m. curfew on Wednesday when a peaceful protest march encountered a line of riot police near Cadman Plaza in Brooklyn.</p> <p>Hundreds of demonstrators stopped and chanted for 10 minutes, arms raised, until their leaders decided to turn the group around and leave the area.</p> <p>The protesters had not seen that riot police had flooded the plaza behind them, boxing them in. The maneuver was a law enforcement tactic called kettling. The police encircle protesters so that they have no way to exit from a park, city block or other public space, and then charge in and make arrests.</p> <p>For the next 20 minutes in Downtown Brooklyn, officers swinging batons turned a demonstration that had been largely peaceful into a scene of chaos.</p> <p>The kettling operations carried out by the police department after curfew have become among the most unsettling symbols of its use of force against peaceful protests, and <a href="#">have touched off a fierce backlash</a> against Mayor Bill de Blasio and the police commissioner, Dermot F. Shea.</p> <p>In the past several days, New York Times journalists covering the protests have seen officers repeatedly charge at demonstrators after curfew with seemingly little provocation, shoving them onto sidewalks, striking them with batons and using other rough tactics.</p> <p>The escalation in the use of force in New York is part of a national trend. Across the country, <a href="#">local police have resorted to increasingly violent crowd control techniques</a> to control the protests ignited by the death of George Floyd, a black man, as he was being held down by a white officer in Minneapolis.</p> <p>In Minneapolis, the police have used tear gas, rubber bullets and projectiles to deter peaceful protesters and journalists. In Los Angeles, the police were <a href="#">recorded</a> using batons to strike demonstrators, and in <a href="#">Philadelphia</a>, police officers corralled and tear-gassed an entire crowd.</p>

Two Buffalo officers were suspended after they were filmed by a local news outlet shoving a 75-year-old protester to the ground. And in Atlanta, [six police officers were charged](#) after they were recorded pulling two college students out of their car, and using a stun gun on them.

Several incidents are under investigation in New York, too, the authorities said, including a moment when two police S.U.V.s [drove forward into a crowd](#) that had been blocking them, knocking several people to the ground.

The kettling strategy has been broadly defended by both Mr. de Blasio and Mr. Shea, who said it was necessary escalation to deter looters who [ransacked parts of Manhattan](#) over the weekend. “There comes a point where enough is enough,” Mr. de Blasio said on Thursday.

But there have been [few reports of looting in the last three days of unrest](#), and the police are deploying their more aggressive tactics against protesters who have done little beyond continuing to march after the city’s 8 p.m. curfew. About 270 people were arrested on Thursday night.

The police department’s crackdown suffered a blow on Friday from the district attorneys in Manhattan and Brooklyn, who announced they would not prosecute anyone arrested during the protests on low-level charges.

The Brooklyn district attorney, Eric Gonzalez, said he would not prosecute those charged with violating curfew or unlawful assembly, while Manhattan’s prosecutor, Cyrus R. Vance Jr., said that “in the interest of justice” he would decline to pursue convictions for unlawful assembly and disorderly conduct.

“Our office has a moral imperative to enact public policies which assure all New Yorkers that in our justice system and our society, black lives matter and police violence is a crime,” Mr. Vance said in a statement. Mr. Gonzalez’s said, “We stand for the right of people to protest.” Both said they would continue to prosecute people accused of violence against officers and of looting.

As images of police officers using force to arrest seemingly peaceful demonstrators have circulated online, Mr. de Blasio, who ran on a platform to reform the police, has come under sharp criticism from some elected officials, community leaders and even his former aides. He was jeered and booed at a memorial for Mr. Floyd on Thursday.

By Friday, after more than a week of protests, the mayor had softened his tone, pledging to review reports of police officers behaving inappropriately and promising he would announce disciplinary measures against some officers shortly.

Later, in an interview on WNYC, the public radio station, the mayor said that the encircling of protesters was sometimes necessary for public safety, and that the police were charging into crowds only when their commanders had evidence of imminent violence.

“I don’t want to see protesters hemmed in if they don’t need to be,” he said, but he added “that sometimes there’s a legitimate problem and it’s not visible to protesters.”

On [Thursday](#), the police commissioner said he was reviewing at least seven videos that showed potential police misconduct and promised he would hold the officers accountable if the allegations were proven. On Friday night, he announced the suspension of two officers: one who [violently pushed a woman](#) to the ground, and another who pulled down a protester’s face mask and [then pepper sprayed him](#).

But Mr. Shea also stressed that some protesters had come to the demonstrations with the intent to attack the police. He also said the anti-police rhetoric of the demonstrators — and some elected officials — was encouraging attacks on officers, several of whom had been injured with sticks, or thrown bottles and bricks.

“We need healing,” Mr. Shea said. “We need dialogue. We need peace.”

For many protesters, however, the hard-nosed tactics the police have employed to shut down marches after curfew have only exacerbated the violence.

Axel Hernandez, 30, was protesting at Cadman Plaza on Wednesday night when officers rushed into the crowd. Mr. Hernandez, who had marched several times this week, said that up until that point it had been one of the calmest demonstrations he had attended.

“That was the most peaceful, no bottles thrown, no anything,” he said. “The next thing I know, police rush in, with batons, and started moving people, and start hitting people.”

Experts on crowd control say kettling is a technique the police have used for decades, not just in New York City, but around the world, including Northern Ireland. In theory, officers surround protesters, cutting off exits until they tire, then let them disperse in small groups.

But because demonstrators have nowhere to go, the maneuver often ends with a charge and mass arrests. Since the city put a curfew in place this week, the police have used the technique in [Brooklyn](#), Manhattan, and the [Bronx](#).

“Kettling is basically when you take the crowd and drive it into a box, which is a great idea if you’re wanting to capture people,” said Dennis Kenney, a criminal justice professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. “It’s generally a way to greatly increase the likelihood of conflict.”

On Thursday night, in the Bronx, rows of officers surrounded protesters from all sides, pinning them in before running at them with batons and striking several people. At least one was taken away in a stretcher. Asked about the incident on WNYC, Mr. de Blasio said the police believed some in the crowd had intended to be destructive.

“The groups organizing that event advertised their desire to do violence and create violence,” Mr. de Blasio said.

“If any protesters were there peacefully and not associated with that, and they got hemmed in at all, that’s something I don’t accept that and we have to fix,” Mr. de Blasio said, promising a full review of the incident.

Mr. Shea [said Friday](#) that police officers recovered gasoline and weapons, including a firearm, from the crowd.

Many demonstrators whom the police have trapped in kettle formations have had no way to disperse before being arrested, witnesses and protesters said. On Wednesday night, for instance, the police would not let protesters encircled near Gracie Mansion, the mayor’s official residence in Manhattan, comply with an order to leave.

“We were asking them, ‘Where should we go?’ Everyone’s hands were in the air,” one of the protesters, Lucas Zwirner, said. Many demonstrators told the police they would disperse and go home, Mr. Zwirner said, but officers would not let them through.

Police officers have used the maneuver to end some marches, but not others. At one demonstration in Brooklyn on Wednesday, the police waited until 9 p.m. — an hour beyond the 8 p.m. curfew — to surround protesters and charge.

The day before, they allowed thousands to march peacefully across the Manhattan Bridge hours after curfew had ended, and escorted a group of thousands back to Brooklyn before letting them disperse. It was a different story in the Bronx on Thursday, when officers surrounded a group of demonstrators and began making arrests just minutes after the 8 p.m. curfew.

	“We are continuing to exercise discretion,” Mr. Shea said Thursday evening. “Where we have made arrests, we have made them strategically.”
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Abrupt remote learning upends students</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/coronavirus-education-lost-learning.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/coronavirus-education-lost-learning.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage</a>
GIST	<p>While a nation of burned-out, <a href="#">involuntary home schoolers</a> slogs to the finish line of a disrupted academic year, a picture is emerging of the extent of the learning loss among children in America, and the size of the gaps schools will be asked to fill when they reopen.</p> <p>It is not pretty.</p> <p>New research suggests that by September, most students will have fallen behind where they would have been if they had stayed in classrooms, with some losing the equivalent of a full school year’s worth of academic gains. Racial and socioeconomic achievement gaps will most likely widen <a href="#">because of disparities</a> in access to computers, home internet connections and direct instruction from teachers.</p> <p>And the crisis is far from over. The harm to students could grow if schools continue to teach fully or partly online in the fall, or if they reopen with significant budget cuts because of the economic downturn. High school dropout rates could increase, researchers say, while younger children could miss out on foundational concepts in phonics and fractions that prepare them for a lifetime of learning and working.</p> <p>In South Los Angeles, Danielle Gandy has spent countless difficult hours guiding her energetic 6-year-old, Cadynce, through online meetings and assignments provided by her charter school. Still, Ms. Gandy is under no illusion that Cadynce has completed the normal kindergarten curriculum, and is especially concerned about her progress in math.</p> <p>“Looking at the work the teacher has done, I applaud her,” Ms. Gandy said, “but it’s maybe a fraction of what they would be learning if they were in an actual school setting. If they are transitioning into first grade, will there be time to catch up and get them up to par?”</p> <p>Teachers across the country share such worries. In Aurora, Colo., outside Denver, Clint Silva, a seventh-grade social studies teacher, was planning to spend the spring working with his students on research skills. For one remote assignment, he asked them to create a primary source about <a href="#">the pandemic</a> that future historians could consult.</p> <p>But a majority of his students have not consistently engaged with remote assignments. They are <a href="#">not receiving traditional grades</a>, and some have parents who are working outside the home or who are not tech-savvy, and are unable to assist with online schooling.</p> <p>“We know this isn’t a good way to teach,” Mr. Silva said. “We want to hold kids accountable. We want to see their progress, be in the classroom with them and see them struggle and overcome that. Instead, we are logging in for an hour a day, and kids are turning their cameras off and staying quiet and not talking to us.”</p> <p>Research can now estimate the size of the learning loss students have experienced under such conditions. Because regular standardized testing has been suspended, some of the research uses past disruptions to learning — such as natural disasters or even summer break — to project the potential impact of the current crisis. Other studies look at schools that used online learning software before the coronavirus shutdown, and check to see how students performed using the same programs from home.</p> <p>The average student could begin the next school year having lost as much as a third of the expected progress from the previous year in reading and half of the expected progress in math, according to</p>

a [working paper](#) from NWEA, a nonprofit organization, and scholars at Brown University and the University of Virginia.

A separate analysis of 800,000 students from [researchers at Brown and Harvard](#) looked at how Zearn, an online math program, was used both before and after schools closed in March. It found that through late April, student progress in math decreased by about half in classrooms located in low-income ZIP codes, by a third in classrooms in middle-income ZIP codes and not at all in classrooms in high-income ZIP codes. When all of the impacts are taken into account, the average student could fall seven months behind academically, while black and Hispanic students could experience even greater learning losses, equivalent to 10 months for black children and nine months for Latinos, according to [an analysis from McKinsey & Company](#), the consulting group.

There are several reasons low-income, black and Hispanic students appear to be suffering the most through the crisis. The Center on Reinventing Public Education, a think tank, will release an analysis next week of the pandemic learning policies of 477 school districts. It found that only a fifth have required live teaching over video, and that wealthy school districts were twice as likely to provide such teaching as low-income districts.

Rural students have been especially cut off from their teachers. Only 27 percent of their districts required any instruction while schools were closed, according to the center.

While almost every school has provided assignments for students to complete independently, that does not necessarily mean that teachers conducted remote lessons. Schools with many poor students sometimes chose to relax instructional expectations on teachers because they knew families did not have reliable access to home computers or internet connections able to stream video.

The disparities in educational progress do not appear to be caused by any lack of effort on the part of families. The poorest parents spent about the same amount of time during school closures assisting their children with learning — 13 hours per week — as those making over \$200,000 per year, according to a May [Census Bureau survey](#) of households with children.

Administrators and teachers know they will need to catch students up in the fall, perhaps through reviewing skills and content that would have normally been covered this school year. But they face major hurdles and competing priorities. Preparing school buildings to meet new state and federal health guidelines — including smaller class sizes, temperature checks and increased access to sinks, soap, personal protective equipment and disinfectants — requires money and careful planning.

It is just as important to improve the quality of remote learning, given the likelihood that schools in many parts of the country will face [continued intermittent closures](#) to contain the virus, and that some parents will simply choose not to send their children to classrooms before a vaccine is available.

Students are also expected to need a greatly increased level of social and emotional support from counselors and therapists, in part because of the impact of spending months in social isolation, often while families experienced job loss, economic hardship and health distress.

All of this will need to happen as schools face significant budget cuts that will not be offset by the federal infusion that has been promised so far, according to Marguerite Roza, a school finance expert at Georgetown University.

Schools could freeze hiring, especially for support roles like reading specialists and counselors, and might cancel programs like pre-K and after-school enrichment, she said.

For protesters [flooding the nation's streets](#) in response to the death of George Floyd, a black man killed while Minneapolis police officers arrested him, the idea that school budgets could face greater cuts than [police budgets](#) as cities deal with the economic impact of the pandemic has emerged as a major concern, and yet more evidence of racial inequality.

Already, New York City, the nation's largest school district, [has said](#) it would slow down the expansion of its universal pre-K program to 3-year-olds. California's urban schools [have warned](#) that budget cuts proposed by Gov. Gavin Newsom could make it impossible for them to reopen safely while simultaneously helping students catch up academically.

In Broward County, Fla., north of Miami, Iman Cassells Alleyne, an elementary school special education teacher, spent much of the spring semester filming herself giving remote lessons on multiplication and phonics, even as she home-schooled her own three sons. She wanted to provide one-on-one tutoring and reached out to students numerous times, but many were not able to regularly get online for remote learning because of issues at home.

Her students have learning disabilities and behavioral disorders that make school challenging under normal circumstances. Now, she is concerned they will fall even further behind.

"If we continue doing things the way we do them," she said, "we won't be able to fill those gaps."

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HEADLINE	06/05 Cities reevaluate public safety budgets
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/defund-police-floyd-protests.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/defund-police-floyd-protests.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage</a>
GIST	<p>After more than a week of protests against police brutality and unrest that left parts of the city burned, a growing chorus of elected officials, civic leaders and residents in Minneapolis are urging the city to break up the Police Department and reimagine the way policing works.</p> <p>"We are going to dismantle the Minneapolis Police Department," Jeremiah Ellison, a member of the City Council, <a href="#">said on Twitter this week</a>. "And when we're done, we're not simply gonna glue it back together," he added. "We are going to dramatically rethink how we approach public safety and emergency response."</p> <p>At least three others, including the City Council president, Lisa Bender, have also called for taking the Police Department apart.</p> <p>Minneapolis is not the only city asking the question. Across the country, calls to defund, downsize or abolish police departments are gaining new traction after national unrest following the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after a white police officer pressed a knee into his neck for nearly nine minutes on a busy Minneapolis street.</p> <p>On Wednesday, Mayor Eric Garcetti of Los Angeles announced that he would <a href="#">cut as much as \$150 million</a> from a planned increase in the Police Department's budget. And in New York, Corey Johnson, the City Council speaker, and Daniel Dromm, a council member from Queens, vowed even before the latest protests <a href="#">to cut the Police Department's \$6 billion budget</a>, which they noted had been left almost untouched even as education and youth programs faced steep cuts.</p> <p>The calls to redirect money away from the police come as cities face steep budget shortfalls because of the economic fallout from the coronavirus, and as public anger against police brutality has roiled the country. Redirecting funding is one of the few levers that elected officials have over the police, who are frequently shielded by powerful unions and labor arbitrators who reinstate officers fired for misconduct.</p> <p>Mr. Dromm, chair of the city's finance committee, said that in order to restore some funding to youth programs he was considering a delay in the next class of police cadets and scrutinizing the \$700 million in police overtime that has been budgeted for this year. He said the events of recent days — including <a href="#">police officers' treatment of peaceful protesters</a> — have shown that years of efforts to reform the department have not succeeded.</p>



“The culture in the New York City Police Department has not changed,” he said. “The white shirts, the commanding officers, they kind of get it and talk the talk, but the average beat cop doesn’t believe in it and we’ve seen this over and over again.”

In Minneapolis, calls to dismantle the police are likely to further demoralize a force that already is reeling from the killing of Mr. Floyd, the criminal charges filed against four former officers, looting in the city and the burning of a police precinct.

“That’s not the answer,” said Gwen Gunter, a retired lieutenant of the Minneapolis Police Department who is also a member of a black police officers’ association.

“There’s a part of me that hopes they do succeed,” she said, “because I want to see how long it takes before they say, ‘Oh, no we do need a Police Department.’”

The Minneapolis police chief, Medaria Arradondo, on Friday pledged to “continue to work on efforts to improve public trust, public safety and transformational culture change of the M.P.D.” His statement did not address the recent calls to dismantle the department.

Those who support the movement to scale back the responsibilities of the police say officers frequently abuse their power and instigate violence rather than prevent it. They say many social welfare tasks that currently fall to armed police officers — responding to drug overdoses, and working with people who have a mental illness or are homeless — would be better carried out by nurses or social workers.

One model that members of the Minneapolis City Council cite is Cahoots, a nonprofit mobile crisis intervention program that has handled mental health calls in Eugene, Ore., since 1989. Cahoots employees responded to more than 24,000 calls for service last year — about 20 percent of the area’s 911 calls — on a budget of about \$2 million, probably far less than what it would cost the Police Department to do the work, said Tim Black, the program’s operations coordinator.

“There’s a strong argument to be made from a fiscally conservative perspective,” Mr. Black said. “Public safety institutions generally have these massive budgets and there’s questions about what they are doing.” But handing over one aspect of police work is not a panacea. Eugene has had at least two officers shoot people in the past year.

Last year, after a campaign by a group called [Durham Beyond Policing](#), the City Council in Durham, N.C., voted against hiring 18 new police officers and began discussing a “community safety and wellness task force” instead.

Minneapolis took a step in that direction last year when it redirected funding for eight new police officers into a new office for violence prevention.

“We have an opportunity to reimagine what the future of public safety looks like,” said Steve Fletcher, a City Council member who pushed that effort. But he acknowledged that the effort to build a viable alternative to the police on social and mental health issues would take years and that no one could be sure what it would look like in the end.

“It’s very easy as an activist to call for the abolishment of the police,” said Mr. Fletcher, himself a former activist who protested a 2015 police shooting. “It is a heavier decision when you realize that it’s your constituents that are going to be the victims of crime you can’t respond to if you dismantle that without an alternative.”

Black activists in the city have been calling for the police to be dismantled for years, issuing [a report in 2018](#) that argued that the oppression of poor people and black people was baked into the very founding of the department in 1867. Police reform has roiled politics in the city for years, and politicians who have been seen as slow to reform have been defeated. But only recently have calls to dismantle the police been widely embraced by white leaders in the city.



In Linden Hills, a predominantly white Minneapolis neighborhood near a golf course and two lakes that has not seen very many of the overly aggressive police tactics that the city's black residents complain about, residents acknowledge that the department needs to be significantly reformed. But they have been leery of pledges to abolish the police.

"What does that even mean?" asked Steve Birch, the chair of the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council. "Then who provides the public service of policing? I don't even know how to answer that."

But in Kingfield, a neighborhood in South Minneapolis not far from where Mr. Floyd died, Chris DesRoches, the president of the neighborhood association, said he supported defunding the department.

"The killing of George Floyd has opened the eyes of people to the worst case scenario of police," he said, adding that the case has created an opportunity "for white people to start hearing what communities of color and community leaders have been saying all along, which is that the police are an organization which has been actively harmful to our communities."

Mayor Jacob Frey has said he does not support calls to dismantle the department. On Friday, City Council members voted to accept a civil rights investigation by the Minnesota Department of Human Rights and to adopt updates to the Police Department's use of force policy that include a ban on chokeholds. The topic of eliminating some of the department's functions was not discussed.

Still, council members acknowledged during their debate that something had changed fundamentally in the way that city residents view the police. The University of Minnesota, as well as the school board and the parks department in Minneapolis, decided in recent days to cut ties with the Police Department.

Many in Minneapolis have said that Mr. Floyd's death provided a stark illustration of how far efforts to institute reforms in the wake of the 2015 police shooting of Jamar Clark, a 24-year-old African-American man, had fallen short.

After that shooting, police officers received implicit bias training and body cameras. The department appointed its first black police chief. Community policing was emphasized. Policies were rewritten to include a "duty to intervene" if an officer saw a colleague endangering a member of the public — a policy that was key to the swift firing and arrest of the four officers involved in Mr. Floyd's death.

But none of those reforms were sufficient to prevent Mr. Floyd's death.

"The fact that none of the officers took the initiative to follow the policy to intervene, it just became really clear to me that this system wasn't going to work, no matter how much we threw at it," said Alondra Cano, who heads the City Council's public safety committee.

Ms. Cano, who says she was part of a "prosecute the police" campaign while she was a college student, acknowledged that it might take years to build viable alternatives. But she said many city residents, some of whom have formed mutual protection neighborhood groups in the wake of the unrest, are ready to try.

"There's a moment of deep commitment that I've never seen before, and that gives me leave as an elected official to start experimenting with other systems," she said.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Portland protests turn violent</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-area-protests-demonstrators-plan-eighth-day-of-action-after-george-floyds-killing/#update-12832051">https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-area-protests-demonstrators-plan-eighth-day-of-action-after-george-floyds-killing/#update-12832051</a>
GIST	While Seattle protests have for the most part stayed peaceful and energetic Friday night, downtown Portland demonstrations turned violent around 11 p.m.

	<p>"We are advising the crowd this is a civil disturbance and an unlawful assembly," Portland police tweeted just after 11 p.m. "Everyone must leave the area now or be subject to use of force to include crowd control munitions. The area of SW Lincoln to W Burnside, Naito to Burnside is now closed. Leave now."</p> <p>A few minutes later, the police department tweeted that more projectiles were being thrown at officers and again advised remaining protesters to leave.</p> <p>"There are flares and fireworks being thrown ... More violence is occurring. This is a civil disturbance and unlawful assembly. The park is now closed. Officers are getting hit with slingshot rounds. Leave now," police tweeted again around 11:30 p.m.</p> <p>While some people dispersed, crowds began to gather on Fourth Avenue, police said.</p> <p>"Everyone needs to leave the downtown area," they said in a tweet.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Minneapolis bans police chokeholds</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/nation/witness-floyd-didnt-resist-arrest-tried-to-diffuse-things/">https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/nation/witness-floyd-didnt-resist-arrest-tried-to-diffuse-things/</a>
GIST	<p>MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Minneapolis agreed Friday to ban chokeholds and neck restraints by police and to require officers to try to stop any other officers they see using improper force, in the first concrete steps to remake the city's police force since George Floyd's death.</p> <p>The changes are part of a stipulation between the city and the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, which launched a civil rights investigation this week in response to the death of Floyd. The City Council approved the agreement 12-0.</p> <p>Human Rights Commissioner Rebecca Lucero said the changes are necessary to stop ongoing harm to people of color "who have suffered generational pain and trauma as a result of systemic and institutional racism."</p> <p>"This is just a start," Lucero said. "There is a lot more work to do here, and that work must and will be done with speed and community engagement."</p> <p>Floyd's death is prompting reexamination of police techniques elsewhere. California Gov. Gavin Newsom on Friday ordered the state's police training program to stop teaching officers how to use a neck hold that blocks the flow of blood to the brain.</p> <p>The decision on whether to use the hold is up to each law enforcement agency, and Newsom said he will support legislation to outlaw the method. The San Diego Police Department and San Diego County Sheriff's Department are among the agencies that announced this week that they would stop using the hold, known as a carotid hold or sleeper hold.</p> <p>"We train techniques on strangleholds that put people's lives at risk," Newsom said. "That has no place any longer in 21st-century practices and policing."</p> <p>The Minneapolis agreement requires court approval and would become enforceable in court, unlike the department's current policies, which already cite the duty of sworn employees to stop or try to stop inappropriate force or force no longer needed. The agreement would also require officers to immediately report to their superiors when they see use of any neck restraint or chokehold.</p>

Floyd died after Officer Derek Chauvin pressed his knee on the handcuffed black man's neck, ignoring his "I can't breathe" cries and bystander shouts even after Floyd stopped moving. His death has set off protests around the world.

Chauvin is charged with second-degree murder. Three other officers are charged with aiding and abetting. All have been fired.

Lucero said the changes go further than the department's current policies. Any officer who doesn't try to stop the improper use of force would face the same discipline as if they had used improper force.

The agreement also would require authorization from the police chief or a deputy chief to use crowd control weapons such as tear gas, rubber bullets and flash-bang grenades. Such tactics have been used in Minneapolis and other cities in the past week to disperse protesters.

The stipulation also sets a process for the city and state to negotiate longer-term changes, such as changing state laws that make it difficult to fire problem officers.

Minneapolis police Chief Medaria Arradondo said in a statement that he "will continue to work on efforts to improve public trust, public safety and transformational culture change" of the police force.

"I will be bringing forth substantive policy changes," said Arradondo, whose statement did not provide details.

Meanwhile, a man who was with Floyd on the night he died told The New York Times that his longtime friend didn't resist arrest and instead tried to defuse the situation before he ended up handcuffed on the ground.

Maurice Lester Hall was a passenger in Floyd's car when police approached him May 25 as they responded to a call about someone using a forged bill at a shop. Hall told the newspaper that Floyd was trying to show he was not resisting.

"I could hear him pleading, 'Please, officer, what's all this for?'" Hall told the Times.

Authorities say Hall, whose name is spelled Morries Lester Hall in court records, is a key witness in the state's investigation into the four officers who apprehended Floyd. Hall's identity wasn't made public until the Times' report. Bruce Gordon, spokesman for the Department of Public Safety, said Hall initially gave a false name to officers at the scene.

Hall told ABC's "Good Morning America" that the situation escalated quickly and police grabbed Floyd, put him in a squad car, dragged him back out and then "jumped on the back of the neck." He said Floyd was put in an ambulance and that he didn't know his friend had died until the next day, when he saw bystander video on Facebook.

"I'm going to always remember seeing the fear in Floyd's face because he's such a king," Hall told the Times. "That's what sticks with me, seeing a grown man cry, before seeing a grown man die."

Hall's attorney, Ashlee McFarlane, told The Associated Press that Hall would not be doing any more interviews. She declined further comment.

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HEADLINE	06/05 Coronavirus transmission remains high
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/amid-reopenings-and-street-protests-coronavirus-transmission-remains-high-in-much-of-the-us/2020/06/05/40c12efe-a670-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html">https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/amid-reopenings-and-street-protests-coronavirus-transmission-remains-high-in-much-of-the-us/2020/06/05/40c12efe-a670-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html</a>

## GIST

The coronavirus appears to be in retreat in regions that moved decisively to contain it after being hit hard, including New York and New Jersey. But the virus is persisting — and, in some places, spreading aggressively — in parts of the South, Midwest and West, including in states that were among the last to impose shutdowns and the first to lift them.

Data compiled by The Washington Post shows that 23 states, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, have seen an increase in the rolling seven-day average of coronavirus cases compared with the previous week. Most have registered an increase of 10 percent or more.

Now, public health officials across the nation are warily eyeing caseloads and hospitalizations to see if there is a spike in infections resulting from mass protests against racism and police violence.

The protests, sparked by the Memorial Day killing of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis and other recent instances of violence against African Americans, have been outdoors. The virus is most easily transmitted in closed spaces with poor ventilation. Even so, the massing of protesters for hours on end in chaotic circumstances, along with police use of chemical agents, could lead to a spike in cases in coming days and weeks.

“One person can infect hundreds. If you were at a protest, go get a test, please,” New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo (D) said in a briefing Thursday. “The protesters have a civic duty here also.”

The notion of civic duty has, in part, contributed to a rapid shift in the public response to the coronavirus epidemic. Public health experts and local authorities in many places once urged so much caution that shutdowns ensued, streets emptied and grieving families were forced to limit or cancel funerals.

Now, local officials throughout the country are lifting restrictions, hoping to restore economic activity, and some are signaling support for the protests. In Michigan, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer (D) joined a civil rights march Thursday while wearing a facial covering. More than 1,200 medical professionals have signed an open letter, drafted by doctors and researchers at the University of Washington and posted online, stating that the importance of protests outweighs the risks of massive gatherings.

“Protests against systemic racism, which fosters the disproportionate burden of COVID-19 on Black communities and also perpetuates police violence, must be supported,” the letter states, adding that demonstrators should still follow “public health best practices” such as social distancing and wearing masks.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a statement saying it was “monitoring closely” the demonstrations.

“Protests and large gatherings make it difficult to maintain our recommended social distancing guidelines and may put others at risk,” the CDC said. “It is too early to know what, if any, effect these events will have on the federal COVID-19 response. Every local situation is different.”

The coronavirus map is, indeed, complicated at this point — as complicated as the virus itself, which can lead to the potentially lethal disease covid-19 or leave an infected person with no symptoms at all.

The early epicenter, New York City, has made huge strides in driving down caseloads and death rates, and hospitals are no longer overwhelmed.

