

Visit our Website



WASHINGTON WATCH



May 2021

Consumer Confidence Increases Sharply in April

Consumer confidence increased sharply in April from the previous level recorded in March, according to the Conference Board.

Read more [here](#).



Report: Gas Pipelines Key to U.S. Net-Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions Goal

More investment in natural gas pipelines could help the U.S. meet its 2050 net-zero greenhouse gas emissions goals, according to Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy.

Read more [here](#).



Business Economists More Optimistic about U.S. Growth

The rollout of COVID-19 vaccines, along with the Biden administration's rescue aid policies, have brightened the outlook for the U.S. economy.

Read more [here](#).



Texas Gains House Seats, New York Loses as Census Hands Edge to GOP

Texas will gain two seats in the U.S. House, while states in the Northeast and Midwest will lose seven, based upon the 2020 Census.

Read more [here](#).

United States[®]
Census
2020

Biden's First 100 Days A Mixed Bag

Praise tempered by skepticism was the general judgment as the Biden administration neared its first 100 days in office.

Read more [here](#).



America's Gas-Fueled Vehicles Imperil Biden's Climate Goals

There are just too many on the road to replace them in less than a decade.

Read more [here](#).



Biden Signs \$15 An Hour Minimum Wage Executive Order for Federal Contractors

President Biden signed an executive order that raises the minimum wage for federal contractors and tipped employees working on government contracts to \$15 an hour.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Pledges Medical Aid to India, Where COVID-19 Is Overwhelming Hospitals

The U.S. will make more medical aid available to India in an effort to fight an alarming spike in COVID-19 cases.

Read more [here](#).



Biden Administration Announces \$8.25 Billion in Loans to Boost Power Grid

The Biden administration is taking several actions to boost the power grid, including up to \$8.25 billion in new Energy Department loans.

Read more [here](#).



Congressional Democrats Move to Reinstate Methane Rules Loosened by Trump

Congressional Democrats are moving to reinstate regulations designed to limit potent greenhouse gas emissions from oil and gas fields.

Read more [here](#).



Manufactured Durable Goods Orders Increase 0.5 Percent in March

New orders for manufactured durable goods rose by 0.5 percent, or \$1.4 billion, to \$256.3 billion in March, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Net Energy Exporter in 2020

The U.S. exported 3.4 quadrillion British thermal units more energy than it imported in 2020, according to the Energy Information Administration.

Read more [here](#).



Auto Group Backs Guidelines for Partially Automated Vehicles

The Alliance for Automotive Innovation is offering guidelines for manufacturers to advertise partially automated driving systems.

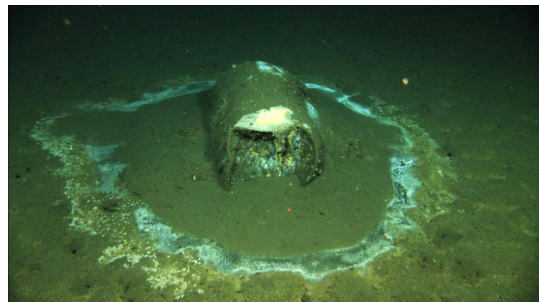
Read more [here](#).



25,000 Barrels Dumped in Pacific Suspected to Contain DDT

Marine scientists have found as many as 25,000 barrels that possibly contain DDT dumped off the Southern California coast near Catalina Island.

Read more [here](#).



STAY CONNECTED



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