

TRENDSJOURNAL

HISTORY BEFORE IT HAPPENS®

THE ECONOMY IS DEAD!

KILLED BY THE POLITICIANS' COVID WAR



30 June 2020

ECONOMIC TRENDS UPDATE

THE ECONOMY IS DEAD



The nation's economy is Dead. The politicians' COVID War killed it.

Go back to the beginning of the lockdowns. Listen to what Wall Street said: "It will be a V-shaped recovery."

Remember what Main Street was saying back then? "It will come back."

No, it won't, and no, it isn't.

From fine dining to Disney World, a face-masked, socially-distanced new ABnormal has sucked the experience of pleasure, joy, and socializing from the

human spirit. Going out to eat and having to abide by vast rules and regulations won't bring in the crowds... especially as capacities are greatly limited.

Economic rebound?

Yesterday, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that nearly half of Americans, 47.2 percent, are jobless.

This is unprecedented. Yet, it is barely news, and the implications are downplayed and/or ignored.

How will the masses of unemployed and the massive bankrupt businesses boost America's service sector economy that has been put out of service?

Real vs. Fake

While Main Street is being economically ravaged, Wall Street, thanks to the Federal Reserve and U.S. governments' money-pumping schemes, which we have reported in great detail, keeps flying high.

The Dow and S&P 500, each up over 16 percent, are on track for having their best quarterly performance since 1998. The NASDAQ spiked over 28 percent, hitting its biggest quarterly gain since 2001.

As we have also detailed as the trend began last year, the global economy was already in contraction. The facts and data are in the **Trends Journal**.

Now, a dozen states are re-locking down businesses to stop the rise of virus cases.

TRENDPOST: Virus cases do not equal deaths. Again, as noted in this **Trends Journal** and others, an estimated 99.35 percent recover.

For those who catch the virus, as the Associated Press has stated when reporting on the virus, yet absent from the junkstream news:

"For most people, the coronavirus causes mild or modest symptoms, such as fever and cough, that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe life-threatening illness, including pneumonia and death."

GOLD GLOWS AS FORECAST



Today, gold closed at \$1,781 an ounce. As per our months' long forecast, should gold continue to trade in this range for several more days, we forecast it will move above \$2,000 per ounce... and silver will follow.

What we have been long forecasting has finally hit the mainstream mindset as evidenced by the Bank of America parroting Gerald Celente.

On 24 June, the price of gold peaked above \$1,779 per ounce, its highest price since October 2012. With the metal's price already up 16 percent this year, gold could pass \$1,800 soon, perhaps within a few days, according to Bank of America strategist Paul Ciana.

If gold breaks through \$1,800, Ciana sees it challenging the \$1,920 all-time high price set in 2011. That could happen in the second half of this year, he said, adding that, under ideal conditions, gold could set a new high of between \$2,114 and \$2,296.

Those conditions include stock markets' "irrational exuberance," low bond yields, a bumpy and sluggish economic recovery, and lingering U.S.-China trade tensions.

Moreover, as reported in last week's **Trends Journal**, advisers to the world's wealthy have been urging their clients to move assets into gold.

Again, when, why and where gold prices are going have been forecast in the **Trends Journal** over the decades with unparalleled precision accuracy as evidenced in our 6 June 2019 "[Gold Bull Run](#)" Trend Alert.

TRAVEL TOURISM DIVE



For Americans who wish to travel, Europe is officially off limits. As of tomorrow, due to COVID Hysteria, Americans are not allowed to enter European Union nations.

On the leisure and hospitality home front, ordinarily a big business in the summer, a survey commissioned by the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA) and conducted by Morning Consult found that only 44 percent of Americans are planning overnight vacation or leisure travel in 2020.

What does the hotel industry future look like? The President of ALHA, Chip Rogers, predicts that “With a sharp decline in travel demand, nine times worse than September 11 and with lower room occupancy than during the Great Depression, our small business owners are struggling to survive.”

He went on to say, “The human toll on our industry has been equally as devastating” and that “many hotels are struggling to service their debt and keep their lights on, especially those with Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities (CMBS) loans.”

Recovery?

Then there are all the street fairs, festivals, concerts, weddings, parties, conventions, etc., which have banned by the authorities that will further drive the economy down and unemployment up.

TRENDPOST: *Will equities fly higher even as the economy crashes?*

As we have said, it is pure guesswork. The amounts of monetary methadone being injected into the markets and economies to artificially prop them were, and are, unpredictably unimaginable.

SHUTDOWNS RETURN AS CASES RISE



Amid a surge in COVID cases, Texas has imposed new distance requirements in restaurants, and Texas and Florida have re-closed bars.

Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Louisiana, Maine, Nevada, New Mexico, and North Carolina are among states that have gone back into partial lockdowns and added new rules and regulations.

Employees of the Disney Co. are urging their employer to delay the July reopening of their theme parks due to the state's new wave of infections.

Disney reportedly is also considering postponing the 24 July release of "Mulan," the first major movie due out since the economic shutdown was imposed.

In New York State, shopping malls, theaters, and gyms were to reopen on 26 June, but governor Andrew Cuomo has ordered a delay while the state's health department reviews recent data about indoor viral spread.

Yesterday, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy postponed indoor dining in restaurants, which had been slated to commence on Thursday, to being banned indefinitely.

King Cuomo, a.k.a. the Governor of New York, will announce his decision tomorrow about whether to allow indoor dining in New York State.

His excellency, along with the rulers of New Jersey and Connecticut, also announced today that travelers from 16 states (up from eight last week) would be forced to quarantine if they entered.

If they arrived and did not obey his rules, Cuomo will subject them with fines of up to \$10,000.

Hide and Seek

In Nevada, where casino gambling resumed on 4 June, casino workers have petitioned the state to require gamblers to wear face masks.

At the Houston offices of chemical company LyondellBasell Industries, face-shielded proctors take workers' temperatures as they arrive, and before employees leave for the day, they list everyone they had contact with during the day in case potential infections need to be traced.

The company allows only 20 percent of employees to be in the office at one time.

Many reopened retail stores are limiting the number of customers who can enter, and many now require masks and hand sanitizing before allowing customers to enter.

REOPENINGS SLOW, CLOSINGS FAST



Most businesses closed by government mandate remained so by mid-June, according to Yelp, the online review site.

About 140,000 businesses listed on Yelp that were closed on 1 March still are, the company said, compared to 175,000 that were shut on 1 April.

According to Yelp, some 41 percent of businesses still closed have reported they will not reopen.

As for the restaurants that have been locked down, some 53 percent are gone for good... they will never reopen.

Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco showed the most closures, with retail stores leading the list of categories with businesses still dark.