But a briefing document prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and distributed Thursday to senior federal officials captured the scale of the challenges remaining. FEMA tracks how many days in a row a state records a decline in new daily coronavirus cases. Thirteen states — Arizona, California, Idaho, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin — had not shown a sustained daily decrease as of Tuesday, according to the document, a copy of which was obtained by The Post.

A separate Post analysis of county-level data reveals the patchwork nature of the epidemic, with some communities showing dramatic spikes — a tripling or more of cases within the last two weeks — even as surrounding areas remain stable. These localized outbreaks have often been in counties that contain meat processing plants, prisons or assisted-living facilities. New data shows that almost a third of the deaths nationally have been in nursing homes.

Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves (R) announced this week that the number of patients on ventilators in Mississippi hospitals hit a new high last weekend, and he warned that “the threat of covid-19 is as great as ever, if not greater.”

Florida on Thursday reported its highest number of new daily cases — 1,419 — since the state began providing such statistics in March, according to the Miami Herald. More than half the state’s cases so far have been in the South Florida counties of Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach.

“I still think we have a lot of cases to come,” said Julie Swann, a former CDC adviser and professor of industrial and systems engineering at North Carolina State University, who said the continued spread was not inevitable and could have been stopped with sufficient testing and tracing.

Viral transmission can be subtle. The virus typically takes about five or six days to incubate to the point that it causes symptoms, such as fever, headaches, body aches or a dry cough. Even when symptoms appear, many days can pass before a person seeks a coronavirus test. There is another lag of days before results reach public health departments. As a result, experts view current data as reflecting what transmission was like a couple of weeks in the past.

Asymptomatic transmission complicates the process of drawing conclusions, too. Many of the people who traveled to beaches and other locations on Memorial Day weekend, and who participated in protests against police violence, are young and less likely than older people to develop a serious illness from the virus. They may never show symptoms. They can, however, transmit it.

“If we are going to see a resurgence at onset of summer, it will be in this time window,” said David Rubin, director of PolicyLab at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, which has a model covering about 400 counties that forecasts where transmission may spike. “If we don’t see a bump, it may suggest that outdoor transmission is a relatively minor component of the epidemic during summer.”

The role of weather in transmission of this virus is not well established. In general, viruses do not like heat and humidity. A new report published in the journal Science says weather isn’t as important as susceptibility: Most people have yet to be exposed to this virus and have no immunity.

“Lack of population immunity is the much more fundamental driver than climate,” said the study’s lead author, epidemiologist Rachel Baker of the Princeton Environmental Institute.

California is dealing with a massive outbreak in Imperial County on its southeastern border with Mexico. Last week, more than 60 patients were sent to neighboring Riverside County to alleviate the surge on local hospitals. The county, with a population of about 181,000, had 2,540 active cases as of Thursday evening.

Yuma County, Ariz., which borders California and Mexico, is also seeing hospitalization spikes, according to Cara M. Christ, the state’s health director.

Christ and Gov. Doug Ducey (R) told reporters much of the state’s rising caseload can be traced to increased testing. But state data also shows an uptick in hospitalizations and positive test rates, suggesting testing is not entirely responsible for increased case numbers.

“The virus is widespread,” Ducey said. “This virus is not going away.”

The virus spread easily until mid-March, when the first shutdown orders and the widespread adoption of social distancing began to flatten the epidemiological curve. Data compiled by The Post shows at least 107,000 deaths from the coronavirus as of Friday.

The CDC projected Thursday that by June 27, 118,000 to 143,000 people in the United States will have died of covid-19.

The worst weeks for coronavirus deaths were in early April. As the daily death toll has dropped, so have precautions by many Americans. In many places, people are not routinely wearing facial coverings.

Many different agencies and research groups are tracking the virus, and their reports generally echo one another even though they slice the data in distinct formats. None of the data clearly signals a summer resurgence of the virus at the national scale, at least in terms of cumulative statistics.

The heterogenous nature of the epidemic in the United States reveals itself in South Carolina. Charleston has not been hard-hit, according to Christine M. Carr, a professor of emergency medicine and public health sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina. But the state's daily reports show that the area known as Pee Dee, in the northeast corner of the state, and communities along the heavily traveled I-95 corridor have been slammed.

Carr hypothesizes that travelers on the interstate could be bringing the virus to these areas. These sections of the state are already vulnerable: They have limited health services, high rates of poverty and a population that is heavily African American, a demographic that has suffered disproportionately from covid-19.

Michael D. Sweat, director of the Center for Global Health at the Medical University of South Carolina, has been maintaining models tracking the virus's spread and calls the localized hot spots a series of "microepidemics." His research shows that, as the state has lifted restrictions, people have begun to move around nearly as much as they did before the coronavirus arrived.

He said anecdotal evidence suggests that people are no longer taking the risk of infection seriously. He attributes that to misconceptions about the nature of epidemics, not knowing someone who has been sickened by the virus, and the mixed messaging from federal and state governments.

"All those things are adding up to a bit of a muddled situation," Sweat said. "It would be much better if we had consistent guidelines, consistent recommendations and if everyone were on the same page about the dire nature of this epidemic."

Case counts do not tell the entire story of what's happening with transmission. If testing increases dramatically, case numbers can go up even if transmission is easing.

But positive test rates in South Carolina have been going up even as testing has expanded. And on Wednesday, the state recorded 17 additional deaths, several times the usual daily average — both signs that transmission is increasing.

Mississippi has also seen a rise in new cases that can't be explained simply by more testing. The state has been largely open for business for many weeks, and youth sports leagues are soon resuming.

"There are certainly more people with covid now than there were in March," said Richard Roberson, vice president for policy and state advocacy at the Mississippi Hospital Association. "The numbers don't appear to be going down. The combination of more people with it and more people moving around with it is a huge concern for us."

Many of the states experiencing increases in caseloads are home to rural counties with limited or no hospital access. Those that do have hospitals often find them ill-equipped to handle large surges of covid-19 cases. In Alabama, rural counties near Montgomery are sending patients to city hospitals for treatment,

	<p>though Montgomery is dealing with rising cases of its own. According to Donald E. Williamson, president of the Alabama Hospital Association, multiple hospitals in the Montgomery area are nearing capacity in their intensive care units.</p> <p>Some Mississippi hospitals have already been overwhelmed by an influx of patients from outbreaks at nursing homes. Roberson said many hospitals in Mississippi — which has not expanded Medicaid benefits — were operating at a loss before the pandemic and now must figure out how to stay in business. If they fail, the “health-care deserts” will be vaster in scale, he said.</p> <p>“We worry about it every day,” Roberson said. “We worry about our hospitals having the resources to treat our patients under normal circumstances.”</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Gov. approves professional sports resume</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://komonews.com/sports/inslee-professional-sports-ok-to-resume-friday-guidelines-for-youth-sports-to-return">https://komonews.com/sports/inslee-professional-sports-ok-to-resume-friday-guidelines-for-youth-sports-to-return</a>
GIST	<p>OLYMPIA, Wash. -- Gov. Jay Inslee's office <a href="#">issued new guidelines Friday</a> that allow for the resumption of professional sports league activities in Washington, effective immediately.</p> <p>Guidelines were also issued for outdoor youth sports and outdoor adult team recreational sports for counties that enter Phase 2 or Phase 3.</p> <p>For professional sports, teams are allowed full team practices and games without spectators, regardless of what phase their county is in, provided they follow the league wide and team wide "return to play" safety plans. The teams also must report the dates of their practices and games to the county health departments.</p> <p>The Seattle Sounders and MLS have <a href="#">announced they would be returning to play this summer</a> and this would clear the way for spectator-less matches in Seattle. The move would also clear the way for the Seattle Seahawks to <a href="#">allow coaches back at their training facility</a> in Renton to start getting ready for the upcoming season.</p> <p>The Seattle Mariners' season remains in limbo as Major League Baseball and its players <a href="#">remain at an impasse</a> over pay and health safety proposals. Reports are the WNBA and Seattle Storm <a href="#">would conduct their season in one location</a>, while the OL Reign women's soccer team <a href="#">is resuming play in Utah</a> as part of a 25-game tournament.</p> <p><b>Youth Sports given guidance to resume</b></p> <p>It's not just the adults, but young athletes who <a href="#">could be getting back into the swing of things</a> this summer.</p> <p>If your county is in Phase 2, Inslee's proclamation allows team practices for both outdoor youth sports teams and adult outdoor rec leagues in groups up to five players in separate parts of the field, provided they are separated by a buffer zone and maintain at least 5 feet between players with no contact. Each league, organization or club must also publish a "return to play" safety plan. Parents and household members are also told not to congregate on the sidelines.</p> <p>Once a county reaches Phase 3, games can resume, provided no one field exceeds an attendance of 50. In places where there are multiple fields, the attendance limit is counted on a per-field, not per complex basis, the guidelines state.</p> <p>Note, neither school-sanctioned nor college-sanctioned sports are covered by these guidelines, Inslee's office said.</p> <p>Inslee also notes that the guidelines do not obligate any facility to reopen.</p>



HEADLINE	<b>06/05 DOH approves 14 counties next phase</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://komonews.com/news/coronavirus/14-counties-in-wash-okd-for-next-phase-of-economic-reopening">https://komonews.com/news/coronavirus/14-counties-in-wash-okd-for-next-phase-of-economic-reopening</a>
GIST	<p>OLYMPIA, Wash. - Fourteen counties received approval Friday to advance to the next phase of the governor's "Safe Start" reopening plan, as Washington state gradually and deliberately restarts its coronavirus-ravaged economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Six counties, including Clark, Okanogan, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom got the green light to move from Phase 1 to Phase 2.</li><li>• Seven counties, including- Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Stevens and Wahkiakum were approved to move from Phase 2 to Phase 3.</li><li>• King County was approved to move into a modified version of Phase 1, which allows for limited and modified openings for a range of businesses, recreation, and personal activities.</li></ul> <p>The approvals were all made by state Secretary of Health John Weisman after the counties met criteria established for moving ahead and then officially applied to advance to the next phase.</p> <p>The approvals means people can finally go out to dinner with restaurants that have opened with limited seating capacity.</p> <p>"It's been a long road," said Nathan Vaughn, who works at Harmon on Pac Ave in Tacoma, which opened Friday. "I knew all the time if we could just get to the other side we'd be better. But it was sure tough getting here so we're glad that we're opening up today."</p> <p>"I'm just ecstatic, exhilarated, very thankful that we're finally getting to do this and really looking forward to seeing all of our regulars tonight," said Kelli Lonergan-Dreke, who works at Lombardi's Italian Restaurants in Snohomish County. "We've got a lot of reservations already. So, I'm getting very excited." She said her three restaurants have the tables spaced out, staff will be wearing masks and people will asked to wait outside or in their cars until they called or texted to come in.</p> <p>"So, we are grateful that today is the first step in the road to recovery," Lonergan-Dreke said.</p> <p>"This important step in our COVID-19 response reflects all the sacrifice and hard work that our community has put into fighting this disease," said King County Executive Dow Constantine. "The success of this guidance depends on business owners and community members embracing public health best practices, and understanding that one size doesn't fit all."</p> <p>Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers said the move to Phase 2 would allow the county to reopen businesses "and get more people back to work." But he added: "As we transition into the next phase we must remain vigilant to maintain social distancing and necessary sanitation practices to keep our communities healthy and help our economy recover as quickly as possible.</p> <p>In Skagit County, Public Health Director Jennifer Johnson said, "We are excited to move forward. It is long overdue."</p> <p>Five counties still remain in unmodified Phase 1 of the recovery - Chelan, Douglas, Yakima, Benton and Franklin counties.</p> <p>To apply to move to the next phase, counties must submit an application to the state Department of Health. The application process requires support from the local health officer, the local board of health and the county executive or county commission.</p>

	<p>Each county must demonstrate they have adequate local hospital bed capacity as well as adequate personal protective supplies to keep health care workers safe.</p> <p>The metric goals for moving between phases are intended to be applied as targets, not hardline measures. Where one target is not fully achieved, actions taken with a different target may offset a county’s overall risk. Some of the metrics the secretary of health will evaluate in addition to other information provided by counties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID-19 activity: The ideal target for new cases will be 25 or fewer per 100,000 residents over a 14-day period. Hospitalizations for COVID should be flat or decreasing.</li> <li>• Healthcare system readiness: The available hospital beds in a given jurisdiction would preferably be at less than 80% occupancy.</li> <li>• Testing: Counties should show they have adequate testing capacity, 50 times as many people per day as they have confirmed new cases per day – which equates to positive test results under 2%. They also need to show rapid turnaround time for test results, ensuring that we can work effectively to contain the virus.</li> <li>• Case and contact investigations: The goal is to contact 90 percent of cases by phone or in person within 24 hours of receipt of a positive lab test result. There is also a goal of reaching all that person’s contacts within 48 hours of a positive test result. Additionally, there are goals to make contact with each case and contact during their home isolation or quarantine to help ensure their success.</li> <li>• Protecting high-risk populations: The ideal number of outbreaks reported by week – defined as two or more non-household cases where transmission occurred at work, in congregate living, or in an institutional setting – is zero for counties under 75,000, and no higher than three for our largest counties.</li> </ul>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>06/05 Seattle students flood streets to protest</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/education/calling-for-reforms-to-police-and-education-seattle-students-flood-the-streets-to-protest/">https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/education/calling-for-reforms-to-police-and-education-seattle-students-flood-the-streets-to-protest/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Seattle teens brought traffic on Rainier Avenue to a standstill on Friday.</p> <p>Calling for police reform and anti-racism in their schools, hundreds of students, families and teachers flooded the sidewalks, streets and a pedestrian bridge outside Franklin High School. The honks of approval from passing cars on Rainier did not stop for two hours. One man played his trombone while hanging outside a passenger seat window as he passed through the protest.</p> <p>After standing and chanting on different street corners for more than an hour, the crowd — which included Denise Juneau, the Seattle schools chief — united in the middle of the street. They stopped to kneel a few blocks later, circling around a few people with a loud speaker chanting “Black Lives Matter,” “No justice, no peace,” and “I can’t breathe.” As the crowd wove through the stopped cars, drivers recorded the scene on their phones. One woman in an old beige Toyota Camry held her fist out with tears in her eyes as the protesters passed.</p> <p>For the youth who attended — whose entire lives have been bookended by protest movements — it was the first time being around their classmates since the pandemic forced them apart. They’d been watching the demonstrations on Capitol Hill from home, many of them not allowed to attend out of concerns for their safety, or fear of the police. This was their moment to weigh in.</p> <p>“We’re all fighting for the same cause,” said Jackie Jimenez, a Franklin High student and one of the organizers.</p> <p>The demands of the student protest mostly mirrored those of the adult activists marching a few miles north: defunding the police, demilitarization of the police, and stronger laws governing law enforcement. They carried the same signs decrying the killings of Black men and women at the hands of police.</p>

They also had ideas to change the school system, including the removal of a handful of armed officers stationed at schools across South Seattle, where the protest occurred and where the many of the city's Black residents live. Since a white Minneapolis police officer killed George Floyd late last month, some districts across the country have severed their ties with local police departments, including Portland Public Schools just this week.

"I think it's toxic" to have police in schools, said Savannah Blackwell, a Franklin student who attended the protest with her younger sister. "It creates a culture of fear."

The partnership between Seattle Public Schools and the Seattle police began 12 years ago, after the shooting deaths of five teens. The officers are supposed to interact with students informally, educate them on crime prevention and alleviate fear of law enforcement.

Opponents to these police-school district partnerships say having law enforcement at schools endangers students and opens the door for police to intervene in minor disciplinary issues. One year ago, a white teacher working in a school four miles away from the scene of the protest called the police on a black fifth grader because she said he threatened her.

A petition calling for the district to end the city-funded program has been circulating in the past week. The district says it is reevaluating the role of these officers in light of recent events and collecting more feedback from parents.

The other school-related demands included ethnic studies in all schools (a yearslong campaign) and anti-racism policies.

At the protest, superintendent Juneau seemed impressed by the demonstration.

"It's good that they're telling us what they want," she said, slipping into the crowd.

Students are growing impatient for change, Jimenez, a senior, said. "For as long as I've been a student, the district has been coming to us and asking us what we can do." Students have already answered, she said.

The protest ended with students making their way back toward the football field in front of Franklin High. Students, dressed in black, sat in clusters on the turf.

Students Zachary Sanders, Samuel Kassa, and Landon McColl said they were unsatisfied with the city's response to protesters' demands. But seeing the turnout today from their classmates made them somewhat more hopeful about the future.

Throughout the protest, a police car remained parked opposite the school. Two officers on motorcycle bikes briefly met students in the street, but did not appear to intervene further.

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HEADLINE	06/05 White supremacist posters WWU campus
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/white-supremacist-posters-found-www-campus/FNELVNJTHNAB7LEKM3JTQRVOCQ/">https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/white-supremacist-posters-found-www-campus/FNELVNJTHNAB7LEKM3JTQRVOCQ/</a>
GIST	<p>BELLINGHAM, Wash. — Western Washington University police said white supremacist posters and stickers were found on the campus early Friday.</p> <p>The university said the posters and stickers were from the white supremacist group Patriot Front.</p> <p>They were found on light poles in Red Square, in front of Wilson Library, in front of the Communications building, in Haskell Square and in other places across Western's main campus in Bellingham.</p>

The posters were removed.

University police have started an investigation.

“Western Washington University strongly condemns the white supremacist beliefs of the Patriot Front. Hate will not be tolerated in our community. Both the Southern Poverty Law Center and the Anti-Defamation League have the Patriot Front on their watch lists,” a news release from WWU said.

University officials said any more posters found will be taken down immediately.

Anyone who sees such posters or stickers is asked to call the customer service number of WWU Facilities Management at 360-650-3420. Staff will then be sent to remove the posters or stickers on campus property.

University officials said there has been a rise of such incidents in the community.

According to reports, people in Bellingham’s Lettered Streets neighborhood said they recently found white supremacist fliers on their doorsteps.

Earlier this week, Western said it sent an email message to students about two recent incidents.

WWU officials said there was a report of a man shouting racial epithets near the Buchanan Towers residence hall on campus. Another incident was reported in downtown Bellingham where two men were holding rifles.

Through video footage, Bellingham Police verified the men were not pointing at or threatening anyone with the rifles.

“While this may not be illegal, it can also be troubling and feel threatening to those passing through downtown,” the school said in a news release.

Anyone can anonymously report criminal activity to University Police by calling 360-650-7233.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Tacoma police union decries mayor’s call</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/tacoma-police-union-writes-angry-response-mayors-call-prosecutions-manuel-ellis-death/DGINIAHEANB2FBSP6ISP6I7MIU/">https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/tacoma-police-union-writes-angry-response-mayors-call-prosecutions-manuel-ellis-death/DGINIAHEANB2FBSP6ISP6I7MIU/</a>
GIST	<p><b>TACOMA, Wash.</b> — The Tacoma police union fired off an angry response to Tacoma Mayor Victoria Woodards after she called for officers involved in the death of African American man Manuel Ellis to be fired and prosecuted.</p> <p>Woodards made the statement after watching <a href="#">newly released video</a> that shows the fatal confrontation.</p> <p><a href="#">Ellis died in handcuffs while being restrained</a> on the ground by Tacoma police. The Pierce County medical examiner ruled his death a homicide.</p> <p>In the letter titled, “Now is the time for facts, not theatrics,” Tacoma Police Union Local No. 6 President Chris Tracy said Woodards passed judgment on four Tacoma officers without “an ounce of evidence.” He said she called officers criminals and said they should be prosecuted on the basis of less than a minute of short, blurry, partial Twitter videos without an investigation and due process.</p>

	<p>Tracy said what happened to George Floyd in Minnesota at the hands of police was wrong, but the incident involving Ellis was not the same, and the four Tacoma officers -- Burbank, Collins, Ford and Rankine -- did not murder Ellis.</p> <p>“What’s perhaps most shocking in the mayor’s statement is her lack of knowledge about any of the four involved officers. Does she know that one of the officers is African American? Does she know that they are fathers and sons, brothers and uncles? Does she know that some are military veterans who served our nation with honor? Does she even care? Apparently not, if it means interfering with her hyperbolic storyline that four Tacoma officers murdered an African American man,” the letter said.</p> <p>Tracy said the union welcomes a full and fair investigation by the Pierce County Sheriff’s Department and a review by the prosecuting attorney because the facts will show the public that the officers did nothing wrong.</p> <p>“This is a time for leadership. This is a time for reason. This is a time for healing our nation, our state, and our city. This is not the time to sacrifice dedicated public servants at the altar of public sentiment, especially when that sentiment is almost wholly fueled by the uninformed anger of a theatrical politician,” the letter said.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Seattle protests: festive but w/purpose</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/tone-shifts-8th-day-protests-continue-seattle/O7Z3XQ47JRD3VMB224HKKKM45A/">https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/tone-shifts-8th-day-protests-continue-seattle/O7Z3XQ47JRD3VMB224HKKKM45A/</a>
GIST	<p><b>SEATTLE</b> — Changes to the mood and tone of the protestors were apparent Friday as they marched in the streets of Seattle for the 8th day running.</p> <p>Some of these changes were attributed to demands being met by the Seattle Police Department.</p> <p>Crowds have been sizeable as many gathered in the Central District.</p> <p>At times, the mood has been almost festive but with a definite purpose.</p> <p>Protests have remained peaceful throughout the day.</p> <p>There were cultural performances as part of the protests.</p> <p>Some protesters even shared their first experiences with racism with law enforcement.</p> <p>Not only do demonstrators plan to continue protesting but they said they would keep the pressure on Mayor Jenny Durkan and Police Chief Carmen Best to make changes.</p> <p>One of the biggest changes protesters called for is the investment in black communities. They specifically called for repurposing underutilized public land and buildings, such as a decommissioned fire station.</p> <p>That land would then go to black-led organizations for use as community centers and affordable housing.</p> <p>Many of the demonstrators have also called for the police budget to be cut in half, but Mayor Jenny Durkan has said that will not happen.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Bellevue police suspends ‘neck restraints’</b>
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SOURCE	<a href="https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/bellevue/bellevue-police-suspend-neck-restraints-after-video-of-violent-take-down/281-e5225c95-edc5-49e2-ad78-54734e4fd629">https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/bellevue/bellevue-police-suspend-neck-restraints-after-video-of-violent-take-down/281-e5225c95-edc5-49e2-ad78-54734e4fd629</a>
GIST	<p>BELLEVUE, Wash. — A Twitter video posted Friday shows a violent take down of a woman outside the Factoria Mall.</p> <p>The post came as protests continue to rage in the wake of the Minneapolis police killing of George Floyd last week.</p> <p>However, Bellevue Police say the incident happened in December of 2018 when an officer pulled a woman over outside the mall for failing to transfer the title to her car.</p> <p>They claim she was uncooperative with the officer, kept the car in gear and kept reaching into her purse. At that point, Officer Will Dowsing takes her down to the ground and puts her in what police call a "neck restraint."</p> <p>"I get it," says Bellevue Police Chief Steve Mylett. "When I first saw the video I raised my eyebrows and said, hang on a second."</p> <p>Mylett says Dowsing acted appropriately because the woman refused to comply with his calm and repeated requests, and he believed she might have a weapon or try to hit him with her car.</p> <p>A photo released by the department appears to show the officer's knee on her neck. George Floyd died when a Minneapolis police officer kept a knee on his neck for about 8 minutes.</p> <p>Mylett says that was not the case here.</p> <p>"I know people are gonna say that clearly the knee is on the neck. The knee is in the upper back, close to the neck. It's a proper restraint."</p> <p>Additional video released by the department shows the woman screaming that she was being kidnapped by police.</p> <p>Mylett now says he has suspended the use of "neck restraints" unless the officer finds himself in a situation that calls for deadly force.</p> <p>Still, Mylett calls the technique "very effective" and says it is used six to ten times a year by Bellevue police with no serious injuries or deaths.</p> <p>"It prevents injury to both parties," he says.</p> <p>Mylett concedes many officers won't like the technique being taken away, but in the wake of all that has happened across America over the past week, he believes it's time to take a pause.</p> <p>"It's a divisive topic," he says. "I know it is."</p> <p>Bellevue police say the woman was not hurt in the incident and didn't file a complaint with the department.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Seattle bans police use tear gas 30 days</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/seattle-bans-police-use-of-tear-gas-for-30-days/281-2d557bfc-c6dd-428f-9715-b418301dfaa6">https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/seattle-bans-police-use-of-tear-gas-for-30-days/281-2d557bfc-c6dd-428f-9715-b418301dfaa6</a>
GIST	Seattle police will not use tear gas for the next 30 days while a coalition of agencies reviews the police department's crowd management plan.

Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan announced the policy during a news conference Thursday saying officers "do not need to be using tear gas at protests as a crowd management tool."

"We need more dialogue between officers and protesters," Durkan said. "We need more communication on the front lines."

During the temporary ban on the use of tear gas, Durkan said she would ask the city to work with several agencies, including the Office of Police Accountability, the Office of Inspector General, the Community Police Commission and the Seattle Police Department, to review and update the department's crowd management plan and give recommendations.

Durkan urged the review to better emphasize de-escalation and include input from community on the use of tear gas and flash bangs.

During this time, SWAT teams will still use tear gas under the chief's directive to protect life and end standoff situations, according to Seattle Police Chief Carmen Best.

The directive follows widespread criticism of the use of tear gas by police accountability groups and public health officials.

On Friday morning, the Seattle Community Police Commission released a statement saying all three of Seattle's police oversight agencies – the Community Police Commission, Office of Police Accountability, and Office of Inspector General – recommend SPD stop using tear gas to disperse large crowds.

"SPD has no department-wide policies on the use of tear gas. Police officers should not be deploying use of force tools for which they do not have policies and training. That is not how our system of police accountability works, nor should it," read the agency's statement.

Dr. Jeffrey Duchin of Public Health of Seattle and King County also voiced opposition to the use of tear gas because of its ability to increase the spread of COVID-19.

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## Cyber Awareness

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HEADLINE	06/07 Capturing cyber threats on home base
SOURCE	<a href="https://cyware.com/news/capturing-the-cyber-threats-on-home-base-amidst-covid-19-99299e76">https://cyware.com/news/capturing-the-cyber-threats-on-home-base-amidst-covid-19-99299e76</a>
GIST	<p>While staying in and working from home has become a new normal amidst the COVID-19, it has increased the risk of cyber threats as cybercriminals prey on people's fear, remote tools, and stressed IT systems. Here's a look at how the cyber threat landscape has transitioned in the past five months.</p> <p>Attacks on remote tools surge</p> <p>Since the outbreak of the Coronavirus, millions of workers working from home are accessing organizations' resources through VPNs, video-conferencing apps, and other cloud-based services. Unfortunately, this has created an opportunity for cybercriminals to deploy campaigns against these tools to gain remote access to networks and machines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>McAfee researchers <a href="#">reported</a> a 630% rise in cloud-based cyber-attacks between January and April, 2020. These attacks were aimed at accessing cloud accounts with important credentials and targeted collaboration services like Microsoft Office 365.</li><li>According to CheckPoint, cybercriminals also impersonated <a href="#">video-conferencing apps</a> like Zoom, Google Meet, and Microsoft Teams to lure victims in different phishing and malware attacks.</li><li>Several cyberattacks campaigns that leveraged <a href="#">fake VPN apps</a> and unpatched VPNs were also carried out either to spread malware or trick users in scams.</li><li>Additionally, <a href="#">Kaspersky</a> recorded around 100,000-150,000 attacks on the Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) since the start of the outbreak.</li></ul>



Old malware make their comeback

Cybercriminals quickly transitioned to delivering years-old malware with brand new campaigns that preyed on people's fear, confusion, and uncertainty surrounding the global Coronavirus pandemic. Countless phishing campaigns that hid a variety of keyloggers, ransomware and data stealers were detected in recent months:

- According to [Malwarebytes](#), the backdoor malware, NetWiredRC, which laid low for roughly five months in 2019, dramatically increased its activity by 200% by March 2020 when compared to last December.
- Detection of AveMaria remote access trojan also jumped to nearly 110% between February and March, 2020. The malware can provide remote desktop access and remote webcam control, with the additional ability to steal passwords.
- DanaBot, an invasive trojan and information stealer that can swipe online banking account credentials, had increased its activity by 160% between February and March 2020.
- TrickBot, LokiBot, and AZORult among other information-stealing malware made comeback in several Coronavirus-themed campaigns.

A sneak peek into other threats

- Though phishing campaigns appeared to be the most popular attack methods, cybercriminals found a new way to deliver their malware by hiding it in fake Coronavirus maps.
- Home shoppers are at a greater risk than ever as [Magecart attacks](#) on online retailers and banks increased by 20% during the pandemic.
- In addition, government-sponsored actors are trying to blend their attacks along with the flood of COVID-19-themed scams.

