

Dire Economy Spreads Misery Inside Lebanon

World Bank Says Crisis Ranks Among Worst

By BEN HUBBARD

BEIRUT, Lebanon — As she sat in the sun in her Mini Cooper inching her way through a long line of cars to get gas, Lynn Husami, 23, tried to use her time well. She had a phone meeting with the adviser of her master's thesis, called an old friend and played video games on her Nintendo Switch.

But after four hours, she recalled, she still hadn't reached the station, was drenched in sweat and needed a bathroom. But she feared losing her place in line if she went searching for one.

"I'm hopeless. I'm angry. I'm frustrated," she said, summing up the feelings of many Lebanese about the financial collapse that has turned once-routine errands into nightmares that fill their days and clean out their wallets. "It is getting worse, and we can't do anything about it. I don't know how we can fix all of this."

Lebanon is suffering through a financial crisis that the World Bank has said could rank among the world's three worst since the mid-1800s in terms of its effect on living standards. Its currency has lost more than 90 percent of its value since fall 2019, and unemployment has skyrocketed as businesses have shut down. Imported goods that were once commonplace have become scarce.

The double blow of the pandemic and the huge explosion in the Beirut port nearly a year ago that killed about 200 people and heavily damaged the capital has made what was already a bad situation much worse.

The crisis threatens to add a new element of volatility to a country at the center of the Middle East that was once a cultural and financial hub and now hosts at least one million refugees from neighboring Syria. Lebanon also forms an active front in the regional struggle for influence between Iran and Israel and the West.

Inside Lebanon, the crisis has created a distinct sense that the

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BRITTANY NEWMAN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

New York buzzed with activity during the holiday weekend. Jonny O'Leary still wore a mask in Washington Square Park on Monday.

Over a Long Weekend, a City Rediscovered Itself

By JOHN LELAND

This Fourth of July, Iyabo Boyd did two things that she said would have been unthinkable a year ago. She went to a barbecue in a stranger's yard, and she met new people.

Reading on a blanket in Franz Sigel Park in the South Bronx on Monday, Ms. Boyd, 36, said she had kept mostly to her pod during the pandemic. Finally, over the weekend, that changed. "Getting to know people again was really lovely," Ms. Boyd said. "It was like, 'Hey, maybe we can be friends.'"

In Times Square, Ryan Bowen, 28, was making his second pandemic-era visit from Tampa. Last October, he said, he and his girlfriend found little to do because everything was shut down. Now there were restaurants, fireworks, the tram to Roosevelt Island — not exactly a return to old times, but a distinct step in that direction.

New Yorkers Celebrate and Wonder: What Comes Next?

"It feels great to be out," he said. It was once possible to envisage the city coming back entirely. Now, whatever lies next for New York feels more like a giant collective improvisation, a city taking shape on the fly. The holiday weekend was a time to rediscover what New York was, and glimpse what it might become.

For many, the three-day weekend came as an occasion to do things they had not done for more than a year. Tourists arrived, while New Yorkers themselves crammed into airports, highways and sought-after getaway spots. Some parks were empty and street parking was plentiful. But

for those who stayed and gathered, nothing beat the sheer cathartic joy of being able to hug friends or elders again.

For some, the holiday was an opportunity to leave home. Close to 50 million Americans were expected to travel in the first five days of July, the second-highest Fourth of July volume on record, according to AAA Northeast. Air travel has climbed back to 90 percent of prepandemic levels.

The city, once the epicenter of the pandemic, with thousands of new cases daily, last week saw a daily average of 193 new cases and only three deaths per day. The Delta variant, which has spread through much of the country, accounted for 17 percent of the new cases.

But the city is not the same. The pandemic killed 33,000 New Yorkers, and some question whether the city could ever truly recover.

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Juul's Survival Rides on Fight To Sway F.D.A.

By SHEILA KAPLAN

Sales have plunged by \$500 million. The work force has been cut by three-quarters. Operations in 14 countries have been abandoned. Many state and local lobbying campaigns have been shut down.

Juul Labs, the once high-flying e-cigarette company that became a public health villain to many people over its role in the teenage vaping surge, has been operating as a shadow of its former self, spending the pandemic largely out of the public eye in what it calls "reset" mode. Now its very survival is at stake as it mounts an all-out campaign to persuade the Food and Drug Administration to allow it to continue to sell its products in the United States.