TRENDPOST: *The Yelp report was barely mentioned in the mainstream media. The facts are frightening; the implications serious. Tens of millions of lives have been destroyed by politically imposed lockdowns.*

Again and again, we repeat and repeat: Well over 40 percent of the virus deaths in the U.S. are elderly from nursing homes, and majority of the other victims are those suffering from chronic illnesses including obesity (42 percent of America's adult population is obese), Type 2 diabetes, respiratory, heart disease, etc., in a population of 330 million people.

Yet, the rest of society must pay the locked down price... out of work, going bankrupt, lose my home, life in shambles... the future is bleak.

DIFFERENT DICTATORS, DIFFERENT RULES



States' differing shutdown rules are creating adjoining but sharply skewed economies.

The inequality is embodied in the Quad Cities metro area embracing Davenport, IA, on one side of the Mississippi River and Moline, IL, on the other.

Illinois's suite of mandates requires businesses to provide face masks and personal protective equipment for employees, non-essential retailers to take orders only for delivery or curbside pickup, and set up one-way aisles in stores.

In contrast, Iowa is about to enter Phase 5 of its reopening plan, with restaurants allowed to offer indoor dining, although at no more than 25 percent of capacity.

Iowa, one of the few states that did not issue stay-at-home orders, saw its unemployment rate rise to 13.4 percent in April; on the Illinois side, the jobless rate was above 17 percent.

The Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce estimates that businesses in Iowa are now collecting 65 percent of the area's sales taxes as Illinois residents routinely cross the river to shop, dine, and have business meetings and personal events there.

The number of Quad Cities businesses shuttered in Illinois is about twice that still closed in Iowa, according to service firm Homebase.

With taxes and consumer dollars going to the Iowa side of the metro area, "this is truly an inflection point that will change the next generation," said Paul Rumler, CEO of the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce.

MACY'S WILL CUT 3,900 CORPORATE-LEVEL JOBS



Macy's, the 551-store chain that skirted bankruptcy in June by lining up \$4.5 billion in new financing, will fire 25 percent of its corporate-level workforce, or about 3,900 people.

The cuts will save the company an estimated \$365 million this year and about \$630 million annually in the future.

The retailer will invest about \$180 million to restructure aspects of its business and will show much of that cost in this quarter's financial report.

The company's share price lost 3 percent on the news. Macy's stock price has fallen about 60 percent so far this year.

This week, Macy's will report first-quarter earnings that will show an operating loss of between \$905 million and \$1.1 billion, compared to \$203 million in net income a year previous.

"We know that we will be a smaller company for the foreseeable future," said CEO Jeff Gennette, "and our cost base will continue to reflect that moving forward."

SHALE LEADER CHESAPEAKE ENERGY FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY



Chesapeake Energy, the Oklahoma company that spearheaded the U.S. shale oil revolution, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on 28 June.

The company had signaled in May that it probably would be unable to meet its debt payments.

The bankruptcy will erase \$7 billion in debt. Chesapeake will reorganize and secure \$2.5 billion in new debt financing from some of its current creditors. Franklin Resources and Fidelity Investments, two of the current creditors, will emerge as major equity owners when the bankruptcy is completed.

The company will continue operations, at present with a few gas well drilling rigs and no oil rigs.

Chesapeake rode the credit of the shale oil wave, at one time working 175 rigs across Louisiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

It funded its rapid expansion through debt, spending \$30 billion more than it made from 2010 through 2012. By 2016, the company was carrying more debt than Exxon and Chevron combined. The company has been essentially unprofitable since then.

When oil prices collapsed precipitously this year under the combined weight of a global oil glut and economic shutdown, Chesapeake had no cash flow to service its debt.

Whiting Petroleum, another leader in the U.S. shale oil play, filed for bankruptcy on 1 April.

GNC VITAMIN-STORE CHAIN GOES BUST



GNC Holdings, which owns about 7,300 GNC nutrition supplement stores and has outlets in almost 50 countries, has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. It plans to shed about 1,200 shops, and has put itself up for sale.

The company blamed the economic shutdown, suppliers demanding quicker payments, interest payments due on bonded debt, and underperforming stores for its woes.

GNC reported reaching agreement with its creditors to restructure its debts.

The company's creditors are financing GNC's bankruptcy process and have given the company six months to find a buyer or reorganize as a leaner company with less debt.

Harbin Pharmaceutical Group, China's largest drug company and GNC's largest shareholder, reportedly has expressed interest in buying the chain for \$750 million, an amount short of the company's \$903 million worth of debts.

GNC brought in about \$2 billion in revenue in 2019, with \$1.8 billion coming from its U.S. and Canadian locations.

BAYER TO PAY \$9.6 BILLION TO SETTLE U.S. ROUNDUP SUITS



Bayer AG, the German company that owns the Roundup brand of glyphosate weed killer, will pay \$9.6 billion to settle about 95,000 U.S. lawsuits alleging that the herbicide causes non-Hodgkins lymphoma, a form of cancer.

Roundup was developed by American chemical giant Monsanto, which Bayer bought for \$63 billion in 2018.

An additional 30,000 Roundup-related lawsuits have been filed but are not part of the settlement.

Under the terms of the deal, Bayer will continue to sell Roundup without a health warning because the company insists that its product is safe and does not cause cancer. A federal judge also ruled that the evidence was insufficient to require a warning label.

Selling Roundup without a health warning label leaves the company open to possible future suits, especially since it has previously lost three jury trials that gave plaintiffs multimillion-dollar awards when the juries agreed that Roundup caused cancer.

In a July 2019 case, the judge ruled that “there was clear and convincing evidence” that Roundup’s maker “made efforts to impede, discourage, or distort scientific inquiry and the resulting science,” Smith said.

Bayer is creating a \$1.25-billion reserve to settle future claims and will create a panel to investigate whether Roundup is carcinogenic and, if so, at what levels.

On 24 June, Bayer announced it would spend \$400 million to settle claims related to dicamba, another Monsanto herbicide, and \$820 million to handle suits related to polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), a toxic chemical that has infiltrated public water supplies.

The suits have weighed on Bayer’s stock price, which has drifted down from around \$30 two years ago to under \$19 on 26 June.

TRENDPOST: Remember the big Climate Change trend, and how so many were so concerned about its implications before COVID Hysteria took center stage?

As Gerald Celente said during the height of it, “Climate Change, forget about it. With all the poisons, chemicals, pesticides, GMO, they are injecting into our food and the trillions of tons they are injecting into the earth, water and air, we’ll be dead before the climate changes.”

So, too, with the spreading of COVID Fear. While they freaked out the world on a virus that doesn’t win, place, or show compared to other viruses, flus, and diseases that have killed countless millions compared to the 500,000 dead from COVID-19 globally to date... NEVER mentioned by Presstitutes and politicians,

who get advertising revenue and bribes – called campaign contributions by morons – how we are being killed by the chemical industry is forbidden.