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HEADLINE	06/07 Multilingual malware attacks
SOURCE	<a href="https://cyware.com/news/multilingual-malware-attacks-against-industrial-sector-suppliers-51de36b5">https://cyware.com/news/multilingual-malware-attacks-against-industrial-sector-suppliers-51de36b5</a>
GIST	<p>While the entire world has been dealing with the ongoing pandemic, malicious actors are upgrading their attack methods. They have come up with various new techniques to evade detection and cause maximum damage to essential services and other sectors.</p> <p>The situation</p> <p>Last month, several international equipment and software suppliers for the industrial sector were subject to malware attacks. These attacks have garnered high attention due to the various unconventional <a href="#">techniques</a> used by the actors to evade detection.</p> <p><b>Victims were located in</b> the U.K, Japan, Germany, and Italy. These suppliers were sent phishing emails customized to their local languages that comprised of malicious Microsoft Office documents with obfuscated macros.</p> <p>The attack</p> <p>Actors use PowerShell scripts, Microsoft Office documents, steganography to hide malicious data, and other techniques to make it extremely difficult to identify and analyze malware. If the localization of the <a href="#">intended</a> victim's operating system did not match the language in the phishing email, the malware would execute.</p> <p>Worth noting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The objective of the attackers is yet unknown, as per <a href="#">Kaspersky</a>.</li><li>• Organizations are advised to restrict macros in MS Office documents and PowerShell script execution, wherever possible.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although the target languages varied, the campaigns were similar in the sense that the victims were asked to open the phishing emails and enable the active contents of the attached document.</li> </ul> <p>To conclude</p> <p>This attack is particularly significant due to the various unconventional techniques used. While one of the most interesting features is the use of steganography, the other one is the use of an <a href="#">exception message</a> as the decryption key for the malicious payload. These attacks are concerning since harvesting credentials of contractors might result in a catastrophic chain of negative consequences.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Spear-phishing targets Zeplin users</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.darkreading.com/application-security/spear-phishing-campaign-hits-developer-collaboration-system-users-/d/d-id/1338012">https://www.darkreading.com/application-security/spear-phishing-campaign-hits-developer-collaboration-system-users-/d/d-id/1338012</a>
GIST	<p>A sophisticated spear-phishing campaign has targeted companies using Zeplin, a collaboration system heavily used in the software development and product design communities. The campaign, launched in early May by South Korean APT group Higaia, took special aim at newer users of the service, luring users with files purporting to be a project file and updates to copyright policies.</p> <p>The Prevailion Tailored Intelligence Team, which discovered the campaign, notes in its published report that the malware used indicates that it originated with an experienced, technologically sophisticated organization. Among the factors leading to that conclusion are multiple program storage locations on the victim computer, multiple command-and-control servers, and the ability to communicate over multiple networking protocols.</p> <p>The researchers advise organizations to renew their commitment to anti-phishing practices with special attention given to Microsoft shortcut links, especially when those links might have occurred in messages from untrusted sources.</p>
<a href="#">Return to Top</a>	For more, read <a href="#">here</a> .

HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Aerospace service provider suffers breach</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.hackread.com/us-aerospace-service-provider-breach-data/">https://www.hackread.com/us-aerospace-service-provider-breach-data/</a>
GIST	<p>The Texas-based aerospace services provider VT San Antonio Aerospace (VT SAA) has become a victim of a ransomware attack. The group behind the breach is claiming it stole 1.5 terabytes of sensitive organizational data from the company's network.</p> <p>It is worth noting that <a href="#">VT SAA</a> is a subsidiary of Singapore-based engineering, defense, and technology firm ST Engineering that specializes in marine, land, and aerospace electronics. The Vice president and general manager of the firm, Ed Onwe, stated that,</p> <p><i>"A sophisticated group of cybercriminals, known as the Maze group, gained unauthorized access to our network and deployed a ransomware attack."</i></p> <p>It is worth noting that just a couple of days ago <a href="#">the same group had leaked sensitive data</a> it stole from a US Nuclear contractor. As for the latest breach; VT SAA's systems were attacked for the first time on March 7 and the second time in May.</p> <p>The company discovered the data breach because of "renamed files and associated 'DECRYPT-FILES.txt' located in the same folder as encrypted files."</p>

	<p>For the next three days, the company remained busy inspecting the scope of a security breach and recovering the lost data. The company was able to contain the infection and identified that it mainly targeted some of ST Engineering's US commercial operations.</p> <p>Although it is unclear exactly what data was stolen, the breach may include exclusive contract details the company has signed with different governments, organizations like NASA, and airlines including American Airlines.</p> <p>Moreover, the leaked data may also include sensitive data such as project implementation plan details, timelines, schedules, type of parts/equipment, and financial records. <i>Hackread.com</i> has seen the sample data leaked by the group but did not access or analyze it.</p> <p>Maze ransomware operators claim that before deploying the payload and encrypting the company's servers, they stole 1.5tb of unencrypted data to pressurize VT SAA into paying the ransom.</p> <p>When the attack was discovered, VT SAA immediately responded by taking certain systems offline, initiating investigation with the help of leading forensic advisors, and notifying law enforcement authorities.</p> <p>Nevertheless, MAZE ransomware can be embedded into phishing emails and as soon as it infects the machine it starts the file encryption process, and attackers demand a ransom. In case their demands are not met the group starts leaking data.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/08 PoC exploit SMBGhost abused; in attacks</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.securityweek.com/smbghost-attacks-spotted-following-release-code-execution-poc">https://www.securityweek.com/smbghost-attacks-spotted-following-release-code-execution-poc</a>
GIST	<p>The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has warned Windows users that a recently released proof-of-concept (PoC) exploit for the vulnerability tracked as SMBGhost has been abused to launch attacks.</p> <p>SMBGhost, also known as CoronaBlue and tracked as <a href="#">CVE-2020-0796</a>, is a vulnerability related to Server Message Block 3.0 (SMBv3), specifically to how SMB 3.1.1 handles certain requests. The flaw affects Windows 10 and Windows Server and it can be exploited for denial-of-service (DoS) attacks, local privilege escalation, and arbitrary code execution.</p> <p>In attacks aimed at SMB servers, the attacker needs to send malicious packets to the targeted system. In the case of clients, the hacker has to convince the victim to connect to a malicious SMB server.</p> <p>When it disclosed the vulnerability, Microsoft warned that it's wormable, which makes it particularly dangerous. The company released <a href="#">patches and workarounds</a> in March.</p> <p>Researchers started releasing PoC exploits for CVE-2020-0796 shortly after its disclosure, but the exploits only achieved DoS or <a href="#">privilege escalation</a>. Several companies and researchers claimed to have developed exploits that achieved remote code execution, but none of them were made public.</p> <p>However, last week, a researcher who uses the online moniker Chompie released an <a href="#">SMBGhost exploit for remote code execution</a>. The researcher released it for "educational purposes," arguing that cybersecurity firm ZecOps was about to release its PoC in the coming days and the patch has been available for months.</p> <p><a href="#">Chompie said</a> the PoC was not reliable and that it would often cause the system to crash, but several experts have <a href="#">confirmed</a> that the remote code execution exploit <a href="#">works</a>.</p>

	<p>CISA on Friday advised users and administrators to install the patches for SMBGhost and block SMB ports using a firewall, and <a href="#">warned</a> that the vulnerability has been exploited in the wild.</p> <p>“Although Microsoft disclosed and provided updates for this vulnerability in March 2020, malicious cyber actors are targeting unpatched systems with the new PoC, according to recent open-source reports,” <a href="#">CISA said</a>.</p> <p>Researchers previously warned that various pieces of malware had been exploiting SMBGhost to <a href="#">escalate privileges</a> and <a href="#">spread locally</a>, but it now appears that the vulnerability is also being exploited for remote code execution. No details appear to be available on what the attackers are doing specifically.</p> <p>The MalwareMustDie malware research group <a href="#">reported</a> that the latest attacks have also leveraged an open source tool that helps users identify servers affected by SMBGhost.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Botnet blasts WordPress sites</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://nakedsecurity.sophos.com/2020/06/05/botnet-blasts-wordpress-sites-with-configuration-download-attacks/">https://nakedsecurity.sophos.com/2020/06/05/botnet-blasts-wordpress-sites-with-configuration-download-attacks/</a>
GIST	<p>Security researchers at WordFence, a company that’s focused on securing WordPress, have reported a burst of old-school attacks that are after your WordPress configuration data.</p> <p>In a default installation of WordPress, whether you’ve installed it yourself or are using a hosted service, the configuration file wp-config.php should be off limits to outsiders.</p> <p>That’s just as well, given how WordPress itself <a href="#">describes the file</a>:  <i>One of the most important files in your WordPress installation is the wp-config.php file. This file is located in the root of your WordPress file directory and contains your website’s base configuration details, such as database connection information.</i></p> <p>Given that any PHP code you put into wp-config.php will run every time your website handles a request, it’s an obvious target for attackers to modify, but it’s also a sought-after gift to cybercrooks if they can access it at all.</p> <p>Normal WordPress requests received from outside are constrained to the part of your WordPress installation where your site data lives, so in theory it’s impossible to construct a URL that reaches “across and upwards” from the directory that holds your public data into the directory that holds your site’s configuration files and internal data.</p> <p>WordPress itself goes out of its way to recognise maliciously constructed URLs that try to trick the system into visiting unexpected parts of the filing system, and so-called <i>directory traversal</i> exploits are rare these days.</p> <p>But if you have a forgotten plugin or a neglected WordPress theme installed, the code in it might contain a bug that allows an attacker to read prohibited files anyway, for example by tricking a plugin into including confidential content in a reply that it constructs.</p> <p>Researchers at WordFence say that over the past month they’ve seen close to a <a href="#">million different WordPress sites</a> receive malicious requests designed to shake loose their wp-config.php files.</p> <p>We’re assuming that these attacks were orchestrated using a <a href="#">botnet</a>, also known as <a href="#">zombie malware</a>, because more than 20,000 different IP numbers appeared in the list of computers involved in the attack.</p> <p>Bots, or zombies, are computers infected with malware that regularly – and usually very quietly – calls home to one or more command-and-control (C&amp;C) servers run by the crooks.</p>

By calling home on outgoing connections to fetch their malevolent instructions, and by using innocent looking traffic such as web requests, bots work fine even on home networks and at hosting companies where the provider blocks all or most incoming connections for legal or security reasons.

Of course, with 20,000 different IP numbers in the list, many of which are probably home computers with IP numbers that change every few days or after a reboot, it's hard to use a blocklist to head off troublemakers because the list is such a moving target.

Indeed, crooks love bots not only because they're hard to block quickly, but also because it means that someone else is paying for the traffic and that attempts to trace the attack back to its source fail end up in the wrong place – 20,000 different places, in this case.

What's the risk?

As we've mentioned, crooks who can overwrite your wp-config.php file can pretty much do anything they want to your server because the code in there runs on the server for every request.

That means a crook who can modify the configuration file doesn't have to wait for you restart WordPress or reboot your server – they can just visit the home page of your site.

But even with read access to your configuration file, a crook may be able to use the security information in it to get unauthorised access to your WordPress databases.

That means an attacker could come back later to steal confidential data, add new users, and alter or delete content.

What to do?

WordPress can [update itself](#), but even if you're relying on automatic updating, don't forget to check that it's working correctly.

(Ironically, perhaps, the easiest way to [configure autoupdating](#) is via the wp-config.php file.)

WordPress can also update many plugins and themes for you, too...

...but not all of them.

Many plugins and themes either still need manual attention for updates, or are old and tired enough that they haven't had updates even though they contain bugs that the crooks already know about.

Remember that less is more: if you're still using plugins or themes that are no longer under active development, see if you can manage without them, or find replacements that are still being maintained and getting security fixes.

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HEADLINE	06/05 Google search WhatsApp phone numbers
SOURCE	<a href="https://threatpost.com/whatsapp-phone-numbers-google-search-results/156141/">https://threatpost.com/whatsapp-phone-numbers-google-search-results/156141/</a>
GIST	<p>A researcher is warning that a WhatsApp feature called “Click to Chat” puts users’ mobile phone numbers at risk — by allowing Google Search to index them for anyone to find. But WhatsApp owner Facebook says it is no big deal and that the search results only reveal what the users have chosen to make public anyway.</p> <p>Bug-bounty hunter Athul Jayaram, who discovered the issue, calls the phone numbers “leaked” and characterizes the situation as a security bug that puts WhatsApp users’ privacy at risk.</p> <p>Click to Chat offers websites an easy way to initiate a WhatsApp chat session with website visitors. It works by associating a Quick Response (QR) code image (created via third-party services) to a site</p>

owner's WhatsApp mobile phone number. That allows a visitor to scan the site's QR code or click on a URL to initiate a WhatsApp chat session – without the visitor having to dial the number itself. That visitor however still gains access to the phone number once the call is initiated.

The problem, Jayaram said, is that those mobile numbers can also turn up in Google Search results, because search engines index Click to Chat metadata. The phone numbers are revealed as part of a URL string ([https://wa.me/<phone\\_number>](https://wa.me/<phone_number>)) and so, this in effect “leaks” the mobile phone numbers of WhatsApp users in plaintext, according to the researcher's view.

The “wa.me” domain is owned and maintained by WhatsApp, according to WHOIS records.

“Your mobile number is visible in plain text in this URL, and anyone who gets hold of the URL can know your mobile number. You cannot revoke it,” said Jayaram, in research shared exclusively with Threatpost, Friday.

He argues that it makes it easier for spammers to compile legitimate phone numbers to mount campaigns. Using a specially crafted search string of the domain <https://wa.me/>, the researcher said he found that Google indexed 300,000 WhatsApp phone numbers.

Jayaram argues that because of this, Click to Chat presents an important security issue that could lead to abuse and fraud.

“As individual phone numbers are leaked, an attacker can message them, call them, sell their phone numbers to marketers, spammers, scammers,” he said.

Because WhatsApp identifies users by phone numbers (as opposed to usernames or email IDs), Google Search only revealed the phone numbers and not the identities of users that they were connected to, Jayaram explained. However, the researcher said he was also able to see users' profile pictures on WhatsApp along with their phone numbers, merely by clicking on the Google Search phone number URLs, which brought him to their WhatsApp profiles. Next, a determined hacker could reverse-image search the user's profile picture in hopes of collecting enough clues to establish the user's identity.

“Through the WhatsApp profile, they can see the profile photo of the user, and do reverse-image search to find their other social-media accounts and discover a lot more about [a targeted individual],” he told Threatpost.

Pairing a phone number with a name and address could be a powerful starting point for an identity thief, according to Jayaram. “Most users do use the same profile picture on other social media accounts, the user profiles can be also easily find out,” he said.

For its part, WhatsApp describes Click to Chat as a convenience perk, allowing users to begin a chat with someone without having their phone number saved in their phone's address book.

WhatsApp phone numbers “Our Click to Chat feature, which lets users create a URL with their phone number so that anyone can easily message them, is used widely by small and microbusinesses around the world to connect with their customers,” a WhatsApp spokesperson told Threatpost.

#### Feature or Bug?

The researcher maintains that many Click to Chat users are unaware that their phone numbers are being stored in plaintext, indexed by Google Search and discoverable via a relatively simple search query.

He told Threatpost that users he reached out to had expressed concern their phone numbers were available online and indexed by Google Search.

Threatpost also reached out to several WhatsApp users whose numbers were indexed by Google Search — some were aware that their number was public — and had made it that way to promote their business or personal contact online.

“My phone number is public on the web. No need to implicate WhatsApp,” one user told Threatpost, explaining that Click to Chat was convenient and made it easy for his site visitors. “I did it to make it easy for people to contact me. Surprisingly, I get very few spam calls,” he said.

However, others were unaware their numbers were public.

“No I didn’t mean to make my number public at all,” one user told Threatpost. “I set up WhatsApp for my business so people should text directly without getting my number.”

#### Rejected for Bug Bounty

After discovering the issue on May 23, Jayaram said he contacted WhatsApp owner Facebook regarding the issue via its bug-bounty program. However, Facebook responded to him saying that data abuse is only covered for Facebook platforms, and not for WhatsApp. A WhatsApp spokesperson on the other hand told Threatpost that WhatsApp is a part of the data-abuse bounty program.

“While we appreciate this researcher’s report and value the time that he took to share it with us, it did not qualify for a bounty since it merely contained a search engine index of URLs that WhatsApp users chose to make public. All WhatsApp users, including businesses, can block unwanted messages with the tap of a button,” he said.

#### Old Problem, New Complaints

Google search indexes were also central to a WhatsApp glitch uncovered earlier this year, after a journalist for DW News found that invite links for WhatsApp groups were being indexed by Google’s Search Engine. That meant that if links to private groups existed anywhere on the internet, anyone could potentially find them and join a WhatsApp group with a quick Google search. Hundreds of thousands of groups were potentially accessible in this way.

At the time, Danny Sullivan, public liaison for Google Search, said on Twitter that the situation is “no different than any case where a site allows URLs to be publicly listed,” but said that Google does offer tools allowing sites to block content being listed.

A Google spokesperson told Threatpost that in regards to Google Search, what Sullivan said still holds true. According to Google, it and other search engines index pages that are available on the open web. Google cannot remove URLs from the web (only webmasters can do that), so even if something is removed from Google’s results, it can still appear in the results of other search engines.

Jayaram recommended that WhatsApp encrypt user mobile numbers, and add a robots.txt file to disallow bots from crawling their domain.

“Unfortunately they did not do that yet, and your privacy may be at stake,” he said. “Today, your mobile number is linked to your Bitcoin wallets, Aadhaar, bank accounts, UPI, credit cards...[allowing] an attacker to perform SIM card swapping and cloning attacks by knowing your mobile number is another possibility.”

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HEADLINE	06/07 Crime app Citizen; key tool during protests
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/local-crime-app-citizen-becomes-a-key-tool-during-protests-11591545600">https://www.wsj.com/articles/local-crime-app-citizen-becomes-a-key-tool-during-protests-11591545600</a>



Millions of Americans have used social media to understand and communicate about the killing of George Floyd. But for many of those tracking protests, the go-to online tool hasn't been Twitter or Facebook but Citizen, an upstart smartphone app.

In the past week, about 620,000 first-time users in the U.S. downloaded Citizen on [Apple](#) Inc.'s App Store and Google Play, according to analytics firm Sensor Tower. The app, which uses police-scanner communication and on-the-ground reports, notifies users of what's happening near them, from demonstrations to police movements to emergencies.

By Monday, the app had jumped from being the 744th most popular—in terms of daily downloads from Apple's store—to the fourth, analytics firm App Annie said. Citizen is currently available in 18 cities, among them sites of [the largest demonstrations](#). Those include New York City, Houston, Los Angeles and Minneapolis, where Mr. Floyd was killed May 25 while in police custody.

Jorge Cueto is among Citizen's newest users. Mr. Cueto, a graduate student in San Francisco who had seen videos of police clashing with protesters, said he wanted to join protests but feared being arrested or hurt.

A friend's social media post alerted him to Citizen, which he downloaded. On Wednesday, he checked to see how a protest in the city's Mission neighborhood was unfolding. Videos and comments showed nothing concerning, so Mr. Cueto decided to go.

"Having that level of granularity and information about what the police presence was like made me comfortable enough to participate," Mr. Cueto said. "I felt like I had enough information to make an informed decision."

Other apps logging new users during the past couple of weeks of unrest include encrypted messaging app Signal, installed this past week by about 155,000 first-time users in the U.S., according to Sensor Tower. Other police-scanner apps such as 5-0 Radio Police Scanner have also seen a surge in first-time users, according to the analytics company. Mainstream apps such as Twitter and neighborhood hub Nextdoor have also [seen a rise in activity](#).

Before Mr. Floyd's death, Citizen, owned by sp0n Inc., was mostly used to report crimes or other emergency situations. Users sign up by providing their phone numbers, and location trackers pinpoint their locations on a city map. Squares on the map show the location of crimes or emergency situations, scraped by Citizen from scanner communication among first responders. Those who are nearby can submit videos, which are reviewed by Citizen and matched with the locations.

The New York City-based app first appeared in 2016 under the name Vigilante. The app promised to give people a better view into the 911 system and create an emergency-response environment with greater transparency for local residents.

The New York Police Department objected to the app, stating that crimes should be handled by the department and not "a vigilante with a cellphone." Apple removed the app from its store, citing violations of its policies.

The app was reoriented and relaunched as Citizen the next year. The startup, which employs about 150 people and has raised roughly \$60 million, says it has more than four million users.

Citizen has drawn criticism over its content and questions of whether it does more to incite fear than help communities. Although the app initially returned without a controversial feature that allowed users to report incidents near them by uploading videos, it recently restored a similar tool. Such features, critics say, allow users' biases and contribute to racial profiling.

Citizen said that in a recent poll of its users, 70% said the app made them feel safer, and that a large percentage of users are racial minorities, based on the same poll.

People have also reported instances in which information on the app doesn't appear to be correct. Emergency situations can differ from initial information given over 911 calls and communication between police and other first responders. Because anyone can use Citizen, law enforcement can also potentially tune into the network.

Citizen says staff members moderate the app's content in real time. Andrew Frame, Citizen's founder and a veteran telecommunications entrepreneur, said the company also allows app users to correct inaccurate information. Citizen has been the first to alert people of potentially dangerous situations such as burning buildings, Mr. Frame said.

"There is only so much we can do as a platform," Mr. Frame said. "We create this information and allow people to get this information to help them."

Citizen says it doesn't sell user data to third-party service providers or government agencies. It does disclose information to law enforcement if subpoenaed during a criminal investigation, [citing the federal Electronic Communications Privacy Act](#). Mr. Frame said the company sees itself as an independent, neutral operation.

Citizen is free to use, but it is trying to find ways to monetize the app. Mr. Frame said the company is in the process of developing paid services on the app, although he would not specify what they are.

Alexandria Hyde is one user who plans to continue relying on the app. Ms. Hyde, who lives near San Jose, Calif., downloaded Citizen about a week ago to monitor protests throughout the Bay Area. She skipped out on one demonstration in Oakland after receiving alerts from the app about heavy police activity there.

"Not everything is on the news," said Ms. Hyde, who is 18 years old. "I want to know if someone got stabbed a mile from me. I want to make sure I know what's going on in my area."

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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 New cyber risks to presidential election</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/us/politics/remote-voting-hacking-coronavirus.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/us/politics/remote-voting-hacking-coronavirus.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage</a>
GIST	<p>With the general election less than 150 days away, there are rising concerns that the push for remote voting prompted by the pandemic could open new opportunities to hack the vote — for President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia, but also others hoping to disrupt, influence or profit from the election.</p> <p>President Trump has repeatedly said that mail-in ballots invite voter fraud and would benefit Democrats. It is a baseless claim: Mail-in voting has resulted in little fraud in the five states that have used it for years, and <a href="#">a recent study</a> at Stanford University found that voting by mail did not advantage either party and might increase voter turnout for both parties.</p> <p>But there are different worries. The rush to accommodate remote voting is leading a small number of states to experiment with or expand online voting, an approach the Department of Homeland Security deemed "high risk" in a report last month. It has also put renewed focus on the assortment of online state voter registration systems, which were among the chief targets of Russian hackers in 2016. Their security is central to ensuring that, come November, voters actually receive their mail-in ballots or can gain access to online voting.</p> <p>While Russian hackers stopped short of manipulating voter data in 2016, American officials determined the effort was likely a dry run for future interference. To head off that threat, last summer the Department of Homeland Security hired the RAND Corporation to re-evaluate the nation's election vulnerabilities, from poll booths to the voter registration systems. RAND's findings only heightened the longstanding</p>

fears of government officials: State and local registration databases could be locked by hackers demanding ransomware or manipulated by outside actors.

Homeland Security officials have been focusing “intensely on hardening registration systems,” said Christopher C. Krebs, who leads the department’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. He said his teams had been working to make sure that towns, counties and states patch software vulnerabilities, back up their systems and also have paper printouts of poll books — the registration lists used on Election Day — should criminals or adversary nations render the digital versions inaccessible.

Now the problem has grown more complex as states around the country race to accommodate mail-in voting even for those who are not away from home. And courts are intervening with contradictory rulings, many of which are being appealed, adding to the sense of chaos and uncertainty about what procedures will be used on Nov. 3.

Mr. Krebs’s agency is also concerned about vulnerabilities surrounding internet voting that Delaware, West Virginia and other states are using. In May, it issued a confidential report to voting vendors and election officials in all 50 states opposing online voting, warning that ballots “could be manipulated at scale,” meaning hackers could change large volumes of votes undetected.

Separately, researchers at the University of Michigan and M.I.T. released [a study on Sunday](#) concluding that one platform already facilitating internet and remote voting could, in certain cases, be manipulated to alter votes — without being detected by the voter, election officials or the company that owns it.

The platform, called OmniBallot, was used for internet voting in Delaware’s primary last week and will be used to a smaller extent in West Virginia’s this week. Both states also plan to use it in some form come November, as does Colorado. (New Jersey quietly used it experimentally last month in local elections.)

Various jurisdictions in Colorado, Florida, Oregon, Ohio and Washington also use the platform as a way for voters to mark ballots remotely and submit them by email, fax or mail.

The researchers discovered that both uses of the system presented opportunities for hackers or nation states to compromise an election.

“Online voting raises such severe risks that, even in a time of unrest and pandemic, these jurisdictions are taking a major risk of undermining the legitimacy of their election results,” said one of the researchers, J. Alex Halderman, a computer science professor at Michigan.

Bryan Finney, chief executive of Democracy Live, which offers OmniBallot, defended the platform, saying that before the pandemic it primarily served voters with disabilities and American service members overseas. “No technology is bulletproof,” he said. “But we need to be able to enfranchise the disenfranchised.”

Mail-in ballots, like the one President Trump used to vote in Florida’s primary in March, also depend on the safety and security of state and federal registration systems. Before the pandemic, officials were mainly focused on securing voting machines and databases, and putting new audit controls in place.

But now the virus has forced states to overhaul their plans to accommodate an expected deluge of the ballots, and nearly every state not blocked by a legal or legislative challenge is racing to expand vote-by-mail for November.

In Texas, the state Supreme Court [blocked the expansion of mail-in ballots](#) last month. On Thursday, Ohio lawmakers approved a Republican bill that makes voting by mail more difficult, removing prepaid postage and cutting in half the time to request an absentee ballot. And in Tennessee, the Republican secretary of state pledged to fight a court ruling Thursday that would allow voting by mail across the state.

Many election officials are now struggling to ensure ballots are mailed and returned securely. In 31 states, voter signatures must be verified. In the past, this task was performed by trained specialists, but larger counties are increasingly relying on signature-verification software that security experts fear could be exploited to disenfranchise voters.

The threat of foreign interference remains real. American officials have repeatedly warned that Russia is once again meddling in the presidential election. Last month, the National Security Agency warned that Russian state hackers had targeted an email program used by dozens of congressional candidates to steal emails, as Russian hackers also did four years ago.

On Thursday, Google said Chinese hackers were targeting the personal email accounts of campaign staff members working for former Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. It also confirmed reports that Iran had targeted Mr. Trump's campaign.

But the White House, where Mr. Trump continues to dismiss the hacking accusations against Russia in the last election, has directed little attention to the problems beyond the president's unfounded claims that mail-in ballots favor Democrats and "will lead to massive fraud and abuse." (In fact, mail-in ballots create a paper trail that helps prevent abuse.)

Even the perception of vulnerabilities could have a profound impact on the actual vote, security specialists warn. It could raise doubts about the election's integrity, at a moment when Mr. Trump's critics allege he is already preparing the ground to challenge the result if he loses.

In a reference last month to a California congressional election, the president warned without offering any evidence that "it's all rigged out there," an assertion he also made when campaigning in 2016.

Mr. Biden, who advocates remote voting because of the virus's health risks, has suggested Mr. Trump is sowing uncertainty because he may try to delay the election. And other Democrats have raised the possibility that Mr. Trump would not accept the results if he were to lose in November.

Robert O'Brien, the president's national security adviser, dismissed those concerns last week on CBS's "Face the Nation." "Elections are going to take place on Election Day, there is no question," he said, insisting that "we have a very strong infrastructure" at the White House on election security, including "the ballots, the voting machines, the secretary of state websites," where registration data is held.

Harri Hursti, an election security expert who consults with states and counties across the country, said, "Elections are not really about the winners." He added, "They are about conducting elections in such a way that the losers accept that the result is fair."

### **An Open Door to Hackers**

It was four years ago this month when officials in Arizona discovered that election officials' passwords had been stolen, one of the first indications that the 2016 election was under cyberattack.

Studies led by the Department of Homeland Security and the F.B.I. later said that Russia had most likely conducted research and reconnaissance against election networks in all 50 states.

The integrity of the November election hinges on the same registration systems, which are "public-facing" — connected to the internet and accessible to a wide variety of state and county officials and often the companies they hire to run their election systems. But that access also leaves them open to potential attack.