The agency is trying to meet a Sept. 9 deadline to decide whether Juul's devices and nicotine pods have enough public health benefit as a safer alternative for smokers to stay on the market, despite their popularity with young people who never smoked but became addicted to nicotine after using Juul products.

Major health organizations, including the American Heart Association, American Lung Association, American Academy of Pediatrics,

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TESLA ACCIDENTS DEEPEN CONCERNS ABOUT AUTOPILOT

LAWSUITS AND INQUIRIES

Company Asserts Safety of Its System Despite Deadly Crashes

By NEAL E. BOUDETTE

Benjamin Maldonado and his teenage son were driving back from a soccer tournament on a California freeway in August 2019 when a truck in front of them slowed. Mr. Maldonado flicked his turn signal and moved right. Within seconds, his Ford Explorer pickup was hit by a Tesla Model 3 that was traveling about 60 miles per hour on Autopilot.

A six-second video captured by the Tesla and data it recorded show that neither Autopilot — Tesla's much-vaunted system that can steer, brake and accelerate a car on its own — nor the driver slowed the vehicle until a fraction of a second before the crash. Fifteen-year-old Jovani, who had been in the front passenger seat and not wearing his seatbelt, was thrown from the Ford and died, according to a police report.

The accident, which took place four miles from Tesla's main car factory, is now the subject of a lawsuit against the company. It is one of a growing number of crashes involving Autopilot that have fueled concerns about the technology's



TESLA, VIA BENJAMIN SWANSON
A Tesla image recorded by a Tesla in a fatal 2019 accident.

shortcomings, and could call into question the development of similar systems used by rival carmakers. And as cars take on more tasks previously done by humans, the development of these systems could have major ramifications — not just for the drivers of those cars but for other motorists, pedestrians and cyclists.

Tesla, founded in 2003, and its chief executive, Elon Musk, have been bold in challenging the auto industry, attracting devoted fans and customers and creating a new standard for electric vehicles that other established carmakers are reckoning with. The company is

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As Wildfires Surge, Even Lush Hawaii Faces a Different World

By SIMON ROMERO

PA'AULO, Hawaii — The blaze first swept across parched fields of guinea grass. Then the flames got so close to Emma-Lei Gerish's house that she feared for her life.

"I was terrified it was going to jump the gulch," said Ms. Gerish, 26, whose Quaker family raises cows and sheep in the hills above Pa'aulo, a ranching outpost on Hawaii's Big Island. "I've never seen a fire this large in my lifetime."

By the time firefighters got the wildfire under control last month — with a mix of helicopters dropping water while residents drove bulldozers to create firebreaks — more than 1,400 acres had been burned, adding to the tens of thousands across the state since 2018.

Hawaii may be graced with tropical forests, making parts of the islands some of the wettest places on the planet, but it is also increasingly vulnerable to wildfires. Heavy rains encourage unfettered growth of invasive species like guinea grass, and dry, hot summers make them highly flammable.

Similar to the American West, where dozens of large blazes have raged in recent weeks and fire seasons have grown worse over the years because of extreme weather patterns and climate change, about two-thirds of Hawaii faces unusually dry conditions this summer.



MICHELLE MISHRA KUNG FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Scorched eucalyptus trees on Hawaii's Big Island, where invasive guinea grass rebounds quickly.

Some of the recent fires, especially on the Big Island and the island of Maui, ravaged areas spanning some 10,000 acres. From 2018 through last year, at least 75,107 acres across the islands were lost to wildfires, by far the most devastating stretch in a decade and a half.

While the fires showcase several challenges that Hawaii

shares with states in the West, including the spread of highly flammable invasive grasses, the authorities in Hawaii also cite other factors that make Hawaii unique. Those include big shifts in rainfall patterns over the archipelago and tourism's eclipse of large-scale farming in Hawaii's economy, allowing nonnative plants to overtake idled sugar cane and

pineapple plantations. Firefighters also have to operate across exceptionally diverse climate zones, extinguishing blazes everywhere from thick tropical forests to semiarid scrublands to chilly elevations where frost can be seen on trees along the slopes of the Mauna Kea volcano.