SWANKY NYC DEPARTMENT STORES REOPEN



Saks Fifth Avenue reopened all 40 of its stores in the U.S. by 24 June, including its flagship New York City store.

The Manhattan emporium has installed ultraviolet handrail cleaners on its 22 escalators and scattered 100 hand sanitizing stations throughout the 10-floor store. Shoppers and staff are required to wear face masks. Elevators are reserved for elderly or frail customers. Shoppers can book appointments with sales associates or reserve a dressing room in advance.

Customers uneasy about being in crowds can make personal appointments to visit the store during the two hours before its 11 a.m. opening time or after it closes at 7 p.m.

The store has reported steady traffic for its luxury handbags, expensive shoes, and other high-end goods.

The Saks store usually collects a third of its revenue from tourists, but CEO Marc Metrick thinks it can make up that lost revenue through the “captive shoppers” who live in New York and are not traveling now outside the region.

Each shopper entering the now-reopened Tiffany’s will be escorted around the store by a salesperson who will politely enforce social distancing. Jewelry will be sanitized after a customer handles it.

Bergdorf Goodman also is booking appointments for its New York City shoppers.

TREND FORECAST: *Once again, the “experience” has been sapped out of life. Under these new ABnormal rules, regulations, and restrictions – plus the decline in tourism, which was a big boost for luxury retailers – there will be no bounce back in business.*

In fact, we forecast a surge in retail bankruptcies. At this juncture, the realization of the devastation from the COVID War will hit both Wall Street and Main Street in the last quarter of this year.

NEW YORK CITY FACES \$9-BILLION LOSS



The costs of treating COVID patients and the impact of the economic shutdown could reach \$9 billion and have strained New York City’s finances to the point that the city is likely to slash infrastructure spending and lay off masses of the its’ 326,000 employees, mayor Bill DeBlasio said on 24 June.

The mayor’s office has been negotiating with more than 100 unions to find savings but, so far, no major spending reductions have resulted.

The city’s own transportation agency has called for \$3.9 billion in federal support, calling the situation “a four-alarm fire” and “the most acute financial crisis in the history” of the agency.

The agency received \$4 billion in federal help in March but has calculated that it faces a \$10-billion shortfall by 2022.

The state's transportation agency has suspended its \$54-billion plan to upgrade the city's public transportation system.

The city cannot borrow to fund operating expenses unless the state legislature permits it to, something state lawmakers have not yet done.

Observers say that deBlasio's warning of the crises ahead is a bargaining tactic meant to sway legislators and unions to intensify negotiations because "it's quite clear" that federal aid "is not happening," the mayor said.

TREND FORECAST: From food, fuel, alcohol, cannabis to property and school taxes... and any other ways or means politicians can invent, get ready to pay more as you earn less.

The "Greatest Depression" has begun. The implications of the collapse will be felt from coast to coast... from sea to shining sea.

IMF GLOOM



The International Monetary Fund (IMF) again sharpened its forecast for the global economy's contraction to -4.9 percent this year from the -3 percent it predicted in April. It also downgraded its 2021 worldwide growth projection from 5.8 percent to 5.4.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has had a more negative impact on activity in the first half of 2020 than anticipated, and the recovery is projected to be more gradual than previously forecast," the IMF wrote in its World Economic Outlook on 25 June.

The U.S. economy will shrink 8 percent this year, not the 5.9 percent the IMF had forecast in April. The Eurozone will contract by 10.2 percent, Brazil by 9.1 percent, Mexico by 10.5 percent, and South Africa by 9.1 percent, the fund said.

Social distancing and ongoing lockdowns in some areas and industries will hobble the recovery, the IMF added.

The loss of jobs has been “catastrophic,” the agency noted, calculating that the lost work hours during this year’s current quarter will be equivalent to the loss of 300 million full-time jobs.

Job losses have been heaviest among women and low-skilled workers.

The fund also highlighted the risks inherent in ballooning government debt, which it predicts will reach a record 101.5 percent of global GDP in 2020 and 2021. This year’s worldwide annual government deficit is likely to reach 13.9 percent of GDP, compared to 3.9 last year.

But many of the world’s stock markets have become untethered to these gloomy economic realities and risk a correction, the IMF warned in Global Financial Stability report, also released 25 June.

A correction is defined as a price drop of 10 percent or more from recent high prices.

For example, after crashing in March, U.S. stocks entered a new bull market, with the S&P 500 stock index logging its biggest 50-day run-up in history by early June.

Asian and European markets also have recovered much of their losses after markets cratered at the beginning of the pandemic and resulting economic shutdown.

Markets are failing to reflect the realities of massive global unemployment, the prospect of a sluggish recovery, social unrest around issues of systemic inequality, and the COVID virus’s refusal to weaken, the IMF’s report said.

“According to IMF staff models, the difference between market prices and fundamental valuations is near historic highs across most major advanced economy equity and bond markets, though the reverse is true for stocks in some emerging market economies,” it said.

“This disconnect between markets and the real economy raises the risk of another correction... should investor risk appetite fade, posing a threat to the recovery.”

The report noted that “nonbank” financial companies, such as hedge funds and leveraged buyout firms, could worsen any market slump by dumping stocks as prices fall, driving down prices further.

The precarious tower of corporate and household debt also threatens financial stability and, in a downturn, could drive some banks toward insolvency, the IMF said.

PUBLISHER’S NOTE: *Goldman Sachs and investment giant BlackRock have now issued cautions about U.S. stocks, stating that prices exceed earnings by unrealistic amounts and the lingering pandemic and uncertainties around the U.S. election could shrink share prices.*

Believers in “Sodomaskism,” the Goldman Gang’s chief economist Jan Hatzius said in a note to clients, “Our baseline estimate is that a national mandate could raise the percentage of people who wear masks by 15 [percentage points] and cut the daily growth rate of confirmed cases by 1.0 [percentage point] to 0.6%.”

“These calculations imply that a face mask mandate could potentially substitute for lockdowns that would otherwise subtract nearly 5% from GDP,” the economist added.

As we used to say in The Bronx, in talking about boys like Hatzius who arrogantly promote their logic based up selected data, “Bullshit has its own sound.”

The Economy is Dead. The politicians killed it with their COVID War.

TRENDS-EYE VIEW

WHEN MARKET FORCES COLLIDE



by Gregory Mannarino

Understanding two essential drivers of the markets gives us incredible insight into understanding where markets are going.

In this **exclusive Trends Journal article**, I am going to outline how you can easily “read” which of these two forces are driving stocks – and, more importantly, how to capitalize on them.