A well-known threat comes from ransomware, when an invasion of a computer system locks up records, making them inaccessible. Atlanta and Baltimore have been hit by devastating attacks that made it impossible to pay parking tickets or record deeds, and towns from Florida to Texas have also been paralyzed with ransomware.

For elections, there is a separate concern that hackers, short of shutting down a system, could undermine the integrity of voter information.

If hackers slip into voter registration lists and modify addresses, or falsely indicate that voters moved out of state, the result could be digital disenfranchisement. Even just getting into the lists — without manipulating them — hackers could seed doubts of tampering. That may explain why Russian hackers made a show of stealing Illinois voter data in 2016, according to D.H.S. officials, even though they didn't tamper with it.

“As we looked out across the country and saw ransomware running wild across state and local government agencies, it was reasonable to conclude that voter registration databases, highly networked and highly centralized, could be next,” said Mr. Krebs, the Homeland Security cyber chief. States have “stepped up” over the past year, he added.

Indeed, security is now better across the country, but voter registration data is still vulnerable and accessible to the outside world.

Some states and counties manage their registration systems internally, but many rely on a maze of private contractors that can be ripe targets. The firms retrieve the data over the internet and keep it in the cloud, often with limited security. In 2016, one contractor, VR Systems, was targeted by Russian hackers, according to a classified assessment by the National Security Agency. The company, which has long maintained that any attacks were unsuccessful, had access to registration data in swing states like North Carolina, Florida and Virginia.

“Most people don't realize how many times registration systems are accessed by vendors and parties with little security,” said Mr. Hursti, the security consultant. “The justification for this is that it is public data, so nobody can steal it, but that ignores how dangerous it would be if someone modifies it.”

The problem was illustrated in two states in recent weeks.

[Two thousand voters in Pennsylvania](#) received the wrong ballots for the state's June 2 primary because of an error at a company that mails ballots for Montgomery County. And in New Jersey, a [software malfunction](#) delayed ballots to military and overseas voters for that state's primary in July.

Election officials and vendors in both states caught the glitches, but security experts warn that malicious hackers could exploit such lapses in November.

The transparency of the information helps authorities catch bad actors, but “the vulnerabilities are real,” said Eric Rosenbach, who runs Harvard's Defending Digital Democracy project, which is working with election officials to secure voting.

### **An \$89,000 Digital Ballot**

Before the coronavirus outbreak, the advantages of online voting were obvious for Americans with disabilities, those living abroad, military personnel posted to remote locations — even Alaskans living in the wilderness.

But the risks were made vivid a decade ago in Washington. An online voting experiment was called off after [researchers hacked the system](#) to elect HAL 9000 — the computer from the movie “2001: A Space Odyssey” — and played the University of Michigan fight song every time a ballot was cast.

The experimenting is back, but once again it is not going well. New Jersey is a case in point.

In April, with the virus sweeping the state, officials moved quickly to expand mail-in voting. But they also decided to explore online voting by hiring Democracy Live, whose OmniBallot system was identified by Michigan and M.I.T. researchers as vulnerable to undetected hacking.

New Jersey officials made the online voting available to county clerks for municipal and school board elections last month, but did not publicize it widely for fear of inviting trouble.

“We didn’t want to put out an explanation for potential bad guys to decide that this was something they wanted to exploit,” said Alicia D’Alessandro, spokeswoman for New Jersey’s secretary of state.

The result: Just one voter used the online system. The cost to the state: \$89,000, and still no real test of whether it works or not.

New Jersey will not repeat the experiment for its July primary, and has not yet decided what it will do in November, officials said. A lawsuit is attempting to block further online voting in the state, claiming it is susceptible to hackers.

Delaware, also citing the pandemic, recently announced it would make online voting available to voters who were sick or in quarantine. And West Virginia said it would allow online voting by some residents with disabilities, military personnel and overseas residents, as it has since 2018. And in emergency cases, Colorado will allow some voters to submit ballots electronically, it announced last week.

Like New Jersey, Delaware, West Virginia and Colorado have contracted with Democracy Live.

Mr. Halderman of Michigan and Michael A. Specter, a researcher at M.I.T., determined that Democracy Live’s online voting and ballot-marking systems [could not withstand concerted hacking attempts](#), and also presented privacy concerns.

The researchers reported that ballots could be manipulated to change votes and that, in some cases, the company’s servers received voters’ identifying information.

“Democracy Live is getting a database of how every single voter voted,” Mr. Specter said. “What if that ends up in bad hands?”

The report concluded that while OmniBallot’s mail-in option was reasonably secure, the online options represented “a high risk to election integrity and could allow attackers to alter election results without detection.”

Mr. Finney, the Democracy Live executive, said the company never shares or sells voter data. He also said voters concerned with online security always have the option to print and mail their ballots, something Mr. Halderman recommended as prudent.

Mr. Finney said Democracy Live’s security had been previously vetted in two reviews he could not share publicly and noted that OmniBallot had been used in over 1,000 elections over the past decade, without security issues.

Earlier this year, a team of researchers from M.I.T., including Mr. Specter, found [similar problems with Voatz, another app-based voting platform](#). Voatz insists its system is secure.

Warnings about turning to online voting too quickly have also come from countries that use it successfully. Kersti Kaljulaid, Estonia’s president, noted last month that her country had moved to electronic ballots only after an ambitious project — known as E-Estonia — to secure 1.3 million Estonians’ digital identities.

“You need to make sure you have perfect understanding of everyone’s identity first,” she said.

No such system exists in any American state. So election officials, faced with the pandemic and an immutable general election date, are trying to make do.



	<p>In New Jersey, before the pandemic, “we ran drills on all different kinds of scenarios that could disrupt our election,” said Ms. D’Alessandro.</p> <p>“We even had a scenario that dealt with a public health crisis,” she continued. “But I can tell you that simulating a measles outbreak in two towns does not prepare you for a global pandemic.”</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Local, state governments face cyber crisis</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/local-state-governments-face-cybersecurity-crisis/d/d-id/1338010">https://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/local-state-governments-face-cybersecurity-crisis/d/d-id/1338010</a>
GIST	<p>Already under attack by cybercriminals and ransomware operators, state and local government are facing heightened cybersecurity threats as they move into the second half of 2020, when they will be required to manage elections while dealing with hard economic choices, experts said this week.</p> <p>State and local governments have struggled with cybersecurity for years, but the next six months will simultaneously raise the stakes while posing new challenges. The combination of reduced tax revenues and the additional costs caused by the pandemic could strain budgets for typical cost centers such as cybersecurity. Already, government-focused companies have noticed a significant loss of focus on cybersecurity in their state and local government clients.</p> <p>It's understandable but worrisome when looking at the challenges ahead, says Mark Testoni, CEO of enterprise-software maker SAP's national security division.</p> <p>"Cybersecurity is successfully working its way into boardrooms now, but if you are a governor or a mayor at this point [in time], you are more focused on keeping people alive and reducing impacts on their livelihood, so cyber is not a big issue," he says. "We can't necessarily now spend billions of dollars shoring up defenses. Unfortunately, if you are a cybercriminal, there is no better opportunity than that."</p> <p>Because of the relative lack of cybersecurity expertise and their need to stay operational, state and local governments have become a favored target of cybercriminals, especially ransomware operators, because small government agencies are more likely to pay in order to recover from a ransomware attack. In 2019, <a href="#">more than 104 ransomware attacks</a> targeted state and local government organizations, according to data collected by threat intelligence firm Recorded Future.</p> <p>"The attackers are smart, they know state and local governments are not well-funded, and they don't have cybersecurity expertise," says Dan Basile, executive director of statewide cybersecurity services for the Texas A&amp;M University System, which offers detection and response services to local governments in Texas. "They have a soft underbelly that is pretty easy to get at."</p> <p>In 2020, cybersecurity has dropped off the radar for many government organizations because of a trifecta of social threats: coronavirus infections, unemployment, and protests. Overall, states are facing hard economic times, if the 2009 financial crisis is any guide: Tax revenue plummeted by more than \$120 billion, or about 9%, <a href="#">according to the Brookings Institution</a>.</p> <p>While the budget shortfall will not have an immediate impact, since state and local governments tend to budget for multiple years and had record rainy-day funds, cybersecurity spending will likely hold steady, if not decrease, Basile says.</p> <p>"I don't think anyone is looking at cutting staff, but buying new security solutions? That's a lot less likely," he says.</p> <p>Overall, with tens of thousands of governmental agencies, school districts, and organizations across the United States, the problem is extremely complex, SAP NS2's Testoni says.</p>



<a href="#">Return to Top</a>	<p>"Typically, these smaller cities and counties don't have the scale, but they all have their own individual systems that they have to manage," he says. "It is a lot of different systems and a lot of different architectures and a lot of different capabilities."</p> <p>Focusing on increasing cloud adoption could be a path forward. Already, most state and local governments rely on cloud services to manage their web presence, online services, and e-mail systems. Adding cybersecurity to the list should be fairly straightforward, Testoni says.</p> <p>"Cloud architectures could give an opportunity to layer in additional protection, particularly for the smaller communities," he says. "But there is still a lot of cultural and political problems in the way. We are dealing with cross-cultural change, and that always tends to cause unforeseen problems."</p> <p>Cybersecurity training is also a relatively cheap measure that could help to harden local governments against ransomware attacks and prepare county workers for election threats. In a Harris survey conducted in early 2020 and sponsored by IBM, <a href="#">only 38% of respondents</a> working for state and local governments said they had received training, leaving a great deal of room for improvement.</p> <p>Finally, segmentation that aims to slow attackers' movement through a network can help keep critical data safe, and more consistent backups can allow government to recover following a cyberattack, consultancy Deloitte <a href="#">said in its March analysis</a>.</p> <p>"Developing a system architecture where the most critical data is compartmentalized can make it more difficult for hackers to encrypt enough critical information to create leverage and demand a ransom," the company said. "This compartmentalization is as much about function as physical connectivity."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>06/05 Black Lives Matter groups targeted</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/ddosers-target-black-lives-matter/">https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/ddosers-target-black-lives-matter/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Widespread violent protests across the US over the past week have been followed by attempted DDoS attacks on several rights groups, according to Cloudflare.</p> <p>The web security firm analyzed malicious HTTP requests it blocked across the weekend of April 25/26 versus a month later (May 30/31). Minneapolis resident George Floyd was killed on May 25, sparking a wave of violence and protests across the US over the succeeding days.</p> <p>Cloudflare claimed to have blocked 135.5 billion such requests in the May weekend, a 17% increase on the 116.3 billion blocked in the April weekend. That's a month-on-month increase of over 19 billion attack requests.</p> <p>The firm said that Sunday May 31 recorded an even higher month-on-month increase, of 26%, in attempted attacks.</p> <p>Organizations classed as advocacy groups were subject to a much higher increase: May attack volumes were 1120-times the April figure.</p> <p>"In fact, those groups went from having almost no attacks at all in April, to attacks peaking at 20,000 requests per second on a single site," wrote Cloudflare.</p> <p>"One particular attacker, likely using a hacked server in France, was especially persistent and kept up an attack continuously hitting an advocacy group continuously for over a day. We blocked those malicious HTTP requests and kept the site online."</p> <p>The security provider has detailed data on these rights groups as many of them are protected by its Project Galileo initiative, designed to shield such organizations from widespread online attempts to silence them.</p>

	<p>“There are many organizations fighting racism who participate in Project Galileo. Over the last week we’ve seen a dramatic increase in the number of cyber-attacks against them,” the firm explained.</p> <p>“Unfortunately, if recent history is any guide, those who speak out against oppression will continue to face cyber-attacks that attempt to silence them.”</p> <p>Advocacy groups promoting the Black Lives Matter message weren’t the only recipients of DDoS attacks during the period. Cloudflare said it also recorded a 1.8-times increase in attacks on government sites and a 3.8-times increase in malicious traffic targeting military sites during the same period.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Fake decryptor STOP Djvu Ransomware</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/fake-ransomware-decryptor-double-encrypts-desperate-victims-files/">https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/fake-ransomware-decryptor-double-encrypts-desperate-victims-files/</a>
GIST	<p>A fake decryptor for the STOP Djvu Ransomware is being distributed that lures already desperate people with the promise of free decryption. Instead of getting their files back for free, they are infected with another ransomware that makes their situation even worse.</p> <p>While ransomware operations such as Maze, REvil, Netwalker, and DoppelPaymer get wide media attention due to their high worth victims, <a href="#">another ransomware called STOP Djvu</a> is infecting more people than all of them combined on a daily basis.</p> <p>With over 600 submissions a day to the <a href="#">ID-Ransomware</a> ransomware identification service, STOP ransomware is the most actively distributed ransomware over the past year.</p> <p>Emsisoft and Michael Gillespie had <a href="#">previously released a decryptor</a> for older STOP Djvu variants, but newer variants cannot be decrypted for free.</p> <p>If the ransomware is so common, you may be wondering why it doesn't get much attention?</p> <p>The lack of attention is simply because the ransomware mostly affects home users infected through adware bundles pretending to be software cracks.</p> <p>While downloading and installing cracks is not excusable, many of those who are infected simply cannot afford to pay a \$500 ransom for a decryptor.</p> <p>Double-encrypting someone's data with a second ransomware is just kicking someone while they are already down.</p> <p><b>Zorab double-encrypts a victim's data</b>  Unfortunately, this is what a new ransomware called Zorab <a href="#">discovered by Michael Gillespie</a> is doing. The creators of the Zorab ransomware have released a fake STOP Djvu decryptor that does not recover any files for free but instead encrypts all of the victim's already encrypted data with another ransomware.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 'Korean hackers' claim Zee5 breach</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/zee5-allegedly-hacked-by-korean-hackers-customer-info-at-risk/">https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/zee5-allegedly-hacked-by-korean-hackers-customer-info-at-risk/</a>
GIST	A hacker identifying themselves as "John Wick" and "Korean Hackers" claim to have breached the systems for Indian video on demand giant ZEE5 and are threatening to sell the database on criminal markets.

ZEE5 is an Indian streaming service with over [150 million subscribers](#) worldwide and is part of the [Essel Group](#) conglomerate, the same company that owns ZEE news media outlets and TV channels.

Earlier this year, a paste floating on the web [exposed credentials](#) of some 1,023 Premium ZEE5 accounts. After reporting these accounts to ZEE5, they were quick to respond, but we are not aware of notifications sent to affected accounts.

### **Hackers claim to have breached Zee5.com**

Now, [Kanishk Tagade](#) of Quickcyber has reached out to us, revealing extensive [details](#) about a massive data breach that appears to have allegedly hit the video streaming giant.

In an email threat sent to Tagade, editors of major Indian newspapers, and employees of ZEE5, a hacker claiming to be "Korean Hackers" warned that they have breached Zee5.com and stolen a database with sensitive information.

They then threaten that they "will expose your database & code in public for open sale soon."

### **Email sent from alleged hackers**

The hacker(s) going by the name of "John wick" further list what all they'd be revealing: "data, recent transactions, passwords, emails, mobile numbers, email id, messages, etc..."

A point to note here: the term "email id" used in the thread is used mainly in the Indian subcontinent to refer to an email address.

In emails with BleepingComputer, the hackers state that they mostly "help these people to fix the bugs" and request Ethereum for their help.

"We are security experts from Korea, We will find bugs and report to the clients if they do not respond we try to make money, We have hacked more 50 Big websites we never sold anything," the threat actors told BleepingComputer.

The threat actors have stated that they are in conversations with ZEE5 and are asking for a minimum of a 10 Ethereum "donation" for their help.

As for the threat actors, whether or not they are from Korea cannot be confirmed.

As they are using the Tutanota email service, which provides private and encrypted mailboxes and a webmail interface, there's no reliable way to trace the email back.

The hckindia@tutanota.com email used by the hackers was previously seen in defaced sites claiming to have been done by "Korean Hackers."

### **Allegedly stolen data**

When the hackers contacted Tagade, they stated that they downloaded 150GB of "private data" from Zee5.com, including the site's source code, and plan on selling it soon.

As part of the proof given to Tagade, they shared images of a repository on bitbucket.org containing the stolen information.

**Bitbucket showing allegedly stolen data** The URL for the Bitbucket repository is "restricted" to the public and prompts you to log in.

### **Private Bitbucket repository**

To make matters worse, these hackers have posted partial data from the compromised database, secret keys present in the live source code, references to their Atlassian board, and AWS bucket credentials. They claim to have access to user data from almost every Indian state.

	<p><b>Alleged Zee5 data in a stolen database</b></p> <p>The leaked records contain private information on the subscribers including recent transaction data, email addresses, mobile phone numbers, passwords, etc. and multiple screenshots shared by the hackers verify proof-of-access to such records...</p> <p><b>Was Dish TV compromised too?</b></p> <p>One of the screenshots, shown below, also has "dish-tv" network drive on the list, which is noteworthy as <a href="#">Essel Group</a>, who owns ZEE, also owns the satellite TV company, Dish TV.</p> <p>Could this mean the hackers also had access to Dish TV customer information?</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Ongoing eCh0raix ransomware campaign</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/ongoing-ech0raix-ransomware-campaign-targets-qnap-nas-devices/?&amp;web_view=true">https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/ongoing-ech0raix-ransomware-campaign-targets-qnap-nas-devices/?&amp;web_view=true</a>
GIST	<p>After remaining relatively quiet over the past few months, the threat actors behind the eCh0raix Ransomware have launched a brand new campaign targeting QNAP storage devices.</p> <p>eCh0raix was <a href="#">first seen</a> in June 2019, after victims began reporting ransomware attacks in a <a href="#">forum topic</a> on BleepingComputer.</p> <p>On June 1st, 2020, there has been a sudden surge of eCh0raix victims seeking help in our forums and submissions to the ransomware identification site <a href="#">ID-Ransomware</a>.</p> <p>The threat actors are gaining access to QNAP devices through known vulnerabilities or by brute-forcing weak passwords used on the device.</p> <p>Today, QNAP released an <a href="#">advisory</a> for three vulnerabilities identified as CVE-2018-19943, CVE-2018-19949, and CVE-2018-19953 that allow attackers to inject malicious code or perform remote code execution.</p> <p>These vulnerabilities are fixed in the following QTS operating system versions:</p> <p><b>QTS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QTS 4.4.1: build 20190918 and later</li> <li>• QTS 4.3.6: build 20190919 and later</li> </ul> <p><b>Photo Station:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QTS 4.4.1: Photo Station 6.0.3 and later</li> <li>• QTS 4.3.4 - QTS 4.4.0: Photo Station 5.7.10 and later</li> <li>• QTS 4.3.0 - QTS 4.3.3: Photo Station 5.4.9 and later</li> <li>• QTS 4.2.6: Photo Station 5.2.11 and later</li> </ul> <p>As these vulnerabilities could be used by the attackers to install the ransomware code on vulnerable devices, it is strongly advised to install these updates immediately.</p> <p><b>Encrypting QNAP NAS devices</b></p> <p>Once the attackers gain access, they install the ransomware, which encrypts the files stored on the device and appends the .encrypt extension to the file name.</p> <p>When done, a victim will be left with a ransom note named README_FOR_DECRYPT.txt that contains a link to a Tor payment site. This site then demands approximately \$500 to get a decryptor.</p> <p>It is unknown if these are malicious packages installed by the threat actors or custom-loaded packages that were encrypted and are no longer being read correctly.</p>

	<p>While a <a href="#">decryptor was released</a> by security expert BloodDolly to decrypt previous versions for free, the ransomware developer has since fixed its code weakness.</p> <p>There is currently no way to recover files for free unless you have enabled QNAP's Snapshot service. If you have enabled QNAP's <a href="#">block-based snapshot feature</a> in the past, you can use the snapshots to recover your data.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Data dumping by ransomware operators</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://cyware.com/news/data-dumping-by-ransomware-operators-where-and-how-do-they-leak-9ed088cf">https://cyware.com/news/data-dumping-by-ransomware-operators-where-and-how-do-they-leak-9ed088cf</a>
GIST	<p>More ransomware gangs are now changing their tactics to first conduct extensive reconnaissance to find and steal sensitive information before attempting the encryption of data. It helps them in selling these files or credentials on underground forums when the compromised party fail to agree or meet a proposed deal.</p> <p>What happened recently?</p> <p>The operators of the REvil (Sodinokibi) ransomware rolled an eBay-like site to <a href="#">auction off</a> the victims' stolen data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They have named the site "The Happy Blog," which currently advertises auction data for two firms.</li> <li>• The first leak is from a food and harvest distributor. They promise more than 10,000 stolen files containing confidential cash-flow analyses, distributor data, vendor information, business insurance data, and more.</li> <li>• The second data dump offers accounting documents, accounts details, and other important information that may be of value to competitors or interested parties from a Canadian agricultural company.</li> </ul> <p>Though the trend of stealing and leaking data was started by the Maze ransomware group in November 2019, it propagated instantly amongst the hacking groups and other groups followed.</p> <p>Top leaks in the last few weeks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Sodinokibi ransomware actors <a href="#">leaked</a> files stolen from the U.K. electricity middleman, Elexon. The leak contains highly sensitive and confidential files and data, as per experts. The operators published 1,280 files allegedly stolen from the company on their leak site.</li> <li>• Recently, the CLoP ransomware group <a href="#">leaked</a> the ExecuPharm's compromised data on underground forums. The U.S. pharmaceutical giant's servers were attacked—via a phishing email—on March 13, compromising selected corporate and personnel information.</li> <li>• The Maze ransomware operators <a href="#">released</a> the second part of credit card information of Banco de Costa Rica (BCR) customers last week from the stolen 11 million credit card credentials. BCR is one of the largest state-owned commercial banks in Costa Rica. It was attacked the second time by the group after the bank failed to secure its network post an August 2019 incident.</li> </ul> <p>Where to look for the dumped data?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AKO ransomware actors leak victim's data on "Data Leak Blog."</li> <li>• The CLoP group releases its data on the leak site called 'CLOP^-LEAKS.'</li> <li>• DoppelPaymer launched a dedicated leak site called "Dopple Leaks."</li> <li>• The trendsetter, Maze, also have a website for the leaked data (name not available).</li> <li>• Nemty also has a data leak site for publishing the victim's data but it was, recently, unreachable.</li> <li>• The Nephilim ransomware group's data dumping site is called 'Corporate Leaks.'</li> <li>• NetWalker, previously Mailto ransomware, owns an auto-publishing data leak site that uses a countdown to try and scare victims into paying.</li> <li>• Pysa ransomware operators have a data leak site called 'Pysa Homepage.'</li> <li>• Ragnar Locker publishes hijacked data on 'Ragnar Leaks News' site.</li> </ul>

- The Sekhmet operators have a site titled 'Leaks leaks and leaks.'
- Snatch ransomware actors previously had a site but it is down now. They were also out of the picture in the recent incident.
- CryLock, ProLock and Snake ransomware groups do not have their leaks sites but they reveal and inform the leak in their own unique ways.

Moreover, some groups have advanced their modus operandi to become more effective.

The ransomware game of intrusion

Nemty

- Nemty operators, that launched itself as a classic RaaS (Ransomware-as-a-Service) in the summer of 2019, declared to shut down their public Ransomware-as-a-Service (RaaS) operation and go private to focus and put more resources on targeted attacks
- In the past few months, the ransomware operators have been distributing via email spam (malspam) campaigns, exploit kits, boobytrapped apps, and by brute-force attacks against RDP endpoints.

NetWalker

- Two weeks back, experts found NetWalker doing away with phishing for malware distribution model and endorsing a network-intrusion model that targets only huge businesses.
- With its ransomware-as-a-service (RaaS) model, it has decided to work only with highly skilled network intruders that can map the environment and help them escalate in a compromised system.

Sodinokibi

- The group gained a new feature last month allowing it to crypto-lock both locked files and those in use by other applications and processes, such as databases or mail servers, as disclosed in the [Intel 471 report](#).

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HEADLINE	06/05 Hacking group targets colleges in US
SOURCE	<a href="https://cyware.com/news/university-after-university-netwalker-operators-on-a-ransomware-attack-spree-be715f25">https://cyware.com/news/university-after-university-netwalker-operators-on-a-ransomware-attack-spree-be715f25</a>
GIST	<p>Over the last week, the NetWalker hacking group has been targeting colleges across the US and threatening them to release confidential data if their ransom demand is not met. Attackers are increasingly impacting educational institutions not only for ransomware payments but also for COVID-19 related research.</p> <p><b>What's with the colleges?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On May 28th, <a href="#">NetWalker breached Michigan State University</a> and threatened them to publicize the stolen data if a ransom was not paid. The ransom demand was not met, which prompted the ransomware operators to publicly release the institution's data including screenshots showing file directories, financial documents, and a passport scan stolen from the university's network.</li> <li>• By attacking <a href="#">Columbia College of Chicago</a>, the NetWalker group added one more college to its list of victims. The hackers alarmed the college about selling the stolen data, comprising students' private information like social security numbers, on the dark web markets.</li> <li>• Allegedly, the NetWalker hacking group has attacked the <a href="#">University of California San Francisco (UCSF)</a>, stealing unencrypted data and encrypting their systems as reported on June 3rd. As part of the UCSF breach, the hackers have published screenshots of the stolen files on their data leak site, which include students' social security numbers, a spreadsheet, and folders containing employee information, financials, and medical studies.</li> </ul> <p>NetWalker, bigger than it appears</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ransomware started its operations as “Mailto” in 2019 and later in February 2020, it renamed itself to NetWalker.</li> <li>• NetWalker is known to target exposed remote desktop services and obtain access to organizations’ networks to steal unencrypted files before encrypting their systems.</li> </ul> <p>Before the attacks on educational institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NetWalker hacking group attacked <a href="#">Toll Group</a>, an Australian transportation and logistics company, encrypting its systems across several sites and business units in February 2020.</li> <li>• In March 2020, <a href="#">various hospitals in Spain were attacked</a>, luring victims with information on COVID-19 through phishing emails enclosing malicious PDFs. These PDF files led to the installation of the NetWalker ransomware.</li> </ul>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Crisis: data privacy in US</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/blogs/a-country-in-crisis-data-privacy?&amp;web_view=true">https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/blogs/a-country-in-crisis-data-privacy?&amp;web_view=true</a>
GIST	<p>In 2019, the United States held the world record of having the highest average cost per data breach at \$8.19m, and healthcare data breaches affected 80% more people than just three years prior in 2017. In today’s data-driven environment, it seems not a day goes by without hearing of a data breach or leak. Data privacy in the US is a growing problem caused primarily by the exponential increase of digital data, the trend of moving data storage to the cloud, and lack of a federal data privacy regulation.</p> <p>Over the past several years, digital data has been increasing at an unprecedented rate. To put it into perspective, in 2019 the overall global population increased at just over 1% to 7.7 billion, while the number of unique mobile phone users increased by 2% to 5.8 billion. In addition, the number of internet users increased 9% to 4.4 billion, which is 57% of the global population. As global urbanization continues, the sheer number of people utilizing data in their day-to-day lives will continue to grow. All of this data, which moves across continents in seconds, needs to be stored and managed somewhere. This exponential increase in the use of digital data has required an equally aggressive increase in data storage capabilities.</p> <p>As digital data increases, so does the trend of moving data storage to the cloud. Often misunderstood, the cloud is not some mystical cumulus floating in the sky with ones and zeros suspended in it. Rather, the cloud is nothing more than large data centers that house racks and racks of servers and drives that run 24/7. While larger businesses previously owned their own data centers or used in-house data storage, there has been a rapid shift to cloud service providers over the past five years. From 2017 to 2019, the number of cloud service data centers rose from 7500 to 9100, with 2020 expecting to see that number top 10,000. On the flip side, there were 35,900 data centers owned by non-technology firms in 2018, and that number is expected to significantly decline to 28,500 by the end of 2020. In fact, it is expected that the number of large companies in North America shifting away from using their own data centers to cloud service providers will increase from 10% in 2017 to 80% by 2022. As data increases exponentially and its storage shifts inexorably to the cloud, concerns over data security and privacy escalate in parallel, leading to much-needed data privacy legislation.</p> <p>In 2018, the European Union (EU) implemented the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in an effort to protect the privacy of European consumers. While Canada had implemented the similar Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) in 2000, GDPR proved to be far more aggressive legislation both in terms of reach and monetary penalty. GDPR requires that all organizations that do business with EU citizens adhere to the legislation, meaning that global organizations such as Apple, Facebook, and Google, as well as smaller US companies that sell to Europeans, are required to follow GDPR. Since its inception in May of 2018, GDPR has leveraged hundreds of millions of Euros in fines and is only getting more aggressive with enforcement; however, GDPR only affects organizations that have dealings with EU citizens. Conversely, the United States has fallen behind in data privacy legislation, leaving the onus of maintaining data privacy to individual states. As of March 2020, only the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) requires deletion of personal data if requested in the U.S.,</p>



	<p>similar to GDPR. Unlike their European counterparts, Americans are largely left to their own devices when it comes to data privacy and have little recourse when a breach occurs.</p> <p>As more and more people embrace technology, the need for data storage increases, increasing the need for larger and faster data centers. The shift from on-premise to cloud storage only exacerbates the problem of data privacy by relying on technology giants to protect organizations' consumer data. Breaches will only escalate in line with our digital footprint, of that there is no question. Key data security provisions need to be in place in order to stem the tide of leaked data. Some of these include the standardization of regulations for all organizations and industries, a right to be forgotten provision similar to GDPR and CCPA, specific mandates for end-of-life destruction of storage media, and significant monetary fines for noncompliance. Unfortunately, until we adopt a comprehensive federal data privacy law, the privacy of American citizens' data will continue to be at serious risk.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Maze ransomware hits St Engineering</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://securityaffairs.co/wordpress/104351/cyber-crime/st-engineering-maze-ransomware.html?web_view=true">https://securityaffairs.co/wordpress/104351/cyber-crime/st-engineering-maze-ransomware.html?web_view=true</a>
GIST	<p><a href="#">ST Engineering</a> is one of the leading engineering groups worldwide, it specializes in the aerospace, electronics, land systems, and marine sectors.</p> <p>The group operates in more than 100 countries and reported revenue of \$7.86b in FY2019.</p> <p>The Maze ransomware operators announced the release of stolen data on their leak site.</p> <p>Researchers at threat intelligence firm <a href="#">Cyble</a> identified and verified the data leak, Maze ransomware claims to have stolen 1,5T of data.</p> <p><i>"Just like previous data leaks, the <a href="#">Cyble Research Team</a> has also identified and verified this data leak."</i> <a href="#">reads</a> the post published by the experts.</p> <p><i>"As per our researchers, this data leak includes the company's cyber insurance documents, various contract calculations worksheets, NASA give review rules, and much more."</i></p> <p>A couple of weeks ago Maze ransomware operators have released credit card data stolen from the Bank of Costa Rica (BCR) threatening to leak other lots every week.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Fitness Depot hit by data breach</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/fitness-depot-hit-by-data-breach-after-isp-fails-to-activate-the-antivirus/?&amp;web_view=true">https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/fitness-depot-hit-by-data-breach-after-isp-fails-to-activate-the-antivirus/?&amp;web_view=true</a>
GIST	<p>Canadian retailer Fitness Depot announced customers that their personal and financial information was stolen following a breach that affected the company's e-commerce platform last month.</p> <p>Fitness Depot is the largest specialty exercise equipment retailer in Canada, with 40 stores nationwide and two in the United States, in Dallas and Houston.</p> <p><b>Signs of a Magecart attack</b> Based on the info in the <a href="#">breach notification letter</a> the company sent to all potentially impacted individuals, the attack has all the signs of a textbook <a href="#">Magecart attack</a> where the threat actors were able to compromise Fitness Depot's online store and inject a malicious form designed to harvest and exfiltrate customer information.</p>

In such attacks, [cybercrime groups known as Magecart groups](#) hack e-commerce stores and inject malicious JavaScript-based scripts into their checkout pages as part of web skimming (aka e-skimming) attacks.

