

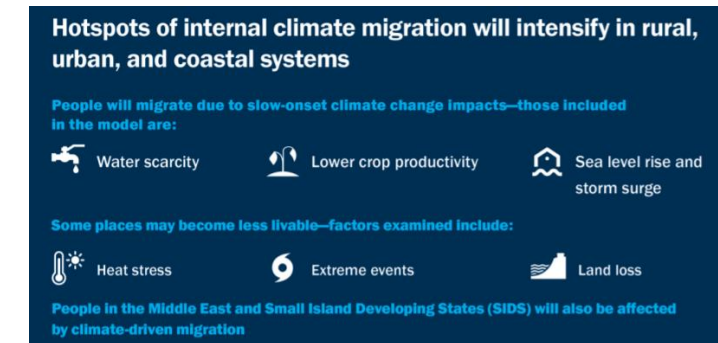


OEM: Weekly SITREP

September 21, 2021

USA & WORLD

- FDA panel to [vote](#) on COVID vaccine booster shots.
- Plan to [vaccinate the unvaccinated](#) in private employment is a lot of buzz, but likely little sting - vaccination/testing portion of this plan may never take effect.
- China's '[school centered](#)' Delta outbreak - fear of prolonged [incubation](#) despite no existing evidence.
- What is the [cost](#) of returning to campus? And who is doing the accounting? These are real questions that need to be answered.
- [Debt ceiling](#): creditworthiness & 401(k)'s on the line.
- America [short](#) 5m+ homes & builders can't make up the difference.
- Fauci: It may take [more mandates](#) to end the Covid-19 pandemic.
- FDA [officials](#) say that most people [don't require](#) boosters.
- [Study](#): COVID hospitalization numbers could be grossly misleading.
- Novavax launches trial: [combo-COVID-19 and flu vaccine](#).
- COVID-19: A comparison with [other public-health burdens](#).
- CDC [findings](#) show that we're close to the end of the pandemic.
- Experimenting with [Internet shutdowns](#) to control citizens.
- Beijing & Moscow increasing [efforts](#) to buy or influence companies.
- U.S. Census Bureau [report](#) on US income and poverty in 2020.



World Bank [report](#) concludes that climate change could push more than 200 million people to leave their homes in the next three decades.

CALIFORNIA

- Can [science](#) transform California crops to cope with drought?
- Dixie Fire crews [prep](#) for potential increased fire activity.
- Seven [takeaways](#) from California's recall election.
- Update: California [Assembly Bill 51](#) is back.
- Results of California [recall](#) will be felt nationally.
- [Code](#) for Digital Vaccine Record released on GitHub.
- ACLU [sues](#) over 'separate, unequal and illegal' Special Ed program.
- [Study](#): health impacts caused by wildfires & [PM2.5](#).
- Newsom: [bills](#) to improve state unemployment insurance system.
- For [pandemic unemployed](#), recovery can be a long road.
- Senate approves [bill](#) supporting the state's ability to keep details of the COVID-19 outbreak in the workplace secret.
- [Housing shortage](#) affecting thousands of students at UC Merced, UC San Diego, UC Santa Cruz & UC Santa Barbara.
- How California came to [embody](#) modern America.
- California one of only a few states where employers [are required](#) to tell workers that they are being surveilled - No [federal laws](#) limit surveillance in the work place & its becoming the [new normal](#).
- California wildfires ignite an insurance [crisis](#).



The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

September 8, 2021

Dear Mr. Garland,

We, faculty members at Stanford University, are writing this open letter to express our concerns about the U.S. Department of Justice's *China Initiative*. We acknowledge the importance to the United States of protecting both intellectual property and information that is essential to our national and economic security. We understand that concerns about Chinese government sanctioned activities including intellectual property theft and economic espionage are important to address. We believe, however, that the China Initiative has deviated significantly from its claimed mission: it is harming the United States' research and technology competitiveness and it is fueling biases that, in turn, raise concerns about racial profiling. As the President's Science Advisor, Dr. Eric Lander, [stated](#) on August 10, 2021: "We have to assiduously avoid basing policies or processes on prejudice – including those that could fuel anti-Asian sentiments or xenophobia." We believe that the China Initiative is one such policy. We therefore would like to suggest that you terminate the China Initiative and replace it with an appropriate response that avoids the flaws of this initiative.

More specifically, we believe the China Initiative suffers from the following fundamental flaws:

First, the China Initiative disproportionately targets researchers of Chinese origin. Publicly available information indicates that investigations are often triggered not by any evidence of wrongdoing, but just because of a researcher's connections with China. (For example, see recent article and the research by Prof. Jenny Lee quoted therein, ref: [Has the Hunt for Chinese Spies Become a Witch Hunt?](#), Karin Fischer, Chronicle of Higher Education, August 11, 2021). In many cases the federal response seems disproportionate and inappropriate. In some cases, federal agents associated with the China Initiative have prosecuted researchers without solid evidence. Moreover, racial profiling – even when undertaken in pursuit of justice – is both inconsistent with U.S. law and with the principles underlying our society. Moreover, these actions do not just affect the prosecuted faculty but affect the many more university researchers who are targeted, investigated, and feel threatened by inquiries initiated without prior evidence of significant wrongdoing. Universities and research institutions are often pressured to investigate researchers who are singled out only because of their personal or professional connections with China. (For example, see the description by Prof. Randy Katz, the Vice Chancellor for Research of the University of California Berkeley during a recent Congressional Roundtable available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G24w7d2_owo)

Stanford professors [urge](#) Justice Department to end program meant to find Chinese spies on campus.