It is no secret that today’s markets have no bearing on reality, with massive distortions existing across the entire spectrum of asset classes. For over a decade, the main driver of these distortions have been artificially suppressed rates via the Federal Reserve’s epic sums of easy money being pumped into it.

The mechanism of suppressed rates and easy money is designed to do one thing: inflate the stock market. By design, this mechanism causes malinvestment. What this means is cash moves into risk assets by being pulled from other assets where cash should be going. So, what you get are massive imbalances in the market.

In many ways, the market is a living entity, in that it represents the collective consciousness of every participant. Today, roughly 20 percent of the market is driven by algorithms. These algorithmic platforms execute trades when an asset’s price action meets certain parameters, but, by and large, the market still

remains under human control, which means that human emotion plays a major role in determining market direction.

So, what are these two forces?

Fear and Greed... and Fear is stronger.

How can we determine that Fear is stronger? There is a simple analogy, which is also a Wall Street mantra: *The Market Goes Up Like an Escalator but Drops Like an Elevator.*

The market tends to drop much faster than it goes up. The fact that the market falls much faster than it rises is a clear indication Fear is stronger than Greed. When Fear is gripping the market, invariably, two things happen, which are easily seen and measured.

#1. Observe the 10-year yield. I have explained to those who follow my work that by simply observing the 10-year yield, they can determine market direction. The 10-year yield reacts very quickly to both Fear and Greed.

Here is how it works: If the 10-year yield drops, it is a clear indication that cash is making its way **into** the debt market and coming out of stocks, so Fear is winning. Conversely, if the 10-year yield is climbing, it is a clear indication that cash is coming **out** of the debt market and making its way into stocks, therefore Greed is winning.

#2. Observe the dollar index, also known as “Dixie.” (It is called this because it trades under “DXY.”) When Fear is gripping the market, you will see a “knee jerk” reaction of people wanting to hold dollars, therefore the DXY will gain. When Greed is gripping the market, the DXY will drop.

Much of what I am discussing here goes back to a concept I have spoken about in the past called, “The Fluidity of Money.”

By simply observing where “cash is moving,” we can make exceedingly accurate predictions as to where markets are going. Moreover, by just observing the 10-year yield and the Dixie, we can physically see which of these two major market drivers, FEAR or GREED is driving the market.

Happy Trading!



COVID-19 SPECIAL REPORT

MEDIA RANKS “DEAD LAST”: AMERICANS BUY B.S.



In a pure case of twisted logic, the public, who obediently marched off to the COVID War – as they had with Bush's and other wars based on lies trumpeted by the media – ranked the media dead last in trustworthiness among American institutions.

Among the institutions including hospitals, employers, Congress, etc., only the media got a more negative than positive review.

Mohamed Younis, Gallup's editor-in-chief, noted the poll confirmed a long-term decrease in American's confidence in its media: "Just to give you context, when we were polling in the time of President Nixon's impeachment, seven in ten Americans said they had confidence in the honesty of the media they had access to in the United States... Today, only four in ten Americans say the same."

As with virtually all issues in what we have termed the "Divided States of America," and clearly evidenced with Black Lives Matter protests and COVID-19, there is a stark political divide as to who trusts or distrusts the media.

According to Younis, distrust in media "is most pronounced among Republicans. But as of now, 41 percent of independents approve of the job that media has done in the COVID crisis, which is exactly the national average; 68 percent of Democrats share that view, and only 16 percent of Republicans... so there is definitely a partisan angle to that."

TRENDPOST: Yes, *"there is definitely a partisan angle to that." Across America and around the world, for those who only believe in their belief systems, their leaders and political parties, solid facts, hard data, scientific evidence... and logic, matter not.*

No clearer example of the entrenched face-mask-social-distanced fear mentality that has gripped much of the nation.

Believe the media and live in fear? Yes, they do.

For example, the one-sided experts the media and politician promote tell the masses to wear face masks to prevent catching and/or spreading the virus.

Yet, driving in cars with windows up, hiking, bicycling, or walking alone on deserted streets – afraid the virus is lurking behind a tree or floating through the air – ravaged with fear, people are masked up.

TRENDPOST: *The fear and control freaks are in control.*

During the Cold War, kids were forced to hide under their desks to escape an atom bomb blast, and air-raid drills became part of the fear-based culture.

Following 9/11, life changed forever when the "War on Terror" was launched and Homeland Security was created... air travel x-raying, pat downs, and having to show ID to get into buildings became the new normal. Before that, flying was fun and security guards in buildings were minimal.

Now, with the launch of the COVID War, politicians, along with businesses, have imposed a wide array new, fear-based rules and regulations that have become the new ABnormal... sapping liberty, love, joy, and beauty from virtually every aspect of humanity.

GLOBAL MEDIA ROT



Last month, YouGov conducted a poll in a number of countries to determine the level of trust the public had in media's coverage of COVID-19. The U.S. results showed 42 percent find media coverage favorable, about the same as the Gallup Poll (41 percent) taken last March.

In Germany, the people have more confidence in media coverage than in the U.S., as 54 percent agreed they are getting accurate reporting. That number dropped to 50 percent in Spain and down to 38 percent in Italy.

France has the negative distinction of having the least trusted media among major countries polled with just 26 percent having a positive view of COVID-19 reporting.

"The media tends to be the least trusted group, and in no country does it rank first or second. Trust in the media is lowest in France (26%) and Britain (31%). Aside from these two countries, fewer than half of people trust the press in Italy, Poland, Sweden, Mexico, and the US," notes YouGov.

TRENDPOST: *Again, the general public speaks and thinks out of both sides of their mouth... and brain.*

On one hand, they demean Presstitute mainstream media and politicians.

On the other, they swallow what is fed to them and obediently march off to the COVID War... as clearly evidenced by the frightened masked men and women in the Petrified Land of Covidsteria.

MORE TWISTS IN THE COVID LOGIC



While citizens in the U.S. and western Europe give failing grades to media coverage of the pandemic, the majority of out of work and out of money citizens look up to the political leaders who locked them down.

In two cases, what was perceived as effective crisis management resurrected the low ratings of South Korean President Moon Jae-in and German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

In South Korea, President Moon had faced pressure to resign due to political scandals and a declining economy prior to the COVID Hysteria. Before the virus outbreak, South Korea's economy grew just 2.0 percent in 2019, the slowest since the 1998 Asian financial crisis when the Gross Domestic Product contracted 5.1 percent.

But after initiating an extensive testing program and with only a few hundred deaths from COVID-19 reported, one of the lowest rates in the world, his government easily won the parliamentary election in April.