The attackers' end goal is to steal all the payment or personal information submitted by the compromised sites' customers and to collect it on remote servers under their control.

#### **Not all customers were affected**

In a letter sent to affected customers, the company says that the attackers may have accessed or stolen the information of clients "who made purchases for delivery and or who made purchases for in-store pick up at one of our retail locations," reads.

The information accessed or harvested by the attackers may have included the impacted customers' name, address, email address, telephone number, and credit card number.

The breach goes as far back as February 18, 2020, according to Fitness Depot's data breach notification and it started with a malicious form being injected within the online store.

"Once our customers where (sic) redirected to this form the customer information was copied without the authorization or knowledge of Fitness Depot," the company says. "This is how the personal information was captured and stolen."

Only customers with home delivery were impacted between February 18 and April 27, while from April 28 and May 22 "any customer that ordered product for Home delivery or ordered product for in-store pick-up could have been potentially affected."

#### **The ISP gets blamed for the breach**

Fitness Depot blames its internet service provider (ISP) for the data breach saying that "[b]ased on our preliminary findings it appears our Internet Service Provider [ISP] neglected to activate the anti-virus software on our account."

It is not yet known what Canadian fitness retailer refers to since it's not an ISP's job to protect its customers' e-commerce platforms with anti-malware solutions.

BleepingComputer has reached out to Fitness Depot for more details but had not heard back at the time of this publication.

Additionally, while Fitness Depot said that "personal information was captured and stolen," the company also says that it "has no knowledge that any of our customer information was compromised in any manner."

Fitness Depot also advises customers to keep an eye out for identity theft or fraud attempts by monitoring their free credit reports and reviewing account statements.

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HEADLINE	06/05 New cyber operation targets Italy
SOURCE	<a href="https://securityaffairs.co/wordpress/104356/malware/netwire-attack-chain.html?web_view=true">https://securityaffairs.co/wordpress/104356/malware/netwire-attack-chain.html?web_view=true</a>
GIST	<p>Info stealer malware confirms to be one of the most adopted weapons of cyber actors. One of them is Netwire (<a href="#">MITRE S0198</a>), a multiplatform remote administration tool (RAT) that has been used by criminals and espionage groups at least since 2012.</p> <p>During our Cyber Threat Intelligence monitoring we spotted a particular Office document weaponized to deliver such kind of malicious tool, uncovering a hidden malicious campaign designed to target Italian speaking victims. The particular chain of attack we discovered showed interesting technical patterns</p>

resembling other [previous](#) activities targeting the Italian manufacturing landscape, for this reason, we decided to dig deeper.

The variant used in this campaign is similar to other samples of the NetWire malware family but has an evolution of the attack chain.

In this analysis, we described an attack designed to lure Italian victims and deliver a piece of the so-called “commodity malware” with an intense code manipulation to avoid detection.

However, this particular kind of manipulation and obfuscation schema is not new to us. In fact, especially when dealing with the powershell stages, we noticed some variable and name structures were quite similar to one of our last report about a recent [Aggah Campaign](#) insisting on the Italian Manufacturing industry.

The decoding function of the payloads is the same, despite the variable names. In addition, the variable names “*\$MNB*” and “*blindB*” have been conserved. Potentially, this could also mean part of these techniques are reused by other actors insisting on the Italian landscape or also the Aggah actor is probing a different infection chain.

During the years, Netwire RAT gained lots of success and cyber actors adopted it to infect their victims, even state sponsored groups such as APT33 (Refined Kitten) and Gorgon Group included it in their arsenal, remembering us even the so-called commodity malware could represent a serious threat, especially when managed by experienced attackers able to re-package it to evade detection, leveraging consolidated operational practices to speed up cyber attacks.

The particular campaign we observed shows clear elements indicating the desired target of the attack are Italian speaking. It also shows interesting similarities with techniques adopted during recent operations against the Italian manufacturing sector, that, even if unconfirmed, suggests there could still be low-footprint ongoing operations.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Stealthworker: brute force malware attack</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.theregister.com/2020/06/05/stealthworker_akamai_botnet/?&amp;web_view=true">https://www.theregister.com/2020/06/05/stealthworker_akamai_botnet/?&amp;web_view=true</a>
GIST	<p>Servers are being targeted with a malware attack that uses its infected hosts to brute-force other machines. Known to Akamai researchers as <a href="#">Stealthworker</a>, the infection preys on weak passwords then uses a massive arsenal of malware to overtake Windows and Linux servers running popular CMS, publishing, and hosting tools.</p> <p>Akamai senior security researcher Larry Cashdollar (yes, that is his last name, and yes, he is tired of that joke) discovered the attack while operating an intentionally exposed Wordpress/MySQL container that for some reason was dealing in massive amounts of traffic.</p> <p>"I log into the system and I see a ton of connections between my system and dozens of WP sites around the internet," Cashdollar told <i>The Register</i>.</p> <p>"I notice the traffic is WordPress login attempts, my system is attempting to log into their WordPress login page with a bunch of credentials."</p> <p>While combing through the log files of the obviously compromised virtual box, he stumbled upon a suspicious WordPress theme that contained a PHP file modified to install the malware.</p> <p>Eventually, Cashdollar told <i>El Reg</i>, he was able to capture the malware in action and observe its entire life cycle, from introduction to complete server takeover.</p>

Here's how it works. Stealthworker begins its attack with a distributed brute-force attack. Infected machines each hit the target with a number of login attempts using common passwords. By breaking up the attempts among multiple machines, the attacker can avoid limits on the number of login attempts.

Once the admin password is guessed (in this case for WordPress, though Stealthworker also targets Drupal, Joomla, Magento, MySQL, and a host of others), the malware then runs through the steps of installing and deleting various components. For WordPress, a modified version of the Alternate-Lite theme leads to downloaders that target the back end and look to overtake the entire server via applications such as cPanel and WMH.

The end result is a fully pwned Windows or Linux server at the command of the botnet owner. Akamai researchers say that when their infected test systems were wiped clean of the malware itself, the botnet would reinfect those machines within minutes. It was only when passwords were changed that the infection could be eradicated once and for all.

Eventually the server is instructed to dial its command-and-control host, where it is given its instructions to join with other servers in attempting to brute-force the passwords of other machines. In the process we are told, all passwords collected from the pwned machine get added into the list of logins that the botnet attempts on other machines.

Other than attempting to assimilate other servers, the intent of the Stealthworker malware is not really clear. There's also not much in the way of how many people are using the attack, it could be one large operation, or several groups with the same tools.

Akamai researcher Steve Ragan notes that while there is some indication that scraping tools such as MageCart could be used on the servers, the full control the malware affords to the attacker opens the door to just about any sort of malicious venture.

"What they get is this broad network of vulnerable servers and websites they can use for anything," Ragan explained.

"The endgame is pretty much whatever the attacker feels like doing."

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HEADLINE	06/05 Kupidon ransomware targets home data
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/kupidon-is-the-latest-ransomware-targeting-your-data/?&amp;web_view=true">https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/kupidon-is-the-latest-ransomware-targeting-your-data/?&amp;web_view=true</a>
GIST	<p>The latest ransomware that everyone needs to watch out for is called Kupidon, and it targets not only corporate networks, but also home user's personal data.</p> <p>First spotted by <a href="#">MalwareHunterTeam</a> on May 9th after being uploaded to <a href="#">ID-Ransomware</a>, it quickly increased distribution, and victims started streaming into the ransomware identification site.</p> <p>A sample of the ransomware has not been discovered at this time, but based on conversations with victims and uploaded files, we can provide general information.</p> <p>This ransomware is targeting both personal users and businesses, most likely through exposed remote desktop servers.</p> <p>Once the threat actors gain access, they manually encrypt the files on the victim's computers. When encrypting data, it will append the <b>.kupidon</b> extension to the file's name.</p> <p>Depending on whether the victim is a business or an individual, the ransom notes dropped will be slightly different and contain different ransom demands.</p>

	<p>A home user, though, will have a ransom amount of \$300 and indicate in the ransom note that the victim is a "private person."</p> <p>While these ransom amounts are not as high as other ransomware families, they can still be too much for many people to pay.</p> <p>Both ransom note variants will direct users to a TOR site that contains information about what happened to a victim's files and an email address to contact for payment instructions. The current email address being used on the TOR site is ann4.orlova.892@yandex.ru.</p>
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## Terror Conditions

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HEADLINE	06/08 RCMP adding incels to terrorism guide
SOURCE	<a href="https://q107.com/news/7021882/rcmp-incel-terrorism-guide/">https://q107.com/news/7021882/rcmp-incel-terrorism-guide/</a>
GIST	<p><b>Toronto police are treating the February murder of Ashley Noell Arzaga, 24, as an act of terrorism, possibly motivated by violent misogyny.</b></p> <p>The RCMP is preparing to add <a href="#">incels</a> to its terrorism awareness guide, Global News has learned.</p> <p>In a statement, the police force said it categorized incel attacks as a form of violent extremism.</p> <p>It also said it was in the process of amending its Terrorism and Violent Extremism Awareness Guide, which currently makes no mention of incels.</p> <p>"The guide is currently being updated and will very likely include mention of incel as an example of ideologically motivated violent extremism," the RCMP statement said.</p> <p>Launched in 2015, <a href="#">the guide</a> was meant to help parents and first responders recognize the "indicators or early warning signs" of violent radicalization and terrorist planning.</p> <p>It lists the symbols and behaviour associated with groups ranging from the anti-capitalist Black Bloc to the neo-Nazi Blood &amp; Honor and ISIS.</p> <p>It was recently <a href="#">removed</a> from the RCMP website.</p> <p>The update to the guide is the latest sign the government now views incels as a public safety threat in the wake of attacks that have killed 11 and injured 19 in the country over the past two years.</p> <p>Canada has taken a hardening approach to incels following alleged attacks in Toronto in 2018, in Sudbury last July and, most recently, at a <a href="#">Toronto erotic massage parlour on Feb. 24</a>.</p> <p>On May 19, a 17-year-old was charged with terrorism over the spa attack, marking the first time Canada's anti-terrorism laws had been used against an alleged incel.</p> <p>The Canadian Security Intelligence Service subsequently recognized incel attacks as a form of ideologically motivated violent extremism, or IMVE, in its <a href="#">annual report</a> to Parliament.</p> <p>"We are committed to countering the threats to public safety and national security posed by ideologically motivated violent extremists, such as individuals motivated by incel ideologies," Public Safety Minister Bill Blair's office said.</p>

Incels, or “involuntary celibates,” are men unable to attract sexual partners who frequent online discussion groups where they portray themselves as victims. Violence and misogyny are recurring themes on incel forums.

“Generally, male incels do adhere to a train of thought in which women are dehumanized by only defining them by their ability to give sex to men, and they carry an intense anger towards women because they will not give it to incels,” Renske van der Veere wrote in a [paper published last week](#) by the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism – the Hague.

“The movement is also increasingly associated with violence.”

The RCMP said incels fell “within a broad range of ideologies under IMVE.”

“IMVE should be reflected in the updated material and examples given of the different categories,” the RCMP said. “Usually incel is one of those examples although incel may not always fall under the national security mandate or be treated as terrorism.”

The minister’s office said the government had funded a [guide](#) on incels to help front-line personnel “provide enhanced interventions for individuals who are in the process of radicalizing to violence.”

Written by Moonshot CVE, the guide said incels were a public safety threat and described the men involved in the “incel ecosystem” as “angry, isolated, depressed and often suicidal.”

“It is also clear to anyone who spends time in these communities—where both suicidal ideation and suicide itself are rampant—incels also pose a significant threat to themselves,” it said.

The Toronto Police Service, meanwhile, said incels were part of its Countering Violent Extremism training “so that our officers can be informed and aware.”

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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Claim: RIM trains far-right extremists</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20200605-german-swedish-finnish-neonazis-receive-military-training-at-russian-camps">http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20200605-german-swedish-finnish-neonazis-receive-military-training-at-russian-camps</a>
GIST	<p>Far-right extremists in Germany are participating in paramilitary training at a special camp near city of St. Petersburg in Russia, German magazine <a href="#">Focus</a> reported Friday.</p> <p>Members of the youth wing of two far-right German parties — the National Democratic Party (NPD) and the minor smaller The Third Way — have completed the training, the magazine cited German intelligence sources as saying.</p> <p>The participants received military-level training in how to use weapons and explosives. They were also trained in close combat, urban warfare, and martial arts, the magazine said.</p> <p>The German far-right youth were joined by nationals of similar ideological persuasion from Sweden and Finland. The German, Swedish, and Finnish participants have been deployed to eastern Ukraine, where Russian militias are helping pro-Russian groups who fight the Ukrainian government in order to gain autonomy, or even to be allowed to have the region annexed by Russia.</p> <p>The “Partizan” camp is operated by followers of Russia’s right-wing extremist Russian Imperial Movement (RIM). German intelligence says RIM has two camps close to St. Petersburg.</p> <p>RIM seeks to restore the Russian Empire. In April, The United States designated the ultranationalist RIM, along with three of its leaders, as terrorists, marking the first time the classification has been applied to a white supremacist group (see “U.S. Designates Russia-Based White</p>



	<p>Supremacist Group, Leaders as Terrorists,” <a href="#">HSNW, 7 April 2020</a>). The Department of State, in explaining its decision to add RIM to the U.S. terrorist list, said that the group had “provided paramilitary-style training to white supremacists and neo-Nazis in Europe.”</p> <p>The Kremlin protested the U.S. decision, saying that adding the group to the list did not help fight terrorism.</p> <p>Moscow agreed with the United States that RIM is an ultra-right-wing Christian Orthodox extremist group, but disagreed with the United States that the group should be banned.</p> <p>German intelligence sources told <i>Focus</i> that they were aware that extremists from Germany were attending the camps. German law, however, does not allow for prohibiting such travel because Germany has not yet designated RIM as a terrorist organization.</p> <p>Sources in German intelligence said they were worried that when the Germans come home from their stint in Ukraine, they would add military know-how and experience to the rising tide of far-right terrorism in Germany.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Afghans consider: how much is too much?</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/afghanistan-taliban-peace-talks/2020/06/06/e797209a-a5a7-11ea-b619-3f9133bbb482_story.html">https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/afghanistan-taliban-peace-talks/2020/06/06/e797209a-a5a7-11ea-b619-3f9133bbb482_story.html</a>
GIST	<p>KABUL — In Afghanistan's halting effort to end two decades of conflict, recent days have brought a sudden shift: A three-day cease-fire to mark the end of the holy month of Ramadan held for more than a week. The Afghan government and the Taliban released hundreds of prisoners. And the two sides restarted informal negotiations in the capital.</p> <p>If these conditions persist, officials say, long-awaited peace talks could be mere weeks away. The developments have led many Afghans to ponder — and disagree — over what concessions they're willing to make to secure a deal that could permanently end 20 years of violence.</p> <p>How much is too much to give away in exchange for peace?</p> <p>“It will be a dilemma, a personal dilemma,” said Khalid Noor, a member of the government’s negotiating team. “If we compromise the rights of our people,” he said, an oppressive government could harm Afghanistan for generations to come.</p> <p>The process for ending the war in Afghanistan was set in motion by a February peace deal between the United States and the Taliban that largely excluded the Afghan government. The resulting four-page public document did not define what kind of country postwar Afghanistan would be. The omission made a deal for the withdrawal of U.S. troops easier to secure, but it also set the stage for much more complex negotiations between the Afghan government and the Taliban.</p> <p>To reach a political solution, one or both sides will need to make significant compromises.</p> <p>The Afghan government is a republic with leadership chosen through democratic — if flawed — elections, while the Taliban rules according to Islamic law, and the group’s leadership is chosen by a religious committee. The movement’s military leadership is made up of commanders across Afghanistan, but its political office is based in Qatar.</p> <p>In Kabul and Doha, each camp has insisted there are no preconditions. But both sides have made their priorities clear: The Afghan government wants the country to remain a republic with regular elections, and the Taliban wants a country governed by Islamic law.</p>



But in Afghan provinces that have borne the brunt of the waves of violence that preceded the cease-fire, many say ending the fighting is more important than the parameters of any future government.

The northern province of Takhar was so badly hit that a local lawmaker, Habiba Danish, described it as “a slaughterhouse” because of the high number of casualties among security forces there.

“Peace should come at any cost,” said Mir Ahmad Qasim, a local lawmaker in Takhar.

People who live in insecure districts view the war differently than officials in the capital, he said. Progress in areas such as human rights, including the rights of women, he said, “are important for the people who have positions in Kabul. But for people who are losing sons in the war, they want the end of violence at any cost.”

Inside the Taliban’s Afghanistan, violence remains the path to power

After the signing of the U.S.-Taliban peace deal, violence across Afghanistan spiked, leaving record numbers of civilians dead and inflicting heavy casualties among the security forces. A brutal spate of attacks prompted President Ashraf Ghani to put his forces back on the offensive and halt prisoner releases, a key confidence-building measure.

All of that suddenly turned around in late May, when the Taliban declared an unexpected cease-fire to mark the end of Ramadan, and both sides began releasing prisoners again. Over the course of the cease-fire, the Interior Ministry said it observed only minor security incidents. For days after the cease-fire was set to end, violence remained low, with Taliban attacks nearly halved.

Attacks began to tick up again Thursday, with the Taliban claiming an attack in Zabul province that killed at least 10 Afghan police officers, and U.S. forces carrying out two airstrikes targeting the militant group.

Mujib Rahimi, a spokesman for Abdullah Abdullah, the man leading the peace effort with the Taliban, said he understands the concerns of Afghans who have been caught in the crossfire.

“No one is ready to just watch this violence continue,” Rahimi said. But, he said, at the same time, “surrendering to the demands of . . . radicals with radical ideas” just to prevent them from attacking government positions “is something hard to swallow.”

Rahimi said the government negotiating team would enter talks with no red lines but would attempt to convince the other side of the importance of human rights, women’s rights and freedom of expression.

Taliban leaders say they support a government that respects human rights and the rights of women, but Taliban spokesman Suhail Shaheen said such rights are defined by Islamic law and suggested that those definitions would be what the Taliban would support during the talks.

“In the future system, the ulema [Muslim scholars] and experts will discuss and formalize the laws so that no one will be deprived of her or his rights,” he said.

Shaheen said the only issue not up for discussion is that Afghanistan will be ruled by an Islamic government. With regard to all other details and issues, “we are not deciding now,” he said.

Many local leaders, including women and civil society activists, describe feeling torn between the desire to end the bloodshed quickly and giving up what they feel they’ve fought for over nearly two decades.

Rahmatullah Hamnawa, an activist in Kunduz, has advocated for human rights in one of Afghanistan’s most volatile provinces, but he said he still believes “peace should come at any cost” and that both parties to the conflict should “pay the price.”

	<p>He said he would not support the government backtracking completely on human rights, but he would be open to allowing the Taliban to amend the constitution.</p> <p>Qasim, the lawmaker from Takhar, was more absolute.</p> <p>“The most important thing to our people, whose houses are bombed, wives are widowed and sons are orphaned, is the end of fighting and bloodshed,” he said, “not human rights or women’s rights.”</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 IS making comeback in Sinai?</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/06/egypt-army-operation-sinai-terrorism-attacks.html">https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/06/egypt-army-operation-sinai-terrorism-attacks.html</a>
GIST	<p>CAIRO — On May 31, the Egyptian <a href="#">armed forces announced</a> in a statement that 19 militants had been killed during military strikes carried out during the previous week in Sinai.</p> <p>The same statement said the strikes were based on intelligence information that confirmed the presence of extremists in several locations in the vicinity of the cities of Bir al-Abd, Sheikh Zuweid and Rafah in North Sinai. Two military strikes were carried out, the first of which resulted in the killing of three suspects found with automatic weapons, ammunition, grenades and RPG ammunition in their possession. Military engineering teams also discovered and destroyed five explosive devices that had been planted to target the Egyptian armed forces, officials said.</p> <p>The army <a href="#">reported five deaths</a> among its ranks; two officers, one noncommissioned officer and two soldiers. The Associated Press reported this occurred when an explosive device <a href="#">hit their vehicle</a>. During the operation, the Egyptian air force carried out a number of airstrikes to target "terrorist hideouts," which resulted in the death of 16 suspects, bringing the total to 19, according to the army’s statement.</p> <p>On April 30, an <a href="#">explosive device targeted</a> a military vehicle near the city of Bir al-Abd, killing 10 soldiers, including an officer and a noncommissioned officer. On May 1, the Islamic State (IS) <a href="#">claimed responsibility</a> for this attack.</p> <p>Samir Ghattas, a security and strategic expert and head of the <a href="#">Middle East Forum</a> for Strategic Studies and National Security, told Al-Monitor over the phone that Egyptian army forces have long been working to contain terrorism in Sinai, dry up its sources and confront it militarily, developmentally and intellectually. He said the Egyptian state believes that security confrontation is inevitable with extremist groups that use their weapons to terrorize citizens, and the army and the police in particular.</p> <p>Ghattas added, “The Egyptian armed forces launched <a href="#">Comprehensive Operation Sinai</a> on Feb. 9, 2018, with the aim of confronting terrorism in Sinai, nipping it in the bud and eliminating the tunnels used by terrorist groups to smuggle weapons and commit illegal acts. This proves that the state has always been serious about fighting terrorism, but the problem is that the confrontation results in casualties among the army and the police, and it requires patience, great determination and a long time until the terrorists are completely and permanently eliminated.”</p> <p>He said security strikes have largely been successful in curbing extremists' operations in North Sinai. He said that while militants' attacks have not disappeared completely, a decrease in their frequency and size means that the security forces have succeeded in reducing and controlling them.</p> <p>Ghattas said militants were carrying out assassinations and bombings targeting civilians — as happened in the <a href="#">terrorist attack</a> that targeted Al-Rawda Mosque in between Bir al-Abd and el-Arish in November 2017 that resulted in the death of 305 people — but that currently, extremists are being directly targeted by the military.</p>

	<p>Ghattas said the state is working on implementing several projects aimed at developing and reconstructing Sinai and strengthening its connection with the rest of Egypt, because marginalization and poverty is what leads to the presence of terrorists.</p> <p>He said the state has implemented several <a href="#">development projects</a> and plans, most notably the expansion of agricultural areas in Sinai and a water desalination plant, in addition to projects by the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation in various parts of Sinai.</p> <p>Meanwhile, <a href="#">Ali al-Rajjal</a>, a researcher with <a href="#">Mominoun Without Borders</a> who specializes in security affairs, told Al-Monitor that the repeated terrorist attacks in Sinai, and specifically in North Sinai, reveal a major security imbalance in this area. The security forces must be more vigilant and prudent when it comes to fighting off these armed men who rely on deception and ambush in carrying out their operations, he said.</p> <p>He said a significant amount of data must be collected by tracking and analyzing suspects' movements, plans and how and when they carry out their operations in order to thwart militants before they target the army and police.</p> <p>Rajjal said the recent operation that killed 19 suspects and destroyed a number of weapons and ammunition is a perfect example of how to preemptively shut down suicide and other terrorist attacks. He called on the security forces to intensify such moves to eliminate extremists in North Sinai.</p> <p>“We hope to launch many similar operations against terrorist strongholds in the next stage, although this could result in losses among the security forces, but it is very important in light of the repeated attacks targeting the army and police over the past years,” he added.</p> <p>Rajjal said he believes that some extremist attacks and confrontations may continue for a while, as the anniversary of the <a href="#">June 30 Revolution</a> approaches and it could be an important opportunity for terrorist groups who want to take revenge on the state, which excluded the Islamists from power following the June 30 demonstrations in 2013. He said the groups may seek to also take revenge on the people who supported the demonstrations.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 NYPD: knife attack out of ‘terror playbook’</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.thedailybeast.com/nypd-knife-attack-on-cop-right-out-of-terrorist-playbook?ref=home">https://www.thedailybeast.com/nypd-knife-attack-on-cop-right-out-of-terrorist-playbook?ref=home</a>
GIST	<p>The NYPD said a slashing attack on an officer in Brooklyn earlier this week was right out of a “terrorist playbook”—but investigators have not connected the suspect to any organization. Dzenan Camovic, 20, who was charged with attempted murder, screamed the Arabic phrase “Allahu Akbar” three times before the knife attack, officials said.</p> <p>They also noted that Camovic—who is Serbian—did not have a social media footprint beyond a Twitter account opened days before that had 24 likes of posts related to <a href="#">protests sweeping the nation in the wake of George Floyd’s death at the hands of police</a>.</p> <p>“We can’t tie him to any organization. We can’t discern an exact motive. We haven’t been able to speak to him,” Deputy Commissioner John Miller told reporters. After the stabbing, police opened fire on Camovic, who was in critical condition.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Afghan officials: separate attacks kill 14</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/separate-attacks-kill-14-afghan-forces-kabul-northeast-71105474">https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/separate-attacks-kill-14-afghan-forces-kabul-northeast-71105474</a>

GIST	<p>KABUL, Afghanistan -- Two separate militant attacks killed 14 Afghan security personnel on Saturday in the northeastern Badakhshan province and the capital of Kabul, officials said.</p> <p>A roadside bomb killed 11 security force members in Badakhshan when it tore through a security vehicle responding to attacks on checkpoints in Khash district. Sanaullah Rohani, spokesman for Badakhshan's provincial police chief, said a local commander was among the dead, and that four militants were killed in the fighting.</p> <p>An hour-long gunbattle also erupted in Kabul's Gul Dara district when insurgents attacked a police checkpoint, killing three police officers, said Interior Ministry spokesman Tariq Arian.</p> <p>Both Afghan officials said the Taliban had carried out the attacks, although no one immediately claimed responsibility.</p> <p>The Taliban on Saturday claimed an attack a day earlier that killed 10 policemen in the southern Zabul province. Afghan government officials said the Taliban ambushed an Afghan police convoy on Friday after setting off a roadside bomb.</p> <p>U.S. forces had carried out two sets of airstrikes Friday against the Taliban in western and southern Afghanistan. These were the first U.S. strikes following a brief cease-fire declared by the insurgents for a major Muslim holiday last month.</p> <p>Since the signing of a U.S.-Taliban peace agreement at the end of February, U.S. forces have only once before announced a strike against the Taliban, in defense of Afghan forces.</p> <p>The uptick in fighting comes as U.S. peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad embarked on a new round of diplomatic trips to Qatar, Pakistan and Afghanistan, according to a U.S. State Department statement Friday.</p> <p>The U.S.-Taliban agreement was signed to allow American soldiers to return home, ending America's longest military engagement.</p> <p>The deal also calls for Afghans in Kabul and the Taliban to start negotiations to decide the country's future. Those negotiations have been delayed because of political feuding between Afghanistan's President Ashraf Ghani and his rival in last year's presidential polls, Abdullah Abdullah.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 France: AQ North Africa commander killed</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/french-forces-kill-al-qaidas-north-african-commander/">https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/french-forces-kill-al-qaidas-north-african-commander/</a>
GIST	<p>BAMAKO, Mali (AP) — French forces have killed Abdelmalek Droukdel, the leader of al-Qaida's North Africa affiliate, the France's defense minister announced late Friday, in what would be a major victory for France after years of battling jihadists in the Sahel.</p> <p>There was no immediate confirmation of his death from al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, known as AQIM, which has made millions of dollars abducting foreigners for ransom over the years and made large swaths of West Africa too dangerous for aid groups to access.</p> <p>French Defense Minister Florence Parly tweeted that Droukdel and several of his allies were killed Wednesday in northern Mali by French forces and their partners. It was not immediately clear how his identity was confirmed by the French.</p> <p>Droukdel's reported death comes after French President Emmanuel Macron and the leaders of the G5 Sahel group — Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad — launched a new plan in January to</p>

fight jihadists in the area. France deployed 600 additional soldiers to its Barkhane force, raising the number of troops there to 5,100.