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Far-Right Extremists Find Ally In Congressman From Arizona

By CATIE EDMONDSON

WASHINGTON — Nick Fuentes, the leader of a white nationalist group, was bemoaning the political persecution he said he was facing from the federal government when he paused during a recent livestream to praise one of his few defenders.

"There is some hope, maybe, for America First in Congress," Mr. Fuentes said, referring to the name of his movement, a group that aims to preserve white Christian identity and culture. "And that is thanks to — almost exclusively — to Representative Paul Gosar."

Mr. Gosar, a five-term Republican and dentist from Prescott, Ariz., emerged this year as a vociferous backer of the "Stop the Steal" movement that falsely

claimed that former President Donald J. Trump won the 2020 election and spearheaded the rally in Washington on Jan. 6 that led to the deadly Capitol riot.

But Mr. Gosar's ties to racists like Mr. Fuentes and America First, as well as similar far-right fringe organizations and activists, have been less scrutinized. A review of public comments and social media posts suggests that in Mr. Gosar, they have found an ally and advocate in Congress.

His unabashed association with them is perhaps the most vivid example of the Republican Party's growing acceptance of extremism, which has become apparent as more lawmakers espouse and amplify conspiracy

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Four More Bodies Found

Searchers resumed combing through a collapsed Florida condo complex after a controlled demolition.

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To Vote, a Two-Hour Drive

G.O.-led restrictions passed in Montana could have stark effects on Native American reservations.

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INTERNATIONAL A4-9

Vatican Says Pope Is on Mend

The pontiff was "in good general condition" after colon surgery. He's expected to spend a week in a hospital.

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Horrifying Killings Rattle Iran

An Iranian couple have confessed to murdering and dismembering their son, years after killing a daughter and her husband. They are not sorry.

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OBITUARIES B11

Director of 'Superman'

The Bronx-born Richard Donner was in his late 40s when he made the hit about the Man of Steel. He was 91.

BUSINESS B1-5

Fox Takes to the Clouds

As viewers tune out news, Rupert Murdoch is preparing to debut Fox Weather, a new player in a sphere long dominated by the Weather Channel.

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A Studio's Murky Future

Michael De Luca and Pamela Abdy reinvested MGM. Now they need to figure out its place in Amazon.

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Unearthing Inked History

A group of archaeologists has been finding new examples of the use of tattooing over the centuries.

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SPORTSTUESDAY B6-10

Forget the Country Club

New takes on golf, such as youth camps like the one above, are making the sport more fun and inclusive.

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Women Dazzle at Wimbledon

The top-seeded Ashleigh Barty advanced, as did 2018's winner, Angelique Kerber, who ousted Coco Gauff.

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Sculpture Rising From the Deep

In her work on the Boston waterfront, Firelei Baez reasserts the importance of the Caribbean in history.

PAGE C1

Diversity Behind the Scenes

New initiatives are aimed at increasing the numbers of people of color who work as theater stage managers.

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OPINION A14-15

Bret Stephens

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The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

SU V1 V2 V3 V4

Partly sunny, hot 95/76 • Tomorrow: Hot, humid 96/75 Bs

Democracy Dies in Darkness

TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021 • \$2

Engineer had wide vantage at condo

Consultant detected damage, then was hired to lead repair effort

BY SHAWN BOBURG, STEVE THOMPSON AND BETH REINHARD

When board members for the Champlain Towers South condominium building were looking for someone to oversee a massive and urgent repair project in late 2019, they turned to an engineer already familiar with the building's problems: Frank Morabito and his firm Morabito Consultants.

"He is the only Engineering Firm that already knows the Building," Graciela Escalante, who chaired a committee focused on the project, wrote to the board on Sept. 13, 2019. She recommended it hire Morabito. "Bottom line: He can hit the ground running."

Morabito's knowledge of the Surfside, Fla., condo building that collapsed last month gave him a prime vantage point to detect any visible signs that the building's integrity was in doubt, according to a Washington Post review of board minutes and other documents. He had performed a 2018 inspection that found "major structural damage" to a concrete slab under the pool deck and entrance drive and been hired to help the board select and oversee a construction company.

SEE CONDO ON A4

The hunt for survivors
Crews are searching in newly accessible areas of debris. **A5**



ALLISON SHELLEY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

For women, 'false choices'

BY ELLEN MCCARTHY

Ana Diaz Guzman got a job interview. A moving van company in Washington was looking for a cleaner. The hiring manager had called a job counselor, who'd called Guzman, and now Guzman was making calls because somebody would have to watch Antoni.