Chancellor Merkel was also reeling in low popularity numbers before the pandemic. But with Germany's death toll at only about 25 percent of Italy's, and by not imposing a lockdown as strict as Italy's, Merkel's status rose in the eyes of most citizens jumping from 53 percent in February to 68 percent in May, according to the German research company Infratest dimap.

TRENDPOST: *In the U.S. and other nations, the new ABnormal is to give customers entering stores plastic gloves and hand sanitizer.*

*In Germany, however, as we reported in April in the **Trends Journal**, the nation's leading virologist, Professor Hendrik Streeck, reported that after a thorough testing of houses in an area hardest hit by the coronavirus, his team found no evidence of the virus on any surface.*

While most nations have imposed strict COVID Laws of Behavior for “non-essential” businesses that are now being allowed to partially reopen, Professor Streeck found no evidence of the virus on doorknobs and told the media there were “no proven infections while shopping or at the hairdressers.”

States of Confusion

For the most part, solid scientific research and keeping economies open have not been the criteria most citizens use when voicing confidence or no confidence in their leaders.

In Italy, despite the economy not recovering from the 2008 financial crisis and greatly worsened since Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte locked it down in early March, his popularity jumped from 39 to 59 percent in a 5 May poll by the Ixe Institute.

There was the opposite effect in the U.K., where businesses are slumping at the fastest rates on record, as we reported last week in the **Trends Journal**. A YouGov poll conducted earlier this month showed Prime Minister Boris Johnson's competency rating in handling the virus fell from 55 percent in April to 41 percent.

In Sweden, which generated attention for not imposing a hard lockdown, according to an Ipsos poll last week, the confidence level for Prime Minister Stefan Löfven fell from 56 percent in April to 45 percent.

Although the death rate in Sweden is higher than neighboring Nordic nations, it is on average with other European nations such as the U.K., France, and Spain, which imposed harsh lockdowns.

In the U.S., President Trump's leadership ratings have dropped, with last week's Reuters/Ipsos poll showing a 58 percent disapproval of his handling of the pandemic.

Now some 14 points behind his contender, Joe Biden, in the race for the White House, America's mainstream media, particularly CNN, MSNBC and the New York Times, have spread the blame for the COVID Crisis on Trump. And, by the polls, Americans are buying it.

TRENDPOST: *There is [clear evidence](#) that Sweden's higher death rate is not the result of keeping the economy open.*

Some three-quarters of Swedes who have died from the virus have been either in nursing homes or receiving at-home care, their average age was 86 years old... and only about 4 percent of the deceased had no serious preconditions.

Sweden's leading virologist, Dr. Anders Tegnell, admitted mistakes were made in not making these facilities safer from the virus, and he made it known those mistakes are being corrected.

The Public Health Agency in Sweden is confident that the softer lockdown approach, which allowed schools below college level; businesses such as cafés, restaurants, and night spots to remain open; and parks and recreation facilities to remain open, will in the long term be shown to be the more sustainable solution.

As we have noted, while the rest of Europe, the U.S., and many nations' economies are in sharp decline from the lockdown, with millions out of work, businesses going bankrupt, and poverty rising, Sweden's GDP grew at an annual rate of 0.4 percent from January through March.

CLOSE BACK UP



Here's an important example of how so-called health experts issue coronavirus warnings without carefully studying scientific data.

Last Thursday, Dr. Hans Henri Kluge, Europe's regional director of the World Health Organization (WHO), issued a criticism of Sweden, along with ten other countries, stating, "Accelerated transmission [of the virus] has led to very significant resurgence that if left unchecked will push health systems to the brink once again in Europe."

But Dr. Anders Tegnell, Sweden's leading virologist, quickly pointed out that Dr. Kluge had misinterpreted the data. Dr. Tegnell said the rise in newly reported cases of COVID-19 was a direct result of expanded testing.

He made the important point that Sweden is now seeing a decline in the number of citizens requiring admission to intensive care units as well as a decline in deaths from COVID-19.

As with Sweden, so, too, with the United States: the more people tested, the higher the infection rate.

In the U.S., COVID deaths have decreased some 90 percent since they peaked in April. Yet, this fact is absent in the mainstream media.

Instead, as detailed in the **Trends Journal**, money-hungry Presstitutes who get paid to put out – such as Jeff Zucker, *CNN's* CEO, who told his staff to keep pumping up COVID Hysteria because ratings, which were dramatically falling prior to the hysteria, were now flying high – continue to spread daily fear about rising cases.

Death and infection fatality rates in their world of propaganda are irrelevant.

Now blasting 24/7 that "Virus Surges Across U.S.," they avoid the fact that while cases spike, the death rate is declining.

In the U.S., for example, it is now being estimated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that some 20 million Americans have the virus. If this is true, and to date some 130,000 Americans died from the virus (40 percent from elder care homes), the recovery rate is 99.35 percent.

And, the main reason cases are spiking, which is the major headline news in America this week and last, is because millions of more people are getting tested... the more tested, the more case numbers climb.

Over and over, we have reported what the *Associated Press* was noting in their coronavirus coverage since February:

“For most people, the coronavirus causes mild or modest symptoms, such as fever and cough, that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe life-threatening illness, including pneumonia and death.”

Again, according to the statistics, there is a 99.35 percent recovery rate.

As for hospitals being overwhelmed as cases spread – the excuse NY’s Governor Andrew Cuomo gave when he ordered elderly people with the virus out of hospitals and into nursing homes, thereby spiking COVID-19 deaths in the homes – they were not overwhelmed in New York... nor in Houston, TX, where the government is again shutting down businesses.

As reported in Dr. Ron Paul’s Liberty Report, Dr. Marc Boom of Houston Methodist Hospital said the media claims regarding hospitals’ risks of being inundated are misleading. Dr. Boom said, “Quite frankly, we’re concerned that there is a level of alarm in the community that is unwarranted right now.”

Dr. Paul, who is headquartered in Texas, notes,

“In fact, there has been much reporting that the ‘spike’ in Texas cases is not due to a resurgence of the virus but to hospital practices of Covid-testing every patient coming in for any procedure at all. If it’s a positive, well that counts as a ‘Covid hospitalization.’ Why would hospitals be so dishonest in their diagnoses? Billions of appropriated Federal dollars are being funneled to facilities based on the number of ‘Covid cases’ they can produce. As I’ve always said, if you subsidize something you get more of it. And that’s why we are getting more Covid cases.”

Yet, in Texas, with 30 million people and 2,416 virus deaths, or a minuscule 0.00805 percent of its population, the Governor and other politicians across the state are again closing down business and adding new restrictions.

The same holds true for other states such as Florida, California, Alabama, etc., where the “spike” in cases is causing more hysteria to spread, and politicians are forcing businesses to close down and/or impose more limitations on capacities, hours open, etc.

Yes, the cases are rising... but the death rates are not – they remain tiny fractions of the states’ populations.