In a March video released by the extremist monitoring group SITE, Droukdel urged governments of the Sahel region to try to end the French military presence, calling the troops “armies of occupation.”

It was not clear how long Droukdel had been in Mali, Algeria’s southern neighbor. For years he was thought to be holed up in the Kabyle region east of the capital of his native Algeria, and many people had questioned why he was never captured by Algerian security forces, which had honed their counter-terrorism skills over the decades.

He was widely seen as the symbolic leader of al Qaida’s North African branch, whose operational center for attacks shifted to northern Mali over the past decade. That led to the French military invasion of the region in 2013 seeking to counter Islamist extremist designs on southern Mali and the capital, Bamako.

Droukdel made his reputation as a feared extremist leader in Algeria, which beginning in the early 1990s was convulsed by violence in what the nation now calls the “black decade.” Droukdel’s al Qaida affiliate had claimed responsibility for numerous deadly suicide bombings in Algeria, including targeting a United Nations building in Algiers in 2007, shattered by a vehicle packed with explosives.

Droukdel, also known by the nom de guerre Abu Musab Abdul Wadud, transformed the Salafist Group for Call and Combat, known as the GSPC, into al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, spreading the movement across Africa’s Sahel region under the umbrella of the global terror network.

More recently he had been commanding all the al-Qaida groups in North Africa and the Sahel, including the JNIM, which has claimed responsibility for devastating attacks on the Malian military and U.N. peacekeepers trying to stabilize the volatile country.

Parly identified him as a member of al-Qaida’s “management committee.” Related anti-terrorist operations in the region also led to the arrest May 19 of a major figure in the Islamic State in the Greater Sahara, Mohamed el Mrabat, she said.

She said the operations dealt a “severe blow” to terrorist groups in the region that have been operating for years despite the presence of thousands of French, U.N. and other African troops.

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## Suspicious, Unusual

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HEADLINE	06/07 Tri-Cities: cat killings, mutilations
SOURCE	<a href="https://komonews.com/news/local/tri-cities-residents-shocked-by-horrific-series-of-cat-killings-mutilations">https://komonews.com/news/local/tri-cities-residents-shocked-by-horrific-series-of-cat-killings-mutilations</a>
GIST	<p>KENNEWICK, Wash. - A series of cat killings and mutilations has horrified residents and sparked an investigation in the Tri-Cities area of Eastern Washington.</p> <p>Officials with the Tri-Cities Animal Shelter say two cats initially were found that had been violently killed by someone with a sharp object.</p> <p>The first cat was found decapitated about 10 days ago on its owner's property in the vicinity of Costco in Kennewick.</p> <p>Then, last Wednesday, animal control investigated a cat found cut in half in the area of Vancouver and 37th in Kennewick. It appears the cats were cut with an extremely sharp object as the cuts were clean, officials said.</p>

	<p>Then, in the following days, two more cats were found cat in half. One was near 17th and Kellogg along the canal in Kennewick. The other was in the 1100 block of West Parkhill Drive in Kennewick.</p> <p>Animal Control and the Kennewick police are working together to investigate the gruesome killings.</p> <p>Anyone with information or who has surveillance camera footage that could help in the investigation is urged to contact the Tri-Cities Animal Shelter at 509-545-3740.</p> <p>Anyone who finds a dead cat or dog in the city limits of Pasco, Kennewick or Richland should also contact the shelter, officials said.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Can China keep wildlife off menu?</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/world/coronavirus-updates-us-usa.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage#link-feffaaa">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/07/world/coronavirus-updates-us-usa.html?action=click&amp;module=Top%20Stories&amp;pgtype=Homepage#link-feffaaa</a>
GIST	<p>Bamboo rats lifted Mao Zuqin out of poverty. Now, because of the <a href="#">coronavirus pandemic</a>, poverty threatens again.</p> <p>Mr. Mao has over the past five years built a viable farm in southern China with 1,100 bamboo rats, a delicacy in the region. But since February, when <a href="#">China suspended</a> the sale and consumption of wildlife, he has had no way to cover his costs or his investments.</p> <p>China has been lauded for suspending the wildlife trade, identified as the likely source of the outbreak. But the move has left millions of workers like Mr. Mao in the lurch. Their <a href="#">economic fate</a>, along with major loopholes in the restrictions, threatens to undermine China's pledge to impose a permanent ban.</p> <p>China's legislature, the National People's Congress, adjourned its annual session last month without adopting laws that would end the trade. Instead, it issued a directive to study the enforcement of current rules as it drafts legislation, a process that could take a year or more. The delay is raising fears that China may repeat the experience of the SARS epidemic in 2003, when the country banned sales of an animal linked to the outbreak — the <a href="#">palm civet</a> — only to quietly let the decree lapse after the crisis peaked.</p> <p>While directives from the Communist Party leadership are rarely challenged openly, a permanent ban has powerful constituencies and interests arrayed against it. And the government has already made exceptions for the use of wild animals for fur and traditional Chinese medicine, which the Communist Party authorities have actively promoted, including the <a href="#">use of bear bile</a> as a treatment for Covid-19.</p> <p>"The momentum is not favorable," said Peter J. Li, an associate professor at the University of Houston-Downtown and a China policy adviser for the Humane Society International.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Treasure chest hidden in Rockies found</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/amp/Weird/wireStory/forrest-fenns-treasure-hidden-rocky-mountains-found-71122597">https://abcnews.go.com/amp/Weird/wireStory/forrest-fenns-treasure-hidden-rocky-mountains-found-71122597</a>
GIST	<p>SANTA FE, N.M. -- A bronze chest filled with gold, jewels, and other valuables worth more than \$1 million and hidden a decade ago somewhere in the Rocky Mountain wilderness has been found, according to a famed art and antiques collector who created the treasure hunt.</p> <p>Forrest Fenn, 89, told the Santa Fe New Mexican on Sunday that a man who did not want his name released — but was from "back East" — located the chest a few days ago and the discovery was confirmed by a photograph the man sent him.</p>

“It was under a canopy of stars in the lush, forested vegetation of the Rocky Mountains and had not moved from the spot where I hid it more than 10 years ago,” Fenn said in a statement on his website Sunday that still did not reveal the exact location. “I do not know the person who found it, but the poem in my book led him to the precise spot.”

Fenn posted clues to the treasure’s whereabouts online and in a 24-line poem that was published in his 2010 autobiography “The Thrill of the Chase.”

Hundreds of thousands have hunted in vain across remote corners of the U.S. West for the bronze chest believed to be filled with gold coins, jewelry and other valuable items. Many quit their jobs to dedicate themselves to the search and others depleted their life savings. At least four people died searching for it.

Fenn, who lives in Santa Fe, said he packed and repacked his treasure chest for more than a decade, sprinkling in gold dust and adding hundreds of rare gold coins and gold nuggets. Pre-Columbian animal figures went in, along with prehistoric “mirrors” of hammered gold, ancient Chinese faces carved from jade and antique jewelry with rubies and emeralds.

He said he hid the treasure as a way to tempt people to get into the wilderness and give them a chance to launch an old-fashioned adventure and expedition for riches.

Fenn told The New Mexican in 2017 that the chest weighs 20 pounds (9 kilograms) and its contents weigh another 22 pounds (10 kilograms). He said he delivered the chest to its hiding place by himself over two separate trips.

Asked how he felt now that the treasure has been found, Fenn said: “I don’t know, I feel halfway kind of glad, halfway kind of sad because the chase is over.”

“I congratulate the thousands of people who participated in the search and hope they will continue to be drawn by the promise of other discoveries,” he said on his website.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 SFD investigates noose in fire station</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/noose-found-by-black-seattle-firefighter-inside-station/4KED427U45GL3KN23GMXH4RUBA/">https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/noose-found-by-black-seattle-firefighter-inside-station/4KED427U45GL3KN23GMXH4RUBA/</a>
GIST	<p>SEATTLE — The Seattle Fire Department has launched an internal investigation after sources told KIRO 7 that a black lieutenant firefighter found a noose while he was on shift at his station on Monday.</p> <p>According to the source, the noose was found at a knot tying station where knots are practiced inside the station. The source said what was found isn’t a knot the firefighters do and could not have been mistaken for another knot.</p> <p>“It’s come to my attention that rumors are circulating about an issue at one of our fire stations that is currently under investigation. As soon as we were notified, our EEO investigator/advisor responded immediately due to the sensitive nature of the concern that was raised,” said Seattle Fire Chief Harold Scoggins, in an email sent to the entire department last week. “Like any department investigation, the details kept confidential in order to maintain the integrity of the investigative process. Investigations take time as we need to make sure the process is fair and thorough. Rest assured the Department is taking this matter seriously and intends to do a full and fair investigation.”</p> <p>In the internal email, Seattle Fire Chief Scoggins acknowledged “emotions are high and fatigue is a real factor” because of the COVID-19 pandemic and recent protests sparked by the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.</p>



	<p>“Our city and our entire nation is living through a critical new reality. As firefighters, we put everything on the line to put out fires and respond to medical emergencies,” said Chief Scoggins, in the internal email. “I urge you to prevent fires and discord from breaking out among our own ranks.”</p> <p>Seattle Fire Department spokesperson Kristin Tinsley released this statement to KIRO 7 Saturday:</p> <p>“Discrimination and racial harassment are antithetical to SFD’s values and will not be tolerated. The department takes any complaints of discrimination and harassment very seriously and will use all appropriate measures to address any violations of policy. SFD immediately engaged the department’s Equal Employment Opportunity office to conduct an internal investigation. Like any department investigation, the details are kept confidential to maintain the integrity of the investigative process. This is the extent of the information that can be released at this time.”</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Office far away; can its’ culture survive?</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-office-is-far-away-can-its-culture-survive-11591369572?mod=lead_feature_below_a_pos1">https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-office-is-far-away-can-its-culture-survive-11591369572?mod=lead_feature_below_a_pos1</a>
GIST	<p>An online plank-holding contest. Walk-and-talk meetings held outdoors via Zoom. A companywide game show based on <a href="#">Netflix</a>’s “Love Is Blind,” capped with a virtual dance party.</p> <p>American companies are experimenting with new ways to replicate the camaraderie that once defined day-to-day life inside an office as a pandemic-induced period of remote work approaches three months—with no clearly-defined end in sight.</p> <p>Millions of workers have proved they can do their jobs at home for now—sometimes surpassing their productivity in the office. But as more managers come to accept the reality that employees may be apart for a while longer, they are fretting about how they can instill culture and encourage innovation when employees who once spent days together now rarely see each other in person.</p> <p>“It’s the foremost concern,” says Daniel Lubetzky, founder and executive chairman of snack-bar maker KIND LLC. “None of us really knows how this movie will play out if it continues like this for much longer.”</p> <p>Another reminder of how difficult it can be to maintain morale remotely came this week as <a href="#">companies looked for new ways</a> to connect with <a href="#">employees reeling from civil unrest and anguish over racial disparities</a>.</p> <p>In an employee meeting Wednesday, WW International Inc. Chief Executive Officer Mindy Grossman shared her personal perspective on recent events and the company then made time for employees to reflect in silence during a roughly seven-minute guided meditation—all done via a video call, she says. At the Denver nonprofit Uncharted, CEO Banks Benitez broke the organization’s employees into breakout groups to share their feelings.</p> <p>“Obviously, Zoom is not the ideal format for this stuff,” he says. “It’s where we are.”</p> <p>Some companies trying to keep their staff unified during a period of extended uncertainty are leaning on old methods of corporate communications to build connections. At trash hauler <a href="#">Waste Management</a> Inc., not all employees had email when it sent about 20,000 employees home in March, says Jim Fish, the company’s chief executive. So it introduced an internal app in April that linked to brief video messages from Mr. Fish and other top executives. Eyeglass maker Warby Parker doubled the number of all-company town halls, and now holds brief sessions twice a week to keep every employee in the loop, says Neil Blumenthal, a co-founder and co-CEO.</p>

KIND's strategy is to hold two to three virtual water-cooler check-ins a week in which anyone can show up and chat, Mr. Lubetzky says. Many of the firm's 320 employees only stay for about 15 minutes. Teams within the New York-based company also moved interoffice competitions online as well, including a recent challenge to see who could hold a plank the longest. (Avery Tarasov, a senior manager of security engineering and threat operations, was the winner after maintaining a plank for three hours, according to a spokeswoman.)

Even before the pandemic, certain companies in recent years elected to shift many of their employees to remote work, [believing that would yield better access to talent, a better culture and more productivity](#). Even big-company bosses who are new to remote work had prior training at communicating a shared set of values and goals to decentralized offices spread around the world.

Yet there are signs that some employees are losing touch with their company's essence during this period of extended uncertainty. More than half of the 2,050 full-time U.S. workers across many industries who responded to a survey conducted for [Prudential Financial](#) Inc. in March and April say they felt less connected to their organizations as remote workers. Prudential Vice Chairman Robert Falzon says at his own company those who worked together on new products before the pandemic seem more in sync than those who only interacted remotely.

He worries about a slow decay in company culture if the remote-working arrangement continues. "This should be keeping leaders up at night," Mr. Falzon says.

Some of the tactics deployed early in the crisis to reassure employees are starting to lose their effectiveness, says Jimmy Etheredge, chief executive officer of Accenture North America. Mr. Etheredge still holds the occasional meeting for 60,000 Accenture employees in North America, but is also encouraging team leads and project managers to do their own regular check-ins with workers so they can quickly solve their own issues. Employees, he says, are "being town-halled to death."

Ellen Kullman, chief executive of 3-D printing startup Carbon, says she fears virtual work setups could eventually lead to a decline in new ideas. She knows employees sometimes come up with new creations following a conversation in a lunch line or a quick catch-up with a colleague outside the building.

"What I worry about the most is innovation," she says. "Innovation is hard to schedule—it's impossible to schedule."

Carbon is known for its collaborations with Ford and Adidas. Many of the company's 500 employees have rallied in recent weeks to ensure the company's 3-D printing technology could make face shields or nasopharyngeal swabs for Covid-19 testing. Some have tried to replicate walk-and-talk meetings by connecting via Zoom while walking near their homes, she says. But to maintain the pace of new inventions, Ms. Kullman says some employees will need to return to offices because only so many ideas can be hatched from afar.

A number of companies say they have been successful in working remotely, in part, because employees already know each other. After years of working alongside one another, many can decipher colleagues' facial expressions on video calls, for instance, or anticipate a co-worker's preferences. Over time, executives worry that new hires who are remote, who have not developed such bonds, may have trouble acclimating, or that an organization's core culture could deteriorate.

Nearly all of the 65 employees at Buoy Health, a startup whose AI-based health assistant was started by doctors and scientists at Harvard University and is used by states and companies as part of Covid-19 screenings, have worked together at offices in Boston and New York. Buoy recently hired four employees remotely, and has five more positions it aims to soon fill.

"What I'm worried about if we have to scale from where we are today to doubling or tripling in size, now you have a majority of people who have never met each other in person," says Andrew Le, the company's chief executive. "Will that cultural debt add up?"

	<p>Before the pandemic, Buoy’s teams went out for drinks after work. In an attempt to recreate some of those exchanges, employees have organized virtual gatherings to fight against the doldrums of being home all the time under intense work pressure. They include a dedicated Slack channel to discuss “quarantine binges,” an online book club, remote trivia tournaments and a companywide game show based around the Netflix reality dating series “Love Is Blind” that ended with a virtual dance party.</p> <p>Even so, the most difficult conversations at work are still better done in person, Dr. Le says. That could be a performance review or disagreements about the direction of a product. “You kind of need everything at your disposal—whether that be a warm handshake, or a pat on the back after, or multiple expressions of listening and understanding.”</p> <p>Andi Owen, chief executive of furniture giant Herman Miller Inc., says she can’t find a substitute for dropping by an employee’s desk and asking about his or her children. “That unplanned kind of interaction that contributes so much to how we build relationships with people and how we build culture, those things are what are missing,” she says.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Amazon deforestation soars</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/06/world/americas/amazon-deforestation-brazil.html?action=click&amp;module=Well&amp;pgtype=Homepage&amp;section=World%20News">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/06/world/americas/amazon-deforestation-brazil.html?action=click&amp;module=Well&amp;pgtype=Homepage&amp;section=World%20News</a>
GIST	<p>RIO DE JANEIRO — Since coming to office, President Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil has enabled increased razing of the Amazon rainforest.</p> <p>Now, the coronavirus has accelerated that destruction.</p> <p>Illegal loggers, miners and land grabbers have cleared vast areas of the Amazon with impunity in recent months as law enforcement efforts were hobbled by the pandemic.</p> <p>Those recently cleared areas will almost certainly make way for a rash of fires even more widespread and devastating than the ones that drew global outrage last year. The newly cleared patches are typically set ablaze during the drier months of August to October to prepare the land for cattle grazing, often spiraling out of control into wildfires.</p> <p>“The trend line is shooting upward compared to a year that was already historic in terms of a rise in deforestation,” said Ana Carolina Haliuc Bragança, a federal prosecutor who leads a task force that investigates environmental crimes in the Amazon. “If state entities don’t adopt very decisive measures, we’re looking at a likely tragedy.”</p> <p>The fallout from the pandemic has exacerbated the <a href="#">ecological degradation set in motion by government policies under Mr. Bolsonaro</a>, who favors expanding commercial development in the Amazon and views environmental regulations as a hindrance to economic growth. But some career civil servants are still working to enforce environmental protections.</p> <p>An estimated 464 square miles of Amazon tree cover was slashed from January to April, a 55 percent increase from the same period last year and an area roughly 20 times the size of Manhattan, according to Brazil’s National Institute for Space Research, a government agency that tracks deforestation with satellite images.</p> <p>Already last year, deforestation in the Amazon had reached levels not seen since 2008.</p> <p>At the same time, the coronavirus has <a href="#">killed more than 34,000 people</a> in Brazil, which now has the highest daily number of deaths in the world. It has also fueled political polarization and dominated headlines and policy debates in recent months, eclipsing the increased razing of the rainforest.</p>

Environment Minister Ricardo Salles, who supports Mr. Bolsonaro's loosening of environmental regulation, said in late April that he saw the pandemic as an opportunity to reduce restrictions while attention was focused elsewhere.

"We need to make an effort here during this period of calm in terms of press coverage because people are only talking about Covid," he said during an April 22 cabinet meeting. A video of the meeting was made public.

The remarks, which Mr. Salles later said referred to his efforts to streamline red tape, led federal [prosecutors to call for an investigation](#) into what they said amounted to dereliction of duty.

The association that represents government environmental workers issued [a statement calling](#) Mr. Salles a "criminal" who has been "hollowing out" his own ministry.

Enforcement actions by the country's main environmental protection agency, the Brazilian Environmental and Renewable Natural Resources Institute, or Ibama, fell sharply during 2019, Mr. Bolsonaro's first year in office, according to an agency document obtained by The New York Times.

In 2019, Ibama reported 128 instances of environmental crimes, a 55 percent decrease from the year before. The amount of illegally logged timber seized by the agency fell by nearly 64 percent from 2018 to 2019, according to the document.

Government officials and environmental activists say the rise in deforestation is being driven by a prevailing sense among illegal loggers and miners that tearing down the rainforest carries minimal risk of punishment and yields significant payoff.

Mr. Bolsonaro's government [fired three senior officials](#) at Ibama in April after the agency carried out a large operation targeting illegal miners in Pará state in the north.

In May, a law enforcement official in uniform was swarmed by illegal loggers in Pará after a truck with timber was intercepted. After a small mob heckled the agent, [one of the loggers struck him in the face](#) with a glass bottle, according to a video of the incident.

Later in May, the government [transferred oversight](#) of federal natural reserves from the Ministry of the Environment to the Ministry of Agriculture, paving the way for commercial development in protected areas.

The government is also championing legislative initiatives that would give land titles to squatters who have taken possession of tracts in the Amazon and other biomes.

Roughly 50 percent of the tree cover lost during the first four months of this year was on public land, according to Ipam Amazônia, an environmental research organization. Ane Alencar, the director of science at Ipam Amazônia, said that much of the destruction is by people who expect to be ultimately recognized as rightful owners of the land.

"I see opportunism fueling illegality as people take advantage of the fragility of the moment we're living, politically as well as economically," she said. "This coronavirus crisis is turning into an environmental crisis, too."

Eduardo Taveira, the top environmental official in Amazonas state, said illegal loggers, who usually take pains to avoid being fined and having their equipment destroyed by federal agents, are operating more openly than in years past.

"There's a sense that the government is focused only on fighting the coronavirus, so this type of illegal activity is happening more boldly than in recent years," he said.

After Brazil's government came under withering criticism over the fires last year, [Mr. Bolsonaro deployed the armed forces](#) to put them out and prevent new ones from being set. That left much of the land that was cleared in 2019 ripe for burning this year.

"That means that the areas that were slashed last year, but weren't burned, may be burned this year," said Ms. Haliuc, the federal prosecutor. To make matters worse, she added, this year has been drier than 2019, increasing the risk that controlled blazes will turn into wildfires.

Criminal organizations appear to be making significant investments to expand operations, Ms. Haliuc added, based on sales data for the kind of bulldozers used to cut paths into dense forest.

Bulldozer sales more than doubled in Brazil between January and April compared to the same period last year, according to [data from an industry group](#).

Fearing a new wave of international condemnation, the Bolsonaro administration in May dispatched a few thousand troops to the Amazon and tasked them with preventing environmental crimes for 30 days.

"We don't want Brazil to be portrayed in front of the rest of the world as an environmental villain," Vice President Hamilton Mourão said as the initiative was launched.

In an emailed statement, the Defense Ministry said it had devoted 3,800 service members, 11 aircraft, 11 boats and 180 vehicles to support the mission. The operation, it said, "clearly demonstrates Brazil's firm determination to preserve and defend the Amazon."

Environmental activists say they welcome any increase in enforcement, but most see the military operation as a public relations ploy that will not change the trajectory of deforestation or lead to punishment for the key people driving the destruction.

Brazil's record on environmental matters during the Bolsonaro era has set off calls for boycotts of Brazilian exports and threatens the implementation of a trade agreement between the European Union and four South American nations.

Marcello Brito, the president of the Brazilian Agribusiness Association, said the lack of control over criminal deforestation could be tragic for his sector.

"Even though there is a clear barrier between the good agro and these people, the image always sticks to agribusiness," he said. "This will bring losses to us."

Adriano Karipuna, an Indigenous leader in Rondônia state where illegal deforestation has increased, said his community feels increasingly vulnerable.

"They launch a big operation but it's just to put it on the news," he said. "They never actually arrest anyone."

Mr. Karipuna said the ease with which illegal loggers and miners are destroying the forest is putting remote Indigenous communities — including uncontacted tribes — in grave danger.

"The dynamic can set in motion a genocide by spreading the coronavirus," he said. "The Brazilian government will be responsible."

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HEADLINE	06/05 Masks change human behavior?
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2020/06/05/masks-benefits-study-italy/">https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2020/06/05/masks-benefits-study-italy/</a>

Massimo Marchiori, an Italian computer scientist, once used sensors to determine how the widths of [shopping mall walkways](#) shaped buying decisions. Another time he used GPS technology to track the movements of cows to see what behaviors led to the [best milk](#).

So when the novel [coronavirus](#) consumed Italy in February, Marchiori decided it was time for a [new experiment](#) — this time, on social distancing.

The result suggested that masks help fight contagion in ways other than just filtering air — benefits rarely discussed in the fraught political conversation about whether mask-wearing in public spaces should be mandatory.

To measure how people respond to masks, Marchiori created the world's first "social distancing belt": a \$30 contraption that looked like a gray handbag but included a data card, rechargeable battery and sensors capable of measuring the proximity of oncoming objects, or, in this case, people.

He fastened the social distancing belt to his waist as he walked through the streets of Venice and nearby areas during the height of the pandemic. With the help of some friends also equipped with social distancing belts, Marchiori measured more than 12,000 encounters with other people on sidewalks and in stores, all with the goal of determining how they reacted to people wearing masks.

"Everyone talks about social distancing," Marchiori said, "but no one had actually measured actual social distancing."

His findings suggest that wearing masks has a profound effect on how we perceive others, and in particular how close we are willing to get to strangers.

Unmasked — even during the height of a raging pandemic — the sensors deployed by Marchiori found that fellow pedestrians actually drew closer to him as he passed them on a sidewalk, typically within a foot.

But when he donned a mask, people drifted back — nearly twice as far as when he wasn't wearing a mask — suggesting the mere sight of protective gear activated the underlying knowledge among fellow pedestrians that keeping their distance helped keep them safe.

In other words, masks appeared to make an extremely social species less social — and less vulnerable "It's our humanity that is actually bringing us toward the virus," said Marchiori, a professor at the University of Padua. "You have to take away a bit of humanity, to become a bit antisocial, to protect humanity."

The finding — which, like most of the geysers of new studies about the coronavirus and related subjects, has not yet been formally reviewed by scientific peers — was published last week on [arxiv.org](#), a publicly available source of emerging research. It is one of the first studies to apply hard data to a key question of our time: What happens when societies unaccustomed to covering their faces are ordered to do so by public health authorities?

Roughly three-quarters of humanity has been under some kind of government masking orders in recent months, according to Jeremy Howard, a University of San Francisco data scientist who has been publicly advocating for mask usage as a key element in bringing the pandemic to heel. Research he and others have done suggests that masks — even ones that are handmade — significantly lower the likelihood of transmission of the coronavirus among people moving about their communities.

An [analysis published Monday](#) in the Lancet, based on a review on 172 previous studies from around the world, found that "face mask use could result in a large reduction in risk of infection." [The paper](#), funded by the World Health Organization, is the latest evidence that initial guidance from U.S. health authorities discouraging mask use was a misstep.



Howard was among a group of scientists who publicly advocated for a reversal of that position, adopting the [Twitter hashtag #Masks4All](#) and a profile picture of himself in dark mask and sunglasses.

“Mask wearing seems to be the number one most effective tool in slowing the epidemic,” Howard said. A missing element, though, has been data on how individuals react when ordered to wear masks, especially in societies not accustomed to doing so during public health emergencies.

A group of Yale researchers, in a [study released last month](#), and also not yet peer reviewed, analyzed location data from [millions of smartphones](#) to measure how masking orders affect how often people left their homes, how long they stayed away and where they went on their trips. The researchers found that as government officials ordered communities to don masks when entering public spaces, people began leaving their homes more and staying away longer — an unintended consequence that, the researchers argued, could undermine efforts to contain the coronavirus.

The paper, titled [“Do Face Masks Create a False Sense of Security? A COVID-19 Dilemma,”](#) found that in states with masking orders, Americans were spending as much as 30 minutes more time away from their homes, and that visits grew to some seemingly nonessential places, such as building supply stores and restaurants. (The data did not distinguish between visits for sit-down meals versus takeout.)

Author Eli Fenichel, a Yale University professor of natural resource economics who has studied the relationship between location data and the spread of disease, said there is danger if people believe masks are simply a safe alternative to staying home.

“You’re implicitly telling people it’s ok to go out if you have a mask,” said Fenichel. He said a better message would be: “If you absolutely must go out, wear a mask.”