Guzman, a 43-year-old single mom from Silver Spring, desperately wanted reliable employment. But every effort she made to provide for

Many moms left work in the pandemic. But going back often isn't simple.

her 7-year-old son financially was complicated by her need to care for him physically. It was March; he hadn't been to school in person for over a year. Guzman hadn't worked steadily for over a year. For a year, she's overheard her little boy repeat an urgent prayer: "Please let my

mom get a job."

Guzman was one of the millions of women who left the workforce during the pandemic. She was past due on rent, in debt to friends who'd lent her money to stay afloat. The stress sometimes showed up in migraines that would immobilize her. Sometimes she just cried.

Now, she had a job interview — but she was running late. It had taken a while to find someone to watch Antoni. Luckily, the hiring manager was

SEE MOTHERS ON A16

Ana Diaz Guzman, 43, sits with son Antoni, 7, at their Silver Spring home. Guzman hasn't worked steadily for a year because of the complications of finding and affording child care and helping her son with remote school.

The Carters' record-setting love story

BY KEVIN SULLIVAN AND MARY JORDAN

PLAINS, GA. — When they arrived, they strolled hand-in-hand toward their pond with a graceful willow at its edge.

"We're going to be buried right there, on that little hill," Jimmy Carter said, motioning toward the lawn sloping up from the pond.

"There are little white azaleas all the way around the back of it," Rosalynn Carter said, pointing and remembering the recent day when a beautiful bluebird landed on her future gravesite. "It sat there all the time I was talking to the man who was actually digging the holes to put the vaults in."

"I'm pulling you along now," Jimmy said, laughing and tugging gently on his wife's thin hand.

"I know, I know," she said, smiling at him and locking her pinkie around his.

On Wednesday, the Carters

SEE CARTERS ON A6



1966 PHOTO BY HORACE CORT/ASSOCIATED PRESS

School clashes put N.Va. at forefront of the culture wars

Critical race theory and transgender rights ignite furor in Loudoun County

BY HANNAH NATANSON

Angry parents battling over critical race theory at rallies, outside school buildings and in rival Facebook groups. A teacher suing the school system after he was suspended for refusing to use transgender students' pronouns. A raucous school board meeting that began with dueling protests over transgender rights and culminated in an arrest.

Loudoun County, a wealthy and diversifying slice of purple-turning-blue suburban Northern Virginia, is fast becoming the face of the nation's culture wars.

"It's unsettling to say the least, especially because it seems everybody is armed to the teeth these

days," said longtime resident Tom Mullrine, 77, who is White. "This could spark something."

"It's shameful," said Wendell T. Fisher, 67, who said he was the first Black elected member of the Loudoun County School Board — and the only to date. "It's just shameful."

Loudoun is not the only place where furor over critical race theory, or CRT, is taking off. Conservative activists and pundits across the United States have weaponized the theory — a decades-old academic framework that holds that racism is woven into the country's past and institutions — to claim that equity-conscious school systems are teaching children to hate one another, and White children to hate themselves.

Politicians throughout the nation are responding: Republican legislatures in Idaho, Texas, Tennessee, Arkansas and Oklahoma have passed bills banning

SEE LOUDOUN ON A8

IN THE NEWS



KIMMASA MAYAMA/EPA/GETTY/SHUTTERSTOCK

Japanese landslide Rescuers are still searching for 24 people after a "tsunami" of mud swept through a seaside city. **A12**

Vaccine boosters Some who got the Johnson & Johnson shot contemplate adding one of the mRNA doses. Experts don't recommend it. **A3**

THE WORLD
Surging global food prices have put staple meals out of reach for many, from Nigerian jollof rice to Russian pasta and Argentine steak. **A10**
The Lebanese army has struggled to stop smugglers funneling fuel to Syria, as both countries face severe shortages. **A11**
China is widening a crackdown on tech companies as Beijing grows wary of the sprawling reach and power of the country's growing Internet giants. **A12**

More than 1,000 Afghan soldiers fled into Tajikistan to escape clashes with Taliban insurgents as NATO forces withdraw, according to Tajik border officials. **A12**
A corruption scandal and criminal investigation are increasing pressure on Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro as the country's coronavirus probe deepens. **A13**
British Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that England would soon end mandates for masks and social distancing. **A13**