“PAPER OF RECORD” SELLS FEAR & HYSTERIA



As we have been reporting since the outbreak of COVID Hysteria in February, the media and politicians around the world have been comparing the coronavirus to a war. Now the *New York Times* has added a new analogy: Boxing.

The self-proclaimed “Paper of Record” published this headline on 25 June: “Virus Surges, Knocking U.S. Back on Ropes.” The article, continuing to model the overly dramatized, defeatist language of most national U.S. media, includes this:

“On Wednesday, governors, mayors, investors and others across the United States woke up to news that was impossible to ignore. More than 35,000 new coronavirus cases had been identified the day before... the country had found itself back in March – at the start of the pandemic, in the early days of the lockdown when masks were in short supply and the death toll was skyrocketing.”

The previous day, the *Times* continued to promote Dr. Anthony Fauci and Dr. Robert Redfield as authority figures without including any of the many medical experts who have countered their “doom and gloom” outlooks with scientific proof.

The paper's headline: "Experts Sketch Gloomy Picture of Virus Spread" was followed with an article filled almost exclusively with Fauci's and Redfield's congressional testimony last Tuesday.

The article, continuing to model the overly dramatized, defeatist language of most national U.S. media, includes:

- "‘The virus is not going to disappear,’ said Dr. Fauci, the nation’s top infectious disease expert.”
- “Dr. Anthony Fauci told Congress he was seeing a ‘disturbing surge’ of infections in some parts of the country as Americans ignore social distancing guidelines and states reopen without adequate plans for testing and tracing.”
- “Both [Fauci] and Dr. Robert R. Redfield, the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, warned of a dangerous situation looming this winter, when the regular flu season will intersect with the coronavirus, producing what Dr. Fauci described as ‘two respiratory-borne infections simultaneously confounding each other.’”
- “Dr. Redfield said the crisis had ‘brought this nation to its knees.’ He added that ‘Getting a flu shot would be imperative... This single act will save lives.’”

TRENDPOST: *The article’s headline refers to “experts,” but whose experts? As we’ve reported frequently in the **Trends Journal**, there are many experts with credentials every bit equal to Fauci’s and Redfield’s who have strong, science-based data that contradicts the information provided in this and hundreds of other articles that are banned and censored from the mainstream news.*

TRENDPOST: *While hyperventilating over the rise in people getting the virus, absent is the fact that the overwhelming majority of healthy people getting this virus develop either no symptoms or symptoms so slight they don’t report to a doctor.*

But, to continue the Times choice of a boxing analogy, the paper uses language that encourages its readers to “throw in the towel” and have their freedom and any sense of joy sucked out of them by scare tactics of political leaders and their health authorities who offer no substantive epidemiological data to back up their actions.

Paper of Record or Toilet Paper?

Continuing its assault on readers' emotions with threatening language and visions of gloom, the *Times* published an article last Thursday with the headline "Unable to Eradicate COVID-19, World Learns to Live with It." Included are these excerpts:

- "The shifting strategies are an acknowledgement that even the most successful countries cannot declare victory until a vaccine is found."
- "Even in places where the coronavirus appeared to be under control, big outbreaks remain a major risk. In Tokyo, there have been 253 new infections in the past week." (Note: Tokyo has a population of 9.2 million. 253 new cases represent 0.0027 percent.)
- "South Korea calls its strategy 'everyday quarantine.' The country never implemented the strict lockdowns seen in other places, and social-distancing measures, while strongly encouraged, remain guidelines." (Note: This piece of encouraging news about a country with relatively few deaths from COVID-19, despite keeping its economy open, is buried well into the second page of the article.)

TRENDPOST: *The fear-inducing, anxiety-ridden headlines, sub-headlines, and phrases in these recent articles are typical of what the national media has been spewing for months.*

Here is a recap from just the Times last week:

- "Virus Surges, Knocking U.S. Back on Ropes"
- "death toll was skyrocketing"
- "Experts Sketch Gloomy Picture"
- "The virus is not going to disappear"
- "disturbing surge of infections"
- "dangerous situation looming this winter"
- "Unable to Eradicate COVID-19, World Learns to Live With It"
- "How the Virus Won"
- "Epidemic spun out of control"

Is this objective journalism or a script for a B-Grade Hollywood horror movie? Are your knees trembling yet? Feel the need to hide behind a mask? Is all of the joy and love for life sucked out of you by now? Your political leaders are counting on

it... and they have the most prominent media outlets aiding and abetting in their authoritative control.

MORE MEDIA LIES



The media continues to generate false and/or deceptive information about the COVID-19 pandemic and its true scale and degree of danger... and the masses buy it.

A perfect example can be found in an article published in the *Financial Times* on 22 June. In the article about three medical journals being forced to retract studies they published because of concerns over poor data quality, the journalists writing the story included this statement:

“Since the start of what has become the worse virus pandemic for a century, scientists from microbiology to mathematics have rushed to study every aspect of the disease – to push their findings out in scientific literature.”

TRENDPOST: *It's important to note how the journalist slipped the phrase, “Since the start of what has become the worse virus pandemic for a century” into the article.*

The Spanish Flu, which ended a century ago and killed up to 50 million people, compared to the coronavirus that has killed 500,000 worldwide, doesn't count. And neither do other deadly diseases, since the author used the term "virus."

When reporting comparisons of COVID-19 to other diseases, also absent in this and other junkstream media are percentages of the population. For example, the Spanish Flu killed 50 million people in a global population back then of 1.8 billion, or 2.78 percent of the world's population.

If it struck today, with the world population now 7.8 billion, 216.7 million would be dead... just a tad more than the 500,000 dead to date from the virus.

According to LiveScience.com, the HIV/AIDS virus has killed over 35 million people.

The Asian Flu killed about one million between 1957-1958.

The 1968 Hong Kong Flu killed just over one million.

It should also be noted that while the 2009 Swine Flu pandemic did not likely kill as many as COVID-19 eventually will (the best estimate from the CDC for Swine Flu deaths range between 115,000-575,000), the fact is that while COVID-19 primarily has killed the elderly and adults with significant pre-existing health issues, the Swine Flu primarily killed children and young adults.

According to a recent study published on 11 May by JAMA Pediatrics (a division of the Journal of the American Medical Association), the U.S. COVID-19 has killed two children ranging in ages from 4-16.

MEDIA COVID LIES AND DECEPTION



In last week's **Trends Journal**, we presented a great deal of evidence, backed by scientific studies, that challenges the effectiveness of imposing mandatory mask-wearing by the general public.

Yet, the mainstream media continues to propagate unsubstantiated claims in favor of the mask orders.