The potential for confusion has been thrown into sharp relief over the past two weeks as demonstrators have massed in dozens of U.S. cities to protest the police killing of an unarmed Minneapolis man, George Floyd. Masks provided some protection, but epidemiologists have warned that the concentration of people risked spreading new infections.

Wearing masks — or not — also has taken on partisan dynamics as President Trump has refused to be photographed with one on even as he’s ordered his staff to wear masks at The White House.

Marchiori’s findings suggest the benefits of mask wearing, aside from filtering out pathogens, may lie in the social signals they convey. He found an even stronger repellent effect when he wore goggles, or if the mask he donned was obviously poorly constructed — signaling perhaps a combination of infectiousness and ineptitude.

Epidemiologists say the biggest risk of transmitting the coronavirus comes from prolonged close contact between infected people and healthy ones, especially if that contact happens indoors.

That means brief encounters on sidewalks — of the sort Marchiori initially tested — are not likely a major source of new infections. But his subsequent research shows a similar effect in cramped indoor spaces, such as food stores, where infection risks are higher and social distancing requires more vigilance.

The research grew out of Marchiori’s long-standing determination to convert data he could personally collect into analytical insights to answer questions that interest him.

One of his previous research topics was analyzing how soccer positioning, as dictated by common strategies, affected the outcomes of games. Marchiori and his co-authors, who studied countless hours of game video to plot movements, found that positioning made little difference to who won or lost. The most important factor was the how well players worked with each other, what he called the collective “speed of thought” within a team.

The title? [“Secrets of soccer: Neural network flows and game performance.”](#)



“What really matters seems instead to be the right balancing of passings among the various areas, producing an overall more efficient brain-like structure,” Marchiori and his co-authors wrote. “These counterintuitive results might also explain the failure by common statistics like ball possession, shoots, corners and so on, to actually grasp the ultimate secret of soccer for how to actually win a game.”

His facility with low-cost sensors and tracking devices also allowed Marchiori to measure and analyze other behaviors. By narrowing walkways in [shopping malls](#), he found that proximity — similar to what’s found in traditional bazaars where shoppers crowd winding, narrow passages, close to merchants’ stalls — induces more purchases. He also found that when [people walk faster](#) in urban areas, the overall health metrics are likely to be better.

And then, there was the cow study, titled, [“Happy Cows, Happy Milk: smart cows and quality factors.”](#) presented at a scientific conference in August.

Marchiori’s initial thesis was that more active cows — the ones that walked farther in open fields — would be healthier and produce better milk. But the GPS data showed that cows that frequently came close to other cows — the ones that appeared most sociable — produced the best milk, as measured by lab tests of quality and human taste tests.

The social natures of mammals, including human, has ended up being a recurring theme of Marchiori’s work. We are drawn to one another. We do things more efficiently — shop, pass soccer balls — when we work together.

“It’s a social world,” Marchiori said.

But in a pandemic where proximity is a key factor in transmission, Marchiori found, these same factors can be dangerous. Wearing masks makes them less so.

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HEADLINE	06/05 CDC warns: avoid ingesting disinfectants
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/some-americans-are-gargling-with-bleach-and-drinking-household-cleaners-to-prevent-coronavirus-cdc-says/">https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/some-americans-are-gargling-with-bleach-and-drinking-household-cleaners-to-prevent-coronavirus-cdc-says/</a>
GIST	<p>A new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report indicates Americans are putting household disinfectants including bleach into their bodies because they believe such practices can ward off coronavirus — “preventive” measures are ineffective and dangerous.</p> <p>The study, posted by the CDC on Friday, explored how much its 502 participants knew about disinfectants and asked how those subjects were using such products to stop the spread of the deadly pandemic that has killed more than 110,000 Americans.</p> <p>“These practices pose a risk of severe tissue damage and corrosive injury and should be strictly avoided,” the report said. “Although adverse health effects reported by respondents could not be attributed to their engaging in high-risk practices, the association between these high-risk practices and reported adverse health effects indicates a need for public messaging regarding safe and effective cleaning and disinfection practices aimed at preventing SARS-CoV-2 transmission in households.”</p> <p>Concerns about the ingestion of household cleaning products spiked in April when President Donald Trump speculated during a news briefing that disinfectants, “by injection inside or almost a cleaning,” could someday be used to clean the lungs of people infected with COVID-19.</p> <p>According to the CDC, 4% of those surveyed, 20 people, admitted they’d drank or gargled household agents including bleach. A staggering 18% of participants confessed they’d applied cleaning agents to their skin. Nearly 10% inhaled fumes from potentially toxic household disinfectants.</p>

	<p>The median age of survey respondents was 46, with subjects ranging from 18 to 86 years of age. Those surveyed came from across the country and skewed slightly female.</p> <p>The CDC said 63% of respondents identified as non-Hispanic white, 16% were Latino, 12% were non-Latino blacks, and 8% were multiracial or of other races and ethnicities.</p> <p>The CDC continued to preach safe guidelines.</p> <p>“COVID-19 prevention messages should continue to emphasize evidence-based, safe practices such as frequent hand hygiene and frequent cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces,” the report said.</p>
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## Crime, Criminals

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HEADLINE	<b>06/08 Mexican cartels stockpile drugs, money</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/crime/2020/06/08/coronavirus-pandemic-mexican-cartels-stockpile-drugs-money/5193971002/">https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/crime/2020/06/08/coronavirus-pandemic-mexican-cartels-stockpile-drugs-money/5193971002/</a>
GIST	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic is making meth more expensive in much of the U.S.</p> <p>Travel restrictions at U.S.-Mexico border crossings and abroad have made it harder for cartels to move drugs and drug profits without detection, according to agents with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.</p> <p>"There's been stockpiling of drugs and money on both sides of the Southwest border, and money laundering activity has decreased," said J. Todd Scott, special agent in charge of the DEA's Louisville Field Division.</p> <p>"People, in general, aren't moving; stuff isn't moving," he said. "Cartels function best when they can kind of move undercover, move with the legitimate commerce."</p> <p>Travel restrictions to and from China have also slowed the importation of precursor chemicals, which cartels use to make meth and fentanyl. Cartels, in turn, have slowed the amount of meth sent to America.</p> <p>To lessen the financial blow, cartels have inflated the price of drugs, especially meth, according to drug agents across the country.</p> <p>"About half of our field divisions are reporting price increases at the retail level of meth and increases for fentanyl" across the country, said Scott, who directs agents and intelligence analysts in Tennessee, Kentucky and West Virginia.</p> <p>"There's less of it out there, they're gonna charge more."</p> <p>In Los Angeles, a major hub for Mexican cartels, meth prices have doubled. At the end of last year, a trafficker could buy a pound at wholesale from a cartel associate for \$900. But then prices began to rise, climbing to \$1,800 to \$2,000 per pound, said Bill Bodner, special agent in charge of the DEA's Los Angeles Field Division.</p> <p>The street-level price of fentanyl and crystal methamphetamine, called "ice," have increased in Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee, said Vic Brown, executive director of Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area task forces. State lockdowns and the recommended reduction of travel have slowed drug trafficking along interstate corridors as well, he said.</p>

“With methamphetamine, we’re seeing prices have gone up across the state of New Mexico,” said Will Glaspy, head of High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area task forces in the Southwest Border New Mexico Region.

In the DEA New England Field Division —which also includes Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, Maine, Rhode Island and New Hampshire — investigators noticed slight price increases for fentanyl and cocaine at the end of May, but no increase for meth in their region, said division spokesman Timothy Desmond. The virus hasn't hampered drug sales, he said.

The coronavirus also has impacted Mexican cartels' global business.

The cartels have struggled to get drugs in and money out of Australia, said Kevin Merkel, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's Australia attaché. This is now the most sought-after illicit drug market with users willing to pay a much higher price for top-quality Mexican meth than American buyers.

"As businesses are having to adjust, every arm of cartels are having to adjust," Merkel said.

Meth prices started to climb in Australia in May and have doubled in some areas, the drug agent said. A kilo of meth used to cost between \$90,000 to \$130,000 but is now garnering up to \$200,000, he said. Cocaine, harder to get during the pandemic, followed a similar spike. With dealers paying more, they're passing that additional cost to users.

In East and Southeast Asia, the supply of meth and other synthetic opioids has swelled, causing prices to fall, according to a May report of the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime.

"While the world has shifted its attention to the COVID-19 pandemic, all indications are that production and trafficking of synthetic drugs and chemicals continue at record levels in the region," Jeremy Douglas, UNODC Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, said mid-May.

As people who are addicted scramble to pay more for their fix, agents predict an increase in car, garage and home burglaries as well as thefts.

"I would be very surprised if over the next three to four months, we didn't see property crimes go up," said Bodner, head of LA drug agents. "When prices go up, addicts have to pay, and they have to get the money from somewhere."

The money paid for drugs is stockpiling in the U.S. and Australia, as cartels are leery of getting caught during a time of reduced travel.

During a 10-week period beginning in March, drug agents in the Los Angeles area seized \$10 million in drug money, Bodner said. That's more than double drug profit seizures during the same time period last year. He explained that traffickers who used to limit money stored in stash houses to \$100,000 to \$200,000 are now keeping \$1 million or more.

After law enforcement stumbled onto several large stockpiles of drug proceeds, cartels made quick changes.

“They’re having to resort to the old-fashioned way of putting money back in the trunk of a car and driving it south,” Bodner said.

In Mexico, cartels are finding ways to capitalize on the virus. That includes fighting over drug sales and coveted routes as police and military are having to turn their focus from traffickers to civil unrest as a result of the coronavirus, which has killed more than 13,000 people in Mexico so far.

"That obviously distracts law enforcement from controlling many highways and many drug distribution points, and that could promote the trafficking or domestic sale of drugs," said Eduardo Guerrero Gutiérrez, a public safety consultant and political analyst based in Mexico City.

The cartel turf wars have contributed to a spike in homicides, which topped 11,535 by the end of April, according to the report from country's security ministry. At that pace, the country is expected to suffer the deadliest years since record keeping began in 1997.

All the while, during the pandemic, cartels are delivering food and essential household items to impoverished residents in Mexico to garner local support and mark their turf.

Cartel members are boasting about their supposed good deeds on social media, posting videos and photos of boxes of supplies branded with their cartel name, such as CJNG, for the Cártel Jalisco Nueva Generación or its leader "El Mencho."

But, the cartels are stealing the food they hand out from markets in Mexico in an attempt to bolster their image and profit off the pandemic, Merkel said.

"It's disgusting."

The food handouts are a common propaganda campaign for cartels, said Javier Oliva, political and social sciences professor and researcher at the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

"The truth is that they just hand out 30 or 40 boxes," not enough to lessen the poverty, Oliva said.

"They only want to show the message, 'Here we are,'" especially to rival cartels.

In contrast, the cartel also frequently uses social media to spread fear by posting photos and videos of kidnappings, torture and killings of rivals, which was detailed in a November Courier Journal special report on the cartel and El Mencho.

Drug agents expect cartels to resume traditional money laundering and drug smuggling methods once flights and traffic at the border increase. They don't know if cartels have found new ways to get drugs from Mexico into the U.S. amid travel restrictions that they could continue to use.

"It's far too soon to know exactly how COVID-19 is affecting the cartels," Scott said during an interview in Louisville. "We just don't have enough data."

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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Sheriff: teen arrested Walmart arson</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://komonews.com/news/local/sheriff-teen-arrested-in-arson-at-bremerton-area-walmart-store">https://komonews.com/news/local/sheriff-teen-arrested-in-arson-at-bremerton-area-walmart-store</a>
GIST	<p>BREMERTON, Wash. - Sheriff's deputies have arrested a 15-year-old juvenile in connection with <a href="#">an arson Saturday at a crowded Walmart store</a> near Bremerton, officials said.</p> <p>The Kitsap County Sheriff's Office says the juvenile was arrested at home after investigators received several tips from the community.</p> <p>The blaze in the children's clothing section of the store caused an estimated \$3 million in damage and endangered more than 300 people who were in the store at the time, sheriff's officials said.</p> <p>Crews responded to the blaze, in the 6700 block of State Route 303, at about 10:30 a.m. after receiving several calls about clothing on fire inside the store.</p>

	<p>The blaze set off the sprinkler system, and employees took quick action to try and limit the spread of the flames. Firefighters also worked to contain the flames to the clothing section before extinguishing the fire. There were no reports of injuries.</p> <p>Sheriff's officials say the suspect entered the store wearing dark clothing, changed clothes after the fire and rode away on a bicycle.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Man drove toward Seattle crowd; shoots 1</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-area-protests-live-updates-for-sunday-june-7/">https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-area-protests-live-updates-for-sunday-june-7/</a>
GIST	<p>A man drove a car into toward a crowd of protesters on Capitol Hill Sunday night, shot one man and walked through the crowd brandishing a gun, then approached a line of Seattle police officers, who took him into custody.</p> <p>The shooting victim was tended to by protesters — one applied a tourniquet to the man's arm, a social media video showed — then medics, who then walked him to an ambulance and took him to Harborview Medical Center, where he was in stable condition, according to fire officials.</p> <p>The events started at around 8:15 p.m., when a black Honda Civic raced down 11th Avenue, toward Pine Street, where hundreds of protesters were peacefully gathered in front of the Seattle Police Department's East Precinct.</p> <p>As the man drove toward the crowd gathered at 11th and Pine, videos showed a protester reaching into the driver's side, apparently to stop him. The protester falls back, apparently having been shot, and those nearby go running.</p> <p>The gunman then got out of the car, and waved his handgun around while protesters scattered. Wearing jeans and a black hoodie, he walked into the crowd — some unaware that he was the shooter — and toward a line of police in riot gear, showing them that he had a gun. He was taken into the police precinct.</p> <p>The events were captured on social media by both protesters and journalists who were airing live streams, <a href="#">including The Seattle Times</a>.</p> <p>In a <a href="#">video posted on Twitter by photographer Alex Garland</a>, the shooting victim, identified as Daniel, 26, said he saw the man's car running down Pine Street, and at a stop light, he ran over and "punched him in the face."</p> <p>"I hear the gunshot go off in my arm," he told Garland. "My whole thing was to protect those people, my whole thing was to protect those people down there."</p> <p>The events angered some on social media, who wondered how an armed man could have gotten so far. They said he had been treated differently than the protesters by police.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Shootings link deputy, federal officer?</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/US/northern-california-sheriffs-deputy-killed-ambush-shooting-bombing/story?id=71119099">https://abcnews.go.com/US/northern-california-sheriffs-deputy-killed-ambush-shooting-bombing/story?id=71119099</a>
GIST	<p>An active-duty U.S. Air Force sergeant suspected of wielding a rifle and improvised explosives in the ambush killing of a 38-year-old Northern California sheriff's deputy is also being investigated for a possible connection to the fatal shooting last month of a federal officer during a protest in Oakland, multiple sources told ABC News on Sunday.</p>

The suspect, Steven Carrillo, 32, was taken into custody on Saturday after he was wounded in a shootout with law enforcement officers in the Santa Cruz Mountains, about 35 miles west of San Jose, officials said.

Carrillo is alleged to have fatally shot Sgt. Damon Gutzwiller and injured another deputy when he attacked them with a rifle and multiple improvised explosives in Ben Lomond, California, authorities said. A California Highway Patrol officer was also wounded during a shootout that erupted as officers moved to take Carrillo into custody, officials said.

"In my 32-year career, this is my worst day I've ever experienced," Santa Cruz County Sheriff Jim Hart said at a news conference on Saturday evening. "Today we lost one of our own and he was a true hero."

Carrillo is an active-duty sergeant assigned to the 60th Security Forces Squadron based at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, California, about 100 miles northeast of Ben Lomond, 2nd Lt. Mike Longoria, a spokesman for the base, told ABC News on Sunday. Longoria referred all other questions about Carrillo to the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office.

Multiple law enforcement sources told ABC News that the FBI is investigating a possible link between the deadly ambush in Santa Cruz County and the May 29 killing of Federal Protective Services Officer Dave Patrick Underwood in Oakland.

Underwood, 53, was guarding the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building during protests that broke out in the Bay Area city over the police-involved killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota, when he was shot to death while standing outside the building, officials said.

A white cargo van that appeared to not have license plates was spotted racing from the scene of Underwood's slaying, according to the FBI, who released security photos of the vehicle last week. The FBI warned that the "occupants of the van should be considered armed and dangerous."

The deadly attack on Saturday unfolded after a caller contacted a 911 dispatcher at 1:30 p.m. to report seeing guns and bomb-making material inside a suspicious van parked off the road in the Santa Cruz Mountains, Hart said.

Gutzwiller and other sheriff's deputies arrived at the scene just as the van was pulling away. They followed the van to a house in Ben Lomond and as they approached the vehicle gunfire rang out.

"As deputies began investigating, they were ambushed with gunfire and multiple improvised explosives," Hart said.

Another deputy was either shot or struck by bomb shrapnel and was hit by a vehicle as the suspect drove out of the driveway of the home, he said.

Within minutes after the attack, 911 dispatchers received multiple calls from people reporting a carjacking nearby and officers from police agencies throughout Santa Cruz County raced to the scene, according to Hart.

He said Carrillo was arrested after being shot and wounded. He said a California Highway Patrol officer was also shot in the hand during the ordeal.

Carrillo was taken to a local hospital where he was treated and released to the custody of sheriff's deputies.

The FBI and the Santa Cruz District Attorney's Office are investigating the incident.

Hart said Carrillo was arrested on charges of murder, assault with a deadly weapon, carjacking "and a myriad of other charges."

	<p>"There's a lot that we don't know at this point. It's still a very fluid situation," Hart said. "I ask that the community be patient as we go through this investigation and the grieving process."</p> <p>Hart said Gutzwiller's colleagues were planning to hold a vigil for him in front of the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office headquarters on Sunday at 2:36 p.m. PST, the time the call came on Saturday that an officer was down.</p> <p>He said Gutzwiller, who joined the sheriff's office in 2006, is survived by a young child and a pregnant wife.</p> <p>The sheriff described Gutzwiller as a "beloved figure" who started his career in law enforcement as a volunteer with the sheriff's office.</p> <p>"In this era that we're in, when you think about what you want to see in a police officer, compassion, caring, somebody who truly loves his job, who wants to help people, that's what Damon was," Hart said. "He was a good man and a good police officer."</p> <p>California Gov. Gavin Newsom and his wife, Jennifer, released a statement expressing their shock and dismay over the killing of Gutzwiller.</p> <p>"Jennifer and I extend our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and coworkers of Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Sergeant Damon Gutzwiller, who was tragically killed while on duty," the governor's statement reads. "He will be remembered as a hero who devoted his life to protecting the community and as a loving husband and father."</p> <p>An Air Force spokesperson said Carrillo arrived at Travis Air Force Base in June 2018 and was a team leader on the Phoenix Raven unit. That group is comprised of "specially trained security forces personnel dedicated to providing security for Air Mobility Command aircraft transiting high terrorist and criminal threat areas," according to an Air Force website.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Boogaloo arrests; new extremist agenda?</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.reviewjournal.com/investigations/boogaloo-arrests-reveal-new-extremist-agenda-to-hijack-protests-2047161/">https://www.reviewjournal.com/investigations/boogaloo-arrests-reveal-new-extremist-agenda-to-hijack-protests-2047161/</a>
GIST	<p>When three suspected members of the "boogaloo" movement were arrested in Las Vegas a week ago, it confirmed suspicions that extremists are looking for opportunities to trigger violence in Nevada communities.</p> <p><a href="#">The boogaloo arrests are the first in the country of far-right extremists</a> accused of planning to disrupt and cause harm to Black Lives Matter protests, according to Joanna Mendelson, associate director of the Center on Extremism for the Anti-Defamation League.</p> <p>"Extremists see the civil unrest as an opportunity to incite terror and distract from the critical messages of the protesters," she said. "The alleged plot of this trio illustrates our concerns about extremists using the momentum and societal turmoil to bring their agendas to fruition."</p> <p>Experts believe national protests after the Minneapolis death of George Floyd have provided a big opportunity for the movement to expand.</p> <p>"They see themselves as trying to become involved in a more larger political conversation," said Cassie Miller, a senior analyst for the Southern Poverty Law Center. She said there are more than 100 boogaloo groups on Facebook.</p>



The boogaloo movement, which believes in an impending civil war and ultimate societal collapse, is decentralized with no national leaders and largely organizes and recruit on social media. The name has its roots in decades of jokes about the 1984 break-dancing film “Breakin’ 2: Electric Boogaloo.”

“While boogaloo supporters hail from a variety of movements, and include some white supremacists who advocate for race war, preliminary findings show the three arrested in Las Vegas embraced the anti-government version of the boogaloo,” Mendelson explained.

“This strain champions the notion that the American people are willing to respond with violence – even if it means sparking a civil war – to perceived government efforts to curtail their freedom.”

In a news release, Nevada U.S. Attorney Nicholas Trutanich expressed his concerns about the recent wave of unrest on the streets.

“Violent instigators have hijacked peaceful protests and demonstrations across the country, including Nevada, exploiting the real and legitimate outrage over Mr. Floyd’s death for their own radical agendas,” Trutanich said.

### **Boogaloo concerns**

Devin Burghart, president of the Institute for Research and Education on Human Rights, said the arrests [heighten the level of concern at the protests](#) about the Boogaloo Boys, another name for the nationwide movement.

“Once you have reached the step of plotting to commit acts of terrorism, you move beyond your average far-right protester and into the deep end,” Burghart said.

He said his organization, which tracks far-right extremism, has found boogaloo members at more than 20 protests in Las Vegas and across the country using a variety of methods, including sources on the street and within the far right, social media activity, and news reports.

Boogaloo Boys are usually easy to spot in a demonstration because they are known for wearing Hawaiian shirts, sometimes covered by armored vests, and carrying firearms, Burghart said. The practice, he added, is an “act of stolen valor” borrowed from special forces in the military.

Members of another right-wing group, the Proud Boys, also have been tracked to recent ReOpen Nevada and Black Lives Matter protests in the valley and Reno, with no reported violence attributed to the group.

Burghart said the Proud Boys, which have chapters in most states, showed up at Black Lives Matter demonstrations in Las Vegas and Reno on May 31. The Review-Journal photographed members of the group April 18 at the Grant Sawyer State Office Building protesting the state shutdown.

The group has a Las Vegas chapter and helped stage a Proud Boys national gathering called “WestFest” here in September 2017, Burghart said.

He described the members as the “racist reactionary street fighters” of the far-right, known for engaging in brawls with left-wing groups.

The ADL calls the [Proud Boys an “unconventional strain of American right-wing extremism.”](#) Some members espouse white supremacist and anti-Semitic ideologies, but the group represents a range of ethnic backgrounds. Its founder described the Proud Boys as a “drinking club” dedicated to male bonding and celebrating western culture. But group members have taken part in numerous acts of violence and intimidation over the past several years, according to the ADL.

The three suspected boogaloo members taken into custody May 30 — Stephen T. Parshall, 35, Andrew Lyman, 23, and William L. Loomis, 40 — are facing local terrorism charges and federal explosive and

firearms charges. All three, who have military backgrounds, first caught the attention of FBI agents during rallies in April and May against the state's COVID-19 business shutdown.

Lynam is currently an Army reservist, while Parshall and Loomis were formerly enlisted in the Navy and Air Force, respectively.

Before his arrest, Parshall displayed the fictional national "flag of Kekistan," a symbol of the extreme alt right movement, on his Facebook Page. The page now appears to have been taken down. The flag mimics the German Nazi war flag with the Kek logo replacing the swastika, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center. The alt right rejects mainstream conservatism in favor of forms that embrace racism or white supremacy, the center says.

Defense lawyer Robert Draskovich, who represents Parshall, said: "My client denies the allegations in the federal and local complaints and states that he has no affiliation with any right wing extremists."

Undercover FBI agents learned the Las Vegas defendants were planning to firebomb a Nevada Energy substation on May 28 to create unrest in Las Vegas, according to the federal complaint.

But the men instead sought to disrupt the Black Lives Matter protests. Agents arrested the trio before a May 30 demonstration downtown after they learned the men were prepared to toss Molotov cocktails at police, the complaint alleges.

### **Crackdown on violence**

The case is the result of an intense campaign by federal and local authorities to curb the violence that led to the June 1 shooting of a Las Vegas police officer and the police shooting of an armed man wearing an armored vest who was spotted at several protests.

Trutanich has said that his office is pushing hard to charge instigators who commit violence during the protests and that the investigation involves the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. The FBI nationwide has asked the public for tips and digital media depicting violent encounters at the protests.

The U.S. attorney, who would not discuss the boogaloo case or any specific extremist groups, said in an interview with the Review-Journal that stopping the violence, not ideology, is the focus of the investigation.

He praised the work of the Metropolitan Police Department and other local and state law enforcement agencies in the collaborative effort, and said authorities are dedicated to ensuring that everyone has equal protection under the law.

"Within days, we were able to send a strong message that we were supporting the protesters and that violence in these peaceful protests would not be tolerated," Trutanich said. "We are going to bring cases based on what the attorney general characterized as a 'witch's brew' of extremists that are among these peaceful protests."

Nevada U.S. Marshal Gary Schofield, a retired Metro deputy chief, said there clearly has been an organized effort to cause violence in downtown Las Vegas near the two federal courthouses. Protesters broke windows and sprayed graffiti.

"I am highly concerned because we keep seeing these groups of heavily armed individuals coming around during these protests," he said. "It's noticeable that the groups concentrating on the violent activity do not appear to be part of any true community effort."

Republican Las Vegas Assemblyman Tom Roberts shares that view.

“It’s deeply troubling that we have worked as a community very hard to build a safe environment for families and our visitors that come here,” said Roberts, a retired assistant sheriff who oversaw local homeland security. “This undermines all of the work of the community for years.”

During the past week of protests, rumors of another extremist ideological group in Las Vegas, Antifa, were shared on Twitter. Antifa, short for “antifascist,” is a term for loosely organized far-left activists who are known to show up at white supremacist rallies.

Social media has pointed to [Antifa’s involvement in the protests](#). But like the Proud Boys on the right, Antifa so far has escaped prosecution in Las Vegas.

On May 31, President Donald Trump tweeted he sought to have the movement declared a terrorist organization. Antifa rallied against white supremacists at the “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017 and sometimes has supported Black Lives Matter.

The ADL’s Mendelson said danger lies ahead across the spectrum of extremism in the country.

“This is a dangerous concoction of opportunists who are seeking to take advantage of the current crisis and insert themselves into the violence,” she said.

### **Right-wing activity rises**

Brian Levin, director of the Center for Study of Hate & Extremism at California State University in San Bernardino, said the criminal case against boogaloes is an indication that right-wing groups are likely to become even more active in the coming months.

But he added: “We expect to see more criminal charges filed against partisans from both the far-right and the hard-left across the country in the future.”

Mendelson said she doesn’t blame the protest violence solely on extremist groups.

“Some of the chaos is an expression of the protesters’ despair and anger against what they perceive as institutionalized racism and inequality,” she said. “There is a genuine outrage and pain that’s being expressed at these demonstrations.”

Roxann McCoy, president of the Las Vegas branch of the NAACP, agreed that the anger is real.

“I do not condone the violence,” she said. “But we are tired of just standing by and waiting for someone to do the right thing for the African-American community. Justice should matter for all people.”

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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Virginia arrests officer for forceful arrest</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://abcnews.go.com/US/george-floyd-protest-updates-cop-arrested-video-shows/story?id=71118017">https://abcnews.go.com/US/george-floyd-protest-updates-cop-arrested-video-shows/story?id=71118017</a>
GIST	<p>The Fairfax County Police Department called a late press conference Saturday night to release details surrounding the arrest of one of the department's own officers.</p> <p>The white officer, Tyler Timberlake, faces three counts of assault and battery related to an on-duty incident that happened Friday.</p> <p>Body camera video played at the press conference shows an officer deploying his stun gun on a Black man, who was walking away from him at the time. The man seems in the footage to be suffering from some kind of medical episode.</p>

	<p>The man falls to the ground, where the officer proceeds lean on his back with his knees. The officer appears to deploy the stun gun on him again, this time while he's already face down on the ground. At this point, other officers join the initial officer in pushing the man into the ground, where they force handcuffs onto him.</p> <p>At one point, the victim yells: "I can't breathe."</p> <p>The county's Chief of Police, Colonel Edwin C. Roessler Jr., says the man "is alive and resting at home with his family."</p> <p>Roessler also says Timberlake, an eight-year veteran of the department, has been relieved of duty. Other officers who were present have also been relieved of duty pending the result of both criminal and administrative investigations.</p> <p>Timberlake faces up to 36 months of incarceration.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Protest arrest records: local, few affiliated</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://apnews.com/20b9b86dba5c480bad759a3bd34cd875">https://apnews.com/20b9b86dba5c480bad759a3bd34cd875</a>
GIST	<p>WASHINGTON (AP) — Scott Nichols, a balloon artist, was riding home on his scooter from the protests engulfing Minneapolis last weekend when he was struck by a rubber bullet fired from a cluster of police officers in riot gear.</p> <p>"I just pulled over and put my hands up, because I didn't want to get killed," said Nichols, 40. "Anybody that knows me knows I wasn't out there to cause problems."</p> <p>Nichols, who before the coronavirus pandemic made his living performing at children's birthday parties under the stage name "Amazing Scott," spent two days in jail before being released, facing criminal charges of riot and curfew violation.</p> <p>President Donald Trump has characterized those clashing with law enforcement after George Floyd's death under the knee of a Minneapolis police officer as organized, radical-left thugs engaging in domestic terrorism, an assertion repeated by Attorney General William Barr. Some Democrats, including Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz and Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey, initially tried to blame out-of-state far-right infiltrators for the unrest before walking back those statements.</p> <p>There is scant evidence either is true.</p> <p>The Associated Press analyzed court records, employment histories, social media posts and other sources of information for 217 people arrested last weekend in Minneapolis and the District of Columbia, two cities at the epicenter of the protests across the United States.</p> <p>Rather than outside agitators, more than 85% of those arrested by police were local residents. Of those charged with such offenses as curfew violations, rioting and failure to obey law enforcement, only a handful appeared to have any affiliation with organized groups.</p> <p>Those charged with more serious offenses related to looting and property destruction – such as arson, burglary and theft – often had past criminal records. But they, too, were overwhelmingly local residents taking advantage of the chaos.</p> <p>Social media posts indicate only a few of those arrested are left-leaning activists, including a self-described anarchist. But others had indications of being on the political right, including some Trump supporters.</p>

The president has tried to portray the protesters and looters with a broad brush as “radical-left, bad people,” ominously invoking the name “antifa,” an umbrella term for leftist militants bound more by belief than organizational structure. Trump tweeted last Sunday that he planned to designate antifa as a terrorist organization.

