

《新冠疫情将使美国GDP未来十年缩水近8万亿美元》

肆虐全球的新冠肺炎疫情危机已经严重削弱了美国经济。美国国会预算办公室发布的最新预测显示，由于新冠疫情引发经济急剧萎缩，未来10年美国GDP将因此缩水近8万亿美元。



People who lost their jobs wait in line to file for unemployment benefits at Arkansas Workforce Center in Fort Smith, Arkansas, US, April 6, 2020. [Photo/Agencies]

Fallout from the coronavirus pandemic will shrink the size of the US economy by roughly \$8 trillion over the next decade, according to new projections released by the Congressional Budget Office on Monday.

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In a letter to US lawmakers, the CBO said the US economy will grow by \$7.9 trillion less from 2020 to 2030 than it had projected in January. That amounts to a 3 percent decline in US gross domestic product compared to its initial estimate.

????????????????????????2020??2030????????????1????????7.9????????????????????????3%?

The stark illustration of the pandemic's potential economic impact comes one week after White House officials confirmed they would not release their own updated projections this summer in their annual "mid-session" budget review.

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The pandemic will hamper US economic growth by reducing the amount of consumer spending and closing numerous businesses, the CBO said. Part of the impact will be mitigated by the more than \$2 trillion the federal government has already approved in emergency spending for households and businesses.

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"Business closures and social distancing measures are expected to curtail consumer spending, while the recent drop in energy prices is projected to severely reduce US investment in the energy sector," said Phillip L. Swagel, the CBO director and former economic expert at the American Enterprise Institute, a center-right think tank.

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Medical workers take in patients outside a special coronavirus area at Maimonides Medical Center in New York City on May 27, 2020. [Photo/Agencies]

The pandemic's impact on the US economy has been swift. The unemployment rate jumped from 3.5 percent in February to 14.7 percent in April. Tax revenue plummeted, spending skyrocketed, and the economy quickly contracted after years of growth.

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The CBO report was requested by Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer and Sen. Bernie Sanders, who serves on the Senate Budget Committee. The CBO had previously released forecasts for 2020 and 2021.

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“Slower growth means higher unemployment, lower wages, and less income for people. What we are looking at is another decade of that,” said Adam Ozimek, chief economist at Upwork.

Upwork?????????·??????“????????????????????????????????10?????????”

The White House said last week it would not be releasing its updated economic projections, such as GDP and unemployment statistics, because of the high level of volatility in the US economy. CBO and other economic analysts have been able to do so.

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The CBO's letter says while "real" GDP will fall by about \$8 trillion, "nominal" GDP will fall by \$16 trillion over the next 10 years. That measure is viewed by economists as less significant because it does not include the impact of inflation.

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Lawmakers are debating whether to renew several federal aid programs set to expire, including a sizable increase in unemployment benefits that will lapse at the end of July. Congressional Democrats seized on the CBO's findings to argue additional emergency aid is urgently needed.

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"In order to avoid the risk of another Great Depression, the Senate must act with a fierce sense of urgency to make sure that everyone in America has the income they need to feed their families and put a roof over their heads," Schumer said in a statement. "The American people cannot afford to wait another month for the Senate to pass legislation. They need our help now."

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