Here is an example published in the *Wall Street Journal* last Wednesday:

"There is no evidence that the masks are harmful for adults, and scientists have reported such measures are essential for society to reopen without a spike in disease and deaths. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says everyone should wear cloth face coverings in public except children under age 2 and those who have trouble breathing."

To back up its claim, the *WSJ* provided this:

"Some of the central arguments of mask opponents – such as claims that masks don't offer significant protection from the virus or lead to potentially fatal oxygen deprivation – rely on information deemed false by Facebook fact checkers."

In other words, We the stupid People are expected to accept Facebook as the arbiter of good science.

As we pointed out in last week's **Trends Journal** with the cover "Sadomaskism: The Love of Fear and Pain," the WHO clearly stated a few months ago:

"There is currently no evidence that wearing a mask (whether medical or other types) by healthy persons in the wider community setting, including universal community masking, can prevent them from infection with respiratory viruses, including COVID-19."

We also provided evidence from multiple studies showing:

"The wearing of a mask for prolonged periods of time often causes a drop in oxygen levels (hypoxia) and is associated with an impairment in immunity. Studies have shown that hypoxia can inhibit the type of main immune cells used to fight viral infections called the CD4+ T-lymphocyte. The studies also found an elevation in blood CO2 can cause a health condition called hypercapnia [carbon dioxide toxicity]."

While it wasn't a major story positioned near the front page, at least the *New York Times* included an article last Wednesday quoting respected doctors and psychologists who point out that wearing a mask prevents human beings from important and healthy forms of communication such as smiling.

The article quotes Dr. Joshua Trebach, an emergency medicine physician at Johns Hopkins Medicine, who said, "I would want to smile to assuage someone's anxiety, show interest or convey warmth to let a patient know that they could trust me. Suddenly, all that is gone."

And David Matsumoto, psychology professor at San Francisco State University, points out that when we wear masks, "We're missing a major piece of that entire communication package."

But then the *Times*, like the *WSJ* and most mainstream media, jump off the careful journalistic research bridge into the waters of unsubstantiated belief.

The Presstitute writing the story on masks states, "But masks are essential for slowing the spread of COVID-19, especially indoors or in large groups, experts say."

The article does not contain one verifiable expert presenting one piece of hard scientific data to make the case that wearing a mask slows the spread of the virus.

Long forgotten is this quote from the WHO:

"The World Health Organisation advises to only wear a mask if you are ill with COVID-19 symptoms (especially coughing) or looking after someone who may have COVID-19."

On its website, the WHO stated that wearing multiple face masks is "not effective" against the novel coronavirus and can "actually be harmful."

"Actually be harmful"... goes unreported.

Ban the Expert

As tweeted by Dr. Eli Perencevich, a professor of medicine and epidemiology and an infection prevention specialist at the University of Iowa's College of Medicine, "Masks won't protect the average person. Because they will wear

them incorrectly and autocontaminate themselves. I've never seen a person practice hand hygiene before removing a mask in public and then after removing the mask.”

As we noted last week, Professor Perencevich told *Forbes*, “There’s no evidence that wearing masks on healthy people will protect them. They wear them incorrectly, and they can increase the risk of infection because they’re touching their face more often.”

When is it advised to wear a mask?

Mr. Perencevich said, “If you have the flu or think you have COVID, that’s when you’d put on a mask to protect others. In your house, if you feel like you’re sick, you should wear a mask to protect your family members.”

Also minimized by mainstream media coverage is despite all the hype last week that there were 127 virus cases (not deaths) in a city of 21.5 million people, residents don’t have to wear masks outdoors and temperature screenings have declined.

Unlike America and much of the world where the COVID War rages and non-mask wearing people are ridiculed by those in power and the media, Mao Shoulong, a professor at Beijing’s Renmin University, noted, “A city as big as Beijing can’t be in a state of wartime resistance forever.”

Had Enough? Not Allowed!

A group called the “Freedom Angels” is demanding the repeal of mask-wearing orders, referring to public health officials as “public enemy number one.” And a number of individuals have been organizing social media protests against social distancing rules, which are restricting public gatherings.

Facebook has been removing posts that call for people to purposely violate face-mask wearing and social distancing rules, saying they will not tolerate false information about necessary health precautions.

Indeed, only Facebook knows what is true or false, right from wrong, good or bad in the “United Soviet States of Amerika.”

THE NEW WMDs: WEAPONS OF MEDIA DECEPTION



Major Bryan Musolino has a Ph.D. in organic chemistry and is a military expert on Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs). Currently, he is an Emerging Technology Assistant Professor at the Anthony G. Oettinger School of Science and Technology Intelligence.

Given the media's fear-inducing reporting on COVID-19, Dr. Musolino provides an interesting background and perspective on the harm this reporting by national media is causing.

On 8 June, he published an extensive article titled, "Perspective: Media Coverage of COVID-19 and Outcomes of Fear Generation."

Major Musolino points out how on 3 March, congressional testimony of Dr. Anthony Fauci, heralded as America's leading expert on infectious diseases, gave an unsubstantiated, overblown perspective on COVID-19 that quickly was picked up by national media. In Dr. Fauci's testimony in early March, he stated, "The flu has a mortality rate of 0.1 percent. This [COVID-19] has a mortality rate of 10 times that."

Major Musolino comments, "Regrettably there is an issue with this statement; to determine a mortality rate we need to know the number of deaths per number infected (ideally), or estimated using the disease burden combined with a historical statistical analysis. The issue with Dr. Fauci's statement starts with the nature of the virus and is then further impacted by inconsistent reporting to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

Major Musolino then points out that soon after Dr. Fauci's highly inflated projections, "Taking a snapshot from the week of March 16, 2020, from the previous year in 2019, Fox News saw an increase (in ratings) of 89%, MSNBC was up 56%, and CNN up a whopping 193%."

Focusing in on *CNN's* medical expert, Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Major Musolino writes, "Even though at the beginning of April 2020 the CDC and WHO recommended wearing a face mask only if you were sick or caring for someone who was sick. *CNN's* Dr. Gupta counter-recommended that face masks should be worn by everyone as it would prevent individuals who are asymptomatic from spreading the disease."

The national media continues to support the threats by many governors to slow down or reverse the recent strategies for reopening schools, businesses, and public spaces by continuing to generate fear-inducing headlines and stories. Major Musolino hones in on what's going on here:

"We have seen that the initial reporting of the CV19 outbreak by the media was successfully able to induce an initial level of fear in a seed of the populace, and then capitalize on and simultaneously cultivate the fear by increasing the volume and sensationalism of the storylines. With this ever-growing level of reporting on the apprehensive populace, political leaders had to demonstrate to their constituents that they were dealing with the pending disaster. Unfortunately, many of their statements only exacerbated the fear cycle, and the derived counter-measures were not based on science, but rather could be considered in the realm of 'security theater.'"