REGION

- [UCR](#) scientists turning edible plants into mRNA vaccine factories.
- One in three people who survived COVID-19 suffered from long COVID, according to a CDC study of [Long Beach residents](#).
- L.A. County offers [modified quarantine](#) option for unvaccinated students.
- Riverside County approves [resolution](#) declaring a local state of emergency stemming from storm damage in the Coachella Valley.
- Riverside County Sheriff [will not enforce](#) vaccine mandate.
- 3.6 magnitude [earthquake](#) hits Thousand Oaks area.
- 2020 FIRE SIEGE [Report](#) includes data on Apple, El Dorado & Snow Fires.
- CAL FIRE awards nearly [\\$138 million](#) in local fire prevention grants - More than [\\$2.5 million](#) earmarked for Riverside County.
- UC San Diego [enrollment](#) could hit 50,000 within 10 years.
- [Santa Ana Police Union](#) pushes back on possible vaccine requirement.
- [LAPD](#) employees sue city over vaccine and mask mandates.
- COVID now leading [cause](#) of law enforcement line-of-duty fatalities.
- UCLA [study](#) finds schools should focus on inequities affecting Black students as campuses reopen.

JULY 31

Apple Fire • Riverside County • consuming 33,424 acres • destroyed four structures • Federal IMT deployed, Unified Command with RRU

SEPTEMBER 5

El Dorado Fire • Federal incident • San Bernardino National Forest in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties • consumed 22,744 acres • destroyed 20 structures • claimed the life of one firefighter

SEPTEMBER 17

Snow Fire • Riverside County • consumed 6,254 acres

2020 Fire Siege [data](#) shows the impact of wildfire in Riverside County. Only the "[Big Burn](#)" of 1910 stands in grim comparison.

[RivCo EOC](#) is currently activated to Level 3 (virtual) in support of the ongoing COVID-19 response.

COMMUNICATIONS

- **17 September:**
 - **Return to Campus Briefing: Campus Operations @1pm**
- **16 September:**
 - **UCOP COVID-19 Digest**
 - **Requests for changes to return-to-campus plans for fall 2021**
- **15 September:**
 - **UCR campus establishes remote learning hubs for fall quarter**
- **14 September:**
 - **Flu Shot Clinics 28-29 September**

Please Reference Notes Section For More Information

NOTABLE

- [Quotable: Congressional Co-Chairs on 2021 National Preparedness Month](#)
- [At the University of Iowa, faculty are forbidden from asking students to wear masks](#)
- [Loneliness and Daily Alcohol Consumption During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [What Vaccinated Travelers Need to Know About Coronavirus Testing](#)
- [New York Vaccine Passport App Stored Forged Credentials](#)
- [The U.S. is now playing by China's internet rules](#)
- [Gates Foundation 2021 Goalkeepers Report: Data on 18 Global Indicators](#)
- [A new strategy for health and sustainable development in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [Diversity in cybersecurity is a 'national security' issue](#)
- ["Flow to work" operating models match scarce skills to high-priority work](#)
- [Health and Public Health Sector Warn of Elevated Risk of BlackMatter Ransomware Attack](#)
- [Pandemic tech left out public health experts. Here's why that needs to change](#)
- [Hackers are leaking children's data — and there's little parents can do](#)
- [What the Air Quality Index Actually Means](#)
- [Biden to nominate privacy hawk and facial recognition critic to FTC](#)

2021 National Preparedness Month

Senator Gary Peters, Chair, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

"Every year, natural disasters are responsible for hundreds of deaths and cause billions of dollars in damage across the country," said Senator Peters, Chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. "Following the severe flooding, wildfires and hurricanes we have seen so far this year, National Preparedness Month is an important reminder of how being prepared for an emergency can save lives and protect homes and small businesses. I urge families in Michigan and across the country to use the resources FEMA provides to make an emergency plan and ensure they can stay safe when disaster strikes."

Representative Dina Titus, Chair, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management

"September marks National Preparedness Month and serves as a reminder to revisit and reassess our personal emergency plans and make any necessary updates. Currently, communities across the country are facing devastating storms, wildfires, and the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, making it more important than ever that families invest in and prepare for emergencies at home just as we do at the federal level. As Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, I am honored to participate as a 2021 National Preparedness Month Congressional Co-Chair to raise awareness about how to make a plan, be prepared, and stay safe."