“These are acts of domestic terror,” Trump said in a Rose Garden speech Monday, moments after heavily armed troops and riot police advanced without warning on the largely peaceful protesters across the street from the White House.

Barr, put in charge of organizing the police and military response, activated the FBI’s Joint Terrorism Task Force last weekend to target protest organizers.

“The violence instigated and carried out by Antifa and other similar groups in connection with the rioting is domestic terrorism and will be treated accordingly,” Barr said in a statement issued Sunday.

There have been violent acts, including property destruction and theft. Police officers and protesters have been seriously injured and killed. But federal law enforcement officials have offered little evidence that antifa-aligned protesters could be behind a movement that has appeared nearly simultaneously in hundreds of cities and towns in all 50 states since Floyd’s death.

The AP obtained copies of daily confidential “Intelligence Notes” distributed this past week to local enforcement by the Department of Homeland Security that repeat, without citing evidence, that “organized violent opportunists — including suspected anarchist extremists — could increasingly perpetrate nationwide targeting of law enforcement and critical infrastructure.”

“We lack detailed reporting indicating the level of organization and planning by some violent opportunists and assess that most of the violence to date has been loosely organized on a level seen with previous widespread outbreaks of violence at lawful protests,” the assessment for Monday says.

The following day, the assessment noted “several uncorroborated reports of bricks being pre-staged at planned protest venues nationwide.”

“Although we have been unable to verify the reporting through official channels, the staging of improvised weapons at planned events is a common tactic used by violent opportunists,” the Tuesday assessment says.

But social media posts warning that stacks of bricks have been left at protest sites in Atlanta, Boston and Los Angeles have been debunked by local officials who have explained that the masonry was out in the open before the protests or was for use in construction projects.

Nichols, the balloon artist, hardly fits the portrait of a radical.

He recently gained local notice for a giant balloon rabbit and other sculptures displayed in his front yard for Easter. He laughed when asked if he had any ties to antifa or other militant groups. A white man who lives less than a half mile from where Floyd was killed on May 25, Nichols said he protested to support of his neighbors, many of whom are black.

“It was the most insane thing I’ve seen in my life,” he said. “The city was going crazy.”

Nichols said he and a friend helped douse a dumpster fire near a laundromat. He remembers getting a text from his mother saying that Minneapolis had set an 8 p.m. curfew, but he thought it would be enforced loosely.

“Had I known that being out after curfew would be such a severe penalty, I would have never done it,” Nichols said, adding that he missed his son’s high school graduation while he was in jail.

Lars Ortiz, a 35-year-old classical musician, said he was driving just blocks from his Minneapolis home on May 29 after visiting a friend recovering from COVID-19 when officers pulled him out of his car at gunpoint. He said he had been unaware of the 8 p.m. curfew enacted that night.

Ortiz and another friend in the car with him were put in zip-tie restraints and forced to wait on a bus for hours before police took them to jail, where he would spend the weekend.

“It was scary. It was confusing. I felt violated,” said Ortiz, a cellist who identifies as a biracial Mexican American.

Ortiz was held on a riot charge and curfew violation. He said he was told when he was released from jail on Monday the more serious rioting charge was dropped.

Lt. Andy Knotz of the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office, whose deputies were deployed from the suburban county north of Minneapolis into the city to help with the unrest, said it was a “chaotic scene” and that Ortiz was coming from the direction of the protests. Knotz said Ortiz was removed from his car by the Minnesota State Patrol, and an Anoka deputy took him to the police station.

“In chaos like that you can’t determine who is legit and who isn’t,” Knotz said.

Natalie Cook, 43, who’s white, said she had never before participated in a protest, but wanted to be there to support and protect her 24-year-old son, who’s black.

“Not only did I want to go to be an ally to black people, but I wanted to go to support my son,” Cook said. “Also, I was afraid to send him out by himself.”

Cook said they were marching peacefully with about 100 protesters for hours when police started using tear gas and shooting rubber bullets. As they tried to get away, they were pepper sprayed and her son was hit at close range by a rubber bullet, she said. They were both jailed and released on Monday, charged with riot and violating curfew.

Cook said her son was deeply affected by Floyd’s death and she doesn’t have any regrets about going out to make their voices heard.

“My son was really struggling with it,” she said. “We couldn’t just sit by and watch.”

AP filed public records requests seeking arrest reports and other documents that might show what evidence law enforcement officers have against Nichols, Ortiz the Cooks and others arrested in Minneapolis. Those records have not yet been provided.

In Washington, the D.C. Metropolitan Police arrested at least 81 people last weekend, including some as young as 13. Most were charged with curfew violations and felony rioting, which could result in up to 180 days in jail and \$5,000 in fines.

Among the highest profile arrests made by federal authorities in the last week was Matthew Lee Rupert. Prosecutors allege the 28-year-old Illinois man traveled to Minneapolis to participate in riots and then posted videos on a Facebook page showing him looting stores and handing out explosives.

In one video, Rupert, a convicted felon, says: “We come to riot, boy! This is what we came for!”

Though Rupert is alleged to have targeted police officers, there is no evidence cited in his indictment he is affiliated with any organized group. Among the few indicators of his political beliefs was a series of Facebook posts celebrating Trump’s 2017 inauguration. “Trump is my president but I’m not racist,” he wrote, adding that he loves Mexican food.

Rupert, who made an initial court appearance Friday, remains in federal custody. A federal public defender assigned to represent him did not respond to a voicemail message seeking comment.

Michael German, a former FBI agent and fellow with the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University, said people often travel and cross state lines to participate in protests and that not all of them have peaceful intent. He said politicians and law enforcement often cite the presence of out-of-towners to justify greater police force against protesters.

“It’s an old tactic for law enforcement policing protests to suggest that the problems are being caused by outside agitators,” German said. “It opens up the opportunity for greater police violence in response.”

Among those who traveled to Minneapolis to protest Floyd’s killing was Tara Houska, a 36-year-old attorney and member of the Couchiching First Nation from northern Minnesota. An activist for indigenous rights, she was arrested in Minneapolis last Saturday night and charged with not complying with a peace officer.

Houska, who attended college and law school in the city, said she was with a group a couple blocks from where Floyd died when police told them they were breaking curfew. They replied they were going home, she said, and then the officers hit them with pepper spray and zip-tied their hands.

“Almost everyone that was in our holding tank with us was from Minnesota,” Houska said.

Sierra West, 29, of Kansas City, Missouri, said she drove to Minneapolis with a friend because she is “so angry about what is happening” with police brutality and wanted to peacefully protest.

After marching for hours, West broke away from the crowds and was walking back to her car through an alley alone when police arrested her early Saturday on riot and curfew violation charges. She said she did nothing to provoke the four officers who confronted her.

“They were hiding, and they literally jumped out of the shadows with guns drawn on me,” she said. “The street was completely empty.”

West, who is white and describes herself as a strong supporter of the Black Lives Matter movement, was freed from jail on Monday afternoon.

University of Minnesota Law School student Santana Boulton, 23, said a police officer pepper-sprayed her in the face on May 28 before she was tear-gassed two days later and then arrested on Sunday, charged with unlawful assembly and violating a curfew.

About 15 minutes before the 8 p.m. curfew, Boulton said she and her boyfriend joined a large crowd of marchers on Interstate 35. People linked arms and kneeled before two lines of police officers formed near the protesters. She said she never heard any orders to disperse.

“It was nothing like a riot. It was a sit-in,” she said.

Boulton, a white woman who moved from Michigan to Minneapolis to attend law school, was arrested and spent 16 hours in custody. She described herself as “philosophically an anarchist,” but “not a revolutionary.”

“Antifa isn’t even real,” Boulton said. “As an actual person who identifies with the political label of anarchist, the only thing anarchists do is have meetings where they argue for five hours and get nothing done.”

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SOURCE	<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/06/us/new-york-looting-intelligence-failure/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/06/us/new-york-looting-intelligence-failure/index.html</a>
GIST	<p>(CNN)Looters in New York City were able to tear through some of the most expensive, high-end stores in the city because of an intelligence failure, according to a high-ranking police official.</p> <p>The coordinated effort of looters to target the Manhattan neighborhood of SoHo without the police department's knowledge points to something the NYPD missed, said John Miller, the NYPD's chief of counterterrorism and intelligence.</p> <p>"On the looting, that's an intelligence failure," Miller said at a briefing on Saturday. "If a couple of hundred people knew to be in a certain place at a certain time for criminal activity and we didn't detect that, that's on me. We've gone back looking for 'where was the Facebook page, where was the chatter in the places where we monitor gang's social media' and we still haven't seen it."</p> <p>In midtown Manhattan, there was widespread looting along the neighborhood's eastern portion, including the high-end shopping district of Fifth Avenue and Madison Avenue close to Trump Tower.</p> <p>The looting extended further south into Herald Square, where looters were even able to penetrate the iconic Macy's building, with officers dragging looters out of the store late into the night.</p> <p>Fires were set, including some police vehicles, and buildings were vandalized with graffiti tags or simply had their windows smashed.</p> <p><b>'Complete chaos'</b></p> <p>In an exclusive interview with CNN, NYPD Chief of Patrol Fausto Pichardo said that more than 50 commercial establishments in SoHo were burglarized. One car seized by the NYPD had more than \$17,000 worth of products inside, said Pichardo, who oversees the majority of the department's uniformed officers.</p> <p>"The first night was complete chaos," Pichardo said. "People walking past us with laundry bags full of things, four or five sneaker boxes. There was definitely organization, lots of cars here. A lot of people with a lot of bags."</p> <p>The looting added another dimension to demonstrations that were sparked after George Floyd was killed in Minnesota.</p> <p>So far, the NYPD has made 1,049 arrests as of Saturday morning, Miller said. More than 70% of the arrests were made in Manhattan and only a small number of those arrested, 119, were from outside of New York City, according to the NYPD.</p> <p>The demonstrations and violence have reverberated among the NYPD's rank and file. There have been 292 police officers injured while two officers were suspended without pay because of their actions during the protests. A supervisor was reassigned, the NYPD said.</p> <p>Miller said the questions surrounding the intelligence failure only applies for the first night since after that new measures were immediately put into place to quell the chaos, including an 8 p.m. curfew, no traffic south of 96th Street, and no protesters allowed onto bridges past the 8 p.m. curfew, according to police.</p> <p>"The looting was not a feature we anticipated, nor is it one we've seen before associated with these kinds of movements, nor do we actually believe that it's associated with this movement," Miller said. "We believe it was an opportunist action by regular criminal groups who decided to exploit this. And we hear that increasingly from the groups that are marching that they have nothing to do with that and are trying to disassociate themselves."</p> <p>NYPD officials say they have differentiated between peaceful protesters, anarchist groups and looters when they all appear to be part of the same crowd but are not together. Miller highlighted that protesters have been disassociating themselves from both anarchists and looters.</p>

	<p>At a George Floyd rally in Brooklyn on Wednesday, Miller said protesters alerted police to a vehicle with out-of-state license plates where the occupants inside wielded a knife and yelled at police before they were stopped. Inside the car was an accelerant for fires, other weapons and gas masks, police said.</p> <p>"Looters break the windows and they were never interested in marching in the first place," Miller said. "They want to go in and get merch. And what did they hit? They're hitting the Coach store, they're hitting the high-end boutiques. The anarchists will break the window of a bank because that symbolizes capitalism, imperialism, all that stuff that factors into the rhetoric."</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/07 Calif. deputy killed; gunfire, IED ambush</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.newsweek.com/santa-cruz-sheriffs-deputy-killed-ied-ambush-1509207">https://www.newsweek.com/santa-cruz-sheriffs-deputy-killed-ied-ambush-1509207</a>
GIST	<p>A California sheriff's deputy was killed and two other law enforcement officers were injured after being ambushed with gunfire and explosives while pursuing a suspect, authorities said.</p> <p>Sgt. Damon Gutzwiller, 38, was shot and killed in Ben Lomond, a town in the Santa Cruz Mountains, on Saturday afternoon, Santa Cruz County Sheriff Jim Hart said.</p> <p>A second deputy was wounded, and a third officer from the California Highway Patrol was shot in his hand, Hart said.</p> <p>"In my 32-year career, this is the worst day that I've ever experienced," Hart said as he began a news conference on Saturday evening.</p> <p>Gutzwiller was a "true hero" and "a beloved figure here at the sheriff's office," Hart said.</p> <p>"Damon showed up today to do his job, to keep our community safe, and his life was taken needlessly," Hart added. "That's a hard thing to process."</p> <p>The suspect, Steven Carrillo, 38, was shot during his arrest and was being treated at the hospital for non-life-threatening injuries, Hart said.</p> <p>The deputies had responded to a 911 call around 1:30 p.m. about a suspicious van near Jamison Creek in Boulder Creek.</p> <p>The caller said there were guns and bomb-making materials inside, Hart said. When deputies arrived, the van pulled away and the deputies followed it to Carrillo's home on Waldeberg Road in Ben Lomond.</p> <p>Hart said the deputies were ambushed by gunfire and multiple improvised explosives after they got out of their vehicle. Gutzwiller was wounded and taken to hospital, where he died.</p> <p>The other deputy, who was not identified, was wounded by gunfire or shrapnel. The deputy was also struck by a car the suspect drove out of the driveway. He is currently in hospital, Hart said. "We are hopeful the deputy will recover," the sheriff's office said in a news release.</p> <p>Hart said Carrillo was shot while being arrested after he attempted to carjack a vehicle nearby. He was reported armed at the time, the sheriff's office said.</p> <p>Carrillo was taken to the hospital for treatment and released. Hart said he would be charged with first-degree murder and other felonies.</p> <p>Gutzwiller was a patrol supervisor who had worked for the sheriff's office since 2006. Hart said he was married with a child and was expecting another.</p>

	<p>"Words cannot express the pain we feel for Damon and his family," Hart added, "He was the kind of person we all hope to be. Today, we lost a hero. We are grateful to have known him and we mourn with his family."</p> <p>A vigil for Gutzwiller will be held on Sunday.</p> <p>The sheriff's office, the District Attorney's Office and the FBI are investigating.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 FBI: man fantasized blowing up mall</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.thedailybeast.com/cole-carini-virginia-man-inspired-by-incel-killer-elliott-rodger-was-making-bomb-feds?ref=home">https://www.thedailybeast.com/cole-carini-virginia-man-inspired-by-incel-killer-elliott-rodger-was-making-bomb-feds?ref=home</a>
GIST	<p>A Virginia man inspired by notorious "incel" mass shooter Elliott Rodger fantasized about blowing up a shopping mall and killing "hot cheerleaders," according to an FBI affidavit.</p> <p>On June 2, Cole Carini of Richlands, Virginia, showed up at the Clinch Valley Medical Center with a missing hand. Several fingers on Carini's other hand were also gone, and he had shrapnel wounds to the neck and throat. A local sheriff's deputy arrived to interview Carini, who claimed his gruesome injuries were the result of a gardening accident.</p> <p>But something didn't add up. Police, who knew Carini, 23, had previously been convicted on explosives charges, got a search warrant for his home and called in the FBI.</p> <p>When investigators got to the residence, they found a trail of blood leading from a red minivan parked in the driveway to the front door of the house, and up the stairs to a second-floor bedroom, according to the affidavit. After stepping over a "flesh colored substance that...looked like a piece of human skin," cops found a plastic bottle filled with triacetone triperoxide, or TATP, a "substance used in the creation of improvised explosive devices," inside a footlocker.</p> <p>Beside the footlocker was a box filled with rusty nails, and a plastic container, the top of which had been "peeled back in a manner consistent with an explosion," the affidavit says. The blinds in the room were damaged, and a chunk of flesh was stuck to the ceiling.</p> <p>Down the street, agents discovered more evidence by a shed behind Carini's grandmother's house: PVC pipes, pieces of loose wires, empty chemical containers, and a pit that appeared to have been the site of an explosion. Inside the shed, they turned up a hot plate, coffee cups with white, crystal-like residue inside them, a battery with wires attached to it, and a crumpled, partially legible letter lying on the ground.</p> <p>"He casually walked through the shopping mall, his jacket concealed deadly objects," the letter read, parts of which were illegible. "He was doing it and was assured it must be done. Even if he died this statement was worth it! He had... of tension that would come and go as he approached the stage of hot cheerleaders... A dead seriousness sank in as he realized he was truly passing the point of no return! He decided I will not back down I will not be afraid of the consequences no matter what I will be heroic I will make a statement like Elliott Rodgers [sic] did he thought to himself."</p> <p>Rodger, the affidavit explains, was an "involuntary celibate" who killed six people and injured 14 in 2014, before taking his own life. Rodger left behind a manifesto that said, in part, "If I can't have you girls, I will destroy you," and has since emerged as a hero of sorts to the young disaffected men known as "incels." The so-called "incel movement" is made up of young men who hate women for rejecting them sexually, and have been linked to at least 53 deaths in recent years. In 2018, a Toronto incel carried out an attack in Rodger's name. In April, a California incel who called Rodger "a victim" was charged with making violent threats against numerous teenage girls. And last month, an Arizona incel shot three people at a</p>

	<p>local shopping center as part of a plan to reportedly make couples “feel the pain he feels on a daily basis.” Many legal scholars say incel-related violence should be considered domestic terrorism.</p> <p>Reached by phone, Carini’s mother, Karen, was at first surprised her son’s case was “getting national attention,” then said she hoped he would recover. Of his writings about bombing a mall, she said, “There’s not even a mall where we live.”</p> <p>“It’s a situation where my son needs help, and I hope he gets the help he needs,” she told The Daily Beast. “Not to sound cliché, but I had no idea [about the bomb-making materials]. And I’m willing to work with him. My son needs help. That’s all I want to say.”</p> <p>When agents followed up with Carini at the hospital, he insisted his hand and fingers were lopped off when his lawnmower flipped over. The “blades were spinning so fast, it acted like a bomb,” Carini claimed.</p> <p>However, explains the affidavit, “An officer who responded to the scene... reported that there did not appear to be any area of the grass mowed, and that the grass at the property was around six inches high.”</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>06/06 Suspect sought in Walmart arson</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://komonews.com/news/local/fire-erupts-at-bremerton-walmart-store-cause-under-investigation">https://komonews.com/news/local/fire-erupts-at-bremerton-walmart-store-cause-under-investigation</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>BREMERTON, Wash. - Investigators are asking for the public's help in identifying a suspected arsonist who they say set fire to children's clothing inside a crowded Walmart store near Bremerton.</p> <p>The blaze caused an estimated \$3 million in damage and endangered more than 300 people who were in the store at the time, Kitsap County sheriff's officials said.</p> <p>Crews responded to the blaze, in the 6700 block of State Route 303, at about 10:30 a.m. after receiving several calls about clothing on fire inside the store.</p> <p>The blaze set off the sprinkler system, and employees took quick action to try and limit the spread of the flames. Firefighters also worked to contain the flames to the clothing section before extinguishing the fire.</p> <p>There were no reports of injuries.</p> <p>Sheriff's officials say the suspect entered the store wearing dark clothing, changed clothes after the fire and rode away on a bicycle.</p> <p>Anyone who recognizes the suspect or who knows of his whereabouts is urged to call Kitsap County Sheriff's Detective T. Dobbins at (360) 509-1026 or at (360) 337-5614. They may also contact Detective Sgt. Birkenfeld at (360) 340-5647.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>06/06 Tacoma police: 2 dead in shooting</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://komonews.com/news/local/2-found-dead-after-overnight-shooting-in-tacoma">https://komonews.com/news/local/2-found-dead-after-overnight-shooting-in-tacoma</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>TACOMA, Wash. – Two people were found dead after a dispute led to shots being fired overnight in Tacoma, police said.</p> <p>The incident unfolded at around 1:45 a.m. Saturday when officers and medics responded to a report of a dispute with shots fired in a parking lot in the 5500 block of S. Washington Street, said Wendy Haddow the Tacoma police.</p>

	<p>Upon arriving at the scene, officers found one man dead. No other information was immediately available about him.</p> <p>At about 2:20 a.m. officers responded to the 700 block of S. Huson Street for reports of a vehicle that had two more victims from the first scene.</p> <p>The driver of that vehicle was found with non-life-threatening injuries and the passenger was pronounced dead at the scene, Haddow said.</p> <p>No suspects have been arrested at this time. The shootings remain under investigation.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 Riot arrest: woman hit patrol car w/bat</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/police-identify-arrest-woman-hitting-patrol-car-with-baseball-bat-during-riot-seattle/SN2DB2VILJDHFEFNAISE2NKICI/">https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/police-identify-arrest-woman-hitting-patrol-car-with-baseball-bat-during-riot-seattle/SN2DB2VILJDHFEFNAISE2NKICI/</a>
GIST	<p><b>SEATTLE</b> — A 22-year-old woman was arrested Friday for hitting a patrol car with a baseball bat during <a href="#">a riot on May 30</a> in Downtown Seattle.</p> <p>Officers with the Seattle Police Department said the woman repeatedly hit the patrol car after it was set on fire near 5th Avenue and Pine Street.</p> <p>Detectives said they were able to identify the woman as the suspect and found her in the lower Queen Anne neighborhood on Friday.</p> <p>The woman was booked into the King County Jail on investigation of malicious mischief.</p> <p>The FBI and Seattle police are still asking for the public's help to find suspects wanted for looting and vandalism during recent riots.</p> <p>Detectives <a href="#">are asking</a> for photos and video evidence of anyone who started fires, damaged businesses, or hurt people during recent protests over the death of George Floyd.</p> <p>Anyone with information, videos or photo evidence is asked to contact Seattle police or submit information to the FBI <a href="#">online</a>.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>06/06 NM charges cop; neck restraint death</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/new-mexico-cop-charged-with-involuntary-manslaughter-after-man-in-custody-dies-in-neck-restraint/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/new-mexico-cop-charged-with-involuntary-manslaughter-after-man-in-custody-dies-in-neck-restraint/</a>
GIST	<p>A police officer from Las Cruces, New Mexico, is being charged with involuntary manslaughter for the death of a man who he had restrained in February and placed in a neck restraint.</p> <p>The man, Antonio Valenzuela, was pulled over on February 29 during a traffic stop, left the vehicle, and started running from officers, according to CBS El Paso affiliate KDBC-TV. Valenzuela had a bench warrant for his arrest from New Mexico Probation and Parole.</p> <p>According to KDBC-TV, police said two officers tased him to no effect. A search warrant affidavit obtained by KDBC-TV said that Valenzuela was told multiple times to stop resisting the arrest, and that he had reached for a knife in his pocket.</p> <p>Officer Christopher Smelser placed Valenzuela in a "vascular neck restraint" to subdue him, KDBC-TV reported. Valenzuela then became unresponsive, and was declared dead on the scene, police said.</p>

Smelser was on administrative leave since the day of the incident, and the Las Cruces Police Department immediately prohibited the use of the vascular neck restraints. Las Cruces Police Department Chief Patrick Gallagher fired Smelser on Friday, a day after receiving the autopsy report from the incident, KDBC-TV reports.

The Las Cruces Police Department posted a news release from the Third Judicial District Attorney's Office, which explains the incident was investigated by the Doña Ana County Officer Involved Incident Task Force.

"Valenzuela was continually struggling to get away, once on the ground, during this struggle, Officer Smelser applied a vascular neck restraint technique to gain control. It is police policy that after any use of force, fire and ambulance are called upon to provide medical care, if necessary," the post says. "Mr. Valenzuela was observed as non-responsive, EMS technicians attempted life-saving measures which were not successful."

They also announced the decision to fire Smelser on Facebook.

"After reviewing the autopsy report, LCPD Chief Patrick Gallagher has determined it is in the best interest of the department and the community to relieve officer Smelser of his duties as a result of his involvement in this incident," the post said.

Gallagher further commented that "words are insufficient to bring comfort to Antonio Valenzuela's family."

"It is a tragic day for everyone involved when there is an in-custody death or a death as a result of a police apprehension," he said. "Once we learned of the findings in the Medical Investigator's report, we felt in necessary to immediate initiate termination proceedings."

The post added that no further comment could be provided because of pending litigation.

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HEADLINE	<b>06/05 Vatican arrests suspects; London scandal</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/vatican-arrests-suspect-in-london-real-estate-scandal-11591397400?mod=hp_listb_pos4">https://www.wsj.com/articles/vatican-arrests-suspect-in-london-real-estate-scandal-11591397400?mod=hp_listb_pos4</a>
GIST	<p>ROME—The Vatican announced its first arrest in connection with a financial scandal over the Holy See's investments in London real estate.</p> <p>Vatican prosecutors on Friday arrested an Italian businessman, Gianluigi Torzi, charging him with various counts of extortion, embezzlement, fraud and money laundering, carrying a potential sentence of up to 12 years, according to the Holy See Press Office.</p> <p>Its statement said the arrest was "in relation to the well-known events connected with the sale and purchase of property on Sloane Avenue, London, involving a network of companies which included some officials of the Secretariat of State," the Holy See's executive arm.</p> <p>In October, Vatican police raided the offices of its financial watchdog, the Financial Information Authority, or AIF, and the Secretariat of State as part of an investigation into the investment in the property in London's posh Chelsea neighborhood.</p> <p>The Vatican prosecutor's investigation came in response to a complaint from the Vatican Bank. It had objected to a request from the Secretariat of State for a loan of more than €100 million (\$113 million) to finance the purchase of the property. The Vatican Bank viewed the deal, which required clearance by AIF, as suspicious.</p>



	<p>The Vatican subsequently suspended five employees—including AIF’s No. 2 official, Tommaso Di Ruzza—and its security chief resigned in connection with the investigation. What, if anything, the suspended employees were suspected of doing isn’t clear. In April, the Vatican announced that Mr. Di Ruzza had stepped down from his post at the conclusion of his five-year term.</p> <p>The affair has shaken the Vatican’s financial credibility. In November, the Egmont Group, a Toronto-based network of more than 160 national financial-intelligence units around the world, suspended AIF’s access to its secure web system. The group said Vatican police had improperly seized information provided by financial regulators in other countries. Egmont restored the Vatican’s active membership in January.</p>
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HEADLINE	06/05 FBI: Tacoma ‘most-wanted’ in custody
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/fbi-ten-most-wanted-fugitive-tacoma-custody/PEITOU62MBGR5MIC2PUUEDGSEY/">https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/fbi-ten-most-wanted-fugitive-tacoma-custody/PEITOU62MBGR5MIC2PUUEDGSEY/</a>
GIST	<p>The Federal Bureau of Investigation announced Friday evening that it has taken into custody one of its “Ten Most Wanted” fugitives, Santiago Mederos, for the murder of 20-year-old Camille Love of Tacoma.</p> <p>Authorities arrested Mederos without incident in Mexico and now he’s back in the United States.</p> <p>Love and her brother, Josh Love, were shot 10 years ago in what investigators believe was a case of mistaken identity.</p> <p>The siblings were not gang members but they were driving a red car, and Josh Love was wearing a red jacket, which was the color of the shooter’s rival gang.</p> <p>“This arrest is (the) result of good, old-fashioned detective work and a great collaborative effort with our federal and international partners, said Raymond Duda, the special agent in charge. “Hopefully, the families of Mederos’ victims will finally see a resolution for these senseless acts.”</p> <p>Five gang members have already been convicted in the shooting.</p>
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