Twitter Thread by RiShawn Biddle



RiShawn Biddle
@dropoutnation

For all of those folks blaming states for the failures in vaccine distribution...

> Last night, I received disturbing news, confirmed to me directly by General Perna of Operation Warp Speed: States will not be receiving increased shipments of vaccines from the national stockpile next week, because there is no federal reserve of doses.
>
> — Governor Kate Brown (@OregonGovBrown) January 15, 2021

Folks like @JamesSurowiecki spent time blaming states and municipal governments for not doling out the vaccines quickly enough. Yet forgot that the federal government is in charge of vaccine distribution - and didn't buy enough vaccines to start. https://t.co/NXKEi90bRH

> BREAKING: New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said the city will run out of Covid-19 vaccines by next week due to supply shortages https://t.co/ceeA584zA0 pic.twitter.com/FiNDxYT2qi
>
> — Bloomberg (@business) January 15, 2021

By the way: We knew that the feds, under the Trump regime, would mess this up. It was reported back in December that the Trump regime didn't buy enough of the Pfizer vaccine, even after the pharma offered to supply more. https://t.co/bZ8w1CAfrT

This is unsurprising, and yet, still tragedy. https://t.co/H7ij9JOAbG

> So, they announced fake news then? "When HHS Sec. Alex Azar announced this week that the federal government would begin releasing coronavirus vaccine doses held in reserve for second shots, no such reserve existed..." https://t.co/wLZlSsBCPJ
>
> — Garance Franke-Ruta (@thegarance) January 15, 2021

But none of the blame laid at the feet of states and municipalities is shocking, either. Folks have been blaming school systems for not having the resources to reopen school buildings - and for not being able to reopen in the midst of high community spread.

Sure, a few places have managed to reopen buildings amid low spread. A few cities have managed to bring down infection rates for a time.

But when the federal government chooses to be AWOL in a national crisis, efforts among states and municipalities will inevitably fail.

School systems, by the way, are still feeding kid and providing kids education virtually, the latter through low speed broadband that is also the responsibility of the federal government. As is feeding those in need. https://t.co/6HwmECPwJg

When the federal government fails to do its job in crisis, few states and municipalities can stand in the breach in their locals. Because they are focused on their parts of the nation, their efforts won't help everyone else. Which is what the federal government is supposed to do.

https://t.co/4AZfxutsA3



> Governors were told repeatedly by @HHSgov there was a strategic reserve of vaccines, and this week, the American people were told it\u2019d be released to increase supply of vaccine.
> \xa0
> It appears now that no reserve exists. The Trump admin. must answer immediately for this deception.
> https://t.co/JJky0NcbPi
>
> — Governor Jay Inslee (@GovInslee) January 15, 2021

Elect White Supremacist incompetents, expect folks to die.
https://t.co/imHRi4Gx76

> What is happening with the vaccine rollout will soon be seen, correctly, as one of the greatest failures of public administration in American history. This is what happens when the president is a lazy, incompetent, addled grifter who quits the job 10 months before his term is up. https://t.co/qu4t4g7ToC
>
> — David Faris (@davidmfaris) January 15, 2021

Again, though, it's not just about Trump. Senate Republicans and even House Democrats went along with one of the initiatives that ensure that less money went to pandemic relief and vaccine distribution: War machines!

https://t.co/bIU2scJHFL

> This is a disgrace. A scandal. Theft from the poorest and most at-risk Americans to fill the pockets of the richest.
>
> Don't pretend that our troops need the most expensive fighter plane ever built. It doesn't work. As the outgoing Acting SecDef said, "It is a piece of ****." https://t.co/T3VTukrPbK
>
> — Joe Cirincione (@Cirincione) January 15, 2021

The failure is reflected on the ground in how the Trump regime has worked to favor Republicans - even in Democrat-controlled states. https://t.co/0z2udwZggf

> It turns out that even within "blue" states, the locations of the HHS-funded sites themselves favor Republican-rep'ed districts. pic.twitter.com/VnywIBTeLq
>
> — Jorge A. Caballero, MD (@DataDrivenMD) October 15, 2020

While Republican governors in red states are screwing over citizens in Democrat-controlled areas. https://t.co/MzuIM3VPmm

> Ron Desantis and Publix only offering vaccine in FL counties won by Republicans. Worth noting that Publix also gave Desantis $100,000 despite him calling on GOP legislatures in states Trump lost to appoint separate electors to overturn election results.https://t.co/ZxLzZQmQWE
>
> — Thomas Kennedy (@tomaskenn) January 15, 2021