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Building a Weather-Ready Nation



Fall Weather Safety



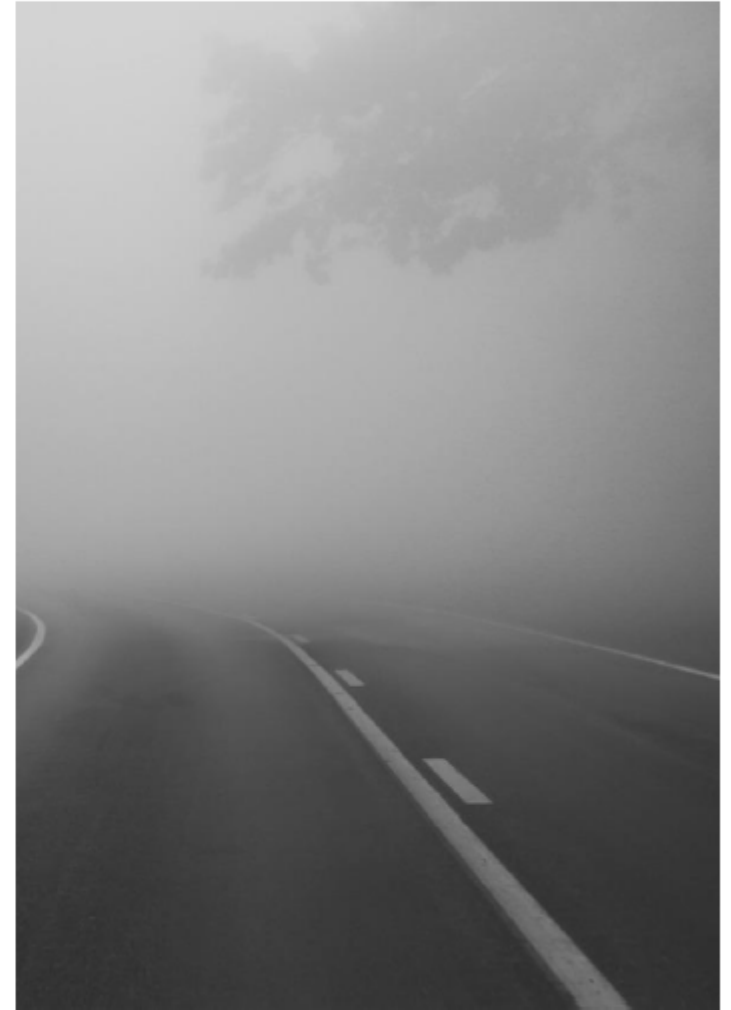
Know Your Risk, Take Action, Be a Force of Nature

weather.gov/safety

Fog

Driving in Fog:

- Slow down when you encounter fog
- Use your low beam headlights
- Do not change lanes or pass other vehicles unless absolutely necessary
- If you must pull off on the side of the road, turn off your lights and use your parking brake to avoid being hit by cars who may not realize you've pulled over



NWS Storm Surge Products

STORM SURGE WATCH

A Storm Surge Watch is issued when **storm surge is possible.**

Promptly follow evacuation and other instructions from local officials.

Surge Possible.



weather.gov

STORM SURGE WARNING

A Storm Surge Warning is issued when **storm surge is expected.**

Promptly follow evacuation and other instructions from local officials.

Surge Expected!



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

[weather.gov/safety](https://www.weather.gov/safety)

Tsunamis

Prepare for a tsunami:

- Have multiple ways to receive warnings
- Make an emergency plan, including family communication and evacuation plans
- Map out routes to safe places on high ground or inland, practice walking them
- Know your risk in harbor and your fastest route to deep water
- Put together portable disaster supply kits

Visiting the coast? Ask about local tsunami safety.



Tsunamis

If you experience any of these natural warning signs at the coast, a tsunami could be coming:

- Strong or long earthquake(s)
- Sudden rise or fall of the ocean
- A loud roar from the ocean

If you experience any of these, go to high ground or inland. Do not wait for official instructions.



Tsunamis

When a Tsunami Warning is issued:

- Stay out of the water
- Stay away from beaches and waterways
- Get information from local TV, radio, or online
- Go to high ground or inland if officials ask you to evacuate



NWS Tsunami Products

TSUNAMI WATCH

A Tsunami Watch is issued when
a tsunami is *possible*.

Know your evacuation route.
Have a plan and be ready to act
quickly if a Warning is issued.

Be Prepared.



weather.gov

TSUNAMI WARNING

A Tsunami Warning is issued when
**a tsunami is *happening or about
to happen*.**

Move to higher ground or further
inland immediately!

Take Action!



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

weather.gov/safety

Fall Weather Safety Resources

weather.gov/safety/drought

weather.gov/safety/flood

weather.gov/safety/fog

weather.gov/safety/hurricane

weather.gov/safety/tsunami

weather.gov/safety/wildfire

weather.gov/safety/wind

weather.gov/safety/winter

