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Business matters.

# WASHINGTON WATCH



August 2020

## U.S. Adds 1.8 Million Jobs in July

The U.S. added 1.8 million jobs in July, dropping the U.S. unemployment rate to 10.2 percent.

Read more [here](#).



## 1.2 Million Seek Jobless Aid After \$600 Federal Check Ends

Four months after the COVID-19 pandemic largely shut down the economy and left millions of Americans out of work, employers continue to lay off workers at a historic pace.

Read more [here](#).



## Court Reverses Order to Shut Down Dakota Access Pipeline

A federal appeals court reversed a judge's order that shut down the Dakota Access pipeline pending a full environmental review.

Read more [here](#).



## Feds Roll Out Election Cybersecurity Tool

The software detects malicious activity on laptops

and servers used for voter registration and reporting vote totals.

Read more [here](#).



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## U.S. Manufacturing Activity Near 1.5-Year High in July

U.S. manufacturing activity accelerated to its highest level in nearly 1.5 years in July as orders increased.

Read more [here](#).



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## EPA Won't Extend Relaxed Enforcement, Despite Surging Virus Data

The Environmental Protection Agency is not considering extending its temporary enforcement policy beyond its Aug. 31 expiration date, despite surging coronavirus case rates.

Read more [here](#).



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## Trump Reimposing Aluminum Tariffs on Canada

President Trump is reimposing aluminum tariffs on Canada, reigniting a point of contention that had been cleared up prior to the finalization of the USMCA trade agreement.

Read more [here](#).



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## China Accuses U.S. of Harassing Chinese Students, Researchers

China recently accused the United States of "monitoring, harassing and willfully detaining" Chinese students and researchers in the U.S.

Read more [here](#).



## U.S. Trade Deficit Falls 7.5 Percent in June

The U.S. trade deficit for June was \$50.7 billion, 7.5 percent better than the \$54.8 billion deficit recorded in May, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Read more [here](#).



## Home Prices See Strong June Bounce, But Economists Leery It Will Last

Home prices increased by 4.9% annually in June, a much greater gain than the 4.1% annual rise in May, but forecasters say that may not last.

Read more [here](#).



## Green Groups Challenge Trump Rollback of Environmental Law

The White House is facing lawsuits from two coalitions of environmental groups challenging its latest rollback to the National Environmental Policy Act.

Read more [here](#).



## Evidence Signals Many Jobs Aren't Coming Back

As the coronavirus continues to transform a vast swath of the economy, millions of Americans face the prospect of a permanent job loss.

Read more [here](#).



## Americans Trust Clorox, Amazon More than Government

The pandemic has been all bad news for most businesses, but a new poll finds some companies are, at least, getting a big boost to their reputation.

Read more [here](#).

**AXIOS** +  The Harris Poll | **100**

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Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/Associated Industries of Arkansas  
1200 W. Capitol Ave., Little Rock, AR 72201  
P.O. Box 3645, Little Rock, AR 72203  
501-372-2222 | [arkansasstatechamber.com](http://arkansasstatechamber.com)