Revealing the media for what it's become, Major Musolino concludes,

"The media has a distinct responsibility to provide factual reporting, but in the case of CV19 they have elected to continue with dramatized storylines at the expense of the affected – the citizens of the United States. Finally, for perspective, on average 647,000 Americans die each year from heart disease, an estimated 795,000 Americans suffer a stroke each year of which approximately 140,000 are fatal, and approximately 34.2 million Americans are diabetic with more than 270,000 succumbing to the disease each year. Yet despite these numbers, as well as the associated financial burden of \$580 billion dollars per year attributed directly to the diseases, there has been virtually no media coverage."

A Voice of Sanity

One of the few American political leaders showing true leadership and not giving into the fear and anxiety generated every day by national media is Missouri governor Mike Parson.

Last Thursday, commenting on the fact that so many of his fellow governors are reversing their reopening strategies due to concern over higher contagion rates, Governor Parson tweeted, “We are not overwhelmed. We are NOT currently experiencing a second wave. We have NO intentions of closing Missouri back down at this point in time.”

Governor Parson’s comments were in reaction to the fact that while there had been a spike in new coronavirus cases reported in his state, hospitalizations have been declining.

TRENDPOST: *As we report in this week’s article, “[MEDIA RANKED DEAD LAST](#),” Sweden’s top virologist, Dr. Anders Tegnell, revealed the reason more coronavirus contagion is being reported is because more extensive testing is being done and that the much more important data, death rate and rate of hospitalization, have both gone down.*

NEW YORK, NEW YORK... IT (WAS) A WONDERFUL TOWN

The classic NYC theme song, “New York, New York,” made prominent by Frank Sinatra, begins:

Start spreadin’ the news, I’m leavin today
I want to be a part of it
New York, New York
These vagabond shoes, are longing to stray
Right through the very heart of it
New York, New York...

Based on “Executive Orders” by Governor Andrew Cuomo, those lyrics need to be changed.

The governor doesn’t want a number of outsiders to have a chance to “be part of it,” as last Wednesday, he and other Northeast governors imposed 14-day

quarantines on anyone coming into jurisdictions from states currently experiencing higher numbers of positive testing for COVID.

Governor Cuomo stated emphatically, “We have to make sure the virus doesn’t come in on a plane again... Learned that lesson. Been there, done that.” Cuomo added that anyone who violates his order could face a fine of \$2,000 and be forced into mandatory quarantine. Travelers who, in the governor’s words, “cause harm” could face a \$10,000 fine.

Welcome to “The Big Apple.” “The city that never sleeps.” “Fun city.”

Thanks to the shutdown of the city by Governor Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio, hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers are out of work and \$7.4 billion in tax revenues are expected to be lost by the middle of next year.

Most of the 25,000 restaurants and cafés that made New York a major food capital of the world are struggling with the harsh, mandatory restrictions in order to reopen, and scores have closed their doors permanently.

The 2018-2019 Broadway season attracted 14.7 million people and generated close to \$2 billion. Now, of course, the lights of Broadway are extinguished... at least until Labor Day weekend, when Governor Andrew “The Dictator” Cuomo said he would then determine if and when theaters can reopen.

Iconic nightspot the “Copacabana” has closed its doors permanently, unable to survive its forced closing due to the virus.

More than one-third of NYC real estate professionals experienced complete shutdown. Sixty percent of residential real estate professionals have seen deals postponed and new business decline.

Additionally, to further “unwelcome” New York, as of 30 June, Governor Cuomo has added eight more states to New York’s “travel advisory” – so there are now 16 states from which residents who travel to New York must quarantine for 14 days after arrival.

Violence Spiking

As Gerald Celente has long noted, “When people lose everything and they have nothing left to lose, they lose it.

And New Yorkers are losing it.

The city suffered 125 shootings in the first three weeks of June, twice the amount during that time frame a year ago. New York City's homicide rate jumped to a five-year high. The amount of people shot spiked over 40 percent compared to last year.

Christopher Herrmann, professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, said last week, "I have been studying this for a long time. I have never seen that much of an increase ever." He linked the violence to the mix of hot weather and "COVID cabin fever."

But New Yorkers can take heart from the buoyant optimism of the political leaders who shut down the great city.

After Governor Cuomo announced on 9 June the beginning of "Phase 1" to reopen New York, Mayor Bill DeBlasio announced, "It is the day we start to liberate ourselves from this disease, the day we begin our restart in this city. All New Yorkers should be proud. You got us to this day. It is a day to celebrate."

Governor Cuomo, beaming about the launching of his Phase 1, proudly proclaimed, "We're back." He added, "If we stay as smart as we have for 100 days, we will be fine."

TREND FORECAST: *Since the onset of COVID Hysteria, we were the first to forecast densely populated cities would see an outflow of residents to less densely populated areas, particularly ex-urban small cities.*

Where are New Yorkers going? They are "following" Celente!

Seeking the Sweet Spot in New York State

The Kingston area in the Hudson Valley is attracting home buyers desperate for big houses and plenty of green space

The Catskills are getting hotter, weatherwise and propertywise, as stir-crazy house hunters search for residences outside big cities.

For those in the New York City area, one of the more sought after spots in the state is the southeastern city of Kingston. — Wall Street Journal, 26 June

The trend to escape big cities will continue to grow as commercial and residential real estate prices plummet... while taxes and crime rates rise.

ELDER CARE BLUES



As we've been reporting for months, elder care facilities have been the hardest hit by COVID. Last week, the *Wall Street Journal* reported more than 50,000 deaths from the virus directly connected to long-term elder care facilities. And veteran nursing home residences have seen some of the highest numbers of deaths.

Last week, it was revealed that a state-operated facility in Massachusetts, the Holyoke Soldiers' Home, was in a state of "total pandemonium" last March as nurses were ordered to move patients known to be infected with COVID into wards with uninfected residents. One worker described the situation as a "nightmare."

In Massachusetts, 60 percent of all deaths from COVID-19 have been in nursing homes.

In Canada, the situation is even more extreme with over 80 percent of coronavirus deaths taking place in elder care facilities. Ireland and France report nursing home fatalities from the virus at over 50 percent. (As we report in another article in this week's issue, Sweden also has seen high nursing home deaths, some 50 percent of all those who have died from COVID-19.)

In the U.S., just over 40 percent of nursing home patients are reported to have died from the virus.

As previously reported in the **Trends Journal**, many states and nursing homes have not reported elder care virus death rates. And, we noted a *WSJ* article, “Nursing Homes Don’t Have to Report Pre-May Covid-19 Deaths to U.S. Officials”... thus, the elder care COVID death rate is much higher.