THE ECONOMY
Confused about how cryptocurrencies work? Our guide breaks it down. **A14**
As Jeff Bezos steps down at Amazon, a look at other billionaire tech CEOs provides a glimpse into life after leadership. **A15**

THE REGION
Arlington public libraries will reopen five branches after delays, which officials attribute to staffing shortages. **B1**
In Wards 7 and 8, residents debate whether new dog parks would be a step toward equity or gentrification. **B1**
A proposed D.C. Council bill would bar

prosecutors from charging juvenile defendants as adults without a judge's permission. **B1**
Maryland's highest court denied Gov. Larry Hogan's request to block an order halting efforts to cut off enhanced federal unemployment benefits. **B1**
Maryland Del. Daniel L. Cox, a conservative from Frederick County and supporter of former president Donald Trump, announced a run for governor. **B5**

OBITUARIES
Elizabeth Martinez, 95, a writer and activist, was an advocate for Mexican American and feminist causes. **B7**

INSIDE



STYLE
Freedom in isolation
Kyle is transgender. It took 30 years and a pandemic for them to realize it. **C1**

HEALTH & SCIENCE
All about men
Our section on male well-being tackles mental health, miscarriages, Parkinson's, "leaky pipes" and more. **E1**

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Sob general, Petrobras sobe gasolina, diesel e gás

Questionada sobre sua política de preços, a Petrobras anunciou reajustes nas refinarias para gasolina, diesel e gás de cozinha, que subirão 6,3%, 3,7% e 5,9%, respectivamente.

É o primeiro aumento da gestão do general Joaquim Silva e Luna, que assumiu em abril após atritos de Jair Bolsonaro com o então chefe da estatal. Os novos valores seguem a alta internacional do petróleo. O repasse ao consumidor depende dos postos e das distribuidoras. Mercado A14

Após 17 anos de Skaf, Josué Gomes assume a Fiesp

Mercado A16

USP concluiu 0,5% dos processos por fraude em cotas

A USP concluiu até hoje só 1 de 193 processos por denúncias de fraude nas cotas raciais e socioeconômicas, adotadas há quatro anos em seu sistema de ingresso. A universidade disse que pode barrar eventuais fraudadores de receber diploma. Cotidiano B4

São Paulo registra primeiro caso de variante delta

São Paulo confirmou seu primeiro caso de paciente com variante delta do coronavírus, de origem indiana. Trata-se de um homem de 45 anos. Saúde B3

Endividadas por causa da Covid-19, famílias recorrem a vaquinhas B1

Folha volta hoje a publicar conteúdo no Facebook

A Folha volta a publicar hoje conteúdo em sua página no Facebook, que não era atualizada desde 8 de fevereiro de 2018. Desde então, a plataforma mudou de conduta e tem agido para valorizar o jornalismo profissional e restringir fake news. Poder A9

Com crise hídrica, 'mar de Minas' dá lugar até a pasto

Mercado A15

EDITORIAIS A2

O juro não é zero
Sobre lei que busca evitar o endividamento excessivo.

Injustiça irreparável
Acerca de prisão indevida revista após reportagem.

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Giorgio Viera/APP

RESTO DE PRÉDIO QUE DESABOU NA FLÓRIDA É DEMOLIDO EM EXPLOÇÃO CONTROLADA

Momento em que o edifício foi derrubado, na madrugada de ontem no Brasil; estrutura corria risco de cair com a chegada da tempestade Elsa à região Mundo A12

Ambiente B6
Homem se veste de grou-ameriano, dança para fêmea e ajuda na preservação

Esporte B7
Brasil faz sua melhor partida, vence o Peru e chega à final da Copa América

Ilustrada B9
Cancelado em 2020, Festival de Cannes volta para mostrar que o cinema vive

Governo estende auxílio emergencial até outubro

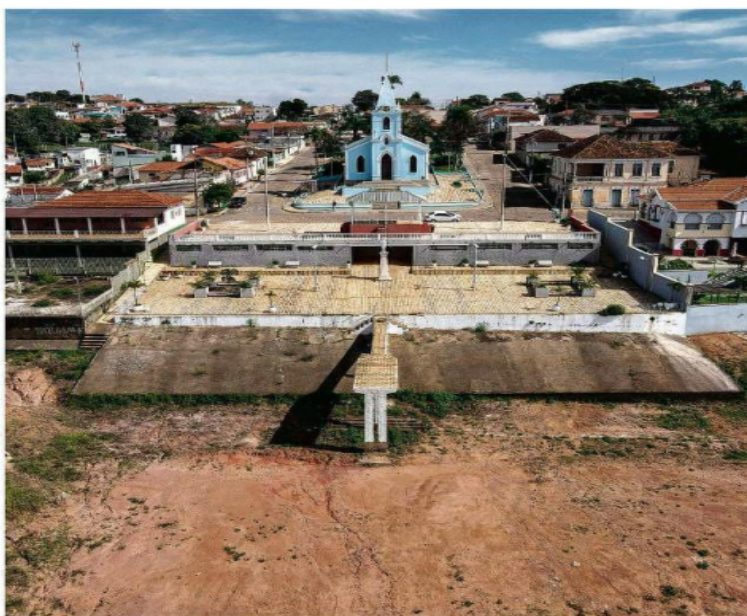
Parcelas serão mantidas nos valores atuais; custo extra não foi divulgado

O auxílio emergencial será prorrogado por três meses, de agosto até outubro próximos, conforme decreto editado ontem por Jair Bolsonaro (sem partido). Os valores das parcelas, que variam conforme a composição familiar, serão mantidos na faixa entre R\$ 150 e R\$ 375.

O presidente, que anunciou a medida com vídeo em redes sociais, e a nota emitida pelo Palácio do Planalto não informam o montante de crédito extra necessário para os pagamentos. Segundo interlocutores do governo, a cifra deve ser da ordem de R\$ 20,3 bilhões.

O ministro Paulo Guedes (Economia), presente na assinatura do decreto, disse que a ampliação visa garantir "proteção aos mais vulneráveis" enquanto avança a vacinação contra a Covid. Ao fim do período, afirmou, a ideia é elevar os valores pagos pelo Bolsa Família.

A expectativa é que as novas parcelas beneficiem cerca de 40 milhões de pessoas (a estimativa inicial era atender 46 milhões). Pelo calendário atual, espera-se que a ampla maioria da população tenha recebido as doses necessárias de imunizantes até o fim deste ano. Mercado A13



Trampolim sem água na cidade de Fama (MG), às margens do lago de Furnas Eduardo Arizelli/Folhapress

Áudios indicam ação direta de Bolsonaro em 'rachadinhas'

Gravações inéditas apontam o envolvimento direto do presidente Jair Bolsonaro no esquema ilegal de entrega de salários de assessores na época em que o agora chefe do Executivo exerceu seguidos mandatos de deputado federal — de 1991 a 2018 —, revelou o UOL.

As declarações indicam que Bolsonaro participava diretamente da "rachadinha", nome popular dado a uma prática que configura o crime de peculato. O Planalto diz que não teve acesso à íntegra das gravações e, por isso, não tem como se manifestar. Poder A7

Kassio se posiciona 20 vezes em favor do presidente

Poder A8

Vera Iaconelli
Defesa da família só vale se respeitar a diversidade B3

Saiba como ficarão viagens ao exterior no pós-pandemia A11

Promotoria deve pedir júri a PMs de Paraisópolis
Ministério Público diverge da Polícia Civil, que indiciou por homicídio culposo agentes em operação na qual 9 morreram. B5

Polícia investiga possível rede de ajuda a Lázaro
Em carta atribuída ao 'serial killer do DF', morto em 28 de junho, autor afirma estar 'zerado' após confronto e pede munição. B6

População com 18 anos ou mais*

Dados das 20h de 5 jul
*Ao menos uma dose: tomou dose única ou 1ª dose. Totalmente vacinada: tomou dose única ou 2ª dose **Em relação a 14 dias

	ao menos uma dose	totalmente vacinada
Brasil	48,7%	17,0%
MS	63,8%	29,8%
RS	55,6%	21,9%
PA	44,5%	19,9%

Totalmente vacinada



Números da pandemia

	Casos	Óbitos
Total	18,8 mil	525,2 mil
Méd. móvel	49,2 mil	1.575
Variação**	-33,1%	-23,5%
Em 24 h	25,8 mil	754

Estágios



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Fonte: www.climatempo.com.br